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



# THE GRIDLEY HERALD

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FRIDAY • MARCH 6, 2026 • VOL. 146 NO. 10

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## Museum Weekend Connects Past and Present



Gridley Museum docent Pat Teague, right, holds historic photographs during the downtown walking tour on Feb. 28 as part of Butte County Museum Weekend.

Story and photos by Susan Meeker

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - As the nation approaches its 250th anniversary on July 4, the Gridley Museum marked Butte County Museum Weekend with a special screening of Ken Burns documentaries on the Revolutionary War. The program was part of the seventh annual Museum Weekend, hosted by Explore Butte County. The two-day event that began Feb. 28 featured 15 participating museums, galleries and cultural centers across the county, all open both days with special programming. Inside the Gridley Museum,

visitors moved from the nation's founding story on screen to permanent exhibits highlighting local military service members. Mitchell Layton, of Oroville, said he hoped to visit each of the participating museums during the two-day event and was collecting stamps in his Museum Weekend passport to redeem for discounts at selected eateries. "Each stop has been a blast," Layton said. It was Layton's first visit to the Gridley Museum. He said he especially appreciated the military exhibits centered on real people. Among those featured is Lloyd

Andes, of Biggs, a U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel who flew more than 100 missions in World War II, survived two crashes and was held as a prisoner of war in France. Eleanor Webb Williams served as an Aviation Machinist Mate, 2nd Class, in the U.S. Navy WAVES during World War II. William Freeman Farr served 23 months in the Pacific with the U.S. Navy during World War II and later in the Air Force during the Korean conflict, and Retired Brig. Gen. Dianne Hale-O'Conner served 29 years in the U.S. Air Force and flew medical evacuation missions during the Vietnam War.

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## Planning Commission Approves Gridley Cell Tower

By Susan Meeker

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Nearly everyone carries a cell-phone. But in rural Butte County, some residents fear the towering infrastructure behind the technology could become "the asbestos of this generation." Those concerns surfaced during the Butte County Planning Commission's Feb. 26 meeting, where commissioners approved a 100-foot telecommunications tower south of Gridley while postponing a taller proposal north of Oroville. The Gridley project, proposed by The Towers LLC, calls for installation of a 100-foot monopole with a 5-foot lightning rod at the northwest corner of Richins Avenue and West Liberty Road. The facility will include nine panel antennas, remote radio units, overvoltage protection boxes, a microwave antenna and a GPS antenna. Ground equipment will be enclosed within a 50-by-50-foot fenced lease area on an 8.82-acre agricultural parcel. Planning staff said the unmanned tower is intended to improve wireless service and emergency communications in the south Gridley area. Access will be provided by a new gravel driveway from West Liberty Road. Commissioners adopted a mitigated negative declaration under the California Environmental Quality Act and approved the conditional use permit with conditions requiring compliance with federal, state and local regulations, including Federal Communications Commission standards governing radio frequency emissions. The tower must meet building and fire codes, implement erosion controls and be removed if abandoned for more than six months. The Gridley proposal drew written objections from nearby residents who raised health and property value concerns. Joseph Powell, who lives on Wedin Way, submitted a formal objection stating that his pacemaker and implantable cardioverter defibrillator require him to avoid strong electromagnetic sources. He wrote that the tower's location would require him to pass the site whenever he leaves home. "There is no alternate route for me to travel other than passing the proposed project site," Powell wrote. "This would require

Continued on page 4

## Four Speak at Rotary Speech Contest



Rotary International held its annual speech contest last week, naming Anna Martinez as the winner. Participants received certificates and prize money toward their education. Pictured from left are Rotary of Oroville's Tao Elson, Gagneet Kular, Paulina Martinez Pureco, Aiden Berg, Anna Martinez, Gridley Rotary's Ravi Aujla and Rotary President Efrén Del Rio. Photo by Seti Long

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley Rotary Club hosted its Annual Rotary Speech Contest, featuring four student speakers from Live Oak. The contest is open to public high school and home-school students in grades nine through 12 in the area. This year, only Live Oak students submitted entries. To protect the integrity of the contest, speakers were not introduced by

name until after they completed their speeches. Each participant was limited to eight minutes. Students addressed the theme "Unite for Good" from different perspectives. Some focused on teamwork, while others drew from personal experiences and interests to connect with the topic. Specific details of the speeches were not disclosed to maintain fairness for future rounds of competition. Judges evaluated each speaker

on delivery, originality and content. Each category included subcategories such as sense of humor, engagement of interest and logical development. Anna Martinez won first place with a speech reflecting on observations from her first job. Aiden Berg placed second, Gagneet Kular took third and Paulina Martinez Pureco finished fourth. Martinez will advance to the Rotary International Speech Contest Area Semifinals at a later date. ★

# The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

While it is widely understood that this column is intended to be upbeat, positive, and encouraging, with a broad range of topics covered in less than 600 words, occasionally, things come up that strike one as odd and noteworthy. This week, it was the sign painted on the side of the Sav•Mor grocery store in Gridley. Look for yourself next time you drive by; painted on the side, it says "local dairy." Well, since the last dairy in Gridley went out of business about twenty-five years ago,

there is no local dairy. Across Butte County, there are about five. As you can see, as with the demise of the Portuguese Association Cultural Hall next to Manuel Viera Park (Viera was also Portuguese), as the Portuguese left, so did the dairy industry, or the dairy industry left as the Portuguese left, one or the other. So, our area is now confronting the loss of local peaches, as the Del Monte corporate bankruptcy has left hundreds of peach farmers without contracts for their peaches. Not someday when the contracts run out, but like this year, when they need to get the peaches off the trees, there ain't gonna be anybody to give 'em a check. It seems like no matter how modern, hip, cool, and technology-savvy we are, there are some cycles that just keep on going, and agriculture always has its ups and downs. On a larger level, though,

there are just fewer farmers all the time. Most of the small family farms have been consolidated into giant corporate farms. If you're one of those people who doesn't like change, the next ten years are not going to be good for you. And you need to do whatever it takes to relax and find peace. If you grow peaches, it is time to look at your options and find something better, more profitable, and more sustainable. Amazingly. That's what American Farmers have done for the last two hundred and fifty years: innovate and find a way to keep on doing what they do. That said, it's not easy. And this peach fiasco is going to be a shock to our local economy. Just as we have lost out because milk production was consolidated and moved away two decades ago.

\*\*\*

Josh F.W. Cook is an educator and administrator. ★

## Butte County Marks Weights and Measures Week

By Susan Meeker

**OROVILLE, CA (MPG)** - Every time a Butte County resident pumps gas, buys produce or pays by weight at the checkout counter, there is a quiet local system working behind the scenes to make sure the numbers are right.

That system took center stage when the Butte County Board of Supervisors recognized March 1-7 as Weights and Measures Week.

Supervisor Todd Kimmelshue read the proclamation during the board's Feb. 24 regular meeting to remind the public why accuracy in commerce matters.

"An effective and uniform system of weights and measures is fundamental to fair commerce, consumer confidence, economic stability and public safety," Kimmelshue said.

The week coincides with the national observance marking the March 2, 1799 signing of the

nation's first weights and measures law by President John Adams. This year's theme is "We Measure What Matters," to recognize the essential role weights and measures professionals play in ensuring equity and confidence in today's marketplace

Butte County Agriculture Commissioner and Director of Weights and Measures Katharine Quist told supervisors that many residents may not realize her office includes a dedicated weights and measures division.

"This small but highly impactful team works every day to ensure fairness, accuracy and transparency in the marketplace throughout Butte County," Quist said.

In 2025, the team inspected more than 5,000 commercial devices across the county, including grocery store scales, gas pumps, truck scales, propane meters and electric vehicle charging stations. Inspectors also checked

98 gas stations to ensure posted prices matched pump prices, labeling, such as octane ratings, was correct, and fuel met quality standards. The division also responds to consumer complaints, verifies that packaged goods meet labeled quantities, and that customers are charged correctly at checkout.

"Simply put, they make sure that you get what you pay for," Quist said.

Quist also thanked the board for supporting the recent replacement of the department's heavy capacity inspection truck after new state air regulations sidelined the previous vehicle, allowing inspections to continue without interruption.

For most residents, the work may go unnoticed, but Quist said the inspection seal on a pump or scale represents a local safeguard helping ensure every transaction is fair.

"This year's seal is red, white and blue to honor our nation's 250th anniversary," she said. ★

## MEMORIAL

GARY RICHARD PIPPITT • 05/17/1942 - 02/18/2026

Gary Richard Pippitt, 83, passed away peacefully on February 18, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on May 17, 1942, in Gridley, California, to Ross and Marjorie Pippitt. He was the youngest of five children and was raised with the strong values of faith, hard work, and devotion to family that would guide him throughout his life. He attended school in Biggs, California and called Sutter County home for most of his life.

After high school, Gary proudly served his country in the United States Navy from 1959 to 1962. After his service, he worked as a truck driver for Delta Lines and Mathews Ready Mix and later as an Operations Manager for Ceco Transport and Avalon Bay Foods.

On March 24, 1962, he married the love of his life, Paula (Gillispie) Pippitt. Together they shared almost 64 years of marriage, building a life centered on faith, love, and family. Gary had a deep appreciation for life's simple joys. He was an avid fan of Western movies, and nothing brought him more happiness than spending time with his family. He was a fun and devoted grandfather who treasured every moment with his grandchildren. Gary and his family loved to travel together, with cherished trips to Fort Bragg among their favorite memories.

Above all, he was a generous man who freely gave of his time and resources to



anyone in need, embodying the servant's heart that characterized his life. In a calling that would define the next chapter of his life, Gary became a Lutheran pastor, faithfully serving Grace Lutheran Church for over 20 years. His ministry was deeply rooted in his faith, compassion and love for others, and commitment to sharing the message of Jesus Christ.

Gary was a proud and loving father to six children: Gary W. Pippitt, Cindy Reimers, Doreen Creedon, Theresa Jamel, Valerie Boschi (Craig), and Thomas Pippitt. He was also blessed with 18 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren, each one a reflection of his love

and values.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Leroy Pippitt and Ross Earl Pippitt; his sister, Betty Harris; and his son-in-law, Michael Reimers.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Paula; his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and his sister, Patricia Potter.

A Celebration of Life will be held Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Ford Avenue, Gridley, CA.

Gary will be remembered for his unwavering faith, strong work ethic, servant's heart, and deep love for his family. He will be deeply missed and forever cherished by all who knew and loved him.

## MEMORIAL

HELEN LOUISE RYAN • 1933 - 02/20/2026

Helen Lousie Ryan, 94, passed peacefully on Feb 20, 2026, surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her husband Elbert John Ryan married 43 years and son Ricky Blair Ryan.

She is survived by son Kent Ryan (Dru), daughter Candy Hill (Mark), Penny Gardner (Brad). She had 9 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren, and 10 great great grandchildren.

Helen lived an amazing life. She worked for the Butte County Sheriffs Dept for 27 1/2 years. She



rose through the ranks starting as dispatcher/matron to become Jail Commander. She was the first sworn female deputy. She retired as

a Sergeant in charge of the Civil Division when she retired in 1993. Never one to sit still, she spent many years working at Butte Auto Parts as Bookkeeper.

After her retirement she enjoyed traveling with family and friends. She especially enjoyed spending time in Fort Bragg, and country music.

She was a wonderful loving mother, grandmother, and friend. There was nothing she loved more than spending time with her family.

## MEMORIAL

WILLIAM T. WILKERSON - 06/13/1942 - 02/16/2026

William T. Wilkerson, also known as Bill, passed away on February 16, 2026 of pneumonia at age 83.

He moved to Gridley, CA, in 1951 with his family from De Soto, MO. Bill went to school and worked in Gridley, eventually moving to Live Oak, CA, where he spent most of his life. He worked

as an automobile mechanic for over 50 years.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife Bonnie; son, Lenard; his mother and father; one brother and two sisters. He is survived by his daughter, Sherry Reece of Missouri; his brother Harry Wilkerson; his sisters Betty Johnson (brother-in-law

Warren) Laura Puff, and Linda Vaca and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was loved by all because of his kindness and big heart. He will not be forgotten. We will love him forever. His Ashes are to be buried at Gridley-Biggs Cemetery.

Family and Friends will say goodbyes at a later date.

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## Museum Weekend Connects Past and Present

*Continued from page 1*

The museum itself reflects the city's early development. The building was constructed in 1909 by H.C. Veatch as the Gridley State Bank, with office space upstairs for dentists, doctors and attorneys. Today, those turn-of-the-century spaces and artifacts from the era are carefully preserved as part of the museum's attractions.

Museum Weekend also featured a guided historical walking tour of downtown Gridley led by museum docent RayAnn King. Docent Pat Teague held up historic photographs as King described the buildings, allowing visitors to compare early storefronts with how downtown appears today.

Among the buildings discussed was the Hazel Hotel, constructed between 1888 and 1890 and widely recognized as the oldest surviving commercial building in Gridley. The Italianate brick structure remains one of the few pre-1900 buildings tied directly to the town's railroad-era development.

Built in 1893, Hall's General Store was a two-story mercantile that sold shoes, hats, and other goods downtown. The upstairs was used by the Odd Fellows and Rebekah Lodge until it was removed for safety concerns.

"What's interesting now that the top flooring is no longer there, is that you go around the corner, there's a door," King said. "There's still stairs in there that go to nowhere."

Other landmarks highlighted on the tour included the Stone Building, constructed in 1887 after an earlier wood-frame



RayAnn King, right, shares stories on Saturday of local military service members inside the Gridley Museum.

structure was destroyed by fire; the Presbyterian Church, built in 1884; and the former Carnegie Library, a 1912 project of the Ladies Improvement Club funded in part by Andrew Carnegie.

The tour began at The Plaza, the site of the town's original railroad depot. King explained how the arrival of the California and Oregon Railroad in 1870 shaped the community and how the town was named for George Washington Gridley after he became the first local resident to ship goods by rail.

"Prior to that, the area was known as Hamilton Township," King said.

Jeanette Brosnan, of Chico, said she joined the Gridley tour as part of the countywide event.

"It was the free museum weekend, so we're checking out a bunch of museums that we haven't had a chance to do yet," Brosnan said.

After completing the walk, she said she enjoyed

seeing how older photographs aligned with present-day buildings and learning more about the town's early development.

The Gridley Museum is dedicated to collecting and promoting interest in the historical development of the city and surrounding areas of Butte and northern Sutter counties from the 19th and 20th centuries into the present, a mission reflected in its permanent exhibits and programs.

Other participating locations during Museum Weekend included the Museum of Northern California Art and the Janet Turner Print Museum in Chico, the Valene L. Smith Museum of Anthropology at CSU, Chico, and the Gateway Science Museum. In Oroville, sites included the Pioneer History Museum, the C.F. Lott Historic Home and the Oroville Chinese Temple. Organizers said the annual event was created as a free opportunity to explore the county's network of museums. ★

## City Fences Abandoned Nuisance Property



A newly installed fence secures the gnarled remains of the abandoned rice dryer at 110 Virginia St., now under the control of a court ordered receiver.

**Story and photo by Susan Meeker**

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - A chain link security fence now surrounds the property at 110 Virginia St., marking the city's latest effort to stabilize a long troubled site that has been used as a homeless encampment and the scene of repeated law enforcement responses.

The property is in court ordered receivership and remains listed for sale, though it has not received any offers. In recent months, city officials reported multiple fire related incidents at the location, prompting renewed urgency to secure the parcel and limit access.

Public Works Director Jerry Cox last month presented the City Council with options for the site, including temporary rental fencing and a permanent installation. The council received two comparable quotes for temporary fencing and ultimately selected the company able to provide the quickest installation.

Deputy City Attorney Landon Little advised that because the property is in receivership, the court appointed receiver would not front the cost of fencing. Instead, the city would pay for the installation and seek reimbursement from sale

proceeds, subject to court approval once the property is sold.

Police Chief Todd Farr said fencing has proven effective at the city's other nuisance property at 390 Virginia St.

"Prior to the fencing, there was a lot more activity in there," Farr said. "Once the fencing went up, that lessened. Did it eliminate? No."

Council members directed staff to continue monitoring the site, even after fencing, including the use of drones to assess structural conditions and overall security.

Gridley sought receivership after the abandoned and deteriorating industrial grain dryer became a persistent nuisance. Once the petition was filed, however, the out of country property owner ceased contact with the city, delaying related litigation involving their also abandoned industrial building at 390 Virginia St.

With the fence now in place, city officials say the goal is to deter trespassing, reduce fire risk, and limit emergency responses while the receivership process continues and a buyer is sought. Councilmember Catalina Sanchez also raised the possibility of the city purchasing the property outright. ★

## Interfaith Choir to Perform 'Lamb of God'



Alan Chipman conducts the combined interfaith orchestra and choir in their rehearsal of the "Lamb of God" oratorio to be performed Sunday, March 29 at the Oroville State Theater. Photo by Libby Tolman

**By Cindy Scott**

**OROVILLE, CA (MPG)** - Area singers and musicians will present Rob Gardner's "Lamb of God" on Palm Sunday, March 29 at 6 p.m. at the Oroville State Theatre. Admission is free and tickets may be reserved at Eventbrite.com by searching "Lamb of God Oroville."

The 90-minute oratorio depicts the final week of Jesus Christ's life, including the raising of Lazarus, the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the crucifixion and the

resurrection. Soloists portray central figures such as Mary, Martha, Peter, John, Judas and Pontius Pilate.

Singers and musicians from the Temple Hill Choir in Oakland will join local performers. Alan Chipman, director of the Temple Hill Choir, will conduct the performance.

Organizers describe the event as an interfaith celebration of Christ's resurrection, bringing together performers from across the region for the Palm Sunday program. ★

### MEMORIAL JIM TUPEN • 06/18/1934 - 02/26/2026

A funeral service will be held on Monday, March 9, 2026, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 400 Spruce St. Gridley, CA for James (Jim) Tupen, 91, of Gridley. Time of service has been set for 11:00 a.m.

Jim passed away due to sudden illness on Thursday, February 26, 2026, in San Saba County Texas.

He was born June 18, 1934 in Gridley, CA to James and Reva Tupen.

Jim was a long-time resident of Gridley and after a 28-year career with the California Highway Patrol, he retired out of the Oroville office.

Prior to being in the CHP, Jim served in the United States Air Force in the 89th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron as a flight crew member flying B-29's.

He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing from a young age. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and a long-time member of the LDS Church. Jim also served on the Gridley City Council as Vice Mayor. Jim frequently said he had lived a good life.

Jim was preceded in death by his loving wife, younger brother and parents.

He is survived by his two sons, Doug (Kristin) Tupen of Rigby Idaho and JT Tupen of Chico,



one daughter, Wendy Maral of Gridley, and 4 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

Bishop Dustin Barnette of the Gridley First Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will officiate the service. Interment will be at the Gridley Biggs Cemetery.

Reception to follow immediately after at the Justeson Celebration Barn, 1803 Riley Rd. in Gridley.

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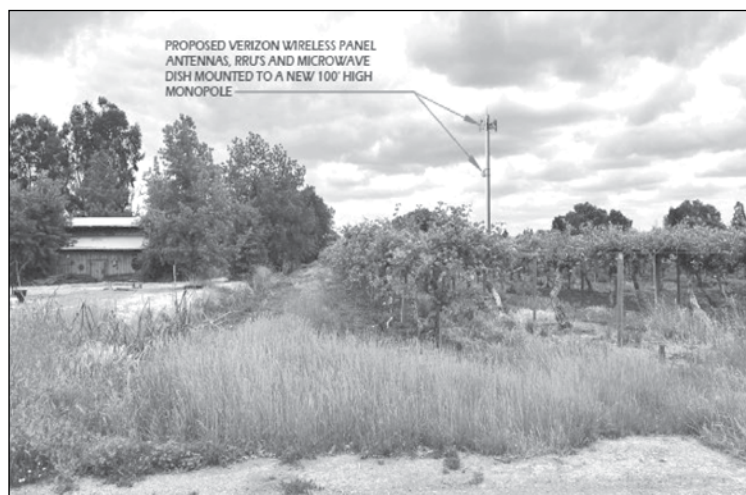


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# Planning Commission Approves Gridley Cell Tower



Proposed 100-foot Verizon monopole with panel antennas, RRUs and a microwave dish is shown in a photo simulation near West Liberty Road, looking northeast. Photo provided by Assurance Development

*Continued from page 1*  
repeated and unavoidable proximity to the installation, which raises serious concerns for my personal health and safety.”

Ken and Rhonda Seipert, land-owners near West Liberty Road, described the structure as incompatible with the rural character of the neighborhood and raised concerns about potential health impacts, noise and declining property values.

In another letter, Butte Valley real estate broker Tara Anderson argued that telecommunications towers in rural settings can negatively affect marketability and resale values, noting that many residents choose to live outside city limits specifically to avoid urban infrastructure.

Planning staff reported the Gridley project meets zoning and setback requirements for

agricultural land and described the monopole design as less visually obtrusive than lattice-style towers. Commissioners ultimately found the proposal consistent with county policies supporting expanded telecommunications infrastructure.

The commission also heard lengthy testimony on a separate Verizon Wireless and Everest Infrastructure Partners proposal to construct a 165-foot monopole with an additional 5-foot lightning rod on a 144.88-acre agricultural parcel along Flag Creek Road, about 5.8 miles north of Oroville.

That project exceeds the county’s 100-foot base height limit for telecommunications facilities in agricultural zones. Rather than take action, commissioners postponed the proposal until April to allow further review of the requested height and supporting analysis.

Public testimony on the Oroville project centered heavily on health fears and property values.

Mike Newman addressed the commission, describing his past battle with lymphoma and expressing concern that long-term exposure to radio frequency emissions could pose unknown risks.

“I just can’t believe that this radiation in 20 years won’t cause me problems,” he said. “My ask of you guys is just to take personal health care into consideration.”

Ryann Newman addressed the commission, saying her family previously declined a lease offer to host the tower on their own property after researching potential health impacts. Her husband is a cancer survivor participating in a long-term clinical study, she said, and the possibility of

prolonged electromagnetic field exposure is deeply concerning.

“I believe we do not know what we do not know about this technology,” Newman said.

Other residents emphasized the rural character of Butte Valley and Butte Canyon, warning that a structure of that scale would

permanently alter the landscape.

“This valley is one of the few remaining areas where open habitat and historic rural character can still be enjoyed,” resident Jamie McDaniel told commissioners.

The Oroville proposal is scheduled to be returned to the commission on April 16. ★

## Community Calendar

### Butte County Libraries

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

**Friday, March 6:** Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (G)

**Saturday, March 7:** Afternoon kids’ club, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (B)

**Tuesday, March 10:** LEGO Tuesdays, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B)

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

**Thursday, March 12:** Biggs chess club, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B)

**Friday, March 13:** Sure Start family play time, 9 a.m. to noon. (G)

**Saturday, March 14:** Ugly art club for adults, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Come join us to create art in a fun and non-judgmental setting with other terrible artists. Materials provided, absolutely no skills required. (G)

### Continuing through Saturday, March 7

#### Butte County Photo Contest

Butte County invites you to share your photos that capture the beauty and unique spirit of Butte County. Winning photos will be featured on the ButteCounty.net website and displayed in the foyer of the Butte County Administration building. Submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, March 7. Photos should be emailed with a completed Photo Release form. Submission forms and more details at [www.buttecounty.net](http://www.buttecounty.net).

### Saturday, March 7

#### 50th Annual Bidwell Classic 5k, 10k, and Half Marathon

This race has become a Chico tradition for so many, with three distances offered at Sycamore Field, 500 South Park Dr., Chico, starting at 8 a.m. A cash purse will go to the top male and female in each event. A substantial portion of the race entry fees go to the local high school cross country running programs. No in-person registration will be available on race day. To register in advance, or for more

information, see [www.runsignup.com/bidwellclassic](http://www.runsignup.com/bidwellclassic).

#### Preserving Food with Friends

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

#### Easter Friendly Jamboree

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tri Counties Community Center, 1830 B St., Marysville. The Tri Counties Community Center is excited to host an inclusive Easter celebration for individuals with special needs and their families across Butte, Sutter, and Yuba Counties. The event includes an Easter Egg hunt for all ages and fun activities for the whole family. Contact Katrina Inman at [Katrina.Inman.tricc@gmail.com](mailto:Katrina.Inman.tricc@gmail.com) for more information.

#### Thursday, March 12

##### Vignette – a Night of Burlesque, Drag, & Vaudeville

7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Laxson Auditorium, 400 W. 1st St., Chico. Audiences 18 and over are invited for an unforgettable evening featuring dazzling drag performances, captivating burlesque acts, and classic vaudeville-inspired entertainment all in one spectacular show. Presented by Gender and Sexuality Equality Coalition (GSEC) at Chico State. Tickets and more information at [www.chicoperformances.com](http://www.chicoperformances.com).

#### Friday, March 13

##### Choir! Choir! Choir! Presents We Will Choir! You

Doors open at 7 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. at Laxson Auditorium, 400 W. 1st St., Chico. Join us for a fully interactive, participatory show that turns audience into performer. Get ready to laugh, dance, and sing your heart out with hundreds of other music-lovers just like you. This is an epic Queen sing-along, so unleash your inner Freddie Mercury, grab your friends and create harmonies that will blow the roof off the place. All voices welcome, no experience necessary. Tickets and more information at [www.chicoperformances.com](http://www.chicoperformances.com).

#### Saturday, March 14

##### Gridley CDA Chapter 22nd Annual Banquet

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. at the Butte

County Fairgrounds, 199 E. Hazel St. Tickets are first-come, first-served and limited to 499 attendees. The California Deer Association Gridley Chapter invites you to support conservation efforts in our community. Enjoy a buffet dinner by Hunter Drake Smokehouse BBQ at 6 p.m. and then a live auction starting at 7:30 p.m. including firearms, gear, and outdoor packages – even an awarded 2026 open zone deer tag. There will be exclusive raffle prizes too. For tickets and more information, contact Betsy Teesdale at 530-701-8829.

#### Meeting Minders

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

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

**Biggs City Council** meets on the second and fourth Tuesday each month, at 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 3016 Sixth St., Biggs. The next meeting is scheduled for March 10 and more information is available at 530-368-5493.

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

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

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

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

**Gridley Unified School District (GUSD) Board** meetings are generally on the first and third Wednesday each month,

7:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 530-846-4721 for more information.

**Live Oak City Council** usually meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall, 9955 Live Oak Blvd. Call 530-695-2112 for more information. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18.

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

**Survivors of Suicide Support Group** meets the first and third Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. at the Gridley Recreation Department, 194 Washington Street. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18.

### Community Resources – Find Food

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

**First Baptist Church of Live Oak Food Pantry**, 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month, at 2480 Pennington Road, Live Oak. This is a drive-through Food Pantry, with entrance on Gum Street and exit on Pennington Road. Next distribution will be March 22. Call 530-695-2894 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

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# Butte County Cites Six in Tobacco Stings

By MPG Staff

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Butte County Public Health has completed its first comprehensive tobacco retail enforcement operations in unincorporated areas of the county, citing several retailers for illegal sales to minors.

The Tobacco Retail Enforcement Program launched in 2025 after the county hired new Public Health Code Enforcement officers. The program operates through a California Department of Justice tobacco enforcement grant aimed at reducing youth access to tobacco and nicotine products.

Working with the department's Prevention and Health Promotion Tobacco team, code enforcement officers conducted retailer education, compliance inspections and enforcement activities throughout the year. Minor decoy operations took place Nov. 5, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17, 2025, and Feb. 18.

During those operations, a supervised minor attempted to purchase tobacco products to determine whether retailers checked identification as required by law. Officers visited 41 retail locations.

Six retailers were cited for selling tobacco products to a minor decoy.

Officers also identified 10 additional violations, including expired licenses and failure to display required signage.

Selling tobacco to a minor is an infraction under California law. Citations are issued to the employee who completes the sale. Fines are \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second offense and \$500 for a third offense within 12 months.

County officials said enforcement remains a priority as Butte County ranks highest in California for current vaping among high school-aged youth and fourth highest for overall youth tobacco use.

According to the 2023 California Youth Tobacco Survey, 13.9% of Butte County high school students report current vaping, compared with 5.9% statewide. Current use of any tobacco product is 15.4% locally, compared with 7.3% statewide. In addition, 33.2% of local students report ever using tobacco products, compared with 21.6% statewide.

Public Health officials said enforcement will continue through follow-up inspections, compliance checks and ongoing retailer education focused on age-verification requirements. ★

# Gridley Revives Highway 99 Development

By Susan Meeker

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley Planning Commission voted unanimously on Feb. 18 to reinstate a long-discussed site development plan for a commercial project at 1225 Highway 99, allowing a mixed-use development to move forward after previous approvals expired.

Principal Planner Christopher Smith reminded commissioners the project had appeared before them several times but expired when required permits were not secured within the two-year window. He said the applicant is now actively preparing construction documents and moving ahead. "There isn't really a good reason for this to expire again," Smith said.

The 3.41-acre site sits at the northwest corner of Highway 99 and West Liberty Road and was created through the merger of two parcels. Zoned General Commercial, the property is surrounded by industrial uses to the west and south, with residential neighborhoods and the Union Pacific rail line to the east. The proposal includes a 5,200 square foot convenience market, auto fuel pumps, a four-pump truck fueling canopy, a 1,344 square foot car wash and an 824 square foot drive through coffee kiosk.

Smith said the project remains consistent with the city's zoning and General Plan designations and that the site design has not changed from previous approvals. However, traffic circulation once again drew the most discussion, particularly the challenges of accommodating large trucks at the southern driveway on West Liberty Road.

Smith explained that while the northern portion of the site is designed for STAA length trucks, West Liberty Road is not currently built to those standards. He said the conditions of approval require additional review before interstate trucks can use that access point.

"There is a trigger in place," Smith said, explaining that trucks cannot simply begin using the route without meeting certain requirements.

Commissioners questioned whether trucks could safely make left turns into the site from southbound Highway 99 or exit without backing up traffic into the signalized intersection. They noted the turn pocket can only hold two trucks before a third would sit in the intersection.

Richard Sanner, a resident close to the proposed project, raised concerns about visibility near the elevated railroad crossing and the potential for slow moving trucks to block lanes or trap vehicles on the tracks. Smith also summarized written comments submitted earlier, which focused broadly on increased traffic, pedestrian activity and the limited capacity of West Liberty Road as development continues in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Commissioners said the conditions already require further analysis, roadway improvements and coordination with outside agencies before construction of certain elements could begin. The project previously underwent environmental review and required a mitigated negative declaration. By reinstating the site development plan approval, the project will be able to move forward. ★

# Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

Spring is in the air. The hawks out back have been rebuilding their nest. A three-year nest blown sideways in heavy wind, hanging oddly in the tree. They moved one tree over and went back and forth using some of their old nest sticks. I can't see them as well as before. Soon I'll only hear them. I'm glad they stayed in the

neighborhood. I would miss their screeching and swooping.

At the bird feeder I noticed something I hadn't noticed before. I emptied water out and put seed in. Ursula the Bluejay zoomed in immediately. She watches me carefully. Then down plunked two ring neck doves. Ursula stood her ground then one dove lunged at her. Away she fled. I had not realized the doves were top birds at the feeder. In about a minute Ursula returned and tried harassing the doves. It did not work even when she flitted here and there on the feeder tower screeching her head off. The doves ate peacefully. Later it was Bluejay time. The sparrows, pine siskins and finches,

flit in and out of the jasmine to the feeder when the coast is clear of doves. If the doves throw a lot of seed out the little birds go to the ground and feast whenever they want. I'm waiting for the return of the Black Phoebes. I love watching them catch bugs in the air.

My dwarf peach is showing off with pure beauty of blooms. It is a beautiful tree but I think the fruit is tasteless. The espalier Aprium is bursting out and it looks like a good crop this year. I may have pruned the early peach too vigorously, I know better but I'm forever wiping out the fruiting spurs on that tree. The O Henry looks like August will bring sweet peaches. The blueberries are loaded! ★

# Clocks Spring Forward Sunday, March 8

By MPG Staff

**YUBA CITY, CA (MPG)** - Clocks will move forward one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 8, as daylight saving time begins.

The shift marks the start of longer evenings and signals the approach of spring. It also means most residents will lose one hour of sleep, a change that can disrupt routines for families, students and workers.

Daylight saving time has a long history in the United States. Congress first adopted a version of the practice during World War I as a way to conserve fuel by extending evening daylight hours. Lawmakers later repealed it, then reinstated a standardized system with the Uniform Time Act of 1966. Today, most states observe daylight saving time from March through November, though Hawaii and most of Arizona do not participate.

While the time change affects clocks, it can also affect sleep patterns. Even a one-hour shift can interrupt circadian rhythms, the body's internal clock that regulates sleep and wake cycles.

Health professionals often recommend easing into the change by adjusting

bedtimes in the days leading up to the switch. Moving bedtime earlier in 10- to 15-minute increments can help reduce fatigue on Monday morning.

Consistency remains important. Going to bed and waking up at the same time each day, including weekends, helps stabilize sleep cycles. Limiting screen use before bed can also support better rest. Televisions, phones and tablets emit blue light that may delay the release of melatonin, a hormone that helps regulate sleep.

Spending time outdoors during daylight hours may also help the body adjust. Exposure to natural light and regular physical activity can support healthier sleep patterns.

Bedrooms should remain dark, quiet and cool to promote uninterrupted sleep. Blackout curtains, fans or white noise machines may help reduce disturbances.

As residents prepare to set clocks ahead one hour, officials often remind households to check smoke detector batteries and review emergency preparedness plans.

Daylight saving time will end Nov. 1, when clocks fall back one hour. ★



## Beekeepers Assess This Year's Colony Health

With California's almond pollination season underway, beekeepers from around the country have journeyed to the Central Valley for the six-week-long bloom. While beekeepers have not seen the devastating hive mortality this winter that they did in 2025, they say they're still losing colonies. "Things are looking OK, but we won't really know until the end of bloom," said Ryan Burris, California State Beekeepers Association president and a Palo Cedro beekeeper and queen breeder. "It sounds like the numbers are better, but some people still lost a lot of bees." Beekeepers nationwide made headlines in the 2024-25 winter when they reported an average of 62% colony losses. With increasing production costs and depressed honey prices, many beekeepers said the current situation is not sustainable economically. "It's very, very difficult," Burris said.

## Subpar Snowpack Pushes Back Crop Plans for Farmers

Despite a strong start to California's wet season, snowpack conditions remain below average. A deficient snowpack could mean less water available for summer irrigation, threatening to cut surface water deliveries to farmers. San Joaquin Valley farmer Aaron Barcellos said the uncertainty has impacted his crop planning, forcing him to consider not planting any cotton for the first time in nearly four decades. "I can't afford to take the risk from an economic standpoint that I'm going to put a valuable water

resource on a crop that may not end up having enough water to finish," Barcellos said. He added, "That could change if pricing gets better or if we get a better allocation than we're expecting right now." Jay Lund, vice director of the University of California, Davis, Center for Watershed Sciences, said there is still a chance more storms will boost snowpack levels to average before April, when they typically peak.

## Survey Finds Raids Impacted California Farm Production

A new statewide survey has shed light on the impact during the past year of immigration enforcement on farms and farmworkers in California. The California Farmer Immigration Enforcement Survey, which was conducted by researchers at Michigan State University in partnership with the California Farm Bureau, is the first of its kind to assess the impact of the Trump administration's mass deportation agenda on California farms. "We were really interested in understanding whether there have been labor shortages as a result of recent immigration enforcement," said Zachariah Rutledge, assistant professor and extension specialist at Michigan State University. More than 500 farmers from across 50 counties responded to the survey, which was conducted in late 2025 and early 2026. "There were very few reports of direct immigration enforcement activities on farms," Rutledge said. "There was more anxiety and fear among the farming community as a result of general immigration enforcement efforts more broadly." ★

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## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000099**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Vintage Coaches, 15299 Forest Ranch Way, Forest Ranch, CA 95942. Theresa Aflague, PO Box 2935, Paradise, CA 95967.  
Date filed in Butte County: January 30, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
VINTAGE 3-6-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000090**  
The following person(s) are

doing business as: Rolls Real Estate, 1834 Mangrove Avenue, Chico, CA 95926  
Jarolls Inc, 1834 Mangrove Avenue, Chico, CA 95926  
Date filed in Butte County: January 28, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2014  
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
ROLLS 3-6-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000097**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Ryon Family Partnership, 7225 Dumel Road, Nelson, CA 95958  
Edwin E Ryon, Charles H Ryon,

Elizabeth A Rolland, Janet L Hewitt, Patricia J Jones, PO Box 1097, Magalia, CA 95954  
Date filed in Butte County: January 30, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2014  
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
RYON 3-6-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000114**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Fanoffthwest, 5717 Reed Lane, Paradise, CA 95969  
Steven S Sheridan, 5717 Reed Lane, Paradise, CA 95969  
Date filed in Butte County:

February 2, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
FAN 3-6-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000075**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bird Caller Farm and Garden, 4194 Nighthawk Way, Chico, CA 95973  
Navarro, Matthew Emerson, 4194 Nighthawk Way, Chico, CA 95973  
Date filed in Butte County: January 26, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 20, 2026  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
BIRD 3-6-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000106**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: CF Certified TCG, 17 Partners Trail, Oroville, CA 95966  
Fogarty, Chad Michael, 17 Partners Trail, Oroville, CA 95966  
Date filed in Butte County: February 2, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
CF 3-6-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000133**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Prime Times Gaming, 3556 Calle Principal, Chico, CA 95973  
Christopher J Zarback, 3556 Calle Principal, Chico, CA 95973  
Date filed in Butte County: February 6, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 31, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2026  
PM 3-13-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000130**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: KW Excavating, 493 Sheldon Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948  
Kegan J Waite, 493 Sheldon Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948  
Date filed in Butte County: February 5, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires

five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2026  
WC 3-13-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000116**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: W C Irvine Fruit and Produce, 949 Keith Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948  
Ellena Waller, 949 Keith Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948  
Date filed in Butte County: February 3, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 1, 2020  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2026  
WC 3-13-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000155**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: US Cash Homebuyer, 591 E 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 10, Chico, CA 95926  
Lucille J Ramsey, 591 E 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 10, Chico, CA 95926  
Date filed in Butte County: February 11, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: February 11, 2026  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2026  
US 3-13-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000132**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Sierra Nevada Olive Oil, 6561 La Porte Road, Bangor, CA 95914  
Mission 52 LLC, 6561 La Porte Road, Bangor, CA 95914  
Date filed in Butte County: February 6, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: May 23, 2025  
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2026  
SIERRA 3-20-26

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000142**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Big F8th, Club Kingdom, 5340 Clark Road, Paradise, CA 95969 Kingdom

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## NOTICE OF WAREHOUSE LIEN SALE

[CIV. CODE SEC. 798.56A(E); COMM. CODE SECS. 7209, 7210]

**TO REGISTERED OWNERS COBBLESTONE I HOMES LLC, GLENN ACKERMAN, AND LEANNE BUTTELO AND ALL PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST** in the following goods:

A 1972 mobilehome, Manufacturer COMMODORE Tradename NOBLE;  
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HUD Label/Insignia Numbers 528070 measuring 56 feet in length and 12 feet in width.

**SINCE THE DEMAND MADE** under Civil Code Section 798.56a(e) and Commercial Code Sections 7209 and 7210(2) by **Cobblestone SPC MHP I L.P.** ("Community Owner") for payment in full of the storage charges due and unpaid was not satisfied, the above-stated mobilehome, held on account of Glenn Ackerman and Leanne Buttelo, and due notice having been given to all parties known to claim an interest in the mobilehome and the time specified in the notice having expired, **notice is hereby given** said mobilehome, and all of the fixtures contained in the home, will be advertised for public sale and sold by auction at **1:00 p.m. on April 2, 2026, at 6368 Lincoln Boulevard, Space 106, Oroville, California 95966.** The subject mobilehome, and all fixtures contained in the home, will be sold in bulk, "as-is" without warranties of title, fitness for a particular purpose or any other warranties, express or implied, and will be subject to a credit bid by Community Owner. The sale is subject to change upon proper notice.


**Please take notice** payment at the public sale must be made by certified funds within three (3) days of the warehouse lien sale or at the time the mobilehome is removed from the premises, whichever is sooner. Failure to pay or remove as required will result in failure of the bid in which case the next highest third party bid will be taken subject to these same terms and conditions; if the next highest bidder is Community Owner's credit bid, then Community Owner's credit bid will prevail.

Reasonable storage charges at the per diem rate of \$22.84 from February 12 2026 through February 17, 2026, including estimated charges of \$1,000.00 for publication and service charges (note: this is an estimated administrative charge only; actual charges incurred must be paid to satisfy the demand for payment), all associated with the storage of the mobilehome in the sum of \$1,137.04. Additionally, you must pay daily storage in the amount of \$22.84 per day accruing on or after February 18, 2026, plus utilities and other charges associated with the storage of the mobilehome due after March 2026, and continuing until the mobilehome is removed from the Community.

**Please take further notice** all third-party bidders must remove the subject mobilehome from the premises within three (3) days after the sale or disposition of the same. **THE MOBILEHOME MAY NOT REMAIN IN LAKE VISTA MOBILEHOME COMMUNITY AFTER THE SALE OR DISPOSITION.** Any purchaser of the mobilehome will take title and possession subject to any liens under California Health & Safety Code §18116.1. All bidders are responsible and liable for any penalties, or other costs, including, but not limited to, defective title or other bond, which may be necessary to obtain title to, or register, the mobilehome.

**COBBLESTONE SPC MHP I L.P.**

Dated: March 6, 2026, at San Jose, California

BY:   
Lucas R. Coe  
Attorney at Law  
Lathrop GPM, LLP  
70 S. First Street  
San Jose, CA 95113-2406  
(408) 286-9800 (phone)  
(408) 998-4700 (fax)  
Lucas.coe@lathroppgm.com  
Attorney and Authorized Agent

The Gridley Herald 3-6, 3-13-26

## NOTICE OF WAREHOUSE LIEN SALE

[CIV. CODE SEC. 798.56A(E); COMM. CODE SECS. 7209, 7210]

**TO REGISTERED OWNERS QUINGZI LIU AND ALL PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST** in the following goods:

A 1971 mobilehome, Manufacturer International Mobile HM Tradename Newport;  
HCD Decal Number LAV8970, Serial numbers S3293U and S3293X;  
HUD Label/Insignia Numbers A524659 and A524660 measuring 60 feet in length and 12 feet in width per section.

**SINCE THE DEMAND MADE** under Civil Code Section 798.56a(e) and Commercial Code Sections 7209 and 7210(2) by **Cobblestone II OLH LLC** ("Community Owner") for payment in full of the storage charges due and unpaid was not satisfied, the above-stated mobilehome, held on account of Quingzi Liu, and due **notice having been given** to all parties known to claim an interest in the mobilehome and the time specified in the notice having expired, **notice is hereby given said mobilehome**, and all of the fixtures contained in the home, will be advertised for public sale and sold by auction at **10:00 a.m. on April 3, 2026, at 154 Spruce Parkway, Oroville, California 95966.** The subject mobilehome, and all fixtures contained in the home, will be sold in bulk, "as-is" without warranties of title, fitness for a particular purpose or any other warranties, express or implied, and will be subject to a credit bid by Community Owner. The sale is subject to change upon proper notice.


**Please take notice** payment at the public sale must be made by certified funds within three (3) days of the warehouse lien sale or at the time the mobilehome is removed from the premises, whichever is sooner. Failure to pay or remove as required will result in failure of the bid in which case the next highest third party bid will be taken subject to these same terms and conditions; if the next highest bidder is Community Owner's credit bid, then Community Owner's credit bid will prevail.

Reasonable storage charges at the per diem rate of \$24.51 from February 12, 2026 through February 17, 2026, including estimated charges of \$1,000.00 for publication and service charges (note: this is an estimated administrative charge only; actual charges incurred must be paid to satisfy the demand for payment), all associated with the storage of the mobilehome in the sum of \$1,147.06. Additionally, you must pay daily storage in the amount of \$24.51 per day accruing on or after February 18, 2026, plus utilities and other charges associated with the storage of the mobilehome due after March 2026, and continuing until the mobilehome is removed from the Community.

**Please take further notice** all third-party bidders must remove the subject mobilehome from the premises within three (3) days after the sale or disposition of the same. **THE MOBILEHOME MAY NOT REMAIN IN OLIVE HILL MANUFACTURED COMMUNITY AFTER THE SALE OR DISPOSITION.** Any purchaser of the mobilehome will take title and possession subject to any liens under California Health & Safety Code §18116.1. All bidders are responsible and liable for any penalties, or other costs, including, but not limited to, defective title or other bond, which may be necessary to obtain title to, or register, the mobilehome.

**COBBLESTONE SPC MHP I L.P.**

Dated: March 6, 2026, at San Jose, California

BY:   
Lucas R. Coe  
Attorney at Law  
Lathrop GPM, LLP  
70 S. First Street  
San Jose, CA 95113-2406  
(408) 286-9800 (phone)  
(408) 998-4700 (fax)  
Lucas.coe@lathroppgm.com  
Attorney and Authorized Agent

The Gridley Herald 3-6, 3-13-26

## NOTICE OF WAREHOUSE LIEN SALE

[CIV. CODE SEC. 798.56A(E); COMM. CODE SECS. 7209, 7210]

**TO REGISTERED OWNERS MARY K. YARBERRY, NANCY M. WRIGHT, JOHN DAVIS, AND FLORENCE G. DOZIER AND ALL PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST** in the following goods:

A 1978 mobilehome, Tradename BUDDY;  
HCD Decal Number ABJ1038, Serial number 04748166; measuring 60 feet in length and 12 feet in width.

**SINCE THE DEMAND MADE** under Civil Code Section 798.56a(e) and Commercial Code Sections 7209 and 7210(2) by **Cobblestone SPC MHP I, L.P.** ("Community Owner") for payment in full of the storage charges due and unpaid was not satisfied, the above-stated mobilehome, held on account of Florence G. Dozier, and due notice having been given to all parties known to claim an interest in the mobilehome and the time specified in the notice having expired, **notice is hereby given said mobilehome**, and all of the fixtures contained in the home, will be advertised for public sale and sold by auction at **10:00 a.m. on April 2, 2026 at 6368 Lincoln Blvd., Space 77, Oroville, California 95966.** The subject mobilehome, and all fixtures contained in the home, will be sold in bulk, "as-is" without warranties of title, fitness for a particular purpose or any other warranties, express or implied, and will be subject to a credit bid by Community Owner. The sale is subject to change upon proper notice.


**Please take notice** payment at the public sale must be made by certified funds within three (3) days of the warehouse lien sale or at the time the mobilehome is removed from the premises, whichever is sooner. Failure to pay or remove as required will result in failure of the bid in which case the next highest third party bid will be taken subject to these same terms and conditions; if the next highest bidder is Community Owner's credit bid, then Community Owner's credit bid will prevail.

Reasonable storage charges at the per diem rate of \$16.04 from February 12, 2026 through February 17, 2026, including estimated charges of \$1,000.00 for publication and service charges (note: this is an estimated administrative charge only; actual charges incurred must be paid to satisfy the demand for payment), all associated with the storage of the mobilehome in the sum of \$1,096.24. Additionally, you must pay daily storage in the amount of \$16.04 per day accruing on or after February 18, 2026, plus utilities and other charges associated with the storage of the mobilehome due after March 2026, and continuing until the mobilehome is removed from the Community.

**Please take further notice** all third-party bidders must remove the subject mobilehome from the premises within three (3) days after the sale or disposition of the same. **THE MOBILEHOME MAY NOT REMAIN IN LAKE VISTA MOBILEHOME COMMUNITY AFTER THE SALE OR DISPOSITION.** Any purchaser of the mobilehome will take title and possession subject to any liens under California Health & Safety Code §18116.1. All bidders are responsible and liable for any penalties, or other costs, including, but not limited to, defective title or other bond, which may be necessary to obtain title to, or register, the mobilehome.

**COBBLESTONE SPC MHP I L.P.**

Dated: March 6, 2026, at San Jose, California

BY:   
Lucas R. Coe  
Attorney at Law  
Lathrop GPM, LLP  
70 S. First Street  
San Jose, CA 95113-2406  
(408) 286-9800 (phone)  
(408) 998-4700 (fax)  
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Attorney and Authorized Agent

The Gridley Herald 3-6, 3-13-26

# California's Reading Reforms Drive Push for Better Math Skills in Early Grades



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Last year, after decades of often bitter debate, California took an important step toward raising the abysmal levels of reading ability among many of its public school students.

The Legislature passed and Gov. Gavin Newsom — who struggles with dyslexia — signed legislation that encourages phonics when teaching reading to elementary school students.

It stopped short of a phonics mandate, which would have been fully justified, to temper opposition from educators still clinging to discredited methods, such as “whole language.”

Rather, Assembly Bill 1454 requires the state to provide training for teachers and instructional materials centered on phonics, or the “science of reading,” to use its current name. It would still allow local schools and their teachers to use other methods.

The Legislature and Newsom acted when the low reading skills of California's kids, as determined by nationwide testing, became too obvious to ignore.

Reading comprehension among California's fourth-graders ranked 37th among the states in the 2024 National Assessment of Educational Progress. Just 29% of the state's students showed proficiency, down two percentage points

from 2022.

Raising reading achievement is vital because it is the precursor to all other forms of learning. Thus, California's low reading levels may be partially responsible for the state's equally unacceptably low ranking on mathematics; just 39% of fourth graders were proficient.

That's why a new effort to upgrade math skills via legislation is — or at least should be — high on the Capitol's must-do list. State Sen. Dr. Akilah Weber Pierson, a San Diego Democrat, introduced Senate Bill 1067, backed by education reformers who supported the phonics bill.

SB 1067 would require local school districts to screen primary school students for difficulty in math skills as a first step toward a statewide effort to upgrade instruction and comprehension.

“California is facing a real and urgent math achievement crisis, and we cannot afford to wait until students are already far behind to act,” the senator told EdSource, an education website that first revealed the new effort. “We know the achievement gap in math is evident as early as kindergarten. We also know that students who miss foundational math skills in grades K through 2 rarely catch up.”

Weber Pierson comes by her interest in improving education naturally. Her mother, Secretary of State Shirley Weber, was a persistent advocate of no-nonsense education while serving in the Legislature, often clashing with the state's entrenched education establishment — even the powerful California Teachers Association.

Weber grew up as a sharecropper's daughter in rigidly segregated Arkansas but moved to California with

her family in 1951, earned a doctorate and was a college teacher before running for the Legislature.

“I don't fear that I'm going to get lynched at night or that someone is going to bomb my house. I don't fear that,” Weber told CalMatters in a 2017 profile. “What my predecessors stood for and fought for was a whole lot harder than what I'm fighting for today.”

Oddly, Southern states have lately been the most active in owning up to their educational deficiencies. Mississippi's success in improving reading skills inspired other states to improve reading. Alabama, meanwhile, has done the same vis-à-vis math skills, beginning with screening students to spot those in danger of failing, as EdSource notes.

Weber Pierson's bill would confront math in the same way. The state Board of Education would appoint a panel to develop a list of screening instruments, leading to statewide adoption of screening.

“Screening is the right first step because you cannot effectively address a problem you have not identified,” Weber Pierson told EdSource.

It's a process that California should adopt for all of its persistent issues, rather than the scattergun approach officialdom tends to take.

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

# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



## The Losing Streak is Over!

It may only be a footnote in the history of the Sacramento Kings, but fans are thrilled to see a record setting 16-game losing streak finally come to an end.

Rookies Precious Achiuwa and newly discovered Daequon Plowden rose to the occasion and handed the Memphis Grizzlies an unlikely loss by the score of 123-114.

A collective sigh of relief could be heard throughout Sacramento as the Kings showed their loyal fans that there is still talent and fortitude in Kings town.

Coming off the bench was Daequon Plowden, a literal afterthought in the Kings rotation, who put up 19 big points and five rebounds in just 26 minutes of action, and his contribution could not have come at a better time.

Precious Achiuwa had his best game as a pro putting up 22 points and 12 rebounds, and combined with Russell Westbrook's 25 points and seven assists, the Kings were too much for the shorthanded Grizzlies.

Desperately shorthanded with Sabonis, Murray and Lavine sidelined with injuries, Sacramento played with energy and enthusiasm, ending once and for all a losing streak that needed to come to an end.

As veterans are sidelined, coach Christie had little choice but to turn to his bench, and his most recent addition to the floor has shown remarkable results.

Daequon Plowden is not only raising eyebrows, but he also actually helped carry the team in their second win of the week over the Dallas Mavericks. All Plowden did was hit all 10 of his shots from the field, and three being from beyond the arc. Plowden has been riding the pines all season, and his 19 points and four rebounds were a key to the victory.

Once again Precious Achiuwa made his presence felt, adding a new career high 29 points and 12 rebounds. What was even more remarkable was converting of all three of his 3-point shots, and his scoring prowess led the Kings to a 130-121 victory over Dallas.

Although taking a step back in Sunday night's loss to the L.A. Lakers, the Kings will be a welcome sight at Golden One Arena Tuesday night as they face the Phoenix Suns.

With Domantas Sabonis, Zach Lavine and De'Andre Hunter all sidelined for the remainder of the season, Kings fans will get a good opportunity to see what the youngsters on this team can contribute to real NBA action.

The entire franchise has eyes on first-round draft choice Nique Clifford as he continues to get significant playing time, and his results continue to be mixed. No question that he brings a solid defensive presence, but his night in and night out scoring has been a mixed bag. Nique's seven points per game and 40 percent shooting from the field will need to improve if he has any hope of becoming the future starting point guard for the Kings.

As for last year's second-round draft choice Maxime Raynaud, his 10 points and 55 percent from the field this season have people looking in his direction, and many are wondering how high the ceiling can be for this young 7-footer.

At 6'8" and 240 lbs. Precious Achiuwa continues to impress, and this 26-year-old big man needs to get every opportunity the Kings can give him.

Not to be ignored is the first-round draft choice of two years ago, Devin Carter, who after what seems like a season on the bench is finally getting some playing time. Carter is one of the most impressive defensive players on the Kings squad and comes with a bevy of athleticism. Devin needs to be a more consistent scorer, and the Kings will have a nightly performer to recon with.

So, pick out your favorite player who is not injured, and start rooting Kings fans. Now is your opportunity to see what the little used bench players have to offer. If there is a diamond in the rough now is the time to find it.

Hat's off to veterans to De'Mar DeRozan and Russell Westbrook that have played with quality and style, while putting up significant numbers. The young players on this team have a rare opportunity to receive some valuable schooling from future hall-of-famers!

Stay tuned Kings fans, because more wins are just around the corner!  
*All the best!* ★

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Gridley Herald Adjudicated For and By the County of Butte, Adjudication No. 27207 – October 29, 1951

Legal Advertising  
916-483-0946

300 Spruce • Suite C  
Gridley, CA 95948

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

Biz LLC, 5340 Clark Road, Paradise, CA 95969  
Date filed in Butte County: February 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.  
NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this

statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Feb 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2026  
BIG 3-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000087  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Pheasant Club, 493 B Street, Biggs, CA 95917  
Frank Mathauser, 5060 Erickson South Road, Richvale, CA 95974 and Ronnie Mathauser, 2918 S 2nd Street, Biggs, CA 95917

Date filed in Butte County: January 28, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law

(see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026  
PHEASANT 3-27-26

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #26CV00110  
Petitioner Charlene Marie Berryhill filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Charlene Marie Berryhill to Charlene Marie Vanorden.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing March 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department 6, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County

Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928  
Filed on January 21, 2026  
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Feb 13, 20, 27, March 6, 2026  
BERRYHILL 3-6-26

### LIEN SALE

1981 STARCRAFT MARINE VESSEL HIN# FSVE00610481  
CA CF# 9319GX LIEN SALE:  
3/16/2026 AT: 10:00 AM 801 BIDWELL CANYON RD, OROVILLE, CA 95966  
GRIDLEY HERALD 3-6-26



### CITY OF GRIDLEY SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

The City of Gridley is currently accepting applications to fill three vacant seats on the Gridley Planning Commission. The City invites interested residents to submit a Letter of Interest for consideration.

The Planning Commission plays a vital role in shaping the future of Gridley by reviewing land use proposals, zoning regulations, and development plans to ensure responsible growth and adherence to the City's General Plan. Commissioners serve as an advisory body to the City Council, helping to guide decisions that impact the community's long-term development.

Residents who are passionate about community planning, land use, and responsible development are encouraged to apply. Applicants must reside within the City of Gridley and be available to attend regular Planning Commission meetings. The appointed commissioners will serve a term ending on December 31, 2029.

Letters of Interest should include the applicant's name, address, contact information, and a brief statement outlining their qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve on the Planning Commission.

Deadline for Submission: Letters of Interest must be submitted by noon, March 13, 2026 to the City Clerk's Office.

Submission Information:  
Carmen Santana, City Clerk Office  
City of Gridley  
685 Kentucky St.  
Gridley, CA 95948

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at csantana@gridley.ca.us

The Gridley Herald 3-6-2026

### NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE

The following property will be sold by written bid by 9:00 a.m. MST on 3/6/2026  
2019 Utility Reefer - 1UYVS2536K2510912  
To inquire about this item please call Kerry Hendrickson at 801-624-5193.  
Transportation Alliance Bank 4185 Harrison Blvd Ogden, UT 84403

The Gridley Herald 2-27, 3-6-2026

### PUBLIC HEARING

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OF PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING SCHOOL FACILITIES FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY EDUCATION CODE SECTIONS 17620 AND GOVERNMENT CODES 65995

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that immediately following a public hearing on the matter, a proposed resolution(s) will be considered by the Governing Board of Biggs Unified School District at its regular meeting on March 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., which if adopted by the Board will implement development fees established by the District against residential construction and reconstruction at \$5.38 per square foot and against new commercial or industrial construction at \$0.87 per square foot. Education Code Section 17620 and Government Code Section 65995 authorize the proposed fees. Data pertaining to the cost of school facilities is available for inspection during regular business hours at the District's administrative offices. The fee, if approved by the Governing Board, will become effective on May 10, 2026, which is 60 days after the proposed adoption of the resolution levying such fee by the Governing Board.

The Gridley Herald 2-27, 3-6-2026

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### Notice of Public Hearing for Discussion of City Application to the State of California CDBG Program and Initiation of 8-Step Decision-Making Process per Executive Orders 11988 and 13690

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Gridley will conduct a public hearing on March 23, 2026 at 3:00 PM, at Gridley City Hall, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley CA 95948 to consider an application for funding under the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program 2025 Notice of Funding Availability.

The City of Gridley intends to submit an application for up to a \$3.3 million grant under the State CDBG Program to fund a public facility improvement project associated with the extension of Laurel Street.

Referred to as the “Laurel Street Extension” the proposed project extends Laurel Street west of Randolph Avenue, connecting to active developments west of Butte View Drive and tying into Jared Drive. The Project is located entirely within the City limits and within an area designated for urban development under the City's adopted General Plan and approved subdivision maps.

The Project is intended to:

- Implement circulation improvements planned under the City's General Plan and Circulation Element.
- Provide safe and efficient local access for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
- Replace and modernize aging underground utility infrastructure within the roadway corridor.
- Formalize an existing disturbed access route into a permanent, safe, public street.

The Project does not introduce new land use designations, expand the City's urban growth boundary, or increase development density beyond what has already been authorized through existing approvals.

At the hearing, the public will be allowed to comment on the City's proposed application for CDBG funds, which would fund a portion of the cost of the Laurel Street Extension; the City Council will adopt a resolution authorizing the submittal of the CDBG application and the execution of any and all subsequent documents related to the CDBG grant.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Gridley has initiated an 8-Step Decision-Making Process in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. The purpose of the 8-Step Decision-Making Process is to: 1) identify and evaluate alternatives to locating this Project in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain; 2) identify impacts of the proposed Project on floodplain management; and 3) identify mitigation measures to minimize harm, restore and preserve natural and beneficial values, and/or elevate structures involving construction. The public will have 15 days to review this Project and its impact on floodplain management, beginning on the day that this notice is first published. After the 15-day public review period, the City will post a final public notice summarizing the results of its 8-Step Decision-Making Process.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may direct written comments to Carmen Santana, Deputy City Clerk via email to csantana@gridley.ca.us or by sending a hard copy of comments to her at 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley, CA 95948. All such comments must be received by noon on March 23, 2026.

The City of Gridley does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion or disability. If you require specific accommodations to participate in the public hearing, please contact Carmen Santana prior to the scheduled public hearing at 530-846-3631.

The Gridley Herald 3-6-2026

## Biggs Shifts Grant to Sidewalk Repair

By Susan Meeker

**BIGGS, CA (MPG)** - With a deadline looming, the Biggs City Council on Feb. 24 voted to redirect about \$110,000 in remaining state grant funds to complete a stretch of missing sidewalk along Fifth Street. The decision ensures the city will not forfeit the unused balance of its Regional Early Action Planning, or REAP 2.0, grant, which must be spent by the end of the year, officials said.

City Engineer Dave Harden urged the council to act quickly, reminding members that the money cannot sit idle.

"If we don't use it, we're going to lose it," Harden said, noting that the state requires all REAP funded work to support pedestrian access, infill housing or reduced vehicle miles traveled.

Biggs originally received \$158,519 in REAP 2.0 funding through the Butte County Association of Governments, an amount later increased to \$295,642. The bulk of the grant reimbursed engineering and design costs for the Second Street Bicycle and Pedestrian Project, which began in 2021 and advanced the city's long term goal of improving non motorized travel. Once that project was completed, approximately \$110,000 remained available for reallocation.

Because paving and



Traffic cones line a drainage ditch along Fifth Street in Biggs, where the City Council voted Feb. 24 to redirect about \$110,000 in state grant funds to install a missing stretch of sidewalk between Trent and Bannack streets. Photo by Seti Long

general road repairs do not qualify under the grant's climate focused criteria, Harden said staff evaluated options that would improve walkability and ADA access. They identified a sidewalk gap on Fifth Street between Trent and Bannack streets as the most practical and cost effective choice. The corridor already includes curb and gutter, allowing the city to focus solely on installing sidewalk and curb ramps rather than undertaking a full street reconstruction.

Officials said the sidewalk improvement will create a safer and more accessible walking route between nearby housing and downtown businesses,

offering residents an alternative to the busier Sixth Street corridor. The project also aligns with the city's broader efforts to encourage short walking trips and reduce reliance on vehicles.

Council members unanimously approved directing City Administrator Nicholas Gauthier to submit an amendment requesting the reallocation of the remaining REAP funds. There is no direct financial impact to the city, as the work will be fully reimbursed through the grant.

City officials said they plan to move quickly so the project can be designed, bid and completed before the spending deadline. ★

## Biggs Cruises Past Hayfork for D-VI Opportunity; Fall to Lions in Final

By YSBC

**BIGGS, CA (YSBC)** - The Biggs Wolverines boys basketball team punched their ticket to a third-consecutive Northern Section Division VI title game after they beat the Hayfork Timberjacks 79-50 on Feb. 24.

Biggs took a huge lead at the end of the first half as they led 41-18 at the break after they scored 25 in the second quarter.

Hayfork had a strong third quarter as they scored 18, but the Wolverines offense was too much. Biggs played the winner of Redding Christian and Etna.

The Wolverines were neck-and-neck with the Lions in the first half as they were within a position of the lead.

The only bad quarter of the game came from Biggs in the third as they struggled from the floor and only put up six points on the board.

The Wolverines were led by senior Hunter Seipert with 13 points and fellow senior Skyler Long led Biggs with seven rounds in the loss.

The Wolverines qualified for the CIF State basketball championships and were



Biggs junior Cameron Keouoa (2) goes to lay the ball in on Feb. 24 in the Wolverines' victory over Hayfork. Photo by Steven Bryla

given the No. 7 seed in the Division VI.

Biggs traveled to Petaluma on Wednesday night and took on St. Vincent de Paul.

For more local sports, visit ysbcsports.com. ★

## Butte County Prepares Voters for Two June Ballots

By Susan Meeker

**OROVILLE, CALIF. (MPG)** - Butte County voters should be prepared for an election unlike any they have seen before.

The special primary to fill the 1st Congressional District seat will be held June 2, the same day as California's regularly scheduled statewide primary. County Clerk Recorder Keaton Denlay said that because the two elections operate under different legal timelines, registered voters will receive two separate ballots, a situation county officials are working to explain well in advance.

The setup follows the Jan. 6 passing of U.S. Representative Doug LaMalfa, which triggered a special election to fill the vacancy. State law requires the vacancy primary to be held June 2 with a nine day window for certification. If no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote, a standalone general election will be held Aug. 4.

The statewide primary, in contrast, requires a 22 day certification period for signature curing and other voter protections. Because the deadlines do not align, the elections cannot be combined onto a single ballot.

"If they were on different dates, this wouldn't be so odd," Denlay reported to the Board of Supervisors on Feb. 24.

To reduce confusion, the county will send advance postcards, color code ballot packets, and clearly label each envelope. Outreach

will include community meetings, multilingual workshops, and coordination with local media.

Denlay said voters who want to participate in both elections must return both ballots in their respective envelopes.

Supervisors questioned whether other counties were handling the situation differently. Denlay said he was aware some counties were exploring other approaches, but he believes separating the ballots is the most accurate and legally defensible method. He told the board that consolidating the elections could create legal vulnerability if results shift after certification.

"What we are doing, I believe, insulates us from such challenges," Denlay said.

The board approved a \$500,000 budget amendment from the county's General Fund contingency to cover the cost of administering the special primary. The unplanned election was not included in the department's budget and is not reimbursable by the state. If no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote in June, the county must conduct an Aug. 4 general election, bringing the total cost to fill LaMalfa's seat to an estimated \$1.4 million, Denlay said.

Supervisors also approved an \$843,000 budget amendment to reconcile costs from the November 2025 Proposition 50 special election, which the state reimbursed almost entirely. Both actions passed unanimously. ★

## 'Guys and Dolls' Performing March 11-13

By Cindy Scott

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Gambling gangsters and high romance come together in the GHS musical "Guys and Dolls," performing March 11 at 4 p.m. and March 12 and 13 at 7 p.m. in the Guardian Building at Gridley High School, 300 E. Spruce St.

Audience members can expect comedy, drama and memorable songs, including "Luck Be a Lady" and "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat."

More than 30 students are involved as cast or backstage crew members. Gerardo Negrete and Asia Clark play Sky Masterson and Sarah Brown. Will Bevan plays Nathan Detroit. Claire Robertson and Miley Miranda play Miss Adelaide.

The production is the "junior" version of the musical. The show runs about 90 minutes and is



Nathan Detroit (Will Bevan) pleads with Miss Adelaide (Claire Robertson) after she learns he never quit gambling in the GHS Drama Club production of "Guys and Dolls," showing Wednesday through Friday at the Guardian Building. Photo by Cindy Scott

appropriate for children.

Tickets cost \$12 for adults and \$8 for K-12

students. They are available at GridleyMusic.com or at the door. ★

## Then and Now: Gridley Museum's Photo Contest

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley Museum has partnered with the Gridley Herald to launch a historical photo contest titled "Then & Now."

Beginning this week and continuing for 17 weeks through July 4, a historic photo of a Gridley-area landmark will appear in the Herald as it looked in the past. Community members are invited to identify the present-day location of each landmark based on the historic image.

Participants must submit their best guess of where the building was originally located and where it is now. Entries should include the photo number, the participant's guess, full name, phone number and email address. Limit one guess per person, per photo.

The final photo will

publish July 4. An answer key will run after the contest closes so participants can compare their responses. The individual who correctly identifies the most locations will receive a \$100 cash prize.

The contest is open to residents of Gridley, Biggs and Live Oak, California, ages 12 and older.

The Gridley Museum is located at 601 Kentucky St. in Gridley. For more information, call 530-846-4482. ★



A historic Gridley building is shown as it appeared "then." Readers are invited to identify the building's former location and what stands there now. Submit guesses in writing to the Gridley Museum and include the photo number, full name and contact information. Limit one entry per person, per photo. The contest is open to residents of Gridley, Live Oak and Biggs ages 12 and older. An answer key will publish after the contest ends July 4. Photo courtesy of the Gridley Museum.

## Gridley Police Report



February 8 - February 25

**Feb. 8:** At 2:12 a.m. on Spruce Street and Kentucky Street, Gridley, Charles Allen Maggiore, 40, was arrested on suspicion of DUI Alcohol (M) (23152(a) VC), DUI Alcohol/0.08 Percent (M) (23152(b) VC) and Probation Violation: rearrest/revoke (M) (1203.2(a) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 9:** At 1:06 a.m. on the 1400 block of SR 99, Gridley, Aaron Michael Price, 42, was arrested on suspicion of DUI Alcohol (M) (23152(a) VC) and DUI Alcohol/0.08 Percent (M) (23152(b) VC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 11:** At 3:20 p.m. on the 1500 block of SR99 Huckleberry's, Gridley, Gena Leann Lewis, 41, was arrested on suspicion of Battery On Person - Simple (M) (242 PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 15:** At 1:50 a.m. on the 1500 block of SR99, Gridley, Jesus Antonio Castillortorres, 45, was arrested on suspicion of DUI Alcohol (M) (23152(a) VC) and DUI Alcohol/0.08 Percent (M) (23152(b) VC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 16:** At 11:52 a.m. on the 1500 block of SR99, Gridley, Marshall James Hollingsworth, 35, was arrested on suspicion of Prohibited Person Own/possess/etc Ammunition/etc (F) (30305(a)(1) PC) and Probation Violation: rearrest/revoke (M) (1203.2(a) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 18:** At 5:37 p.m. on the 100 block of Washington Street, Gridley, Don Gordon Butler, 73, was arrested on suspicion of

Trespass: refuse to Leave Property: Peace Officer Request (M) (602(o) (1) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 19:** At 4:16 p.m. on the 3100 block of Fourth Street, Biggs, Elisha Alexandra Amaya Griffin, 23, was arrested on suspicion of Obstruct/resisted Exec Ofer - All Other Offenses (F) (69(a) PC) and Battery: spouse/ex Spouse/date/etc - Simple (M) (243(e)(1) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 21:** At 10:37 p.m. on the 400 block of Locust Street, Gridley, Mario Estrada, 28, was arrested on suspicion of Violate Court Ord Dom Violence (M) (273.6(a) PC), disorderly Conduct: alcohol (M) (647(f) PC) and Probation Violation: rearrest/revoke (F) (1203.2(a) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 23:** At 10:35 a.m. on the 900 block of Kentucky Street, Gridley, Sarah Jean Buckley, 43, was arrested on an Outside Agency - Felony Warrant and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 23:** At 12:43 p.m. on the 100 block of Ford Avenue, Gridley, David Karl Mitchell Stites, 26, was arrested on suspicion of Probation Violation: rearrest/revoke (M) (1203.2(a) PC), Corporal Injury On Spouse/cohabitant/dating Relationship Aggravated (F) (273.5(a) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail.

**Feb. 25:** At 10:22 p.m. in Biggs, Richard Kevin Crews, Jr, 37, was arrested on suspicion of Disturb by Loud/unreasonable Noise (M) (415(2) PC) and was booked into Butte County Jail. ★

# Dogs Go Back-to-Back as Lions Fall in PK's

By YSBC Sports

**OROVILLE, CA (YSBC)** - Two teams represented our area on Saturday, Feb. 28 as they participated in the boys and girls CIF Northern Section Division II championships.

The Gridley boys and Live Oak girls soccer teams earned an automatic berth into the 2026 CIF State Soccer Championships that began this week. Here's how their section title games went.

**Boys Division II Gridley 2, Orland 1** - The Gridley Bulldogs and the Orland Trojans split the season series during Westside League play and the rubber match on Saturday was worth the price of admission.

It was a scoreless first half but both teams had slim opportunities at putting the ball in the back of the net.

Gridley head coach Jesse Barajas told his team at the half that he wasn't happy with how they finished the

last 20 minutes of the first half.

The Bulldogs quickly built a foundation and put some controlled runs together early on in the first half and during the 58th minute, Gridley senior Cesar Alvarez had a break-away opportunity.

Alvarez received a long kick from senior Jorge Castellanos and he gave the Bulldogs a 1-0 lead.

Orland senior midfielder Nicholas Jaime tied the game in the 69th minute as he struck the ball from 25 yards out and curled it into the top of the post.

The home side of Harrison Stadium went insane as the Trojans rushed Jaime in celebration after the score.

Both teams won in the other's home field during league play. As the final 10 minutes of regulation came after gbf Jaime goal, both squads left it all on the field.

Bulldogs senior Nery Martinez, took the ball up

the left side of the field and took a 45 degree toward the left and hurled a left-footed shot towards the top right corner of the post for the go-ahead goal in the 74th minute.

Barajas expressed to Yuba Sutter Butte Colusa Sports that Martinez hardly uses his left foot and the power he had behind the kick was remarkable.

Martinez told YSBC he was hard on himself after his junior season. He told YSBC that last summer, he rededicated himself to the sport and gave it 110% in his effort.

Barajas told YSBC that the people are what makes Gridley soccer the most special thing of all in the world.

"GHS soccer has never been about one person," Barajas said. "It's about shared work, purpose and goals."

He added that the players know what the expectation of putting on the uniform means to them and their



The Gridley Bulldogs celebrate their back-to-back NSCIF Division II Championship on Saturday, Feb. 28. Photo by Steven Bryla

legacies that have worn it before them.

The Bulldogs drew the seventh seed in the CIF State Division V playoffs. Gridley traveled to Winters on Tuesday and took on the Warriors in the opening round.

**Girls Division II West Valley 0, Live Oak 0 (3-2)** - The Live Oak Lions girls soccer team lost a heartbreaker in the D-II finals on Saturday night as the West Valley Eagles won the match 3-2 in penalty kicks.

Live Oak was the only team this season that held West Valley scoreless

throughout an entire game.

That included the extra 30 minutes of distributed extra time in a championship game.

The two biggest play makers in the game were Live Oak's freshman keeper Farrah Gomez and West Valley's junior keeper Trinity Ruberto.

Gomez and Ruberto were the two best players in the game without a doubt as their stellar performances in the box prevented multiple shots on goal.

Each team had opportunities to score, but overall it was a battle of two teams leaving it on the floor.

As the whistles sounded after 110 minutes of scoreless action on the turf, it was allowed time for a battle and face off between the two goalies.

Although the Lions were prevented from winning their third straight NS title, they have a lot to look towards.

Live Oak hit the road south on Tuesday afternoon as they played Ripon Christian in the opening round of the Girls Soccer Championships for Division V.

For updated sports coverage from all schools, visit [ysbcports.com](http://ysbcports.com) ★

# A Barn-Busting FFA Week

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Gridley High School, along with Live Oak and Biggs high schools, celebrated National FFA Week.

GHS FFA planned another week of dress-up days and activities, culminating in the annual barbecue and barn dance.

The week began with "Blue Collar vs. White Collar" day, followed by "Denim Tuesday," "Dress as Your Favorite Ag Teacher Wednesday," "Camo Thursday" and "America Friday," where everyone wore red, white and blue.

As tradition dictates, the five-day stretch of activities reached its peak on Friday, Feb. 27, as

GHS FFA and LOHS FFA faced off in the County Line Cook-Off. The annual competition allows FFA students to showcase their handcrafted barbecues and put them to the test. Winners were selected in two divisions: Best Barrel BBQ and Best Other.

Gridley hosted the event this year in the ag area parking lot.

Barbecues smoked and filled the air with scent as the second portion of the cook-off commenced. Student pairs prepared and cooked tasting submissions on their barbecues in their chosen categories: beef, pork, wild game and other.

Eve Sherer, GHS FFA reporter, said Gridley dominated the



Student dress-up days included "dress as your favorite Ag Teacher Day". These students dressed up like Mr. Dressman, FFA Advisor (Center). Photo courtesy of Gridley FFA

County Line Cook-Off for another consecutive year, winning both barbecue competition categories and taking three of the four

taste-testing divisions.

"A hit at the BBQ contest was duck jalapeno poppers made by Billy Routon and Branson

Busch," said Sherer.

Also scoring a win for Gridley were Gemma Donati and Grace Leishman with their "Batman"-inspired barbecue.

Other winning teams from Gridley included Carson Allard and Rodrigo Martinez, and Hunter Dewsnup and Ethan Rickertson.

After school-hour festivities, GHS FFA hosted a barn dance in the large barn behind the GHS baseball fields from 5 to 7 p.m.

"We hired a DJ and had food trucks for the students, as well as free popcorn," Sherer said. "We had FFA members who weren't from Gridley attend, in addition to many Gridley FFA members. It was well attended."

FFA Week is celebrated nationally each year, typically in February. National FFA Week 2027 is scheduled for Feb. 20-27. ★



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