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Pike's Place is No. 1

Logan Pike Races Towards Legacy Status



Logan Pike stands (center) besides mom Whitney (right) and brother Lincoln (left) after winning at the Roseburg Winter Showdown. Photo courtesy of LJP Racing

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - A standout in Outlaw Kart racing may reside quietly in Gridley, but his impact is felt well beyond the local track as he continues to stack wins season after season.

Logan James Pike of LJP Racing has been driving Outlaw Karts since the age of 5, when the "Easter Bunny" gifted him his first kart. Family members recall Pike spinning circles in the backyard later that day, without training, and racing competitively just two weeks later at Cycleland Speedway south of Chico.

Outlaw Karts are low, lightweight racing vehicles with open cages and "wings". Wings often feature the karts' number and function to balance the karts as they corner at high

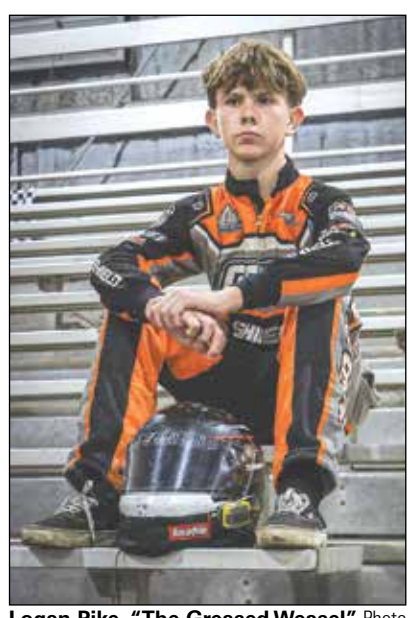
speeds, according to Pike. The karts do not have shocks and tend to drift, especially around corners, racing in compact formations on a dirt tracks.

According to Joe Duran, Pike's grandfather, known as "Pop-Pop," tracks vary in length and surface texture, creating different challenges for drivers, especially entering turns where speeds can exceed 60 mph.

The need for speed is seemingly in Pikes blood and racing is truly a family affair as each member of his immediate family plays a critical role in LJP Racing.

His mother Whitney Pike enjoyed the social aspect of racing in her youth and is attributed with getting Pike started in racing along with his Pop-Pop, who acts as facilitator,

Continued on page 3



Logan Pike, "The Greased Weasel". Photo courtesy of LJP Racing

Special Election Announced for LaMalfa Seat

By Lloyd Green

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, CA (MPG) - Gov. Gavin Newsom has scheduled a special election for Aug. 4, to fill the vacant congressional seat in California's 1st District following the death of Rep. Doug LaMalfa.

Newsom issued a formal proclamation ordering the election to fill the vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives. The winner will serve the remainder of LaMalfa's term, which runs through Dec. 31.

California Assemblyman James Gallagher, R-East Nicolaus, announced Jan. 14 that he will seek the seat. Gallagher said he is running with the support of LaMalfa's widow, Jill LaMalfa.

Following Newsom's announcement, Gallagher criticized the timing of the election, saying the district will remain without representation longer than necessary.

"The Governor could have called this election for June 2 with the primary on March 31," Gallagher said in a news release. "Instead he chose to play national political games and deny the people of the First District representation in Congress for at least two months longer than what was needed."

Gallagher was among a group of Republican state lawmakers who previously urged Newsom to act sooner. In a letter dated Jan. 16 and addressed to the governor, the legislators said the delay left one of the state's largest and most rural districts without a voice in Washington during a critical period.

The letter argued that the absence of representation affects federal advocacy tied to wildfire recovery, water access, agriculture, health care and infrastructure. The lawmakers said prolonged vacancies compound challenges already faced by rural communities and contribute to what they described as a growing divide between rural and urban representation in California.

"Rural communities' matter," the letter stated. "The people who live and work here deserve timely, fair representation just as much as any urban district."

The letter was signed by multiple Assembly Republicans, including members representing districts across Northern and Southern California, and emphasized concerns that delays reinforce the perception that rural regions are not a priority in state

Continued on page 2

City Approves Shared Emergency Response System

By Susan Meeker

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - The Biggs City Council on Jan. 13 backed an agreement with Butte County that would bring the city into a shared emergency management software system. The meeting marked the council's first session of 2026 with recently seated Mayor James "Bo" Sheppard presiding.

The agreement outlines Biggs' participation in Veoci, a cloud-based Emergency Operations Center (EOC) platform used by the Butte County Office of Emergency Management and other local jurisdictions.

Interim City Administrator Rodney Harr told the council the system would allow Biggs to coordinate more effectively during emergencies, noting that "any emergency situation that would otherwise involve the other city or the county has this platform that they can rely upon for the management of those particular events."

Harr said the platform functions as a virtual Emergency Operations

Center, allowing staff to participate remotely during activations.

"Instead of necessarily having a room to meet in, it turns into what's referred to as a virtual EOC," Harr said. "Participants can actually be sitting at home and still be part of the process."

Butte County selected Veoci in 2024 after reviewing several platforms and has since built customized modules for each city. The county reserved one mid-tier license for Biggs' designated administrator, five infrequent-use licenses for activation-only personnel and more than

90,000 non-user form entries for staff who may need to submit Incident command system (ICS) forms without being full system users.

The city's cost to participate totals about \$2,300 over three years. Harr described the annual amounts as "fairly low" and said the expense could be covered through the Emergency Management budget or the General Fund.

Council members asked about the financial authority required during major incidents. Harr said large-scale emergencies can involve significant expenditures, but the likelihood of a major disaster impacting Biggs is low. He added that most costs are reimbursable through state or federal disaster declarations.

Council members also discussed training requirements. Harr said the county and Veoci will provide instruction and tabletop exercises so users can practice responding to simulated incidents.

The council voted unanimously to approve the memorandum of understanding (MOU). ★



The New Pi-Line



By Josh Cook

make this stuff up. Glad the new jail is in Oroville and not Gridley. ***

Whenever I visit places like Wisconsin and even Colorado, I say to myself, why don't these people leave? Why are we not organizing some sort of evacuation to get them out of here before they all freeze to death? The people who live there seem to go about their business as if they're not on the verge of death, and it's very confusing to me. It must be because I'm a fourth or fifth-generation Californian that I think people who live where it gets below zero in the winter have cognitive processing issues. Over the years, I've done the best I can to work with people who choose to live in these kinds of places - and not always have a smirk on my face because I really think that they are completely unaware, so it's been hard for me the last two months as we have been stuck in the fog and it's freezing

cold. As a Californian, I'm willing to tolerate one to two days of this type of weather per month in the five months that constitute California winter. I am starting to think that I was too judgmental, and after all the mean things I have said out loud and muttered under my breath, it's coming back to get me. I'm having to be one of the people who live in the cold. ***

The above few sentences make duck hunters happy as we see hundreds of them out every day using the fog to sneak up on big fat ducks, and using the cold to keep less committed hunters at home, or cowering in the truck waiting for a slightly warmer moment to exit the vehicle. Best of luck you merry heavily armed woodsmen, be safe and remember to aim away from your friends. ***

Josh F.W. Cook was born in Gridley and writes exclusively for the historic Gridley Herald. ★

Butte Supervisors Tap Connelly, Ritter to Lead Roles

By Susan Meeker

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - The Butte County Board of Supervisors reorganized on Jan. 13, selecting long-time District 1 Supervisor Bill Connelly to serve as board chair for 2026.

Connelly, first elected in 2004, is one of the longest serving supervisors in county history. A lifelong Butte County resident, he served in the U.S. Air Force before returning home to operate small businesses and later enter public office. His tenure has centered on water policy, flood control and local control of surface and groundwater resources, including during the Oroville Dam relicensing process.

Supervisors also tapped District 3 Supervisor Tami Ritter, in a 3-1 vote, to serve as vice chair for 2026.

Ritter, who nominated herself, previously served on the Chico City Council. She was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2018, representing Chico and surrounding communities. Her work has focused on homelessness policy, behavioral health services and county level fiscal oversight. Before entering elected office, Ritter directed the Torres Community Shelter and worked in nonprofit administration.

The board's annual reorganization sets leadership roles for the coming year and determines who will preside over meetings and



District 1 Supervisor Bill Connelly was selected to serve as chair of the Butte County Board of Supervisors in 2026. Photo courtesy of Butte County



District 3 Supervisor Tami Ritter was selected on a split vote to serve her first term as vice chair of the Butte County Board of Supervisors in 2026. Photo courtesy of Butte County

represent the county in regional and state level discussions. Their first order of business in 2026 was to recognize the service of outgoing Chair Tod Kimmelshue. During his tenure as board chair in 2025, Kimmelshue focused on wildfire recovery, rural infrastructure and fiscal stability, often emphasizing the needs of farming communities and unincorporated areas. He has also been active in water resource discussions affecting Sacramento Valley.

During its first meeting of the New Year, the Board of Supervisors honored the memory and service of U.S. Rep. Doug LaMalfa, who died unexpectedly on Jan. 6. LaMalfa, a fourth-generation rice farmer from Richvale, had represented California's North State in Congress since 2013 and previously served in both the State Assembly and State Senate.

"Congressman LaMalfa

was a strong advocate for wildfire prevention, forest management, and disaster recovery, including federal support following the 2018 Camp Fire," Connelly said. "His leadership and accessibility ensured that the voices of rural and northern counties, including Butte County, were heard at the federal level."

Supervisors also recognized former Butte County Supervisor Maureen Kirk, who died on Nov. 25, 2025. Kirk represented Chico on the Board of Supervisors from 2007 to 2019 after earlier service on the Chico City Council, including a term as mayor. Known for her steady, detailed driven approach to governance, she focused on fiscal oversight, public health, and collaborative regional planning. Her long tenure in local government made her a respected voice on county policy and community issues. ★

Special Election Announced for LaMalfa Seat



Assemblyman James Gallagher, R-Yuba City, announced he will run in the special election for California's 1st Congressional District, seeking to fill the vacancy left by the death of Rep. Doug LaMalfa. Photo courtesy of Assemblymember James Gallagher



Audrey Denney of Chico announced Jan. 16 that she will run for the open seat in California's 1st Congressional District. Photo courtesy of Audrey Denney.

Continued from page 1 decision making.

On Jan. 16, Audrey Denney of Chico announced she will also run for the open seat. Denney, a Democrat, said she has lived and worked in Northern California for 20 years and has been involved in wildfire recovery, health care issues and rural communities.

"I've never believed in walking away when things get tough, and I'm not about

to start now," Denney said in a statement announcing her candidacy.

LaMalfa, a seven-term Republican, died suddenly Jan. 6 at Enloe Medical Center in Chico. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds.

Until the special election is held, California's 1st Congressional District will remain without representation in the U.S. House. ★

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Quiet Rotarian Honored in Gridley

Story and photos Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Gridley Rotary International hosted a special guest at their weekly meeting Thursday, Jan. 15.

Rotary District 5180 Governor, Megan Ellinghouse met with Rotary board members before welcoming the rest of the club during the lunch hour gathering. Local Rotary Club President Efen Del Rio provided introductions and handed the floor over to the governor.

Before embarking on a motivating presentation, Ellinghouse took a moment to speak on the "Quiet Rotarian" or someone who exemplifies the mission

of Rotary before bestowing the honor on an unsuspecting member.

"The Quiet Rotarian is someone who goes above and beyond without looking for praise or recognition. Our Quiet Rotarian is someone who happily gives of their time, whether it is for an individual or for hundreds of people," read Ellinghouse.

Ellinghouse continued to inform the group of the legacy of service the 2026 Quiet Rotarian had been carving out for herself before introducing Lynne Spencer as the recipient.

With years of service with local VFW clubs and the Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce under her belt, Spencer joined Rotary International Club in 2018 after being thrust into a major role of community service during the aftermath of the Camp Fire.

As many displaced fire survivors joined our community, some with absolutely no belongings, Spencer stepped up and was instrumental in manning three distribution centers that served the survivors. She also served as a liaison with Gridley Rotary, helping the club get donations directly to survivors in need.

Spencer was pivotal in organizing what would become the Butte Wildfires Distribution Center. The center collected and distributed food and clothing donations, located in the Mary

and Dan Boegers building in downtown Gridley, when more wildfires decimated homes and towns the following years, such as the Bear Fire that hit Berry Creek in 2020.

Spencer served as Rotary President multiple times on top of her duties as the Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce President, a position that she has held for the last 10 years.

Spencer was moved nearly to tears and accepted the award graciously.

"Thank you, Gridley Rotary Club, for taking the time to honor her," said Ellinghouse, "because its people like this that make being involved in the community, being involved in this club, make a difference."

Ellinghouse turned her attention back to her presentation, asking the local group a few questions before focusing on topics of unity and visibility.

She challenged Gridley Rotary to share their deeds on social media and increase Rotary's presence in the community through further branding and events. Ellinghouse also encouraged members to visit neighboring clubs.

Ellinghouse used the Oak Park Rotary House in Sacramento, as an example of how a few rotary clubs work together.

"The Oak Park Rotary House was built and is maintained by multiple Rotary Clubs, and



Gridley Rotary President Efen Del Rio (center) and Chamber of Commerce President Lynne Spencer (right) thank District Governor Megan Ellinghouse for her visit with a box of cookies from Sweeties sweet shop and bakery.

this is a house in downtown Sacramento that is about a block, block-and-a-half from U.C. Davis Children's Hospital," said Ellinghouse. "When someone in need has a child who is sick and needs treatment at U.C. Davis Medical Hospital, they can come stay at the Rotary House for free. It is fully furnished. It is maintained. It is good shape, and they get to not worry about the housing side of things while they focus on their child's treatment."

In an image of the home, Ellinghouse directed the group to the Rotary logo that was emblazoned above the door. Ellinghouse said that when people see that symbol on something positive, even if they don't know that it is the logo of a Rotary Club, they will want to become more involved.

"What I'm asking you to do is expand Rotary," said Ellinghouse. "I mean in visibility,

and impact, and awareness."

The club was seemingly responsive to her call for action, and also to the invitation to the upcoming District Conference to be held in South Lake Tahoe.

Before departing, Ellinghouse left one last challenge at the feet of the Gridley Rotary Group, informing them that if their club participated in Plunge for Polio, raising funds for the cause between now and the conference in May, President Del Rio would automatically be listed as the designee to "plunge" into a Lake Tahoe.

It is yet to be seen if the club will activate behind that incentive.

For more information on the Oak Park Rotary House, please contact Oak Park Rotary House Foundation at 500 Calvados Ave., Sacramento, CA, 95815, call 916-925-2782 or go visit oakparkrotaryhouse.com. ★



District 5180 Governor Megan Ellinghouse. Her territory serves the greater Sacramento area and Northern California communities.

Gridley High Praised in WASC Report

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Reviews from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Visiting Committee have been received by Gridley High School administrators, with the report praising the school for excellence in culture and academics.

Gridley High School Principal Rikke-Lee Burreth said Western Association of Schools and Colleges is an accrediting body that oversees high schools, colleges and other educational institutions. She emphasized the importance of maintaining accreditation so that academic credits transfer if a student moves to another high school and so students remain eligible for financial aid for higher education.

Gridley High School has been preparing in cooperation with faculty and student aid.

"Every six years we do a full self-study," said Burreth, which is ultimately submitted to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Principal Burreth shares that the faculty meet once a month and review prompts from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges in preparation for the committee's visit and before submitting their response to study prompts.

"We respond, not only in writing, but then we are also responsible for linking evidence to show proof of all the things that we write," stated Burreth.

A copy of the findings in the Western Association



Gridley High School recently received high marks from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges following a comprehensive accreditation review conducted in November 2025. Photo courtesy of Gridley Unified School District, Gridley High School

of Schools and Colleges summary was provided to the Gridley Herald in which it stated, "Gridley High School has received and overwhelmingly positive assessment from the Accrediting Commission for Schools," following a comprehensive review conducted in Nov. 2025.

The report described Gridley High School performance as extremely positive, with high praise extending beyond academic measures to recognize the school's culture,

leadership and community engagement.

The visiting committee identified four primary cultural strengths within the school community: a cohesive culture and vision, engaged leadership and staff, an enhanced campus environment and strong community partnerships.

The report also stated that Gridley High School is "effectively driving student achievement and outperforms many other schools of its size and demographics, as well as far outperforming

state averages on the California Dashboard."

Overall, the school received a highly favorable review.

"The WASC report positions Gridley High School as a regional leader, successfully leveraging collaboration, strategic investment, and deeply rooted sense of community to deliver a high-quality educational experience and cultivate a thriving school culture," stated the committee summary.

After receiving the findings, Burreth said she was proud of both staff and students.

"To have a group come in that knows education, understands education and for them to say, 'you guys are knocking it out of the ballpark' puts positive back into the bucket of the teachers," said Burreth. "It just helps build that positive energy - that the hard work that everybody here puts in, day in and day out, is paying off. That's what is super exciting to me." ★

Pike's Place is No. 1

Continued from page 1

cleaning and maintaining repairs on the karts. Whitney and Pike's Grandma Shannon Duran are the CFO's of LJP Racing and brother Lincoln Joseph Pike follows in his brother's tracks, also racing Outlaw Karts.

The term "legacy" has been associated with Pike, particularly in his journey towards legendary status within the Outlaw world, this is affirmed when comparing his current track

standings with former racers stats at Cycleland and other speedways.

Cycleland has a history of producing big-name racers says Pike, such as driver Tyler Reddick. Reddick is a professional American stock car driver from Orland, CA currently driving for NASCAR in the No. 45 car, according to nascar.com.

"I'm tied with Tyler Reddick for most wins at Cycleland," said Pike, who shares 13 wins at the local

speedway with Reddick.

In addition to those titles, Pike has also won the QRC Perpetual Trophy, Gary Jacobs Memorial Race, SRT Spring Challenge, Grandpa George Race and the Tyler Wolf Memorial Race three times.

Pike slid into 2026 in high gear, traveling to Oregon to compete in the Roseburg Winter Showdown Jan. 1-3. Pike would walk away with first place in the 250 intermediate, adding the Winter Showdown to his list of wins.

Over the weekend of Jan. 13-15, Pike raced in the Clear Lake Clash, held in Lakeport, CA. Pike placed first in the main event on the second day of the series, adding yet another win to his record.

"Logan and our race team have a goal of finishing in the top 5 of the A Main every week," said Whitney, applauding Pike's dedication. "Winning is very hard to do with the level of competition that we embrace every week."



The Pike's and Duran's smile together around the LJP Racing motto which reads, "In the LJP Racing Family we do racetracks. We don't do pit stops. We GO FAST and turn left. We count checkers, not sheep. Eat, sleep, race, repeat. The family that races together, stays together." Pictured from left, Logan Pike, Whitney Pike, Lincoln Pike, Shannon Duran and Joe Duran. Photo by Seti Long

Despite his list of title wins and numerous trophies, Pike strives to stay humble.

"When Logan started racing, he and his Pop-Pop had a deal. After his main event, whether it was an A or a B main, he (Pike) was to stay in his uniform and go up in the stands and find someone that he has never seen, go up to them and shake their hand and thank them for coming to the races," said Whitney.

Pike continues to do so,

often handing out signed driver cards and fist bumps to young fans and fellow racers.

LJP Racings thanks sponsors Top Quality Diesel Repair, Blue Collar Plumbing, K & K Racing Engines, Garrett Gramps Racing, Stainless Aesthetics, DB Promotions, Ed Brown Trucking, Wheeler Ranch Realty powered by LPT Realty, T & P Farms, Benzel Family, Kavert Racing, KWD Electric and

family members for their support and partnership in building the Pike Legacy.

Pike's next scheduled event is the Olive City Showdown, set for Feb. 5-7 at Rolling Hills Casino in Corning, where he will compete in the 250cc Intermediate and Open Intermediate 500cc classes.

LJP Racing continues its pursuit of breaking Reddick's Cycleland record, adding to Pike's legacy one win at a time. ★



Pop-Pop Joe Duran and Logan inspect used tires for remaining treads inside the 229 karts trailer. Photo by Seti Long

PG&E Grant Aids Local Food Banks

By Lloyd Green

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - Pacific Gas and Electric Company is donating \$1 million to food banks across Northern and Central California to help replenish supplies after the holidays and meet rising demand from families and individuals facing food insecurity.

The contribution from Pacific Gas and Electric Company will provide the equivalent of about 3 million meals and support 38 food banks serving 47 counties within PG&E's service area.

In the North State, \$82,000 will go to seven food banks serving 11 counties, including Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Plumas, Sierra, Yuba and Sutter counties. Funding includes \$32,930 to the Community Action Agency of Butte County, which serves Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Plumas and Sierra counties, and \$15,390 to Gleaners Food Bank Inc., which serves Yuba and Sutter counties.

Additional North State funding includes \$13,590 to Dignity Health Connected Living in Shasta County, \$5,550 to Great Northern Services in Siskiyou County, \$5,000 to the Trinity County Food Bank, \$5,000 to Tehama County Gleaners and \$4,960 to the CalFL Food Bank of Northern Nevada serving Lassen County.

The donation marks the third contribution to food banks since September from PG&E or the PG&E Corporation Foundation. PG&E officials said the funding comes from shareholders, not customers.

The California Association of Food Banks reported that food banks are seeing record demand, the highest levels since the pandemic.

"California food banks experienced an unexpected surge this fall, and PG&E responded," said Stacia Levenfeld, chief executive officer of the association. She said the \$1 million contribution will help



food banks continue operations during a period of increased need.

Joe Wilson, vice president for PG&E's North Valley and Sierra Region, said the company values its partnership with food banks and the role they play in supporting families and seniors.

Earlier this year, The PG&E Corporation Foundation awarded \$1.12 million in September to support local food banks, tribal food banks and senior meal programs. In November, the foundation donated \$250,000 to the association's Emergency Response Fund.

According to the association, more than one in five Californians do not know where their next meal will come from, despite the state producing nearly half of the nation's fruits and vegetables. Grant amounts are based on county poverty and unemployment levels using a state formula intended to direct funding to areas with higher need.

The PG&E Corporation Foundation is an independent nonprofit organization separate from PG&E and sponsored by PG&E Corporation. PG&E provides natural gas and electric service to more than 16 million people across Northern and Central California. ★

Leadership Swap Between Neighboring Counties

By Susan Meeker

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - In a near direct exchange of county leadership, the Butte County Board of Supervisors on Jan. 13 appointed former Colusa County Chief Administrative Officer Wendy Tyler as interim director of Public Works. Tyler will fill the vacancy created when former Butte County Public Works Director Joshua Pack left to become Colusa County's top administrator.

The Butte County board approved the 180 day waiver under CalPERS rules, clearing the way for Tyler to return to public service before the standard post retirement waiting period. Human Resources Director Sherry Waters said Tyler, who retired from Colusa County on Sept. 25, 2025, can serve in a temporary capacity while Butte County recruits for a permanent Public Works director. Tyler began her duties as interim director on Jan. 14 at about \$18,000 per month.

For 10 years, Tyler oversaw countywide operations, budgets and department leadership in Colusa County. She has more than two decades of experience in public



Wendy Tyler, former Colusa County chief administrative officer, was appointed interim director of the Butte County Public Works Department on Jan. 13. Staff Photo

administration, including prior municipal management roles.

The Butte County Public Works Department oversees about 1,300 miles of county roads, more than 500 bridges and drainage structures and roughly 18,000 road signs. Its divisions manage engineering, road maintenance, land development, fleet services, surveying and solid waste operations, including the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility. The department also handles construction projects, floodplain oversight, illegal dumping enforcement and recycling programs.

Pack's departure in December left Assistant Directors Scott Hightower and Terry Edwards managing the department's operations during the interim period.

Board Chair Bill Connelly publicly thanked both for stabilizing the department while carrying full workloads of their own, adding that their work helped keep operations moving forward as the county welcomed Tyler and continued its search for a permanent director.

Tyler told supervisors she was ready to assist Butte County in any way during the recruitment process.

"Clearly, there are challenges in every county," Tyler said. "Butte County is no different."

Tyler said she intends to get out into the districts with board members as soon as possible to see firsthand the issues raised during the meeting, along with any other concerns that may need attention while the county completes its search for a permanent director.

"I absolutely am excited to come on board and help the organization through this transition," Tyler said. ★

Judge Grants Probation in Hate Crime

By MPG Staff

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - A Butte County Superior Court judge on Jan. 14 granted probation to a man convicted of a 2025 hate crime, overruling objections from the Butte County District Attorney's Office and a recommendation from the county probation department for a state prison sentence.

Elvis Lee Ellison, 40, of Gridley, received two years of probation without additional jail time from Judge Michael Deems. Deems said he would honor a plea agreement he entered into with Ellison on Nov. 11, 2025, shortly before Ellison was set to begin a jury trial.

Ellison was convicted of a racially motivated shooting into the home of his African American neighbors at a Gridley mobile home park. Under the plea agreement, Deems retained the authority to sentence Ellison to up to 10 years in prison if he violates probation, the maximum term allowed for the crime.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said his office strongly objected to the plea agreement when it was made and hoped the probation department's review of the case would lead the court to impose a prison sentence.



The probation department recommended the maximum 10-year prison term in its sentencing report. Prosecutors supported that recommendation and urged the judge to reject the plea agreement.

Deems said he would uphold the agreement, citing Ellison's

lack of prior criminal convictions. The court imposed additional probation conditions, including a prohibition on alcohol possession, completion of an anger management course, 40 hours of community service with the Salvation Army and payment of a \$370 fine.

The judge also issued a 10-year criminal protective order requiring Ellison to stay away from the victims.

Ramsey said the victims expressed fear for their safety after Ellison's release in November and decided to relocate out of the area.

Ramsey said the ruling was disappointing and sent the wrong message to the community.

"Hate crimes do not just victimize the individual and their family," Ramsey said. "They terrorize an entire group of people. There was a notable increase in hate crimes last year, and this decision undermined efforts to show those crimes will not be tolerated." ★

Yuba County Deputies Arrest Olivehurst Man

By Lloyd Green

YUBA COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Yuba County sheriff's deputies arrested Chase Alan Weightman, 25, of Olivehurst, on Tuesday, Jan. 13, in connection with multiple reports involving the attempted luring and sexual exploitation of minors.

Deputies received the first report Friday, Jan. 9, after a juvenile said Weightman attempted to lure the child into a vehicle and asked a sexually explicit question, according to the Yuba County Sheriff's Department. The juvenile refused and reported the incident to a trusted adult upon arriving home.

A second report involving a similar incident

with another juvenile was reported Monday, Jan. 12. Due to the nature of the cases, the investigation was carried out by a Yuba County Sheriff's School Resource Officer working with the department's Detective Division.

Investigators identified Weightman as the suspect and arrested him at his Olivehurst residence.

He was booked into the Yuba County Jail on suspicion of attempted lewd and lascivious acts with a child under 14, annoying or molesting a child, and contacting a child with intent to commit sexual assault.

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Yuba County Sheriff's Office at 530-749-7777, option 5. ★

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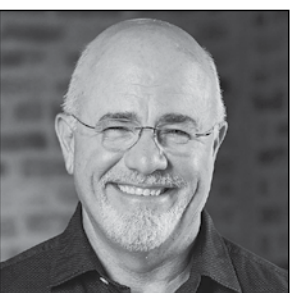


By Barbara Ott

The resident Scrub Jay is now named Ursala. She fits the definition of Ursula: "Ursula is a feminine name of Latin origin, imploring caution against quick assumptions. Translated from the Latin ursula, Ursula means "little she-bear"—adding a notable vulnerability to an otherwise ferocious being." It fits her. She

builds her nests in our orange tree every year. She raises her young and teaches them to terrorize my yard. She uses the birdbath in the front yard regularly. No other yard birds use it. She raises a ruckus regularly when I'm in the yard. She plants pecans and oaks in the yard and in my hanging ferns. The most annoying thing is she takes moss out of the Bonsai trees. Moss grows in the ally by my greenhouse every Winter. I harvest it and put it onto my Bonsai trees where it grows and looks wonderful most of the year. Last year Ursula started taking moss at nest building time. I thought she must be using it for nesting material. Then, I thought, "Ok

she's a mother in need." Annoying but understandable. Now, she is being a vandal with the moss. I have never seen her rip the moss out of my Bonsai pots, but I know it is her. I am forever finding moss ripped out and lying on the shelf or the ground. If I find it in time, I can replace it. She only rips out the moss that has not established itself as one matted plant. She rips out moss that is in the pot like puzzles pieces. The pecan and oak plantings are always so annoying but this is even more so! I still love watching her claim this yard as hers, annoying as her antics can be. Simply one of the problems with a habitat garden. I don't want it any other way. ★



Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says The Healing Process Will Take Time

nancially. At the very least, you've got a net worth of over \$600,000. But here's the thing. I'm sure the trauma of having your life upended is still very painful. That being the case, I wouldn't recommend making any big decisions now. It's never a good idea to make important, long-range plans when your emotions are messed up.

When it comes to the money you have in savings, my advice is to just let it sit there a while. I know it won't make much money, but you won't lose anything, either. Then, in a few months when your emotions are in a better place, you can look into investing some of that into good growth stock mutual funds. Find a quality advisor, one with the heart of a teacher, who can walk you through the process and explain your options and investments in ways you'll understand completely. Knowledge has a way of erasing fear and uncertainty.

Finally, at some point you'll need to take a look

down the road, and decide what you want to do with the rest of your life. Do you want to go back to school? Maybe start your own business? Take a little time later to allow for thought, education and deciding what you want out of life now. But above all, Michele, please spend lots of time with your kids. Also, if you're not currently in a good church, I'd suggest finding one nearby. Those things will help so much with the healing process.

God bless you all.

— Dave

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



Pear Farmers Seek to Limit Argentine Fruit in US Market

California pear growers are seeking relief from Argentine imports that they say have displaced their fruit in U.S. markets and driven down prices for growers in the state. During the past decade, the volume of Argentine pears sold in the U.S. more than doubled, last year rising to 1.3 million boxes and for the first time surpassing the amount of California-grown Bartlett pears sold to the fresh market. "It's one of the biggest headwinds that the California pear industry has faced," Ryan Elliot, a sixth-generation pear grower from Sacramento County, said of surging imports from Argentina. "If we don't figure something out soon, we won't be around." Pressure from imports has already contributed to a decline in California's pear production, with acreage falling from 10,610 in 2000 to 4,500 in 2024.

Farm Bureau Photo Award Celebrates California Agriculture

A silhouette of a cattle rancher practicing with a lasso at sunset, captured by the rancher's sister Joelle Naphan of Butte County, was awarded first place in the 44th annual California Farm Bureau Photo Contest. "Agriculture is an art that has been refined by multiple generations, just as this particular loop my brother was throwing has been refined by hours

of practice," Naphan said. The photo contest seeks to celebrate the family traditions that make California's farms and ranches unique, and to bring attention to the unseen work that fuels the state's agriculture. "It's a reminder that there are real hands and hard work behind the grapes that eventually end up in your glass of wine," said Michelle Foster of San Luis Obispo County, whose photo of winegrape harvest in front of rolling hills was awarded second place.

Advocates Seek \$30 Million to Compensate Ranchers for Wolf Attacks

The California Farm Bureau and other advocacy organizations representing ranchers and rural residents joined in a letter to ask for \$30 million in the 2026-27 state budget to fund the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Wolf Program. The program was created to ensure livestock production is not jeopardized by California's recovering gray wolf population. California Farm Bureau and others have been successful in pushing to fund the Wolf-Livestock Compensation Program at \$5.3 million since 2021. There are currently 10 recognized wolf packs in the state and additional areas of wolf activity. Last year, ranchers saw a significant increase in livestock depredations by the apex predators, which are protected under state and federal endangered species acts. ★

Live Oak Man Booked on Multiple Firearms Charges

By Lloyd Green

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - A Live Oak man was arrested following a firearms investigation, according to the Sutter County Sheriff's Office.

Investigators received information that Kenneth Moseley, 48, of Live Oak, was unlawfully manufacturing and selling stolen firearms at a residence in the 10100 block of N Street.

While conducting surveillance, deputies observed Moseley leave the residence on a bicycle. When deputies attempted to detain

him, he fled on the bicycle and then on foot before deputies arrested him a short distance away.

Following the arrest, deputies executed a residential search warrant locating ammunition, a high-powered rifle and evidence indicating additional firearms may have been present.

Moseley was booked into the Sutter County Jail on suspicion of being a felon in possession of a firearm, felon in possession of ammunition, resisting or obstructing an officer, evading law enforcement and violating Post Release Community Supervision. ★

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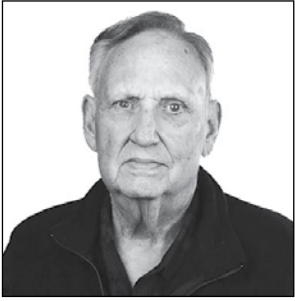
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Homelessness Crisis Remains One of Newsom's Biggest Political Liabilities



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

While delivering his final State of the State address and proposing his final state budget last week, Gov. Gavin Newsom clearly sought to neutralize an issue that has haunted his political career for more than two decades and could torpedo his hopes of becoming president: homelessness.

First, a bit of history. Just months after being elected mayor of San Francisco in 2004, Newsom unveiled a plan he said would clear city streets of homeless people in 10 years. Fourteen years later, while running for governor, Newsom declared that homelessness in San Francisco had "never been worse."

He said eradicating homelessness would be a high priority and promised to appoint a homeless "czar" who could cut through red tape and intergovernmental friction to get the job done. Later, when pressed by reporters over the czar pledge, he snapped, "You want to know who's the homeless czar? I'm the homeless czar in the state of California."

Despite that self-appointment and devoting almost all of his 2020 State of the State address to homelessness, the number of unsheltered Californians continued to rise to record levels. As it did, Newsom began blaming local governments for not spending

state homelessness grants effectively and threatened to withhold annual funding.

However, in 2024 State Auditor Grant Parks excoriated Newsom's own California Interagency Council on Homelessness for failing to effectively monitor and coordinate homelessness programs — even though the state had spent more than \$20 billion during Newsom's governorship.

He later reorganized the council and last year it issued a glossy "Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness." Newsom hailed it as "not just a report of our investments, but a directive for continued accountability and action towards specific quantifiable goals."

It listed multiple things that should be done to alleviate the homelessness crisis, but never mentioned how its lofty goals should be achieved nor said anything about how the state's deficit-ridden budget would pay for them.

In last week's State of the State address, Newsom sang the political version of the World War II tune, "Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive," cataloguing his accomplishments during the last seven years, including progress toward eliminating homelessness.

"When I began as governor, there was no homeless plan, no mental health plan and certainly no housing plan," Newsom told legislators. "There was no accountability and little investment. The responsibility fell to cities and counties, with little interest from Sacramento."

Newsom ticked off the efforts he had made and bragged that, "Early data, just compiled, shows that the number of unsheltered

homeless people in California dropped 9% in 2025," while "the nation saw an 18.1% overall increase in homelessness. Our investments are paying off."

He could not, however, resist another jab at local officials, saying he is "providing counties what they've been asking for: the predictable funding for housing and substance abuse treatment. No more excuses — it's time to bring people off the streets, out of encampments, into housing, into treatment. Counties need to do their job."

County officials took umbrage. The California State Association of Counties, in a statement, complained that Newsom's budget shifts the financial burden for several health and welfare programs to county governments and fails to protect them from federal reductions.

The organization also cited the new budget's omission of an annual bloc grant for homeless programs, and the administration's stalling the delivery of cash from a past allocation, "which was approved by the Legislature 18 months ago."

While Newsom cites a 9% drop in homelessness, if true it would be from a base of nearly 200,000 Californians without homes. There are still plenty of squalid encampments to be videotaped and featured on ads attacking a potential presidential candidate named Newsom two years hence.

Dan Walters is one of the most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and demographic trends. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



What a difference a week makes! Losers of seven straight games and looking like cellar dwellers, the Kings went to a youth movement that saw the hometown boys win four consecutive games and nearly made it five straight as they fell to the Portland Trailblazers for the third time this season.

The mini winning streak had a cold water in the face effect for many pundits and fans, as the Kings easily handled the Rockets, Lakers, Knicks and the Washington Wizards.

Even more surprising was the way the Kings put away the competition, as they won by double digits in each of the 4 wins.

A shot in the arm? You bet it was, and it should give the organization a moment of pause as they reassess what they have regarding talent that resides on this team.

Right in the middle of this euphoric 4-game run was none other than 6'11" big man Dylan Cardwell, that has come out of nowhere to become a fan favorite. Just 24 years old, the Kings have stumbled onto a diamond in the rough, and no one on this team plays with greater enthusiasm than Cardwell. Comparisons are being made of Dennis Rodman, as Cardwell bounces down the court with arms uplifted, energizing the crowd and getting fans on their feet.

Not known for his scoring, Cardwell went undrafted a year ago, and the Kings signed him to a 2-way contract for this season. Smart move and one that's already paying off.

Cardwell might not get 20 points per game, but his affection for blocking shots and playing ferocious defense is just what the Kings needed to get them back.

The question will be as the trade deadline approaches, will the Kings realize what they have in Cardwell and value him to the point of not including him in a trade. Don't do it! And by the same token, do not trade Precious Achiuwa!

For the first time in many years the Kings can put a big lineup on the floor and it's showing results.

As the center piece of the Kings Domantas Sabonis was sidelined with a knee injury, coach Christie had no choice but to use both Achiuwa and Cardwell side

by side, and the results were astounding. Not to be forgotten is rookie Maxime Raynaud who although not as impressive, is coming along, and I'm hopeful the Kings hang onto Raynaud as well.

The idea of blowing up this team in my opinion was never a good one, and I am in favor of the Kings either finding a trade that will add a topflight scorer, or worst case scenario, hold down the fort, work with the existing squad, and make your move in the next draft.

OKC and others have proven that the draft can be your friend. If the Kings can begin to assess talent, there is a real possibility that the upcoming draft, that is predicted to be a talent laden one, can produce another player of DeAaron Fox quality.

Every reason to start getting excited Kings fans.

Domantas Sabonis is back, and will Christie have the wherewithal to play Cardwell and Sabonis at the same time. Is it just a pipe dream to have Achiuwa, Cardwell, and Sabonis all playing on the court at the same time? Wow, what a rebounding trio, and with scorers like Murray, DeRozan, and Lavine to complement the big men, what might this team look like.

Say your prayers for coach Christie that the talent fairy will tap him on the shoulder and give him good common sense to see what he has right before him.

As I have said many times before, look no further than your bench to find talent, and stop sending quality players away where they make teams better.

The Sacramento Kings really are better than their 12-31 record reports, and the second half of the season really does matter.

Scott Perry, don't make hasty decisions, and let this team continue to gel while giving the youth of the team a chance to show what they're made of.

If you haven't gotten out to a game there is no better time than right now. These guys will get you on your feet over and over again!

Go Kings and let's tweak things and by all means not blow it up!
All the best! ★

SPARKY'S CORNER Scald Emergencies



With National Burn Awareness Week being in the month of February, here is some basic information on pediatric scalding emergencies.

WHAT TO DO

- Set water heater temperature to no higher than 120°F/48°C, or just below the medium setting
- Create a "no kid zone" in the kitchen around stoves, ovens and hot items
- Keep hot drinks away from the edge of tables and counters
- Use a travel mug with a tight fitting lid for all hot drinks
- Place pots and pans on the back burner with handles turned away from the edge of the stove

WHAT NOT TO DO

- Leave a child unattended in the bathtub; if you must leave, take the children with you
- Allow young children to adjust the water temperature or sit near faucet handles
- Set anything hot on tabletops within reach of young children who can pull them down
- Allow appliance cords (slow cookers, deep fryers, coffeemakers) to dangle over the counter edge

THE FACTS

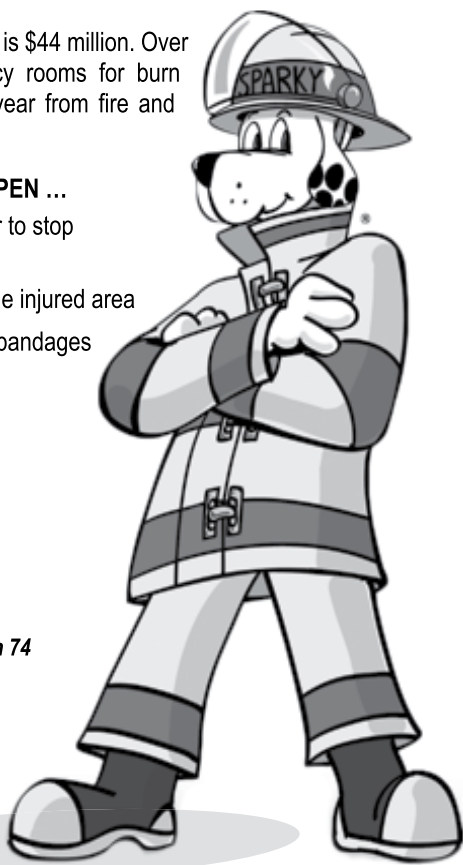
The average annual cost of scald injuries is \$44 million. Over 136,000 children were seen in emergency rooms for burn injuries in 2011. 1,100 children die each year from fire and burns.

THE FIX

The average annual cost of scald injuries is \$44 million. Over 136,000 children were seen in emergency rooms for burn injuries in 2011. 1,100 children die each year from fire and burns.

IF A BURN INJURY DOES HAPPEN ...

- 1) Cool the burn with COOL (not cold) water to stop the burning process
- 2) Remove all clothing and/or diaper from the injured area
- 3) Cover the area with a clean dry sheet or bandages
- 4) Seek medical attention and call 911



Thank You,
Sparky the Dog
Gridley Fire Station 74

Ask DR. UNIVERSE

How did big cats change into house cats?

- Morgan, 7, Washington State

Dear Morgan, Like me, lions and tigers have sharp teeth and retractable claws. They sometimes use those fierce claws to knead or make biscuits. They enjoy a nap and good grooming sesh.

That's not surprising because house cats share about 95% of their DNA with big cats. All cats belong to the family Felidae.

But that family is complicated. I asked my friend Haden Kingrey how house cats came to be. He's an anthropology doctoral student at Washington State University. He studies artifacts to understand the past.

Kingrey told me that house cats are the result of evolution and domestication.

In any group of living things, some individuals have traits that help them thrive. They're more likely to survive and reproduce—and pass those traits on to their babies. That's natural selection.

Over time, the group changes. Super useful traits become more common. This long-term change is evolution. Eventually, a group may change so much that it becomes a whole new species.

That's what happened with house cats. Their ancestors changed over time until they were a new species. But those ancestors weren't big cats.

"House cats didn't evolve from lions or tigers or saber-toothed cats," Kingrey said. "Instead, all these cats have a



House cat (*Felis catus*). They look remarkably alike but have important genetic differences. Photo courtesy of Bernard Dupont CC BY-SA 2.0

common ancestor."

So, big cats and house cats are like distant cousins. Their common ancestor is the ancient relative they all share.

There were two important splits in the cat family tree. About 20 million years ago, the saber-toothed cats branched off from the ancestors of modern cats. Then 12 million years ago, modern cats broke off into big cats and smaller cats. The big cats were the ancestors of lions and tigers. The smaller cats were the ancestors of cougars, panthers and African wildcats.

Smaller cats had a few advantages. They need less food. Plus, they're spry. Massive lions are successful hunters just 20% of the time. But African wildcats bring down a whopping 60% of their prey.

Those nimble African wildcats are the direct living ancestor of all house cats.

"The way we get to house cats from the African wildcat is domestication, which is artificial selection," Kingrey said. "This is humans making choices."

Nearly 12,000 years ago, some humans changed how they lived. Instead of foraging and hunting, they settled down and began farming. They grew and stored grain, and mice showed up to nibble on it. The local wildcats jumped on the opportunity—literally.

Soon, wildcats and farmers formed a partnership. The cats killed mouse pests. The humans provided an easy place to hunt. Over time, some wildcats developed new traits that strengthened their bonds with humans. Eventually, they were so different from wildcats that they became a new species: the house cat.

Scientists can see 13 genes that separate today's house cats from modern wildcats. They govern things like fearfulness and receptivity to food rewards.

Kingrey told me the oldest physical evidence of house cats is 9,500 years old. Scientists working at a dig site in Cyprus found a grave. Inside, a human and a cat were buried together.

That's interesting because African wildcats aren't native to Cyprus. So, those early cats must have traveled there with their human companions. There must be artifacts of earlier cat domestication out there, waiting to be found.

And it shows that cats and humans became besties pretty quickly. You could say we're a purr-fect match.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

COMICS & PUZZLES

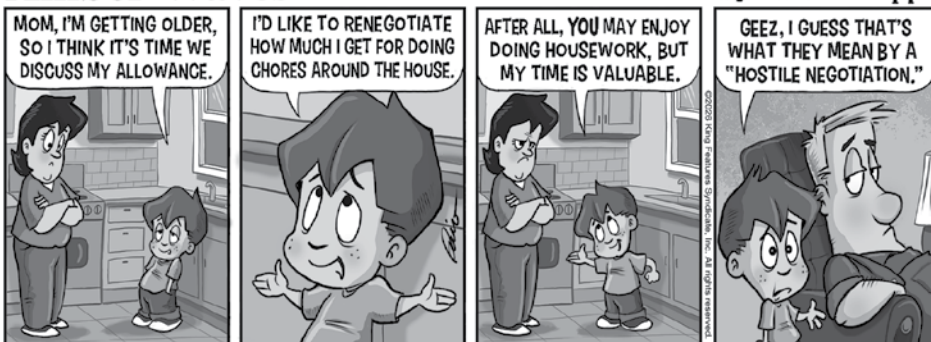
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Man is looking the other way. 2. Mouth is open. 3. Necklace is missing. 4. Tie is different. 5. Nose is smaller. 6. Armrest is different.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



GRIN & BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Pakistani attire
 - Research location
 - Partridge's fruit tree
 - Grid follower
 - * Upshaw, multiple Super Bowl winner
 - Canada's national tree
 - Like Homer Simpson's head
 - Allege
 - Agenda entries
 - *Adding a rushing player
 - Aphrodite's lover
 - Not host
 - Tire meas.
 - Composure under strain
 - More distant
 - Thompson of "Some Kind of Wonderful"
 - Ubiquitous deciduous tree
 - Genealogical plant
 - Poetic feet
 - Dream time, acr.
 - The Romanovs, e.g.
 - Song for solo voice
 - Dishevel, as in hair
 - Clever humor
 - *SoFi ____, Super Bowl LXI venue
 - *Last year's Super Bowl winners
 - Web robot
 - Tesla Roadster with Starman location
 - a.k.a. podagra
 - *The only NFL team with perfect season
 - Plant-based laxative
 - Symphony member
 - "No ____ for you!"
 - No gains without them
 - Retired, abbr.
 - Field worker
 - Bohemian
 - Not Miss or Ms
 - Poker amount

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- DOWN**
- Bro to bro
 - Speedy steed
 - Chuck Berry's "____ Over Beethoven"
 - Rainbow color
 - *Santa Clara's ____, Super Bowl LX venue
 - Beside, archaic
 - Titanic's frozen enemy
 - *Team with most Super Bowl appearances
 - Fencing weapon
 - Charitable contributions
 - Hi-____
 - Garden shelter
 - Unhealthy atmosphere
 - Little hills
 - P in m.p.g.
 - Mark Twain to Samuel Clemens
 - Lively
 - Vampire of Greek mythology
 - *One of two teams to win while hosting Super Bowl
 - Long fishing line
 - Like haunted house
 - What the defense does?
 - High school dressy affair
 - Romanian money
 - *Super Bowl LX halftime show headliner (2 words)
 - Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young: "____ Your Children"
 - Egyptian boy king, for short
 - Long jump
 - 1 to Greeks, pl.
 - Rob Marshall's 2005 movie "Memoirs of a ____"
 - On the wagon
 - Land parcels
 - *Shoulder pads and cleats
 - "Put a lid ____!"
 - College dwelling
 - High part of day
 - Edible fat
 - Facial site
 - *Charlie Puth and Brandi Carlile, ____ game stars

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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.

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Community Calendar

Butte County Libraries

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

Friday, Jan. 23: Sure Start family play time, 9 a.m. to noon. (G) Ladies' night out movie, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Men and teens are welcome too. (G)

Saturday, Jan. 24: Dungeons & Dragons Day, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. All experience levels welcome for adventurers 13 and older. (G)

Tuesday, Jan. 27: LEGO Tuesdays, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B)

Wednesday, Jan. 28: Color your world, 11 a.m. to noon. Adult arts and crafts. (G) Afternoon kids' club, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (G)

Thursday, Jan. 29: Biggs chess club, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B)

Friday, Jan. 30: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (G)

Continuing through Sunday, Jan. 25

26th Annual Snow Goose Festival of the Pacific Flyway

The Sandhill Cranes are calling, heralding the great gathering of winter birds in the northern Sacramento Valley. Choose from over 55 field trips with experienced leaders, workshops, educational exhibits and more. See www.snowgoosefestival.org for more information on the wide variety of things to do and see throughout our area.

Saturday, Jan. 31 and Sunday, Feb. 1

Artists with Heart – A Valentine's Day Pop-Up

Join us for this special pop-up event featuring local artists and their unique creations. Shop for one-of-a-kind gifts, enjoy live art demonstrations, and meet the artists behind the work. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at Sheryl Cummings Design, 1127 Spruce Ave., Chico.

Saturday, Jan. 31

Northern Electric Railway Bridge Dedication

All are welcome to join us for the

dedication of the Northern Electric Railway bridge site in Riverbend Park, adjacent to the Highway 162 bridge, 1:15 p.m. to 2 p.m. at 50 Montgomery St., Oroville. Speakers will discuss the importance of this historic site in the development of Oroville and provide detail on the history and meaning in modern times. For more information, call 530-403-0360.

Gridley Sober Grad Texas Hold'em Tournament

Support GHS class of 2026 sober grad night by joining us at the Gridley Moose Lodge, 1533 Highway 99. Registration between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. with dinner provided, then the games start at 6 p.m. Limited seating, \$100 buy-in and \$50 re-buys. Contact the Moose Lodge for more information, 580-846-4610.

Sunday, Feb. 1

Chico Seed & Scion Swap

This not-to-be-missed 16th annual gardening event happens from noon to 2 p.m. at the 1078 Gallery / Equilateral Coffee / Harvests & Habitats Nursery, 1710 Park Ave., Chico. Bring your home-grown seeds, unused seed packs, cuttings, bulbs, garden books, and more to add to the offerings. This is a fun family-friendly community event.

Friday, Feb. 6

Butte County Farm Bureau's Annual Dinner

Celebrate the new year at Manzanita Place, 1705 Manzanita Ave., Chico. This special evening begins with a no-host social hour at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m., program and awards at 8 p.m., with an after party to follow. Tickets and more information at www.buttefarm-bureau.com.

Saturday, Feb. 7

Preserving Food with Friends

Join us for these hands-on classes, limited to 12 students. 10 a.m. at The Garden at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 410 Jackson St. This month's class will be about preserving citrus. Register in advance at preservingfoodwithfriends@gmail.com or call 530-777-8469 for more information.

4-H Fun Night

This is an annual fund-raising event sponsored by the Butte County 4-H Council and the 4-H Clubs of Butte

County. 3:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds Vanella Hall, 2357 Fair St., Chico. We ask for a \$2.00 donation at the door; food and game tokens are an additional cost. Dinner, games, and silent auction prices vary. This event is hosted by the Biggs 4-H Club. The silent auction will be hosted by Nord Cana 4-H Club. For more information contact the Biggs 4-H Club Leader at jon-nasheppard@yahoo.com.

Meeting Minders

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

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

Biggs City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday each month, at 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 3016 Sixth St., Biggs. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 27 and more information is available at 530-368-5493.

Butte County Board of Supervisors generally meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 205, Oroville. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 27 and more information is available at 530-552-3300.

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

Gridley City Council meets on the first and third Monday each month, 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 685 Kentucky St. Meeting agendas are posted to the following site on the Friday prior to each meeting: <http://gridley.ca.us/government-and-departments/city-council>

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

Gridley Unified School District (GUSD) Board meetings are generally on the first and third Wednesday each month, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 530-846-4721

for more information.

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

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

Survivors of Suicide Support Group meets the first and third Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. at the Gridley Recreation Department, 194 Washington Street. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Community Resources – Find Food

First 5 Family Center at Esperanza House, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 630 Washington St., Gridley. Must be pregnant or live with and actively care for a child up to age 17. Call to schedule an appointment: 530-720-2255.

First Baptist Church of Live Oak Food Pantry, 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month, at 2480 Pennington Road, Live Oak. This is a drive-through Food Pantry, with entrance on Gum Street and exit on Pennington Road. Next distribution will be Sunday, Jan. 25. Call 530-695-2894 for more information.

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

Gridley United Methodist Church, 285 Magnolia St. Monday through Friday, during daytime hours. Come by the church and if they have food they will give client a box. Call 530-846-2520 for more information.

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

North State Food Bank, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Biggs Methodist Church, 441 C St., Biggs. Next distribution on Tuesday, Feb. 10. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

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

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.2025-0000939 The following person(s) are doing business as: Ornamental Iron Works, 135 Meyers Street, Chico, CA 95928
Christian P Nairz, 135 Meyers Street, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: December 23, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: February 25, 1997

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026
ORNAMENTAL 1-23-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.2026-0000007 The following person(s) are doing business as: Paradise Precision Tree Service, 9089 Sky Way, Paradise, CA 95969
Douglas J Fischer, 9089 Skyway, Paradise, CA 95969
Date filed in Butte County: January 5, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026
PARADISE 2-6-2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000914 The following person(s) are doing business as: JT Lowery Ranch, 761 Ord Ranch Road, Biggs, CA 95917
Gerald T Lowery, 761 Ord Ranch Road, Biggs, CA 95917
Date filed in Butte County: December 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 11, 2025

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026
JT 2-6-2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000013 The following person(s) are doing business as: Paradise Acres Farm, 1482 Humble Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948
Kenneth E Loyd and Christine M Loyd, 1482 Humble Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948
Date filed in Butte County: January 8, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 1, 2022

This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026
FARM 2-6-2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.2026-0000023 The following person(s) are doing business as: Bar Land Mgmt, 170 Thompson Flat Road, Oroville, CA 95965
Reforestation Logistics LLC, 170 Thompson Flat Road, Oroville, CA 95965
Date filed in Butte County: January 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: May 3, 2024

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name

statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026
BAR 2-6-2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000894 The following person(s) are doing business as: 530 Carpet Cleaning, Periquita Cleaning Service, 467 E 22nd Street, Chico, CA 95928
Erika Rivera Zuniga, 467 E 22nd Street, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: December 5, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 13, 2026
CARPET 2-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000026 The following person(s) are doing business as: Lisa's Little Shoppe, 641 West 6th Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
O'Marah, Lisa Kathryne, 641 6th Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
Date filed in Butte County: January 12, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 13, 2026
LISAS 2-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME – STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000913 The following person(s) has

(have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Boyds Mobile Welding Service, Gridley, CA 95948

James A Boyd, 705 Vermont Street, Gridley, CA 95948
Original filing date: July 22, 2024; Statement expires: July 22, 2029. The Registrant began transacting business on: N/A. Business conducted by: An Individual.
Date Filed in Butte County: December 11, 2025.

This statement was filed in the office of Keaton Denlay, County Clerk of Butte County
Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026
BOYDS 2-6-26

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #25CV04998

Petitioner Lejla Krusch filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Lejla Krusch to Lejla Mercedes Krusch.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing February 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on December 26, 2025
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 2026
KRUSCH 2-6-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF BRANNON E. BYRNE
CASE NO. 25PR00545
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Brannon E. Byrne.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Julie Sannar Byrne, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Julie Sannar Byrne be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: February 3, 2026, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Terri L. Easlon, 4180 Truxel Road, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95834; 916-419-2100
Publish: January 2, 9, 16, 2026
BYRNE 1-23-26

LIEN SALE

1970 LEISURCFT HOUSEBOATS
HIN# 4255070 CA CF# 3304EM
LIEN SALE: 2/5/2026 AT: 10:00 AM 6210 MINERS RANCH RD., OROVILLE, CA 95966
GRIDLEY HERALD 1-23-26

BUTTE COUNTY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR MINOR USE PERMIT (PROJ-25-0020)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Butte County Zoning Administrator will hold a public hearing at 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA, on February 4, 2026 at 10:00 am. Public comment will be accepted in-person at the meeting or may be submitted prior to the meeting. Use the following information to remotely view and participate in the Zoning Administrator meeting, including the Public Hearing portions, online (pursuant to recent Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules changes, no online public comments will be taken):

Link: <https://bcdds.net/DSZoningEvent> Password: Zoning (Phone: 9663)
Phone number: United States Toll-Free: 1-408-418-9388 Event (Meeting) Number: 2558 268 0969

Project Information

Project Description: Big Valley Agg Minor Use Permit Application (PROJ-25-0020). Applicant Big Valley Agg proposes an expansion of their pre-existing non-conforming chemical storage use by adding a fourth building to store on-site chemicals indoors necessitating approval of a Minor Use Permit prior to building permit issuance on APN 024-110-076. The project parcel is addressed as 954 HWY 99, Gridley CA 95948, with access from Nieldson Avenue and HWY 99 in unincorporated Butte County approximately 2,904ft south of City of Gridley. Applicant's existing business extends to neighboring parcel APN 024-110-166 addressed as 990 HWY 99, Gridley CA 95948.

Butte County recommends that this project be found exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15061 (Common Sense Exemption) of CEQA Guidelines. For information or to submit comments, please contact Assistant Planner Alyssa Mendoza, Butte County Department of Development Services, 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA 95965. Phone: (530) 552.3633 or email: amendoza@buttecounty.net. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the hearing, please contact us at 530.552.3662. Notification at least 72 hours prior to the hearing will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements.

BUTTE COUNTY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
PAULA M. DANELUK,
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Area Basketball Roundup

By YSBC

SUTTER AND BUTTE COUNTIES, CA (MPG) - The first week of league play finished up last week for most of our area teams in basketball, here's how their week went.

Live Oak

Boys Basketball - The Lions opened Westside League play last week as they had losses against Orland and Las Plumas.

Live Oak ran into a high-powered Orland offense and the Lions faced a significant deficit at the hat.

Live Oak managed to get the ball in the basket more against Las Plumas as they competed better as Lions juniors' Naveen Kalkat and Kaiden Dulan both scored in double figures against the Thunderbirds.

Live Oak is scheduled to host Oroville tonight at 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball - Live Oak dropped their first league games against Orland and Las Plumas last week as they dropped their third consecutive game.

The Lions struggled heavily in the game against the Thunderbirds as they managed 12 points total as a team in the loss and struggled a lot on the offensive end.

Live Oak hosted Gridley on Tuesday night and hosts Oroville tonight at 7:30 p.m.



Biggs senior guard Hunter Seipert (4) drives to the basket on Jan. 3 during the Wolverines' 55-45 defeat to Wheatland. Photo by Steven Bryla

Biggs

Boys Basketball - Biggs split their two games in the opening week of Mid-Valley League play as they lost a heartbreaker to Quincy and beat Hamilton by double digits.

The loss to Quincy was the start of a gauntlet of league games that will change the MVL night in and night out.

The Wolverines rebounded at home against Hamilton, despite trailing by four at the end of the first half and almost doubled the Braves' point total in the second half for a double-digit win.

Biggs hit the road this entire week as they played at Portola on Tuesday and play at Maxwell for the first time since their tournament in mid-December.

The Wolverines and Panthers are scheduled to tipoff at 6:30 p.m. tonight.

Girls Basketball - The Lady Wolverines split their games with Quincy and Hamilton in the first week of MVL play last week.

Biggs pulled off a two-possession win over Hamilton where they held on for a victory that broke a five-game losing streak.

The Wolverines will tip off against Maxwell tonight at 5 p.m. where they beat the Panthers during the Biggs tournament back in early December.

Gridley

Boys Basketball - Gridley started Westside League play with two

mail-biting victories over Corning and Las Plumas.

The significance of the wins early in the league put the Bulldogs in control of their own destiny to claim another league title.

Gridley seniors Bikram Kullar and Jacob Boyan were key components that helped propel the Bulldogs to take another league title and hold the seeding edge in the postseason race.

Gridley hosted Live Oak on Tuesday and will travel to Orland tonight for another key matchup in league play. Tipoff against the Trojans is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Girls Basketball - Gridley split the first week of league play with a six-point loss to Las Plumas and a controlling double-digit win over Corning.

The Bulldogs had chances to beat the Thunderbirds as they led by three at the end of



Gridley senior Bikram Kullar (10) shoots a jumper on Dec. 19 in the Bulldogs' 53-50 win over Sutter. Photo by Steven Bryla



Live Oak senior guard Farron Gomez (13) drives into the lane on Dec. 3 in the Lions' loss to Dixon. Photo by Steven Bryla

the third, but they had a rough final quarter where they managed to score two points as Las Plumas scored 11.

Against Corning, Gridley's big third quarter gave them the lead and the boost where they were able to harsher a sizable lead and held onto it for the remainder of the game.

Gridley sophomore Iris

Counihan scored 12 in the Bulldogs win over the Cardinals.

Gridley took a short drive down Highway 99 to Live Oak on Tuesday before they host Orland tonight, with tipoff scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

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Gridley sophomore Madi Carey (2) eyes the basket on Jan. 13 in the Bulldogs' loss to Las Plumas. Photo by Chris Pedigo



Biggs junior guard Anna Carothers (10) shoots on Dec. 30 in the Wolverines' loss to Faith Christian. Photo by Steven Bryla



Gridley sophomore Iris Counihan (10) puts up a shot on Jan. 13 in the Bulldogs' 35-29 defeat to Las Plumas. Photo by Chris Pedigo

Oroville Rancher Wins Farm Bureau Contest

By Lloyd Green

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - A rancher from Oroville earned first place in the 44th annual California Farm Bureau Photo Contest, which drew hundreds of entries from amateur photographers across the state.

Joelle Naphan received the top honor and a \$1,000 prize for a silhouette photograph showing a man on horseback throwing a lasso. Naphan said her interest in photography grew from her agricultural upbringing.

"Agriculture is an art that has been refined by multiple generations, just as this particular loop my brother was throwing has been refined by hours of practice," Naphan said.

The 2025 contest featured images captured with cameras and smartphones by members of county Farm Bureaus statewide.

Michelle Foster of Santa Maria placed second and received \$500 for a photograph



Joelle Naphan received the top honor and a \$1,000 prize for a silhouette photograph showing a man on horseback throwing a lasso. Photo courtesy of the California Farm Bureau

of a tractor in a vineyard. Sean Long of Grass Valley earned third place and \$250 for a photo of his dog, Rosie, taken on his

family's ranch. Laura McGrath of Marysville won the People's Choice award and \$100 for a photo of her 1-year-old

granddaughter, Riley Bird, sitting in a bin of fruit.

Honorable mentions went to Jacob Balakian of Reedley,

Lisa Branco of Salinas, Brittany Lambert of Oroville, Robin Lynde of Vacaville, Doug Phillips of Visalia and Mackenzie Yerian of Tracy.

In the Budding Artists category for photographers ages 13 and younger, 12-year-old Lily Wirz of Cienega Valley won first place for a close-up photograph of her rooster, Chick a Boom. Grady Rocca, 12, of Fresno took second place for a close-up image of Thompson Seedless grapes from a neighboring vineyard. The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom presented both awards.

All 12 winning photographs appeared in "Ag Alert", the biweekly newspaper of the California Farm Bureau. The photos also appear on Farm Bureau websites and social media platforms.

The California Farm Bureau represents family farms and ranches as part of a national network serving more than five million members nationwide. ★

Gridley's Quick Score Adds Another Chapter in Rivalry Win Over Live Oak

By YSBC

GRIDLEY, CA (YSBC) - The first Westside League games of the CIF Northern Section began on Jan. 13 and the Gridley Bulldogs boys soccer team shutout the Live Oak Lions in a 1-0 victory.

The rivalry between the two neighboring communities has had instant classics over the years and intensity between both squads is always present.

Gridley senior Nery Martinez expressed to Yuba Sutter Butte Colusa Sports that players from both teams grew up as teammates and opponents with one another.

"We are all a big family," Martinez said. He added that they all love to compete against one another as it brings out the best completion for them playing on the field.

Martinez scored the lone goal of the match in the first minute of the game as the Bulldogs had the opening kick.

Martinez darted up the middle of the field as a kick was booted towards the Live Oak defensive line and Martinez put the ball into the back of the net.

Gridley head coach Jesse



Gridley senior Nery Martinez (21) celebrates with his teammates. Photo by Steven Bryla



Live Oak's Juan Ziranda (1) kicks the ball upfield during the Lions' 1-0 defeat to Gridley on Jan. 13. Photo by Steven Bryla

Barajas told YSBC that he and his coaching staff expressed prior to the game that if the Lions lined up in a certain formation, they'd place Martinez in a different spot than he usually would have been to attempt a different approach.

Barajas was working the Bulldogs scoreboard and started the timer when the goal happened, he smirked and let off a big smile.

Barajas added that instead of there being a single standout player on the roster, as a collective group, it has been someone different each game that has propelled Gridley to victory.

The rest of the match was a battle and both teams had other opportunities to score but the great play of both goalkeepers Juan Ziranda (Live Oak) and Carlos Sanchez (Gridley),

denied every other shot that came close.

Lions head coach Dirceo Ramirez said that he was proud of the way his team played and battled throughout the entire match as it was even after the goal by Martinez.

Ramirez and Barajas expressed they expect to square off at least two more times this year as the next match between

these squads will be in Live Oak on Jan. 29.

This rivalry has had multiple games where they square off in the postseason, which includes the semifinals of the NSCIF Division II in 2024, 2025 and the 2023 finals.

For more updated sports coverage on all local schools. Go to ysbcsports.com and subscribe today. ★



Gridley senior Nery Martinez (21) takes a corner kick during the Bulldogs' 1-0 victory against Live Oak on Jan. 13. Photo by Steven Bryla



Live Oak's Andres Ascencio (9) crosses a ball during the Lions' 1-0 defeat to Gridley on Jan. 13. Photo by Steven Bryla



Gridley senior AB Lopez (20) boots a ball on Jan. 13 in the Bulldogs' 1-0 win against Live Oak. Photo by Steven Bryla



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