



# Land Park News

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Bringing You Community News For Over 30 Years

APRIL 24, 2026

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**CANDIDATES OUGHT TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT PRESSING ISSUES**



PAGE 6

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PAGE 6

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## Senior Resource Fair Set for Farmers Market



From left are ACC's Scott Okamoto, Revere Court's Casey Simon and GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market's Vic Cima, who got together to make final plans for the Senior Resource Fair at the farmers' market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, April 26.

**Story and photos by Stephen B. Clazie**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - At the west end of Florin Road, where it meets Riverside Boulevard, a large "6" dominates the building directly across the intersection. It's a familiar sight for many, but for Vic Cima, general manager of the GreenHaven Pocket (GHP) Farmers Market, that "6" carries a deeper meaning.

"In the military, law enforcement

and even among civilians, 'I've got your six' means 'I've got your back,'" Cima explains. "Here at the Farmers Market, we've adopted that spirit of support and protection for our community and our partners."

In that spirit, Cima recently reached out to Scott Okamoto, director of Marketing and Fund Development at the Asian Community Center (ACC), with exciting news: The GHP Farmers Market is proud to welcome ACC

as a community booth participant in 2026.

"We've got your six," Cima told him.

**Planning for 2026**

"The GHP Board of Directors is thrilled to have ACC joining us," said GHP Event Coordinator Terry Catron. "They provide essential services for older adults and their caregivers, and we can't wait to help

*Continued on Page 2*

## What's Next for I Street Bridge Replacement Project?



The city released an update on the I Street Bridge Replacement Project, noting higher-than-expected costs for delays but reaffirming it as a top priority, with construction now expected to begin in 2027. Photo courtesy of City of Sacramento

**City of Sacramento News Release**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Construction bids for the I Street Bridge Replacement Project came in significantly higher than expected last week, prompting city officials to reassess costs and next steps for the long-planned project.

The city received proposals from three nationally recognized contractors, with bids ranging from about \$398 million to \$517 million. Construction of the new bridge was estimated to cost \$300 million.

Flatiron Dragados Constructors, Inc. submitted the lowest bid at approximately \$398.5 million, almost \$100 million higher than the city's projected cost.

City officials said construction costs across the industry have been influenced by factors such as supply chains, labor markets and broader economic conditions and that further outreach with contractors will help clarify the specific drivers behind the bids.

The higher-than-expected costs mean the project is no longer on track to begin construction this summer, as previously anticipated.

Since 2012, the city and its partners have advanced the project through design, environmental clearance, funding coordination and permitting, leaving it ready to move forward once funding challenges are addressed.

"At this point, it's truly shovel-ready," said Assistant City Manager Ryan Moore. "If we don't move forward from here, it would be extremely difficult to get a project like this back to this stage in

*Continued on page 8*

## McClatchy Traffic Drives Push for Volunteers, Transit Funding



A "Please drive slowly" sign stands at the front entrance of McClatchy High School, reminding drivers to reduce their speed in the campus drop-off area.

**Story and photos by Idaly Valencia**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Traffic congestion around McClatchy High School has become an increasing concern for students, parents, staff and nearby

residents, leading to efforts to add crossing guards to improve safety and traffic flow on and around campus.

Built in 1937, the high school sits along Freeport Boulevard in the historic Land Park neighborhood,

where it currently serves more than 2,000 students. Its front entrance experiences heavy congestion during morning drop-off and afternoon pickup, with traffic often stretching down the block, contributing to tardiness

and creating risks for students walking or biking.

Wendy Bogdan, a Land Park resident and president of the C.K. McClatchy High Parent Teacher Student Association, said the issue is due in part to

*Continued on page 3*

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**acc MAPLE TREE VILLAGE**

# Join the Movement: Make a Difference This Big Day of Giving



From transportation to medical appointments and wellness classes to social activities and caregiver support, ACC ensures seniors remain active, connected and valued members of our community. Photo courtesy of ACC Senior Services

## ACC Senior Services News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - For more than 53 years, ACC Senior Services has been a cornerstone of support for older adults across the Sacramento region, helping seniors live with independence, dignity and a strong sense of belonging. On Thursday, May 7 our community will come together once again for Sacramento's Big Day of Giving, a powerful 24-hour movement that uplifts local nonprofits and the people they serve.

In 2025, the Sacramento region raised more than \$13 million in support of more than 800 nonprofits. This year, with more than 900 organizations participating, the need (and the opportunity to make an impact) is greater than ever.

Big Day of Giving is especially meaningful for ACC, as it is our largest annual fundraiser.

of local seniors face challenges such as social isolation, limited transportation, physical and language barriers, and rising living costs. Through

compassionate care and practical programs, ACC helps to bridge these gaps.

In the past year alone, more than 4,000 older adults received vital support through ACC's Home and Community-Based Programs, while hundreds more benefited from culturally responsive care across ACC's residential communities.

From transportation to medical appointments and wellness classes to social activities and caregiver support, ACC ensures seniors remain active, connected and valued

members of our community. This work is only possible because of the generosity of supporters like you.

Big Day of Giving is your opportunity to make a direct, local impact. A gift of any size can help a senior access essential care, find connection and maintain independence. It's neighbors supporting

neighbors, right here in Sacramento.

ACC will mark the day with a lively on-campus (7334 Park City Drive) celebration featuring food sales (teriyaki chicken bowls, kalua pork sliders, Japanese curry), live music and a four-hour livestream "telethon" sharing powerful stories from those whose lives have been

touched by ACC.

Every act of generosity strengthens the safety net for older adults in our region. Join ACC Senior Services on the Big Day of Giving in building a community where every senior is supported and valued.

Learn more or give at [accsv.org/bdog](https://accsv.org/bdog) or [bigdayofgiving.org/accseniorservices](https://bigdayofgiving.org/accseniorservices). ★

## Senior Resource Fair Set for Farmers Market

*Continued from page 1*

share their work with the community."

ACC Senior Services and Revere Court are hosting the Senior Resource Fair at GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, April 26.

Okamoto said, "Connect with local services, gather helpful resources and enjoy a vibrant morning with your community."

"Join us at the GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market for a Senior Resource Fair alongside the beloved Elks 6 Sunday breakfast," Catron added.

This Senior Resource Fair is being presented in conjunction with Revere Court.

Casey Simon, director of community relations, said "Revere Court is a memory care community. It specializes in caring for adults who have Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia..."

Revere Court also offers a "day club" allowing for respite for the home caregiver and support for families caring for those living with dementia.

ACC offers a wide range of programs designed to promote health, wellness and

independence for older adults across the Sacramento region. Many of these programs are low-cost or free, and all are culturally sensitive and tailored to the diverse community ACC serves.

### A Community Connection Years in the Making

One of the key people behind this joint effort is Linda Pohl, a longtime community advocate and active member of Elks Lodge 6 for over 30 years. Cima offered his heartfelt thanks to Pohl, who has worked tirelessly to help make this collaboration possible.

"Linda's dedication to our community is unmatched," said Cima. "And her family's service doesn't stop with her."

As it turns out, Linda's son, Eric, is a firefighter at Station 13 at 43rd Avenue and Gloria Drive, just a stone's throw from the market itself.

When asked about her involvement, Linda was quick to focus on the mission.

"The Asian Community Center enhances the quality of life for older adults



Vic Cima, right, and Scott Okamoto have each other's backs for making Greenhaven/Pocket and Land Park better neighborhoods. Cima said, "In the military, law enforcement and even among civilians, 'I've got your six' means 'I've got your back.'"

in the Sacramento region," Pohl said. "Their culturally responsive services are a lifeline for so many. I'm honored to help bring their work to the Farmers Market."

Pohl also said, "Casey and Scott have both been members of the Pocket community, personally and professionally, and they care deeply about its residents and overall well-being."

"I have witnessed Vic Cima's five years of dedication to improving both the Greenhaven/Pocket and Land Park neighborhoods through his work with GHP," Pohl added.

### Looking Ahead

Back at the Farmers Market, the excitement continues to grow.

"For over 50 years, ACC Senior Services has been enriching the lives of older adults and their caregivers," Cima shared. "We're proud that they'll be joining us at the GHP Farmers Market in 2026." From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on select Sundays, ACC will be on site, right in front of that big number "6."

For Cima, it all comes down to one belief: "The value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. If we want to live purposefully, we must invest in others."

With ACC joining the GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market, that investment continues, one Sunday at a time.

"Senior Resource Fair is truly teamwork between ACC, Revere Court and the Elks/GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market as a joint venture. Each member contributing in different ways to bring this event together. It all started with a simple conversation among Linda, Vic, Terry, Scott and Casey, and has taken off and evolved into being 30 senior resource vendors and 30 farmers market vendors," Okamoto concluded. ★

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# McClatchy Traffic Drives Push for Volunteers, Transit Funding



A view of McClatchy High School's one-way entrance off Freeport Boulevard, which leads into the student drop-off area at the front of its campus.



The C.K. McClatchy High Parent Teacher Student Association is launching a pilot crossing guard program for the next school year and is seeking volunteers to help monitor traffic in front of campus and along nearby streets, including 7th Avenue and Bidwell Way.



Freeport Boulevard, the two-way street in front of McClatchy High School, is shown during school hours outside of peak drop-off and pick-up times.

in collaboration with other stakeholders, developed a pilot crossing guard program set to launch for the upcoming school year. Volunteers will be trained in coordination with the Sacramento Police Department.

Community members are encouraged to volunteer for shifts (45 minutes long) from 3:15 to 4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and 2:15 to 3 p.m. on Thursdays. Volunteers will help monitor traffic in front of the school as well as along 7th Avenue and Bidwell Way.

"From drop-off and pick-up, we move about 2,500 humans into or out of the school, and it's a very constrained place," Bogdan said.

She added that crossing guards will serve as a visible presence during peak traffic times that reinforce the school's values/expectations for commuters and help students navigate intersections more safely.

"Those values promote safe and respectful commute choices, being safe and respectful to yourself, to each other, to neighbors and to the Earth as you maneuver in and out (of the school)," she said.

Those interested in signing up can contact [ptsackm@gmail.com](mailto:ptsackm@gmail.com) or fill out an interest form at [forms.gle/r2RqmaV2Kd5abMh46](https://forms.gle/r2RqmaV2Kd5abMh46). Volunteers must be 18 years or older and will have to complete a Sacramento City Unified School District volunteer clearance.

Another effort Bogdan highlighted that could ease congestion is through advocating for the continued funding of free public transit for students.

Since 2019, Sacramento Regional Transit's RydeFreeRT program has allowed students in its service area to ride fare-free year-round. The city of Sacramento initially funded the program with \$1 million to improve school attendance. Following increases in ridership and attendance, the program was extended through 2021 and has since been supported by contributions from the county, the City of Sacramento, other cities within the SacRT district and local school districts.

According to SacRT, the program is renewed annually based on available funding. The agency's website states funding levels are expected to remain

flat in the 2026 fiscal year, while efforts continue to secure long-term support.

Bogdan said funding for the program could see an end in June, which raises concern for students that rely on fare-free rides to school through the public transit system. Current passes are valid through June 30.

"McClatchy students are one of the heaviest users of that program; it has multiple benefits," she said. "It is essential for school attendance for some students," adding that it also helps to combat traffic congestion and air pollution caused near the school.

Students have already begun their own efforts by championing for continued funding for the program. Bogdan noted that the school's Eco Club has written to city and school district leaders, with plans to also reach out to regional agencies such as SMUD for support.

"It's a really essential part of the solution for many folks," Bogdan said. "...if a percentage of those folks stop taking transit and start driving, then the traffic situation at McClatchy is just going to be that much worse."

With current funding for the program expected to end in two months, Bogdan said the coming weeks are crucial to saving it.

Residents can contact city and Sacramento City Unified School District officials using the PTSA Ryde Free advocacy template email available at [bit.ly/4tSF930](mailto:bit.ly/4tSF930) (case sensitive). Contact information is listed on the template document. Community members are also encouraged to speak during public comment at Sacramento City Unified Board meetings, held at 6:15 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of each month at the Serna Center Community Rooms, 5601 47th Ave. Upcoming meetings include April 30 and May 7.

City Council meetings are held at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. at 915 I St. Upcoming dates include April 28, May 5 and May 12.

Residents may also contact SMUD or speak during its public meetings to explore the agency's potential role in supporting the effort. The next meeting is May 21, with participation details available on the SMUD Board of Directors agenda at [smud.org/Corporate/About-us/Company-Information/Board-Meetings](https://smud.org/Corporate/About-us/Company-Information/Board-Meetings). ★

Continued from page 1

the limited space in their densely populated neighborhood, where most people commute by car.

"We were hearing from students, families, neighbors, teachers and staff that the situation was really growing untenable," Bogdan said.

She said the association has spent the past three years working to address what she described as serious traffic issues that go beyond congestion, including safety concerns at the school's student drop-off zone and its surrounding streets.

"Our neighbors really, really suffer from the traffic situation," Bogdan added.

Bogdan said the PTSA,



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## DEL PASO MANOR

A Real Cutie! The brick front exterior offers good curb appeal and features newly installed flooring. The spacious living room includes a fireplace with mantle and opens to a formal dining area. The green and white kitchen is adjacent to the spacious gathering room that includes a second fireplace, a wall of cabinets and shelves, plus a convenient desk area for work or study. There are two bedrooms and a bathroom equipped with both a tub and a stall shower for added convenience. Enjoy partial dual pane windows for improved energy efficiency and lowered wood interior doors. The backyard offers mature landscaping, multiple patio areas and raised garden beds ideal for outdoor entertainment or gardening enthusiasts. Close proximity to Del Paso Manor Elementary School. 3917 Kings Way \$495,000



## BRICK NORMANDY TUDOR

Located just across from William Land Park, this stunning Brick Normandy Tudor offers a blend of classic elegance and modern amenities. The decorative front wrought iron gate leads into a beautifully manicured formal garden with large fountain which sets the tone for the home's graceful charm. Formal entry leads to a spacious living room with cozy fireplace and French doors opening to a bright solarium room. The dining room has beamed ceiling and is perfect for formal entertaining. A smaller music room/den sits just off the dining room. The spacious remodeled kitchen boasts granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, an island with a sink, a wine refrigerator, and a breakfast bar for casual dining. The solarium room, accessible from both the kitchen and living room, features an artistically painted concrete floor and two sets of French doors that lead to the yard, prime location. 1716 Sutterville Road \$1,599,000



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# Nonprofit Breaks Ground on \$16.5 Million Food Market in River District



Alchemist Community Development Corporation CEO Sam Greenlee speaks at a groundbreaking ceremony on April 9 in Sacramento. From left are Sacramento Mayor Kevin McCarty, U.S. Rep. Doris Matsui, Greater Sacramento Economic Council president and CEO Barry Broome and River District executive director Devin Strecker.



From left, Barry Broome, Kevin McCarty, Doris Matsui, Devin Strecker and Sam Greenlee break ground on the Alchemist Public Market on April 9 at the River District in Sacramento.

**Story and photos by Eric Schucht**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Politicians, entrepreneurs, journalists and others met at a dirt lot surrounded by warehouses on April 9 in Sacramento's River District. The crowd assembled for a groundbreaking ceremony for a project that will help transform this area north of the Grid from an industrial area into a residential one.

The Alchemist Public Market has been six years in the making, with about \$15.5 million raised for its construction.

Once completed next year, the facility on the 0.82-acre lot at 341 N. 10th St. will consist of two main buildings, according to an economic report published in April.

The first building will house a 3,700 sq. ft. all-electric commissary kitchen shared by entrepreneurs who will use it to prepare food for catering events, pop-up markets

or packaged products. Up to seven businesses could use the space at one time. There will also be a cafe with coffee, grab-and-go meals, beer and wine and locally made goods.

The second building will house office, meeting and classroom space. Planned community uses include a mobile library, a voting center, health screenings and resource fairs. The central courtyard will feature four permanent vendor stalls called pods and four all-electric food trailers, one of which will be reserved for pickup orders from several businesses. This area will also be home to a weekly outdoor farmers market with up to eight vendors.

The project creator is the Alchemist Community Development Corporation, a nonprofit founded in 2004 that operates several food-related programs, including several farmers' markets and The Alchemist Kitchen, which provides business training.

Participants in the Kitchen program will be able to use the facilities at the new public market. The goal is for them to grow their business out of the space and eventually move elsewhere.

At the groundbreaking, Alchemist CEO Sam Greenlee told the crowd the project originated in June 2020. At that time, the plan was to convert a historic property in Old Sacramento into a centralized location for the nonprofit. The scope was expanded as funding was secured from institutions including Columbia Bank, Sutter Health, the city, the state and the federal government.

"It was a big, fragile idea from a small nonprofit, and the idea could have died quickly if we didn't find people and institutions willing to courageously support the vision," Greenlee said.

Devin Strecker, executive director of the River District, was another guest

speaker. He spoke on the growing need for projects like this in the area, and said, "The questions I get asked most by my fellow residents are, 'When will we get a coffee shop?' 'Where will we have somewhere to buy groceries, not in bulk?' 'And when will we get somewhere new to eat?' Well, with the Alchemist Public Market, I can answer all those questions... as soon as this is built."

The other three guest speakers were Barry Broom, who is the president and CEO of the Greater Sacramento Economic Council, along with Sacramento Mayor Kevin McCarty and U.S. Rep. Doris Matsui.

McCarty said when it comes to bringing people together through food and supporting entrepreneurs, this project "checks all the boxes."

Matsui praised Alchemist, saying, "Their work exemplifies how a community partner

can raise the floor for our neighbors and the up-and-coming entrepreneurs," and "I can't be prouder of what is happening in our own backyard."

Several participants in Alchemist's business incubator, who will sell at the public market once completed, operated booths at the groundbreaking.

One of them was Dante Williams, owner of Black Coffee Roastery. He operates an espresso cart in Rancho Cordova, and his coffee will be for sale at the cafe at the public market. He said the new community kitchen will be a resource many small business owners like himself wouldn't have access to otherwise.

"It's amazing. The space is going to be a wonderful opportunity for entrepreneurs to be able to highlight, showcase their businesses, be able to make some money, as well as a space to prep," Williams said. He called the River District "an up-and-coming

area," and he was "excited to see how it comes to fruition and develops."


The air at the groundbreaking smelled of freshly baked bread coming from a booth operated by Corrin McKellips of Sacramento, owner of Warm Nuts & Hot Buns. She has been in business for about a year and will operate out of one of the food pods at the public kitchen, which she called "fantastic."

Other vendors included Jerk Street Tacos, owned by Ramon and Nikki Chester; Nacho House, owned by Danielle Green and LaKrisha Kelley; and Sugar Coated Cupcakes, owned by LaQueanya Henry.

Henry started her business in a food cart and has since expanded into a storefront in the Tahoe Park neighborhood. She will have a trailer at the public market. She said, "It's a great opportunity, more than anything, for small businesses in the area." ★

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# Get Ready for California's 2026 Primary

## Your Questions About Voting, Answered

By CalMatters Staff  
CalMatters.org

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Where do I vote? Am I registered to vote? Does everyone get a ballot in the mail? Get the answers to your election day questions ahead of California's June 2 primary election.

**How do I vote? Does everyone get a ballot in the mail?** Yes. Under state law, vote-by-mail ballots are sent to every active registered voter.

**When will I receive my mail-in-ballot?** Counties will begin mailing ballots May 4.

**How do I return my mail-in ballot?** Mail it to your county elections office; to be counted, ballots have to be postmarked on or before June 2 and received by election offices by June 9. Drop it off at a ballot drop box, vote center or polling location anywhere in the state. Ask someone you trust to do it for you, but that person can't receive payment for doing it.

**Can I vote in person? Where is my polling place or vote center?** Yes, although mailing your ballot as soon as possible is the best way to get your vote counted fast. You can find out where to vote in the following ways. Visit <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>, text "VOTE" to GOVOTE (468-8683), call the secretary of state's hotline at (800) 345-VOTE, check your county Voter Information Guide or contact your county elections office

If you live in one of 30 counties, you'll have increased options, including as many as 10 days of in-person early voting.

**How do I register to vote? Am I registered to vote?** You can check the secretary of state's website (<https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>). You'll need to enter your name, date of birth and either your California driver license, identification card number or the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you don't have those available, contact your county elections office or the secretary of state via email or phone at 800-345-8683.

If you've changed your name since the last time you voted, or if you moved and didn't notify the Department of Motor Vehicles or U.S. Postal Service, you may have to register again. If you haven't voted in several consecutive general elections, your registration may have been canceled.

**How do I register?** Visit <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>. You'll need the same information as above.



Where do I vote? Am I registered to vote? Does everyone get a ballot in the mail? Get the answers to your election day questions ahead of California's June 2 primary election. Photo courtesy Freepik

If the DMV has your signature on file, you'll be able to complete the process online. If not, you'll need to print, sign and mail your completed application to your county elections office. You can also pick up a paper application at elections offices, any DMV office and at many post offices, public libraries and government offices. You'll be contacted when your application is approved, or if you need to provide more information.

**What happens if I miss the voter registration deadline?** The last day to register online for the primary election is May 18. If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before May 18, you must complete same-day voter registration and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location.

**How do I change my political party if I'm already registered?** You'll need to re-register to vote.

**What if I need help with voting? What if I need voter information in a language other than English?** The secretary of state's office has voter instructions in the following languages: Spanish, Hindi, Chinese, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese. Your county elections office may offer additional languages.

**When will I receive my voter guide?** The statewide voter

information guide will be available online by April and will be mailed to voters later that month.

**What am I voting on?** The June primary election is the first opportunity for Californians to choose which candidates will appear on the general election ballot in November. Unlike some other states, California's primaries are nonpartisan, so the top two vote-getters in each race will advance to the November election, regardless of political party.

The ballot is packed with state and federal races, most notably the race to succeed Gov. Gavin Newsom, who is term-limited and cannot run for reelection. In addition to the governor's race, voters will be asked to choose candidates for Congress, the state Legislature and a slate of statewide offices including insurance commissioner and treasurer.

**Can I leave work to vote?** Yes. California requires time off for voting if employees don't have enough time outside work hours. You can take as much time as you need, but employers are only required to pay for a maximum of two hours. Employers may require advance notice. The time off must be at the beginning or the end of your shift. Employers are required to post a notice about this 10 days before a statewide election.

**How can I track my ballot?**

Visit [california.ballottrax.net/voter/](http://california.ballottrax.net/voter/) to register for California's BallotTrax tool, where you can check your ballot status and opt in to receive email or text notifications.

**Is my ballot safe?** Yes, voting by mail or dropping your ballot in an approved drop box is a safe and efficient way to vote. Fraudulent voting is uncommon and incredibly difficult given California's strict voter verification procedures. Mail-in ballots will only be sent to voters whose address and identity have been verified by county election officials. Their vote will only be counted once those officials verify that the voter's signature on the envelope matches the one on file.

You can find more information about California's election and voting process on the secretary of state's website. The office takes any allegations of election fraud seriously. Anyone can submit a complaint using the following form [sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/voter-complaint](https://sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/voter-complaint).

**What if I have special circumstances? What should I do if I marked my ballot wrong, or otherwise messed it up?** If you haven't turned it in yet, you can exchange your mail ballot for a new one at an elections office, ask an election official at the polling place for a new ballot, or

vote using a provisional ballot. If you have mailed or turned in your ballot, there's no way to fix it. Contact your county elections office for a new ballot.

**What if the signature on my ballot doesn't match the one on file?** County election officials check the signatures on the return envelope against signatures on your voter registration card to make sure no one tries to improperly cast your ballot. It still remains confidential; the ballot is separated from the envelope before it is counted.

Voters with ballots with missing signatures or ones that don't match are notified and given an opportunity to correct the problem before the election is certified.

**What happens if I don't receive my ballot?** Contact your county elections office.

**Help! I dropped off my ballot to a drop box in the wrong county.** Don't worry – the county will pass it on to the correct elections office.

**I forgot to detach the stub from my ballot. Can I open the sealed envelope and reseal it myself?** You can, but the secretary of state's office recommends contacting your local county elections office. They'll ultimately be processing your ballot, and they can offer the best guidance on whether you should reopen it or just leave the stub attached. ★



## Election Information

June 2, 2026, Statewide Direct Primary Election

Vote Early and Vote by Mail



**May 4** Ballots begin to arrive by mail. Official Ballot Drop Boxes are now open.



**May 18** Close of registration. Register today!



**May 23** 11-Day Vote Centers open through Election Day.



**May 30** All Vote Centers open through Election Day.



**June 2** Election Day! Last day to turn in your ballot.

### Vote Early! Don't wait for Election Day.

Take advantage of early voting and avoid the lines! You can return your ballot in the mail, at any Official Ballot Drop Box, or at any Vote Center. No postage is necessary.

### Track your Ballot!

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# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



## The Ping Pong Balls Are Coming

Yes, the NBA regular season is over, and our hometown ballers are once again watching from the sidelines.

With a grand total of 22 wins the 2025-26 season turned out very different from what the Sactown faithful envisioned.

Within a couple of weeks, the ping pong balls will determine the order of the upcoming draft, and as the Dallas Mavericks can attest, anything is likely to happen.

The Kings franchise and fans collectively will hold their breath, as anything can happen when it comes to the first five picks.

Without a doubt the Kings will get a high draft pick, but the real question is, how high.

Experts and pundits from all corners believe we're looking at one of the deepest drafts in many years, and that bodes well for Sacramento.

But what can we take away from a season bereft with disappointments.

For one thing we can look forward to a starting unit at the start of next season that is 100 percent healthy, and hope that the first-round draft choice in the upcoming draft makes an immediate impact. Something like De'Aaron Fox did when he became one of the best point guards in the history of the Kings franchise.

And what should we make of Keegan Murray after a season of injuries? Will this talented wing man once again return to a consistent 3-point shooter as he was in his rookie year just four short seasons ago?

Keegan had an amazing rookie season followed by one head scratching season after another as his 3-point shooting declined year after year.

Keegan set an NBA rookie record by recording 206 3-pointers, and Sacramento fans thought this was just the beginning.

Sadly, although Keegan shot an amazing 41 percent from beyond the arc, he would not accomplish this again. In the following three seasons Murray shot 35 percent, 34 percent, and in an injury shortened 2026 a dismal 27 percent.

So, will the real Keegan Murray please stand up. The Kings will in all likelihood hold onto Murray and resist trade offers, as his value has slipped just as his percentage has.

The real question is can this talented player

return to form and show Kings fans that his rookie year was no fluke.

I believe he can and he will.

Zach Lavine has received considerable criticism for his drop in 3-point shooting this year as well, but the question is can Zach return to normal next season and provide Murray with someone that carry spread the floor.

Once again, I believe that's exactly what Lavine can do, and if he does, and Domantas Sabonis can stay healthy, look out western division, because here comes the Kings.

We don't know what GM Scott Perry is thinking of, and whether he will keep this group together, but we honestly never had a real opportunity to see this group play together.

Let's not forget that DeMar DeRozan is one of the most talented mid-range shooters in the league, and like Zach Lavine, can open the floor for others.

The point guard position is once again the conundrum it has been since the departure of DeAaron Fox, and we must wait and see if the draft will provide front court help or perhaps the point guard the Kings have been looking for.

Devin Carter and Nique Clifford had moments this past season, but neither has made the statement that says the point guard for the future has arrived.

Not to be forgotten is the arrival and surprisingly so of Dylan Cardwell and Precious Achiuwa. Both players acquitted themselves admirably, and Kings fans will be watching to see if one or both can take that next step in their NBA career and become a force to be reckoned with.

A lot to chew on for the Sacramento faithful, and opinions are all over the board, but for my money I hope that Scott Perry looks hard before he leaps.

There is a lot of talent on this team right now, and the real question is whether they can gel.

A winning franchise is much closer than last season's 22 wins would make you think, so say your prayers Kings fans and keep your fingers crossed.

We are one impact player from watching a playoff team so keep your eyes on those ping pong balls and let's all root together! ★

## Candidates For Governor Ought to Get Serious About These Pressing Issues



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Eric Swalwell's abrupt departure from the campaign for governor due to revelations about sexual transgressions leaves nine men and women remaining as serious contenders for spots on the November ballot.

So far their campaigns have produced a scattershot of positions and promises that have only occasionally touched on California's real world issues. However, by sheer coincidence, there's been a recent flurry of think tank reports and articles on those issues that should be required reading for would-be governors and moderators of forums to question the candidates.

In no particular order:

### Schools

The Public Policy Institute of California delved into the worrisome lack of academic achievement among in California's public schools. It notes that in state tests just 49% of students met or exceeded state standards in English language and 37% in math.

Results of federal tests were even less satisfactory, with only 29% of fourth-graders and 28% of eighth-graders proficient in reading and 35% and 25%, respectively, in math.

Mississippi, long a laggard in academic skills, got serious about raising reading

comprehension by adopting phonics. California, after years of political debate, finally semi-adopted phonics, although not completely requiring it. An article in Atlantic magazine reveals that in Mississippi, just adopting phonics was not enough; statewide mandates, coupled with state oversight, were needed to make phonics work — a suggestion maybe California needs to follow suit.

### Jobs

Outgoing Gov. Gavin Newsom loves to brag about California's \$4 trillion economy but rarely mentions the darker side — several years with virtually no job growth. The Public Policy Institute of California digs into that stagnation and reports, "Job gains have been limited to a few key sectors like health care and local government, while stock market gains have been driven by AI. Unemployment has not increased much in the past two years, though it remains higher than in 2022 and above almost all other states.

"One major challenge for the next governor will be providing expensive services like health care to a growing older adult population while the share of workers shrinks," PPIIC says.

The conservative Pacific Research Institute plows the same economic ground in a report. "The data shows that California's economic challenges are no longer theoretical — they are measurable and worsening," said Wayne Winegarden, one of the report's authors. "The state's weak job growth and shrinking private sector signal that California is at a crossroads. Without meaningful policy reforms, the gap between California and the rest of

the country will continue to widen."

One aspect of California's economic sluggishness is an outflow of workers due to its sky-high living costs. Another report from the Public Policy Institute of California says the state has seen a net loss of nearly 1.3 million people since 2020. The outflow, coupled with a record low birth rate, makes California especially reliant on immigration for new workers, which in turn is affected by turmoil in federal immigration policy.

### Homes

A study by UC-Berkeley's California Policy Lab delves even further into the state's loss of population to other states, citing high living costs, especially for housing, as the prime factor.

It notes that "in 2012 the state's median household income was roughly sufficient to qualify for a mortgage on a mid-tier home, but it now falls substantially short of the level needed to qualify for even a bottom-tier home."

However, those who abandon California more easily become homeowners due to much lower prices and see improvement in their overall financial wellbeing.

This is not an exhaustive catalogue of California issues that the campaigns for governor should address. Water supply and homelessness also need attention, as well as the insurance crisis and the state's chronic budget deficits. But these reports are a good start for serious debate.

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

## Social Security Matters

### Must I Set Up a Social Security Account to Enroll in Medicare?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I turn 65 this November 2026. Someone told me I need to set up a Social Security account at least 3 months ahead of time before applying for Medicare for the first time. I do not intend to take any Social Security benefits until, perhaps, age 67 or later. Please advise and thank you. **Signed: Looking Ahead**

**Dear Looking Ahead:** You don't technically need to "set up" an online SSA account to enroll in Medicare, but it would be more efficient to do so. We always recommend creating your online "my Social Security" account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) well before you are ready to claim your Social Security benefits. That's because you can monitor your projected Social Security benefits to help you decide when to claim, but it also facilitates other things you might need to do at the Social Security

Administration (such as claiming your SS retirement benefits online and enrolling in Medicare online).

As for Medicare, you can enroll in Medicare up to 3 months before the month you turn 65, and you can contact the Social Security Administration by phone up to 3 months prior in order to schedule an appointment to enroll over the phone (call 1.800.772.1213 to make the appointment). You can enroll via telephone, even if you don't have your "my Social Security" online account set up. However, an advantage to creating your personal online Social Security account is that you could then enroll in Medicare online as described at this link: [www.ssa.gov/medicare/sign-up](http://www.ssa.gov/medicare/sign-up). And you can, as you wish to do, enroll only in Medicare without also taking your Social Security benefits at this time.

I want to also make you aware that if you are still working and have "creditable" healthcare coverage from your employer ("creditable" is an employer group plan with at least 20 participants), then you can delay enrolling in Medicare until your employer coverage ends (thus saving the usual Medicare Part B monthly premium). When your employer's

healthcare coverage ends, you will enter a Special Enrollment Period during which you can enroll in Medicare without incurring a Late Enrollment Penalty.

Finally, please be aware that whenever you claim your Social Security benefits, you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A (inpatient hospitalization coverage) and Part B (coverage for outpatient medical services). Since there is a monthly premium associated with Medicare Part B (but not with Part A), you can choose to decline Part B if you are still working and covered by your employer's creditable healthcare plan, until your employer's healthcare coverage ends.

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## Trump vs. the Pope

rebuke a president of the United States for threatening to bring a foreign civilization to an end isn't doing his job, yet it's important to understand that the Bible is not an injunction for pacifism, and it doesn't entail a condemnation of the Iran war.

The Bible presents a realistic view of the inevitability of human conflict. As Ecclesiastes says, there is "a time for war, and a time for peace." In the books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel or Kings, it is often a time for war. The key question is whether or not a war is righteous -- the difference between Israel, say, prevailing in the Battle of Deborah, or seeing the Babylonians destroy Jerusalem.

On Palm Sunday, Pope LEO cited Isaiah 1:15 for the proposition that God doesn't listen to the prayers of those who wage war: "Even though you make many prayers, I will not listen: your hands are full of blood." The context of this verse, though, is the injustice and corruption of the people of Judah -- in other words, their self-abasement.

It makes no sense, as a broader matter, to cite Isaiah as an injunction against waging war or evidence that God pays no heed to the prayers of those who fight. Later in the book, King Hezekiah of Judah prays for God's help in stopping an Assyrian army threatening Jerusalem, and 185,000 Assyrian soldiers are struck down.

A pope who doesn't

and mercy, of course, but that is not a warrant for pacifism. The great Christian thinkers St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas gave us just war theory, reconciling Christian ethics with the existence of evil in the world and the necessity of warfare. According to this view, which is embraced by the Catholic Church, a war can only be fought for a just cause and has to be waged in keeping with moral standards, minimizing harm to civilians.

Pope LEO has wrongly made it sound as though no war can possibly be just, and regardless, his opposition to the Iran war isn't dispositive or binding on anyone else.

The pontiff might consider that Trump first talked of attacking Iran when the regime was in the midst of slaughtering thousands of protesters in the streets, and if the current government fell and gave way to one with more respect for the rights of its people, it would be a boon to Iranians and a large step toward a safer and more peaceful region.

Trump's wild threats are understandably anathema to Pope LEO, but they don't define the Iran war or change the fact that the Bible portrays warfare as a tragic fact of human existence. Yes, as Isaiah says, they shall beat their swords into plowshares, but not yet.

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

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# ABOUT TOWN

## Walk on the Wildside

Saturday, May 16, Beach Lake Park – This exciting event highlights local conservation efforts and the restoration of native habitats, showcasing the incredible diversity of flora and fauna that call the Bufferlands home.

It's a unique opportunity to learn about wildlife protection, engage with experts, and experience firsthand the beauty of the Central Valley's natural treasures. Entry and parking are FREE. Details at [sacsewer.com/wow](http://sacsewer.com/wow)

## Area Museum Experiences

A sampling of must-see and must-do experiences and special activations offered by local museums include the following:

**Aerospace Museum of California** – “The Force Takes Flight: Open Cockpit Day,” May 2.

Guests will have the rare opportunity to explore select aircraft up close, climb inside, ask questions, and experience what it's like to sit in the cockpit, while interacting with members of the Central California Garrison of the 501st Legion, a nonprofit costuming club known for its screen-accurate recreations inspired by

the beloved space saga. Details at [aerospacemuseum.org](http://aerospacemuseum.org).

**California Museum** – “Kokoro: The Story of Sacramento's Lost Japantown,” extended through April. Featuring rare family photographs drawn from the personal collections of community members, the exhibit documents the memories at the heart of a once-thriving downtown community devastated first by forced removal during World War II and again by redevelopment in the 1950s. Details at [californiamuseum.org](http://californiamuseum.org).

**Sacramento History Museum** – The Museum and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians are excited to present Mómsti Market on Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free and family-friendly, the market will take place in the Museum in Old Sacramento and be filled with artisan-made goods crafted by talented California Native artists offering items for purchase such as jewelry, baskets, cultural art and graphic art. Details at [sachistorymuseum.org](http://sachistorymuseum.org).

**California Automobile Museum** – Veterans' Memorial Day Car Show, May 25. Join us for a day of classic cars, camaraderie, and honoring our veterans and military personnel who died in

service to their country.

**Sunday Drives:** The third Sunday of every month, enjoy a free ride (with paid museum admission) in one of the museum's many beautiful cars from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There's no better way to enjoy history than to experience it firsthand down the streets of downtown Sacramento. Details at [calautmuseum.org](http://calautmuseum.org).

**California State Railroad Museum** – Purple Silk Youth Orchestra, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 9. This multisensory experience features live musical performances. Guests of all ages will enjoy traditional Chinese instruments and Chinese folk dances performed by students throughout the museum.

The Chinese Railroad Workers' Experience offers visitors a view of the Chinese workers who built the western portion of the nation's first Transcontinental Railroad. Marginalized by history, the Chinese workers were more than a nameless group of laborers. Details at [californiarailroad.museum](http://californiarailroad.museum).

**Crocker Art Museum** – “Rebels with La Causa: Royal Chicano Air Force Art and Activism, 1970–1990” explores the expansive production and creative impact of the Royal Chicano Air Force (RCAF), one of the Chicano Movement's most prolific and impactful artist collectives.

Beginning in 1970 at Sacramento State, the group produced individual artworks and group murals, as well as posters for educational, cultural, and political activities.

The RCAF's transformation into a broader collective not only initiated an explosion of Chicano art exhibitions, literary events, performances, and community celebrations, but expanded civic and political engagement.

While RCAF posters served as

announcements for these wide-ranging activities, their multicultural aesthetics, subject matter, and strategic humor redefined Chicana/o art, as well as the history of art and activism in the United States. Details at [crockerart.org](http://crockerart.org).

**Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park** – Photography Month Sacramento - Eadweard Muybridge Tours, every Sunday and select Saturdays in April. See the groundbreaking work of Muybridge, whose innovative techniques revolutionized the art form. Delve into his mesmerizing motion studies and iconic landscapes, while discovering the rich cultural heritage housed within the opulent walls of this historic landmark. Details at [parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=489](http://parks.ca.gov/?page_id=489).

**SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity Laser Concert Series** – K-Pop Demon Hunters, Fridays and Saturdays in May. Pink Floyd, May 8 and 9. This immersive music experience, paired with spectacular full-dome lasers, is the best way to listen to your favorite artists outside of a live performance. Details at [visitmosac.org](http://visitmosac.org).

## Elks Lodge 6 Calendar of Events

Mother's Day Brunch/Ritual, 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Sunday, May 10.

Larry's Birthday Bash, with Ophir Prison Band and Dyana & the Cherry Kings, 5:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14. No charge.

Yoga, Monday 12 p.m., Wednesday 3:30 p.m. Lodge members free.

Karaoke Nights, Thursdays and Saturdays, 7 p.m.

Martial Arts, Monday 5 p.m.

Pickleball, Monday, Wednesday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; Thursday, 4:30-7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 4-7 p.m.

Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:30 to 7 p.m. See [elks6.net](http://elks6.net) for weekly menu. ★

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# Police Chief Lester Announces Retirement After 32 Years' Service

# What's Next for I Street Bridge Replacement Project?

## City of Sacramento News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Police Chief Kathy Lester has announced her retirement after 32 years in law enforcement. Her final day as chief of police will be May 15.

"After 32 years in law enforcement, I have made the decision to retire," said Lester. "Serving the Sacramento community has been the honor of my career. This decision comes at the right time for me and my family, and I look forward to the next chapter."

"I'm proud of the progress we've made over the past several years: reducing violence, strengthening



Pictured is Sacramento Police Chief Kathy Lester, who has announced her retirement after 32 years in law enforcement. Photo courtesy of City of Sacramento

partnerships and building strategies that are making a difference. We've made real progress; we didn't just hold the line; we

turned a corner.

"The department is in a strong position today, and I wanted to ensure that before making this decision."

Lester also expressed support for City Manager Maraskeshia Smith.

"We have worked closely together, and I have full confidence in her leadership and in the direction of the organization moving forward," Lester said.

Smith thanked Lester for her service.

"Chief Lester has dedicated more than three decades to public service and has led the Sacramento Police Department with professionalism, integrity, and a strong commitment

to community safety," Smith said. "Under her leadership, the department has made meaningful progress in reducing violence and strengthening partnerships across our city. I appreciate Chief Lester's leadership and her commitment to ensuring a strong and stable transition for the department."

To ensure continuity of operations, Smith will appoint Deputy Chief Zachary Bales as interim chief of police, effective upon Lester's retirement.

Additional information regarding the recruitment process for the next chief of police will be forthcoming. ★

Continued from page 1

The replacement bridge will feature 12-foot shared-use paths for pedestrians and cyclists, wider travel lanes to accommodate buses and emergency vehicles, and improved connectivity to trails and regional destinations.

The existing I Street Bridge, built in 1911, will remain in place and be converted into a bicycle and pedestrian-only crossing on its upper deck.

City staff are expected to recommend rejecting the current bids due to the cost

gap and returning to the market after refining bid documents and conducting outreach with contractors to better understand market conditions.

That work will include coordination with the Sacramento Transportation Authority, regional partners and Caltrans, along with evaluating potential adjustments to the project's scope. Existing financing plans remain in place and will continue to guide the project as staff refine next steps.

An updated timeline is expected, with a potential construction start likely pushed into 2027 due in part to environmental work windows that limit in-river construction. ★

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# Women's Tennis Adds Italy's De Matteo for 2026-27



Francesca De Matteo has committed to continuing her academic and athletic career with the Hornets beginning with the 2026-27 season. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

## Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State head women's tennis coach Sophie Breault announced April 14 that Francesca De Matteo has committed to continue her academic and athletic career with the Hornets beginning with the 2026-27 season.

"We are thrilled to welcome De Matteo to our Hornet family," Breault said. "She brings so much passion and energy to her game, along with a strong competitive mindset. De Matteo possesses a well-rounded, all-court game in singles and is also an outstanding doubles player, adding valuable depth to our lineup. She will be a fantastic addition and we expect her to make an immediate impact as we compete for Big West Conference championships."

A native of Naples, Italy, who attended the G. Mazzini secondary school is the second signee for the program this year, joining South Africa's Jessica Schilz, who officially committed to Sacramento State back in November.

Over the last two years, De Matteo has earned a spot in the prequalification rounds for the Internazionali BNL d'Italia in both

singles (2025) and doubles (2026) at the Foro Italico in Rome, a tournament that features some of the top international players and is known as one of the premier clay-court tournaments in the world.

She reached the final in singles in one of the prequalification tournaments in 2025 and won a doubles championship in another one of the events alongside her partner in 2026.

De Matteo, who has been ranked as high as No. 905 in the ITF junior rankings, also received a wild card for the Internazionali Femminili di Tennis Città di Caserta in both 2024 and 2025, an yearly event that features some of the top up-and-coming talent and established players on the International Tennis Federation circuit.

Among her best results during her juniors career, she has reached the semifinals in singles of a pair of J5 events in Dakar and Croatia and another semifinal of a J60 tournament in Dakar.

In doubles play, she claimed a title at a J5 tournament in Cyprus and reached the final three times of tournaments in Bari, Paola, and Livorno in her home country.

In addition, De Matteo has also represented Italy as part of the national team for European Summer and Winter Cups in 2019 and 2020. ★



# Eight Aggies Named to the MPSF All-Academic Team

## UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Eight UC Davis gymnasts have been named to the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation All-Academic Team, showcasing their skills in competition and in the classroom.

Student-athletes are named to the MPSF All-Academic team based on a specific set of criteria, all of which the eight Aggies successfully met to earn the honor.

To qualify, a student-athlete must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher, be at least a sophomore academically, and have completed one full academic year at the institution prior to the season in which the award is received. In addition, the student-athlete must have participated in at least fifty percent of the institution's competitions in their respective sport.



Student-athletes are named to the MPSF All-Academic team based on a specific set of criteria, all of which the eight Aggies successfully met to earn the honor. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

The group of Aggies is made up of four sophomores, one junior and three seniors.

UC Davis MPSF All-Academic Team Members include McKenna Knecht Cady Chiu, Avery Marshall, Amelia Moneymaker, Jehaan Poonja, Millie Gideon, Alana Kim and Avah Reichow. ★

# Nique Clifford Presented with the 2026 Community Crossover Award

## Sacramento Kings News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Ahead of the April 10 game, the Sacramento Kings honored rookie Nique Clifford with the 2026 Community Crossover Award presented by Kaiser Permanente. In his first NBA season, Clifford was recognized for his outstanding commitment on and off the court, as well as his meaningful impact in the Sacramento community.

Clifford has quickly made his presence felt beyond basketball through hands-on community engagement. During the holiday season, he fulfilled wish lists for five local families affiliated with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Sacramento. He provided gifts, holiday dinners, Kings tickets and signed memorabilia, creating memorable experiences for participating youth and their families. His efforts reflect a genuine dedication to uplifting underserved communities and building lasting connections with Sacramento families. Clifford's willingness to give his time and resources has made an immediate and positive impression throughout the region.

Beyond the holidays, Clifford participated in several Kings community events, including Eat Like a King, Kingpin Classic and Season Ticket Member parties. His engagement with underserved youth, connection with fans and continued community involvement reflect his commitment to making a lasting impact.

On the court, Clifford has shown strong promise in his rookie campaign, bringing energy, versatility and a team-first mentality to every game. His work ethic and poise continue to establish him as a valuable contributor for the Kings.

The Community Crossover Award, established in 2003, honors a Kings player who exemplifies excellence both on and off the court. Previous recipients include Chris Webber (2003), Vlade Divac (2004), Peja Stojaković (2005), De'Aaron Fox (2019), Domantas Sabonis (2023) and Malik Monk (2024, 2025). Clifford now joins this distinguished group, continuing the organization's tradition of celebrating players who make a meaningful difference in the community. The complete list of honorees can be found by visiting [nba.com/kings/history-community-crossover-award](http://nba.com/kings/history-community-crossover-award). ★



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# Midtown's Historic Pioneer Church for Sale



The 100-year-old sanctuary is home to the congregation that was the first church formed in Sacramento during the Gold Rush in 1849. Photo courtesy of Pioneer Congregational United Church of Christ

## Pioneer Congregational United Church of Christ News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The historic Pioneer Congregational United Church of Christ's sanctuary and office building are for sale.

Located at 2700 L St., across from Sutter's Fort, the 100-year-old sanctuary is home to the congregation that was the first church formed in Sacramento during the Gold Rush in 1849.

In person Sunday worship services continue at 10 a.m., with streaming services offered at the church's website, pioneerucc.org.

The property is a two-story, 19,400-gross-square-foot church facility in Midtown. It has a large Fellowship Hall featuring a full

theatrical stage, a commercial kitchen, several offices that house a health clinic, and meeting space for bible study and several AA groups. Turton Commercial Real Estate is representing the church.

According to Pastor Bo Boccock, "We are still operational during this trying time. Sadly, our congregation was aging, then COVID hit, that affected our loss of membership. Pioneer Church continues its Sunday services in an incredible sanctuary rich with history and devotion that they don't want to leave, but that sanctuary has a seating capacity of at least six times their membership base, and they feel it is time for another group to have the opportunity to utilize the building to its maximum potential." ★

# Downtown Sacramento Partnership Announces 2026 Concerts in the Park Lineup

## Downtown Sacramento Partnership News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Downtown Sacramento Partnership unveiled the lineup for its highly anticipated Concerts in the Park series, marking the return of free live music in downtown Sacramento on Friday evenings beginning May 1.

A cornerstone of the region's summer calendar, the concert series continues to showcase a mix of nationally touring artists and local favorites, further energizing Sacramento's growing music scene.

Reflecting the strong reception to last year's earlier schedule and condensed format, Concerts in the Park will once again run as a nine-week series in Downtown Plaza Park (910 I St). Gates will open at 6 p.m., with performances concluding at 9:30 p.m.

The 2026 season will also spotlight expanded genre programming, including the addition of Latin Night and Juneteenth Night.

"Over the past few years, we've seen just how much enthusiasm there is for programming that reflects the diversity of our city," said Events Manager of Downtown Sacramento

Partnership Amelia Chew.

"That demand has only continued to grow, and we're incredibly excited to expand our programming for Concerts in the Park this season with our Latin Night and Juneteenth Night. Our goal has always been for Concerts in the Park to feel welcoming and representative of the community we see every day in Sacramento, and this year's lineup builds on that commitment in a meaningful way," Chew added.

Now in its 33rd year, Concerts in the Park remains free to attend, a deliberate choice that reinforces the event's role as an inclusive gathering



Concerts in the Park Returns for its 33rd season on May 1, bringing nine weeks of free live music to downtown Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Downtown Sacramento Partnership

space for residents, workers and visitors alike. As downtown Sacramento continues to evolve, the series serves as a vibrant hub where community members can connect, celebrate and share in a collective experience.

The 2026 lineup features a dynamic mix of artists spanning genres and audiences, including Edgehill (indie) on Opening Night,

Andrea Bejar (Latin pop) on Latin Night, and The Temper Trap (indie rock) and Kid Ink (hip-hop) on Juneteenth Night.

A detailed lineup with more information about Concerts in the Park is available at downtownsac.org/downtown-sac-experiences/concerts-in-the-park.

A production of Downtown Sacramento

Partnership, Concerts in the Park is proudly sponsored by Dignity Health, Donaghy Sales, Office of Traffic Safety presented by CalTrans, Xfinity, BeatBox, Zen Garden Wellness, Lime, Republic Services, Fox40 and Audacy.

For more information about downtown Sacramento, visit DowntownSac.org. ★



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