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THE NEWS

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Blind Pizza Taste Test Comes to the Grange



The Pizza Palooza will be held on Friday, Feb. 6, at the Rio Linda Grange. Photo by Olya Danilevich via Pexels

By MPG Staff

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) - Pizza lovers in Rio Linda will have a chance to put their taste buds to the test next month at a community event that mixes friendly competition with local flavor.

The Rio Linda/Elverta Chamber of Commerce, co-hosting with the Rio Linda Grange, will present a Blind Pizza Taste Test known as the Pizza Palooza on Friday, Feb. 6, at the Rio Linda Grange, 1315 G St. Doors open at 6 p.m.

The event will feature pizza from eight local pizza spots, though the restaurants themselves won't know they are participating. Organizers describe it as a "double-blind" taste test, meaning neither the guests nor the pizza makers will know which slice is which. Attendees will

sample the pizza and vote for their favorite.

The pizza place receiving the most votes will earn a one-year membership in the Rio Linda/Elverta Chamber of Commerce.

Tickets are \$25 plus tax and include pizza tastings. Guests can dine in at the Grange and enjoy a free scoop of ice cream from Meg's Creamery or take their pizza to go.

"To do this yourself, it would cost \$200 to \$250 to buy eight pizzas," said Mario Pepperoni, a chamber representative who has helped promote the event. "If you do it with us, it's only \$25."

The Rio Linda Country Leos will be on site serving drinks and ranch dressing, while guests can also try their luck in a 50/50 raffle. A door prize will be provided by Ridgeway Construction.

Winners of the pizza competition will be announced on National Pizza Day, Feb. 9.

The Blind Pizza Taste Test has been promoted on the chamber's Facebook page with the help of Pepperoni and his culinary counterpart, "Valley Ranch," a walking bottle of ranch dressing who has become a familiar sight in promotional videos.

"This is a fun event for your friends and family to come out and try some pizza," Mario Pepperoni said.

In one recent video, Pepperoni joked about his on-screen chemistry with Valley Ranch.

"The cultural issues between me and Valley Ranch are very tricky, it's very Romeo and Juliet," Mario Pepperoni said. "But we go together like peanut butter and jelly."

Beyond the fun, organizers emphasize the event's community impact as proceeds from Pizza Palooza will directly support several local organizations. The Rio Linda Grange is one of these organizations, known for its annual spring plant sale, which will feature trees this year!

The Rio Linda Elverta Chamber of Commerce, which works to support local businesses and community efforts and the Country Lions, a local group dedicated to teaching youth responsibility through raising animals, will also be benefiting from the event.

With pizza, prizes and a lighthearted rivalry between sauce and ranch, organizers hope the event will bring the community together for an evening of good food and local support! ★

Appellate Court Rejects Delta Tunnel Financing

**Delta Counties
Coalition News
Release**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) welcomes the opinion by the Third District Court of Appeal, which upheld the lower court's ruling that the State of California lacks legal authority to issue billions of dollars in bonds to finance the proposed Delta tunnel project without explicit legislative approval.

This decision affirms what Delta communities, counties, and local agencies have raised for years: that a project of this scale, cost and consequence cannot be advanced through administrative maneuvering or broad interpretations of decades-old statutes.

The court made clear that the Department of Water Resources exceeded its authority by attempting to classify the Delta tunnel as a "modification" of the State Water Project, rather than what it plainly is – a massive new conveyance facility with far-reaching impacts.

For the counties and residents who live and work in the Delta, this ruling is an important step toward transparency, accountability, and lawful decision-making. The proposed tunnel would fundamentally alter Delta land use, threaten local water supply reliability, place additional pressure on fragile ecosystems, and expose ratepayers and communities to escalating financial risk – all without clear authorization from the Legislature or any water supply benefits for affected regions.

The court's opinion underscores a basic principle: if the State wishes to pursue a project with an estimated – and questionable – price tag of \$20 billion and decades-long consequences, it must do so openly, with full legislative scrutiny and public accountability. Delta communities should not be asked to bear the environmental, economic, and social costs of a project that has yet to demonstrate clear benefits or a lawful funding path.

While proponents have suggested the ruling does not end the project, it undeniably raises serious questions about its viability. Just last year, the Governor unsuccessfully attempted to tack legislation onto the State Budget that would have bypassed many hurdles for the tunnel, and his

Continued on page 3

Register Now to Lifeguard This Summer

By MPG Staff

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) - Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District's Lifeguard Certification Class is coming up from Feb. 27 to March 1.

This American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification course will provide entry-level and recertifying lifeguard participants with the skills needed to prevent, recognize and respond to aquatic emergencies until emergency medical services (EMS) personnel arrive.

With completion of the course, participants will earn a certification that allows you to apply to work for Rio Linda Elverta Parks

this summer.

The course will take place at Rio Linda High School Pool, 6309 Dry Creek Road. Participants must be 15 by class start date of Feb. 27.

Course fees are \$200 for first-time course participants and \$80 for those recertifying.

Class times are set for 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 and Sunday, March 1. Participants must attend all class dates.

Those interested can register online at www.rleparks.com or contact yannil@rleparks.com for more information. ★



Upon completion of the Lifeguard Certification Class, participants may apply to work for Rio Linda Elverta Parks aquatics this summer. Photo courtesy of Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District

TheRioLindaNews.com

SacRT Announces Police Services Staffing Transition

Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) has announced a transition in its Police Services Department staffing, which went into effect Jan. 10 After nearly 34 years of dedicated service, SacRT’s contract with the Sacramento Police Department will conclude, marking the end of a long-standing partnership that has played a vital role in supporting transit safety and security in the Sacramento region.

To ensure continued safety coverage across the transit system, beginning on Jan. 11 SacRT has expanded its partnership with the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department, increasing Sheriff staffing levels.

The Sheriff’s Department is actively hiring and training additional deputies to support this smooth transition.



SacRT has expanded its partnership with the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department, increasing Sheriff staffing levels. Courtesy photo Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT)

recently approved an additional \$1 million investment in security for FY26 to further enhance rider safety and comfort. This funding will support additional Transit Ambassadors (from 40 to 50), hire two additional staff in the Security Operations Center, and expand security guard presence at stations, on vehicles and in parking lots.

SacRT has remained committed to creating a safe, welcoming environment for all riders and employees throughout the

transition. By establishing a clear vision, developing a comprehensive plan, and executing that plan with discipline and innovation, SacRT has been able to build multiple layers of safety and security into its operations ensuring a smooth transition. Through new technologies, enhanced procedures, and continued strong partnership with community organizations and law enforcement, SacRT’s bus and rail systems now rank among the safest in the country.

SacRT aims to have a Transit Ambassador, Security Guard, or Sheriff’s Department staff member on every light rail vehicle. Transit Ambassadors will provide fare checks, customer service and rider support.

Over 2,000 live cameras monitored in real time, with access to city and county networks will provide advanced surveillance. An AI drone program, launching in 2026 will maintain clean environments and improve operational performance at stations,

along tracks and at bus stops/shelters.

The Public Address System (“Voice of God”) allows Security Operations Center staff to communicate directly with individuals at stations. The Aert SacRT App enables riders to report safety concerns or cleanliness issues directly to SacRT’s security team. Download at sacrt.com/AlertSacRT.

“Safety and security remain our top priority at SacRT,” said SacRT General Manager/CEO Henry Li. “We are proud to expand our partnership with the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department and continue investing in innovative technologies and staffing strategies that ensure our riders feel safe and supported throughout their journey.”

“We are honored to strengthen our partnership with SacRT and expand our presence across the transit system,” said Sacramento County Sheriff Jim Cooper. “Our deputies are committed to providing professional, responsive service to help ensure a safe and secure environment for all SacRT passengers and employees.”

SacRT’s multi-layered safety approach, strong partnerships, and investment in technology underscore its unwavering commitment to rider and employee safety. Learn more on the programs in place at sacrt.com/safety.

As part of the transition, SacRT Police Services will update to a new logo reflecting the expanded partnership with the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department. ★

An Unseen Danger: The Deadly Toll of Road Debris

AAA Northern California News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - When considering one of the factors linked to tens of thousands of crashes across the United States, many of them deadly, you might expect the answer to be drunk or distracted driving. However, a recent study by the AAA Foundation of Traffic Safety found a surprising, yet equally dangerous, culprit: road debris. AAA researchers analyzed nationwide police data and other research and found road debris was likely a factor in more than 319,000 crashes between 2018 and 2023, resulting in more than 32,000 injuries and 433 deaths.

“Road debris” is generally defined as any object on a roadway that does not belong in a driving environment. The most common types of debris include vehicle parts (tires, bumpers, wheels) and unsecured cargo that fell off a vehicle (furniture, BBQ grills, mattresses, etc.)

The study noted that many drivers involved in crashes made dangerous maneuvers like sudden swerving to avoid road debris. Maneuvers like these accounted for about a quarter of injuries and nearly half of all deaths.

“Many of these crashes would have been easily preventable if drivers properly secured their cargo,” AAA Mountain West Group spokesperson Doug Johnson said. “Securing loads and keeping your car maintained seems



“Road debris” is generally defined as any object on a roadway that does not belong in a driving environment. The most common types of debris include vehicle parts (tires, bumpers, wheels) and unsecured cargo that fell off a vehicle (furniture, BBQ grills, mattresses, etc.) Photo by Brett Jordan pexels.com

like common sense, but too often we have seen many fail to do so and resulting in tragedy.”

All 50 states require drivers to secure their cargo. Penalties for unsecured loads resulting in crashes range from \$10 to \$2,500, and in some cases, jail time.

To properly secure a load tie down items with rope, netting, or straps, attach large objects directly to the vehicle or trailer, cover the load with a sturdy tarp or netting, avoid overloading the vehicle and double-check that everything is tight and secure before driving.

Keep an eye out for road debris. Eyes up and on the road, avoid distractions. Give space and room to respond. If possible, warn others. Tap your brakes to signal to drivers behind you that there is debris in the road ahead. Keep your vehicle properly maintained. Repair or replace any loose car parts.

AAA Mountain West Group is a membership and full-service leisure travel organization, proudly serving over 6.8 million Members across Alaska, Arizona, Nevada, Northern California, Montana, Wyoming and Utah. AAA delivers unmatched expertise and value through roadside assistance and electric vehicle (EV) resources, along with comprehensive auto repair, travel, insurance, financial, and home security services. Powered by 5,300 dedicated Team Members, AAA is on a mission to revolutionize solutions that help our Members. ★

January is Dog License Amnesty Month

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - January is Dog License Amnesty Month, and all month long Sacramento County is making it easier for dog owners to get their dogs licensed without penalties.

For the entire month, past due fees and fines are waived for dogs that have never been licensed before. If you have been putting it off, this is the perfect time to take care of it without added cost or stress.

In Sacramento County, all dogs and cats over four months old are legally required to be licensed and vaccinated against rabies. This requirement exists to protect pets, people and the community as a whole.

Every dog license requires proof of a current rabies vaccination. Rabies is fatal but



Take advantage of Dog License Amnesty Month by visiting a Bradshaw Animal Shelter vaccination clinic and receive a rabies vaccine at no charge with purchase of a dog license. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

preventable, and ensuring dogs are vaccinated is a critical part of keeping our community safe.

Licensing your dog does more than check a box. It has real benefits for both you and your pet.

Lost dogs are reunited with their families faster because a license provides immediate identification. Licensing also helps ensure dogs are vaccinated against rabies,

which protects other animals and people. Staying licensed keeps you in compliance with county law and helps you avoid citations or fines down the road.

Bradshaw Animal Shelter will continue to offer vaccination clinics as capacity allows. Pet owners who attend a Bradshaw Animal Shelter vaccination clinic and purchase a dog license at the same time may receive a rabies vaccine at no

cost, while supplies and appointment availability last.

Pet owners can find additional low cost rabies vaccination clinic options by visiting the Bradshaw Animal Shelter website at <https://animalcare.sac-county.gov/#gsc.tab=0>.

Bring your dog to a Bradshaw Animal Shelter vaccination clinic during January. Purchase a dog license while you are there. Your dog will receive a rabies vaccine at no charge with the license purchase.

Dog License Amnesty Month is about education and access, not punishment. Licensing your dog helps keep them safe, supports public health and ensures you are following the law.

If your dog is not licensed yet, January is the easiest and most affordable time to take care of it. ★

Optimist Club to Sponsor Speech Contest

Sacramento Breakfast Optimist Club News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Breakfast Optimist Club is encouraging area students to speak their minds about this year’s topic, “The Moment I Realized I Belonged – My Definition of Community” as part of the Optimist International Oratorical Contest for the 2025-26 school year.

The contest will be held 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Sierra Oaks office of Windermere Real Estate Company, 2580 Fair Oaks Blvd, Suite 20, Sacramento.

The Optimist Club will judge the local students’ speeches based on content and presentation to determine the top winners. Top finishers will receive cash awards of \$500, \$300 and \$100, with the two top

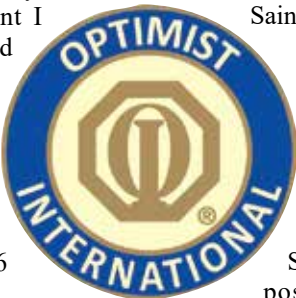
finishers moving on to the Zone level and possibly the District level, for an opportunity to win college scholarship money.

Winners of the District level will be eligible to compete in the Western Region competition in St. Louis, Missouri, held at Saint Louis University.

Regional contest winners will then compete in the World Championship, also held at Saint Louis University. Students could possibly win up to \$22,500 in scholarships.

The contest is open to students under the age of 19 as of Oct. 1, 2026.

The deadline to submit the contest application and copy of the student speech is Feb. 16. Students wishing to participate in the oratorical contest can find out further information by contacting Contest Chair, Tim Reardon at timreardon23@me.com or at 916-502-3412. ★



California State Fair to Move to Fall Beginning in 2027



Fairgoers ride a carnival attraction during the California State Fair this past summer in Sacramento. Fair officials announced the event will move to fall dates beginning in 2027. Photo by Shamaya Sutton

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California State Fair will shift from its traditional summer schedule to a fall timeframe beginning in 2027, fair officials announced.

The change is intended to address increasingly extreme summer temperatures in the Sacramento region and improve conditions for fairgoers, staff and vendors. The 2027 fair is scheduled to run from Sept. 17 through Oct. 3.

Officials said the 2026 California State Fair, set for July 17 through Aug. 2, will

be the final fair held during the summer months.

According to fair leadership, the decision follows several years of evaluation and planning, including consideration of public safety, attendance patterns and operational impacts related to prolonged heat. Many other state fairs across the country already operate during fall months.

Fair organizers said the schedule change is a long-term shift and part of broader efforts to adapt the event to changing climate conditions while preserving its traditions. ★

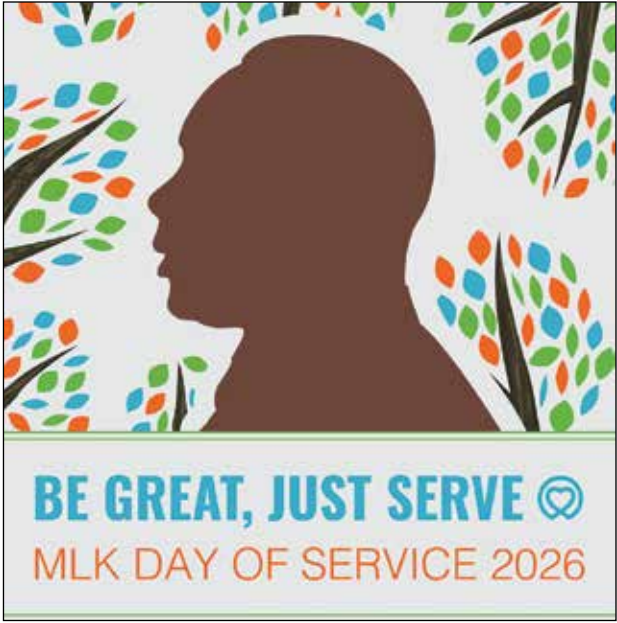
Serve This MLK Day

JustServe.Com News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - In 1994, Congress declared Martin Luther King Jr. Day a National Day of Service.

Every year since, volunteers across the nation unite to lift one another through kindness, support and purposeful service. King said, 'everyone can be great ... because anybody can serve.'

This January, join the movement to uplift, inspire, and Be Great – by simply choosing to serve. ★



Superintendent's District Update

Twin Rivers Unified School District News Release

To Staff and Our Twin Rivers Families,

Welcome back, and happy 2026! I hope you had a restful winter break and enjoyed time with your family and friends.

It's been great reconnecting with everyone this week, especially our students. The energy they bring is a constant reminder of the spark that makes our school community so vibrant. Their curiosity, engagement, and enthusiasm play an essential role in setting the tone each day throughout our district.

As we move into the second half of the school

year, our focus remains steady, supporting both the academic growth and well-being of every student as we work toward finishing the school year strong. Each day brings moments that matter – whether it's a question that stretches thinking, a breakthrough on a project, or perseverance through a challenge. These moments are at the heart of why we do this work, and we are truly grateful for the support of our families and the dedication of our staff.

It's these moments – and the hopes and dreams behind them – that inspired our "My Wish for 2026" video, featuring voices from both students and staff.

To watch the video, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgq5dN3UMuI>

Thank you for the care, encouragement, and support you bring to our students every day. We're looking forward to the rest of the school year and all the ways our students will continue to learn, take on challenges, and grow in ways that matter to them.

Around TR

Kindergarten Roundup - Families enrolling in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) or Kindergarten for 2026–2027 are invited to Kindergarten Roundup on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026, from 4–7 p.m. at the Twin Rivers Unified District Office, Bay A (5115 Dudley Blvd., McClellan Park). Enrollment support,

Appellate Court Rejects Delta Tunnel Financing



The Delta Counties Coalition includes Contra Costa County, Sacramento County, San Joaquin County, Solano County and Yolo Counties. Photo courtesy of the Delta Counties Coalition

Continued from page 1

representatives at that time confidently told the Legislature that they would prevail on this matter in court.

This calls into question this project's other significant problems. At a minimum, this court decision requires the State to pause and reconsider whether continued pursuit of the tunnel is prudent, lawful, or aligned with California's

broader goals for sustainable water management, climate resilience and regional equity.

The Delta Counties Coalition remains committed to collaborative, science-based water solutions that protect the Delta, support local communities, and provide reliable water supplies statewide – without sacrificing the rule of law or the voices of those most directly affected. ★

Nominations Open for 5 Over 50 Award



Each year, the 5 Over 50 Award recognizes people who make a difference in our community. Photo by Kampus via Pexels

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - If you know someone who makes Sacramento County a better place to live and is 50 years old or older, now is your chance to celebrate them. Each year, the 5 Over 50 Award recognizes people who make a difference in our community. The Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission is now taking applications for its 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award.

Nominees must be 50 or older, actively involved in volunteer work, and

residents of Sacramento County. If you know someone who meets the criteria and has made an impact in Sacramento County, nominate them for the 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award. Learn more about the application process and access the form by visiting the Adult and Aging Commission page at: <https://dcfas.sacounty.gov/SAS/Pages/Adult-and-Aging-Commission.aspx>.

Two letters of reference are required. Applications are due Monday, Feb. 9.

The 5 Over 50 Awards will be presented during a Sacramento County Board of Supervisors meeting

in May. The award is presented in May to coincide with Older Americans Month. Five nominees will receive the award, with one person selected from each district within Sacramento County.

Sacramento County's Adult and Aging Commission members look forward to celebrating the winners. Winners will also be featured on Sacramento County's website and YouTube channel. Learn about last year's winners at: www.sacounty.gov/us/en/articles/2025-articles/celebrating-5-over-50-award-winners.html#gsc.tab=0. ★



Twin Rivers Unified School District Superintendent, Steve Martinez, Ed.D. Photo courtesy of Twin Rivers Unified School District

All the best, Superintendent, Twin
Steve Martinez, Ed.D. Rivers Unified ★

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THE RIO LINDA NEWS

California’s Rate of Minority-Owned Businesses Ranks Third

Asana Resource Planning News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - New research has revealed the states with the highest rate of minority-owned businesses in America. California ranks 3rd nationally for the rate of minority-owned businesses per minority resident.

The state averages 28.46 minority-owned companies for every 1,000 minority residents. California is home to the largest total number of minority-owned businesses nationwide, at 278,770. The total minority (non-white) population in California is 9,796,587.

Work management experts Asana analyzed data from the 2021 U.S. Census on businesses owned by members of racial minority groups. These figures were compared with non-white population data to reveal which states had the highest rate of minority-owned businesses per 1,000 minority residents.

The composition of minority-owned businesses in California is dominated by one group: Asian-owned businesses are responsible for 169,863 firms, over 60 percent of the total. There are 15,014 Black or African American-owned firms in California and 9,595 American Indian or Alaska Native-owned firms.

A spokesperson from Asana commented on the study, “The West appears to be the best region for minority-owned



California is home to the largest total number of minority-owned businesses nationwide, at 278,770. The total minority (non-white) population in California is 9,796,587. Photo courtesy of Pixabay

businesses, with seven of the 10 states with the highest rates located there.

“Minority business owners in America can receive support from several avenues to help give

their ventures a better chance of success. Support includes government grants, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) grants, financial consultations, and the National

Minority Supplier Development Council's Business Consortium Fund.”

The number of businesses owned by members of racial minorities was gathered from the

2021 U.S. Census by state.

This was then compared with the non-white population per state (from the 2020 US Census) to give the number of minority-owned businesses per 1K minority population per state.

This was ranked from highest to lowest. The number of businesses owned by each race per state was also included and ranked per state, giving which race owns the most businesses per state.

Race populations are calculated as the total number of people who identify with that race. This includes multiracial people. This also means that the non-white population was calculated by subtracting the white population from the total population. Due to this, the sum of all races for a state will most likely be greater than the state's minority population due to multiracial people appearing in the separate population counts of multiple races.

Some values for a number of businesses owned by race per state were missing and thus estimates were used to fill the gaps using the following method. The average number of race-owned businesses per 1K race population was calculated per race. This was used in combination with each state's and race's population to calculate an estimated number of businesses owned by race per state.

To learn more about Asana visit: <https://asana.com/uses/resource-planning>. ★

Click Insights News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - New research has revealed the states where residents are most likely to fall victim to cybercrime. California ranks 7th nationally for the rate of cybercrime complaints, with 244 reports per 100,000 people. The state incurred the highest total financial losses from cybercrime in the entire nation, amounting to \$2,539,041,635. The average loss per victim in California was significantly high at \$26,376.

The study by Click Insights analyzed 2024 data from the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) to determine which states had the highest number of cybercrime complaints per 100,000 residents, along with the financial impact of these crimes per victim.

Cybercrime complaints are complaints to the Internet Crime Complaint Center in regards to any criminal activity that involves a computer, computer network, or digital device, where data or money is stolen, or harm is caused. Examples may include credit card fraud, government impersonation



The state incurred the highest total financial losses from cybercrime in the entire nation, amounting to \$2,539,041,635. Photo courtesy of Freepik

scams, personal data breaches, phishing, and cryptocurrency scams.

The losses per victim in California average \$26,376.

James Owen, co-founder of Click Insights, commented on the findings:

“These results highlight how serious the cybercrime threat has become across the United States. The FBI reported over 859,000 internet crime complaints in 2024, with total losses surpassing \$16 billion, a nearly \$4 billion jump from the year before.

Alaska’s rate of 915 complaints per 100,000 residents is especially notable against that fact, showing that smaller or more remote states are not immune to digital risks. Even in states with fewer reports, like Wyoming, where victims lost an average of \$31,592 each, the financial damage can still be devastating.”

Data was gathered from the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) 2024 Report, which provides state-by-state information on cybercrime complaints and financial losses.

Population figures were used to calculate the number of complaints per 100,000 residents in each state to determine relative risk levels.

Total financial losses and average losses per victim were also analyzed to provide a comprehensive picture of cybercrime impact across the United States.

For more information about the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center, visit: https://www.ic3.gov/Media/PDF/AnnualReport/2024_IC3Report.pdf

To learn more about Click Insights visit: <https://insights.clickintelligence.com/>. ★

Marketing Firm Fined for Selling Health Data

Company ordered to stop selling Californians’ personal information

California Privacy Protection Agency News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Privacy Protection Agency Board has issued two new decisions following settlements reached by the Enforcement Division’s Data Broker Enforcement Strike Force.

The first decision requires Rickenbacher Data LLC, d/b/a Datamasters, a Texas-based reseller of personal information for targeted advertising, to pay a \$45,000 fine for failing to register as a data broker in violation of California’s Delete Act. The decision also orders the company to stop selling all Californians’ personal information.

According to the decision, Datamasters bought and resold the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of millions of people with Alzheimer’s disease, drug addiction, bladder incontinence and other health conditions for targeted advertising. In addition, Datamasters bought and resold lists of people based on age and

perceived race, offering “Senior Lists” and “Hispanic Lists,” as well as lists based on political views, grocery store purchases, banking activity and health-related purchases. The company engaged in these activities in 2024 without registering with the California Data Broker Registry.

As a result of the Board’s decision, Datamasters will stop selling all forms of personal information about Californians, effectively removing it from the marketplace in California.

“Reselling lists of people battling Alzheimer’s disease is a recipe for trouble,” said Michael Macko, the head of enforcement at CalPrivacy. “In the wrong hands, these lists could be used to target people for more than just advertising. The same risks apply to selling lists of seniors, people who identify as conservative or liberal, or people who purchase sensitive health products. History teaches us that certain types of lists can be dangerous.”

Tom Kemp, the agency’s executive director added, “Californians have a clear way

to push back and regain control now that CalPrivacy’s DROP system is live. If you are concerned about data brokers selling your personal information, I highly recommend that you sign up for DROP.”

The second decision requires S&P Global, Inc., a New York-based provider of data and technology, to pay a \$62,600 fine for failing to register as a data broker due to an administrative error. In addition to the fine, the decision requires S&P Global to adopt procedures for registration and compliance auditing to prevent similar errors in the future.

The Delete Act requires data brokers to register with CalPrivacy annually in January and pay a fee that funds the Data Broker Registry and the Delete Request and Opt-out Platform (DROP). DROP is a first-of-its-kind deletion mechanism that allows consumers to direct all data brokers to delete their personal information in a single request.

CalPrivacy’s Recent Enforcement Actions to Protect Californians

CalPrivacy continues to actively enforce California’s cutting-edge privacy laws. Listed are some of the recent action taken by Cal Pricacy.

Issuing a decision requiring Tractor Supply Company, the nation’s largest rural lifestyle retailer, to pay a \$1.35M fine and change its business practices for CCPA violations.

Issuing a decision requiring a nationwide clothing retailer, Todd Snyder, Inc., to change its business practices and pay a \$345,178 fine for CCPA violations.

Issuing a decision requiring American Honda Motor Co. to change its business practices and pay a \$632,500 fine for CCPA violations.

Securing a settlement agreement requiring data broker Background Alert — which promoted its ability to dig up “scary” amounts of information about people — to shut down or pay a steep fine.

Bringing more than ten enforcement actions against additional unregistered data brokers.

Launching the bipartisan Consortium of Privacy Regulators to collaborate with states across the country to implement and enforce privacy laws nationwide.

Partnering with the data protection authorities in Korea, France and the United Kingdom to share information and advance privacy protections for Californians.

The California Privacy Protection Agency (CalPrivacy) is committed to promoting the education and awareness of consumers’ privacy rights and businesses’ responsibilities under the California Consumer Privacy Act, Delete Act and Opt Me Out Act.

Consumers can visit [Privacy.ca.gov](https://www.privacy.ca.gov) to access helpful and up-to-date information and tips on how to exercise their rights, protect their personal information and learn about the Delete Request and Opt-out Platform (DROP). In addition, CalPrivacy’s website provides important information about Board Meetings, announcements and the rulemaking process. ★

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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FAMILY OF CHURCHES

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SUNDAY

9:30AM

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP

10AM

ALL AGE CONNECTION GROUPS

11AM

WORSHIP SERVICE

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KIDZ CLUBHOUSE

(4YRS - 6TH GRADE)

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(LCMS)

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North Highlands

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Sunday Schedule

Worship at 9:30 AM

Bible Hour for All Ages

at 11:00 AM

ZionLutheranNH.org

Calvary

Lutheran Church

5th and L Streets

Rio Linda

Pastor Kirsten Moore

Sunday Worship

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you say...

Jesus says...

I can't figure this out

I will direct you

I'm not enough

You are more than enough

I can't keep going

I will carry you

I'm not strong enough

I am

I'm too tired

I will give you rest

I can't forgive myself

I forgive you

I hate myself

I love you

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Hello Kings fans, and welcome to the land of misfit toys. Yes, Sacramento fans have had to endure a nauseating start to the 2025-26 season, and I can say with some certainty that fans are not satisfied with the lack of transparency coming from the organization.

General manager Scott Perry and owner Vivek Ranadive have not given the Sacramento fan base a true picture of what the future holds, and that makes for nervous and unhappy fans.

On a positive note, if you're a fan that believes staying away from attending games when the big ballers come into town is a good idea, you had better think again.

Your Sacramento Kings, largely shorthanded for most of the season, have registered wins against the Warriors, Nuggets, Bucks, Mavericks, Timberwolves, Heat, and the Houston Rockets twice!

Yes, the 22-13 Houston Rockets have suffered defeat at the hands of the Kings twice this season, and this should give every Kings fan a glimpse into the possible with this year's team.

Center piece and focal point of the team Domantas Sabonis has been relegated to the bench with injuries for the largest part of this season, and you can add to the list Keegan Murray, Zach Lavine, Malik Monk and many others.

That is not to say that other teams aren't suffering with the injury bug as well, but what every fan should find solace in is the fact that this team can defeat any team in the NBA on any given night.

So, will Scott Perry blow up this team, or take the conservative route, and take note of the upcoming draft and simply try to add key pieces where the team is weak? The vast majority believe this could turn into a complete blowup year that could see some of your favorite faces donning the uniform of a different team soon.

I for one, am not in favor of turning things upside down and starting from scratch. Not if Domantas Sabonis is being included in the new makeover. If building around this enigmatic big man is in the cards, count me in. Domantas adds a dimension that shows up in the scoring column and in rebounding too, and no one

has a bigger motor or a better attitude than the Sacramento Kings center. His double double prowess and even triple double capability is worth the price of admission and then some.

The real question is how attached are the Kings to 4th year man Keegan Murray? Like Sabonis, Keegan has been a fan favorite and so far, the Kings have been reluctant to include his name in trade talks. But is Keegan the next Kevin Martin? A 1st round draft choice that was always just this far from taking the next step but never quite being able to get there.

Stats show that Martin played six seasons for the Kings averaging 17.0 points per game, 3.2 rebounds and 1.9 assists.

Murray in 3 ½ seasons has averaged 13.0 points per game, 5.6 rebounds and 1.4 assists. Neither player has played in an all-star game, and of the two, Keegan is a decidedly better defender. But have the Kings already seen the best of Keegan Murray? If that is the case, by all means pick up the phone when teams call with an interest, and at the very least get a draft pick instead of trading away our draft picks as former administrations have done.

Are we in uncertain times with this franchise? Yes, unequivocally yes! But at some juncture someone has to have the internal fortitude to make what are probably going to be unpopular decisions.

For this writer, I'm heartened that Scott Perry had nothing to do with trading away DeAaron Fox. I would like to think this general manager has real NBA brain power, and that positive changes are just around the corner.

On the flip side, if NBA teams are calling to make unreasonable demands that will only weaken an already weak franchise, then hold pat and wait for the draft!

OKC, Indiana, Detroit, and others have developed their teams via the draft and there's no reason the Kings can't do the same.

Don't lose heart Kings fans. Your Sacramento Kings just handed the Houston Rockets a double-digit defeat Sunday afternoon, and word has it Domantas Sabonis will be back before much longer!

All the best! ★

Urgent Issues Loom Over Newsom Campaign



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Political California cranked up for the New Year Monday.

The Legislature reconvened after a 114-day recess, Gov. Gavin Newsom renewed his nascent campaign for president and the dozen or so men and women who covet his job continued to seek ways to reach a so-far-uninterested electorate.

Newsom's interview Monday on MS NOW, the cable channel beloved by Democratic politicians and activist voters, implied anew that his final year as governor will be dominated by his all-but-certain bid for the White House in 2028. He spent much it criticizing President Donald Trump for refusing aid to Los Angeles fire victims and cracking down on undocumented immigrants.

Newsom's preoccupation will color whatever he and the Legislature do about a deficit-ridden state budget and a half-dozen or so other stubborn issues that have emerged or become more acute since Newsom took office seven years ago.

In past years Newsom has been lackadaisical about delivering the annual State of the State message to the Legislature that the state constitution requires. But he'll perform the chore later this week, then unveil his response to the projections of semi-permanent, multi-billion-dollar deficits.

Gabe Petek, the Legislature's budget analyst, sees an immediate \$18 billion gap between income and outgo that could mushroom to \$35 billion if not closed. He's warned that Newsom and legislators can't count on a sluggish economy to solve their problem.

They have used a variety of gimmicks, including raids on emergency reserves, off-the-books loans and deceptive accounting gambits to stave off the day of fiscal reckoning, but the shortfall, born of overspending revenues, has continued.

"If our estimates hold, the Legislature will face a fourth consecutive year of budget problems — all during a period of overall revenue growth," Petek said in a November analysis. "As it stands — with larger forecasted deficits and many fewer tools available to address them — California's budget is undeniably less prepared for downturns."

The Legislature's leaders, pressed by a powerful progressive contingent, don't want to reduce the health care and income support services they so willingly enacted after Newsom declared, erroneously, that the state had a \$97.5 billion surplus three years ago.

Progressives and their allies in public employee unions and other left-of-center groups want to close the budget gap with new taxes and are sponsoring two ballot measures, one to extend a surtax on the highest-income taxpayers that's due to expire and a second to impose a new wealth tax on the state's billionaires.

Newsom has steadfastly rejected tax increases to deal with the deficit, unwilling, obviously, to become a pro-tax presidential candidate. But neither has he offered, so

far, anything other than gimmicks to solve the problem his wildly off-base 2022 surplus declaration created.

The state's stubborn budget deficit is just one of the issues that continue to defy resolution as Newsom's final year begins. Other issues include high levels of homelessness and poverty, a housing shortage that's just as acute as when he took office in 2019, an insurance crisis born of chronic wild fires, a woebegone bullet train project, soaring costs of living, persistent water supply uncertainties and a looming shortage of gasoline as refineries close due to hostile state regulation.

On top of everything, California's \$4 trillion economy is more or less stuck in neutral, with the nation's highest unemployment rate, no net job growth since the COVID-19 pandemic and severe employment cutbacks in signature sectors, such as film and TV production technology.

The stark existence of such issues during Newsom's final year as governor is not only a potential drag on his presidential campaign, but it colors the cast-of-thousands campaigns to elect a successor.

Will the would-be Democratic governors be willing to point out Newsom's leftover issues — especially the budget deficit — and tell voters how they would approach the challenge? Or would they merely joust over who can be the loudest?

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. ★

Social Security Matters

Why Didn't My Friend's Wife Get All Her Social Security Immediately?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: A friend told me about what he believes is a strange thing in the Social Security system. His wife reached her full retirement age (FRA) of 66 several years ago. She delayed filing for Social Security past her FRA and claimed on her 68th birthday in June of that year, exactly 2 years after her FRA. When she filed, she was told she would receive approximately \$300/month, which, of course, was more than she would have received at her FRA. She was told however that she would only receive \$300/month as of January 1 of the following year. Between June of the year she turned 68 and filed for SS until the end of that year, she would receive an amount less than \$300. This lower amount was the amount she would have received if she had filed in December, the year she turned 67. She said she was told that was how SS works. She would never receive the difference in benefits she lost from June through December of the year she filed. If the above is true, can you explain? **Signed: Astounded Friend**

Dear Astounded: What your friend described is, indeed, a unique methodology for how Social Security

handles benefit payments for those who choose to wait beyond their full retirement age (FRA) to claim SS benefits. To understand it, let me first describe how Social Security retirement benefits are calculated.

At full retirement age, a person is entitled to 100% of the SS benefit they have earned from a lifetime of working. That FRA benefit amount is known as the person's "Primary Insurance Amount" (PIA) and is based upon the highest earning 35 years over the individual's lifetime. From those past years, average lifetime monthly earnings are computed, known as the person's "Average Indexed Monthly Earnings" (AIME). Their AIME is subjected to a formula which yields their Primary Insurance Amount — the benefit the person is entitled to in the month they attain their full retirement age — typically about 40% of the person's average monthly lifetime earnings. However, if the person chooses to do so, they can wait beyond their FRA to claim Social Security to get a monthly benefit even higher than their PIA, by earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs).

DRCs are applied to the person's PIA when they claim Social Security. For each month after FRA the person claims, they will have .667% added to their PIA. That means that for each full year of delay, that person will get an extra 8% added to their PIA. For someone (like your friend's wife) who claimed 24 months after her FRA, she would receive a benefit 16% higher than her FRA amount. However, Social Security

normally only applies DRCs in January of each year.

So, even though your friend's wife claimed her SS benefits in June, 24 months after her FRA, she would initially only get the DRCs she had accumulated through the end of the previous year - in this case, about 18 months' worth of DRCs, or an SS payment about 12% higher than her PIA (her FRA amount). She would not get her remaining earned DRCs (another 4%) until January of the following year. So, in effect, the wife's initial benefit didn't reflect all her earned DRCs until her later January benefit payment. Thus, the wife essentially lost that extra benefit money for the period between June and December of the year she claimed Social Security. In other words, she wouldn't get the full 16% amount until SS applied the additional 4% DRCs to her benefit payment the following January. And that is why your friend's wife initially received a payment a bit less than the \$300 Social Security said she was entitled to by waiting 2 years after her FRA to claim.

This surprises many who choose to wait beyond their full retirement age to claim Social Security. But, curiously, this process doesn't apply to those who wait until age 70 to claim their SS benefits. For those who wait until age 70 to claim, Social Security will immediately apply all DRCs that they have accumulated and provide them with their maximum SS benefit immediately.

To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★



Don't Annex Greenland

digious reserves of critical minerals, and maybe fossil fuels, as well.

If it fell into our lap, it'd be an excellent addition to our territorial holdings. There's a reason that American statesmen have long coveted the island.

The problem is that it's not currently available. What are other options? A lightly armed contingent of U.S. crossing guards could probably take it over in a couple of days. The challenge, though, is political and diplomatic, not military.

A NATO ally seizing the territory of another NATO ally would obviously be a grave threat to the integrity of the alliance. Would Denmark invoke Article 5 against the United States? It has the makings of a good spoof musical, but it's not something anyone should want to experience in reality.

Although Trump has said in the past that he doesn't take military force off the table -- an amazing statement in and of itself -- he's also talked of buying Greenland. The Danes, though, say it's not for sale, and the Greenlanders don't want to be bought.

If Trump really pushes the issue and forces Denmark and NATO into a corner with the 82nd Airborne ready to go on an airstrip somewhere, he could probably compel a sale, but it'd be courting a diplomatic crisis and damage the reputation of the United States without enough upside.

We can almost certainly get whatever we need from Greenland without violating a friendly country's

sovereignty or straining a world-historical alliance to the breaking point. We already have a missile-defense base there. The 1951 Greenland Defense Agreement between Denmark and the U.S. allowing us to keep bases could presumably be updated and extended. Given the national security importance of rare earths to the U.S. and NATO, it should be possible to unlock Greenland's minerals.

Instead of clapping back at Trump, Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen should be reaching out for a steak dinner at Mar-a-Lago and offering a deal. While public pressure gets Trump's back up, private persuasion -- and a warm relationship -- goes a long way. The Panamanians managed to get Trump to stop talking about taking back the Canal (for now) with prudent concessions.

For his part, Trump should realize that making everyone in a friendly nation hate him doesn't help his cause. His talk of annexing Canada last year helped Justin Trudeau's party survive a national election that it should have lost. His Greenland saber-rattling is presumably making it harder for Denmark to work with him on sensible cooperation.

If Nicolas Maduro got what he deserved, Denmark is a different matter. Even the unsentimental, results-oriented Trump foreign policy needs to distinguish between friend and foe.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2026 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

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Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 16, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 BARBER 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08973 Pentabridge LLC, 9502 Village Tree Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “MSS Matching Support Services” 3550 Watt Avenue Suite 190-2, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 10, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 MSS 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08987 Ledger and Bean Collective LLC, 4239 Erie Court, Santa Clara, CA 95054 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Ledger and Bean/Active Scoops” 1401 21 st Street Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 11, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 LEDGER 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-07707 Yordanos Beyene, 8028 Tetotom Parkway, Antelope, CA 95843 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Adeli Kitchen/Tesi Adel” 4900 Madison Avenue Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 15, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 ADELI 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09084 Quierra Trammel, 7643 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Golden State Events/Golden State Event Company” 7643 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 12, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 GOLDEN 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09044 G. Boparai MD LLC, 44 Brightwood Circle, Danville, CA 94506 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Med Center Medical Clinic” 6600 Madison Avenue Suite 7, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 12, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 MED 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09019 A La Zen Homes, 585 Grand Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “A La Zen Homes/Zen Homes” 581 Grand Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 12, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 ZEN 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08719 A2Z Specialty Solutions, 50 Iron Point Circle Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “A2Z Solutions” 50 Iron Point Circle Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 1, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 A2Z 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08259 Fallon Golf Inc., 11511 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “iFit Golf” 11511 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 5, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 IFIT 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09105 James Ernest Ballas, 2845 37 th Street #16, Sacramento, CA 95817 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “A1 Response Lock-n-Key” 2845 37 th Street #16, Sacramento, CA 95817. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 17, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 A1 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09073 Esterban Alberto Estrada Corella, 5416 Jackson Street Apt 18, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Onyx Auto Glass” 5416 Jackson Street Apt 18, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 15, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 ONYX 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08970 Osvaldo Ezequiel Gonzalez, 4741 Camino Royale Drive, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “OGP Landscaping Maintenance” 4741 Camino Royale Drive, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 10, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 OGP 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08447 Car Mall LLC, 6538 Twin Park Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 is doing business under the
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Fictitious Business Name(s) “Car Mall Auto Sales” 6538 Twin Park Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 14, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 CAR 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08396 Roberto Evan Delgado and Zoe Woomer, 9109 Castlebar Way, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Ink Worms Printing Services” 9109 Castlebar Way, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 12, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 INK 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09068 Origin Solar USA Inc, 910 Pleasant Grove Boulevard #353, Rosevale, CA 95678 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Origin Solar USA” 9198 Greenback Lane #200, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 15, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 ORIGIN 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09093 Gabriel Gutierrez, 2756 Primo Way, Sacramento, CA 95833 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “GGB Services” 2756 Primo Way, Sacramento, CA 95833. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 16, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 GGB 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08578 Aziz Kadirov, 6052 Landis Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 and Aleksandr Girzhu, 8344 Wildflower Way, Antelope, CA 95843 and Elijah Kibukevich, 5055 Road 66 NE, Moses Lake, WA 98837 and Vladimir Chuguy, 8045 Mariposa Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 and Liona Koval, 4800 NE 118 th Court, Vancouver, WA 98682 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “The Acts Academy” 5031 Jackson Street, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 21, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 ACTS 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08985 JMBN Inc., 3444 Garfield Avenue. Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Margolis Gaming Labs” 3444 Garfield Avenue. Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 11, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 MARGOLIS 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09038 Tyree Jovan Montgomery, 1068 Hayer Circle, Rio Linda, CA 95673 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Vantage View Security Group” 1068 Hayer Circle, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 12, 2025 Publish: Dec 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 2026 VANTAGE 1-16-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09134 Foxyea Inc., 3104 O Street #390, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Video Streaming Services Company” 211 Lathrop Way Suite E, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 3, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 SUAVE 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09160 Connor Sheeran and Natalie Sheeran, 1401 21 st Street Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “gelico” 1401 21 st Street Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 19, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 GELICO 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09008 Christina Jorgensen, 7300 Fairytale Street, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Serene Sage Creations” 7300 Fairytale Street, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 11, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 SERENE 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09018 Maya Juhl, 9270 Elm Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Fusion Emoto” 9270 Elm Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 12, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 FUSION 1-23-26
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09207 Borhany LLC, 3720 Marconi Avenue, Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “AAA (Advanced Adult Assistance/Alfaro Ranch” 3720 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 AAA 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09214 Mark Allen Burris, P.O. Box 1173, Folsom, CA 95763 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Urban Mosaic/Average Faulty Human” 1141 Newmark Way, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 URBAN 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08507 Valerii Stuparyk, 3348 Chiswell Way, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “FixMate LV” 3348 Chiswell Way, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 18, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 FIXMATE 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09164 Ella Sushinskaya, 2958 Logansport Way, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “MP Motors” 2958 Logansport Way, Sacramento, CA 95835. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 19, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 MP 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09006 Poopaw Solutions, LLC, 2108 N Street #9445, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Taho Haus” 2108 N Street #9445, Sacramento, CA 95816. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 11, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 TAHO 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09297 Girls Dad LLC, 910 2 nd Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “AAA Priority Jet Detailing” 910 2 nd Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 26, 2025 Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026 AAA 1-23-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09312 Jeries Abusada, 2329 Fulton Avenue Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Foxline Auto Sales” 2329 Fulton Avenue Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 26, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 FOXLINE 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09163 Alexander Dagoberto Cruz, 8501 Middlesex Way, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Health Inspection Preparedness Evaluation Consulting/Hipe Consulting” 8501 Middlesex Way, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 19, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 HEALTH 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09351 MSG Limited Liability Company, PO Box 160231, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “The Frenchy Gourmet” 1714 21 st Street, Unit 102, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 29, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 FRENCHY 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09352 Kallas & Co., 84 W. Santa Clara Street, Suite 700, San Jose, CA 95113 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Bon Jour Cafe” 2377 Gold Meadow Way, Suite 100, Gold River, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 29, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 BON 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09064 SN Auto Body, 2307 Sierra Madre Court #A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “SN Auto Body” 11353 Pyrites Way Unit 03, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 15, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 SN 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09217 Damaris E Aguirre Pacheco, 50 Iron Point Circle Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “DP Marketing” 50 Iron Point Circle Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 DP 1-30-26
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09210 JC Uniform LLC, 6140 Auburn Boulevard, Citrus Heights, 95621 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “JC Embroidery” 6140 Auburn Boulevard, Citrus Heights, 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 JC 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09242 Doo Doo Squad, LLC, 4090 Wayside Lane Unit A, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Doo Doo Squad” 4090 Wayside Lane Unit A, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 23, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 DOO 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09385 Dayona Corp, 3200 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Ray’s Chicken and Fish” 3200 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 29, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 RAYS 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09267 Abdul Baseer Karimi, 3804 Madison Avenue Apt 19, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Roadely” 3804 Madison Avenue Apt 19, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 24, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 ROADELY 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09349 Rokham Momand LLC, 8453 Ceonothus Court, Elk Grove, CA 95824 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Affordable Towing and Road Side Service” 7000 Franklin Boulevard Suite 195, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 29, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 AFFORDABLE 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09058 Ashton Arnold and Juan Cardoza, 1100 Howe Avenue #498, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Rivers Edge Cafe” 8740 La Riviera Drive Suite C, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 15, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 RIVERS 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08755 Team G&C, Inc, 8107 Oahu Drive, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “C Light Landscapes/Peck N Trim” 8107 Oahu Drive, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 3, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 LIGHT 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08489 Nicole Pearson, 3525 4 th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95817 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Ai Systems and Strategy Collective” 3525 4 th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95817. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 18, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 AI 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09013 Nava Medical P.C., 1565 Exposition Boulevard Suite 120, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Face Body & Soul Wellness & Aesthetics” 1565 Exposition Boulevard Suite 120, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 11, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 FACE 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09229 Vincent Andre Garcia, 7506 Farmgate Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Swan And Sword Tattoo” 5941 San Juan Avenue Suite 13B, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 23, 2025 Publish: January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026 SWAN 1-30-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09442 Honeycomb Construction Services Inc., 6931 Butterball Way, Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Honeycomb Renovations Inc.” 6931 Butterball Way, Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 30, 2025 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 HONEYCOMB 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00008 Yurii Horbonos, 5149 Kovanda Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Car Doctor Y&O” 5149 Kovanda Avenue, Carmichael, CA
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95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 2, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 CAR 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00065 Arnold Sarkisyan, 3301 N Park Drive #3616, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “ATC Express” 3301 N Park Drive #3616, Sacramento, CA 95835. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 ATC 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00090 Kevin Quintanilla, 7128 Thomas Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Blooming Bazaar” 7128 Thomas Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 BLOOMING 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09348 Jaime Sanchez Aguirre and Veronica Sanchez, 3081 Marysville Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Aztec Graphic Designs” 3081 Marysville Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 29, 2025 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 AZTEC 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-08851 Aileen’s Delish LLC, 6841 Sandrock Way, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Aileen’s Delish Catering and Event Services” 882 El Camino Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 8, 2025 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 AILEENS 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09106 Humberto Valdivia, 5831 Rosebud Lane Unit C, Sacramento, CA 95841 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Placer County Handyman” 5831 Rosebud Lane Unit C, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 17, 2025 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 PLACER 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00096 Karen Katzmark, 4005 Manzanita Avenue #6-427, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Demi Equine Services” 9712 Fair Oaks Boulevard A6, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 DEMI 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00109 Daniel Williams, 237 West Ascot Avenue, Rio Linda, CA 95673 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Daniel Williams Flooring” 237 West Ascot Avenue, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 DANIEL 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00048 Anthony Chang and Tiffany Tran, 4197 Borderlands Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Sunridge Nail Spa” 4036 Sunrise Boulevard Suite 130, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 SUNRIDGE 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00029 Vianey De La Cruz Esparta, 15 W Al Court, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Detailed Cleaning Services” 15 W Al Court, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 DETAILED 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09295 Jessica Naomi Cuevas Gutierrez, 6250 Florin Road Building 1, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Sac Auto Group” 6250 Florin Road Building 1, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 26, 2025 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 SAC 2-6-26	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09430 Vasyl Ivanov, 3913 Meramonte Way, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Vasyl Ivanov Services Unlimited / ISU” 3913 Meramonte Way, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 30, 2025 Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026 VASYL 2-6-26
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Window sill is higher. 3. Bow is larger. 4. Paper is longer. 5. Lampshade is different. 6. Sleeve is different.

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by Gary Kopervas

TIGER

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Pinch to save

6. Brownie

9. Lady, in Madrid

13. Proprietor

14. Romanian money

15. Iraqi money

16. Coffee shop order

17. *Before 1998 only they played Olympic hockey

18. Spring to mind" or "Spring into action," e.g.

19. *Most decorated country in Winter Olympics

21. *____ of Hamill Camel fame

23. *How Olympic Athletes from Russia were designated in 2018, acr.

24. Assistant

25. ____ of war

28. Sushi wrapped in nori

30. Oblong cream puff

35. Singles

37. Manure, e.g.

39. Soil for cultivation

40. Bon Jovi hit "Have a ____ day"

41. "Encore!"

43. Don't go

44. Bumpkin

46. Poet Pound's first name

47. Rodeo Drive tree

48. Sense of alienation and isolation

50. Similar

52. Toast option

53. *Misha, 1980 Russian Olympics Mascot was one

55. Samuel Butler: "Spare the ____ and spoil the child"

57. *____ Shiffrin, most decorated U.S. alpine skier

61. *Overall Olympic curling medal leader

64. Bikini ____ in the Marshall Islands

65. Zodiac sign

67. Pasture

69. Boundary lines

70. Government Printing Office

71. Rocky ridge

72. Singer Tori

73. Farm layer

74. *1964 and 1976 mountainous Olympic location

DOWN

1. Honda CR-X del

2. *Michelle ____, most decorated U.S. figure skater

3. Enthusiastic about

4. Part of MGM

5. From the 1930s, e.g.

6. Abounding with certain trees

7. Bruce ____ of karate fame

8. Fundus, pl.

9. Aeneas' lover

10. "Don't bet ____!"

11. Lye formula

12. A in "M*A*S*H"

15. Do like Tarantino

20. Pleasant smell

22. Schiller's "____ to Joy"

24. Real ____ of Seville

25. *Margot Robbie's "olympic" role (2017)

26. "For better or worse"?

27. GEICO's mascot

29. *Olympic toboggan

31. Speech defect

32. Place for worship

33. *2026 Winter Olympics location

34. Mother Goose creation

36. Give an impression

38. Michael Douglas' dad

42. Nigerian money

45. Slandorous statements

49. Snake-like fish

51. Dairy choice

54. Frustration, in a comic book

56. Grocery store section

57. Cass Elliot, a.k.a. ____ Cass

58. Big-ticket ____

59. Japanese zither

60. Saloon selections

61. Colloquial "Follow me!"

62. Widely hunted ruminant

63. Kind of sax

66. King Kong or Donkey Kong, e.g.

68. Penn.'s neighbor

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Doug LaMalfa, a Steadfast Advocate for California’s North State, Dies at 65

By **Maya C. Miller**,
CalMatters.org

Rep. Doug LaMalfa, a fourth generation rice farmer and Republican who represented much of California’s rural north in Congress, has died in office, setting off a scramble to replace him ahead of the November midterm election. He was 65.

His unexpected death Tuesday further shrinks the party’s already razor-thin majority in Congress, which now stands at 218 following Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene’s resignation. The GOP can now only afford to lose two members on any party-line vote.

LaMalfa’s passing also sets up a potentially confusing scenario for his constituents in the 1st Congressional District, one of the five that were significantly redrawn under the voter-approved Proposition 50 last year.

Under California law, Gov. Gavin Newsom must call a special election within 14 days to fill the remainder of LaMalfa’s term. That election will take place using the existing congressional district map, a seat that stretches from much of the Oregon-California border through rural Shasta and Sutter counties and strongly favors Republicans.

In November, though, voters will cast ballots under the new Democratic-leaning district lines adopted by voters. That means the likely Republican victor of the special election would only serve a few months before being forced to run in a heavily Democratic-favored seat.

“Somebody’s going to work really hard to be in Congress for five months before they’re highly likely to lose in November,” said Matt Rexroad, a Republican strategist and redistricting expert.

LaMalfa died during emergency surgery at a Chico hospital, according to the Butte County Sheriff’s Office, which said his family called 911 after the congressman experienced a “medical emergency” in his home.

While President Donald Trump and House Republicans could consistently count on



U.S. Rep. Doug LaMalfa addresses attendees during a town hall meeting at the Chico Elks Lodge on Aug. 11, 2025. LaMalfa, who represented California’s rural North State, has died at 65. Photo by Salvador Ochoa for CalMatters

LaMalfa’s support for conservative priorities such as last year’s mega domestic policy bill, he never adopted the fire-brand or antagonist persona that many of his colleagues preferred.

Instead, LaMalfa developed a reputation as a pragmatic and affable member who prioritized water access and forestry management, key interests for his largely forested, fire-prone and agricultural-heavy district. It’s those issues that led him to staunchly oppose Proposition 50, Gov. Gavin Newsom’s redistricting plan that proposed to lump much of the rural north with parts of the far more urban and liberal San Francisco Bay Area.

LaMalfa was known for his steadfast commitment to issues that affected his district. One tradition of his was to stake out the president after the State of the Union speech. In those precious few minutes, as the leader of the free world descended the dais and moved to exit the chamber, LaMalfa would make his legislative requests. As the Washington Post reported, after President Joe Biden’s

final address, LaMalfa asked the president to force the U.S. Forest Service to speed up permits for cutting timber, telling the president, “We gotta cut some trees.”

LaMalfa strongly opposed Prop. 50, framing the gerrymander as a significant loss of representation for rural Californians. At a press conference last fall, he stressed how much he loved representing the farmers, ranchers and other agricultural workers in his district, rattling off names of small towns such as Fort Goodwin and Cedarville, where he said he’s knocked on countless doors and held various town halls over the years.

“I know where all those places are,” LaMalfa told the handful of reporters gathered in the Butte County Farm Bureau lodge. “Do you think that’s going to happen when people from Cedarville, Modoc County, are lumped in with people from Sausalito and Marin County?”

LaMalfa was already expecting the toughest race of his career in November following voters’ approval of Prop. 50

and its new Democratic-leaning districts. Although the voter registration advantage was stacked against him, LaMalfa previously told CalMatters that he intended to “give it his all” no matter who its voters were.

Several Democrats had already declared challenges, including state Sen. Mike McGuire — who represents Santa Rosa, a new part of the district — and Chico State Professor Audrey Denney, who previously challenged LaMalfa in 2018 and 2020.

It’s possible that LaMalfa’s successor won’t be known for several months, depending on when Newsom schedules the special election and whether any candidate receives 50% of the vote. If not, voters will have to cast ballots in an additional runoff election.

House Republicans would benefit from filling the vacancy as quickly as possible, given their razor-thin margin.

The closest comparison is when former Republican Rep. Devin Nunes resigned in 2022 to lead a new Trump-backed media outlet. Newsom called a special election for early

April, with a run-off election that coincided with that year’s regularly scheduled statewide primary. Republican Connie Conway ultimately won the seat and served for six months before bowing out and foregoing reelection after the district was redrawn.

It’s not yet clear whether Newsom will schedule the special election for LaMalfa’s seat to coincide with the statewide general election primary on June 2. A special primary election would need to be set nine weeks prior, with the top two candidates proceeding to the run-off unless one candidate amasses more than 50% of the vote.

Newsom spokesperson Izzy Gardon said he has not yet chosen a date.

“I would assume the governor will try to delay as long as he can,” said Rob Stutzman, a California Republican political consultant.

California Republicans face their greatest chance of victory if they can clear the field and avoid a run-off election by uniting behind a single candidate who can attract more than 50% of the vote.

The top two names circulating as likely successors are Assembly member James Gallagher, the former Republican leader who is term limited and can’t run for re-election, and former Sen. Brian Dahle, who termed out last year. Neither immediately responded to texts and calls asking whether they will consider running.

“I’m in shock. My mentor, a man who was like a big brother to me, is suddenly gone,” Gallagher said in a statement Tuesday. “Doug LaMalfa was a one of a kind, humble and dedicated public servant. I’m lost and can’t imagine life, public service or politics without Doug.”

“We mourn the loss of Congressman LaMalfa whose unwavering dedication and tireless service made a lasting difference for North State residents,” Dahle wrote on social media.

None of LaMalfa’s Democratic challengers immediately said whether they would run in a special election. ★

Newsom Forecasts a Rosier California Budget

By **Yue Stella Yu**,
CalMatters.org

Gov. Gavin Newsom’s office on Friday forecast a “modest shortfall” of \$2.9 billion for the upcoming fiscal year, down sharply from previous estimates in a nearly \$349 billion budget proposal that relies heavily on continued windfalls from tech and AI stocks.

The governor’s 2026-27 budget proposal projects \$9 billion more in revenue than anticipated, banking on the AI-driven economy to last. It’s significantly rosier than the grim outlook by the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst’s Office, which in November projected an \$18 billion deficit.

“A downturn in the market is one of the top risks,” said state Department of Finance Director Joe Stephenshaw.

Newsom’s spending proposal is nearly \$30 billion more than this year’s budget. It includes \$248.3 billion in the general fund, the primary account for state operations, up by \$18 billion

The spike in spending is partly driven by the need to implement federal cuts to the Medi-Cal program and constitutional requirements to deposit portions of higher-than-expected revenue into education and state reserves.

The budget calls for the University of California to get \$350 million more in 2026-27 and the California State University system to get \$365 million more, largely to fulfill Newsom’s 2022 promise to increase the universities’ spending by 5% annually for five years.

Newsom’s budget doesn’t include any cuts to K-12 schools, and preserves some of his initiatives related to school meals, community schools, after-school and summer programs and transitional kindergarten. Per-pupil spending would jump slightly to \$27,400. It also includes a \$509 million increase in special education funding, and a 2.41% cost-of-living increase.



Gov. Gavin Newsom speaks during the State of the State address in the Assembly chamber at the state Capitol in Sacramento on Jan. 8, 2026. Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

in months of budget negotiations that begin in earnest in June.

The projected deficit could balloon to \$22 billion in fiscal year 2027-28, a problem the governor will address in an updated fiscal forecast in May, Stephenshaw said.

Other state departments will see less funding under Newsom’s spending plan, though Stephenshaw emphasized that there were no major cuts in the proposal. Newsom wants to spend \$1.3 billion less on housing and homelessness next year, slashing the department’s budget by more

than half. Stephenshaw said some one-time dollars for housing and homelessness have run out and the state is not proposing to renew them.

Newsom’s sunnier forecast could delay calls for long-term financial fixes such as new taxes.

Nodding to “long-term structural challenge,” Newsom wants to deposit \$3 billion into the state’s rainy day fund Budget Stabilization Account, as well as \$8.6 billion into two other reserve accounts. He’s also proposed spending \$11.8 billion over the next four years,

including \$3 billion this upcoming year, to pay down the state’s pension liabilities.

“There are encouraging signs in the California economy,” Newsom said in a written statement accompanying the budget. “Yet history teaches us that prosperity, if taken for granted, can vanish as quickly as it arrives. California’s responsibility is to act with steady hands and anticipate future instability.”

Newsom did not attend Friday’s budget presentation, after he painted a rosy picture of California’s fiscal future during his State of the State address Thursday. Flashing top-line numbers, the Democratic governor touted billions of dollars more in revenue, proposed new investments in education and pledged more toward the state’s reserves and pension debt.

He avoided revealing the budget deficit and did not say whether closing the gap would require painful spending cuts to core services like childcare, food assistance and Medi-Cal, the state’s health care coverage for low-income residents, especially as federal funding diminishes.

Newsom teased multiple new proposals, such as fully funding the state’s universal transitional kindergarten program and providing universal before and after-school programs at elementary schools.

The TK program will cost \$1.9 billion annually, according to his budget proposal.

Newsom also proposed spending \$1 billion to add high-needs community schools and redirecting \$1 billion in Proposition 1 mental health funds annually for housing and homelessness.

County government officials were dismayed the budget doesn’t include more robust funding to backfill federal cuts in Republicans’ mega domestic policy bill passed last year.

“If the state doesn’t step up, communities across California will crumble,” said Graham Knaus, CEO of the California State Association of Counties, in a statement Friday. ★

Stingy Defense Helps Women’s Basketball

Sacramento State News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Senior Benthe Versteeg and junior Keanna Salave’a each finished with double-doubles on the day and the Sacramento State defense limited visiting Weber State to just 13 second-half points on Jan. 3 as the Hornets won their first Big Sky Conference game of the year, 60-39, at Hornet Pavilion.

The victory snapped a three-game skid for the Hornets, who moved to 7-8 overall and 1-1 in league play. The 39 points allowed are tied for the fewest surrendered this year and the fewest given up to a Division I opponent since defeating San Jose State, 66-39, on Dec. 15 of last season.

Led by 15 points from Sydney White, the Wildcats fell to 6-9 overall and 0-2 in league play, limited to just 29 percent shooting overall for the game and just 20 percent (6-for-30) in the second half.

Versteeg and Salave’a each posted their second double-doubles of the year, while Salave’a accomplished the feat for

the second time in the team’s last three games. The last time the Hornets finished with a pair of double-doubles was against Eastern Washington in last year’s Big Sky Tournament when Versteeg and Jaydia Martin accomplished the feat.

Versteeg finished with a season-high 18 points to go with 10 rebounds for her 12th career double-double, adding five assists and a career-high six steals. The 18 points surpassed her previous high of 14 against Nevada, while the six steals were just one shy of the school single-game top five.

Salave’a finished with 13 points and 13 rebounds — both Sacramento State career highs — while the 13 rebounds were the most by a Hornet this year. Six of her 13

boards came on the offensive end while adding a pair of assists, two steals, and a block. Saturday marked her fourth double-digit performance in her last five games.

Junior guard Natalie Picton also finished in double figures, adding 12 points to go with three rebounds and a pair of steals.

Sacramento State which never trailed in the game, threw the first punch out of the gates, opening the contest with a 13-2 run, including the last nine straight while holding Weber State scoreless for four minutes.

The Wildcats answered by scoring seven of the final nine points of the first quarter, but still found themselves down eight after one.

After trading baskets to start the second

and trailing by as many as 10 points twice, Weber State got as close as four points with just under three to play in the quarter before Jaety Mandaquit drained a three-pointer and Salave’a scored inside to give the Hornets some breathing room and an eight-point advantage at the break.

The Hornets then owned the second half, doubling up the Wildcats in the final 20 minutes while holding Weber State to just three field goals in the third and fourth quarters.

Sacramento State scored the first seven points of the third period to rebuild the lead back to 15, then led by as many as 16 in the early part of the fourth before pulling away. The Hornets finished the game on a 12-3 run en route to the victory.

Aside from a 38-31 advantage on the glass, Sacramento State turned the Wildcats over 24 times, turning those into 25 points to the good, while outscoring Weber State in the paint, 34-18.

The Hornets have only one game next week, hosting travel partner Portland State at 1 p.m. Jan. 10 to close out a three-game homestand.

Jace Rodriguez Named to FCS ADA Academic All Star Team

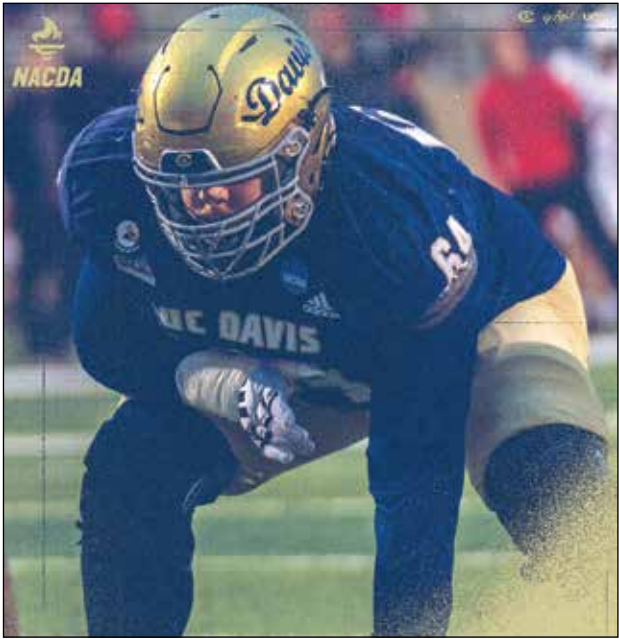
UC Davis Athletics News Release

CLEVELAND (MPG) - The Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCS ADA) has named 57 student-athletes to the 28th Annual Academic All-Star Team, listing UC Davis football senior offensive lineman Jace Rodriguez as part of the collection of academic all stars.

Rodriguez was a key member of the Aggie offensive line during the 2025 season, making 12 starts while appearing in all 13 games for the Ags. He was an important interior piece of an Aggie front that opened holes for the 27th-best rushing attack in the nation and the 17th-best passing offense.

The Patriot League led the way with 10 student-athletes placed on the 2025 All-Star Team, along with the Coastal Athletic Association with nine student-athletes, the Big Sky Conference with eight student-athletes and the Missouri Valley Football Conference with seven recipients.

Current Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCS ADA) President, Kurt McGuffin, director of athletics at University of Tennessee Martin, stated, "This year's honorees exemplify what it means to be complete student-athletes, excelling both in the classroom and in competition. It is always rewarding to recognize outstanding individuals who embody the values and standards of our division,



Rodriguez was a key member of the Aggie offensive line during the 2025 season, making 12 starts while appearing in all 13 games for the Ags. Photo courtesy UC Davis Athletics

and this year's selections are no exception. We extend our sincere congratulations to all nominees and especially to those receiving this well-deserved recognition."

To view the complete list of winners, visit: <https://nacda.com/documents/2026/1/3/2025FCS-Finalx3.pdf>

Football players from all Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) institutions are eligible for the award. Each of the nominees were required to have a minimum grade point average of 3.20 (on a 4.00 scale) in undergraduate or graduate study and have been a starter or key player with legitimate athletics credentials. They must have reached their second year of athletics and academic standing at the nominated institution and have completed a minimum of one full academic year at the nominated

institution. They also must have participated in 50 percent of the games played at their designated position.

Now in its 31st year, the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association's mission is to enhance Football Championship Subdivision football. For more information on the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCS ADA), please visit www.fcsada.com. The Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCS ADA) is administered by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), which is in its 61st year. For more information on National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and the 19 professional associations that fall under its umbrella, visit www.nacda.com.

Countdown to Kickoff

Republic FC Releases Action-Packed 2026 Schedule

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - USL Championship recently announced the full schedule for the upcoming 2026 season, including the group stage matches for the Prinx Tires USL Cup. For the third straight year, Republic FC will kick off the season at home when it hosts defending Western Conference Champion FC Tulsa on Saturday, March 7.

Twenty-two of Sacramento's 30 regular season matches will come against Western Conference opponents. The Indomitable Club will face off with each team twice with an additional game against FC Tulsa and Phoenix Rising FC.

Interconference play will see Republic FC face off with six Eastern Conference teams, including league debutants Brooklyn FC (April 21) and Sporting Club Jacksonville (August 1).

Following the season opener, Republic FC heads out on the road to face Lexington SC on March 14 before returning home for a three game homestand against Monterey Bay FC, El Paso Locomotive FC, and Phoenix Rising FC. Additional marquee matches include a season series with NorCal rival Oakland Roots SC on July 25 and Oct. 24, and a road match against defending league champions

Pittsburgh Riverhounds on August 8, and a Sunday match against San Antonio FC on Sept. 20.

The league’s announcement also included the group stage matches for the in-season 2026 Prinx Tires USL Cup. Republic FC will begin its quest to return to the Cup Final with a home tie against League One side Spokane Velocity FC on April 25 followed by a road match against Oakland Roots SC on May 16. Play continues back at Heart Health Park against Monterey Bay FC on June 6 before closing out the group stage on the road against League One debutant Athletic Club Boise on July 11. USL Cup results will not count towards the regular season.

Additional details, including kickoff times, broadcast information, and theme nights will be announced in the coming weeks.

The only way to guarantee access to all 17 home games – as well as a pre-season friendly – is by becoming a 2026 Indomitable Member today. Season ticket memberships offer a range of benefits including discounts on merchandise and access to exclusive fan experiences, as well as priority seat selection in the new Republic Stadium at The Railyards. For more information, or to purchase a membership today, visit SacRepublicFC.com/Memberships.



River Cats, Giants to Meet at Exhibition Game

Sacramento River Cats News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The fifth battle between the Sacramento River Cats and their parent affiliate, the San Francisco Giants, is set to get the River Cats baseball season underway on Sunday, Mar. 22 at 5:07 p.m. Fans can now secure their seats as single-game tickets are now on sale.

“We’re thrilled to once again host the San Francisco Giants at Sutter Health Park for what has become a highly anticipated way to start the River Cats season,” said Sacramento River Cats President and COO Chip Maxson. “It’s a chance for Sacramento fans to welcome rising Giants stars, reconnect with familiar faces who once wore the River Cats jersey, and matchup in a unique atmosphere against our big-league affiliate. Sacramento’s love for baseball runs



Tickets are now on sale for the exhibition game between the Sacramento River Cats and the San Francisco Giants taking place on Sunday, Mar. 22. Courtesy photo Sacramento River Cats

deep and this game provides another opportunity to celebrate that passion.”

Each of the past two years has seen the River Cats leave the clash of affiliates as the victor, though it came in two very different fashions. While the Giants took an early 2-0 lead in 2025, the River Cats came back to win with four consecutive runs for a 4-3 victory. Meanwhile, the 2024 edition saw Sacramento

cruise to an 8-1 victory. Tickets for this matchup are now available online only on Ticketmaster. Fans interested in booking a suite or hospital-ity space, can contact the sales office at (916) 371-HITS (4487) or tickets@rivercats.com. The Sutter Health Park ticket office is closed for the offseason and will reopen In March. Updated ticket office hours can be found at www.milb.com/sacramento/tickets/ticket-office.



Sac State Announces Leadership Change



Pictured is Randy Dedini, former women's soccer coach. Courtesy photo Sacramento State

Sacramento State News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State Director of Athletics

Mark Orr announced a change in leadership for the Hornets’ women’s soccer program, parting ways with head coach Randy Dedini.

“I would like to thank Randy for his many years of distinguished service to Sacramento State athletics and the women’s soccer program,” Orr said. “We wish him the very best in his future endeavors.”

Dedini wrapped up his 19th season as head

coach in 2025 and was also an assistant with the Hornets for three seasons from 2004-06 before taking over the top spot. During his time at the university, he finished with the most victories in program history (130), winning a regular season crown and three league tournament titles during his tenure.

A search for a new head coach will begin immediately.



Sierra Donor Services Expands Scholarship Program

**Sierra Donor Services
News Release**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sierra Donor Services (SDS), the leading nonprofit organ procurement organization in Northern California dedicated to saving and enhancing lives through organ, eye and tissue donation, is proud to expand its Lifesaver Nursing Scholarship Program to support Black, Hispanic and Filipino nursing students. In partnership with the Capitol City Black Nurses Association (CCBNA), the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN), and Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City (PNAC3), SDS has established an annual scholarship program aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion within the healthcare field.

Sierra Donor Services proudly supports the vital work of Capitol City Black Nurses Association, National Association of Hispanic Nurses, and Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City in advocating for nurses’ needs and improving health outcomes in communities affected by health disparities. Through this collaboration, Sierra Donor Services seeks to advance the recruitment, retention, and education of nurses, strengthening the pipeline of future healthcare professionals.

The scholarship program honored seven exceptional nursing students from three partner organizations. Karen Kurenty



Members of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) attend the luncheon at Sierra Donor Services in West Sacramento. Courtesy photo

Laryea and Liwam Nerayo, representing Capitol City Black Nurses Association, were recognized at the 2nd Annual Scholarship Gala and Black Excellence event at the Kimpton Sawyer Hotel in Sacramento, California.

Maria Espinoza, Leslie Rivas, and Alexandria Martinez, from National Association of Hispanic Nurses, received their awards during Sierra Donor Services’ Scholarship Luncheon at the Sierra Donor Services Office in West Sacramento, California.

Ma Milani Zabala and Mark Buan-Lagazo, representing Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City, were celebrated at the Philippine Nurses Association

California Capital City Gala held at the Civic Center in Elk Grove, California.

“We are honored to expand our Scholarship Program to support Black, Hispanic, and Filipino nursing students through our partnerships with the Capitol City Black Nurses Association, the National Association of Hispanic Nurses and Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City,” said Sean Van Slyck, Chief Executive Officer of Sierra Donor Services.

“At Sierra Donor Services, we believe that fostering diversity and inclusion in healthcare is essential to building stronger, healthier communities. By investing in the education and

development of these future nurses, we are not only empowering individuals but also helping to address health disparities and improve outcomes for underserved populations. This scholarship reflects our ongoing commitment to advancing equity in healthcare and nurturing the next generation of life-saving professionals”

The Capitol City Black Nurses Association (CCBNA) is a passionate organization focused on empowering Black nurses and improving health outcomes in underserved communities. By providing education, advocacy, and community engagement, the Capitol City Black Nurses Association strives to reduce health disparities and support the growth of a

diverse and inclusive nursing workforce throughout the Sacramento region.

“Our partnership with Sierra Donor Services is impactful twofold,” said Sheree Criner, president of Capitol City Black Nurses Association. “It honors the gift of life through organ and tissue donation while investing in the future of nursing. Together, we are nurturing the next generation of compassionate caregivers and ensuring that the legacy of giving continues to live on through every nurse we support.”

The National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) is committed to empowering Hispanic nurses and enhancing health outcomes within Hispanic communities.

Through leadership, education, and advocacy, the National Association of Hispanic Nurses promotes the growth and success of Hispanic nursing professionals while addressing healthcare disparities and championing culturally competent care across the nation.

Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City (PNAC3) is dedicated to strengthening the image, professionalism, unity, and overall welfare of Filipino-American nurses in the Greater Sacramento Area. Its mission centers on fostering a supportive and collaborative community for these healthcare professionals.

“On behalf of the Sacramento Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, I extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued partnership and dedication to saving lives,” said Monica Aguilar, president of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses.

“Special thanks to Sierra Donor Services for your compassionate service and unwavering support – your work inspires us all. The members of our chapter and scholarship recipients are beyond grateful for our partnership.”

As Sierra Donor Services reflects on 40 years of impact, the organization remains committed to its mission of saving lives, honoring donors, and educating the public.

Be part of this life-changing legacy. Register today at SierraDonor.org. ★

Lesley Hamamoto Wins Davis Bumble Bee Contest

**By Kathy Keatley Garvey,
UC Davis Department
of Entomology and
Nematology**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Bumble bee enthusiast Lesley Hamamoto of Sacramento, a UC Davis alumna who remembers well the entomology class she took from UC Davis Distinguished Emeritus Professor Robbin Thorp in 1998, is the winner of the 2026 Robbin Thorp Memorial First-Bumble-Bee-of-the-Year Contest, sponsored by the Bohart Museum of Entomology.

Hamamoto, a biologist/botanist with the Department of Water Resources, State of California since 2008 and a former seven-year UC Davis employee, photographed a black-tailed bumble bee, *Bombus melanopygus*, nectaring on manzanita at 9:59 am. Friday, Jan. 2 in the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden.

The contest rules specify that the first person to photograph or video a bumble bee in the two-county area of Yolo and Solano – and emails the image to the Bohart Museum – wins.

The bumble bee contest, launched in 2021, memorializes Professor Thorp (1933-2019), a tireless advocate of pollinator species protection and conservation and co-author of “Bumble Bees of North America: An Identification Guide” (Princeton University) and “California Bees and Blooms: A Guide for Gardeners and Naturalists” (Heyday). Although he retired from the faculty in 1994 after 30 years of service, he continued his bee research until a week before he died, at age 85. Every January, he looked forward to seeing the first bumble bee of the year.

Hamamoto, who serves as president of the Sacramento Valley Chapter of the California



UC Davis alumna and bumble bee/native plant enthusiast Lesley Hamamoto of Sacramento won the 2026 Robbin Thorp Memorial First-Bumble-Bee-of-the-Year Contest. This image shows her with another bumble bee from last year. Photo courtesy of Lesley Hamamoto

Native Plant Society (CNP) and as a volunteer with the California Bumble Bee Atlas, will receive a coffee cup designed with the critically endangered Franklin's bumble bee. Thorp monitored the population of *Bombus franklini* in its California-Oregon border range for two decades, last seeing it in 2006. It is now feared extinct.

“I was so excited to find several bumble bees on Friday!” Hamamoto said. “I have wanted to participate in the first-bumble-bee-of-the-year contest since it began in 2021.”

Her co-worker Michael Kwong, a senior environmental scientist with the State of California, teamed with fellow Monarch Watch participant Kaylen Teves of Vallejo, to win the 2025 contest. They photographed a yellow-faced bumble bee, *Bombus vosnesenskii*, on Jan. 11 on an oak leaf at the Glen Cove Marina, Vallejo.

“I had been watching for

a window of sunny weather, so as soon as I saw that it was going to be sunny for a few hours, I hightailed it out to the Arboretum,” Hamamoto shared. “I knew that early blooming manzanitas would be highly attractive to bumbles, so I was specifically headed to a few that I knew of. I live in Sacramento, so I had to head over the county line to participate in the contest. I have sometimes participated unofficially from my home native garden, but I don't think I have ever found a bumble earlier than the contest winner.”

Hamamoto has participated since 2022 as a volunteer with the California Bumble Bee Atlas, a statewide community science project aimed at tracking and conserving California's native bumble bees. “I was fortunate to be able to take the Bumble Bee Field Course with Leif Richardson and Rich Hatfield in 2023 – the workshop sold out in two minutes

and getting in was likened to getting tickets to Taylor Swift's Eras tour!”

Hamamoto has organized an annual "bumblepalooza" weekend for the last two years “for some of my friends that I met in the field course and we meet up and do a bunch of Atlas surveys. The first year was in the Carson Valley area where we had been for the field course, and last year we stayed at the Point Reyes Field Station. We have even talked about holding a future bumblepalooza in northern California to look for *B. franklini*.” (Thorp last sighted the bumble bee in 2006. Its range is a narrow 13,300-square-mile area in Siskiyou and Trinity counties in California.)

Hamamoto and Kwong also led a bumble bee field trip last year for "find out farms," a local native plant nursery and eco-education organization. The Sacramento Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society holds an annual Wildlife Wonders event there "and where I have been one of the volunteers at the Friendly Bee exhibit table.”

Hamamoto received her bachelor's degree in biological sciences, with a plant biology emphasis, from UC Davis in 2001, and went on to receive her master's degree from Sacramento State University. She worked at UC Davis in Plant Biology for seven years before accepting her position with the State of California.

Hamamoto credits UC Davis for setting her “firmly on the path of studying and growing plants.” She remembers "field trips to local botanical hotspots such as Stebbens Cold Canyon and Jepson Prairie Preserve, and several years working at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory being particularly formative experiences.”

During her freshman year at UC Davis, she enrolled in ENT 10, "Natural History of Insects," taught by Thorp. “We did a honey varietal tasting during that class and I always remember that he told us that yellow starthistle honey was his favorite flavor. I have to agree that it's the one good thing about invasive yellow starthistle! I didn't realize until I started reading and researching more about bumble bees that Dr. Thorp was really THE authority on bumbles in California. I feel very lucky to have had that opportunity to learn from him.”

The Bohart Bumble Bee Committee includes three members who worked with Thorp: UC Davis Distinguished Professor Emerita Lynn Kimsey, who directed the Bohart Museum for 34 years; Tabatha Yang, education and outreach coordinator for the Bohart Museum; and Kathy Keatley Garvey, communications specialist, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology.

Every January, Thorp encouraged his "posse" – bumble bee enthusiasts and insect photographers Allan Jones, Kathy Keatley Garvey, Gary Zamzow and Kim Chacon – to find and photograph the first bumble bee of the year in Yolo and Solano counties. Chacon, the 2019 winner, was the last to win the informal bee contest when she captured a bee at the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden. At the time, she was a UC Davis doctoral student researching "habitat connectivity issues for bees at a landscape scale." She is a 2018 alumna of The Bee Course, a nine-day intensive workshop affiliated with the American Museum of Natural History and held annually at the Southwestern Research Station, Portal, Ariz. Thorp, one of the instructors, taught the course from 2002 to 2018. ★