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Biggs Students Host First Art Show



Teacher Monica McDaniel and senior Tai Fui stand next to a winning piece, painted by Rosemary Castaneda at Fui's art show.

Story and photos by Seti Long

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - A senior project at Biggs High School turned into the campus's first student-led art show, giving young artists a chance to display their work and spark renewed interest in the arts.

Senior Tai Fui organized the show, curating roughly 20 pieces into a small gallery with help from art teacher and advisor Monica McDaniel.

The exhibit centered on a fantasy theme, with student submissions featuring mermaids, dragons and armored knights.

"I think it's just such a broad area ... people can truly make something that represents them," Fui said.

McDaniel said she hopes the event becomes an annual tradition.

"We're really hoping it will keep going and gain momentum," she said. "That people will see their art

Continued on page 2



Three winners were chosen to receive an award and gift card. Colby Kaelin, seen here with her entry, was one of the three winners chosen.

City Disputes Basis of CVRA Claim

By Susan Meeker

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - The City of Live Oak is challenging the basis of a California Voting Rights Act complaint, arguing in a newly released letter that the city's single precinct structure makes it impossible to prove racially polarized voting, a key element in CVRA litigation.

In an April 3 letter to voting rights attorney Kevin Shenkman, Special Counsel Martin Koczanowicz said Shenkman's March 13 demand offered general assertions but no data showing that Latino voters in Live Oak are politically cohesive or that their preferred candidates are routinely defeated by bloc voting from other voters. Koczanowicz wrote that because the city has only one voting precinct, there is no way to perform any statistical analysis to determine whether polarized voting exists.

Shenkman's demand, sent on behalf of the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project and Live Oak resident Cruz Mora, gives the city until May 5 to adopt a resolution of intent to transition to district elections or face a lawsuit.

Mora, 26, is a Live Oak High School graduate with a bachelor's degree in public administration from California State University, Chico. He works as an analyst for the State of California and serves on the Sutter County Democratic Central Committee. Mora has run for City Council four times, most recently finishing third in a five candidate race.

While city council races are nonpartisan, Sutter County's February 2025 registration report showed 42 percent Republican and 29 percent Democratic voters, with overall registration at 81.56 percent. In CVRA cases, partisan data is sometimes cited to illustrate voting patterns, though courts focus primarily on race rather than party affiliation.

The city's April 3 letter outlines three questions it says must be answered affirmatively for a CVRA claim to move forward: whether the protected class votes as a bloc, whether the non protected class votes as a bloc to defeat the protected class's preferred candidates, and whether another election system would give the protected class a better opportunity to elect those candidates. With a single precinct, Koczanowicz wrote, there is no data that can be extrapolated to answer those questions.

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Big Boy Arrival Captures Californians

Historic Steam Engine Touring for USA 250th

By Susan Meeker

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - The world's largest operating steam locomotive rolled into Oroville on April 9, and for a moment, time bent in its favor.

Union Pacific Big Boy No. 4014, a 1.2 million pound giant from the golden age of American railroading, drew hundreds to the historic Oroville Depot for a 30 minute whistle stop that felt less like a scheduled pause and more like a celebration. People lined the tracks waving American flags and cheering as the locomotive eased into view, its whistle rolling across the rail yard with a deep, resonant call that seemed to carry generations with it.

For many in California, it was something never before seen. The Big Boys did not operate in the state during their original



The Big Boy train rumbles through Marysville on April 9, pulling passenger cars and the commemorative locomotive Abraham Lincoln. Photo courtesy of Chris Pedigo

service years. Built in the early 1940s to conquer the steep grades between Ogden, Utah, and Cheyenne, Wyoming, the 4 8 8 4 locomotives spent their working lives in the rugged spine of the Rocky Mountains, far from the Sacramento

Valley and the communities that grew up along the Western Pacific and Southern Pacific lines. For decades, they existed here only in stories, photographs and museum displays, powerful and distant symbols of an era people could imagine but never

experience firsthand.

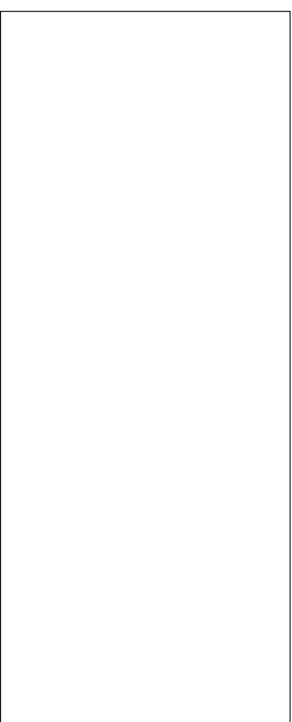
That distance made the arrival of 4014 feel like a rare gift. As part of the nationwide USA 250 celebration marking the country's upcoming 250th anniversary, Union Pacific sent the restored locomotive on

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The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

Year after year, the number one top-rated Pi-Line award-winning restaurant in Gridley is the Casa Lupe taco stand inside the Casa Lupe grocery store on Highway 99. Tied for first place in the out-of-town division is Pasquini's Italian food at Lomo Crossing. In recent months, in my travels, I have started to search

out restaurants that have Mexicans, specifically Mexican grandmas, who are in the kitchen, because no matter what type of food it is, they seem to get it right every time. I've been to an Indian restaurant with Mexican cooks, and it had great food. I've been to a Chinese restaurant run by Mexican cooks, and the food was good. I even went to an Irish restaurant with Mexican cooks, good food. Italy has long reigned as the food champion of the world, with everyone wanting Italian food nowadays. It looks like Mexico is well on its way to becoming the global culinary champion, with ever-increasing access to Mexican food in countries around the world. My people - the English seem

to have nothing the rest of the world wants to eat. If you don't believe me, just try to find a local English restaurant. There are very, very few of them.

 April showers pummeled everyone around here as we get ready for May flowers. It is a reminder that we should do everything we can to make sure kids are swim-proofed and learn not to swim in the ditches during the summertime, when it warms up, because it's going to get really hot soon. Spread the word. If you know of kids who don't know how to swim, get them signed up for some lessons.

 Josh F.W. Cook is a graduate of Butte College ★

Biggs Students Host First Art Show



Families browsed the Biggs Art Show, organized as a senior project by Tai Fui.

Continued from page 1
 displayed and get excited about it."

She added that art programs are still reestablishing themselves on campus.

"Art is so new to coming back to Biggs, so we just mostly put a spotlight on it," McDaniel said.

Fui said his interest in art began early, influenced by both of his parents.

"I have been around art basically my whole

life," he said. "My dad used to love to sketch, my mom loved drawing, and throughout my whole life, I love to just ... paint."

McDaniel said Fui drew inspiration from attending an exhibit at the Chico Art Center, which helped shape his senior project.

Rather than emphasize competition, organizers focused on participation. Three equal prizes of \$25 were awarded, along with "First Annual Biggs Art

Show" recognition.

Winners included Rosemary Castaneda for a mermaid painting, Liam Cramer for a pen-and-ink dragon and Colby Kaelin for a black-and-white sketch of an armored knight.

Both Fui and McDaniel said they hope the show encourages more students to get involved in art and helps rebuild interest in creative programs at Biggs High. ★

MEMORIAL

LAQUITA JOY LONG • 06/12/1943 - 03/27/2026

Laquita Joy Long (Chandler) passed away peacefully March 27, 2026.

Laquita was born in Westwood, California on June 12, 1943, to Jesse Zweifel Chandler and Mary Caroline Chandler (Saunders). She was the oldest of four children.

Laquita moved to the Gridley area in her youth and attended Gridley High School, where she met and married James E. Long. They had two children in their early years: a daughter Myrlai, followed by son Sean.

Laquita was kind-hearted and sharply intelligent. She worked for Wells Fargo and then branched into legal transcription, where she was immensely proud of her ability to read and write shorthand. She worked as a legal secretary for many years and ended up retiring from Sutter County working in the child support division.

She devoted her life to her husband and family, would become a mother again later in life to daughter Seti.

Laquita liked to have fun and had a quirky sense of humor - She enjoyed socializing with friends whenever possible, enjoyed western movies and loved music. She made up her own



songs and was not afraid to sing them aloud, loved flowers and gardening, but did not have a green thumb. She was as sweet as could be, but also had spice and sass!

She spent the remainder of her life with her husband, enjoying her grandbabies.

She is preceded in death by her father Jesse Chandler, mother Mary Chandler (Saunders), husband James E. Long, and son-in-law Arthur Waite. She is survived by her children, Myrlai Waite (Long), Sean E. Long and Seti Long, sisters Marges Bryan (Chandler), Linnea

Johnson (Chandler), brother Timothy Chandler, Grandchildren Jeannie Mattos (Dustin), Kegan Waite (Courtney), Tiffany Long, Jacob Long, Clancy Hardin (Christian), Kyser Waite, Saxon Ross and multiple great-grandchildren.

She was the toughest woman her family has ever seen. Laquita will remain a mystery in some ways, but will be greatly missed and is very much loved.

Her services are scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on French Ave., Gridley CA.

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Gridley FFA Holds Annual Plant Sale

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Gridley High School's greenhouse class has been getting their hands dirty in preparation for the FFA Annual Plant Sale, spring edition.

Greenhouse class students under the horticulture pathway at GHS have been utilizing the greenhouse located northeast of the football field to grow a variety of plants for the public to purchase at their upcoming sales.

Madelyn Vaca, a teacher and FFA adviser, extends an invitation to the public on behalf of her students to the plant sales planned for Tuesday, April 21 and Thursday, April 23, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the greenhouse.

Vaca said that the selection is limited this year but that there is a nice variety of plants.



Students hold premade hanging baskets full of sunny flowers for brightening your patio or your front step. These will be ready for purchase at the upcoming FFA Plant Sale. Photo courtesy of Madelyn Vaca

"Every year students are given a list of availability from our plant wholesaler," said Vaca. "As a class, they decide what they want to plant."

Vaca said that shoppers can expect flowers, peppers, succulents, hanging pots and a limited supply of tomatoes at the upcoming sale, all at affordable prices.

Students have even practiced propagating succulent plants.

"Our succulents have been propagated from the past several years," said Vaca.

The funds raised from plant sales return to the program, supporting growing opportunities for horticulture pathway students.

"I have one class

of 35 that does all the hard work," said Vaca, acknowledging the effort and care that each of her students puts into the greenhouse project.

"This class is also dual enrolled," said Vaca, meaning that students also receive college credit for Butte College horticulture classes.

The GHS FFA Plant Sale will accept cash and check only. The greenhouse can be difficult to find. To reach it, proceed east on Hazel Street, taking the loop north toward the school. When the road begins to curve left toward the main high school and East Spruce Street, there will be two roads on the right. Take the second road and head east past the football and baseball fields until reaching the large FFA barn and greenhouse. ★

Gridley Welcomes New Postmaster

Story and photo by Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - A new postmaster quietly joined the Gridley United States Postal Service Post Office earlier this year, finding a new home in California after moving from Wisconsin.

Niki Bock said she started her career at the USPS as a city carrier, delivering mail on foot to the community of Ironwood, Wisconsin. Bock described Ironwood as having a population of roughly 5,000 residents, similar to Gridley, but with much more snow.

Bock said she served that area for about 14 years and then advanced to Hurley and later Mercer, Wisconsin, where she became postmaster.

A personal adventure brought her to California, said Bock, and she is looking forward to the opportunity to meet and get to know the Gridley community.

"When I get a bit more settled, I'd like to do something within and be more involved with the community," said Bock, adding that for now she is focusing on her role at the post office.

Bock officially began her tenure on Feb. 2 at the Gridley Post Office



Gridley welcomes new United States Postmaster Niki Bock.

and has been adjusting quickly to the new area. She said she wants to create an inviting atmosphere for customers.

"I want to make the post office as homey as possible so people feel they can come in, ask questions or call. I want to be there for the community!"

In addition, Bock said she wants to be "more focused on carrier safety and accuracy of mail."

Residents experiencing issues with their mail can contact the Gridley Post Office at 805 Sycamore St. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ★

AAUW Garden Tour Set for May 2

By MPG Staff

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - The Marysville-Yuba City affiliate of the American Association of University Women will host its 32nd annual Garden Tour on Saturday, May 2, featuring a self-guided look at local gardens across Marysville.

Gardens will be open from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with a drop-by reception from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mary Aaron Museum.

Organizers said most of this year's featured gardens are located within Marysville as part of the city's 175th anniversary celebration.

Local artists will be stationed throughout the gardens to demonstrate their work and offer pieces for sale. ★

Tickets cost \$25 and are available online at mvyca.aauw.net/garden-tour/ or at several local businesses, including K. Roberts Gifts, Country Florist, Sperbeck's Nursery, Digs on D Street and the Sutter County Memorial Museum.

Proceeds from the fundraiser support programs for girls and young women, including the AAUW Tech Trek summer science camp at UC Davis, a STEM career conference for eighth-grade students at Yuba College and local scholarships.

AAUW, founded in 1881, focuses on advancing equity for women and girls through education, research and advocacy.

For more information, visit mvyca.aauw.net ★

Big Boy Arrival Captures Californians

Continued from page 1

a coast to coast tour. Oroville was one of the few Northern California stops, and by the time the train arrived, the depot was filled with families, rail enthusiasts and longtime residents drawn together by something larger than history.

Retired railroad workers stood shoulder to shoulder with children seeing a steam locomotive in motion for the first time. The air carried the scent of hot oil and warm metal. Phones and cameras rose above the crowd, but for many, the moment pulled their eyes away from the screen.

Twelve year old Ian Rodriguez of Oroville said that until that day, the 1912 Western Pacific steam engine on display at Hewitt Park across from the depot was the largest locomotive he had ever seen up close.

"Big Boy is like four times bigger," Rodriguez said. "It is huge, and it is not just the engine. It is a whole train."

Nearby, 78 year old Roger Gardner of Redding watched quietly as the engine came to a stop, the dozen train cars and locomotives it pulled settling behind it. He grew up in Oroville, spending much of his childhood along the tracks just east of the depot, where passing trains were part of the rhythm of daily life.

For him, the whistle stop reached beyond spectacle.

"There is something nostalgic about trains that few people understand today," Gardner said as the crowd pressed closer. "Even when they stop at a crossing, people do not realize how rare it is to see something like this anymore."



Crowds line both sides of the tracks to catch a glimpse of the massive steam locomotive known as Big Boy during its April 9 stop in Oroville. Photo by Susan Meeker

Gardner said he made the drive from Redding that morning with one purpose.

When 4014 came into full view, steam lifting from its stack and sunlight catching the massive drive rods, Gardner smiled and shook his head.

"I had to see this," he said. "It is definitely a Big Boy. It certainly does not disappoint."

For a brief stretch of time, the depot became a meeting place for past and present, linking the wartime 1940s when locomotives like this powered a nation, the decades when Oroville's rail yard stood at the center of local industry and movement, and today, when a single train can still gather a crowd and hold it in shared awe.

Children climbed onto their parents' shoulders. Veterans raised their hands in salute. Others stood quietly, taking it in, aware they were witnessing something uncommon.

Then, as quickly as it arrived, the moment

began to move again.

A long, low whistle sounded, felt as much as heard. The crew waved from the cab. The crowd answered in kind. And slowly, almost reluctantly, 4014 pulled away, gathering speed as it headed west over the Union Pacific trestle above Myers Street, then south toward Marysville and on to Roseville for a two day stay before continuing east toward Utah as part of its coast to coast tour.

A few cars behind Big Boy, Union Pacific's

Abraham Lincoln commemorative locomotive (No. 1616) traveled with the rest of the train. Built in 2025 to honor the president who signed the Pacific Railway Act of 1862, the unit added a modern touch to the historic steam run. The unit and the other brightly painted train cars, some emblazoned with patriotic artwork, added a burst of color as the long train rolled through town.

Of the 25 Big Boy locomotives built by the American Locomotive

Company at its Schenectady, New York, plant, 4014 is the only one still in operation. In recent years, it has made several limited trips into California, each drawing large crowds eager for a rare look at a machine once considered out of reach.

A plume of steam lingered as the train disappeared from view, leaving behind a platform full of people who understood they had just witnessed something that will not soon pass their way again. ★



Big Boy's conductors wave and cheer on the crowd as the giant 1941 steam locomotive rumbles through Marysville. Photo courtesy of Chris Pedigo



Maintenance workers grease the wheels of Big Boy during its Oroville stop on April 9, keeping the world's largest operating steam locomotive ready for the rails. Photo by Susan Meeker

MEMORIAL

PAMELA KAY RAMIREZ • 01/12/1953 — 03/24/2026

Pamela Kay Ramirez, (née Sanders), 73, of Gridley, California, passed away peacefully during the night of March 24, 2026 at Oroville Hospital. A Catholic mass will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Gridley on Saturday, April 25 at 12:45 p.m., followed by a reception at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Gridley (249 Sycamore St.).



Pamela was born on Jan. 12, 1953, to parents John Sanders, and Phyllis Illeen Etherton. Pamela and her three sisters were raised in Westwood, California, where her father worked in the mill, alongside Pamela's grandfather. Pamela later relocated to Gridley, California where she spent several decades working for the Gridley Unified School District as a bookkeeper and payroll administrator, while raising her three children: John, Carin and Mathew.

Pamela will be remembered for her quick-witted humor, charismatic attitude and adventurous spirit. Family was most important to Pamela, spending most of her time alongside those that were dearest to her. Pamela cherished her years spent in Texas with her oldest son, John, and daughter-in-law, Katy, while caring for and supporting her twin granddaughters: Audrey and Emily Mitchell. Pamela also enjoyed frequent trips to Fort Bragg with

her husband, Max Ramirez, and numerous extended family members. Most trips, she was sure to bring her beloved cobalt blue VW convertible beetle, and on special occasion, the family was entertained by her accordion ensembles alongside the campfire. Pamela knew from a young age that her greatest aspiration in life was to be a devoted mother, loving wife and doting grandmother; all of which she accomplished. Pamela is survived by her husband, Maximiliano Ramirez, mother Phyllis, her three sisters, Linda Peasley (Jack Peasley), Cheryl Berge, Mary Reis (Tony Reis) and her children, John Harley Mitchell (Katy Mitchell), Carin Denise Haseltine (Dave Haseltine), Mathew William Cox (Erin Cox), and her four grandchildren: Audrey, Emily, George and Verde Ann.

Council Approves Funds for Senior Housing Upgrades

By Shaunna Boyd

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - The Live Oak City Council approved the use of state housing funds for improvements at the Live Oak Senior Village, directing more than \$71,000 toward upgrades aimed at safety and accessibility.

The funding comes from the city's 2022 and 2023 Permanent Local Housing Allocation awards from the California Department of Housing and Community Development. The city will receive a combined \$136,641, with \$71,395 allocated through a partnership with the Regional Housing Authority for work at the senior housing site.

Finance Director Ethan Gutierrez said the project will include cabinet refacing, ADA-compliant toilet upgrades, kitchen improvements and new lighting. The work is intended to improve accessibility and overall living conditions

for residents.

"It's state money that's allocated to our city, and we're taking that and using it where we can," City Manager Ben Moody said, noting the agreement came together ahead of a deadline to secure eligible projects.

Mayor Jeremy Chapdelaine said the funding had not been used in recent years and thanked staff and the Regional Housing Authority for identifying a project that benefits residents. The council approved the agreement 4-0, with Councilmember Bob Woten absent.

In a related action, the council also approved revisions to its housing funding application after the state requested administrative corrections. The updated application was approved 4-0.

During public comments, several residents raised concerns about

transparency, representation and the city's election system.

Resident Cruz Mora said he sent a legal demand letter in December 2025 urging the city to comply with the California Voting Rights Act and move to district-based elections. Mora said the current at-large system leaves parts of the city without representation and called for a voluntary transition.

"No city in the state of California has won on this case," Mora said.

Resident Marcus Prasad also supported district elections, saying the current system limits community representation. He noted Latinos make up nearly half of the city's population but have no representation on the council.

Another speaker, J.R. Thiara, raised concerns about the city's budget deficit and called for accountability from council members. ★

Two Arrested in Live Oak Robbery

By MPG Staff

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - Two Live Oak residents were arrested following a reported robbery on Richard Avenue, according to the Sutter County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies responded to the 9700 block of Richard Avenue after a report that two suspects demanded money while one displayed a handgun. The victim reported cash and a cell phone were taken.

An initial search of the

area in Live Oak and Yuba City did not locate the suspects, and a be-on-the-lookout alert was issued for the vehicle, authorities said.

The vehicle was later identified by a license plate reader traveling westbound near Highway 20 and Acacia Avenue. Deputies coordinated with the California Highway Patrol and the Colusa County Sheriff's Office while responding toward Colusa County.

A CHP officer located

the vehicle near Sycamore and Bister roads, conducted a traffic stop and detained both suspects without incident.

Olivia Herrera, 36, and Paul Noonan, 41, both of Live Oak, were booked into the Colusa County Jail. Herrera was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to commit a crime and making criminal threats. Noonan was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to commit a crime, making criminal threats, robbery and elder abuse. ★

Gridley Police Report



March 19 – April 7

March 19: At 7:26 p.m. at Second and C streets in Biggs, Shawna Ann Shuler, 43, was arrested on suspicion of making criminal threats (felony), assault with a deadly weapon not a firearm (felony), child abuse with possible great bodily injury or death (felony), and disrupting or threatening a K-8 school (misdemeanor). She was booked into Butte County Jail.

March 29: At 11:19 a.m. in the 100 block of Washington Street in Gridley, Donald Ray Stonesherron, 36, was arrested on suspicion of disorderly conduct due to alcohol (misdemeanor). He was booked into Butte County Jail.

March 30: At 6:27 p.m. at Bonnell Avenue and East Gridley Road in Gridley, Donald Jordan Cipolla, 33, was arrested on suspicion of possessing unlawful paraphernalia (misdemeanor), a misdemeanor bench warrant, and receiving known stolen property (misdemeanor). He was booked into Butte County Jail.

March 31: At 11:25 p.m. on State Route 99 at East Evans Reimer Road in Gridley, Christopher Allen Howard, 30, was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08% or higher, and a third DUI conviction within 10 years (all misdemeanors). He was booked into Butte County Jail.

April 2: At 9:05 p.m. in the 1000 block of Washington

Street in Gridley, Juan Luis Hernandezramirez, 39, was arrested on suspicion of battery against a spouse or partner (misdemeanor). He was booked into Butte County Jail.

April 3: At 7:09 p.m. in the 1500 block of State Route 99 in Gridley, Juan Gabriel Tellez, 50, was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08% or higher (misdemeanors). He was booked into Butte County Jail.

April 4: At 9:19 a.m. in the 200 block of Ford Avenue in Gridley, Steven Paul Tippetts, 48, was arrested on suspicion of inflicting corporal injury on a spouse or cohabitant (felony) and possessing unlawful paraphernalia (misdemeanor). He was booked into Butte County Jail.

April 7: At 3:55 a.m. in the 3000 block of Third Street in Biggs, Shawna Ann Shuler, 43, was arrested on suspicion of battery against a spouse or partner (misdemeanor). She was booked into Butte County Jail.

April 7: At 4:08 a.m. at Lower Wyandotte Road and Monte Vista Avenue in Oroville, Zaqueria Edward Stevens, 27, was arrested on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon not a firearm and inflicting corporal injury on a spouse or cohabitant (both felonies). He was booked into Butte County Jail. ★



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Then and Now

Gridley Museum's Photo Contest



Shown is a historic Gridley building in its prime back "Then". Based off this photograph, where was this building and what is located there "Now"? Please submit your guess of what/where the building is to the Gridley Museum in writing. **MUST INCLUDE:** The number of the photo you are submitting your guess on, your full name, best contact phone number and email address (if possible) and your guess. Limit one guess per photo/person, contest open to residents of Gridley, Live Oak and Biggs ages 12 and up. An answer key will be posted after the contest ends July 4, 2026. The Gridley Museum is located at 601 Kentucky St., Gridley and can be reached at 530-846-4482. Photo courtesy of the Gridley Museum

Gridley Debates Planning Commission Residency Rules

By Susan Meeker

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - City officials may consider a potential ordinance change that would expand eligibility rules for Planning Commission appointments, opening the door for more residents living just outside Gridley to serve.

The discussion emerged during the March 6 council review of Planning Commission vacancies, where officials noted ongoing difficulty filling seats under current restrictions. The existing municipal code allows only one commissioner to live outside Gridley's city limits, within a half mile boundary.

City officials said that limitation has reduced the applicant pool, with half of recent applicants deemed ineligible because they lived just outside the city. Of four applicants, only two, Sierra Fisher and Jose Santana, met the current residency requirements and were appointed.

Under the proposal being discussed, the council could amend the ordinance to allow additional seats to be filled by residents living just beyond city limits, while still maintaining a majority of commissioners within the city, Gridley officials said.

"I would be interested in making at least two seats open to that, but not three," Vice Mayor Bruce Johnson said, emphasizing the need to keep local representation as the majority.

Planning Commission Chair Maria Espino told the council she supported expanding eligibility, noting she currently serves as the lone commissioner living just

outside city limits but remains actively involved in the community. Espino said her family participates in Gridley sports, shops locally, and is engaged in city activities, showing that many residents just beyond the boundary are deeply connected to the city.

Deputy City Attorney Landon Little said the residency requirement is not required under state law but is established by local ordinance. Any change would require a formal amendment with two readings by the council and a 30 day waiting period before taking effect.

Prior to his appointment, former Planning Commissioner Santana addressed the council and spoke about his interest in serving again. He said he was born and raised in Gridley. With two children currently attending Gridley schools, Santana said he has always had a passion for helping the community, noting his volunteer work, coaching youth baseball and participating in local service efforts.

"I want to make it better and have a better community," he told the council.

Officials said expanding eligibility could help address recruitment challenges while still ensuring local oversight of planning decisions.

The Gridley Planning Commission reviews development proposals, zoning changes and land use matters, making recommendations to the City Council on projects that shape the city's growth and future development.

Little said there is no conflict for council members to actively seek volunteers to serve the city in that capacity. ★



Seasonal Farm Traffic Prompts Safety Reminder

By MPG Staff

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Butte County Department of Public Works is urging drivers to use caution this spring as agricultural activity increases on county roads.

Officials said motorists should expect to encounter oversized farm equipment moving at slower speeds. These vehicles often travel carefully to avoid damage to roads, guardrails and culverts, which can create safety concerns for other drivers.

Public Works advised drivers to remain alert for equipment entering or exiting roadways and to watch for reduced speeds. Operators are also reminded to use proper lighting, reflectors and slow-moving vehicle emblems.

Drivers should slow



Drivers should slow down and keep a safe distance when approaching large equipment. Image by HelloDavidPradoPerucha on Freepik

down and keep a safe distance when approaching large equipment. Officials noted that farm vehicles may require wider turns and have limited maneuverability.

Passing should only occur when it is legal and safe, with clear visibility of oncoming traffic. Drivers should not assume equipment operators can see them or move quickly.

The department also encouraged operators to check equipment for clearance issues, particularly when crossing

bridges or culverts, and to secure all attachments before transport.

Public Works said protecting county infrastructure is a shared responsibility. Anyone who sees or is involved in damage to roads, guardrails, bridges or signs should report it.

Reports can be made during business hours by calling 530-538-7681.

After hours, weekends and holidays, call 530-821-3986. Crews will respond to assess damage and make repairs. ★

Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

Snail tales might start again. Their slimy trails have been spotted. Some chewing but nothing exceptional. While it rained, they ventured out crawling along to cause mayhem. I let them crawl, not ready to be waging war on them yet.

The cold nights are hopefully done. When it got hot, I moved all my greenhouse plants outside.

Then it went back to the 40s at night. Those little softies that don't like temperatures lower than 50 degrees were very unhappy. It became tough love time, do or die. Some succulents did their turn

red for protection thing. No losses so far. Some of the water cuttings I started for the plant sale I'm participating in on April 25 haven't rooted as well. For the first time I'm selling my propagations for personal gain. I've always given the plants to garden club for their sale. I have those also and any of the others that don't sell in April will go to the Red Suspenders Day sale. Come see me and get some plants that are hard to find in local nurseries or water cuttings at relatively cheap

prices, April 25 at the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds. This is shameless self-advertising. Now is a good time to fertilize your Japanese Maples. That is good advice.

Ursula is up to weird things. I see her snooping around my patio plants. I saw her on a large planter pot. She was pecking bits of pumice. I was curious so I looked it up. I found this tidbit of information, "Scrub jays often consume grit or gravel to mechanically grind tough food items, aiding in digestion." It is confirmed I also provide grit for her digestion. No wonder she guards and raids this yard so well. May we be complaining about the heat soon. May the toads start coming out and pooping soon. ★



Governor Hopefuls Vow to Cut Regulations

Governor hopefuls vow to cut regulations. Six candidates running to be California's next governor said last week during a televised forum in Fresno that if elected, they would roll back regulations that have made it challenging to farm in the state. Antonio Villaraigosa, a Democrat and former mayor of Los Angeles, referred to a study from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, that found the cost to California lettuce growers of complying with the state's environmental, labor and food safety regulations increased by more than 1,300% from 2006 to 2024. "That's not sustainable," Villaraigosa said. "There actually is agreement that things are broken in Sacramento." The forum, which was hosted by the California Farm Bureau and more than two dozen other agricultural groups, kicked off the final stretch of campaigning ahead of a June 2 primary election that will determine which two candidates advance to the general election in November. "We found it to be a critical time to highlight to candidates that agriculture and our rural counties are important," California Farm Bureau President Shannon Douglass said.

Farmers Gather to Talk Sustainability Projects at Dairies

California dairy farmers have faced new challenges in recent years as they work to beef up their sustainability practices. About a decade ago, the state passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and legislation setting a target to reduce livestock methane emissions by 40% of 2013 levels by 2030. "The reality of implementation is right here, right now," California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross

said last month at the annual California Dairy Sustainability Summit in Visalia. The event focused on connecting dairy farmers with tools to save water and reduce methane emissions and other ways to make their operations more sustainable amid changing state requirements. Speakers said reaching California's sustainability targets will be challenging, but there's hope in the progress already made. "I really have a lot of optimism that this can be done, but it's going to take the collective will of all of us," said Bill Swanson, Stantec vice president of global practice leader for water resources planning and management.

Democrats Vying for Governor Criticize Overtime Law

Pam Marrone, founder and former CEO of Marrone Bio Innovations, now ProFarm Group, shared her insights on biological pesticides, or biologicals, in a recent interview with Ag Alert®. Marrone said she believes that by 2040 biologicals will be more widely used than traditional pesticides on farms. "It all comes down to education," said Marrone, who is an entomologist by training. "The products are there. There's good science behind them. There's plenty of registered products and more coming every day." She noted there are just nine new chemical active ingredients awaiting approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, whereas there are about 70 biologicals awaiting EPA approval. "The innovation in biologicals is huge," Marrone said. "We're going to have lots of registered products, so it's about bridging the gap between products registered and how to use them on the farm." ★



Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl

The Gridley Herald is a member of Messenger Publishing Group

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THE GRIDLEY HERALD

Serving Butte and Sutter Counties

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Single Copy 75 cents.

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In Live Oak and Biggs - \$62 year (Mail only)

In rural Butte or Sutter County - \$72 year (Mail only)

Deadline for all advertising is Friday noon for the next week's issue.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



Felony Charge Filed in Animal Abuse Case

By MPG Staff

CHICO, CA (MPG) - A Chico man accused of beating a puppy has been charged with felony animal abuse and appeared in Butte County Superior Court on April 10.

Sean Leonard Henneberry, 40, was arraigned on one felony count of animal abuse. If convicted, he faces up to three years in county jail.

According to Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey, Chico police responded April 7 to a report of a man beating a puppy in the 600 block of East Third Avenue.

Witnesses told officers they saw Henneberry strike a mixed-breed Husky puppy, estimated to be 12 to 16 weeks old, multiple times with a stick and drag the animal along the roadway. When confronted, he abandoned the puppy and left the area, authorities said.

Officers located the puppy with injuries including scratches, bleeding and a possible broken limb. The animal was taken to Valley Oak Veterinary Center



for emergency care, where staff later confirmed a fractured paw.

Police found Henneberry nearby and arrested him. He was booked into Butte County Jail.

"The acts of animal cruelty are taken seriously," Ramsey said, urging the public to report suspected abuse or neglect.

Henneberry was appointed a public defender and remains in custody in lieu of \$115,000 bail. He is scheduled to return to court April 15 for entry of plea. ★

City Disputes Basis of CVRA Claim

Continued from page 1

Several small cities have already faced CVRA challenges and voluntarily shifted to district elections, including Guadalupe, population about 7,000, which adopted districts in 2018 after receiving a demand letter, according to City of Guadalupe Resolution 2018 13. The City of Coalinga, population roughly 8,000 at the time, also transitioned to district elections after receiving a CVRA demand letter, with its city attorney advising the Coalinga City Council in 2015 that the city was unlikely to prevail if sued. Both cities cited the cost of litigation and the CVRA's "low legal threshold" in their decisions to switch, and neither attempted to defend their at-large systems in court.

Small school districts have also been required to end at-large elections under the CVRA, including Ramona Unified School District, where a judge in the Jauregui v. City of Palmdale case accepted testimony from voting rights statisticians hired by the plaintiffs who determine voting patterns. The court in 2014 found that their analysis was sufficient even with very limited precinct data.



Live Oak's April 3 response follows a similar letter the city sent in January rejecting Mora's earlier demand. In that correspondence, Koczanowicz said Mora had not identified which minority group was allegedly disenfranchised and had provided no demographic or election data to support his claim. The city maintains that neither Mora nor Shenkman has supplied the evidence needed to demonstrate racially polarized voting.

Shenkman, who has litigated more than 175 CVRA cases statewide, has warned that if the city does not adopt a resolution of intent by May 5, he will seek judicial relief. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000252

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Witching Sour Bakery, 1425 Nord Avenue Apt 60, Chico, CA 95926

Pitzer, Haley Aileen, 1425 Nord Avenue Apt 60, Chico, CA 95926 Date filed in Butte County: March 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 8, 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: March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000195
The following person(s) are

doing business as: Paradise Countertops and Cabinets, 940-B Easy Street, Paradise, CA 95969

Benjamin C Price, 1683 Cameo Lane, Paradise, CA 95969 Date filed in Butte County: February 24, 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: April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000202
The following person(s) are doing business as: Entwood Property Management, 2515 Ceanothus Avenue #100, Chico, CA 95973
Entwood Property Management,

Inc., 2515 Ceanothus Avenue, Chico, CA 95973

Date filed in Butte County: February 26, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 1, 2016 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: April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

ENTWOOD 4-24-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000244
The following person(s) are doing business as: Wampum Ranches, Indian Hill Land Co, 59 Wright Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948

Claire Lund Berkley Exempt Trust, 59 Wright Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948
Date filed in Butte County: March 6, 2026. The Registrant com-

menced to transact business under the above business name on: June 10, 1970

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: April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2026

WAMPUM 5-1-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000141
The following person(s) are doing business as: Nor Cal Brokerage Co, 470 H Street, Biggs, CA 95917

Susana M Green, PO Box 501, Biggs, CA 95917
Date filed in Butte County: February 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 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: April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2026

NOR 5-1-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000328
The following person(s) are doing business as: Little Roots Plants by Mia & Matteo, 17 Leslie Lane, Oroville, CA 95966

Sarmiento, Janneo Orchid, 17 Leslie Lane, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: March 26, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 8, 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: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2026

LITTLE 5-8-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000300
The following person(s) are doing business as: Sips N Smiles, 291 Chatfield Avenue, Biggs, CA 95917

Cheryl B Jackson, 291 Chatfield Avenue, Biggs, CA 95917
Date filed in Butte County: March 23, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 16, 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: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2026

SIPS 5-8-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000256
The following person(s) are doing business as: Reynosa Speech Therapy, 2445 Oro Dam Boulevard Suite 8, Oroville, CA 95966

Reynosa Speech Therapy PC, 5327 Parkdale Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966

Date filed in Butte County: March 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 10, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2026

REYNOSA 5-8-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000380
The following person(s) are doing business as: Guiding Hands Senior Living Referral and Placement Service, 6516 Jack Hill Drive, Oroville, CA 95966

Secunda Y Conway, PO Box 23, Palermo, CA 95968 and Sharon Covey, 6516 Jack Hill Drive, Oroville, CA 95966

Date filed in Butte County: April 8, 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: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2026

GUIDING 5-8-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000211
The following person(s) are doing business as: La Milpa De Guerrero, 1414 Park Avenue #120, Chico, CA 95928

Julio Cesar Maldonado, 1414 Park Avenue #120, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: March 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: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2026

LA 5-8-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000363
The following person(s) are doing business as: Mountain Charlie Sheds, Dynamic Steel Structures, Pro Steel Build, 4801 Feather River Boulevard, Oroville, CA 95965

Cary S Barnett, 4801 Feather River Boulevard, Oroville, CA 95965
Date filed in Butte County: April 3, 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: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2026

MOUNTAIN 5-8-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ELSA R. SLEEZER
CASE NO. 26PR00118

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Elsa R. Sleezer.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Sam Sleezer, Patrick Sleezer, Kym Sleezer, Lathrop Sleezer, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Sam Sleezer be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: May 5, 2026, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Sam Sleezer, 19387 Olinda Road, Anderson, CA 96007; 530-567-8558
Publish: April 17, 24, May 1, 2026

SLEEZER 5-1-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB), pursuant to Section 12878 of the California Water Code, will hold a public hearing Friday, April 24, 2026, in the CNRA Headquarters: 715 P Street, Room 2-201, Sacramento, CA 95814. **Note: The public hearing is currently scheduled to be held in person at the identified venue, however due to changing conditions the meeting venue may change and is also expected to be simultaneously held virtually. In the event of a meeting location change, we ask that the public confirm the venue location on the CVFPB's website or attend the public hearing remotely via the Zoom link or telephone. The remote hearing link and telephone instructions can be found at CVFPB's website, www.cvfpb.ca.gov, by selecting the Meetings icon.** This hearing is being held to consider the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget estimate for Maintenance Areas (MAs) Nos. 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 20 (Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lake, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties) for maintenance and operation of the levees and flood risk reduction works within the MAs.

The purpose of the hearing is to confirm or revise the proposed maintenance and operation work program and budget submitted to the CVFPB by the Department of Water Resources for fiscal year 2026-2027. The CVFPB will receive evidence or testimony from any landowner or other interested person relevant to the proposed program of work, the necessity for such work, or the estimated cost thereof.

Within 10 days of the meeting date, please check the CVFPB website www.cvfpb.ca.gov for a copy of the proposed budget and an agenda for the April 24th meeting. If you need reasonable accommodations, call the Central Valley Flood Protection Board at (916) 574-0609, or contact the CVFPB Clerk at jonah.knapp@cvflood.ca.gov as soon as possible, for arrangements.

The Gridley Herald 4-10, 4-17-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE – PUBLIC NOTICE

GRIDLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
429 Magnolia Street
Gridley, CA 95948

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A DEVELOPER FEE STUDY AND THE INCREASE OF THE STATUTORY SCHOOL FEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Board of the Gridley Unified School District will consider input from the public on the proposed adoption of a "Level I Fee" on new residential and commercial/industrial developments as approved by the State Allocation Board on January 28, 2026. The adoption of the Study and the increase of the Level I Fee are necessary to fund the construction of needed school facilities to accommodate growth due to development.

Members of the public are invited to comment in writing, on or before May 6, 2026 or appear in person at the hearing at 6:30 p.m. on May 6, 2026, at the following location:

District Office Board Room
429 Magnolia Street
Gridley, CA 95948

Materials regarding the Study and the Level I Fee are on file and are available for public review at the District Office located at 429 Magnolia Street, Gridley, CA or on the Gridley Unified School District website www.gusd.org

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OF PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING SCHOOL FACILITIES FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY EDUCATION CODE SECTION 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 Gridley Unified School District at its regular meeting on May 6, 2026, at 6:30 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 commercial or industrial construction at \$0.87 a 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 July 5, 2026, which is 60 days after the proposed adoption of the resolution levying such fee by the Governing Board.

Dated: April 6, 2026
Published: April 17, 2026 and April 24, 2026 (The Gridley Herald)
Posted: McKinley Primary, Wilson Elementary, Sycamore Middle School, Gridley High School, Alternative Education Complex, Gridley City Hall, Gridley Library

The Gridley Herald 4-17, 4-24-2026

Call to place your legal advertising
916-773-1111

Community Calendar

Does your group or organization have an upcoming community event? Email lloyd.green@mpg8.com
Events are typically published within two weeks of their scheduled date, as space allows.

Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18

Keeping Dance Alive '26

Join us for a vibrant celebration of movement, music, and culture at Chico's premier dance event. From the elegance of Ballet and the energy of Jazz to the expressive storytelling of Contemporary, the rich traditions of Flamenco dance, and so much more – this event showcases the incredible diversity of dance in our community. Shows start at 6 p.m. each evening, or join us for a special Saturday matinee of "Alice in Wonderland" at 1 p.m. Tickets and more information at www.chicocommunityballet.org.

Friday, April 17

Street Food Festival

Join us from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Broadway St., Live Oak. Dinner plans just got easier – bring the whole family out and enjoy some great food. Food trucks, vendors, beer garden, music, and lots of fun. Brought to you by the City of Live Oak Parks and Recreation Department.

Saturday, April 18

FUR's Yard Sale

7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Eagles Hall, 1940 Mulberry St., Chico. Friends United in Rescue (FUR) is having a yard sale, and you're invited. This is such an easy way to help spay and neuter more community cats while you shop for some really fun, unique, vintage finds from multiple sources.

Woofstock

11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, 2357 Fair St., Chico. Join us for this amazing festival fundraiser benefitting the animals of Butte Humane Society. Spend the day grooving to local bands, savoring delicious food, shopping our vendor marketplace, and participating in family- and dog-friendly activities. Tickets and more information at www.woofstockchico.com.

18th Annual Walk4Water

8:30 a.m. at the One Mile Picnic Area, Bidwell Park, Chico. This event is hosted by Bridging the Gap4Water, whose main emphasis is to raise awareness and build safe water systems in developing countries. Participating walkers are encouraged to collect pledges to get friends, relatives, and co-workers involved in providing clean water to people in developing Africa. Register for the walk and download a pledge sheet at www.btg4water.org. Bring a bucket to the walk.

An Evening in Paris: Inclusive Prom

This event is specially designed for teens and young adults (ages 13 through 25) living with disabilities and those who would benefit from a lower-sensory, more inclusive prom experience. The event will feature a DJ playing top hits, a silent disco option, a photo booth to capture the memories, a taco bar to keep you fueled and a sensory and cool-down room. Bring a date, a friend, or family member. Event will be 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the CARD Center, 545 Vallombrosa Ave., Chico. Tickets and more information at www.chicorec.gov.

Sunday, April 19

Durham Grange Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Midway, Durham, in the beautiful lot behind Dollar General. Join us for our opening day!

Open Art Day in the Barn

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Patrick Ranch, 10381 Midway, Durham. A project for kids ages 5 and up will be available and the art supply closet will be open to get creative. Adults are welcome to come work on art

projects also, and the grounds will be open to sketch, paint, and indulge your creativity. Admission is free.

Durham Grange Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Midway, Durham, in the beautiful lot behind Dollar General. Join us for our opening day!

Open Art Day in the Barn

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Patrick Ranch, 10381 Midway, Durham. A project for kids ages 5 and up will be available and the art supply closet will be open to get creative. Adults are welcome to come work on art projects also, and the grounds will be open to sketch, paint, and indulge your creativity. Admission is free.

Monday, April 20

Blossom Market at Chico State

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Get ready to celebrate spring at this vibrant community gathering right in the heart of the Chico State campus. Whether you're looking for unique handmade goods, fresh local food, or a midday musical break, the Bloom Market has something for everyone. The market is centrally located on Trinity Lawn and The Gauntlet Walkway, 31 Ivy St., Chico.

Wednesday, April 22

Pulled Pork Drive-Thru Dinner

Pick up 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Patrick Ranch Museum, 10381 Midway, Durham. Dinner includes coleslaw, beans, cornbread and dessert for \$20 per person or \$60 dinner for four. Benefits Patrick Ranch Museum and their mission of preservation and interpretation of the agricultural history of the Sacramento Valley, including social, cultural and economic aspects.

Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26

Wildflower Ride & Festival

The Saturday festival is free and open to the public, noon to 6 p.m. at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, 2357 Fair St., Chico. The air will be alive with the sounds of live music, laughter, and the hum of excitement as cyclists of all ages explore the festival. Grab a drink, browse local vendors, test your skills at the bicycle skills training rodeo, and soak up the energy of fellow riders and community members. Whether you're here to ride, celebrate, learn, or just enjoy the festive atmosphere, there's something for everyone, and of course, plenty of bikes! Sunday, check-in begins at 5:30 a.m. and rides close by 6 p.m. Choose from eight options for routes up to 125 miles for all ages and abilities. Registration and more information at www.wildflowercentury.org.

North Sierra Wine Trail

Noon to 5 p.m. each day. Taste your way through the North Sierra wineries, featuring more than 10 wineries on an all-weekend tasting pass. Sip, explore, and enjoy the beauty of the region. List of participating wineries, more information, and tickets are available at www.northsierrawine-trail.org.

Saturday, April 25

Oroville Nurses Community Event

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Oroville Hospital, 2767 Olive Highway, Oroville. The family-friendly event will include activities, free tacos while supplies last and a free children's book for attendees. Nurses will offer free wellness checks, and a rally is scheduled for 12 p.m. The event is part of a national hospital tour organized by National Nurses United focused on community engagement and support for local hospitals.

Butte County Library

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.

Saturday, April 18: Afternoon kids' club, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (B)

Tuesday, April 21: Creative writing group for adults, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. (G) LEGO Tuesdays, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (B)

Wednesday, April 22: Color your world, 11 a.m. to noon. Arts and crafts for adults, (G) Afternoon kids' club, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (G)

Thursday, April 23: Chess club, 3 p.m.

to 5 p.m. (B) Movie night for all, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (G)

Friday, April 24: Sure Start family play time, 9 a.m. to noon. (G)

Saturday, April 25: Dungeons & Dragons Day, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. All experience levels welcome for adventurers 13 and older. (G)

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 April 14 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 April 14 and more information is available at 530-552-3300.

Downtown Chico Thursday Night Market opens Thursday, April 9 and continues every Thursday night, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. through September 24. You'll find the market on Broadway between 2nd and 4th Streets, including side streets and City Plaza, Chico. Enjoy more than 100 vendors along the streets, a certified farmers market, weekly live performances by entertainers of all kinds, and lots of family fun. For more information call 530-345-6500.

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

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

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

Gridley Unified School District

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

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

Live Oak Lions Club meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Train Depot, 9826 Hwy. 99. Club mailing address is P.O. Box 325. Phone 530-701-3722.

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.

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 April 26. 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, April 7. 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, April 7. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

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

Kings Korner By V.G. Harris



The Season Is in the Books

The NBA season has finally come to a close, and the Sacramento Kings face an uncertain future in many ways. Their coaching position is not among them however, with the announcement that Doug Christie will be retained for next season to mentor this group of veterans and youngsters one more time.

That decision comes with more than a few lifted eyebrows, as Christie came into question frequently this season with his decision making as it relates to rotations and much more.

Case in point was Doug McDermott who literally sat out the first half of the season, while finally getting playing time when half of the team went on the injured list. McDermott finished the season with 48 3-pointers on 39 percent shooting from beyond the arc.

Yes, the Sacramento Kings and their fan base have endured a gut-wrenching season as they managed a paltry 22 wins, making the 2025-26 season one of the worst since they landed in Sacramento over 40 years ago.

But the anemic 22 wins in all fairness doesn't tell the full story.

Injuries to key players like Domantas Sabonis and Keegan Murray robbed Sacramento of having any legitimate run at the playoffs, and as a result coach Christie and his staff had an unfettered opportunity to get a close look at the young talent on this team.

Players like Precious Achiuwa, Dylan Cardwell, Nique Clifford, Maxime Raynaud, Daequon Plowden, and even latecomer Killiam Hayes, made people sit up and take notice as they experienced NBA action under fire.

All acquitted themselves admirably although truth be told they are likely to become efficient bench players, as opposed to bonafide NBA starters.

That is not all bad, as Domantas Sabonis, Keegan Murray, De'Andre Hunter, Russell Westbrook, DeMar DeRozan and Zach Lavine represent a core of starters that have a proven track record.

The question is, what will the upcoming draft bring the Kings, and will the draft lottery be kind to them?

Sacramento finished with the fourth-worst record in the NBA tied with the Utah Jazz, so the likelihood of a high round draft choice although not a sure bet,

is a definite possibility.

Someone of the caliber of a Cameron boozier, or A.J. Dybantsa would help cement the front court that the Kings have been in need of for many years.

Sacramento is banking that they made a good decision in trading for De'Andre Hunter, and by adding another big body to the front court in the upcoming draft, the Kings could take on an entirely different look.

Domantas Sabonis remains the player that brings legitimacy to the starting unit, but question marks remain as to whether Russell Westbrook and Zach Lavine will return for a second season.

Westbrook continues to defy mother nature, averaging 15 points, five boards and 6.7 assists while logging an average of 29 minutes per game. His leadership and effervescent attitude were unmistakable, and many are looking at him as a future coach in some capacity.

Are we disappointed in the 22-win season? Of course we are. But the handwriting is on the wall, and all eyes turn to G.M. Scott Perry as the Sacramento fan base pause in unison to see what skills he can bring to this team in the upcoming draft.

Last season brought the Kings Nique Clifford and Maxime Raynaud, and although solid role players, the Sacramento Kings are in dire need of an impact player.

Will Scott Perry become the GM that everyone wants to believe is the game changer for the Kings or will it be business as usual.

Another question mark for next season is much heralded Keegan Murray. While many considered this season to be likely his coming out year, injuries put that opportunity on the back burner, and that question will need to be answered next year.

I sat courtside and watched this former NCAA scoring champ drain 11 3-pointers in a row in his rookie season, finally ending the game with 12, setting an all-time Sacramento record for 3-pointers in a game. It was a magical night but left every fan wondering what the possible was.

Cross your fingers and say your prayers Sacramento fans, because answers to many questions are less than a month away!

All the best! ★

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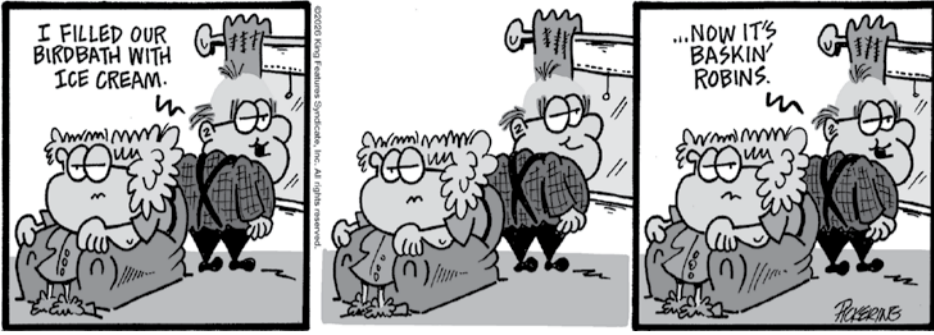
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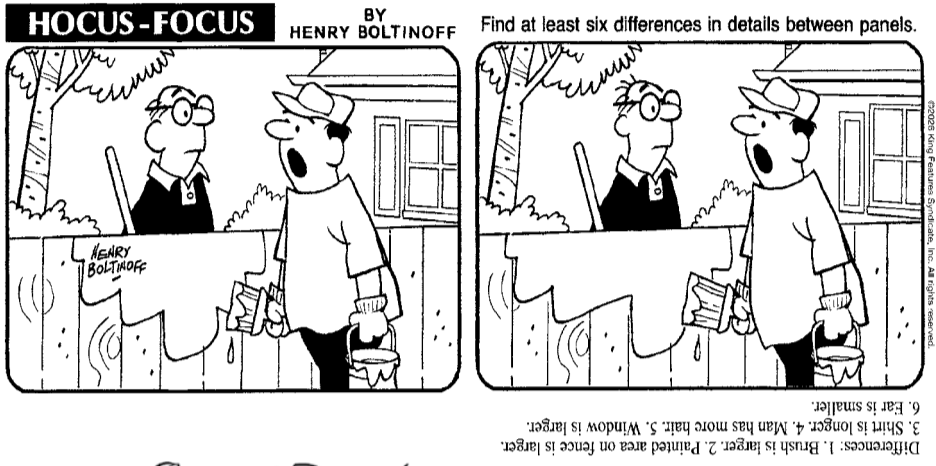
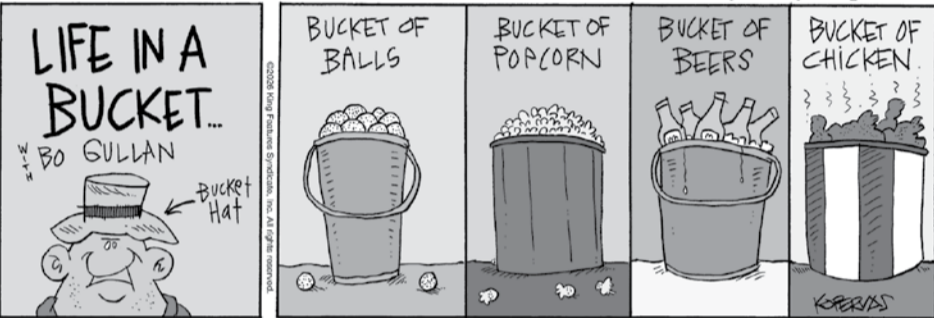
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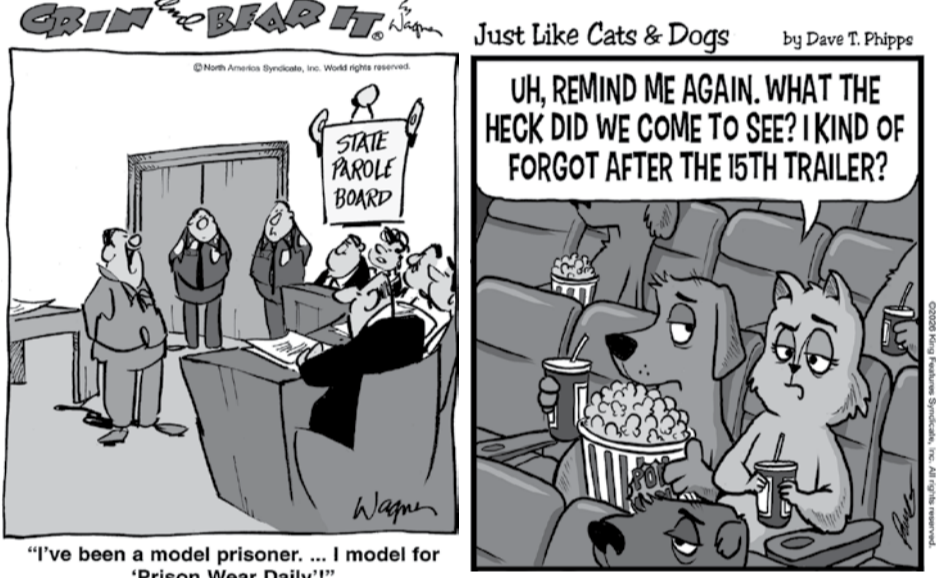
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



TIGER

by Bud Blake



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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • LEGENDARY ATHLETES

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Capital of Tibet
 - Templeton of "Charlotte's Web"
 - Maisie Williams on "Game of Thrones"
 - Poisonous plant
 - UN labor grp.
 - George Orwell to Eric Arthur Blair
 - Movie genre
 - Shark part
 - Ax mark
 - *First Native American to win Olympic Gold
 - *"The Great One" of hockey
 - Be indisposed
 - Disfigure
 - Du Bois' initials
 - Hoodwink
 - Baking soda
 - Bypass
 - "Breaking Bad" product
 - Spelunker
 - Orchestra member
 - Charles Dickens' "House"
 - Family staple
 - Like United States Capitol
 - "Cogito ___ sum"
 - Tongue-___
 - Stockholm dwellers
 - *Tiger Woods has won this award the most times
 - On the wagon
 - Silage
 - Almond-induced state?
 - *Jordan or Phelps
 - *Female player with most Open Era Grand Slams
 - Infant's woe
 - Seafood selection
 - Practical
 - Stopped sleeping
 - Pigeon sound
 - *Most decorated gymnast
 - Red, or excessively bureaucratic, one
 - End of a fuse?
 - Balance sheet entry
- DOWN**
- Drug in "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas"
 - John Mellencamp's "___ So Good"
 - Nanny in East Asia
 - Polynesian island country
 - Tick or mite
 - Abundant
 - *Boxer a.k.a. The People's Champion
 - Kingdom in South Pacific
 - Loads (2 words)
 - Nabisco cracker
 - Noisy talk
 - Like Zombie's skin color
 - Low on hemoglobin
 - Perfectly vertical
 - Adam's body part
 - Measured, like electricity on utility bill
 - *Tied for most PGA Tour wins
 - Curve like a bow
 - Biotic community
 - *O Rei of soccer
 - Throw a line
 - Steer clear of
 - Send to a specialist,

CROSSWORD

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Butte College Announces Spring Arts Season

By MPG Staff

CHICO, CA (MPG) - Butte College Performing Arts will present a spring 2026 season of concerts, theater productions and interdisciplinary events featuring student work and community collaboration.

The lineup begins April 9 with a jazz performance focused on the genre's evolution. A Spring Pop Band Show will follow, highlighting student-led groups performing contemporary music and original compositions.

Instrumental offerings continue with the Symphonic Wind Ensemble's "Reflections in Sound: Music as Art," which connects live music with visual elements.

Department Chair Ryan Heimlich said each production reflects extended work by students across multiple disciplines. Students apply training developed in classrooms and rehearsals, then present that work to live audiences.

May events expand



Local musicians perform on an outdoor stage beneath a large tree during a community event, drawing a crowd for live music and entertainment. Photo courtesy of Butte College

across programs. The annual Spring Fashion Show, titled "Chasing Seasons: From Blossoms to Snowflakes," is set for May 1 and will feature student designers alongside local retailers.

The Rhythm & Riffs

Music Festival follows May 2 at Café Coda. The outdoor event is free and open to families, with performances from multiple ensembles and community partners.

The theater program will stage "You're a Good

Man, Charlie Brown" from May 14 to 17 at the Black Box Theatre. The musical centers on familiar characters and is designed for a broad audience.

Additional performances include a Small Ensemble Concert, a faculty recital

and the Kaleidoscope showcase, which brings together students, faculty and community members for a mixed program.

The season concludes May 26 with performances by the North Valley Youth Wind Symphony and Butte

Winds.

Most events will take place at the Butte College Black Box Theatre, with some being held at community venues. Tickets and event details are available at buttecollegeperforming-arts.ludus.com ★

Clean California Seeks Local Participation

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Caltrans is inviting cities, counties and local groups to earn recognition for keeping their communities clean through the Clean California Community Designation Program.

The statewide initiative encourages communities to commit to reducing litter, improving public spaces and building long-term civic pride. Participation is free and open to a wide range of groups, including municipalities, neighborhood organizations, business districts, college campuses and military installations.

Communities that earn the designation receive several benefits aimed at supporting ongoing beautification efforts. These include personalized signage recognizing anti-litter commitments, promotion through state websites and social media, and access to grants, educational resources and cleanup kits through Keep America Beautiful. Participants are also granted membership

in Keep California Beautiful, providing additional guidance and support.

To qualify, communities must complete 10 of 15 criteria within one year of taking the program pledge. Activities include organizing cleanup events, hosting collection drives, forming partnerships and adopting policies that reduce litter.

Caltrans notes that many communities may already meet some of these requirements through existing programs.

The process begins by submitting a pledge at CleanCA.com and designating a local representative to oversee participation. Communities then track and document their progress toward meeting the criteria over a 12-month period.

According to program materials, the effort is designed to strengthen community engagement while creating cleaner, healthier environments statewide.

More information, including a full list of criteria, is available at CleanCA.com or by emailing designation@CleanCA.com ★



Fire Service Costs Expected to Rise in Gridley

By Susan Meeker

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Anticipated increases to fire service costs were outlined during an April 6 special meeting of the Gridley City Council, where CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Jason Dyer presented an update on staffing levels and contract projections ahead of the city's July 1 renewal deadline.

The city has long partnered with CAL FIRE through a cooperative agreement that blends city and county resources at Station 74. The county funds the primary engine and operates the county owned station, while the city staffs and maintains the ladder truck, allowing both apparatuses to respond together across jurisdictional lines. Dyer said the engine runs with a full three person crew, while the ladder truck typically operates with two personnel, making it the only two person staffed apparatus in Butte County and leaving it below the industry standard.

"The goal long term is to reach that traditional staffing model," Dyer said, describing a three person crew per apparatus as standard for effective fire response and safety.

To move toward that model, Dyer proposed adding one engineer position in fiscal year 2026 27, bringing the city's staffing contribution to one captain and five engineers at a cost of just over \$1.5 million. He said the request reflects earlier reductions tied to budget constraints. Gridley previously funded five engineers but dropped to three during lean years, temporarily restoring positions with a SAFER grant that covered about \$300,000 in staffing before expiring in 2023.

Dyer emphasized that staffing recommendations are based on national standards, noting that NFPA 1710 calls for at least 15 firefighters on an initial structure fire response. Through the cooperative model, Gridley receives that level of response automatically, with multiple

engines dispatched immediately through a single point of contact.

He also outlined financial and operational advantages of the agreement. All chief officer coverage is funded by the state or county. Relief staffing is provided without additional cost to the city. The city owned Type 3 engine has generated about \$824,000 in equipment rental revenue over six years when deployed to state wildfires. Expensive mandates, including protective gear that costs roughly \$10,000 per set plus annual inspections, are absorbed by the state.

Dyer pointed to the 110 Virginia Street commercial fire, which required more than 50 firefighters to contain, as an example of the regional system's effectiveness.

Council members asked questions about equipment costs, volunteer participation and long term funding. No action was taken. The contract will be returned to council at a later date, officials said. ★

PG&E Tests Forest Waste Technology

By Lloyd Green

JONESVILLE, CA (MPG) - Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has launched a pilot project in the mountains of Butte County aimed at reducing wood waste and limiting emissions through new technology.

The company has deployed a shipping container-sized machine, known as a carbonizer, near Jonesville in the Lassen National Forest. The unit uses high heat with little to no oxygen in a process called pyrolysis to convert wood waste into biochar, a material used to improve soil health.

PG&E said the carbonizer produces very low levels of greenhouse gases and smoke while operating.

The pilot uses wood collected from fuel reduction efforts and forest health projects. Instead of hauling debris long distances, crews process the material on-site and return the resulting biochar to forest and agricultural soils to support nutrient absorption.

The effort also addresses wood generated from routine vegetation management. PG&E regularly trims and removes trees that pose a risk to power



A carbonizer processes wood waste near Jonesville in the Lassen National Forest as part of a PG&E pilot project aimed at reducing hauling and emissions. Photo courtesy of PG&E

lines, often requiring transport over long distances. The pilot is testing whether on-site processing can provide a more efficient option.

PG&E is working with Lassen National Forest to process about 3,000 tons of wood during the pilot. The company is operating two carbonizers around the clock for an estimated two to three weeks. The process is expected to produce about 100 tons of biochar.

According to PG&E, the approach could reduce the number of heavy truck trips on rural roads, lowering both safety risks and carbon emissions. The company also said the technology may improve response times for

post-wildfire cleanup while reducing operating costs and staffing needs.

Biochar can serve as a soil amendment when applied properly, helping restore forest land and nearby agricultural areas that lack key nutrients.

PG&E cited results from a 2025 pilot in Nevada and Lake counties, where the technology eliminated more than 240,000 miles of logging truck travel. In that project, nearly 15,000 tons of wood waste were reduced to less than 530 tons of biochar, a reduction of more than 90 percent.

PG&E said it continues to evaluate ways to improve efficiency while reducing its environmental impact. ★

Beale Wins Top Air Force Environmental Award

By Lloyd Green

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, CA (MPG) - Beale Air Force Base has received a top Air Force honor for its environmental restoration work, earning the 2024-2025 General Thomas D. White award in the installation category.

The award recognizes excellence in environmental restoration programs, including efforts to restore contaminated sites, protect natural resources and support long-term environmental stewardship.

"Receiving the GTDW award is incredibly meaningful because it rewards the entire team, not just an individual," said Darren Rector, restoration program manager with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center. "When I say team, I'm referring to everyone who supports Beale's restoration efforts."

Beale's program includes work across 23 sites in various phases of

environmental remediation, addressing a range of contaminants. The effort brings together the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, regulatory agencies, contractors and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District.

Rector said the collaboration reflects a shared commitment to environmental protection and cleanup.

The General Thomas D. White award highlights installations that accelerate cleanup, apply new technologies and engage with surrounding communities while maintaining environmental standards.

Col. Keagan McLeese, commander of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing, said the award reflects the scope of work underway at the base.

"The team deserves this well-earned recognition," McLeese said. "This award is a testament to the dedication to

environmental stewardship and the innovative spirit found at Beale in tackling the most complex environmental challenges."

Col. Robert McTighe, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District, said the work depends on coordination across agencies.

"This award reflects strong partnerships and a shared commitment to safe, effective restoration," McTighe said. "It takes coordinated effort across agencies to deliver results."

McLeese said the work supports both environmental protection and the base's operational mission.

"This work not only protects our natural resources but also directly enhances our ability to enable America's Power Projection," he said.

Beale will now advance to compete at the Department of Defense level. ★

Dogs Go 1-3 in Central Coast Baseball Classic

By YSBC Sports

TEMPLETON, CA (YSBC) - The Gridley baseball team returned home this past weekend from the Central Coast Baseball Classic where they went 1-3 throughout the tournament that took place in Templeton from April 8-10th.

The Bulldogs have been regulars at the Central Coast Baseball Classic over years past as they have taken this opportunity to play higher level competition that will help them get ready for league play.

Gridley head coach Dan Crabtree expressed to YSBC that this tournament tests them during tournament play and it is a great opportunity to see teams that they do not regularly see.

The Bulldogs got to see a couple of teams from the CIF Central Coast Section (Templeton and San Luis Obispo) and the CIF Sacramento Section (Pitman and Merced).

Gridley struggled in their tournament opener offensively against Templeton as sophomore Trey Rosser recorded the only hit for the Bulldogs with a double in the loss.

The Eagles led 5-0 after the third and that was all they needed to hold on to the victory against the Bulldogs.

Gridley gave Pitman a fight in



Gridley junior Marcus Duncan (6) gets a base hit on March 20 in the Bulldogs' victory over Central Valley. Photo by Chris Pedigo



Gridley senior Tanner Abbott (5) tosses a five-inning no hitter on March 31 in the Bulldogs' victory against Corning. Photo by Steven Bryla

their second game as they took an early 2-0 lead in the first after they capitalized on a couple errors by the Pride.

Pitman took the lead in the second 4-2 as Bulldogs senior Tanner Abbott struggled to find the zone after he walked three hitters in the inning.

Abbott pitched 3 1/3 in the loss where he allowed seven runs off of two hits, walked seven and struck out seven.

Gridley tied the game in the third as Rosser hit a two-RBI double that scored Abbott and senior Eli Punzo.

Pitman knocked Abbott out

in the fourth as the Pride capitalized on two of the Bulldogs three errors in the game.

Gridley didn't go away quietly as they once again tied the game at seven in the fifth after senior Aceson Gomez lined a two-RBI double to left to cut the Pitman lead 7-6.

Bulldogs junior Marcus Duncan tied the game a few hitters later when he walked with the bases loaded.

Putnam won the game on a walk-off sacrifice bunt in the fifth which handed Gridley a competitive-heartbreaking loss.

The Bulldogs ended their

double-head with a 20-1 loss to San Luis Obispo where the Gridley lineup was held to two hits, which were by Abbott and Duncan.

Gridley ended the tournament on a positive note as they defeated Merced in walk-off fashion.

It was a back-and-forth game where big innings mattered to both teams. Errors contributed to five runs for the Bears against the Bulldogs.

Timely hitting and patience at the plate were a huge boost for Gridley in the win.

The Bulldogs had four hitters

in the game with multi-RBIs and Duncan led the way with two hits.

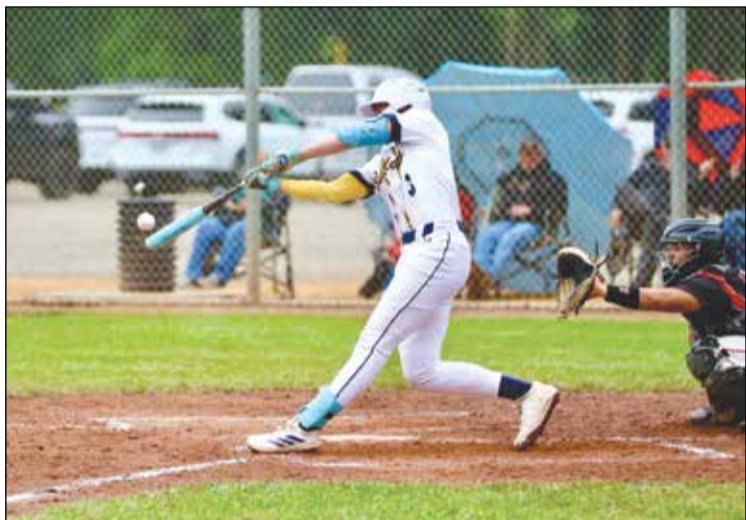
Gridley was down 11-9 heading into their final at-bat and the patience at the plate took over.

The Bulldogs drew two walks and two Gridley hitters were hit by the pitch.

Abbott delivered the lone win of the tournament for the Bulldogs with an RBI single.

Gridley had a big matchup this week in Westside League play as they played Las Plumas.

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Gridley sophomore Trey Rosser (3) lifts the ball on March 31 in the Bulldogs' win over Corning. Photo by Steven Bryla



Gridley senior Tanner Abbott (5) smacks a triple on March 20 during the Bulldogs' victory over Central Valley. Photo by Steven Bryla



Gridley junior Marcus Duncan (6) runs the bases during the Bulldogs' victory over Corning on March 31. Photo by Steven Bryla



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