



Ready for a Classic Win

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The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Gridley and Biggs



# THE GRIDLEY HERALD

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FRIDAY • DECEMBER 5, 2025 • VOL. 145 NO. 49

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## Boneyard Witnesses History Bulldogs Win First Section Title Since 1989



Gridley senior quarterback Eli Punzo (5) raises the Northern Section D-III plaque on Saturday, Nov. 29 in the Bulldogs' 18-15 victory over Orland. Photo by Chris Pedigo

By YSBC

**GRIDLEY, CA (YSBC)** - The Gridley Bulldogs football team's magical season continued on Saturday, Nov. 29 as they beat the Orland Trojans 18-15 and claimed their first Northern Section title since 1989.

The "Boneyard" at Gridley was standing-room only as both sides packed the stands and forced overflow fans to the track, which electrified the play on the field for the Northern Section Division III Championship.

The first quarter went scoreless and the Bulldogs and Orland traded field position with one another like a game of chess.

In the first meeting of



Gridley head coach Daniel Zumwalt chats up his players on the sideline on Saturday, Nov. 29 in the Bulldogs' 18-15 victory over Orland. Photo by Steven Bryla

the year on Oct. 10 during Westside League play, Gridley and the Trojans went down to the wire as the Bulldogs hung on for a three-point victory.

The game on Saturday was expected to be the exact same and all fans got

their money's worth for the title on the line.

Gridley junior running back Marcus Duncan lit up the scoreboard in the second quarter with seven minutes and 15 seconds to go when he rushed to the end zone for a 56-yard

touchdown rush and a Bulldogs 6-0 lead.

Duncan led Gridley with 120 yards on the ground and 14 carries in the win.

Duncan expressed to Yuba Sutter Butte Colusa Sports that he played for all of his brothers next to him and he couldn't be prouder than to be a helping hand on giving the senior class a championship.

Bulldogs junior tight end Jace Griggs one upped Duncan on the next Gridley drive as he ran up the left sideline just inside three minutes to go in the first half for a 57-yard rushing touchdown and extended the Bulldogs lead 12-0.

Griggs ended the night  
*Continued on page 11*

## Gridley Braces for Citywide Power Outage

By Susan Meeker

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Gridley officials are warning residents to prepare for a citywide power outage in mid December as negotiations continue with Pacific Gas and Electric on timing and backup generation.

At Monday's Gridley City Council meeting, City Administrator Elisa Arteaga said PG&E crews need about 12 hours to complete maintenance on a line that has not been serviced in decades.

"This line hasn't been worked on for over 20 years," Arteaga said. "It needs to be maintained because if this ever does go down, we're going to be without power and won't have time to plan for backup generation."

The city's preferred option is a single 12 hour outage supported by backup generation, depending on the cost. Another possibility is breaking the work into four hour blocks, with the first on Dec. 18 or Dec. 22 and the remaining sessions scheduled later. The worst scenario would be a four hour block without backup generation, leaving the entire city in the dark, except for water and sewer services that have their own backup.

"You don't want to do 12 hours without generation," Arteaga said. "That would not work."

School officials urged PG&E and the city to schedule line maintenance during the holiday break, preferably beginning Dec. 22, to avoid heating, food service and communication issues during class time, or limiting daytime outages to between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to reduce impact.

City officials said residents and businesses will continue to be notified about the planned outage through text alerts, phone calls, social media and door hangers.

"Our main thing is the safety of the residents, the community, the effects on businesses and health care," Arteaga said. "Safety is of the utmost importance."

Officials recommend residents prepare for an outage and adhere to basic safety measures during the outage. They advised using flashlights instead of candles to avoid fire hazards, keeping refrigerator and freezer doors closed to prevent damage when power is restored. Generators should never be used indoors and must be placed outside with proper ventilation. Residents who rely on medical devices  
*Continued on page 5*

## Students Recognized in California Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meet

California Farm Bureau News Release

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Becca Hamman, an agriculture education student at California State University, Chico, was named the winner of the California Young Farmers & Ranchers Collegiate Discussion Meet, held Nov. 15 at Modesto Junior College. Hamman earned \$2,500 and will represent California in the national competition during the American Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmers & Ranchers Leadership Conference set for March 13-16 in Portland.

Competing were 36 Young Farmers & Ranchers members from seven colleges. Competitors were from  
*Continued on page 4*



From left, Jim Spinetta, donor; Becca Hamman, winner of the Collegiate Discussion Meet; Ron Peterson, California Farm Bureau second vice president; and Joseph Aguiar, first runner-up. Photo courtesy of the California Farm Bureau

# The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

Butte College Football Roadrunners finished 8-3 for the season. Big let-down. While alumni from other universities would be jubilant at such a win-loss record, Butte College alumni think anything other than another National Championship is a bummer.

Speaking of Butte College, our local Butte College Trustee Michael Boeger is being celebrated

this week with a reception honoring his 40th year as a member of the College Board of Trustees. Congratulations, Mike. If he goes another 40 years, he will be as good at school boarding as his wife.

Sheriff Kory Honea wants you to sign up in case he needs to get a hold of you (like the place is burning down, the dam is breaking, train derailment, etc.). The Sheriff's Office (BCSO) is introducing a new emergency notification system and encourages everybody to sign up for important alerts. The new system, called "Butte County Emergency Alerts," works with Smart911 and Rave Alert. It makes it easier to safely get information and choose how you want to receive emergency notifications.

The Sheriff's Office will receive contact lists from local public utilities. These lists will include names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses and will only be used for emergency notifications. The Sheriff's Office strongly recommends staying enrolled or adding your own additional information and preferences, so you don't miss potentially lifesaving alerts. For more details and answers to common questions, go to Google and type in "sign up for alerts from Butte County Sheriff" and follow the links to the Sheriff's Office webpage.

Josh F.W. Cook was born in Gridley and served as a Gridley Planning Commissioner with the legendary Gridleyan Jay Adams. ★

# Free Community Clothing and Toy Exchange Returns

By Cindy Scott

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Richvale resident Sofia Jacobsen organized a free community clothing and toy exchange during last year's Christmas season, and the community responded with great generosity. She is bringing it back this year and invites all community members to donate and/or shop for free during the event. Everyone is invited to come find clothing and toys for their family. You do not need to drop off items to come. All items will be free.

Drop off times for clean, undamaged apparel and toys will be accepted Saturday morning, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to noon. Donations can also be dropped off on Tuesday, Dec. 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. The free shopping event will be Wednesday, Dec. 10, from 4 to 7 p.m. Drop off and shopping will be at 400 Spruce Street in Gridley,



Jessica Autrey found clothing and toys for her family at last year's Free Community Clothing and Toy Exchange. Photo by Cindy Scott

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This event needs volunteers to organize the donations and assist the shoppers. If you are available to help, contact Jacobsen at 530-456-6617. ★

# A Biggs Christmas!

Story and photos by Seti Long

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - Project Biggs has been hard at work creating a wintry holiday scene for the upcoming Biggs Christmas Tree Lighting and Street Market, Dec. 7.

The main strip of B Street in the small town comes alive with laughter, cheers and "ahhh's" as the public congregates to kick off the holiday season and flip the switch on the town Christmas tree.

The street market will open early at 3 p.m. Shoppers can expect some of the following vendors: The Farmers Wives, Peggy Lewis Holiday Wreaths, Forever Yours Permanent Jewelry, Kats Meow Children's Clothing, Biggs FFA Floral, Heather Ramey Hair Tinsel and Breezy's Closet, to name a few.

As for food, tastebuds will salivate over Rosies Corndogs & Snow Cones, Bigfoot Boba & Munchies, Potato Bar, K&P Kickin' Kettle Corn, Churros Daisy and Tacos Lost Serranos.

Meanwhile, Santa will arrive by 4 p.m. for selfies, and the ugly sweater contest will begin at 5 p.m. Put on your worst Christmas sweater and join the fun. Yes, you will be judged, but in the best ways!

A volunteer decorating day was held Nov. 30 to prepare for the event and cover the area with Christmas spirit and decorations.

The town Christmas Tree will be lit at 6 p.m. with the event ending an hour later at 7 p.m. Before the night ends, the public will find out who the winner of this year's Biggs Christmas Home Decorating Contest.

Winners will be announced at the tree lighting and stand a chance at winning inflatables, the "coveted Griswold's Award," Judges Choice and People's Choice awards.

Project Biggs invites you to come out and enjoy the spirit of the Holidays with the community of Biggs. ★



A village of who-houses, brightly shining trees and mischievous snow men invite all to celebrate the start of the holidays with the Biggs Christmas Tree Lighting and Street Market.



Cut outs, lights and more adorn the downtown park surrounding Biggs' town Christmas Tree. Here Santa waves hello!



The Biggs community Christmas tree stands ready to be lit, this coming Sunday, Dec. 7.

# Sending Off the Dogs!

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - After a pivotal win over Orland, Gridley Bulldogs football secured the Northern Section D-III title and is headed to the CIF State Semi-Finals in San Jose!

In support of the historic win for the Gridley High School varsity team, the school is inviting the community to



join the excitement and rally behind the players as they leave for the championships.

"It's gonna be loud. It's gonna be wild. It's gonna be unforgettable. Let's show them the power of Bulldog pride and send them off in style!" said Gridley Bulldog Football in a social media post.

The send off rally is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 5 at noon in front of the Gridley High School, located at 300 E. Spruce St., Gridley. ★



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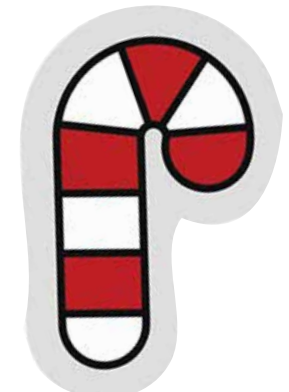
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# Mooretown Rancheria and Feather Falls Casino Donate to Local Charities



The turkeys were distributed to three nonprofits that play an essential role in helping local residents in need. Photo courtesy of Mooretown Rancheria and Feather Falls Casino

## Mooretown Rancheria and Feather Falls Casino News Release

**OROVILLE, CA (MPG)** - This Thanksgiving, Mooretown Rancheria and Feather Falls Casino & Lodge continued their long-standing commitment to supporting local families by donating 200 turkeys to community organizations across the region.

The turkeys were distributed to three nonprofits that play an essential role in helping local residents in need: the Oroville Rescue Mission in Oroville, the Salvation Army in Yuba City and Azad's Martial Arts Thanksgiving Basket Brigade in Chico.

For Mooretown

Rancheria and Feather Falls Casino & Lodge, the annual holiday season is an opportunity to give back to the communities that support them year-round. Their focus this year, like every year, is on helping ensure that families facing hardship can still enjoy a warm Thanksgiving meal.

"We consider it a true honor and privilege to give back to the surrounding areas during this holiday season," said Matthew Mingrone, General Manager of Feather Falls Casino Lodge. "By sharing these Thanksgiving turkeys, we are stepping in to assist when and where we can, dedicated to supporting and watching our community grow together."

The Oroville Rescue Mission, Salvation Army Yuba City and Azad's Martial Arts Thanksgiving Basket Brigade each serve hundreds of individuals and families through food assistance, outreach programs and dedicated holiday drives. The donated turkeys were included in Thanksgiving meal baskets, community dinners and outreach events across Butte and Yuba counties.

Mooretown Rancheria and Feather Falls Casino & Lodge plan to continue partnering with local nonprofits throughout the year, reinforcing their commitment to strengthening and uplifting the communities they call home. ★

# Live Oak Wrestling Turkey Trot



The podium finishers show off their trophies at the first-ever G.O.L.O.W. Live Oak Turkey Trot 5K. Photo by Chris Pedigo

## By Seti Long

**LIVE OAK, CA (MPG)** - The Live Oak high school wrestling team ran after some fundraising this Thanksgiving with their inaugural G.O.L.O.W. Live Oak Turkey Trot 5K.

Entry was just \$50 and included a

commemorative T-shirt, refreshments and swag bag with proceeds supporting the wrestling team.

The wrestling team was on site as early as 6 a.m. helping to set up. The trot started promptly at 8 a.m., with participants finishing in plenty of time for Thanksgiving dinner. ★

# Christmas Craft Bazaar Returning to Christian Life



Chris Davis mans the beautiful gift basket raffle table at last year's Christian Life Craft Bazaar. Photo by Cindy Scott

## By Cindy Scott

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Christian Life Assembly will host their third annual Christmas Bazaar, welcoming Christmas shoppers

looking for handmade gifts for their loved ones. Beautiful baskets will be raffled, and there will be food, vendors, unique gifts and food trucks. There will be hourly door prizes, with

great prizes available to win. The bazaar will be Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church at 1526 Humble Avenue, just off East Gridley Road. ★



A family races to the finish line together at the inaugural G.O.L.O.W. Live Oak Turkey Trot 5K. Photo by Chris Pedigo

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A beautiful soul who always sought to provide assurance to those in need with a natural grace and warm heart that made you feel at home. We continue to walk in your sunshine and will forever hear your song within our hearts.



**Gridley Recreation & Gridley Moose Lodge**

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Join us for a festive & fun holiday celebration with breakfast cooked by Gridley Lions Club & a special visit from Santa!

**8:00-11:00am | December 6th**

Holiday Crafts

Gingerbread House Contest

Pancake Breakfast

Photo Station

\$7 per plate  
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Hot Chocolate Bar

Hosted at the Gridley Moose Lodge  
1533 Hwy 99

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# Students Recognized in California Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meet

Continued from page 1

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo; California State University, Chico; California State University, Fresno; Merced College; Modesto Junior College; Santa Rosa Junior College; and University of California, Davis. They advanced to the final competition from earlier rounds in which they were challenged to demonstrate their abilities in exchanging ideas and offering detailed opinions on issues of importance to agriculture and Farm Bureau.

The discussion featured multiple rounds and analyzed the impacts of urban sprawl on farmland, how digital engagement can improve communication with policymakers, ways to help members better understand Farm Bureau benefits, and strategies for farmers and ranchers to effectively advance environmental stewardship.

Joseph Aguiar of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, was

the first runner-up and winner of \$1,000. Finalists, and winners of \$500 each, were Kaylen Jaime of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and Ariana Covarrubias of Santa Rosa Junior College.

The overall high-scoring team, and winner of \$500, was Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

This competition is supported by donor contributions. Jim and Normita Spinetta, farmers in El Dorado County, invested \$200,000 in a fund established by the California Farm Bureau to advance the organization's Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet contest.

California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches as part of a nationwide network representing more than 5 million Farm Bureau members. Learn more at [www.cfbf.com](http://www.cfbf.com) or follow @cafarmbureau on Instagram, LinkedIn, X or Facebook ★



From left, Nick Simpson, contest chair; Jim Spinetta, donor; Ariana Covarrubias, finalist; Becca Hamman, winner of the Collegiate Discussion Meet; Joseph Aguiar, first runner-up; Kaylen Jaime, finalist; and Ron Peterson, California Farm Bureau second vice president. Photo courtesy of the California Farm Bureau

## 4 Steps to Wrap Christmas Presents Like a Pro



Get those perfect presents ready for the big day with this simple step-by-step wrapping guide. Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

**FAMILY FEATURES** - Opening presents on Christmas morning is the highlight of the holidays for many, but getting the gifts ready to put under the tree can be a real chore.

Get those perfect presents ready for the big day with this simple step-by-step wrapping guide:

### Gather Your Materials

Having everything prepared beforehand can make the wrapping process smoother and more enjoyable. Before you start wrapping, gather wrapping paper, scissors, tape, bows, ribbons and gift tags. If you want to go beyond traditional methods, use fabric instead of paper for a reusable and eco-friendly option. Also be sure to clear a nice, flat surface to work on whether that's the kitchen table or the living room floor.

### Measure and Cut Gift Wrap

To ensure your gifts look professionally packaged, measure and cut the appropriate amount of wrapping paper for each gift. Place the gift box (or item itself) in the center of the wrapping paper and pull the paper up around the sides to see how much you need. Once you've measured,

use scissors to cut neatly for a clean, polished look.

### Fold Crisp Edges and Smooth Surfaces

Start by folding one side of the wrapping paper over the gift and secure it with tape. Then repeat with the opposite side, ensuring the paper is smooth across the surface of the package. For the edges, fold in the sides and create a triangle at each corner. Fold the triangle up against the side of the gift and secure it with tape. Repeat this process on the other side.

### Add Bows, Ribbons and Tags

Once your gifts are wrapped, add the finishing touches. Bows, ribbons and tags can add a personal touch and elevate the presentation of gifts. Choose ribbon that complements the wrapping paper and tie it around the gift in a neat bow, or simply attach a premade bow to accent the package. You can also decorate the wrapping paper with stamps, drawings or stickers for a personalized touch. Finally, attach gift tags to ensure each present gets to the proper recipient.

Find more tips and tricks to simplify the holidays at [eLivingtoday.com](http://eLivingtoday.com). ★

## Tips to Get Your Home Ready for Holiday Hosting



Whether you're planning a cozy dinner with friends or a full-blown holiday gathering, preparing your home for guests doesn't have to be stressful. Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

**FAMILY FEATURES** - Whether you're planning a cozy dinner with friends or a full-blown holiday gathering, preparing your home for guests doesn't have to be stressful. With a little organization and a few simple steps, you can create a space that feels warm and welcoming, allowing you to focus on what really matters: spending time together.

### Declutter and Deep Clean

Start by refreshing high-traffic areas, including the living room, kitchen and bathrooms. Clear off counters and coffee tables, dust surfaces, vacuum carpet, mop tile or hardwood and wipe down glass or mirrors.

### Tidy Up the Kitchen

The kitchen is the heart of many gatherings, meaning it's important to clear both refrigerator and counter space to make room for food, drinks and serving dishes. Before guests arrive, ensure your oven, microwave, dishwasher, garbage disposal, coffee maker and other appliances are working properly. Don't forget to stock essentials like paper plates, silverware, napkins, ice and paper towels

so you're not scrambling later.

### Refresh Guest Spaces

If visitors will be staying overnight, prep sleeping areas by changing the sheets, fluffing the pillows and stocking extra blankets. Thoughtful touches like fresh towels, water bottles and a charging station can make guests feel at home.

### Create a Functional Flow

Think about how guests will move through your home. Designate areas for food, drinks, games and mingling, arranging furniture to encourage conversation. If you're expecting a large crowd, add extra seating options.

### Add Seasonal Touches

For seasonal warmth, swap out throw pillows, add greenery and candles or hang a wreath or other decorations. Scattering cozy blankets and simmering a pot of cinnamon and citrus on the stove can also help create a warm, inviting atmosphere.

Visit [eLivingtoday.com](http://eLivingtoday.com) for more tips and guidance to get your home ready to welcome guests. ★

## Come Celebrate December at the Gridley Library

By MPG Staff

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - December is an exciting time for the kids and kids at heart, and the Gridley Library has great events planned!

If you are looking for something fun for the kids, here are some awesome things to do.

Dec. 3 is Lego Day at Afternoon Kid's Club from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Kids under 10 must have an accompanying adult.

Dec. 4 is Kid Quest from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All kids are welcome to join in for a craft adventure and create some wonderful Christmas ornaments.

Dec. 10 at Afternoon Kids Club are Holiday Cards from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Celebrate the holidays with homemade cards! All materials are provided. Bring your imagination and have a good time.

Dec. 11 is the Ugly Sweater Decorating Party from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Create your best ever sweater and win the contests this year.

Dec. 18 is Movie Night at 5:30 p.m. The movie will be Home Alone. All ages are welcome and there will be snacks and an activity will be provided.

The Gridley Library is located at 299 Spruce Street. ★

## Major Injury Collision at Highways 99 and 20

**Yuba City Police Department News Release**

**YUBA CITY, CA (MPG)** - On Tuesday, Dec. 2, at approximately 10:20 a.m., the Yuba City Police Department responded to a report of a major injury collision at the intersection of Highway 99 and Highway 20. Upon arrival, officers from the Yuba City Traffic Unit immediately assumed responsibility for the investigation.

According to an independent witness, the traffic signal for northbound and

southbound traffic on Highway 99 was green at the time of the collision. A semi-truck driven by a 35-year-old man was traveling northbound on Highway 99. At the same time, a Buick Verano driven by a 94-year-old man was traveling southbound on Highway 99 and entered the left-turn lane to proceed onto eastbound Highway 20.

Preliminary information indicates that the driver of the Buick Verano failed to stop for a red signal light and turned directly in front of the oncoming

semi-truck. The semi-truck driver attempted to stop but was unable to avoid the collision. The driver of the Buick was transported to Adventist Rideout Hospital with major injuries. The semi-truck driver was not injured. At this stage of the investigation, neither speed nor alcohol/drugs appear to be contributing factors.

The Yuba City Traffic Unit is continuing to obtain witness statements and review available surveillance footage before making a final determination regarding the cause of the collision. ★

# Land Pirate Scams Surge in County

**Butte County District Attorney's Office News Release**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - The Butte County District Attorney's Office is warning the public about a recent surge in land impersonation scams involving vacant parcels and properties owned by absentee landlords. These schemes, sometimes called "land pirate" scams, involve criminals pretending to be legitimate property owners and trying to sell land they do not own.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey stated that over the past several months, his investigators have documented multiple cases where scammers contacted real estate agents, title companies and potential buyers by impersonating legitimate owners of vacant rural property, inherited land, or parcels owned by out-of-area owners. In many cases, the scammers used fake identification, fraudulent notarizations, and temporary phone numbers or email accounts to carry out their schemes.

Both legitimate landowners and buyers are targeted in these scams. Landowners may suddenly lose their parcels and face costly court battles to restore their titles. Eager buyers might discover they have handed their money to fraudulent "sellers," and, unless they used a title company with title insurance, they may have

no way to get their money back from scammers who are often overseas or untraceable.

"This type of fraud is becoming more sophisticated and more frequent," said Ramsey. "Criminals are specifically targeting parcels that appear unattended or rarely visited, and they often price the land below market value to encourage a quick cash sale. Public awareness is our best defense. If something feels off during a land transaction, it's critical to slow down and verify. These scammers rely on speed and anonymity."

Common Red Flags noted in recent cases are: The "seller" claims to be out of the country or unable to meet in person. Communication is limited to text or email. Below-market pricing designed to attract quick offers. Refusal to complete video verification of identity. The use of rush tactics, including demanding same-day signatures. Inconsistencies between the "seller's" ID and public record ownership information. Requests for sale proceeds to be wired to out-of-state or foreign accounts.

Who is at risk most?

Owners of vacant land, owners living out of the county or out of state, recently inherited property and parcels without active development or regular visits.

Ramsey recommends the following

precautions for land owners: Monitor your property records periodically for unauthorized activity. Ensure your contact information is current with the County Assessor. Butte County Assessor: <https://www.buttecounty.net/222/Assessor>. Ask neighbors or nearby property owners to notify you of suspicious activity on the land. If you receive notice that your property is listed for sale and you did not authorize it, contact law enforcement immediately.

For land buyers: Use only known, trusted notaries and/or licensed real estate agents when conducting land transactions. Consider creating and maintaining a personal or organizational "trusted notary list." Only use real estate professionals who will verify "seller" identity through multiple channels – including notarized ID, video confirmation, and direct contact with the owner's verified address.

Anyone who believes they may have encountered a fraudulent real-estate listing or has information regarding these scams in Butte County is urged to contact: Butte County District Attorney's Office 1-(866) DAFraud (1-866-323-7283), [dafraud@buttecounty.net](mailto:dafraud@buttecounty.net) or <https://www.buttecounty.net/343/Investigations-Bureau>. In other counties, contact your local police agency or district attorney's office. ★

## BCSO Reminds Residents to Sign Up for Emergency Alerts

**Butte County Sheriff's Office News Release**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - The Butte County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) is switching to a new emergency notification system and strongly urges all residents to sign up for critical alerts. The new system, "Butte County Emergency Alerts," integrates with Smart911 and Rave Alert, allowing secure information sharing and opt-in options for emergency notifications.

On Dec. 2, in accordance with California Government Code Section 8593.4, the Sheriff's Office will import customer contact lists from local public utilities. These lists will include names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, used solely for emergency notifications.

After the upload, newly added users will receive an email from "GetRave" to confirm their email address and complete the

opt-in process. Residents will have full control over their enrollment, with an easy opt-out link included in every alert. However, the Sheriff's Office strongly advises against opting out, as it limits the ability to deliver lifesaving notifications.

If you already signed up for notifications after the Butte County Sheriff's Office media release on Nov. 20, no further action is needed. If not, follow the link you receive on Dec. 2, confirm your email, and visit [bit.ly/ButteAlerts](http://bit.ly/ButteAlerts) to customize your preferences, such as language, phone number and email for notifications.

For more information and frequently asked questions, visit [bit.ly/ButteAlerts](http://bit.ly/ButteAlerts). The Sheriff's Office thanks the community for its support and encourages everyone to stay vigilant, monitor weather and news and maintain a personal emergency plan. ★

## Father Pleads to Child Abuse for Fentanyl Overdose Death of Two-Year-Old Son Child's Mother Opts for Trial

**Butte County District Attorney News Release**

**OROVILLE, CA (MPG)** - An Oroville couple accused of child abuse in connection with their two-year-old son's fentanyl death took two different paths to justice in court Nov. 20, with the father pleading no contest to the charge and the mother choosing to go to trial by jury.

The father, Anthony Solansky, 28, pleaded no contest to felony child abuse yesterday in Butte County Superior Court and was set to be sentenced on Dec. 18.

The mother, Chelsea Whitfield, 29, also in court yesterday, pleaded not guilty and was set for a jury trial on March 2, 2026.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the charges arose from a March 9, incident, when the two-year-old boy was rushed to Oroville Hospital after Solansky and Whitfield woke up from sleeping most of the day and realized the boy was unresponsive. The toddler was pronounced dead shortly afterward, and the manner of death was determined to be acute fentanyl poisoning.

Evidence produced at the couple's previous preliminary hearing last month showed that Whitfield's addiction to fentanyl led to her consuming drugs at her Pine Oaks Road home in east Oroville. She would typically obtain the drugs from a dealer, who would deliver them to her and sometimes show up without her asking. Whitfield was aware of

the dangers that fentanyl posed to herself, other adults, and her child, and kept Narcan in the home to prevent overdoses.

Further evidence at the hearing showed Solansky was aware of Whitfield's addiction and the dangers it posed in the home based on a number of text messages exchanged between the two.

On March 9, Whitfield, Solansky, and the child were asleep in a bedroom at home the entire day. That afternoon, Solansky woke up to use the restroom and gave his son a cellphone to watch YouTube videos while he went back to sleep. Shortly thereafter, Whitfield's drug dealer entered the room unannounced, and Solansky, upon recognizing who it was, woke Whitfield, who was sleeping off a drug binge.

Hours after the dealer left the residence, Solansky and Whitfield woke up to find their child lying on Whitfield, blue and unresponsive. Solansky tried to save the child's life by performing CPR and administering Narcan, but to no avail.

Ramsey stated there was no proof that the parents intended to kill their son, but their actions resembled manslaughter, which led his office to charge them with child abuse and related enhancements that carry more severe penalties than manslaughter.

Solansky faces up to 6 years in state prison when sentenced. Both he and Whitfield remain in custody without bail while awaiting Solansky's sentencing and Whitfield's trial date. ★

## No Jail Time for Registered Sex Offender Who Embezzled from Senior Care Facility

**Butte County District Attorney News Release**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Starryne Lefdal, 46, of Orland, a registered sex offender, was sentenced Nov. 20 in Butte County Superior Court for embezzling over \$10,000 from a senior care facility in Chico. Despite the strong objection of the District Attorney, the sentencing judge did not impose any jail time on the offender.

Citing the defendant's "minimal criminal history," Butte County Judge Kimberly Merrifield granted Lefdal probation with no additional jail time, despite the district attorney's and probation department's recommendation that she serve at least 90 days in county jail as part of her embezzlement probation.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the embezzlement charge stemmed from a May 2025 incident when the facility discovered Lefdal, who was employed as a bookkeeper at the time, created a series of false invoices, which allowed her to transfer money from their bank accounts to her personal accounts. The string of fake invoices also made it appear as if residents of the facility owed money to the facility, when in fact they did not.

Lefdal was confronted by her employer about the theft, and Lefdal explained that she had taken the money to pay for an attorney in a criminal child molestation case pending against her in Glenn County at the time. Lefdal later pleaded guilty in August to a misdemeanor violation of this charge, which resulted in her being a registered sex offender on a GPS monitor.

At the sentencing hearing, Judge Merrifield granted Lefdal two years of probation, with no additional jail time beyond the six days she already served before bailing out on a \$40,000 bond. The Butte County District Attorney's Office strongly disagreed with Judge Merrifield's decision, arguing that substantial jail time was the appropriate punishment for someone who stole thousands of dollars from an elder care facility.

The judge ordered Lefdal to pay \$10,245 in restitution to the care facility and a \$300 criminal fine. Judge Merrifield expressed her hope that Lefdal would focus on repaying the money owed during her probation, noting that keeping Lefdal out of custody would enable her to continue working and making payments toward the restitution. Lefdal was directed to pay \$450 a month on the restitution amount. ★

## Gridley Braces for Citywide Power Outage

*Continued from page 1*  
are urged to ensure backup batteries or alternate power sources are available.

The City Council on

Monday authorized Artega to continue negotiations with PG&E on the dates and timing of the outage, including

whether the work will be completed in one 12-hour day with backup generation or broken into shorter blocks. ★

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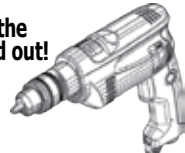
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# New Studies Gives Lowdown on California's Sky-High Living Costs



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

We Californians know, or should know, that while living in this state has many positive aspects, we are paying through the nose for the experience.

A flurry of recent studies drives home how deeply California residents must dig to meet costs of living that are either at or near the highest of any state.

One comes from the Legislative Analyst's Office, the Legislature's advisor on the state budget, delving into the astronomic costs of buying a home.

The LAO study found "California home prices far exceed the rest of the country." Mid-tier homes, those roughly in the middle of the price range, are more than twice as expensive as the typical mid-tier home elsewhere in the U.S. Monthly payments for such homes run about \$5,500 in California, 74% more than what they were 25 years ago.

The study also found that the annual household income needed to qualify for a mortgage on a mid-tier California home in September was about \$221,000 — more than two times the median California household income in 2024, which was \$102,000.

For a bottom-tier home, about \$136,000 in annual income is needed to qualify for a mortgage — about 33%

higher than median household income was in 2024.

The data illustrate why California has the second lowest rate of home ownership in the nation. Just 55.3% of Californians live in homes they or their families own, slightly higher than New York's ownership rate.

It's not surprising that hundreds of thousands of California residents, unable to aspire to home ownership, have decamped for more affordable states, such as Texas, where home prices are a fraction of California's.

Those who do migrate to other states find not only are houses much less expensive but fuel for their cars and utilities to light, heat and cool their homes are markedly less expensive.

The Center for Jobs & the Economy, an offshoot of the California Business Roundtable, continuously monitors energy costs in California and other states. Its latest report says gasoline, averaging \$4.64 a gallon in California, is as much as \$1.50 a gallon higher than in Texas and other states. California's electrical power rates are roughly twice as high.

Another take on California living costs comes from the Transparency Foundation, a conservative economic think tank.

It gathered a wide variety of factors and calculated living costs for an upper-middle class California family with a \$130,000 annual income. It concluded the family would pay \$29,753 more per year than the national average for housing, utilities, health care, taxes and other costs of living.

"This report should be a wake-up call to all Californians, that they are

being unfairly punished by the bad policies imposed on them by their politicians — and they are literally paying the price for it," Dave McCulloch, the foundation's chairman, said in a statement about the report.

A new poll by the Public Policy Institute of California confirms that Californians worry about living costs. Nearly a third of those polled said they, or someone in their household, have reduced food purchases to save money.

The California Farm Bureau revealed that a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for 10 people will cost a California family \$72.61, well above the national average of \$55.18.

Finally, there's a new report from WalletHub, a website devoted to personal finance, implying that Californians are taking on more debt to pay their rising bills.

In this year's third quarter — July through September — the average California household added \$880 in new debt, increasing the total owed to \$259,773, second only to residents of Hawaii.

All together, Californians' personal debt increased by \$11.8 billion during the quarter.

Now it's nearly \$3.2 trillion, just a bit lower than their \$3.6 trillion in annual personal income.

A truly staggering number.

*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.* ★

# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Will the real Sacramento Kings please stand up. Yes, Kings fans, it's been a conundrum to say the least, and in spite of a 5 and 16 record to start the season, bright spots have actually surfaced.

Stuck with 3 paltry wins just one week ago, the Sactown boys went into the city of Denver, and handed the first place Nuggets a surprising 128-123 defeat. Perhaps equally surprising was the 117-112 win over the Timberwolves just 2 nights later before a roaring crowd at Golden One Center. Both victories came with big man Domantas Sabonis sidelined with a knee injury, leaving fans and pundits wondering what can these guys do if they play like this at full strength?

Well, that's certainly a good question, but we can all remember what the team looked like 3 seasons ago when Domantas arrived in Sacramento and led the Kings to 48 wins and a playoff berth. That team led the NBA in scoring but also had a vaunted point guard by the name of DeArron Fox.

I think it's important to take a closer look at these back-to-back wins that the Kings recently put together and try to find a common thread. It's actually very obvious. In both wins the Kings shot remarkably well from the free throw line, something that has been seemingly impossible for this team to do. Against the Nuggets the Kings went 22-23 missing amazingly only one shot the entire night. Two nights later against the Timberwolves the Kings went 26-28 from the line missing only 2 shots.

Now compare that with Sunday night's game against the Grizzlies. 59% from the free throw line in a tight game converting on only 13 of 22 attempts in a 115-107 loss.

Unfortunately, the game against the Grizzlies has been the pattern we've seen all too often when the Kings put together that alarming 8-games losing streak.

So, even with Domantas Sabonis sidelined, the Kings are capable of taking down some of the best teams in the NBA, but making their free throws is absolutely critical!

Unfortunately, the Kings are among the worst shooting NBA teams when it comes to free throws, and as we've seen, if wins are to come that pattern has to change.

Doug Christie can talk all he wants to

about defense and playing for 48 minutes, but if his team can't convert from the line the stats don't lie.

But the Sacramento Kings can only play the players on the court, and this year's pattern of substitutions has been a head scratcher. Last year's first round draft choice Devin Carter has been all but forgotten as he sits game after game on the pines. A solid defender, good rebounder, and efficient scorer around the rim, Devin appears not to be in the Kings future and fans want to know why.

The coaching staff talks about a youth movement while second year player Isaac Jones was recently cut from the team. 6'9" with a huge wingspan, Isaac was scooped up by the first place Detroit Pistons almost immediately, and it won't surprise me to see them utilize Jones moving forward.

The number 1 problem has been identified and it's the inability to shoot free throws with any consistency, but what is #2?

The coaching staff and entire franchise can't evaluate talent! Drafting talent over the years, and talent that resides already on the team.

Allowing Jonas Valanciunas to get away was a huge mistake, and one that has benefited the Denver Nuggets greatly.

No one could see or even imagine a Kings team with Domantas at the #4 and moving Valanciunas to the #5.

Any way you look at it, the Kings shot themselves in the foot when they let Jonas walk away.

Defensive standout Keon Ellis is getting less and less playing time, logging all of 6 minutes in the loss to the Grizzlies, and fans attending home games have taken to collectively calling, "we want Keon, we want Keon!"

This is not a good look, but it begs the question, why? Why do fans have to beg the coach to play a player that could obviously help the team?

Player evaluation, it's as simple as that.

Don't put all the blame for a 5-16 record solely on the players and give the coaching staff a pass.

All the best!  
*Your thoughts are always welcome at vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com.* ★

## SPARKY'S CORNER



### Traveling for the Holidays? Be Prepared

Many people choose to travel during the holidays by automobile, with the highest fatality rate of any major form of transportation the Gridley Fire Department asks that you be extra careful while traveling this time of year.

- Use a designated driver to ensure guests make it home safely after a holiday party; alcohol, over-the-counter or illegal drugs all cause impairment
- Make sure every person in the vehicle is properly buckled up no matter how long or short the distance traveled
- Put that cell phone away; many distractions can occur while driving, but cell phones are the main culprit
- Properly maintain the vehicle and keep an emergency kit with you.
- Be prepared for heavy traffic, and possibly inclement weather.

Thank You, and Happy Holidays!!

**Sparky the Dog  
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## Ask DR. UNIVERSE

### Dr. Universe: Can Humans Live in Space for a Month?

- Maya, 11, Seattle

Dear Maya,  
I mostly keep all four paws on the ground. It's hard to imagine living out in space.

I asked my friend Erica Crespi about it. She's a biologist at Washington State University. She studies how animals tolerate stressors faced in the environment—including how humans can live and thrive in space.

Crespi told me that Valeri Vladimirovich Polyakov lived on the Mir Space Station for 437 days and 18 hours in the 1990s. So far, that's the record for living in space.

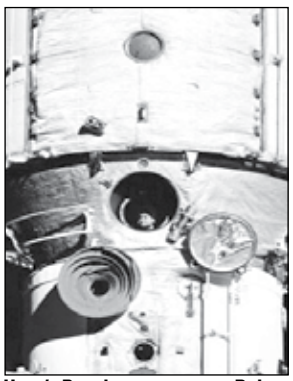
Polyakov's job was to test the effects of a long space flight—like maybe a trip to Mars. He handled the stress super well. The hardest parts were the first few weeks in space and back on Earth.

But living away from Earth is no easy mission.

"Our species evolved for life on Earth," Crespi said. "The stressors there are different from what we grow up with here."

On Earth, gravity pulls us toward the center of the planet. It's why our feet stay on the ground. It's why our muscles and bones are strong. When we walk or run, we work against the tug of gravity.

There's almost no gravity in space. Astronauts float. That sounds fun, but without gravity, muscles shrink and bones weaken. Astronauts exercise about two hours every day to make up for it. Low gravity even affects



Here's Russian cosmonaut Polyakov peering out of the Mir core module in 1995. The module was meeting up with NASA's space shuttle Discovery. Polyakov had been in space for over a year at this point. Courtesy photo

what's going on inside the body. An astronaut's heart works hard to move their blood around like usual. Some astronauts say that causes sinus pressure—kind of like having a cold all the time.

Crespi told me her research group wants to know how space affects the microbes inside astronauts. Those microbes help us digest food, make vitamins and fight off sickness. Low gravity and other stressors in space may make things harder for them, too.

Another problem is radiation. That's energy from the sun and other places inside and outside our solar system. Too much radiation can make us sick or cause serious health problems. Earth's atmosphere protects us from that. Spacecraft must be carefully built to shield astronauts. Astronauts also don't have

trees or oceans to recycle air and water. They rely on machines to do those jobs, and to deal with space dust and extreme temperature.

Then there are the emotional challenges. Astronauts live in small, enclosed spaces. They can't step outside to feel the breeze. They don't have the familiar sights, sounds or smells of home. They miss their families and friends.

Even the sleep schedule in space is tricky. The space station orbits the Earth quickly. Outside its windows, the sun rises and sets every 45 minutes. Astronauts use lights and curtains to mimic the light-and-dark schedule on Earth.

But Crespi is optimistic that we'll figure out how to keep humans happy and healthy in space. Right now, scientists are developing sensors to monitor astronaut health. They're figuring out how to grow plants in space and recycle water more efficiently.

If we could farm in space, astronauts would have fresh, familiar foods. Those plants could recycle air and water. Plus, it feels good to be around plants.

Once more people—and maybe even cats—can stay in space longer, it would be less lonely for everyone. Maybe it would feel like visiting a little town in a space station.

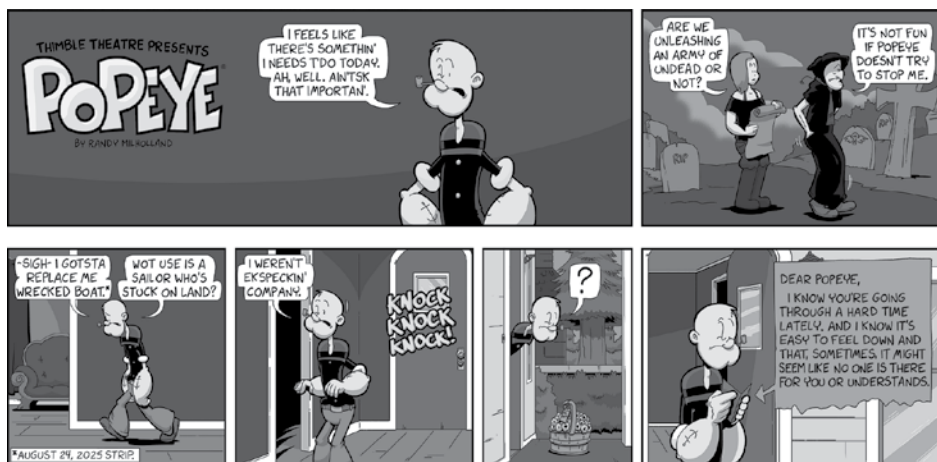
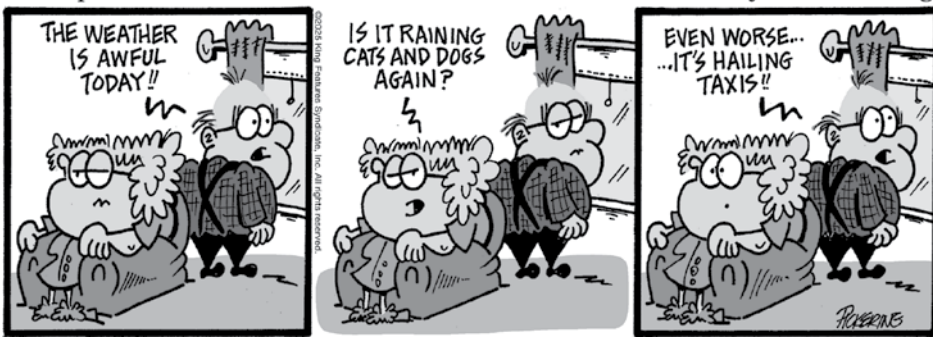
That would help keep humans grounded while they reach for the stars.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Universe

# COMICS & PUZZLES

## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



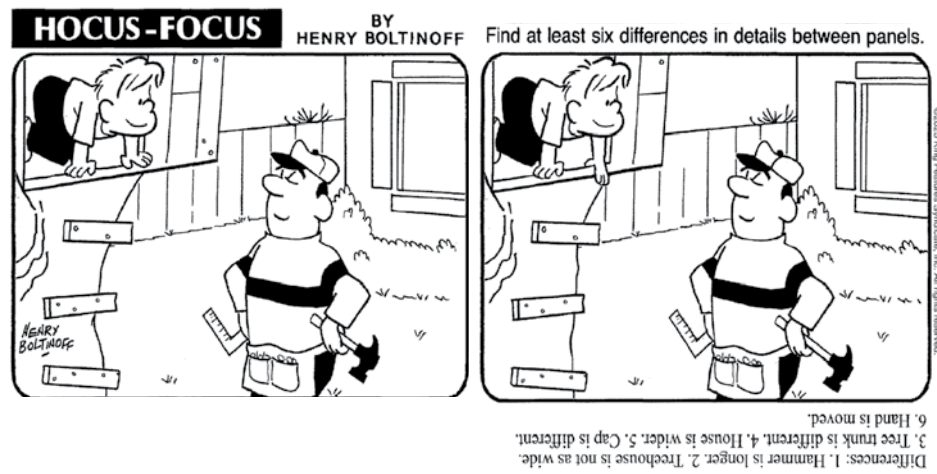
## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



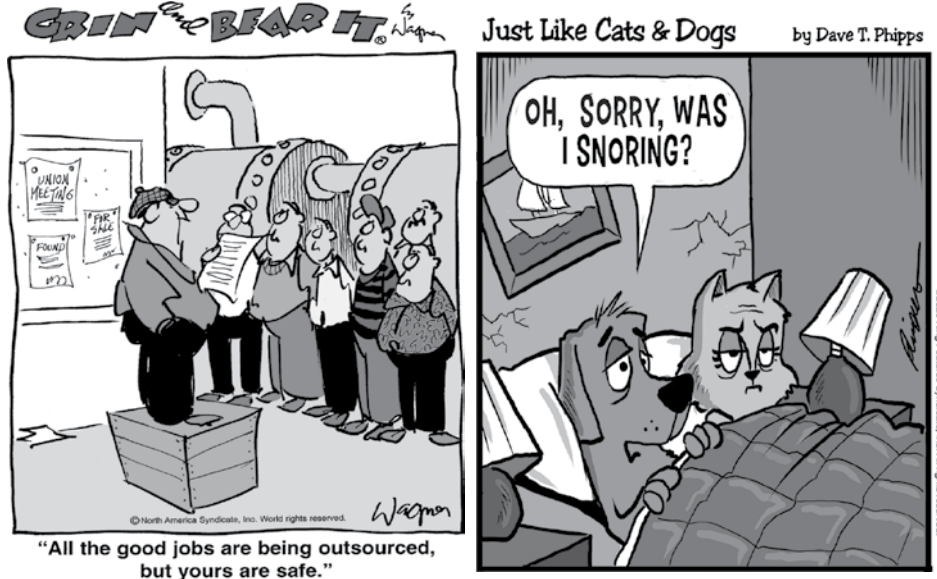
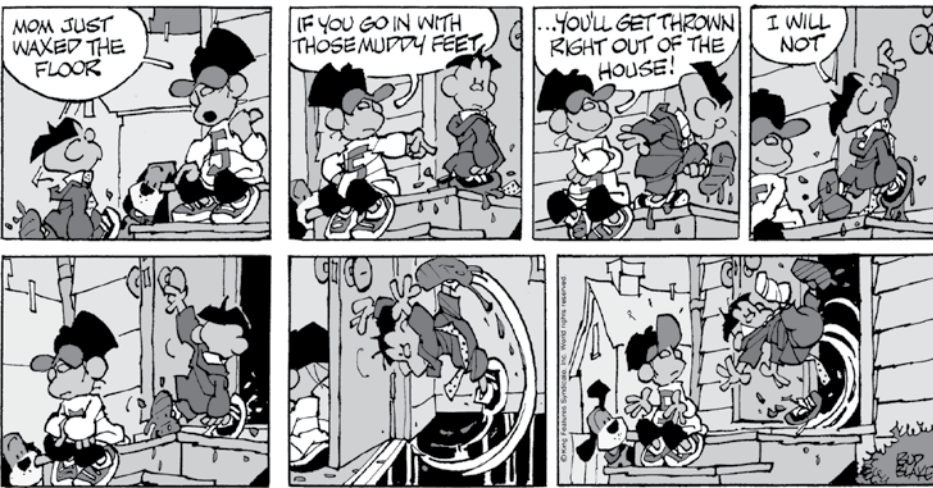
## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

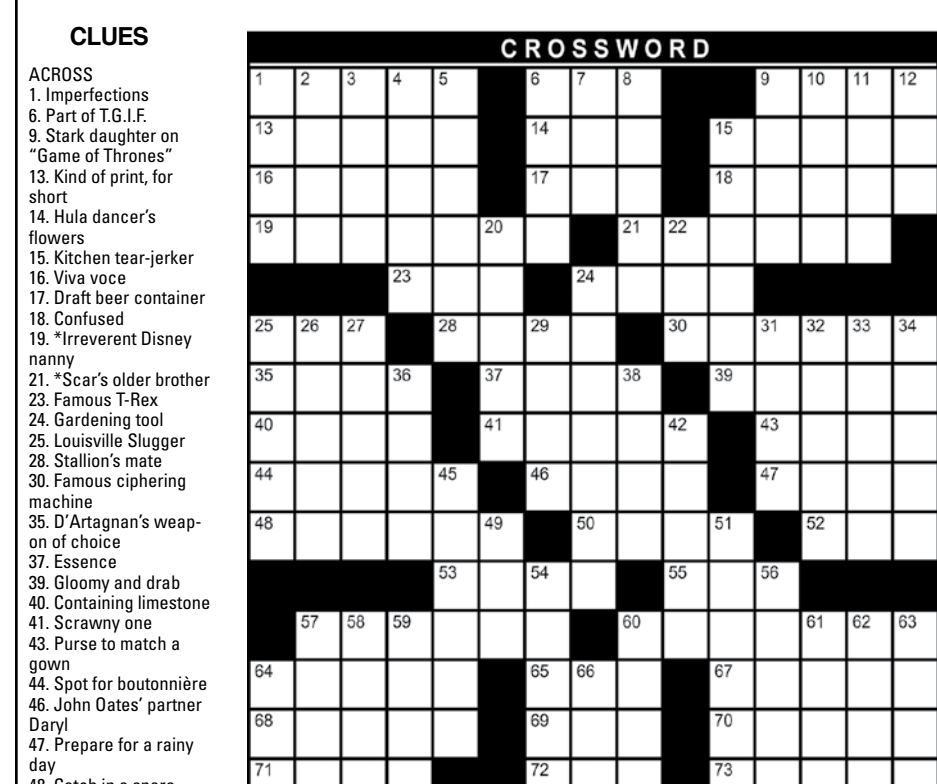


## TIGER

by Bud Blake



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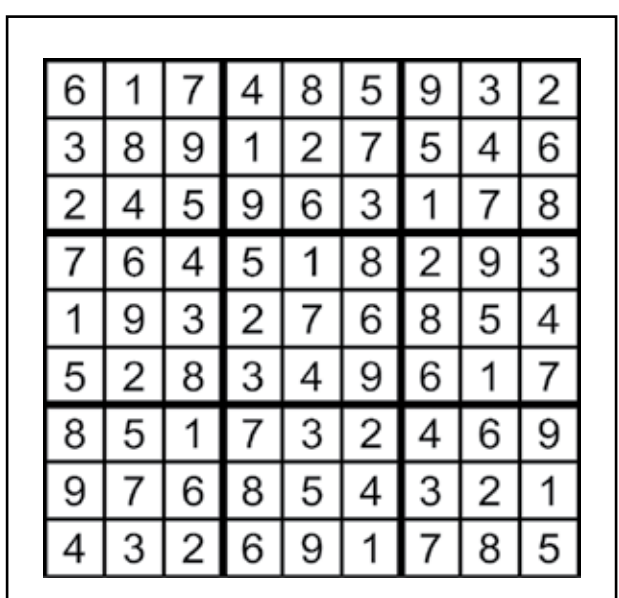


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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000774**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: My Oriental Market, 2550 S Whitman Place, Chico, CA 95928  
My Oriental Market, 2550 S Whitman Place, Chico, CA 95928  
Date filed in Butte County: October 20, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, 2025  
MY 12-5-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000780**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Alignment With Prairie Yana, The Haven at Chico, Empowered Recovery Course, 1528 Bidwell Drive, Chico, CA 95926  
Francia, Prairie, 615 Crimson Court, Chico, CA 95973  
Date filed in Butte County: October 23, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, 2025  
ALIGNMENT 12-5-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000789**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Fiesta Taco, 615 Pearson Road, Paradise, CA 95969  
Adrian Torres, PO Box 1951, Paradise, CA 95967  
Date filed in Butte County: October 17, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 21, 28, Dec 5, 12, 2025  
FIESTA 12-12-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000762**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: R and R Cleaning, 200 Ford Avenue Apt 10, Gridley, CA 95948  
Candy A Vanhuss, 200 Ford Avenue Apt 10, Gridley, CA 95948  
Date filed in Butte County: October 17, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: May 15, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 21, 28, Dec 5, 12, 2025  
CLEANING 12-12-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000675**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Luxe & Glow Studio, 260 E 1st Street, Chico, CA 95928  
Lenia C Garcia, PO Box 5125, Chico, CA 95927  
Date filed in Butte County: September 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: September 11, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 21, 28, Dec 5, 12, 2025  
LUXE 12-12-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000822**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Hope and

Health Marketing International, 838 Nancy Lane, Chico, CA 95926  
Edmund Trujillo, 838 Nancy Lane, Chico, CA 95926  
Date filed in Butte County: November 5, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 10, 1990  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 21, 28, Dec 5, 12, 2025  
HOPE 12-12-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000809**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Norcal Tech Repair, 2064 Talbert Drive, Suite 301, Chico, CA 95928  
Adam E Hutcheson, 2581 California Park Drive Apt 138, Chico, CA 95928  
Date filed in Butte County: October 31, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 21, 28, Dec 5, 12, 2025  
NORCAL 12-12-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000833**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Orobliss Massage, 2045 Robinson, Oroville, CA 95965  
Steven A Simmons, 8070 Utah Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966 and Terrell R Jonak, 1502 Pomona Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965  
Date filed in Butte County: November 12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: November 12, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
OROBLISS 12-19-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000840**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Children's Hope Counseling Services, 567 Virginia Street, Gridley, CA 95948  
Children's Hope Foster Family Agency, 567 Virginia Street, Gridley, CA 95948  
Date filed in Butte County: November 14, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
HOPE 12-19-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000813**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Grow Chico LLC, 6 Franciscan Way, Chico, CA 95973  
Grow Chico LLC, 6 Franciscan Way, Chico, CA 95973  
Date filed in Butte County: November 4, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
GROW 12-19-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000799**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: BEEZY'S Closet, 584 W Evans Reimer Road, Gridley, CA 95948  
Murillo, Lupe, 584 W Evans

Reimer Road, Gridley, CA 95948  
Date filed in Butte County: October 29, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: August 25, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
BEEZY'S 12-19-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000783**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Walmart #1575/Walmart Pharmacy #10-1575/Walmart Vision Center #30-1575, 465 Cal Oak Road, Oroville, CA 95965  
Walmart Inc., 1 Customer Drive, Bentonville, AR 72716  
Date filed in Butte County: October 24, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: August 7, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
WALMART 12-19-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000784**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Walmart #2044/Walmart Pharmacy #10-2044/Walmart Vision Center #30-2044, 2044 Forest Avenue, Chico, CA 95928  
Walmart Inc., 1 Customer Drive, Bentonville, AR 72716  
Date filed in Butte County: October 24, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: August 7, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
WALMART 12-19-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000865**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The UPS Store 5756, 2 E Gridley Road Suite B, Gridley, CA 95948  
Jaskaran Deol and Rajkamal Deol, 9410 Rose Court, Live Oak, CA 95953  
Date filed in Butte County: November 21, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2025  
UPS 12-26-25

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #25CV04337  
Petitioner Anthony Bernard MacMaster filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Anthony Bernard MacMaster to Anthony Bernard Shoemaker.  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing January 7, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928  
Filed on November 7, 2025  
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025  
MACMASTER 12-19-25

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF WALLACE CLARK RONEY  
CASE NO. 25PR00484  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi-

tors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Wallace Clark Roney.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by George Edward Knox III, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting George Edward Knox III be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.  
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: December 16, 2025, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Petitioner is: PO Box 3061, Chico, CA 95927; 916-877-6270  
Publish: Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, 2025  
RONEY 12-12-25

## TRUSTEE SALE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Foreclosure No. 7301309 APN# 116-290-011 On December 16, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., Mid Valley Title and Escrow Company, Trustee, or Successor Trustee or Substituted Trustee of that certain Deed of Trust executed by Gordon Wiecezorek and Jackie S. Wiecezorek, husband and wife as joint tenants, and recorded February 3, 2003 as Instrument No. 2003-0001315, of Official Records of Plumas, California, and pursuant to that certain Notice of Default thereunder recorded August 6, 2025 as Instrument No. 2025-0003474, of Official Records of said County, will under and pursuant to said Deed of Trust sell at public auction for cash, lawful money of the United States of America, a cashier's check payable to said Trustee 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, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, at the main entrance to the County Courthouse located at 520 Main Street, Quincy, CA 95971, all that right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: as shown on said Deed of Trust (X)The street address or other common designation of said property: 147, 153 & 157 Fairgrounds Rd., Quincy, CA 95971 (X)Name and address of the beneficiary at whose request the sale is being conducted: Plumas Bank, PO Box 210, Quincy, CA 95971 Directions to the above property may be obtained by requesting same in writing from the beneficiary within 10 days from the first publication of this notice. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, as to title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the unpaid balance due on the note or notes secured by said Deed of Trust, plus secured costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Sale: \$40,054.32 NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED JANUARY 27, 2003 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. 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 1-916-939-0772 or visit this internet website: <http://www.nationwideposting.com> address for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 7301309. 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 <http://www.nationwideposting.com>. 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 1-916-939-0772, or visit this internet website <http://www.nationwideposting.com>, using the file number assigned to this case 7301309 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. The undersigned mortgagee, beneficiary or authorized agent for the mortgagee or beneficiary declares that the mortgagee or beneficiary has satisfied the requirements of California Civil Code 2923.5. DATED: 11/06/2025 MID VALLEY TITLE AND ESCROW COMPANY Address: 601 Main Street Chico, California 95928 Phone: (530) 879-2527 BY: Greg Wood, Vice President NPP0480995 To: GRIDLEY HERALD - PLUMAS 11/21/2025, 11/28/2025, 12/05/2025 GRIDLEY HERALD 12-5-25

TS No: CA09000068-22-5 APN: 010-310-062-000 FKA 021-090-062 TO NO: 2682930CAD NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(1). The Summary will be provided to Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED August 17, 2021. 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On January 7, 2026 at 03:30 PM, at the main entrance to the County Courthouse at 1 Court Street, Oroville, CA 95965, MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps, as the duly Appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded on August 24, 2021 as Instrument No. 2021-0037658, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Butte County, California, executed by PATRICK A BAYNARD, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustor(s), in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., as Beneficiary, as nominee

for LAND HOME FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 250 RANDOLPH AVE, GRIDLEY, CA 95948 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 without covenant or warranty, express 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. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$172,358.52 (Estimated). However, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the property receiver, if applicable. 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. 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 visit the Internet Website address [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com) or call Nationwide Posting & Publication at 916.939.0772 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA09000068-22-5. 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 NOTICE TO TENANT FOR FORECLOSURES AFTER JANUARY 1, 2021 You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 916.939.0772, or visit this internet website

# The Expense of Safety

## Sheriff Discusses the Future of Live Oaks Public Safety

By Seti Long

**LIVE OAK, CA (MPG)** - Sutter County Sheriff Brandon Barnes addressed concerned citizens at a Live Oak Town Hall held the evening of Dec. 1 regarding the City of Live Oaks decision to discontinue their public safety contract with the department.

On Oct. 1, Live Oak City Council voted to discontinue services with the Sutter County Sheriff's Department due to financial constraints. The current contract is set to end Nov. 2026.

Sheriff Barnes shared that the Sutter County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) will slowly absorb the staff currently assigned to the City of Live Oak and reallocate resources over the next year until the official end of the contractual agreement.

Sheriff Barnes expressed the desire to continue negotiations with the City of Live Oak in order to preserve necessary services, outlining the benefits of

working with the Sutter County Sheriff's Office, including access to investigative and SWAT teams, while remaining free from the cost burden of things such as basic equipment costs, evidence processing, HR and payroll services, etc.

The Sutter County Sheriff's Office provides the city of Live Oak with seven deputies and one detective, which provide 24/7 services, with three officers on duty at any given hour.

Sheriff Barnes explained that a 2012 municipal services review in Los Angeles, using data from the US Department of Justice, determined that an ideal police staffing level is 2.6 officers for every 1,000 residents.

Based on those standards, the city of Live Oak is understaffed at just seven deputies, which is what the contract allots for. Later studies put the number of deputies per resident even higher than 2.6. Barnes expressed his belief that Live Oak would be better

served with 14 deputies but based on his own department's financial constraints and hiring abilities, that was not a possibility.

Currently, Live Oak calls for service equate to 25% of total calls coming through Sutter County Sheriff's Office dispatch, states the Sheriff.

With the end of the contract looming, Sheriff Barnes explained by the California Constitution, Live Oak could form its own municipal police department or settle for extremely limited services from the Sutter County Sheriff's Office which would include responses to priority one calls. He reminded the public of potentially long response times depending on where responders were located throughout the county at the time of the call.

Sutter County Interim Fire Chief for Live Oak Richard Epperson weighed in, highlighting their department's contributions to community and

public safety. Chief Epperson shared statistics on Live Oak calls for service, with 1,500 calls in 2024 and a projected 1,600 calls for service in the year 2025.

Epperson shared that the department is discussing alternative staffing plans and revenue options to sustain services in Live Oak.

After the presentations by Sheriff Barnes and Chief Epperson, the discussion was opened to the public for further questions on the future of Live Oak services.

Newly appointed City Manager Ben Moody reaffirmed that "public safety is a top priority for the city," but questioned, "how do we remain fiscally solvent and work through it?"

Moody emphasized the need for fiscal solutions to sustain public safety and recommended further discussion while stating that residents may see voter options coming forward through the county, city and Citizens



Sheriff Brandon Barnes

Initiative that may be expensive or hard to stomach.

"It's tough for people that are already financially strapped ... that's where it's going to come down to a choice, to the residents, of what they're willing to pay for and can afford, versus the services we can provide," Moody said.

The City Manager encouraged continued exploration and discussion of possible revenue streams or initiatives to support the Sutter County Sheriff's Office contract, with Sheriff Barnes and Chief Epperson in agreement that further collaboration hopes to yield a viable way forward. ★

## Community Calendar

### Butte County Libraries

Butte County Libraries have the following upcoming events: (G) Gridley branch, 299 Spruce St. and (B) Biggs branch, 464A B St. Call 530-552-5652 for more information.

**Friday, Dec. 5:** Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (G)

**Saturday, Dec. 6:** Afternoon kids' club, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (B)

**Tuesday, Dec. 9:** LEGO Tuesday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B)

**Wednesday, Dec. 10:** Color your world, arts and crafts for adults 11 a.m. to noon. (G) Afternoon kids' club, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (G)

**Thursday, Dec. 11:** Biggs Chess club, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B) Ugly sweater decorating party, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (G)

**Friday, Dec. 12:** Sure Start family play time, 9 a.m. to noon. (G)

**Saturday, Dec. 13:** Clothing swap, noon to 2 p.m. Let's help individuals and families find ethically sourced, new-to-them clothing. If you are interested in attending, please bring 5 to 10 quality items to trade. Think clean, gently used, and in great condition – things you'd be happy to give to a friend. All ages and sizes welcome. (G)

*Continuing through Sunday, Jan. 4*

### Chico Ice Rink

Downtown Chico Plaza, 132 W. 4th St., Chico. Whether you're here with family or friends, come make the most of winter with us on the ice. We offer skating for all ages, skate rentals, and a cozy atmosphere. Check the website at [www.chicorec.gov/chico-ice-rink](http://www.chicorec.gov/chico-ice-rink) for tickets and latest schedule information.

*Continuing through Tuesday, Dec. 23*

### Lights of Hope 2025

3556 Oro Bangor Hwy., Oroville. This event brings the magic of Christmas to life with a spectacular light walk, shimmering with joyful holiday attractions and more than 300,000 lights. This free event invites families to experience the wonder, warmth, and community spirit of the season together. You can also try the custom-built sledding hill, play with inflatables and try a variety of food and drink concessions. More information at [www.fathershouseoroville.com/lights-of-hope](http://www.fathershouseoroville.com/lights-of-hope)

*Continues through Sunday, Dec. 7*

### A Very Chico Nutcracker

The show pirouettes back to the stage, bringing a homegrown sparkle to this beloved holiday classic. This production by Chico Community Ballet honors the timeless tradition of "The Nutcracker" – with a whimsical twist inspired by Chico's rich history and charm. Tickets and more information at the Chico University box office.

### Friday, Dec. 5

#### Small Town Holiday Stroll

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Community Building parking lot, 10200 O Street, Live Oak. Join the City of Live Oak in this very special holiday tradition. You'll find food and warm beverages, pictures with Santa and the lighting of the City's Christmas tree by the City Mayor at 6:15 p.m.

#### Community Tree Lighting Ceremony in Downtown Chico

Join us for an enchanting evening filled with music, community spirit, and holiday cheer. The full evening is still being planned, so call 530-345-6500 or email [dcb@downtownchico.com](mailto:dcb@downtownchico.com) for more information.

### Saturday, Dec. 6

#### and Sunday, Dec. 7

#### Gold Country Hounds and Hunters Dog Show

At the Butte County Fairgrounds, 199 E. Hazel St. This is an outdoor event presented by the United Kennel Club (UKC). Show rings will be outside under cover. Events include conformation, (altered conformation, junior showmanship and novice puppy) and SPOT evaluations. Schedule and more information at 530-846-3626.

#### Brunch with Santa

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days at the CARD Community Center, 545 Vallombrosa Ave., Chico. Join us for a morning filled with holiday fun in our Winter Wonderland. Enjoy a delicious full buffet brunch by Roots Catering, meet Santa and capture your annual holiday photo, and explore Santa's Village with festive crafts, holiday activities and a very merry scavenger hunt in the rose garden. Tickets and more information at [www.chicorec.gov/santa](http://www.chicorec.gov/santa)

#### Patrick Ranch Museum Annual Artisan's Faire

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at 10381 Midway, Durham. You'll find pottery, jewelry, leather goods, artwork, woodwork, and more. Enjoy amazing artisans, Midway café, and raffle prizes.

### Saturday, Dec. 6

#### Donuts with Santa

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Durham Memorial Hall, 9319 Midway, Durham. All tickets include a donut and a drink, plus the DHS jazz band will be performing. \$5 online presale at the Durham Recreation website or \$8 at the door.

#### Breakfast with Santa

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Oroville Convention Center, 1200 Myers Street, Oroville. Join Santa as he makes his way to the Feather River Recreation and Park District. Enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast and live music before heading into

Santa's workshop for holiday crafts. \$15 per attendee – registration is required at [www.firpd.com](http://www.firpd.com)

### Butte County Toy Run

9:30 a.m. start at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, 2357 Fair St., Chico. Start your motorcycle, grab a new unwrapped toy, buy a poker hand, T-shirt and pin. Please support Butte County's neediest kiddos and create a Christmas for them. Toys can also be dropped at Sierra Steel Harley-Davidson, 1501 Mangrove Ave., Chico. For more information, call Barbi Boeger at 530-228-7838.

### Saturday, Dec. 13

#### Pioneer Christmas

Noon to 4 p.m. at the Pioneer History Museum, 2332 Montgomery Street, Oroville. Step back in time and celebrate the season the old-fashioned way, with a cozy, family-friendly afternoon full of holiday cheer. Free entry to the museum. Donations for activities will go to the Oroville Docents Association, helping bring more fun community events like this to life in the future.

#### A Jazzy Nutcracker

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Butte College Main Campus – Black Box Theater, 3536 Butte Campus Drive, Oroville. Celebrate the season in style with this reimagining of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite" created by Duke Ellington and Bill Strayhorn, performed by an all-star big band. Tickets and more information at [www.butte.edu/campus-events](http://www.butte.edu/campus-events)

#### Meeting Minders

Ongoing Activities (Current as of publication, please verify schedule with the organization):

**American Legion Bingo**, Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Gridley Veterans Hall, 267 Sycamore St.

**Biggs City Council** meets on the second and fourth Tuesday each month, at 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 3016 Sixth St., Biggs. The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 9 and more information is available at 530-368-5493.

**Butte County Board of Supervisors** generally meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 205, Oroville. The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 16 and more information is available at 530-552-3300.

**ESL Conversation Group** meets Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Esperanza House Family Center, 630 Washington St. Practice speaking English in this free, friendly group setting. All levels are welcome to attend any or all sessions. There is also a Zoom option from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Butte County Library. Contact [literacy@butte-county.net](mailto:literacy@butte-county.net) for more information.

**Gridley City Council** meets on the first and third Monday each month, 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 685 Kentucky St. Meeting agendas are posted to the following site on the Friday prior to each

meeting: <http://gridley.ca.us/government-and-departments/city-council> The next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 15.

**Gridley Senior Group Breakfast** every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. includes Bingo at 9:30 a.m. Gridley Recreation Center 194 Washington St. For more information, call 530-846-3264.

**Gridley Unified School District (GUSD) Board** meetings are generally on the first and third Wednesday each month, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 10. Call 530-846-4721 for more information.

**Live Oak City Council** usually meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall, 9955 Live Oak Blvd. Call 530-695-2112 for more information.

**Rotary Club of Gridley** meets every Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Hall, 446 Kentucky St. For more information or membership, call 530-632-5990.

**Survivors of Suicide Support Group** meets the first and third Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. at the Gridley Recreation Department, 194 Washington Street. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, Dec. 17.

### Community Resources – Find Food

**First 5 Family Center at Esperanza House**, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursdays, at 630 Washington St., Gridley. Caregivers are welcome to drop in for help with resources for their families, access to our food pantry, diapers, and assistance with applications or translations. Call to schedule an appointment: 530-782-0293.

**First Baptist Church of Live Oak Food Pantry**, 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month, at 2480 Pennington Road, Live Oak. This is a drive-through Food Pantry, with entrance on Gum Street and exit on Pennington Road. Next distribution will be Sunday, Dec. 28. Call 530-695-2894 for more information.

**Gridley Senior Food Distribution**, 801 Washington Street, Room B. Once a month, call ahead for details: 530-846-4233.

**Gridley United Methodist Church**, 285 Magnolia St. Monday through Friday, during daytime hours. Come by the church and if they have food they will give client a box.

**North State Food Bank**, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. monthly at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 410 Jackson St., Gridley. Next distribution will be Tuesday, Dec. 9. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

**North State Food Bank**, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Biggs Methodist Church, 441 C St., Biggs. Next distribution will be Tuesday, Dec. 9. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

**Sacred Heart Parish**, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 1561 Hazel St., Gridley on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. Call 530-846-2140 for more information. ★

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GRIDLEY HERALD 12-19-25



# Food & Farm NEWS

## Early and Late Navel Orange Varieties Spread Out Harvest

California's iconic navel orange—a signature citrus fruit for the fresh market—arrived in produce aisles right on time this year. Picking started Oct. 9 in Kern County, historically the first region to begin navel orange harvest. “Absence of a late summer heat wave and cooler October weather helped the crop reach maturity at the normal time,” said Matt Watkins of Bee Sweet Citrus, a grower, packer and shipper in Fresno County. As fruit color and maturity develop, harvest will accelerate and move north to other counties. Navel oranges are harvested from fall through spring and may continue into the summer, depending on markets and fruit quality. Early and late varieties help spread out the harvest season, giving growers an opportunity to hit markets when prices are good.

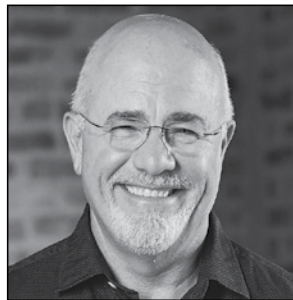
## Farm Tech Focuses on Robotic Weeding in Vegetables

Weeding robots have emerged as a key focus of autonomous farm technology as growers seek solutions for costly and labor-intensive tasks. One model, which was displayed at the 2025 FIRA USA agricultural technology conference last month in Woodland, is the SharpShooter system from Hayward-based Verdant Robotics. The SharpShooter is a tractor attachment that uses artificial intelligence to identify weeds and deliver precise, controlled sprays without hurting the

cash crop. “We’re delivering milliliter streams of liquid onto the weed,” said Chad Yagow, Verdant’s director of agronomy and industry relations. “If you think about a hypodermic needle, if you press that plunger, that little stream of liquid that’s coming out—that’s what we’re doing every time that we take a shot.”

## State Vet Reflects on Her Work as Animal Health Chief

California State Veterinarian Annette Jones, who is set to retire at the end of the year, reflected in a recent Ag Alert® column on her nearly 20 years as the state’s chief animal health official. Though she has dealt with numerous animal disease outbreaks during her time at the California Department of Food and Agriculture, she said her career’s biggest challenge was the most recent outbreak of highly pathogenic bird flu, which began in 2022 and escalated each year thereafter. “The virus exploded through dairies and poultry flocks last winter despite efforts to reduce impacts, testing the resilience of our farmers and staff like no other outbreak has,” Jones said. “While the disease impacts are distressing, it is rewarding to wrap up my career with a renewed appreciation for how proactive our producers and processors can be.” Looking ahead, she said she hopes “the spirit of cooperation continues as California farmers and ranchers face new threats and that we keep focusing on getting the job done with mutual respect.”★



Dave Ramsey

## Dave Ramsey Says She'll Be Just Fine

Dear Dave,

My mom is 76, and the only debt she has is about \$60,000 left on her mortgage. She has \$600,000 in retirement accounts, plus a long-term care insurance policy. But she has just \$25,000 in a money market account with check-writing privileges for everyday bills and purchases. To be honest, this worries me. She has always lived within her means, so am I wrong to be concerned? She has also been talking about paying off her mortgage, and I'm not sure how I feel about that, either. I'd love your opinion.

– Kelly

Dear Kelly,

You sound surprised that she'd still be in the stock market at her age. In my mind, that's not a bad thing at all. It might not be what the typical financial planner would tell you to do, because for the most part they'll try to get you to be super-conservative with your money as you get older. But from the way you've described things, it sounds

like she's not planning on using this money, but using the income from the money. If that's the case, she won't whittle it all down to nothing. So, if she's in good mutual funds—not single stocks—I think she'll be just fine.

Now, let's talk about the mortgage. I would absolutely recommend she go ahead a pay it off. If she can do that at age 76 and still have \$540,000 left, that's the way to go. Let's pay off the house, and then she can start taking her income off a percentage of the remainder. She won't need much with the house payment out of the way, because she won't be sending money to the bank to pay the anymore.

– Dave

## The Best Laid Plans...

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have been talking about paying off our mortgage in the next two or three years. Do you think we should make this happen by paying extra toward the house, or invest that money on top of the 15% we're putting into retirement?

– March

Dear March,

If I were in your shoes, I'd pay extra on the house.

On the other hand, you're not really doing a bad thing by putting the extra cash into retirement, either.

But here's the deal. No matter how well you plan, you never know exactly what will happen over the upcoming years of your life—or the life of your investments. You might think you know. You may even believe you've taken every possibility into account. The hard, cold truth, though, is even the best and smartest plans don't always work out the way we think they will—or the way we want them to.

And if something unplanned or unforeseen happens, it sure would be a nice thing to own your home free and clear, wouldn't it?

– Dave

*Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.* ★

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**Gridley Police Report**

November 16, 2025 - November 25, 2025

**Nov. 16:** At 8:33 p.m. on the 2200 block of West Biggs Gridley Road, Gridley, Ozkar Orlando Coronanegrete, 28, was arrested on suspicion of DUI Alcohol (M) (23152(a) VC) and DUI Alcohol/0.08 Percent (M) (23152(b) VC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 17:** At 4:56 p.m. on Jay Drive and Sycamore Street, Gridley, Andrew Justin Melton, 41, was arrested on an Outside Agency – Misdemeanor Warrant and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 19:** At 2:06 p.m. on the 300 block of Idaho Street, Gridley, Carlos Ariel Magana, 41, was arrested on suspicion of Possessing a Controlled Substance (M) (13377(a) HS) and Disorderly Conduct: intoxicated Drug with Alcohol – Drug/narcotics Violations (M) (647(f) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 19:** At 2:29 p.m. on the 300 block of Idaho Street, Gridley, Gustavo Silva Ramirez, 43, was arrested on suspicion of Disorderly Conduct: intoxicated Drug with Alcohol – Drug/narcotics violations (M) (647(f) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 20:** At 4:11 p.m. on the 1500 block of SR99, Gridley, Thomas Andrew Gallegos, 19, was arrested on suspicion of Obstruct/resist/etc Public/peace Officer/emergency Med Tech – All Other Offenses (M) (148(a)(1) PC) and Disorderly conduct: alcohol (M) (647(f) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 21:** At 3:31 p.m. on the 100 block of Virginia Street, Gridley, Christopher Wayne Fizer, Jr, 31, was arrested for an Outside Agency – Misdemeanor Warrant and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 22:** At 5:11 p.m. on the 1400 block of SR99 #7, Gridley, Joseph Sapient, 21, was arrested on suspicion of Inflict Corporal Injury On Spouse/cohabitant/dating Relationship – Simple (F) (273.5(a) PC), False imprisonment (F) (236 PC) and Child Abuse w/o GBI/dth – Simple (M) (273a(b) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Nov. 25:** At 11:18 a.m. on the 600 block of Kentucky Street, Gridley, Michael Lee Devante Spinks, 27, was arrested for an Outside Agency – Felony Warrant and was booked into Butte County Jail. ★

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# Boneyard Witnesses History: Bulldogs Win First Section Title Since 1989



The Gridley Bulldogs celebrate their 2025 Northern Section Division III title victory on Saturday, Nov. 29 in an 18-15 win over Orland. Photo by Steven Bryla

Continued from page 1

with 74 yards rushing and two touchdowns, including a big bang later in the game.

Orland got on the scoreboard shortly after as they completed a 44-yard touchdown pass and cut the Gridley deficit to five. The Bulldogs took the 12-7 lead at the half.

The third quarter was more of a chess match as both sides started a punting battle or forced the other into making field position a necessity for the fourth quarter.

The Trojans took a 15-12 lead with a little more than eight minutes after Orland junior running back Trent McDonald powered his way in from one. Trojans senior quarterback Luke Schager added the two-point conversion to take a three-point lead.

Schager rushed for 104 yards and completed four passes for 125 yards in the loss to Gridley.

As the Bulldogs trailed by three with eight minutes to go in the game, they rushed the ball with multiple attempts between Duncan, Griggs and senior quarterback Eli Punzo, which ate a ton of time off the clock.

The Gridley offense converted a third and long near midfield when Punzo tossed the ball to junior wide receiver Rafael

Franco a couple yards down the left side of the field and Franco pitched the ball back to senior wide receiver Riley Englemann for the hook and ladder and Englemann converted the first down.

Punzo finished with 84 combined offensive yards in the win and told YSBC that the effort his teammates bring in on a daily basis to pump him up.

"I don't want to let them down, I want to be the leader they can count on," Punzo said.

That conversion lit a fire and excited the entire Bulldogs sideline as they marched down the field and faced a third-and-goal on the Orland 12 with less than 90 seconds remaining in the game.

Griggs took the hand-off from Punzo and went up the middle and powered his way into the end zone for Gridley to take an 18-15 lead.

Griggs was on the varsity squad in 2024 and suffered the Butte View League championship loss to Orland and had their season ended up in Lassen during a tight game in the semifinals.

"I don't like to lose and I didn't want to feel that again," Griggs said.

The Bulldogs drew two penalties from the Trojans and elected to go for the



Gridley junior running back Marcus Duncan (6) rushes to the end zone for a 56-yard touchdown during the Bulldogs' 18-15 win on Saturday, Nov. 29 against Orland. Photo by Chris Pedigo

two-point conversion on the half-yard line, but the Orland defense held strong and negated the score to keep the game at 18-15 in favor of Gridley.

Schager did his best with the final 75 seconds to get anything offensively flowing to get in striking distance to tie the game, but the Bulldogs defense held their own and clinched their first section title in over 35 years.

Gridley head coach Daniel Zumwalt told YSBC that Section Champions sounded and felt great but there were so many factors that paved the way for a great season so far.

Zumwalt said the preseason schedule helped them prepare for the gauntlet postseason run.

For the second time in the playoffs, the Gridley had to face an opponent they've already seen in

2025 and the Bulldogs expected the same fight from Orland as they had in the first meeting in.

"Beating a team the second time around is tough, but I'm so happy we were able to accomplish that and keep our run going," Zumwalt said.

Zumwalt added that he expected another battle and both teams brought the punch and packed a lot of physicality in the

championship.

Gridley will play its first ever CIF NorCal Regional State Playoff game as they AFriday night.

The Bulldogs will take on the Lincoln Lions in the CIF 6-AA game, where the winner will play for a state title on Dec. 12 or 13 in the Los Angeles area.

For more updated local sports news, go to ysbcsports.com and subscribe today! ★



Gridley senior tight end Riley Englemann (14) rushes the ball down field after the second part of a hook-and-ladder on Saturday, Nov. 29 in the Bulldogs' 18-15 victory over Orland. Photo by Steven Bryla



Gridley senior quarterback Eli Punzo (5) rushes the ball on Saturday, Nov. 29 in the Bulldogs' 18-15 win against Orland. Photo by Steven Bryla



Orland junior running back Trent McDonald puts the Trojans' in the fourth quarter on Saturday, Nov. 29 in their 18-15 defeat to Gridley. Photo by Steven Bryla



Gridley head coach Daniel Zumwalt gets the victory ice bath after the Bulldogs' best Orland 18-15 on Saturday, Nov. 29. Photo by Steven Bryla

# Ready for a Classic Win



From left are, Coach Becca McCray, Monet Emmick No. 1, Ashleigh Sharrock No. 22, Aida Duran No. 15, Iris Counihan No. 10, Aubree Weber No. 20, Katherine Gonzalez No. 25, Assistant Coach Torrin Johnson, Aliyah Mota No. 33, Val Poyner No. 30, Sophia Moran No. 5, Alondra Espinoza No. 42, Madi Carey No. 2, Nayeli Romo No. 11 and Andrea Guillen No. 23. Photo by Libby Tolman

**By Seti Long**

The annual varsity girls' basketball tournament pits the Oroville Tigers, Wheatland Pirates, Las Plumas Thunderbirds, Alhambra Bulldogs, Corning Cardinals, Eureka Loggers and East Nicolaus Spartans against the Gridley Bulldogs in a three-day contest, wrapping with a consolation round at 1 p.m. and championship game at 2:30 p.m. Sat. Nov. 6. The varsity girls are led by head Coach Becca McCray, who tells the Herald that she is excited about the upcoming season.

"We have a lot of quick, talented girls on our team," McCray said. Coach McCray singles out senior Aubree Weber and junior Andrea Guillen as leaders and major assets on the court. Two sophomores Madi Cari and Iris Counihan will be starters during the holiday classic.

"They are both quick, feisty on defense and play makers," McCray said. Overall, McCray is confident in the skill set of her team saying, "I have a bench with just as much talent. I feel this year will be a great year!"



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