



CHP Graduates
129 New Officers
PAGE 12



THE NEWS

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VOLUME 45 • ISSUE 7

Serving Rio Linda, Elverta and Sacramento County

FEBRUARY 13, 2026

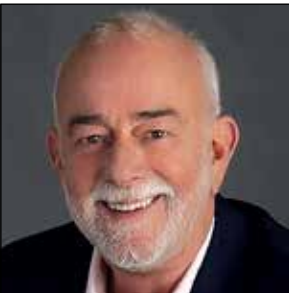
SEE
INSIDE

LISTENING
TO LOCAL
BUSINESSES



PAGE 3

STATE FAIR
ANNOUNCES NEW
CHIEF WINE JUDGE



PAGE 10

A WIN IS
JUST AROUND
THE CORNER



PAGE 6



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A Sweet Valentine's Bingo



Community members and families enjoy some pizza and lighthearted fun at the annual Valentine's Bingo. Photo courtesy of Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Parks

By MPG Staff

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) - On Friday, Feb. 6 Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Parks District held their annual Valentine's Bingo at the RLE Community Center, 810 Oak Lane, drawing community members and families to an evening of connection, competitive fun and prizes. Pizza was donated to the event by Papa Murphy's.

Open to ages 5 and up, the event drew a variety of folks from families with young ones to seniors to the community center. It was the third year of the bingo event, which evolved from a Valentine's Day dance previously held by the parks district. The event has since become a community staple, with the same

bingo caller returning from previous years.

Event sponsors included Fairytale Town, California Automobile Museum, Handel's Fair Oaks, Super Clean Car Wash, Nothing Bundt Cakes, The Klip Joint and more, who donated prizes to those "Bingo!" winners.

Yanni Lagge, recreation supervisor for the Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District previously described the draw of bingo as a family-friendly event.

"Bingo was a great choice because it creates an upbeat atmosphere and gives everyone a chance to win prizes," Lagge said.

Many event attendees went home with a smile on their face, if not without a prize from local sponsors. ★



Winners took home prizes from Nothing Bundt Cakes, Fairytale Town, Handel's Fair Oaks and more. Photo courtesy of Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Parks

Local Author Debuts Novel, 'The Palace'

Takes readers on a journey into grief, love and the human mind

By Abbey Wicks

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - A Sacramento local and former publisher of Go for It Magazine, Robert Austin Cox recently became an author with the release of his debut novel "The Palace," an exploration of the human mind and foreign policy.

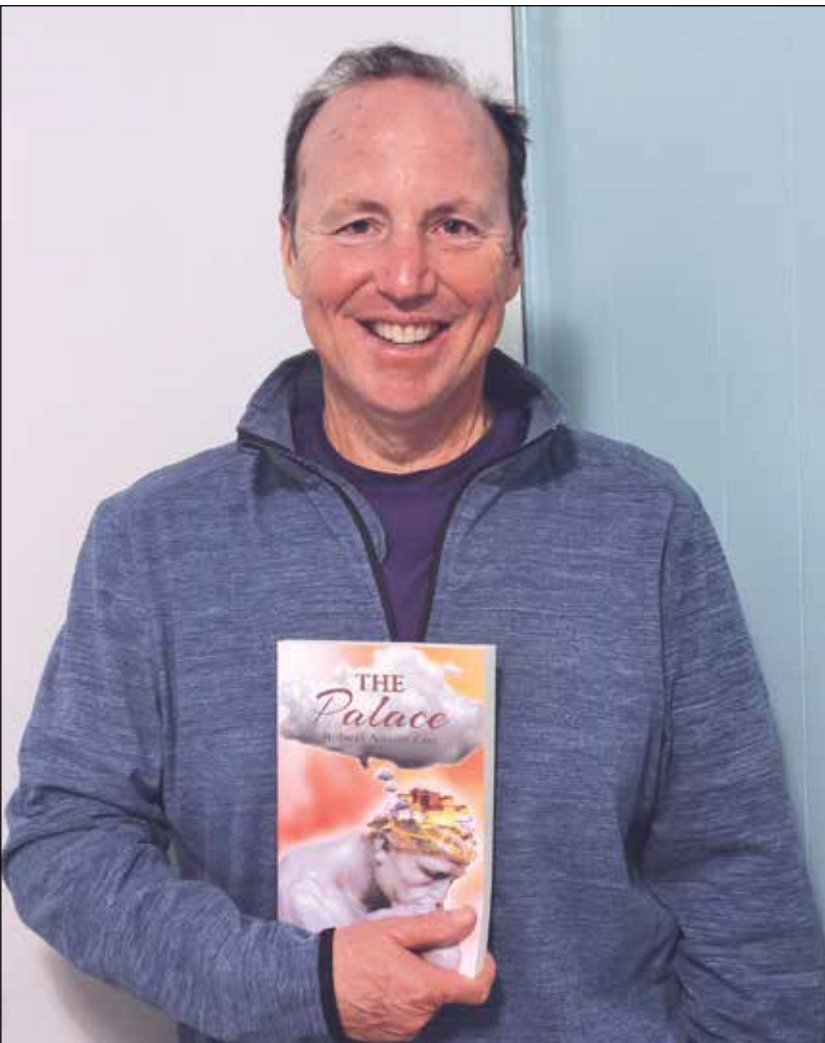
The idea of writing a novel first came to Cox while discussing with his daughter Shauna the possibility of becoming a life coach to share his personal philosophies he's developed over the years.

But rather than go down the life coach path, Cox instead decided to pack his wisdom into one concise novel, which takes readers on a journey across the globe to Tibet, where political uncertainty creates a sense of anxiety and divisiveness, much like the world we live in today.

The novel's characters grapple with real life problems such as grief, domestic violence and political division.

"I've always found that when people come to me for advice or just to share something that they're struggling with it's a huge compliment," Cox said. "It says that they trust me and they respect me enough to share something that they're dealing with

Continued on page 10



Robert Austin Cox poses with debut novel, "The Palace." Photo courtesy of Gerianne SanFilippo

United Way to Hold Fourth Annual United in Purpose Gala

United Way California
Capital Region
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- Community members are invited to United Way California Capital Region's fourth annual United in Purpose Gala on March 28 at 5 p.m. The event, which will take place at Memorial Auditorium in Sacramento, will raise funds for the local United Way's work to ensure all families in the community can thrive.

The evening will include a cocktail hour, dinner, inspirational program, fund a need, live auction, golden ticket raffle and more. For tickets and sponsorship opportunities visit UWCCR.org/Gala.

"Each year, this gala reminds us of what's possible when a community chooses hope over hesitation and purpose over inaction," said Dr. Dawnté Early, president and CEO, United Way California Capital Region. "The generosity from this event fuels real change. Change that helps our children dream bigger, helps our families find stability and helps our region grow stronger. When we come together with intention and compassion, we create a future where every child and every family has the opportunity to thrive."

The last three galas raised funds toward United Way's 100th anniversary goal of raising \$3 million to help 10,000 local children excel in school by the end of 2025, which met its goal. United Way will announce a new goal at this year's gala.

United Way California Capital Region has been a driving force across the region for more than 100 years, listening, responding and taking comprehensive action to meet local needs. From advancing youth opportunities and helping kids excel in school, to strengthening local communities and investing in families' financial security and health, United Way mobilizes communities to build a future where everyone can reach their full potential and thrive. Working across Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties, the local United Way provides books and literacy tutoring, addresses housing and food security, leads the region's largest tax preparation initiative, works with foster youth across school districts, launched the region's first guaranteed income program and leads the Community Schools initiative in West Sacramento. To make a donation visit YourLocalUnitedWay.org. ★

SCOE Holds Ceremony for Fall Graduates

Achievements Demonstrate “A Foundation No One Can Take Away”

Sacramento County Office of Education News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The new year got off to an inspirational start as 145 students from Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) schools and student programs received diplomas at a ceremony on Jan. 6 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

In his keynote address, Pastor Timothy Raymond Jemmott of the HAWK Institute (“Pastor Tim” to students) praised the graduates for continuing to strive despite significant difficulties. “You did not quit,” he said. “Some of you came through things that no one knows about. Late nights. Early mornings. Heartbreaks. Losses. Heavy responsibilities. And still, you continued.”

The pastor also commended the “village” of teachers, staff, administrators, counselors, and family members who helped students get to this moment.

“You are standing here today



More than 100 students from SCOE's Community School and Senior Extension programs received their diplomas in a ceremony this January. Photo courtesy of SCOE

because a community surrounded you, they lifted you, they pushed you – and they believed that you were worth the investment.”

Deputy Superintendent Nancy

Herota also congratulated the graduates for their hard work and resilience in the face of unusual obstacles. She reminded them that their future may be brighter given all they’ve been through,

quoting American writer and civil rights activist James Baldwin: “If you know whence you came, there is really no limit to where you can go.”

Among the graduates was

Alicia Rositas, who earned her diploma through SCOE’s Senior Extension Program. Despite significant personal hardship, Alicia finished her coursework while welcoming her daughter, displaying resilience and perseverance to complete her studies.

Daniel Hernandez, principal of Ethel Phillips Elementary School and president of Capitol Charter, has nominated Alicia for regional recognition through Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 3. She is now enrolled in college and aspires to a career in healthcare.

For Alicia and each of her fellow graduates, a diploma represents the culmination of one chapter and the promise of more successful chapters ahead.

“Today we are here to honor not just your completion,” Pastor Jemmott said. “We are here to honor your continuation.”

“This achievement is now a part of you, a foundation no one can take away,” concluded Deputy Superintendent Herota. ★

Children’s Oral Health Matters



Nearly one in four California children aged 5 to 11 have untreated tooth decay, a rate higher than the national average, and it remains the most common chronic disease among children. Photo courtesy Freepik

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) remains committed to reducing preventable dental disease and expanding access to care during National Children’s Dental Health Month and throughout the year.

Nearly one in four California children aged 5 to 11 have untreated tooth decay, a rate higher than the national average, and it remains the most common chronic disease among children. Tooth decay causes pain, infections, missed school days, learning setbacks and costly emergency visits.

Sacramento County has nearly 287,000 children aged 14 and under, representing more than 18 percent of the county’s population. SCPH Oral Health Program data shows many children continue to face barriers to routine dental care, particularly in communities with limited access to providers.

The good news is Sacramento County Public Health offers education and service resources for families to better care for their children’s oral health.

How Families Can Protect a Child’s Oral Health

Brush children’s teeth twice a day with fluoridated toothpaste. Daily habits reduce the risk of cavities and support long-term oral health.

Schedule a child’s first dental visit by age one.

Limit sugary foods and drinks.

Use preventive treatments such as fluoride varnish and dental sealants when recommended. Fluoride varnish and sealants reduce cavity risk when used early.

Oral Health Resources for Children and Families

Sacramento County Public Health Oral Program: Call (916) 875-5869 or email oral-health@saccounty.gov to get connected to dental care and for additional resources.

Sacramento Covered: Call (916) 414-4833 or visit <https://cohewo.org/> to find a dentist or insurance. Assistance is available in many languages.

Early Smiles Sacramento: Call (916) 245-1674 or visit www.centerfororalhealth.org/early-smiles-sacramento/. The Center for Oral Health program assists with connecting underserved children with the dental care they need.

It’s a true team effort to improve children’s oral health in Sacramento County. It requires action from local governments, families, schools, healthcare providers and community partners.

To learn how to make an appointment with a Medi-Cal dentist, and for more oral health resources and dental care information, visit the Sacramento County Public Health Oral Health Program website. ★

McDaniel Named Women’s Transportation Seminar Member of the Year



Pictured is Mikki McDaniel, Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT) principal planner. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS) Sacramento Chapter has named Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT) Principal Planner, Mikki McDaniel, the organization’s member of the year at the annual Women’s Transportation Seminar Scholarship and Awards Program in Sacramento on Jan. 28.

McDaniel first joined SacDOT as an assistant civil engineer in 2019, after moving over from the Department of Regional Parks. At SacDOT, she has led the development of the Sacramento County Active Transportation Plan. The plan is a guide for county staff, public officials, residents and developers to build a balanced transportation system that supports and encourages active modes of travel.

McDaniel sees herself as a public servant whose mission is to get people where they need to go by bus, bicycle, walking and rolling. Several of her projects at SacDOT highlight her drive to improve alternative forms of transportation around unincorporated Sacramento County. They

include the County’s Zero Emission Bus Plan, Safe Routes to School Program, Bell Streets Safe Routes to the School, Stockton Boulevard Complete Streets and the Whitney Avenue Road Diet and Multimodal Improvements Project.

“It wasn’t a natural fit – Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS) Receptions Chair, but I learned a lot from being the gatherer. We need joyful spaces to meet with our colleagues from other agencies – to learn and connect – it all translates into better projects for Sacramento County in the end,” said McDaniel.

With degrees in engineering and city and regional planning, McDaniel was promoted to her current role as principal planner where she is now spearheading a unique project that will provide safer pedestrian travel and better accessibility for the elderly and members of the disability community.

McDaniel says the recognition from the Women’s Transportation Seminar is a real surprise and hopes to continue assisting Women’s Transportation Seminar in promoting the advancement of women in the transportation industry. ★

Sacramento County Honored with North State BIA ‘Friend of Housing’ Award

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County has been recognized by the North State Building Industry Association (BIA) with its prestigious Friend of Housing Award, honoring the county’s ongoing efforts to improve housing development processes and make Sacramento County the best place to build in he region.

The award was presented on Friday, Jan. 30, during the North State BIA Installation of Officers

Dinner, marking a rare distinction for the organization. Traditionally awarded to an individual, this year’s honor was presented to the entire Sacramento County team in recognition of broad, organization-wide improvements that support housing development.

The recognition reflects Sacramento County’s commitment to improving customer service, modernizing internal processes and updating county codes, fees and programs to create a more efficient, transparent and responsive development experience



Sacramento County was awarded the Friend of Housing Award on Friday, Jan. 30, during the North State BIA Installation of Officers Dinner. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

for applicants and partners. These changes are designed to reduce barriers, improve predictability and foster stronger collaboration with the development community.

“Receiving this award is a meaningful acknowledgment of the significant progress our teams have made to better serve our customers and support housing production,” said

Dave Defanti, Deputy County Executive for the Community Services Agency.

“This recognition reflects our commitment to improved processes, strong customer service and being a trusted partner. I’m incredibly proud of the work being done across Sacramento County to help get much-needed housing built.”

In recent years, Sacramento County has implemented a series of improvements aimed at streamlining development review, enhancing the customer experience

and creating a more business-friendly environment, all while maintaining the county’s commitment to public health, safety and community standards.

While this recognition is a is an honor and milestone for Sacramento County, the work is ongoing.

“This award is not a finish line, it’s a very good sign that we’re on the right path,” said Defanti. “We will continue to improve, innovate and partner with our community to ensure Sacramento County remains the best place to build in the region.” ★

Listening to Local Businesses



By Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez

One of the most important parts of my job is spending time outside of County buildings and listening directly to the people who live and work in our communities.

In District 4, my office conducts weekly business walks, rotating through commercial neighborhoods across the district.

The goal is simple: stay connected to issues as they arise, not months later.

Recently, my staff spent time walking businesses in Rio Linda, North Highlands, Orangevale and Antelope. While some of the issues raised were specific to that community, the purpose of these walks is broader. We are intentionally moving through different parts of District 4 because every community has its own challenges, and we are eager to better understand what issues need solving in each area.

During these business walks, we spoke directly with business owners and employees about daily conditions, recurring concerns, and where the County can realistically help.

Several businesses raised concerns about lighting in shared parking areas. Employees described feeling unsafe after dark when taking out trash or closing for the night. This is a serious issue, and it deserves a thoughtful and honest response.

In many cases, these parking areas are private property.

County streetlights are intended to light public roads, not private lots, and additional lighting must be addressed by property owners. While this is not always the answer people want to hear, clarity about responsibility helps businesses know how to move forward.

Traffic safety was another common concern. Business owners described speeding, reckless driving, and late-night activity near their storefronts. In response, my office worked with County transportation staff to request a speed radar trailer in the area. A radar trailer is scheduled to be placed in Rio Linda in February, with other locations evaluated as staff continue walking businesses throughout the district. These tools help slow traffic and improve safety without disrupting local commerce.

Road conditions were also raised repeatedly. Business owners pointed to deteriorating pavement, potholes, and uneven surfaces affecting access and safety. Sacramento County maintains thousands of miles of roads, and repair needs far exceed available funding. That reality does not mean concerns are ignored. Locations identified during



Tummy's Sub Shop, a cherished 50-year-old sandwich shop situated at 741 M St, Rio Linda. Photo courtesy of Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez

business walks are reviewed by transportation staff, considered for interim repairs when possible, and added to District 4's list of longer-term priorities.

Some concerns may sound small but have real impacts. In Rio Linda, several business owners raised issues with roosters crowing throughout the day and night. Persistent noise affects sleep, concentration, and the

ability to operate a business. While this concern is specific to certain rural areas, it reflects a broader issue of quality of life. In response, the county is working on a rooster ordinance to better address noise impacts while still respecting rural living.

Another serious issue raised was homelessness occurring on or near private property. Business owners described impacts including trash, blocked access, and safety concerns for employees and customers. At my request, the County recently updated its approach so that illegal camping on private property can now be addressed when it creates a nuisance or safety issue. My office is actively connecting affected businesses with the Sheriff's Office so they understand how enforcement works and what steps they can take to get help. Services are always offered first, but businesses and neighborhoods deserve clear tools to address unsafe conditions.

I also want to be honest about something we hear often during these walks. Many business owners are skeptical that talking to the County will lead to results.

That skepticism is understandable. Too often, people raise concerns and never hear back. That is not acceptable.

For me, business walks are not just about listening. They are about follow-through. Even when the answer is no, or not yet, people deserve a response. They deserve to understand the constraints and to know what steps are being taken next.

These weekly business walks will continue throughout District 4. Each community will raise different issues, and that is exactly the point. By being present consistently, my office can better identify patterns, respond more quickly, and tailor solutions to the needs of each area.

Small businesses are the backbone of our local economy, and they deserve a County government that shows up, listens carefully, and tells the truth.

If you are a business owner anywhere in District 4 and would like my office to visit your area, or if you want to share concerns directly with us, you can reach my office at 916-874-5491 or email SupervisorRodriguez@sacounty.gov.

★



During these business walks, Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez and her team spoke directly with business owners and employees about daily conditions, recurring concerns, and where the County can realistically help. Photo courtesy of Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez

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California Gas Prices Edge Higher as February Kicks Off

Gas prices are up as spring nears but are still cheaper than 2025 prices.

**AAA Mountain West Group
News Release**

CALIFORNIA (MPG) - The month of February is kicking off with higher gas prices across California. The statewide average for a gallon of regular gasoline rose 13 cents since last week to \$4.39. That price is still 11 cents lower than this time last year.

The national average for a gallon of regular is up a couple of cents from last week at \$2.89. Current prices remain below what they were this time last year when the national average was \$3.12.

“Gasoline demand is down as fewer drivers hit the road during the recent winter storms. But this is the time of year when pump prices start nudging higher, as spring approaches and refineries start making the switch to summer-blend gasoline production,” said Doug Johnson, spokesperson, AAA Mountain West Group.

Fuel prices around the state vary by city, with San Francisco reporting the highest average at \$4.61 per gallon, followed by Oakland at \$4.46 and San Jose at \$4.39. Sacramento’s average stands at \$4.37, while Fresno reports \$4.31, and Stockton has the lowest among these cities at \$4.25 per gallon.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gasoline demand decreased last week from 8.75 million b/d to 8.15 million. Total domestic gasoline supply increased from 257.2



This is the time of year when pump prices start nudging higher, as spring approaches and refineries start making the switch to summer-blend gasoline production. Photo courtesy of Freepik

million barrels to 257.9 million. Gasoline production decreased last week, averaging 9.0 million barrels per day.

Oil Market Dynamics

At the close of Feb. 5 formal trading session, WTI rose \$1.93 to settle at \$65.14 a barrel. The Energy Information Administration reports crude oil inventories decreased by 3.5 million barrels from the previous week. At 420.3 million barrels,

U.S. crude oil inventories are about 4% below the five-year average for this time of year.

EV Charging

The national average per kilowatt hour of electricity at a public EV charging station remains at 38 cents. In California, the average cost is 42 cents.

Gas

The nation’s top 10 most expensive

gasoline markets are Hawaii (\$4.40), California (\$4.39), Washington (\$3.97), Nevada (\$3.51), Oregon (\$3.49), Alaska (\$3.46), Washington, DC (\$3.09), Arizona (\$3.08), Pennsylvania (\$3.08), and Illinois (\$3.03).

The nation’s top 10 least expensive gasoline markets are Oklahoma (\$2.36), Arkansas (\$2.44), Texas (\$2.45), Mississippi (\$2.45), Kansas (\$2.47), Louisiana (\$2.49), Missouri (\$2.50), Tennessee (\$2.50), Iowa (\$2.54), and Alabama (\$2.55).

Electric

The nation’s top 10 most expensive states for public charging per kilowatt hour are West Virginia (51 cents), Alaska (48 cents), Hawaii (45 cents), Louisiana (45 cents), New Hampshire (43 cents), California (42 cents), South Carolina (41 cents), New Jersey (41 cents), Alabama (41 cents), and Tennessee (41 cents).

The nation’s top 10 least expensive states for public charging per kilowatt hour are Kansas (25 cents), Wyoming (27 cents), Missouri (27 cents), Nebraska (29 cents), Delaware (31 cents), Utah (31 cents), Maryland (31 cents), Iowa (32 cents), Vermont (32 cents), and Michigan (33 cents).

Drivers can find current gas and electric charging prices along their route using the AAA Mobile App, now available on CarPlay. Find current fuel prices at prices.aaa.com. Find local news releases at mwg.aaa.com/news/press-release. ★

Assembly Democrats Refuse to Stop a Double Tax on Drivers

Lawmakers vote against stopping a per-mile driving tax from being added on top of the gas tax

**Assembly Republican
Caucus News Release**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Recently, Assembly Democrats passed a bill to study a new mileage tax in addition to the gas tax. Feb. 2, they doubled down by

refusing to add protections that would stop drivers from being charged twice.

Republicans offered a proposal, ACA 12 (Wallis), that would have required clear taxpayer protections to be written into the California Constitution before any per-mile

driving tax could move forward. Those protections would not allow a mileage tax to be added on top of the gas tax and require any per-mile charge to be fair and uniform.

“First, they want to tax gasoline and ban combustion engines to force California drivers into

electric vehicles, then they realize that means less revenues from gas taxes so they come up with a mileage tax to cover the difference,” said Assemblymember Heath Flora.

“This is the last thing we should be thinking about; creative ways

to tax Californians who already pay among the highest taxes while having the highest cost-of-living in the country.”

By voting down the proposal, Assembly Democrats made it clear they intend to charge Californians twice just to drive. ★

United Way to Help Residents this Tax Season

**United Way Capital Region
News Release**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Local residents throughout the Sacramento region are eligible to file their taxes for free through United Way California Capital Region’s Free Tax Prep program that runs through April 15.

Households that earned less than \$68,000 in 2025 can file for free, and trained tax volunteers will help maximize cash back from state and federal credits, including the federal and state Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC and CalEITC).

United Way’s Free Tax Prep program saves participants an average of \$200 in preparer fees. The program provides free tax help virtually and in person in multiple languages and locations across Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties. United Way recommends filing as early as possible to receive tax credits sooner. For more information or to sign up: www.YourFreeTaxPrep.org or call 2-1-1.

This year, the local United



Members of United Way’s Free Tax Prep team help a client sign in to have her taxes prepared in 2025. The program is now open for the current tax season. Photo courtesy of United Way

Way is partnering with Yuba-Sutter-Colusa United Way to offer its Free Tax Prep program in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties as well. For services in that region, call 844-546-1464.

“At United Way, we believe every family deserves the dignity and peace of mind that comes from financial stability,” said Dr. Dawnté Early, president and CEO, United Way

California Capital Region. “Our Free Tax Prep program is more than a service; it’s an opportunity for our community to keep more of what they’ve earned and to build a stronger foundation for the future. When we remove barriers and open doors, families thrive – and when families thrive, our entire region grows stronger together.”

Since 2020, United Way’s Free

Tax Prep program has helped more than 28,000 people across the region file their taxes for free, with nearly \$40 million received in total federal refunds.

For those interested in volunteering for the program, more Free Tax Prep volunteers are needed. Each year, hundreds of Free Tax Prep volunteers donate their time helping people file taxes online or at dozens

of in-person sites. For more information, visit www.YourFreeTaxPrep.org.

United Way California Capital Region has been a driving force across the region for more than 100 years, listening, responding and taking comprehensive action to meet local needs. From advancing youth opportunities and helping kids excel in school, to strengthening local communities and investing in families’ financial security and health, United Way mobilizes communities to build a future where everyone can reach their full potential and thrive.

Working across Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties, the local United Way provides books and literacy tutoring, addresses housing and food security, leads the region’s largest tax preparation initiative, works with foster youth across school districts, launched the region’s first guaranteed income program and leads the Community Schools initiative in West Sacramento. To make a donation, visit www.YourLocalUnitedWay.org. ★

Sacramento Educators Among Statewide Education Grant Recipients

**SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, Education
Foundation for California Schools News Release**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Education Foundation for California Schools, a nonprofit created by SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union and the Orange County Department of Education, awarded 95 grants to teachers in California to support programs that inspire students to learn and excel in core subjects, including language arts, science, mathematics, foreign language and social studies.

The grants, awarded in \$1,000 and \$5,000 funding levels, totaled more than \$280,000. The Education Foundation for California Schools awards grants to California teachers from kindergarten to community college. Grants may be used to purchase materials or equipment to support the development of new programs in core subjects.

Among the 95 educators honored statewide, seven Sacramento County teachers were selected to receive grants, a distinction shared by only 12 counties across California.

“For more than two decades, the teacher grant program has celebrated the passion and innovation of California’s educators,” said Josh Smith, vice president, school and community

relations at SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union and executive director of the Education Foundation. “These grants help educators teach in meaningful ways by bringing new educational resources into the classroom, expanding learning opportunities for their students.”

Grant recipients represent 45 school districts spanning Northern and Southern California Placer, Sacramento and Yuba counties.

About SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union

SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union is the largest credit union serving school employees and their families, and for the seventh year in a row, Forbes has named SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union the top credit union in California. The organization is dedicated to delivering World-Class Personal Service and improving the financial lives of its members.

In J.D. Power’s 2025 inaugural U.S. Credit Union Satisfaction Study, its members ranked them #1 for overall satisfaction. Today they serve more than 1.5 million members with a full range of financial products and services. SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union was founded in 1934, when 126 school employees pooled \$1,200 and established a member-owned cooperative to help improve each other’s

lives. The credit union has more than \$35 billion in assets and remains the largest credit union in California and the third largest credit union in the United States. For more information about SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, visit schoolsfirstfcu.org. Insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

About the Education Foundation for California Schools

The Education Foundation for California Schools is a nonprofit, 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 2003 by SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union and the Orange County Department of Education to provide financial assistance to teachers in California public and private schools through grants. The grants help fund educational programs that impact students throughout the state. Every year, grants are awarded to California teachers from kindergarten to community college and can be used for materials or equipment to support the development of new educational programs in core subjects. Since 2003, more than 1,000 teachers have received grants totaling more than \$2.5 million. Applications are submitted in October each year and are chosen based on various factors. For more information about the Education Foundation for California Schools, visit caeducationfoundation.org. ★

CIRCULATION
VERIFICATION
COUNCIL

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

A Win is Just Around the Corner

There’s an old saying, “it’s always darkest before the dawn. Well, for the Sacramento Kings the dawn is here and very real.

Nursing a 12-game losing streak fans are more than ready to put the darkness away and welcome in the dawn. Currently, the Kings have the worst record in basketball at 12-42, and have lost four consecutive close games to Washington, Memphis, the LA Clippers and the Cleveland Cavaliers. All told the Kings lost by a total of 17 points total over a four-game span!

Many have remarked that the Kings are not as bad as their record, and if that’s true, why is their record the worst in basketball?

Look no further than the resplendent coaching staff led by Doug Christie, and I say that tongue in cheek.

The game rotations are so frenetic that no one even has a guess as to who will and who will not enter the game at any given time.

Perhaps the best 3-point shooter on the team was suddenly awakened and asked to contribute six minutes in the last loss against the Cavaliers. Yes, none other than the forgotten man Doug McDermott. Someone I would like to see on a regular basis, but I have no such aspirations. Doug took one shot and returned to the bench for the rest of the contest.

Professionals simply can’t succeed on a regular basis when they have no idea whether they will play or not.

While I agree with coach Christie playing the younger players given the current record, everyone on this team needs to clearly understand their role, and this team does not.

I have long wanted to see what first round draft choice Devin Carter has to offer, and finally he has managed to crack the lineup, and with notable success.

In the Cleveland game Carter was actually given 27 minutes and contributed 18 points! In addition, he had 4 rebounds, 4 assists and was 2-5 from beyond the arc. Likewise in the Clipper contest Carter contributed 14 points in just 22 minutes, adding once again 4 rebounds and 4 assists.

Constantly mentioned in trade rumors,

it’s time to find out what the Kings really have in a player that has been used sparingly and appears to have a big upside.

Recently, coach Christie has been putting him on the floor alongside Nique Clifford, and the tandem has produced good results.

Whether Carter and Clifford play the 1 or the 2, it’s high time to find out what they each can bring to the floor every night.

Another bright spot has been the animated play of fan favorite Dylan Cardwell, who has demonstrated not only a penchant for blocking shots, but has been putting up double-doubles on a nightly basis.

Have the Kings finally found a big man to compliment Domantas Sabonis? They very well may have, and with addition of De’Andre Hunter fans are wondering what this lineup will look like when a healthy Keegan Murray returns.

No one wants to hear excuses, but the Sacramento Kings have been the walking wounded of the NBA for the vast majority of the season, and what everyone is waiting for is a healthy team that can give us an honest look into what the future may look like.

Scott Perry thankfully has resisted opportunities to trade Domantas Sabonis thus far, and I for one want to see this team build around a proven winner and someone with an attitude that is difficult to match.

Even with rotations that make fans scratch their heads, the Sacramento Kings are showing signs of life, and the recent games have been fun to watch.

Let’s see if this coaching staff can bring it together and run off some impressive wins.

Nothing has been cast in stone except for the faithfulness of the Sacramento fan base, so let’s give these gladiators the best we have!

The first 20 games of the season, the Kings were given one of the roughest schedules in the league, but that also means that the schedule is about to get easier.

Gird your loins Kings fans, because it’s just possible that the missing piece may be either in the upcoming draft or just around the corner!

All the best! ★

Once Soaring Population Has Hit a Plateau, So Will its National Political Clout



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The federal Census Bureau annually announces new population numbers for the country and its 50 states based on calculations of how births, deaths and migration have changed the numbers from July 1 to June 30 of the previous year.

The state Department of Finance annually announces a new California population numbers, based on its calculations of those same demographic factors during the same 12-month period.

The numbers often differ, and in past years differences of a million persons or more have emerged from the two agencies’ California calculations.

In December, the state agency declared that as of last July, California’s population was 39.529 million, a gain of 19,200 since 2024. Although arithmetically insignificant, the tiny gain was hailed by officialdom and media as proof that California is no longer losing people.

Last month, the Census Bureau released its latest estimates, fixing California’s population at 39.355 million, a decline of 9,465 souls from the previous year. It implies that California’s slide, which began in the COVID-18 pandemic, is still happening, with a net loss of 200,394 residents since the

2020 census.

Although the 174,000 difference between the two numbers is relatively tiny, from a sociopolitical standpoint one shows growth while the other shows shrinkage. Thus California officialdom claims that predictions of the state’s impending collapse are false, while its critics say California is still in decline.

There is, however, no doubt that California is, at best, at a population plateau — either gaining or losing very slowly after a 175-year history of sometimes stunning levels of population growth. During the 1980-90 decade, for example, the state’s population soared by about 6 million people, a nearly 25% gain, thanks to high levels of immigration and a lofty birth rate.

Its current stasis, whatever the exact numbers, reflects stagnant levels of foreign migration, a much lower birth rate and an ongoing net loss in state-to-state migration.

Hans Johnson and Eric McGhee, demographers for the Public Policy Institute of California, have charted that trend and in a recent report declare, “This migration, over the decades, has the power to reshape the state. From 2010 through 2024 (the year of the latest data) almost 10 million people moved from California to other states, while just over 7 million people moved to California from other parts of the country, according to the American Community Survey. In fact, according to Department of Finance estimates, the state has lost residents to other states every year since 2001.”

PPIC found that most of those leaving the state

are adults without college degrees. Texas is their top destination, and one could assume they are fleeing high living costs.

California is not alone in population stagnation or loss. New York and Illinois are two others and, overall, slow- or no-growth states tend to be politically blue, while the big gainers, such as Texas, Florida and the fastest grower, South Carolina, lean to the right.

The growth differential between red and blue states will likely bite the latter after the 2030 census, when the nation’s 435 congressional seats are divvied up. Two new studies by reputable organizations project that California and other major blue states will lose a chunk of seats to fast-growing red states, based on the new Census Bureau data.

The American Redistricting Project and Jonathon Vervas at Carnegie Mellon University both see California losing four of its 52 seats, Texas gaining four and Florida getting either two or four.

The shift of congressional seats, of course, also shifts presidential electoral votes, meaning Republican candidates’ prospects will improve and those of Democrats will decline after 2030.

There’s an old saying that demographics are destiny. What’s happening now underscores that truism.

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 is my Social Security Retirement Benefit So Small?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

However, if you claim Social Security before reaching your FRA, you will get only a percentage of your PIA (reduced from what you would get if you claimed at your FRA).

For example, if you claimed at age 62, you would only get 70% of the amount you would have gotten had you waited until age 67, or if you claimed at age 63 you would get 75% of your age 67 benefit. The reduction is less as you get closer to your FRA; if you claimed at age 65, you’d get about 87% of your full retirement age amount.

You can see your lifetime Social Security earnings record at your personal “my Social Security” online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount (you will need to first create that online account), or you can call Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 to request an “Earnings Statement” be sent to you. That statement will show your lifetime earnings by year, the 35 highest of which were used to calculate your PIA (your Social Security benefit at your FRA). Generally, your Social Security FRA benefit will be about 40% or less of your average indexed monthly earnings.

So, to recap, your SS retirement benefit isn’t based on your contributions to the program; it’s based on your average monthly lifetime earnings. If you had less than 35 years contributing to the program, SS would still use 35 years in the benefit formula by using zero dollars in earnings for some number of years, which would result in a smaller AIME. Thus, if you claimed before your full

retirement age of 67, your SS benefit was reduced because you claimed early. And if you had less than 35 years of SS-covered employment, your AIME was less, resulting in a smaller PIA. And that is likely why your monthly Social Security retirement benefit is low.

One other thought to consider: if you are married and your spouse’s monthly SS benefit is considerably more than yours (e.g., more than twice as much as yours), you may want to explore your options for spouse benefits.

I hope this explains how your SS benefit is calculated, but if you still question your monthly SS retirement amount, I suggest you first obtain your “Earnings Statement” to review the lifetime earnings SS has on file for you. If there are any discrepancies in your Social Security’s earnings record, there are correction remedies available to you. If that is the case, please feel free to contact us again for more information.

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Alex Pretti wasn’t killed while “protesting.” This is a common description of what he was doing on a Minneapolis street the fateful morning when a confrontation with federal immigration agents ended in his tragic shooting. But if Pretti had been a mere protester, he’d very likely be alive today.

Now that we’ve seen videos of an earlier struggle with federal agents and learned more about the organized nature of the anti-ICE resistance, it’s become clear that the better word for Pretti was agitator, or perhaps even operative.

A protester, as typically understood, is someone who is making a point, often as part of a gathering of other like-minded people and, usually but not always, in opposition to something.

A protester might hold a sign outside a coal-fired power plant calling for it to shut down. He might go to Union Square Park to hear speeches from bullhorns whenever something happens that outrages the left. He might march against the Iraq War, or the Vietnam War -- or in favor of Hamas.

This kind of activity is not to everyone’s taste -- personally, I hate the drums and the chants -- but there is no doubt that it is a legitimate form of political advocacy. Depending on the cause, it can even be admirable.

What we’ve seen in Minneapolis, though, is

often quite different. Run-of-the-mill protesters don’t seek out federal agents and harass and obstruct them. They don’t follow and block their vehicles or establish a robust communications network to deploy resources to create maximum disruption of their operations.

Pretti was part of this effort, which is more a form of low-level and (by and large) nonviolent insurgency than conventional protest. In his first confrontation, 11 days before his death, Pretti was every bit an anti-ICE street brawler. He challenged, at close quarters, an agent to assault him, while screaming insults at him. He spat on a federal vehicle and kicked out its taillight.

If Pretti was an “observer,” in the euphemism preferred by anti-ICE politicians and activists, he was observing how much unhinged behavior he could get away with. There’s no doubt that at this event, he was the violent instigator.

After Pretti damaged the vehicle, agents got out and pushed him to the ground. For all the talk of ICE being the equivalent of the Gestapo, they didn’t even bother to arrest him, despite his having committed a crime. If he’d been arrested and charged, Pretti might never have shown up at the other ICE operation and would still be with us today.

That Pretti, we now know, made it a practice to court violent encounters with federal agents while armed was incredibly irresponsible. He was fortunate that the first struggle didn’t escalate into some-

thing much more hazardous to him and to others if an agent had noticed his gun.

The firearm wouldn’t have been an issue in the second incident, meanwhile, if he’d really been protesting. If that were the case, he would have stayed on the sidewalk and held up a sign, or chanted, “ICE go home,” and the officers might have been annoyed, but there never would have been an interaction to potentially go catastrophically wrong.

The calculation in Minneapolis, though, has been that this kind of benign activity is less effective than direct action, and unfortunately --with public opinion swinging against Operation Metro Surge -- this assessment looks to be accurate.

Why simply express a point of view when you can act to stop arrests and to create a hostile, threatening environment for agents?

This doesn’t mean that Pretti got what he deserved, or that the officers acted appropriately. It does mean that the state and city officials should have been telling people not to “monitor” DHS activity, but to stay well clear of legitimate law-enforcement activities.

Reasonable people can disagree about the desirability of the goal that Pretti was pursuing, but there’s no doubt about how he was going about it, and it didn’t involve conventional protest.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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TRINITY 2-13-26

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MODERN 2-13-26

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DUTCH 2-13-26

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Valerie Aiken, 3338 Lerwick Road Apt 4, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Simple Tax Services/Simple Business Consulting Services" 3338 Lerwick Road Apt 4, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 7, 2026
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REVAMP 2-13-26

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Peter Mann MD Inc, 7634 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mole Removal Sacramento" 6311 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 30, 2025
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MOLE 2-13-26

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HOMERUN 2-13-26

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Thach Ngo, 9168 Firecrest Court, Sacramento, CA 95829 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "TJ Nail & Spa" 8335 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 23, 2025
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TJ 2-13-26

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Cedric D. Word, 3030 Hurley Way #32, Sacramento, CA 95864 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "C.D. Word" 3030 Hurley Way #32, Sacramento, CA 95864. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 7, 2026
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CD 2-13-26

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Sarah Dardick Mental Health & Professional Clinical Counselor, PC, 1401 21st Street, Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wildman Therapy" 1401 21st Street, Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026
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WILDMAN 2-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00418
Justin Richard Hodnett, 8825 Oak Avenue, Orangeville, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Hodnett Family Therapy" 8825 Oak Avenue, Orangeville, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 13, 2026
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HODNETT 2-13-26

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Maria Pascoal, 9340 Appalachian Drive, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Creative Joy Collective" 9719 Lincoln Village Drive Suite 500, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026
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CREATIVE 2-13-26

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Jacob Kline, PO Box 22073, Sacramento, CA 95822 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Amicus Investigations" 1415 69th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95822. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026
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AMICUS 2-13-26

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Borhany LLC, 3720 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "NEXI Digital Hub/Arash" 3720 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 13, 2026
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NEXI 2-13-26

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Hashmatullah Nazimi and Qandagha Omarzai, 2740 Fulton Avenue #214, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Brothers Walk" 2740 Fulton Avenue #214, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
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BROTHERS 2-13-26

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David Lee William Newman, 4120 Douglas Boulevard, Suite 306-145, Granite Bay, CA 95746 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Artifex Customs/Artifex Crafted" 5940 Rosebud Lane Suite 5, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
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ARTIFEX 2-13-26

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Deanna Garcia, 9401 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "HomeBotLife" 9401 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026
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HOME 2-13-26

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Tankersley Construction, Inc., 11415 Sunrise Gold Circle Unit 1, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tankersley Build Co" 11415 Sunrise Gold Circle Unit 1, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 6, 2026
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TANKERSLEY 2-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00520
Harbans Ranu, 105 Sprig Court, Singh, 6401 Feliciter Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Prestige Senior Care" 6600 Cowboy Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 15, 2026
Publish: Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 13, 2026
PRESTIGE 2-13-26

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The Moore Foundation LLC, 836 57th Street Suite 519, Sacramento, CA 95819 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Moore House of Hope" 6811 Bowling Drive, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 14, 2026
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MOORE 2-13-26

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SWITCH 2-13-26

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Brooke Bowen, 3308 Churchill Road, Sacramento, CA 95864 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Brookie Bee's Childcare & Preschool" 3308 Churchill Road, Sacramento, CA 95864. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 15, 2026
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BROOKE 2-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00083
Mohammed Ahmed, 202 Gainsborough Circle, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Rebel Hosting" 202 Gainsborough Circle, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026
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REBEL 2-13-26

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Peter Lawrence, 6449 Sunnyfield Way, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "PRI Consulting" 6449 Sunnyfield Way, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
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PRI 2-13-26

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Karla Eriksen Hurd, PO Box 660214, Sacramento, CA 95866 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Key Property/KPS Commercial" 1060 Los Molinos Way, Sacramento, CA 95864. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
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KEY 2-13-26

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Fakhria Baqizadeh, 5417 Palm Avenue #25, Sacramento, CA 95841 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Beauty Land Makeup" 5417 Palm Avenue #25, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 16, 2026
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BEAUTY 2-13-26

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Stan M Jennings, PO Box 1296, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Spirit Memory Awakening" 2118 Forest Lake Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 26, 2025
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SPIRIT 2-13-26

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Rosemarie Martell, 4707 Meyer Way, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Farmers Wife" 5701 Winding Way, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 16, 2026
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FARMERS 2-20-26

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Tawny Marinoble, 1545 El Camino Verde Drive, Lincoln, CA 95648 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Avera" 1545 El Camino Verde Drive, Lincoln, CA 95648. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025
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AVERA 2-20-26

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Jason Carter, 2908 Notre Dame Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Total Clean Scoop Team" 2908 Notre Dame Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 16, 2026
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TOTAL 2-20-26

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Tian Li, 2809 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tian Chao Herbs & Acupuncture" 2809 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95816. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
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TIAN 2-20-26

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PML 2-20-26

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Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Levant Kabob" 9261 Folsom Boulevard Suite #700, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
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Kenyon Plastering of Livermore, Inc., 4001 W Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ 85019 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Kenyon Construction of Northern California" 63 Trevarno Road Suite D, Livermore, CA 94551. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025
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KENYON 2-20-26

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SANDHU 2-20-26

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Travis Wayne Ward, 3605 Maggie Lane Space 25, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Way Ward Construction" 3605 Maggie Lane Space 25, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 13, 2026
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WAY 2-20-26

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GRILL 2-20-26

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Cherry Island Golf, LLC, 5341 Old Redwood Hwy, Suite 202, Petaluma, CA 94954 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Cherry Island Golf Course" 2360 Elverta Road, Elverta, CA 95626. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026
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LA 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00526
Susan Vue, 1400 Response Road Apt 143, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Myzz Piggy'z Tiger Bite" 1400 Response Road Apt 143, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 15, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
MYZZ 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00643
Araht Herrera Salazar, 8 Cribari Court, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Herrera Painting" 8 Cribari Court, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 22, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
HERRERA 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09121
Ryan Michael Harrington, 7344 Filbert Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Harrington Restorations" 7344 Filbert Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 18, 2025
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
HARRINGTON 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00561
Daniel Vesokie, 50 Fullerton Court #102, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Affiliated Financial Partners" 50 Fullerton Court #102, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 16, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
AFFILIATED 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00474
Copeland Group USA, LLC, 1203 West Loop 281, Longview, TX 75604 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "TNT Insurance Group" 1203 West Loop 281, Longview, TX 75604. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 14, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
TNT 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09187
Citrus Heights Beauty College, Inc, 7518 Baird Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Citrus Heights Beauty College" 7518 Baird Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 22, 2025
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
BEAUTY 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-09369
Ibeth Gonzales, 6129 Heath Way, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "AVD Auto Detail" 6129 Heath Way, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 29, 2025
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
AVD 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00674
Adnan Arar, 721 North B Street #32, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "4F Motors" 721 North B Street #32, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 23, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
MOTORS 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00257
MLA Enterprises Inc., 1089 Brock Circle, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Citadel Printing" 1089 Brock Circle, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 9, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
CITADEL 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00645
EZ Floors Inc, 7900 Winding Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Fair Oaks Flooring/EZ Floors" 7900 Winding Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 22, 2026
Publish: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 2026
FLOORS 2-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00155
Blauberg CA Corp, 830 Morris Turnpike, Suite 201, Short Hills, NJ 07078 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Blau & Berg Company" 2710 Gateway Oaks Drives, Sacramento, CA 95833. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 7, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
BLAU 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00469
22 Wood Design LLC, 6745 50th Street, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Superb Handyman Services" 6745 50th Street, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 14, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
SUPERB 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00356
Waheed Khan, 2015 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Best Rate Motors" 2015 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
BEST 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00392
Ryan Williams, 5511 North Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "RESR Services/RAW Rips/RAW Resale" 5511 North Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
RESR 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00688
Blue Collar Coaching LLC, 2135 Butano Drive Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mortgage Marketing Animals" 2135 Butano Drive Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 23, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
MORTGAGE 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00006
Liem Sa, 4 Sedley Court, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Led Sign & Print" 4 Sedley Court, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 2, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
LED 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00399
Desiree Taylor, 701 Howe Avenue, Suite C3, #262, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Taylor Legacy Services/Taylor Legacy Notary" 3634 Milton Way, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
TAYLOR 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00613
Carol Klunder and John Klunder, 7044 Mariposa Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Cinderella's House Magic/CHM Enterprises" 7044 Mariposa Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 21, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
CINDERELLAS 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00604
Nanette M. Barto, QFDE, 13653 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Eye for the Obvovus/Eagle Eye Handwriting Services" 13653 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 21, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
EYE 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00044
All Phase Welder Repair Inc., 4366 Pinell Street, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "All Phase Welder Repair Inc" 4366 Pinell Street, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 5, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
ALL 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00725
Carrie Ann Geib, 912 ½ J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "916 Bail Bonds" 912 ½ J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 26, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
BAIL 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00754
World Imports Inc, 4005 Manzanita Avenue Suite 6-13, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "World Imports Auto" 4555 Auburn Boulevard Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 27, 2026
Publish: February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
WORLD 2-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-00580
Sacramento Dunnigan Holding Co Inc, 4300 Watt Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the

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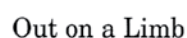
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The Spats



BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



by Dave T. Phipps



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CLUES

ACROSS

3. *First cloned mammal
6. Fuel economy acronym
9. Land measure
13. Pascal of "The Mandalorian" fame
14. Second 0 in EV00
15. a.k.a. sergeant fish or robalo
16. Plant fungus
17. "Titanic" star
18. "The _____ Whisperer" (1998)
19. "PepsiCo offering
21. "One of the Welsh twins, 90210
23. Long reef dweller
24. Reach a high
25. Color of passion
28. Agitate
30. Like Matryoshka inside Matryoshka
35. Gave the boot
37. Arab League member
39. One of Florida Keys
40. Summer month
41. Polished diamond surface
43. Safecracker
44. Lazybones
46. Before "saw" and "conquered"
47. Glitch
48. Watercraft
50. Remains repository
52. Like some martinis
53. Comfort
55. One in a pod
57. * _____ bubble
60. *The 1990s, a.k.a. post- _____ decade
64. Biblical patriarch
65. Sentient subject?
67. "Bad news travels fast," e.g. _____
68. _____ shopping cart
69. Father's progeny
70. Trojan War epic
71. Difficult situation
72. Like jalape o
73. So out it's in

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1. Design detail
2. M nchen mister
3. Jittery
4. Irregularly notched
5. *Harry of Privet Drive
6. Gangster's gal
7. *"American _____" (1999)
8. Geography class prop
9. Any minute, arch.
10. Cut at birth
11. Parks on a bus
12. _____ out a living
15. Israeli monetary unit
20. Remote in manner
22. Did a marathon, e.g.
24. Mollify
25. *Assassinated Gandhi
26. Radiate
27. Small wooded hollows
29. *Apple offering
31. Simon does what?
32. Influencer's creation
33. Daytime moth
34. *Snoop _____ Dogg
36. Coloring substances
38. Nautilus' captain
42. Allegro or lento
45. Repeat an echo
49. Pathet _____
51. *Fresh Prince's town
54. * _____ Mouth of "All Star" fame
57. *Jeff Bridges in "The Big Lebowski", with The
58. Made in Vegas
59. Makes lace
60. One-tenth of a dime
61. * _____ Wait... Don't Tell Me!" on NPR
62. Petri dish gel
63. Do over
64. Fruit spread
66. * _____ Goo Dolls of "Name" fame

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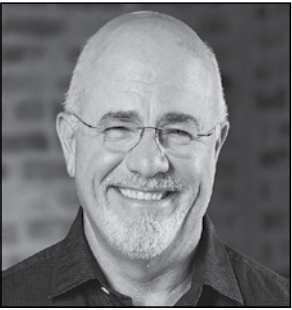


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8	6	1	2	5	3	9	7	4
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WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS





Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have paid off all of our credit card debt, but she doesn't want to follow your suggestion to cut up the cards and close the accounts. She wants us to keep the cards in a safe deposit box at the bank, and use them for nothing but emergencies. I think this has something to do with the fact she grew up in a poor family. We're doing okay, but it makes me wonder if some part of her is afraid of being poor again. We both know this isn't what you recommend, but what can I do to convince her we should get rid of the credit cards once and for all?

– Geoff

Dear Geoff,

Honestly, I'm not sure I'd approach this with the idea of convincing her of something. Under the circumstances, maybe it'd be a better idea to start off by having a gentle, understanding conversation, and

Dave Ramsey Says They Represent Security to Her

talking things through.

I say this because one of the things you mentioned is that she grew up poor. In my mind, this could mean that the credit cards represent security for her. But, if you had \$10,000 or so set aside for emergencies, you'd have the security of knowing that a transmission repair, or a new water heater wouldn't really be an emergency—it'd be reduced to a minor inconvenience. On top of that, having an actual cash emergency fund sitting there would mean you wouldn't have to go right back into debt again when something goes wrong.

There are lots of deep emotions involved in this situation, Geoff. Let her know you understand her concerns, and that you respect and sympathize with everything she has experienced. But also explain how financial security wouldn't be disappearing by doing this. The credit cards would be replaced by your very own money. In addition, you'd also be substituting what the credit cards do

with a debit card.

After this, ask her if there's a reasonable amount you two could have in the bank that would make her feel comfortable, and take away the worry and stress. Talk it out, see if you can settle on an amount, and then agree that when you've saved and hit that number, the cards get cut up and you close the account.

You'll have to be patient and understanding. Above all, you'll have to communicate and work together as a team on this. But trust me, it'll be worth it!

– 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. ★

Local Author Debuts Novel, 'The Palace'



Robert "Bob" Cox and his wife Gerianne on their first date. Photo courtesy of Gerianne SanFilippo

Continued from page 1

that's causing them some sort of pain."

While publishing his self-help magazine, Cox wrote a column each month diving into a personal experience or struggle and exploring how using one of his personal philosophies might result in tackling the problem in a new way.

Cox used a similar approach while writing "The Palace," choosing instead to create a fictional world and characters, with much of the novel's protagonist's life being based on Cox' own life and experience with grief after the loss of his second wife Diana.

"A lot of the experiences I share in the book were things that I actually experienced in my own life," Cox said. "I wanted it to feel real. I wanted the protagonist to feel like a real person."

The novel also grapples with religion, specifically the Buddhist faith.

"The Buddhist faith has always been something that, out of all the religions that I've encountered in my life that I've learned a little bit about, that's always had the most resonating feeling with me," Cox said.

"Just the idea of God being within you, it seems to make sense," Cox said. "If we were created by God, wouldn't the DNA of God be in each one of us? When we have that opportunity to access that divine

information, we can let the information come to us freely instead of overthinking it."

While Cox himself does not identify with any particular religion, he said with the novel's setting of Tibet, as well as current global events in Russia and Ukraine, and the real-life Potala Palace in Tibet, a sacred Buddhist palace which draws thousands of visitors each year, the novel organically came together.

The first one-third of the novel was written on a personal vacation, with much of the rest of the novel unfolding for Cox over the following year like episodes of a television series.

It was important for Cox not to put himself under a time constraint or attach the amount of time the project took to his success or quality of his writing, allowing weeks or even months to pass between writing sessions. This strategy was rewarding for Cox, as he said he often felt transported into the world of the novel in those epiphany moments.

As more of the novel unfolded in Cox's mind, an exciting, head overheels love story began to develop when Cox realized there was a shortage of female characters in the novel. The female protagonist, Amina, represents the refugee community from Kazakhstan, sharing their culture and experience of

uprooting their lives in pursuit of a better situation. She also represents falling in love again after losing a life partner and struggling with grief.

Writing a love story into the novel opened Cox up to experiencing romantic connections in his own life after going through his own personal grief journey.

"I realized I really do miss a lot of the craziness of having another person in my life," Cox said.

It was Robert's son who encouraged Cox to explore dating sites. It took just one day on the site for Cox to meet his now wife Gerianne, who had intended to quit the site that month.

Cox' approach to problem solving and conflict has played a positive role in fostering his relationships, including his marriage.

"These aren't concepts he blurts out lightly. He lives what he says and I find that admirable," Gerianne shared.

Cox hopes readers can gain from the novel healthy mindfulness, deciding which thoughts to entertain, but also recognizing that not all negative thoughts are bad.

"There's more power behind the struggle," Cox said. To me, that's what makes life so interesting."

"The Palace" by Robert Austin Cox is available on Amazon and at Barnes and Noble. ★



Heartspace Valentine

Ladies and Gentlemen, did anyone teach you about him or her before you got into a relationship? Most likely not! But **Susan Allan** says we really need some tips if you are tired of imploding and exploding partners. And here's a real reality check. Most relationship pain is not caused by lack of love. So what does cause that pain? Susan says it's the work that is the foundation of **Heartspace**, and boils down to a live trilogy which teaches what most of us were never taught about dating, partnership, and intimacy. She gets into it all in **"Three Essential Guides of Lifelong Love."** With her 25 years as a coach, I'm sure she has probably heard it all or most of it. She has taught **Heartspace** to thousands of people, and told me on POPPTALK that it's clear that relationships don't fail because of a lack of love. They fall apart when couples don't understand what is required...SKILLS! So she shared these Top Ten **Heartspace** Tips for Creating Lifelong Love.

- 1. Consciously Choose Your Partner.** Love thrives with someone whose values and goals align with yours. Never settle for a mismatch.
- 2. Discuss These Heartspace 19 Domains Of A Successful Marriage And Agree On Specifics.** A. Sex B. Monogamy. C. Morality D. Love E. Health F. Money G. Investments H. Appearance I. Home J. Careers K. Fun L. Family M. Meals N. Children O. Child-raising P. Lifestyle and Hobbies Q. Religion and Spirituality R. Chores S. Retirement.
- 3. Attraction Is Not Compatibility.** Great chemistry cannot be altered. Find that someone and build compatibility that sustains love.
- 4. Study Your Partner's World View**

And Motivate Instead Of Arguing Or Ignoring.

- 5. Use The Language Of Feelings And Needs Developed By Nonviolent Communication.** Love grows when partners express needs instead of judgments.
- 6. Always Calm Yourself Before You Communicate.** Brain-Breathing is the gateway to peaceful, productive conversations throughout marriage.
- 7. Master Your Conversation To Prevent Conflict By Transforming Conversations Into Peaceful Solutions.**
- 8. Recommit Yourself To Mastering Marriage Daily, So It Keeps Evolving.**
- 9. Create Intimacy On All Levels.** That includes emotional safety, thrilling touch, and sacred sexuality.
- 10. Practice Loving Your Partner Every Day.** Lifelong love means choosing empathy, honesty, and cooperation, especially during challenges.

According to Susan, When love is approached consciously, relationships don't just survive, they evolve, deepen, and become more fulfilling every day and decade, so that vow of two into one is fulfilled. I can attest to that conscious relationship. My dear Rick and I were married 53 years when he passed, but that spirit of his being with me continues to this day over two years after his passing. Love is a building process and every day a new brick is added so that that relationship I call it your construction of love. If you need more information, check out "Three Essential Guides of Lifelong Love" and discover what Susan Allan calls her Heartspace LOVE Trilogy. ★

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY AND ALL YEAR LONG LOVE!



California State Fair Announces New Chief Wine Judge



Tim McDonald, California State Fair chief wine judge. Photo courtesy of California State Fair

California State Fair News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California State Fair appointed Tim McDonald of Napa as the new Chief Judge of the California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition. The competition opens to California winemakers on Feb. 1, with entries due by April 24.

McDonald brings more than 40 years of distinguished experience in the wine and spirits industry, with expertise spanning public relations, trade relations, marketing and sales, event management and beverage education. A highly respected judge, he has participated in more than 200 competitions throughout North America. He currently serves as the Director of Wine Judging for both the California Craft Spirits and Central Coast Wine Competitions, Chairman of Pacific Rim International Wine Competition and former Head Judge at the San Francisco International and Las Vegas Global Awards. He is the founder

of Wine & Spirits Spoken Here, a Napa-based company dedicated to sharing the unique stories behind wines and spirits.

McDonald's career also includes senior leadership roles with several prominent beverage companies, including E. & J. Gallo Winery, where he served as Marketing Director of Fine Wine Communications; Jim Beam (Peak Wines) as Vice President of Marketing and Communications; Trinchero Family Estates as Director of Trade Relations; and Heublein Spirits & Wines as Director of Trade and Public Relations. He also held sales positions with Seagram Distillers and Heublein.

"We are honored to have a leader of Tim's caliber guiding the California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition," said Tom Martinez, CEO of the California Exposition and State Fair. "For generations, this competition has celebrated the excellence of California's wine industry, and his expertise will ensure that tradition continues."

As Chief Judge, McDonald will oversee the annual review of competition procedures, recommend enhancements, select the final panel of judges and preside over the three-day judging process taking place May 6 to 8.

The upcoming California State Fair runs from July 17 through Aug. 2. Details about

exhibits, concerts and tickets will be updated regularly on the website at castatefair.com.

About the California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition

Dating back to 1854, during the Gold Rush Era, the California State Fair Wine Competition is the oldest wine competition in the country and ranks among the most respected in the nation. It is widely recognized for its integrity, commitment to excellence, fairness and professionalism. Only wines made with fruit grown and produced in the eleven growing regions across the state may be judged in the competition in order to recognize the best wines produced in the state.

About the California State Fair

Cal Expo is home of the California State Fair, an international award-winning fair, receiving top honors at the International Association of Fairs and Expositions out of more than 1,100 fairs worldwide. For the past two years, the Fair was ranked the best State Fair in the nation. Established in 1854, the California State Fair is dedicated as a place to celebrate the best the state has to offer in agriculture, technology and the diversity of its people, traditions and trends that shape the Golden State's future. ★

Gymnastics Sweeps MPSF Weekly Awards

UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - For the first time this season UC Davis gymnastics has brought home Mountain Pacific Sports Federation weekly awards sweeping all three following the weekend with Amelia Moneymaker (Gymnast of the Week), Molly Osborne (Freshman of the Week) and Avah Reichow (Specialist of the Week) all bringing home the honors.

UC Davis used the top performances by the three Aggies to win its quad meet at Sacramento State on Saturday, Jan. 23, besting the Hornets, Western Michigan and UW-Whitewater at the Nest.

For the 18th time in her career, extending her school record, and 13th-straight time (school record) going back to last season Moneymaker broke the 39.000 threshold in the all-around, winning the title at Sacramento State with a mark of 39.275. Along the way she posted the first 9.900 (beam) by an Aggie this season and won the individual floor (9.875) and beam events. The



Pictured is Molly Osborne, who was named UC Davis Gymnastics Freshman of the Week. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

Aggie all-arounder added a season-high mark of 9.825 for a second-place finish on bars to help power the Aggies to the quad meet victory.

Moneymaker was named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF) Gymnast of the Week four times in 2025, with this being her first of 2026.

Osborne played her part on beam, posting a career-high

mark of 9.800 that gave her a fourth-place finish on that event. Osborne also had solid marks on vault (9.700) and bars (9.725) to add to the Aggie totals that eventually gave them the meet victory, sending stingers down.

With career highs on both beam and floor, Reichow brought home her first career Mountain Pacific Sports Federation weekly award after top finishes across

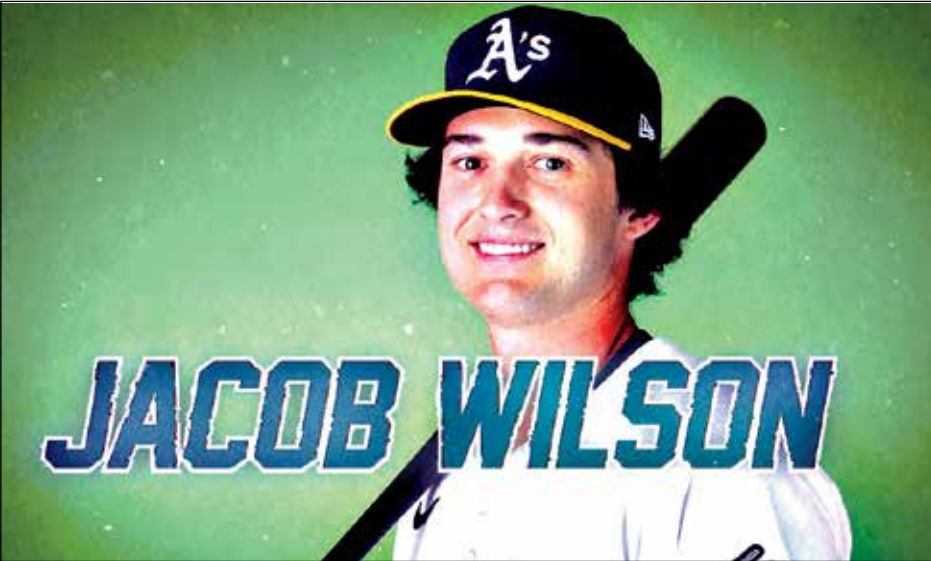
three events. On floor, Reichow finished second just behind Moneymaker, posting a 9.850 to help UC Davis sweep the podium and win the overall floor event. While on vault her 9.750 gave her a fifth-place finish to go along with her 9.700 on beam.

General admission for all meets runs \$13 while youth (3-13), UC Davis staff members and fans Seniors (65-plus) can

get in the door for \$10. Group outings (minimum of 10) can get their tickets at \$10 apiece. With the \$80 Flexbook, fans receive 10 general admission ticket vouchers that can be redeemed for any of the four home meets during the season in any combination desired. Fans can secure their spot in the University Credit Union Center by hitting the link, by calling the Aggie Ticket Office at (530) 752-2471 or by emailing the Aggie Ticket Office at aggietickets@ucdavis.edu.

About UC Davis Athletics
UC Davis, the No. 2 ranked public university by the Wall Street Journal, is home to 40,000 undergraduate students and 12,000 employees. Ranked No. 1 in Agriculture and Forestry as well as No. 1 in Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis is in a true California college town nestled between world-class destinations such as the San Francisco Bay Area, Napa Valley and Lake Tahoe. Over 650 Aggie student-athletes compete in 25 Division I varsity sports, with 16 sports transitioning to the Mountain West Conference beginning in 2026-27. ★

A's Agree to Terms with SS Jacob Wilson



The Athletics have agreed to terms with shortstop Jacob Wilson on a seven-year contract through the 2032 season. Photo courtesy of MLB

Athletics News Release

LAS VEGAS, NV (MPG) - The Athletics have agreed to terms with shortstop Jacob Wilson on a seven-year contract through the 2032 season with a club option for 2033, the club announced today.

Wilson batted .311 with 13 home runs, 63 RBI, .355 OBP and an .800 OPS in 125 games last season with the A's. He struck out just 39 times in 2025 and his 13.41 strikeouts per plate appearance were second fewest in MLB behind San Diego's Luis Arraez (32.14). His .311 batting average was tied second highest in MLB in 2025 behind New York-AL's Aaron Judge (.331) and tied with Toronto's Bo Bichette.

Wilson earned American League Rookie of the Month honors for the month of May after posting a .368/.437/.538 slashline with six doubles, four home runs, 16 RBI and just eight strikeouts in May. He was the runner-up for American League Rookie of the Year to teammate Nick Kurtz, marking the first time a team has had the first and second place finishers in American League Rookie of the Year Voting since the 1984 Mariners (Alvin Davis, Mark Langston).

Wilson was elected by the fans as

starting shortstop for the American League in the 2025 All-Star Game and became the first rookie shortstop to be elected by the fans. He was also the second rookie shortstop to start an All-Star Game along with the Orioles Ron Hansen, who started both All-Star Games in 1960. He was the first Athletic to start an All-Star Game since Josh Donaldson at third base in 2014 and the first shortstop since Bert Campaneris made three straight starts from 1973-75.

Since debuting on July 19, 2024, Wilson is a career .301 hitter with 13 home runs, 66 RBI and a .772 OPS in 153 games in two seasons in the majors. He was the A's first round selection in the 2023 First-Year Player Draft out of Grand Canyon University.

Wilson is one of four players under contract through at least the 2028 season, when the A's are scheduled to open their new ballpark in Las Vegas. He joins Lawrence Butler, who inked a seven-year deal through the 2031 season with a club option for 2032 on Mar. 10, 2025, Brent Rooker, who signed a five-year contract through 2029 with a club option for 2030 on Jan. 23, 2025, and Tyler Soderstrom, who signed a seven-year contract through 2032 with a club option for 2033 on Dec. 29, 2025. ★

Midfielder Pep Casas to Join 2026 Campaign

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Republic FC recently announced that the club has signed midfielder José “Pep” Casas. He will be added to the team’s roster pending league and federation approval. Per club policy, the terms of the contract were not disclosed.

“Pep fits the mold for the types of talented, up-and-coming players who do well in USL Championship,” said Republic FC Head Coach Neill Collins. “We look forward to welcoming him to the Indomitable Club and are excited to be a part of this next step in his career.”

Casas added, “I’m really excited to join Sacramento Republic. It’s a club with a great culture and passionate fans, and I can’t wait to get started and give everything I have for the team.”

A native of Barcelona, Spain, Casas got his start in FC Barcelona’s famed youth academy, La Masia. He later made the move to English club Ipswich Town before closing out his youth career in Spain with CE Europa. The 25-year-old came to the United States to begin his collegiate career Indiana Tech before transferring to University of North Carolina Wilmington. With the Seahawks, he appeared in every game possible and recorded two goals and two assists and earned selection to the 2023 Coastal



Sacramento Republic FC recently announced that the club has signed midfielder José “Pep” Casas. Photo courtesy Sacramento Republic FC

Athletic Association Second Team.

In 2024, Casas was selected 61st overall in the Major League Soccer (MLS) SuperDraft by Inter Miami CF. He made two Major League Soccer appearances for the club before joining Inter Miami CF II. With the Major League Soccer (MLS) NEXT Pro side, he made 25 appearances and added two assists, while maintaining an impressive 86 percent passing accuracy. Last year, he joined Nashville SC’s reserve side Huntsville City FC and played over 2,000 minutes to help the team reach

the postseason for the first time. He closed out the season with a stellar 91 percent pass success rate.

Sacramento Republic FC will open the 2026 season at home on March 7 when the Indomitable Club hosts Western Conference Champion FC Tulsa. Kickoff for the 13th season is set for 7 p.m. at Heart Health Park. Fans secure their seat for the entire 2026 season by becoming a member today and lock in the lowest prices of the year. Group tickets are on sale now and single match tickets will be available beginning Feb. 5 at SacRepublicFC.com. ★

Men’s Tennis Wins the 2025 CCCAA Team GPA Award



American River College Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - For the second consecutive season, and the third in four years, the ARC men's tennis team won the CCCAA Team GPA Award. The honor goes to the men's tennis team that

had the highest cumulative team GPA in the state of California. The Beavers also won the award in three consecutive seasons from 2008-2010. In 2025 the program posted its highest team GPA in their history, with an overall GPA of 3.89, far surpassing their previous record of 3.53 set in 2024. ★

For the second consecutive season, and the third in four years, the ARC men's tennis team won the CCCAA Team GPA Award. Photo courtesy American River College

SacSewer Earns National Recognition

**Sacramento Area Sewer District
News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) has been awarded a 2026 National Environmental Achievement Award (NEAA) by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), recognizing its Septic to Sewer Projects in the Operations & Environmental Performance category. The national honor highlights SacSewer’s leadership in protecting public health, improving water quality and delivering innovative infrastructure solutions that produce measurable environmental results.

SacSewer’s Septic to Sewer Projects focus on replacing aging and failing septic systems with modern sewer infrastructure in environmentally sensitive and historically underserved areas. By expanding access to reliable sewer service, the projects reduce environmental risks posed by aging septic systems, improve long-term system reliability and help protect ground-water and overall water quality.

“This award reflects SacSewer’s commitment to delivering reliable, affordable sewer service through operational excellence and environmental protection,” said General Manager Christoph Dobson. “Our Septic to Sewer Projects demonstrate how targeted infrastructure investments can protect public health and water quality while bringing long overdue, dependable service to historically underserved and disadvantaged communities”

The Operations & Environmental Performance National Environmental Achievement Award category recognizes programs that go beyond regulatory compliance to achieve superior environmental outcomes through innovation, efficiency and leadership. SacSewer’s approach integrates strategic planning, community coordination and data-driven decision-making to address long standing challenges while strengthening system resilience.

Three NEAA Awards in Two Years

This latest recognition marks SacSewer’s third National Environmental Achievement Award in two consecutive years, underscoring the agency’s consistent national leadership across operations, community partnership and public education.

In 2025, SacSewer was honored for its Confluence Regional Partnership Program, a unique grant initiative that leverages non-rate revenues to support regional



SacSewer representatives accept the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) National Environmental Achievement Award, recognizing its Septic to Sewer Projects in the Operations & Environmental Performance category. Photo courtesy of SacSewer

environmental restoration, education, rate assistance and economic vitality through collaborative partnerships. Additionally, the agency received an National Environmental Achievement Award for its Stop the Clog Campaign, a public education initiative that uses engaging content and clear calls to action to reduce sewer blockages caused by fats, oils, grease and improperly flushed items.

Collectively, these awards reflect SacSewer’s holistic approach to clean water stewardship – pairing strong operations with innovative programs that engage the public, support partners and protect critical infrastructure.

For more than 50 years, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies has recognized outstanding achievements in environmental protection, sustainability and water sector innovation through its National Environmental Achievement Award program. SacSewer’s continued recognition at the national level reinforces its role as a forward-thinking utility committed to safeguarding water resources today and for future generations.

The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) is the Sacramento region’s largest sewage collection, treatment, and resource recovery utility – providing service to more than 1.6 million people. We are the second largest sewage collection utility in California, and we own and operate the second largest water resource recovery facility of its kind in the nation – the EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility located near Elk Grove. Learn more at sacsewer.com. ★

CHP Graduates 129 New Officers

Advancing Public Safety Across California



129 cadets from Cadet Training Class IV-25 graduated from the CHP Academy in West Sacramento on Feb. 6, marking the start of their service as officers protecting communities across California. Photo courtesy of CHP

**California Highway Patrol
News Release**

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Highway Patrol graduated 129 cadets from Cadet Training Class IV-25 at the CHP Academy on Feb. 6, marking the start of their service as officers protecting communities across California.

“These new officers represent the future of public safety in California,” said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee. “The badge they were given is on loan from the people of this state, and every day they must earn the right to wear it through professionalism, ethical conduct and accountability to the public they serve.”

During more than six months of academy training, cadets completed intensive instruction in traffic enforcement, collision investigation, defensive tactics, firearms proficiency, emergency vehicle operations and community policing. The curriculum also emphasized legal authority, ethical decision-making, effective communication and cultural awareness to prepare officers for the complex demands of modern policing.

As sworn California Highway Patrol officers, members of CTC IV-25 will serve throughout the state and may

pursue specialized assignments beyond patrol, including K-9 handling, air operations, investigative services, motorcycle enforcement, public affairs and emergency response. California Highway Patrol officers routinely provide lifesaving aid at crash scenes, support evacuations during wildfires and investigate serious and complex crimes.

The graduation of CTC IV-25 underscores California Highway Patrol’s commitment to developing highly trained professionals dedicated to serve with integrity, compassion and excellence. The new officers will report to their field training assignments on Feb. 16, continuing the department’s mission to deliver the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security to the people of California.

The California Highway Patrol continues to seek motivated individuals interested in a challenging and rewarding career in public service, offering opportunities to serve communities across the state while pursuing a wide range of specialized assignments. Visit chpmadeformore.com to learn more about what the California Highway Patrol has to offer.

The mission of the California Highway Patrol is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security. ★

County Warns Residents of Out-of-Service Crisis Line

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County Department of Health Services is urging residents not to use the former National Warm Line at (855) 642-6222, which is out-of-service and no longer a resource for individuals seeking emotional or behavioral health support.

Warm lines are designed to provide emotional support for people who may be experiencing distress but are not at the point of calling a suicide crisis line. This does not mean the individuals who reach out are not at risk; many choose warm lines because they do not want to take critical emergency resources away from others. For this reason, the loss of this number as a trusted support option is being taken seriously.

Sacramento County Department of Health Services is actively working to remove the former National Warm Line number from all County materials, websites and resources to

help protect the safety and well-being of residents. The County wants to emphasize that this was a national line and is not operated by Sacramento County.

As this work continues, residents in need of emotional or behavioral health support are encouraged to contact: 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: call or text 988; Consumer-Operated Warm Line: 916-366-4668; Mental Health Urgent Care Clinic: 916-520-2460; Behavioral Health Services Screening and Coordination (BHS-SAC): 916-875-1055.

The 988 Lifeline works in coordination with Sacramento County’s Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) to connect individuals with local, in-person support when needed, without law enforcement involvement.

Sacramento County Department of Health Services thanks the community for its understanding and cooperation as this issue is addressed and remains committed to ensuring residents have access to safe, trusted behavioral health resources. ★

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