



**Warriors Make a Splash:
Galt Girls Swim Team Claims
SVC Championship Banner**

PAGE 12

**Liberty Ranch Softball
Sends Six Seniors Out With
Win Over Bradshaw Christian**

PAGE 11



The Galt Herald

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MAY 15, 2026

**SEE
INSIDE**

**IT'S NATIONAL
PIZZA PARTY DAY!**



PAGE 9

**STATE'S SCHOOLS
SCORED IN FUNDING,
NOT ACADEMICS**



PAGE 5

**IS NO. 7 REALLY A
LUCKY NUMBER?**



PAGE 5



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Students Celebrate Cinco de Mayo



New Hope Elementary students prepare to perform a traditional dance in colorful Mexican folklórico dresses on the school blacktop during the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration Tuesday, May 5.

**Story and photos
by Idaly Valencia**

THORNTON, CA (MPG) - New Hope Elementary School turned its blacktop into a celebration of culture Tuesday, May 5 as students participated in traditional Mexican school customs and dances during the campus' annual Cinco de Mayo

observance.

Parents, family members and community members gathered to watch students perform the routines they practiced for months. The program featured several cultural dances including Jarabe Tapatío, a traditional Mexican folk dance, and El Baile de los Mariachis, or the dance of the mariachis, both performed in front of

a supportive audience.

The celebration began with "Honores a la Bandera," or Honors to the Flag, a morning ceremony commonly held on Mondays in schools in Mexico in which the national flag is formally presented and honored.

Student flag guards known as the "escolta" carried the flag in formation
Continued on page 2

Galt High Students Honored in Video Production



Pictured is the Galt High School Digital Video Production (GTV) team, which was named a finalist by the Sacramento Educational Video Awards (SEVA) on April 26 for its entry in the grades 9 to 12 "Newscast" category. Courtesy photo

By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - Congrats to the Galt High School Digital Video Production (GTV) students for their recent awards!

In the Access Sacramento High School PSA Contest in March, Danah Godinez won an Award of Merit for

Environmental Improvement, Live Action. It can be viewed at youtu.be/Bllt5E2dxkc.

The Sacramento Educational Video Awards (SEVA) were hosted by Sacramento Educational Cable Consortium (SECC) local channels 15 and 21 on Sunday, April 26. The full GTV crew (Danah Godinez,

Aurelio Cantellano, Christopher Garcia Hernandez and Mason Minch led by student manager Maria Vivanco) was recognized as Finalists for its Episode 1 in the "Newscast" category for grades 9 to 12.

Their video can be viewed at youtu.be/watch?v=L-X3d0AJR0o.

Continued on page 4

Council Opposes Home Restaurant, Pop-Up Vendor Bills



By John McCallum

GALT, CA (MPG) - The City Council unanimously approved sending opposition letters on a pair of bills making their way through the California Assembly that would make it easier to set up commercial restaurants in residential neighborhoods and temporary businesses in the city.

The letters address Assembly Bill 2315 and Assembly Bill 1679 introduced earlier in this session. The letters were one of three items council members asked to address separately instead of as part of the May 5 meeting Consent Calendar, an agenda item typically consisting of city business items council adopts as a batch.

AB2315 proposes changes to the regulation of Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations (MEHKOs), a new category authorized under the California Retail Food Code allowing small-scale, home-based food businesses operated out of a private residence that sell directly to consumers, often through take-out or delivery. Current law allows jurisdictions to decide whether or not to allow MEHKOs and, if allowed, control how they operate.

AB1679 would eliminate this by mandating jurisdictions allow MEHKOs as a permitted residential use, prohibit local limits on locations and remove zoning review authority. Oversight of MEHKOs would shift to local health departments.

AB1679 would require jurisdictions to allow what are referred to as "pop-up businesses" by mandating the establishment and administration of a new temporary commercial use program. The program would allow temporary businesses to operate in existing commercial spaces for a limited time.

City staff asked council to issue letters in opposition to both bills due to concerns about loss of local control, additional regulations requiring increased staff workload, economic impacts on existing commercial businesses, negative impacts on neighborhoods quality of life

Continued on page 3

Students Honor Cinco de Mayo



Students in the “Banda de Guerra,” or war band that traditionally accompanies the “Honores a la Bandera” ceremony, raise a salute during the recitation of the flag oath.



The Cinco de Mayo program at New Hope Elementary featured several cultural dances, including Jarabe Tapatio, a traditional Mexican folk dance, and El Baile de los Mariachis, or the dance of the mariachis.



New Hope Elementary Principal and district superintendent Dr. Khushwinder Gill is pictured delivering remarks on the meaning of Cinco de Mayo and its significance to the school community during the celebration.



The Cinco de Mayo program at New Hope Elementary featured several cultural dances including Jarabe Tapatio, a traditional Mexican folk dance, and El Baile de los Mariachis, or the dance of the mariachis.

Continued from page 1
before their classmates as they marched to the beat of drums played by student members of the “Banda de Guerra,” or war band. The singing of the “Himno Nacional Mexicano,” the national anthem of Mexico, followed. After the anthem, student

Heber Castro recited the flag oath in Spanish, adding another cultural tradition commonly observed by students in Mexico to the Cinco de Mayo program. Before the performances began, New Hope Elementary Principal and district superintendent Dr. Khushwinder Gill

addressed attendees and spoke about the meaning of Cinco de Mayo, which commemorates the Mexican Army’s victory over French forces at the Battle of Puebla. “It was not a battle of great armies,” Gill said. “It was a battle of heart.”

Gill also thanked families, staff and former students in attendance for their continued support of the annual event, noting the importance of cultural celebration within the school community. “Your traditions make our school better, more beautiful and more passionate,” Gill added.

The May 5 event highlighted students’ dedication in preparing for their performances while showcasing their cultural pride, bringing the campus and neighbors together for a day centered on celebrating Mexican heritage. ★

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Galt FFA Dominates at State Career Championships

Galt FFA News Release

GALT, CA (MPG) - Career Development Events build on what is learned in agricultural classes and encourage members to put their knowledge into practice. These events are designed to help a member prepare for a career in agriculture by testing and challenging the student's technical, leadership, interpersonal and teamwork skills as well as their knowledge of the subject matter.

Career Development Events answer the question, "When will I use this knowledge in the real world?"

On April 18, at the Fresno State Finals, the Galt FFA Small Engines team secured the 2026 State Championship.

"This year our motto was 'Work for it' and these young men embraced that motto, consistently showed up and did their job. I cannot say enough of how proud I am of them and their achievements," said Derek Silva, who coaches the team.

The 2026 State Champion Small Engines team consists of Lucas Villalpando (2nd High Individual), Parker Millard (4th Individual) and Noah Dean (6th High Individual) of the Galt FFA Small Engines team brought home a State Championship on April 18 the at the Fresno State Field Day.

This Career Development Event (CDE) prepares students for careers in equipment repair and maintenance.



Holding awards at center are the 2026 Farm Business Management state champions, from left, Maeve Cordonnier, Madison McDonald, Courtney Brouwer and Sarah Ronayne. Photos courtesy of Galt FFA

The contest is composed of Part/Tool ID, Theory, Problem Solving and Technical Skills as well as Troubleshooting. Galt's Small Engines team earned First Place in the five sub-category award areas and brought home the State Championship.

Two weeks later success would happen again on May 2, at both the Cal Poly State Finals, San Luis Obispo and the Inaugural Equipment Technician Contest State Finals in Selma.

The purpose of establishing an Equipment Technician contest for the California Association of Future Farmers of America (FFA) is to foster the development of technical skills and knowledge among students in the field of agricultural mechanics.

This contest aims to: enhance practical skills, promote career readiness, encourage innovation, strengthen industry connections, highlight the importance of agricultural mechanics, foster

teamwork and leadership, and recognize excellence.

Students compete in Part/Tool ID, Theory, Pre-Delivery Inspection, Technical Skills and Troubleshooting of a Tractor. At the first ever California ETC State Finals, Galt FFA brought home another State Championship with Noah Dean (5th High Individual), Lucas Villalpando (6th), Santiago Gonzalez (7th) and Parker Millard (8th) out of 35 students and eight schools.

"I must admit that going to this competition for the first time without experiencing it, I wasn't sure what to expect," said Silva.

"In order to make sure our boys were ready and locked in, I reached out to industry to learn from industry technicians. I really appreciate how receptive and supportive industry is by allowing us to visit industry and share their knowledge," he added.

The team would like to thank Belkorp Ag

Stockton, and Holt of California, Reedley College Mechanized Agriculture and Quinn Caterpillar.

While the Equipment Technician team competed for the state title in Selma, Galt FFA members Courtney Brouwer (1st High Individual), Maeve Cordonnier (6th), Madison McDonald (8th) and Lillie Jackson (9th) won the state title in Farm Business Management down in San Luis Obispo.

The team spent months of preparation focused on real-world agricultural finance concepts, including analyzing assets, managing expenses, understanding depreciation, and making sound business decisions.

This Career Development Event challenges students to apply classroom knowledge to practical scenarios that mirror the complexities of running an agricultural operation.

"This team truly embodies what it means to learn by doing," said Coach



From left are 2026 Small Engines State Champions Lucas Villalpando, Noah Dean and Parker Millard, with Coach Derek Silva.



Emma Graham poses with the 2026 Livestock State Finals plaque along with her first-place high individual award ribbon and banner.

Sarah Ronayne.

"From long practices working through financial scenarios to conversations that pushed their understanding of agriculture as a business, they showed incredible dedication and growth. Beyond their individual success, the team's chemistry and commitment to one another played a key role in their championship run," she added. "Their ability to collaborate, think critically, and support each other under pressure set them apart from the competition. This victory highlights not only their technical knowledge, but also the strong leadership

and teamwork skills developed through the Galt FFA program."

Farm Business Management is one of the few Career Development Events that advances to the national level, and with their state championship, this team has earned the opportunity to represent California at the National FFA Convention & Expo this October in Indianapolis, Indiana.

There, they will compete against the top teams from across the country for a national title, continuing to showcase the strength of Galt FFA on a national stage. ★

Council Opposes Home Restaurant, Pop-Up Vendor Bills

Continued from page 1 and potential public safety issues.

"In short, both bills are intended to support small business, but they significantly reduce local control and create new requirements for cities," Assistant City Manager Aime Mendes said.

Councilmember Shawn Farmer, who requested the Consent Calendar item be addressed separately, spoke forcefully against both measures, stating he supports small businesses and entrepreneurship but added allowing it to occur in homes "is not a good idea."

Farmer acknowledged people do operate businesses out of their homes.

"This is a completely different animal," Farmer said of the bills.

Galt Chamber of Commerce Community Relations Director Kat Seabolt also spoke in support of small businesses during public comment on the letters. She added that the proposed bills created an "uneven playing field" between existing commercial businesses operating under city regulations and proposed MEHKOs and pop-up vendors.

Councilmember Tim Reed echoed these comments, noting the city already has issues with pop-up food vendors. He also said his research indicates over 50% of home fires start in the kitchen area.

The council approved sending both Assembly bill opposition letters 5-0.

The other two items requested to be addressed

separately from the Consent Calendar dealt with two project awards.

Reed asked that a construction award for the Walker Community Park Phase 2A and for the Gun Range Expansion and East Gun Range Improvement project be voted on separately, mainly over concerns about timelines for completion.

Staff recommended awarding the Walker Community Park project to Imagecon, Inc., which was the lowest of seven bidders on the project at just over \$6.42 million. The recommendation was also made to accept bid Alternatives 1 and 3 totaling \$175,708, which when added with the base bid and contingencies brought the total cost to just over \$7.06 million.

Phase 2A includes

completion of three baseball fields along with upgrades to irrigation, landscaping, site utilities and parking to make the park a fully functional sports facility.

Staff also recommended awarding the Gun Range project to Westcon Construction Corporation, the lowest of 11 bidders at almost \$1,128,749.60, with a 10% contingency clause. The project addresses needs at both city-owned gun ranges located at the Galt Wastewater Treatment Plant including block wall stabilization, building up the side berms, installing concrete paths and pads, drainage improvements and other work.

Reed said his concern was inserting language in public staff reports that specified project timelines

and what contractors could be assessed in fines should they fail to meet these requirements. Reed read an email from Interim Public Works Director Fritz Buchman stating contractors could face fines, or liquidated damages, of \$7,200 per day in the Walker Park project and \$1,500 per day in the gun range project should they fail to meet completion deadlines.

In public comment Buchman confirmed these assessments.

"We've had problems in the past with contractors going past their estimated dates, and what I'm asking for is talking about putting something in that says if you're this many days late you pay a fine," Reed said. "I wanted to make sure the contractors had some vested interest in getting this done and getting it done on time."

City Attorney Frank Splendorio told council he and Reed had discussed the issue and believed it was a "reasonable approach" to add this language to public reports made to council on the project since it already existed in the contracts.

He also noted liquidated damages must be determined by actual costs and not arbitrarily, hence the differences in the two contract amounts.

"They have to be tethered to real-world costs," Splendorio added. "If not, it's going to be looked at as a punishment and courts won't enforce that."

Council unanimously approved the added language, with Reed saying he was satisfied the public would understand that council was "holding their (contractors) feet to the fire" to get the work completed properly. ★

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Cast Your Ballot

Voting Centers and Hours Highlighted

By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - With the primary election approaching Tuesday, June 2, Galt residents are being encouraged to review their voting options, including in-person voting and mail ballot drop-off locations.

Sacramento County will operate two types of vote centers for the election: 11-day vote centers and four-day vote centers, each with different opening dates and hours.

Starting May 23, the 11-day vote center at the Department of Human Assistance, 210 N. Lincoln Way, will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hours will expand to 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

A four-day vote center



will also be available at City Hall, 380 Civic Drive, beginning May 30. It will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., before extending hours to 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Both vote centers will have assistance available for Spanish speakers.

For voters planning to drop off ballots, three official ballot box locations are available in Galt.

The Comfort Inn & Suites, 10380 Twin Cities

Road, offers 24-hour ballot drop-off access daily, though it will close at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

The Marian O. Lawrence Library, 1000 Caroline Ave., will also serve as a ballot drop-off site from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, with extended hours from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

City Hall will provide ballot drop-off access from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday and will be closed May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

The drop box will reopen for Election Day hours from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

An interactive map of all vote center and ballot box locations is available at bit.ly/4nvqt8c. (case sensitive). ★

Galt High Students Honored in Video Production

Continued from page 1

Additionally, Danah received the SEVA Award (the top award) for the “School News Story” category for grades 9 to 12.

Her story of the Junior Varsity Girls’ Basketball team can be viewed at youtube.com/watch?v=myQ-e5nTa1g.

The full SEVA ceremony can be viewed at youtube.com/watch?v=L2pLsIhLY-o with Galt High School mentioned just after timestamps 1:44:00 and 1:55:00 minutes.

Congratulations to the video team for their awards!

Students interested in joining the video production class at Galt High School should register for Communication & Information Technology. ★



Danah Godinez is pictured holding her award after receiving the top honor presented by the Sacramento Educational Video Awards (SEVA) for her work in the “School News Story” category covering the Junior Varsity Girls’ Basketball team. Courtesy photo

MEETING MINDERS

Friday, May 15
Galt Sunrise Rotary, 7 a.m., Comfort Inn & Suites, 10380 Twin Cities Road, 209-745-6617.

Tuesday, May 19
Galt City Council, 6 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.

Wednesday, May 20
Cosumnes CSD, 5 p.m., Elk Grove CSD

boardroom, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove.
Galt Elementary School Board, 7 p.m., City Hall, 380 Civic Drive, 209-745-4545.

Thursday, May 21
Galt High School Board, 6 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.
Herald Fire Protection District, 6 p.m., Station 87, 12746 Ivie Road, 209-748-2322. ★

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

You who have made me see everything and showed me the way to reach my ideals, you who have given me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me, I thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Amen. L.B.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Sunshine Food Pantry Donations
Sunshine Food Pantry is a food closet that helps provide for residents.

Collections of canned food and dry good nonperishable items are received at United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt; call to make an appointment for donations at 209-745-4133.

The food closet is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

AA 24-Hour Hotline
For help with an alcohol-related problem, call the Alcoholics Anonymous 24-hour hotline at 209-745-1525.

Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings

Narcotics Anonymous (Nar-Anon) family group meetings for friends and family members who are dealing with drug addiction are held locally from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Galt United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt.

TOPS Weekly Meetings

TOPS, Taking Off Pounds Sensibly, meets every Wednesday at Grace Presbyterian Church, 10 N. Mills Ave., Lodi. Meeting time: 10-10:45 a.m. Weigh-ins: 9-9:50am.

No charge for first meeting.

Senior Bingo Weekly at Chabolla

The Galt Commission on Aging is hosting free Senior Bingo games at the Chabolla Community Center at 600 Chabolla

Ave. from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays (except holidays and when required by the city).

Seniors of Galt and its immediate vicinity are invited to have fun and play bingo together and socialize.

Nominate Your Neighbor

The Galt Beautification Committee wants you to “nominate your neighbor.” Has your neighbor recently completed a yard project? Does your neighbor have the best flowers in town or the best-looking yard? The Galt Beautification Committee wants to know.

Send an email with pictures and why you are nominating your neighbor to planningdivision@city-ofgalt.org.

The best submissions will be included in future newsletters and City Manager Updates.

Meals on Wheels Cafe Accepting Older Adults

Meals on Wheels is accepting new participants in its Galt All Seasons Café located in the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave.

The cafe is open at 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays for adults age 60 and older.

Those interested can apply at the Chabolla Center when meals are being served or they can call 916-444-9533.

Recycle Household Batteries

City of Galt residents can recycle their household batteries in one of two green household-battery recycling bins: on the west

side at the front entrance to the Galt Police Department or on the east side at Galt Community Park, just west of the fire station.

The green bin is only for dry-cell household batteries. For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 209-366-7260.

Square Dance Classes Mondays

The Diamond Dancers Square Dance Club hosts social square-dancing classes in Galt.

The classes are open to everyone and are held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Valley Oaks Grange Hall.

The Valley Oaks Grange Hall is at 347 Fifth St. For more information, call Sue Regadanz at 916-835-8916.

Volunteers Sought for Senior Resource Center

The Commission on Aging is looking for volunteers to operate a computer and are willing to answer questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on social media and by email at the Galt Senior Resource Center.

Volunteer slots are available in two-hour increments for up to four hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, excluding holidays.

Volunteers will be trained and can contact commission members with questions.

The resource center is at the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. If interested, call 209-294-3308 and leave a message or inquire in person. ★



FREDERICK ALOIS DENIER • 11/14/1959 – 05/05/2026

With heavy hearts we regret the passing of our beloved Frederick A. Denier (66) on May 5, 2026, at John Muir Hospital Walnut Creek. After a courageous time fighting an anoxic brain injury from a cardiac arrest, he never gave up on recovering.

He was a kind and humble man. Fred, a Galt native, was born Nov. 14, 1959, in Lodi, CA. He attended Galt Elementary Schools, Galt High School class of 1977, and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo class of 1981. In high school, he was active in Galt 4-H and Galt FFA Chapter showing dairy cattle and earned the American Farmer Degree.

In college, he graduated with a bachelor's in Dairy Science, ranked at the top nationally in dairy cattle judging, and at the top of his class of 1981.

After graduation from college, he began working at the family dairy farm, Cal-Denier Dairy, as the operating manager along with his brother, Richard Denier, for 40 years. Over the years, Fred grew the herd to have one of the finest registered Holstein breeds in the world, where he was recognized by the National Dairy Shrine as the most Progressive Dairy Producer in 2000. Fred was very proud of his herd and his devoted staff.

He was a devoted husband, father, brother and friend to all he knew. He enjoyed most being an active leader in the Boy Scouts of America. He helped his two sons reach the rank of Eagle Scout. Fred was active in the California Milk Advisory Board, Western United Dairymen, Dairy Council of California, Ripon Swiss Club and was proud of his heritage.

Fred developed a strong work ethic working with his father



Alfred, Uncles Louis and Walter Denier working cattle year-round at age 8 under the family business of A. Denier & Sons.

Fred was a movie buff, especially sci-fi and American history, and competed in Fencing tournaments around the state. He traveled internationally to Saudi Arabia, Taiwan and Europe.

He was preceded in death by his parents Alfred and Rosa Denier, sister Rosemary Denier and daughter Lindsay Denier. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Cathy Denier; his sons Jonathan and Trevor Denier; brothers Larry and Richard Denier, and many nieces and nephews.

A Rosary will be recited on Tuesday May 26 at 6 p.m.; the viewing is from 4 to 7 p.m. at Lodi Funeral Home. Funeral mass will be at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Galt on May 27 at 11 a.m. with Graveside to follow at Galt-Arno Cemetery on Joy Drive. He will be missed by all those who loved him.



DALE L. WILLIAMS — 1950 - 2026

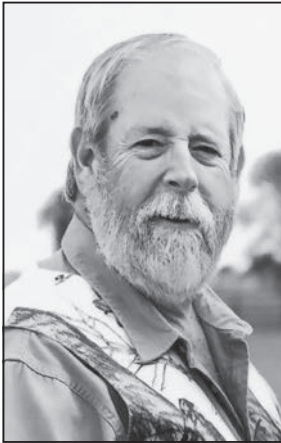
Dale Lee Williams has “gone fishing” forever at the age of 75.

Born with a rod in one hand and a rifle in the other, Dale loved being out on the water. It was only fitting he ended up in the Navy during the Vietnam War—ironically, the longest stretch of his life without seeing a lake while stationed in El Centro.

Dale never went to college, but he was a master of telling anyone within earshot what lure they should be using and held a Ph.D. in “Fish Tales,” expertise he passed down enthusiastically to his grandsons. He believed the best launch ramps were free, especially on someone else's pond.

By far his best catch was his wife. From the moment he saw her in first grade, he was determined to reel her in. It took nearly 20 years and plenty of persistence, but she finally bit—hooked by his dry sense of humor.

Dale supported his passion by



working in his father's drywall business. When not spent on tackle, his paycheck went to playing buffalo slots at the casino, shooting squirrels in Cedarville, or sitting by the chutes at the rodeo. He also loved watching USC football and his grandsons play baseball. Dale was impossible to miss at the games, being as loud as the fish are quiet (which made him

the bane of many referees and umpires).

Dale is survived by his brothers, Gordon (Pamela) and John (Shirley); his wife of 47 years, Janice; his sons, Ernie (Jennifer) and Addison (Jeanay); and his grandsons, Jack and Colt, who will be taking his boat out for a final run. Dale was cremated, and his ashes will be scattered at his favorite lake.

A celebration of life will be held at the Moose Lodge in Woodbridge on May 29, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. There will be food (no fish, Dale never ate anything that he caught), stories, and a strict no-crying rule, unless while laughing at the true size of his “Big One.” In lieu of flowers, take someone fishing—just make sure not to bring any bananas on the boat. Dale insisted they were bad luck.

We wish Dale calm waters, fair weather, and endless honey holes.

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

Is No. 7 Really a Lucky Number?

If you woke up Monday morning and wondered what that sick feeling was, stop for a moment and remember the draft lottery selection on Sunday, and the Sacramento Kings securing the 7th overall pick.

1140 a.m. described the feeling as a gut punch and although I rarely see eye to eye with 1140, I think that’s an apt description.

A gut punch takes you by surprise and momentarily seizes your muscles with a feeling of helplessness, but just as quickly as it came, the body recovers and you’re largely back to normal.

As picks 1-6 were handed out, I wondered why the Kings were being handed such bad luck, until I remembered that this draft is widely recognized as one of the deepest drafts in generations.

Will the Kings draft an A.J. Dybantsa or a Cameron Boozer? No they will not. They may however draft a player that can still start for this team or come off the bench and make an impact that will send the Kings franchise in the right direction.

Imagine for a moment that instead of 7th the Kings had secured the #2 draft pick. How electric would the city of Sacramento be today.

I remember that very thing happening in 2018 when the Kings organization drafted Marvin Bagley and left Luka Doncic on the board to be drafted No. 3 just minutes later. How did that work out Sacramento?

Today after stints with 3 NBA teams Bagley is with the Dallas Mavericks hoping against hope of getting any playing time off the bench for the Mavs.

Marvins career numbers include 11.8 points per game, 6.5 rebounds, and one assist while shooting a horrid 30% from three-point range and 68% from the line.

But a new day is dawning, and with it a G.M. by the name of Scott Perry that has shown he may just be the person to change the fortunes for the Sacramento Kings.

So now that the organization knows that six teams will select before them, what talent will be left for the Kings to make a selection that will truly give the Sacramento franchise a lift.

I’m not sure, but I know it won’t be

Darryn Peterson, A.J. Dybantsa, Cameron Boozer or Caleb Wilson. Too much has been written and talked about their collective game changing abilities for any of these players to still be on the board when the Kings choose at No. 7.

Some pundits believe Darius Acuff Jr. will still be around but I am taking him off my board largely for the same reason. Acuff has simply had too much press associated with his name, and I think the likelihood of Darius going No. 5 or No. 6 is very probable.

At this juncture three names should be on the Kings radar, and they are Kingston Flemings, Mikel Brown Jr. and Brayden Burries. All three of these players are guards but remember the position of point guard is still a critical need for the Sacramento Kings. If any one of the three aforementioned players becomes the point guard of the future, any discussion of drafting No. 7 will quickly be in the rear-view mirror.

I had to smile when I first heard the name Kingston Flemings and wondered how he would react to being drafted by the Sacramento Kings. The good news on Flemings besides his first name is that he is regarded as a two-way player, and as Sacramento continues the quest to build a playoff caliber team, every player on the court needs to be able to not only score the ball but defend his position as well.

At 6-foot-4, 190 pounds, Kingston represents the physicality needed to defend NBA guards and is rated as perhaps the best overall defender as a guard in the upcoming draft. I look for the Kings to pay close attention to his 2-way capability, so if Kingston is available at No. 7 don’t be surprised to see him in a Kings uniform next season.

Lastly, I’m going point your attention to Keaton Wagler who not only surprised the college ranks by scored 18 points per game, he also garnished the coveted Jerry West award for best shooting guard in division one basketball last season.

So, set your calendars for June 23, because it may just be the magical night the Sacramento Kings have been hoping for!

All the best! ★

California Schools Scored Big Increases in Funding but Not in Academic Performance



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Over the last several decades there’s been a recurring debate in political, academic and media circles over the relatively poor levels of academic achievement among California’s public school students.

In basic skills, such as reading and mathematics, measured on state and federal testing, California kids in general were subpar vis-à-vis state standards and in comparison to other states.

The education establishment — school boards, administrators and unions — repeatedly declared that California’s spending on schools was too low and that achievement would rise if they got more money.

There was some factual basis for the first assertion. Relative to other states, California’s per pupil spending did lag; it was second lowest, just ahead of Utah in 2010, according to Education Week’s calculations.

However, as EdSource, a journalistic website devoted to California schools, notes: “In 2012, threatened with further cuts to education, state voters approved a temporary income tax increase on the wealthiest Californians and renewed it in 2016.”

The surtax currently generates about \$10 billion a year, with schools claiming a hefty portion under the state constitution’s school finance

mandate. Slowly but surely California school spending increased relative to other states.

The newest comparison, released recently by the Education Law Center, pegs state spending on California schools in the 2022-23 school year — the latest data available — at \$19,894 per pupil, 13th highest in the nation and \$2,000 over the national average.

During 2019-20, Gov. Gavin Newsom’s first budget contained \$58.8 billion for elementary, middle and high schools, and with local property taxes and federal funds the total was \$103 billion, or \$17,423 per pupil.

Newsom’s last proposed budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year would spend \$88.8 billion in state funds and the total, with local and federal funds, would hit \$149.1 billion, or \$27,418 per student.

The latter numbers, by the way, exclude \$5.6 billion in mandated state aid — or nearly \$1,000 per student — that Newsom wants to withhold to help narrow the state budget’s yawning deficit.

By any measure, California’s schools have seen a big increase in financial support in recent years, although quite a few local districts are underwater — Sacramento Unified being a notable example — due to their penchant for overspending revenues no matter how high they are.

The state’s schools have also been seeing a steady erosion of enrollment due to a variety of demographic and economic factors, so the money they get should boost per-pupil resources even more.

If more money is the cure for California’s academic ills, why hasn’t a \$10,000 (57%) per pupil increase

during Newsom’s governorship resulted in an equally dramatic increase in academic achievement?

It might be that school officials, such as those in Sacramento Unified, were pressured by their unions into using most of the money for salary increases rather than for qualitative improvements, such as adopting phonics-based tutoring to improve reading.

Or it might be that money is not the critical factor in academic achievement, as the education establishment has insisted.

New York spends the most per pupil in the Education Law Center study — \$29,440 per student, or \$10,000 more than California. But in the most recent testing by the federal National Assessment of Educational Progress conducted in 2024, just 31% of New York’s fourth graders were proficient in reading, one point above the national average and two points above California’s kids.

Idaho came in last in the Education Law Center’s rankings of per pupil spending at \$11,805, but 32% of its fourth graders were proficient, higher than California, New York and the nation as a whole.

An adequate amount of money is, of course, necessary to support a public school system. But we shouldn’t kid ourselves, or allow politicians and school officials to kid us, that spending more will automatically increase achievement.

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

I’m Still Working; Why Didn’t I Get a Higher Social Security Benefit?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I began collecting benefits at age 72 and am now 78. Since that time, I have continued to work and have contributed over \$40,000 to Social Security over the last six years. At the time of my retirement, I was informed that the Social Security Administration (SSA) would review my contributions annually and replace lower-earning years from my 35-year record with my current higher-earning years.

Despite my current annual income exceeding \$100,000, I have not seen an increase in my benefit amount over the past six years. I recently met with an SSA representative who confirmed that my benefits are being reviewed annually but did not provide specific details or evidence of these adjustments. Could you please advise me on how to formally verify that my benefits are being accurately reviewed and updated to reflect my continued contributions? **Signed: Collecting and Still Working**

Dear Collecting: For information, your contributions (from FICA payroll taxes) to Social Security over the last 6 years are not what determines

if you get an increase to your monthly SS benefit. Although you contributed to SS since you started receiving SS benefits, those contributions do not affect your monthly SS benefit. Your monthly SS benefit is based only the highest inflation-adjusted 35 years of earnings over your lifetime. And for your monthly benefit to change, your current earnings each year would need to replace at least one of those 35 historical, inflation-adjusted year earnings.

We regularly hear from those who do benefit from SSA’s regular review of work earnings after they start receiving monthly SS benefits, and our Advisory staff includes two individuals with a combined 70 years of service with the Social Security Administration. Thus, we are comfortable saying that SSA does, in fact, review your earnings annually to see if your monthly SS payment should be higher. From a process standpoint, SSA receives your annual earnings information from the IRS (i.e., directly from your annual tax return) by mid-year annually, after which SSA evaluates your recent earnings to see if an increase in your monthly SS benefit is warranted. If so, that increase is automatically applied (usually around October each year), and you are paid the extra amount retroactively to the beginning of the year.

What you may not realize is that your lifetime earnings (your historical earnings) are adjusted for inflation. This is a good thing, because that means your current

monthly SS benefit is calculated using today’s dollar values for your past earnings, rather than the actual money amounts you originally earned and received. For example, \$50,000 of 1990 earnings would be worth about \$125,000 today. Which also means that those 1990 earnings would only yield a higher current Social Security benefit if your recent earnings were more than \$125,000. And this is true for all 35 years of lifetime earnings used to calculate your current monthly Social Security benefit.

The best way for you to ensure that you are getting the right monthly benefit amount is to first obtain your lifetime earnings history from Social Security. This is most easily obtained through your online “my Social Security” account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. If you don’t have an online account set up, you can also request an “Earnings Statement” by calling Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 (or call your local SS field office to request it). Next, I suggest you use Social Security’s “Online Benefits Calculator” explained and available at this link: <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/AnypiaApplet.html>

If, after this, you believe you should be getting a higher monthly SS benefit because of your recent earnings, you can again contact SSA and tell them you believe they did not properly adjust your current SS benefit for your most recent earnings. ★



Regulators no longer have to worry that Spirit Airlines might upset the airline market by merging with the wrong competitor. The now-defunct airline made poor business decisions and had to cope with tough circumstances, but if its demise were an Agatha Christie mystery, the fingerprints of Biden antitrust officials would be all over the crime scene.

These antitrust zealots fought a proposed deal between JetBlue and Spirit, and congratulated themselves on a 2024 court victory that doomed Spirit to likely oblivion. This was wanton economic destruction masquerading as antitrust enforcement.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who never met an antitrust action she didn’t like, exemplifies the perversity. After the Biden administration got a federal judge to put the kibosh on the JetBlue-Spirit deal in 2024, she celebrated: “This is a Biden win for flyers!”

Last week, as Spirit teetered on the edge of the grave, she expressed dismay: “The Big Four airlines (American, Delta, Southwest, United) control 75% of the U.S. market. Fewer choices = higher prices for you.”

Yes, it would be terrific to have a bigger, more serious challenger to the established players, wouldn’t it? If only there’d been a way to achieve such an outcome. The federal judge on the JetBlue-Spirit case conceded that “an expansion of all aspects of Jet-

Blue’s business -- including network, fleet and loyalty program -- would allow for more vigorous competition with the Big Four, which carry most passengers in the country.”

No matter. For Biden officials, antitrust enforcement was a scholastic exercise where the definition of monopoly had no connection to reality. If JetBlue had succeeded in gobbling up Spirit, the airline still would have been smaller than the Big Four.

Worrying about JetBlue getting too big is like fretting that Thrifty -- the fifth largest car rental car rental outlet in the United States after Enterprise, Hertz, Avis and Budget -- is one relatively small acquisition away from establishing dominance in the car-rental market.

As for the fear that the JetBlue-Spirit merger would end Spirit’s role as an ultra-low-cost carrier and therefore harm consumers, the airline has now gone away anyway, only in a more disorderly fashion. JetBlue might wonder what Biden regulators had against it. As the website View From the Wing points out, JetBlue got approval during the first Trump administration for a partnership with American Airlines to expand in New York. Then, the Biden team showed up and killed the partnership on grounds that directly contradicted its rationale for nixing the JetBlue-Spirit deal.

“The Biden administration fought the American Airlines-JetBlue partnership,” View From the Wing notes, “calling JetBlue a pro-passenger disruptor who drives down prices. Then they turned around

and claimed that JetBlue was a monopolist who would drive up prices if they bought Spirit.”

JetBlue itself is struggling, but at least the airline is still with us. Spirit had a good run based on its initial disruption of the industry. The airline’s idea was to make a basic fare extremely cheap, and then charge passengers fees for everything taken for granted at other airlines (drinks, carry-on bags, etc.).

The customer experience was terrible, though. And Spirit got buffeted by changes during the pandemic, while more established airlines matched its fares with basic economy. Spirit stopped making money in 2019.

With the JetBlue deal blocked, it couldn’t get an alternative merger done. It declared bankruptcy in 2024, and then again in August 2025. The recent spike in jet-fuel prices pushed it over the edge.

Elizabeth Warren was quick to say that “Trump’s war was the nail in the coffin for twice-bankrupted Spirit Airlines.” Well, yeah. But its vulnerable state underlines how foolish it was to keep it from getting the lifeline it so desperately needed from a merger.

Ronald Reagan said the most terrifying words in the English language are, “I’m from the government, and I’m here to help.” The Spirit fiasco shows that perhaps equally frightening are the words, “I’m with the DOJ antitrust division and I’m here to protect consumers.”

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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ABOUT TOWN

Continuing through Thursday, May 21
Fireworks Vendor Applications Accepted – The City of Galt is accepting applications for organizations that wish to sell fireworks on city property. Applications for fireworks permits are available in the City Clerk’s Office, 380 Civic Drive, city’s website: cityofgalt.org or email clerk@cityofgalt.org. All applications and required attachments must be completed and received by the City Clerk’s Office no later than 5 p.m. May 21, 2026.

Applicants must be a community-based, resident 501(c) (3), (4), (6) or (7) nonprofit organization promoting and providing services to residents and/or businesses.

The lottery will be held the first Monday of June in the City Clerk’s office and will determine the rank order for placement at the bottom of the master list for those eligible nonprofit organizations not already included in the master list.

Continuing through Monday, May 18
The (Vietnam) Moving Wall – remains open 24 hours a day until 3 p.m. Monday at Weber Point Events Center. There will be a special ceremony on Saturday and a closing ceremony on Monday. The names of all 58,000+ names on the wall will be read from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day. This free event is open to the public. *221 N. Center St., Stockton.*

Friday, May 15 through Monday, May 25
Marinelli Bros. Circus – at the San Joaquin County Fairgrounds. This all-new, family-owned circus combines old world charm with jaw-dropping innovation to deliver a thrilling show for all ages. It’s a spectacular celebration of wonder, talent, and fun, perfect for families, date nights and anyone who loves live entertainment. Tickets and more information at MarinelliBrosCircus.com. *1658 S. Airport Way, Stockton.*

Friday, May 15 through Sunday, May 17
Golden State Pinball Festival – Lodi Grape Festival Grounds. Opens at 1 p.m. Friday, continuing through 5 p.m. Sunday. Find tournament action at all levels, swap meet and silent auction, music and more. Full schedule and ticket information at goldenstatepinball.org. *413 E. Lockeford St., Lodi.*

Friday, May 15
Fund N Food Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Moose Lodi Lodge #634. Dip into a classic spaghetti dinner, relax with live entertainment and connect with friends and neighbors, all while helping to fund opportunities for the Valley Robotics Team and STEM education. Call 209-368-4884 for tickets and more information. *3824 E. Woodbridge Road, Woodbridge.*

Live Music with Phil & da Pinots – 6 to 9 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room in Old Town. Phil & da Pinots play tunes from the 1960s, ’70s, ’80s and ’90s. For more information, visit barsettivineyards.com or call 209-747-3861. *400 4th St., Suite 150.*

Saturday, May 16
29th Annual Tour Delle Vigne – parking and registration open at 6:30 a.m. at Michael David Winery’s Bare Ranch Estate. This cycling event through the beautiful Lodi Wine Appellation is a fundraiser for the Lodi Sunrise Rotary Club and its community service projects. Choose from a 30k, 60k or 100k ride, all returning to Bare Ranch Estate by 4 p.m. Registration and more information at tourdellevigne.com. *Enter the Estate at 1875 W. Woodbridge Road, Lodi.*

Dillard Fair and Car Show – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wilton Community Center. Join us for a free, family-friendly day packed with fun, food and community. Enjoy a free hot dog lunch courtesy of the world-famous Dillard Store while you explore everything the fair has to offer. More than 75 local vendors and young entrepreneurs, car show, kids’ zone, touch-a-truck, local music and entertainment, and so much more. Badger Creek 4H will be fundraising with a silent auction. *9717 Colony Road, Wilton.*

Homebrew Beer Festival – 2 p.m.

to 5 p.m. at The Catalyst. Golden State Brew Club is back to celebrate the joy of homebrewing. Your ticket buys unlimited tastings of a wide variety of beers brewed by club members. There will be special beers available as part of “Ales for ALS” raising money for ALS research. Tickets available on Eventbrite.com. *926 N. Yosemite St., Stockton.*

Sunday, May 17
Guided Walk at the Cosumnes River Preserve – 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Discover the stories and secrets of this beautiful river while enjoying the serene surroundings of the preserve. This free, in-person event is perfect for nature lovers, history buffs and anyone looking for a fun outdoor adventure. *13501 Franklin Blvd.*

Monday, May 18
Elk Grove Community Concert Band Summer Concert – 7 p.m. in the Joseph Kerr Middle School Multi-Purpose Room. Christopher J. Tootle leads the band, which includes professional, semi-professional and amateur adult musicians, and talented Elk Grove Unified School District school musicians. The concert is free; donations are encouraged. Learn more at elkgrovecommunityband.org. *8865 Elk Grove Blvd.*

Wednesday, May 20
State of the City – Lunch & Level Up – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Papas & Wings. Join us for this event that brings together leadership from the City of Galt, Galt District Chamber of Commerce, Galt Police Department and CSD Fire for an inside look at what’s happening across our community. Whether you’re a business owner, community leader or resident, this event offers meaningful connections and important information you won’t want to miss. Register at galtchamber.org. *803 C St.*

Friday, May 22
Blood, Sweat and Gears Pizza and Pistons – 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Foothill Pizza. Join us for this cruise-in on the fourth Friday every month. For more information, contact Dave at 209-570-0448 or Paul at 925-219-6057. *18970 N. Highway 88, Lockeford.*

Saturday, May 23
Waterslide Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening – noon to 7 p.m. at Gora Aquatic Center. Join us to celebrate the opening of our new 30-foot waterslide. Kick off the event at noon with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, light refreshments and a special giveaway for the first 25 children in attendance. City Council members will take the ceremonial first ride down the slide. The slide officially opens to the public at 2 p.m. and guests are invited to use the new feature during regular public swim hours. *630 Chabolla Ave.*

4th Street Band Live Music – 1 to 4 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room in Old Town. The band plays 1970s, ’80s and ’90s music. Members of the band feature some members of Phil & da Pinots Band as well as Galtonian Tony Keesee. Wine and wine slushes will be available for purchase. For more information, visit barsettivineyards.com or call 209-747-3861. *400 4th St., Suite 150.*

“Celebrate Lodi” Show Reception & Award Presentation – 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lodi Community Art Center. Join us for an open art show celebrating the wonderful community in Lodi. Participation is open to everyone in the community. Sponsored by the Lodi Community Art Center, City of Lodi and the Lodi Arts Commission. *110 W. Pine St., Lodi.*

Astronomy in the Park – 8:15 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Shumway Oak Grove Regional Park. Bring a blanket and chairs; Stockton Astronomical Society will bring the telescopes. Free event; \$10 parking. *4520 W. Eight Mile Road, Stockton.*

Sunday, May 24
Line Dance Class & Karaoke Band Practice – noon to 4 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room in Old Town. There is no charge for the class with purchase of wine. Then at 1 p.m., the band takes off with practice and karaoke. Attendees are also welcome to join in by singing or playing an instrument with the band. One-drink minimum for all events. For more information, visit

barsettivineyards.com or call 209-747-3861. *400 4th St., Suite 150.*

Monday, May 25
Lodi Blooms Memorial Day 5k Run/Walk – opens at 5:30 a.m. for check in at Chinchiole Farming Co., Inc. Join us for a one-of-a-kind event nestled in the heart of cherry season. Everyone is invited to experience the orchard like never before: winding through rows of cherry trees on a scenic, flat farm course. 75% of proceeds go directly to support the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau and its local youth and ag education programs. Registration is limited to 200 registrants, link at chinchiolefarming.com/products. *11560 N. Lower Sacramento Road, Lodi.*

Galt Memorial Day Ceremony – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Galt-Arno Cemetery District. Join us as we honor those who served and sacrificed for our country. After the ceremony, please join the Veterans of Galt as they continue the tribute with a special wreath-laying for local heroes. *14180 Joy Drive.*

Wilton Memorial Day Ceremony – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Wilton Post Office parking lot. The Wilton Veterans’ Group and the Wilton History Group are organizing this ceremony to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, and we invite our neighbors in Wilton and surrounding communities to join us. The ceremony will feature a special military vehicle display, a “Fallen Hero Table” and a ringing of the bell for local veterans. Following the event, the Wilton Fire Protection District will host a hot dog fundraiser. All are welcome. *11090 Jeff Brian Lane, Wilton.*

Wednesday, May 27
Community Workshop: Galt Safety Action & Bicycle Transportation Plan – 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Galt Police Department Anthony Pescetti Community Room. We invite residents, business owners and community members to join our first public workshop and help to shape the future of transportation safety in Galt. Learn more at GaltSafety.com. *455 Industrial Drive.*

Music in the Park – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at West Park at Hutchins Street Square. Join us for a free, relaxing evening of live music. Bring your blankets or low lawn chairs and settle in for great tunes in a shady, comfortable park setting. Treats and eats available to purchase or pack your own picnic and enjoy dinner under the trees. *125 S. Hutchins St., Lodi.*

Friday, May 29
Live Music with Phil & da Pinots – 6 to 9 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room in Old Town. Phil & da Pinots play tunes from the 1960s, ’70s, ’80s and ’90s. For more information, visit barsettivineyards.com or call 209-747-3861. *400 4th St., Suite 150.*

Saturday, May 30
Paint & Sip – 1 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room in Old Town. The cost is \$45 per person, which includes all materials and instruction, led by artist Beth Bates. Reservations can be made by visiting Paintnite.com, selecting “Find events near me” and entering Beth Bates in the search bar. Wine and wine slushes will be available for purchase. For more information, visit barsettivineyards.com or call 209-747-3861. *400 4th St., Suite 150.*

Saturday, July 11
A Drive Down Memory Lane Car Show – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McFarland Living History Ranch. The Galt Area Historical Society will host its annual car show open to all cars from the 1970s and older. Car entry is \$35 in advance and \$45 at the gate. There will be a \$5 per car fee for the public to attend. For those interested, vehicles can be registered at galthistory.com. *8899 Orr Road.*

Ongoing Events
Galt Café & Cars – every second Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at Café Latte. Open to cars, trucks, bicycles, motorcycles and anything else with wheels. Next event is Saturday, June 13. *1000 C St.*

Lodi Certified Farmers Market – 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. weekly on Thursdays through August 27. The streets will come alive with more than 65 growers,

producers and food vendors offering everything from organic fruits and vegetables to fresh cheeses, meats, baked goods, local wines and handcrafted treasures. Enjoy live music while you browse. *School Street in Downtown Lodi.*

Twin Cities Cruisers Cars and Coffee – last Sunday of every month, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at “Life’s Grind” coffee house in the Raley’s shopping center. All makes and models are welcome. *10420 Twin Cities Road.*

Widowed Persons Social Club – May 15, 10 a.m.: Pinochle at Elk Grove United Methodist Church, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact Jim at 916-768-1923.

May 21, 11:30 a.m.: Lunch & 12:30 p.m. general meeting at Golden Corral, 7700 W. Stockton Blvd.; \$24 includes lunch. Contact Pat at 916-802-4524.

May 22, 10 a.m.: Mixed variety game day at Elk Grove United Methodist Church, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact Gerri at 916-698-1940.

A widowed person may attend up to three events while deciding if they wish to join WPSC. Contact Bonnie at 916-422-1522 if you are interested in membership.

Wilton Bingo – First Saturday each month. The next bingo will be on Saturday, June 6 in the Wilton Community Center. Doors open at 5 p.m. with food available for sale and bingo starts at 6 p.m. All proceeds go to two nonprofits: the local Park Council and the Wilton History Group. *9717 Colony Road at Dillard Road, Wilton.*

Library Events
Sacramento County Libraries have the following upcoming events at (G) Galt Marian O. Lawrence Library, 1000 Caroline Ave. and (WG) Walnut Grove, 14177 Market St.

Friday, May 15: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (G) English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G) Adult space – family history research, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. (WG)

Tuesday, May 19: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (WG)

Wednesday, May 20: English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G)

Thursday, May 21: STEAM builder space – LEGOs, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (G) Cook the book, 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join us for a cooking demonstration and learn how to make Long Bean Adobo from “Aloha Veggies” by Alan Kysar. Limited enrollment, please pre-register on the library website. (WG)

Friday, May 22: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (G) English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G)

Veterans Meetings
American Legion Post 55, Veterans and Auxiliary Units – fourth Wednesday each month. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m. Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove. Breakfast: second Saturday, 8-10 a.m., 8830 Sharkey Ave., Elk Grove.

American Legion Post 233 and Auxiliary Unit 233 – general meetings the fourth Thursday each month at 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove. Dinner at 6 p.m.

Post 233 Family Breakfast – first Saturday each month at 9 a.m., Mimi’s Café, corner of Laguna Boulevard and West Stockton Boulevard (just off Highway 99) in Elk Grove. For more information, call Henry at 916-205-9296 C or Sue at 916-683-6128 H.

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 233 – first Monday each month at 5:45 p.m. at the Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove.

Marine Corps League Detachment #1238 – first Thursday each month. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., District56 Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove.

Veterans of Galt – A group of local veterans who meet at 9 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month at the Galt Place Apartments meeting room. For more information, call Tom at 530-386-2721 or Brian at 209-404-5022. All veterans are welcome. 400 D St.

VFW Post 2073 – second Thursday. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., District56 Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove. For more information, call 916-684-3849. ★

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Please call 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays

POLICE LOGS

During the time period of May 5 to May 11, Galt Police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in 14 arrests.

May 5

5:07 a.m., Vandalism reported, Auto Zone on C Street: Broken window, miscellaneous items taken.
10:43 p.m., DUI/Adult Arrest, Carillion Boulevard/Lake Canyon Avenue.

May 6

3:32 p.m., Theft reported, Galt Market on Meladee Lane: Wallet stolen.
7:47 p.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury reported, McDonald's on E Stockton Boulevard.

May 7

10:55 a.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury reported, Liberty Ranch High School on Marengo Road.
11:51 a.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury reported, South Lincoln Way/Meladee Lane.
12:34 p.m., Theft

reported, Galt High School, North Lincoln Way.
1:18 p.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury reported, Union 76 on Simmerhorn Road.
2:29 p.m., Recovered Stolen Vehicle/Adult Arrest, Oakwilde Street/Toni Court.
3:55 p.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, E Street/5th Street.
10:59 p.m., Fraud reported, Taco Bell on C Street: Male in drive-thru paying with "fake \$20's."

May 8

10:17 a.m., Warrant Served/Adult Arrest, Galt Police Department on Industrial Drive.
7:27 p.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, Galt Sports Complex, Caroline Avenue.
7:31 p.m., Vehicle Accident-Injury, Carol Drive/Amador Avenue.
8:52 p.m., Burglary-Auto reported, Creek Ranch Golf Course on Crystal Way.
8:54 p.m., Theft reported, Norman Road:

Adult tricycle stolen.

May 9

1:19 a.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, Highway 99 Northbound/Simmerhorn Road.
11:24 p.m., Warrant Served/Adult Arrest, AM/PM Store, East Stockton Boulevard.

May 10

1:43 a.m., DUI/Adult Arrest, A Street/South Lincoln Way.
7:36 p.m., Warrant Served/Adult Arrest, Galt Sports Complex, Caroline Avenue.

May 11

1:16 a.m., DUI/Adult Arrest, Fairway Drive/Glendale Avenue.
5:15 a.m., Burglary-Auto reported, Lincoln Villas on South Lincoln Way: Tires removed from vehicle.
11:22 a.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, Twin Cities Road/East Stockton Boulevard.
8:32 p.m., Theft reported, The Galt Place on D Street: Debit card, EBT card and ID taken. ★

Job and Resource Fair at Littleton Center



For those currently seeking employment or resources, California Human Development will host a job fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at the Littleton Community Center designed to help job seekers explore career options and connect with new opportunities. Photo courtesy of California Human Development

By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - The non-profit California Human Development will host a job fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at the Littleton Community Center, 410 Civic Drive, in partnership with the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency and the Employment Development Department. The one-day event is designed for job seekers to explore career options and get connected with new opportunities. Additional resources will

also be available, including services for children and families, veterans and youth.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to register at lp.constant-contactpages.com/sv/VNeqxhU/GALTREG.

For Spanish-speakers: La organización California Human Development tendrá una feria de empleo el martes 19 de mayo, de 10:00 a. m. a 1:00 p. m., en el Centro Comunitario de Littleton (410 Civic Drive), en colaboración con la Agencia de Empleo y Formación de

Sacramento (SETA) y la oficina del Departamento de Desarrollo del Empleo.

Este evento está diseñado para ayudar a quienes buscan empleo a explorar opciones profesionales y a encontrar nuevas oportunidades. Entre otros recursos disponibles se incluyen los servicios para niños y familias, los servicios para veteranos y los servicios para jóvenes.

Las personas interesadas en asistir deben inscribirse a través del enlace anterior. ★





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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02957
Tahzay Wakiza Huerta, 9465 Rogers Road, Sacramento, CA 95829 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Huerta's Beef Tallow" 9465 Rogers Road, Sacramento, CA 95829. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 14, 2026
Publish: April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2026
HUERTAS 5-15-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-01824
Stephanie Lewis and Tim Lewis, 15261 Twin Cities Road, Herald, CA 95638 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Running T" 200 Crystal Way, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County

March 5, 2026
Publish: April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2026
THE 5-15-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03108
Terence Richard Onit, 946 Piermont Court, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "NerdBox TCG" 946 Piermont Court, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 17, 2026
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026
NERDBOX 5-22-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03119
Generations Home Loans, LLC, 1200 E Orangeburg Avenue Suite 103, Modesto, CA 95350 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "GHL/Generations Home Loans" 1200 E Orangeburg Avenue Suite 103, Modesto,

CA 95350. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 17, 2026
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026
GHL 5-22-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF PATRICIA A VIENNA CASE NO. 26PR001080

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Pat Vienna, Patricai Vienna, Patricia Ann Vienna.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Marcy Goodman and Michelle Nelsen, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Marcy Goodman be appointed as personal representative(s) to admin-

ister the estate of the decedent.

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 21, 2026, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations

Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

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 Petitioner is: Marcy Goodman, 1665 Park Village Drive, Beaumont, CA 92223 and Michelle Nelsen, 7313 Bermuda Court, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683; 916-296-9434
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 2026
VIENNA 5-15-26

INVITATION FOR BIDS – FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

The Galt Joint Union Elementary School District Food & Nutrition Services Department is soliciting sealed bids for the following:

- Food
- Dairy
- Delivery Pizza
- Produce
- Laundry

Bid documents, specifications, and submission instructions are available beginning **April 20, 2026**.
Galt.k12.ca.us/Departments/Food-and-Nutrition-Service or Food-nutrition@galt.k12.ca.us

Sealed bids must be received no later than **May 18, 2026 by 3:00 pm**.

Submit at:1018 C St. Suite 210 Galt, CA 95632

Bids will be opened on May 20, 2026. Late bids will not be accepted.

All vendors must comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including USDA Child Nutrition Program requirements where applicable.

Questions must be submitted in writing to **Nick Svoboda** at **food-nutrition@galt.k12.ca.us** by **May 4, 2026**.

The **Galt Joint Union Elementary School District** reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in the bidding process.

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District
Food & Nutrition Services Department

The Galt Herald 4-24, 5-1, 5-8 and 5-15-2026

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given by Galt Joint Union Elementary School District ("District") that it will receive up to, but no later than the Due Date and Time stated below, sealed Bids for the Site Work to install two portable classrooms at River Oaks Elementary School.

Project Description

The project is under the Division of the State Architect (DSA) purview and consists of:

- Site improvements to the existing path of travel and accessible parking
- Minor accessibility improvements to three (3) restrooms within Building E (a boy's, a girl's and staff restrooms) as illustrated in the contract documents
- Installation of two (2) new relocatable classroom buildings in the North-East corner of campus

Both classroom buildings will be installed on wood foundations. Installation related site work includes but is not limited to: new utilities connection to existing system, regrading, and paving.

Bid Due Date and Time
3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at Galt Joint Union Elementary School District, Galt, CA 95632

Bid Documents Available
On the District's website, Facilities and Planning page: <https://www.galt.k12.ca.us/Our-District/Facilities-and-Planning/Formal-Bids/>

District Contact
Galt Joint Union Elementary School District Business Department
1018 C St., Suite 210, Galt, CA 95632
Contact: Alicia Valdovinos, email (avaldivinos@galt.k12.ca.us) or (209) 744-4545 ext. 345

Submittal of Bid
All Bids shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bids must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid requirements, which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bids submitted to the District prior to the date and time set forth above shall be considered.

Pre-Qualification of Contractors
In order to submit a Bid, contractors must possess a current and active A or B license and be prequalified by the District by May 20, 2026.

Rejection of Bids
The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any irregularities or informalities in any bids or in the bidding.

DVBE Participation Goal
The District has established a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Participation Goal of 3%. All contractors will be required to submit DVBE Worksheets that confirm outreach efforts to meet this goal.

Bid Advertisement Dates
May 8 and 15, 2026

Mandatory Pre-Bid Walk
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1:45 p.m., River Oaks Elementary School, 905 Vintage Oak Avenue, Galt, CA 95632.

The Galt Herald 5-8, 5-15-2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2026-2027 GALT JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED BUDGET

Pursuant to Education Code Sections 42103, 42122, 42123, and 42127, notice is hereby published that a Public Hearing on the Galt Joint Union High School District's proposed budget will be held at the Galt Council Chambers located at 380 Civic Drive, Galt, CA 95632 on June 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Any taxpayer affected by the aforementioned proposed budget may inspect the budget at the Galt Joint Union High School District Office located at 150 Camellia Way, Galt, CA 95632, June 8-11, 2026 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday–Thursday.

Signed Anna Trunnell
Secretary to the Board

CNS-4041901#

The Galt Herald 5-15-2026

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

Panel 1: "THE MOON IS FULL TONIGHT."
Panel 2: "ARE YOU SURE IT'S FULL?"
Panel 3: "I'M SURE... IT JUST 'BURPED'"

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

Panel 1: "DAD!!"
Panel 2: "DAD, I NEED YOUR HELP!"
Panel 3: "HOW THE HECK DO YOU WORK THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER?"

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

Panel 1: "WHEN HOPE RECEDES AND CHAOS REVEALS ITSELF, DRAG YOUR BUTT ACROSS THE FLOOR TILL CALM RETURNS."
DOG GURU

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

Panel 1: "WANNA CLIMB TREES, BONNIE?"
Panel 2: "NOPE"
Panel 3: "HOW'BOUT FOLLOW THE LEADER?"
Panel 4: "OKAY-YOU LEAD"
Panel 5: "UP AND OVER THAT TRASH CAN"
Panel 6: "WALK ALONG THE FENCE"
Panel 7: "NOW WE'LL DO HANDSTANDS"
Panel 8: "NEXT, LEAP OVER THE PITCH"
Panel 9: "LAST ONE, I QUIT!"
Panel 10: "YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO PLAY FOLLOW THE LEADER, HUGO"

POPEYE

by KIM FUGLAND

Panel 1: "WHILE CLEANING OUT HIS OWN NURSERY FROM TODDLERHOOD IN THE HOME OF HIS UNCLE DAVE JONES, POPEYE HAS MADE A HORRIBLE DISCOVERY THAT MAY DISTRACT HIM FROM HIS MISSION TO SAVE OLIVE OIL FROM THE KINGDOM OF THE EAST."
Panel 2: "HOW'S THE CLEANUP, NEPHEW?"
Panel 3: "COULD BE BETTER!"
Panel 4: "VA BRUNG SEA HAG T'YER FIRST BIRTHDAY T' HANG OUT?!"
Panel 5: "POPEYE, I PROMISE YOU, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK."
Panel 6: "NO ONE EVER HANGS OUT WITH THEIR BABYSITTER."
Panel 7: "STRIKE!! YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO STRIKE!"
Panel 8: "COME BACK HERE! I DIDN'T SAY YOU COULD HAVE FREEWILL!"
Panel 9: "MISS OLIVE SEZ YOU NEED US MORE 'N WE NEED YOU. PAY US OR WE WALK."
Panel 10: "IS THIS A BAD TIME TO TELL YOU OLIVE RELEASED THREE OF YOUR PRISONERS?"
Panel 11: "[STREAM OF INPOLITE WORDS]"

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Panel 1: "THAT'S IT! RELEASE THE BACKUP SECURITY TO ANNIHILATE OYL!"
Panel 2: "MOM, THAT'S GONING OVERBOARD!"
Panel 3: "IT'S NOT GONING FAR ENOUGH! I WAS A FOOL TO LET OYL RUN LOOSE IN MY DUNGEON! NOW SHE'S JAILBREAKING MY CAPTIVE!"
Panel 4: "SHE'S ALREADY TURNED MY GUARDS AGAINST ME. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT A RUTHLESS ARMY SHE'S MAKING OUT OF THOSE PRISONERS?"
Panel 5: "I DUNNO, MAN. HAVE YOU TRIED NOT TASTING GOOD?"

GRIN & BEAR IT

by Dave T. Phipps

Panel 1: "Thanks a lot for telling me all that stuff, Dad! Now I'm going to need counseling!"
Panel 2: "YOU KNOW, DEAR, NORMALLY WHEN SOMEONE BUYS GIRL SCOUT COOKIES THEY BUY A BOX.... NOT A BOX."

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CLUES

ACROSS
1. Ill-considered
5. Mate
8. "I didn't get the ____"
12. Biblical preposition
13. Down in the dumps
14. Rodgers of NFL fame
15. Proofreader's mark
16. Get bacon?
17. *Any mountain over 3,000 feet, in Scotland
18. *Mount Everest mountain range
20. Research facil.
21. Itsy-bitsy bits
22. Forensic evidence, acr.
23. Relating to sacrum
26. What Cupid did (2 words)
30. Amazement interjection
31. Not victory
34. Eurozone money
35. Whisky measure, pl.
37. Dot-com address
38. Birth-related
39. Auricular
40. Volcanic ash, e.g.
42. Pro baseball's "Master Melvin"
43. Borat's swimsuit
45. Cruel treatments
47. It would
48. Munchausen's title
50. Supernatural life force
52. *Mountain inspiration for a pen name (2 words)
56. You will
57. Icelandic epic
58. Double reed woodwind instrument
59. Like a good singer (2 words)
60. Not quite an adult
61. *Matterhorn site
62. Like a busybody
63. Commercial break contents
64. Coloring substances

DOWN
1. *Mount ____ more, South Dakota
2. A in ABS
3. Opposite of stern
4. Balloon filler (2 words)
5. "Vamos a la ____"
6. Saintry glows
7. Carl Zeiss' product
8. *Tallest mountain from base to peak (2 words)
9. European sea eagles
10. Dead, in France
11. Yoko of music fame
13. #11 Down's late husband, e.g.
14. Kind of acid
19. Dump truck quantities
22. Email period
23. Bible's wicked city
24. Blood circulation artery
25. ____ gang
26. Baby powder ingredient
27. Sting Rays and Mustangs
28. Angry
29. Sheds skin, as in snake
32. *World's most climbed mountain
33. Before, poetically
36. *Denali, 1917-2015
38. British East India Company millionaire
40. Fairy tale's last word
41. Scottish clan identity

44. *Vesuvius location
46. Take care of cargo
48. Foreshadowed
49. *World's longest mountain range
50. As opposed to stereo
51. Puffins and guillemots
52. Facebook's parent company
53. Competently
54. Uh-uh
55. British tax
56. Old-fashioned "far"

CROSSWORD

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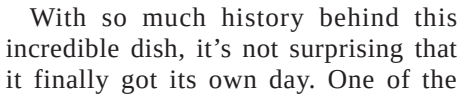
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

The history of National Pizza Party Day is really the history of pizza itself. For thousands of years, people have been gathering around to enjoy this delicious food. Of course, all those years ago pizza may not have looked quite like we imagined it today. The first people to make something like the pizza we know were the Greeks, who started by covering bread with a spread of herbs, oil and cheese. Another version was enjoyed by the Romans, who covered a dough sheet with honey and cheese and seasoned it with



Some fun facts about pizza: Western Europe is the biggest pizza market in the world, worth \$54.4 billion, followed closely by North America at \$50.7 billion, then Latin and South America at \$16.8 billion; Americans order 350 slices of pizza every second; 61% of people prefer thin-crust pizzas and pepperoni is the

Until next week – be strong, be courageous and make a memory. ★

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A Battle Beyond the Bite

Lyme Disease Awareness Month Sparks Advocacy and Awareness

By Ornella Rossi

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As the months of unanswered symptoms stretched into years, Lyme Fight Foundation founder and CEO Melissa Moya began to wonder whether anyone would ever believe her.

Doctors tested her for breast cancer, multiple sclerosis, brain tumors and heart disease. She endured MRIs, spinal taps, heart procedures and endless specialist appointments while debilitating pain, fatigue and neurological symptoms worsened. At one point, she said, a doctor suggested the illness was “all in my head.”

Then, in November 2019, after years without answers, Moya finally received the diagnosis that would change her life: Lyme disease.

“I spent the rest of the day crying in bed praying he was wrong,” Moya said. “For some reason I had been ready for MS, not Lyme. I knew nothing about Lyme.”

Now, during Lyme Disease Awareness Month, Moya is using her experience to help others navigate what she calls an often invisible and misunderstood illness.

Founded as a response to her own medical journey, the Lyme Fight Foundation works to provide education, awareness and support for Lyme disease patients and families. The organization also advocates for prevention, education and improved medical coverage for treatment.

“Lyme Fight Foundation is my silver lining, a mission born from my pain,” Moya said. “We exist to raise awareness, promote prevention, education and support those navigating this cruel disease.”

Lyme disease is a tick-borne



Treatment brought a new set of challenges. Moya said Lyme care is often not covered by insurance, leaving many patients responsible for enormous out-of-pocket costs. Photo courtesy of Melissa Moya

illness caused by bacteria transmitted through infected tick bites. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 476,000 Americans are diagnosed and treated for Lyme disease each year. Symptoms can include persistent fatigue, joint pain, neurological issues, dizziness, heart complications and cognitive difficulties.

Moya said misconceptions about Lyme disease remain one of the greatest barriers patients face.

“There are many misconceptions surrounding Lyme disease,” she said. “People think Lyme disease does not exist in California, that everyone develops a bullseye rash or that it can always be cured with just 10 days of antibiotics.”

Moya said many patients struggle for years before receiving a diagnosis because Lyme disease can mimic dozens of other conditions. Early testing may also fail to detect infection.



“Lyme disease is a master of disguise,” she said. “Current testing misses up to 60% of acute cases.”

For Moya, the search for answers became physically and emotionally exhausting. She recalled spending years undergoing invasive procedures while balancing motherhood and chronic pain. One of the most difficult experiences, she said, came after a spinal tap caused a spinal fluid leak that left her bedridden with severe headaches.

“There really is no win,” she said. “You lose if they finally determine you have something wrong, and you lose if yet again there are no answers.”

Treatment brought a new set of challenges. Moya said Lyme care is often not covered by insurance, leaving many patients responsible for enormous out-of-pocket costs. She said doctor visits can cost hundreds of dollars per hour, while specialized testing and IV therapies add thousands more.

“I’ve spent well over \$100,000 on treatment,” she said. “Lyme treatment is brutal, mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually.”

Despite the hardships, Moya said the experience reshaped her understanding of resilience and purpose.

“It has taught me that I am stronger than I ever thought

I could be,” she said. “Life is shorter than I ever really thought it could be.”

That perspective inspired her to create the foundation and become an advocate for others facing similar battles.

The organization offers educational resources, tick-testing information, support programs and care packages for Lyme patients. It also encourages prevention, especially as summer approaches and outdoor activity increases.

Moya advises people spending time outdoors to wear light-colored clothing, use tick repellents, avoid tall grass and conduct thorough tick checks after being outside. She also recommends saving removed ticks in a sealed container for possible testing.

“Awareness can make all the difference,” Moya said.

Throughout May, the foundation is encouraging community members to participate in awareness efforts by wearing green ribbons, sharing prevention information and supporting Lyme patients and families. The organization is also partnering with the American River Parkway Foundation for parkway cleanup events in Fair Oaks later this year.

For Moya, the mission remains deeply personal.

“The greatest threat Lyme patients face isn’t just the disease, it’s the despair,” she said. “No one should go through this alone.”

Even as she continues treatment, Moya said she hopes her story encourages others to keep searching for answers and reminds the public that Lyme disease is far more serious than many realize.

“We all hope and pray one day we reach remission,” Moya said. “Until then, we keep fighting.” ★

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Warriors Honor Seniors in Emotional Home Finale



Seniors Emily Peña, Mia Acuna, Mialahnee Lathipanya-Kham, Roxy Garcia and Celine Gutierrez pose with their coaches on Senior Night.

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The final score was not what the Galt Warriors had hoped for, but when the last out was recorded on Senior Night, the scoreboard became the least important thing on the field. What followed was one of the most meaningful moments of the softball season: a ceremony honoring five young women who have worn the Warrior uniform with pride and left their mark on the Galt High softball program.

Seniors Emily Peña, Mia Acuna, Mialahnee Lathipanya-Kham, Roxy Garcia and Celine Gutierrez were celebrated after the final out of a 12-2 loss to crosstown rival Liberty Ranch. With their families by their sides, each senior walked out to first base to a warm ovation from the crowd. Then, one by one, they ran the bases for the very last time at their home field: a tradition that speaks to the joy and the journey of high school softball. When they reached home plate, they sat down together as their parents knelt beside them and removed their cleats, in a touching tribute that brought more than a few tears to the stands. It was the kind of moment that lives in memory long after the wins and losses fade.

Among those honored was Celine Gutierrez, who played for the JV program this season and was recognized alongside her varsity classmates: a reminder that Senior Night belongs to every senior who gave her time and heart to the Warrior softball family, regardless of which roster she called home.

Liberty Ranch came into the game with a powerful lineup and made its presence felt early, jumping out to a 2-0 lead after the first inning and eventually pulling away in a six-inning contest. The Hawks were led offensively by Gianna Farren, who went 3-for-3 with three runs scored, and Bella Granata, who launched two triples in four at-bats. Xiana Juarez added two hits and two RBIs, and Shelby Duarte went 2-for-4 to round out a Liberty Ranch offensive attack that finished with 16 hits on the night.

In the circle for the Hawks, Cruz Gregorio started and pitched the first two innings before being relieved by senior Laura Quinn, who came on and was dominant the rest of the way. Quinn held Galt scoreless on just three hits over four innings while striking out two, closing out the game in style. The Warriors pushed across both of their runs in the first two innings against Gregorio, showing early fight and refusing to go quietly.



Galt's Mialahnee Lathipanya-Kham catches the out at first base.



Hawk catcher Bella Granata tags out Warrior Rianna Mayer at home plate.

Despite the final score, the Warriors gave their seniors and their fans something to cheer about. Senior Emily Peña led Galt at the plate with a 2-for-3 night, scoring one run and adding a stolen base: the team's only steal of the game. Peña was aggressive on the basepaths and energetic throughout, setting the tone at the top of the lineup the way a senior is supposed to do on her final home night.

Sophomore Zoey Sanchez had herself a strong evening as well, going 2-for-3 with a double and posting a .667 on-base percentage. Junior Rianna Mayer contributed a hit and drove in a run, and senior Roxy Garcia went 1-for-2 with a double, a walk, and a run scored, making every plate appearance count in her final home game.

Sophomore Evianna Barrera took the circle for Galt and went the distance, pitching all six innings and striking out four batters. Facing a Liberty Ranch lineup that was swinging hot bats all evening, Barrera competed with composure and finished what she started: a performance that gave her teammates a chance in every inning.

Numbers do not tell the story of Senior Night. What tells the story is a group of young women – Emily Peña, Mia Acuna, Mialahnee Lathipanya-Kham, Roxy Garcia and Celine Gutierrez – sitting at home plate with their parents and families gathered around them, cleats in hand, the field stretching out behind them one last time. That image belongs to them forever.

Coach Mikka Alvarez and the entire Warrior softball program owe these five seniors a debt of gratitude for their contributions, their commitment and their character. They helped to shape what Galt softball looks like today, and the program they leave behind is better for their presence in it.

★

Liberty Ranch Softball Sends Six Seniors Out With a 10-3 Win Over Bradshaw Christian



Liberty Ranch seniors Riley Sickels, Ava Van Warmerdam, Laura Quinn, Carlie Perez, Bella Granata and Xiana Juarez pose with coaches Paul Castro and Vince Bunac.

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - There are games that are about wins and losses, and then there are games that are about something more. For the Liberty Ranch Hawks softball program, last week's home finale against Bradshaw Christian was both. The Hawks rolled to a convincing 10-3 victory in six innings, and when the final out was recorded, the real celebration began.

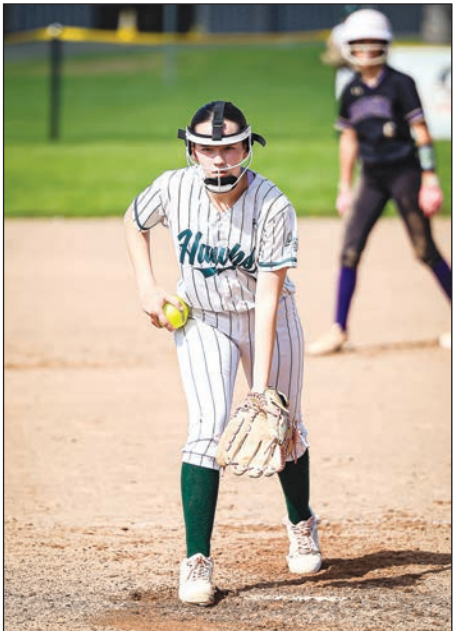
With the win secured, the field was turned over to something even more meaningful: a Senior Day ceremony honoring six young women who have given everything to the Liberty Ranch softball program. Seniors Riley Sickels, Ava Van Warmerdam, Laura Quinn, Carlie Perez, Bella Granata and Xiana Juarez were celebrated in front of family, teammates and classmates after the final out, walking across their home field one last time to the cheers of everyone who came out to honor them. It was the perfect ending to a perfect afternoon.

If there was a senior who made her mark most visibly on the stat sheet, it was Laura Quinn, who took the circle for the complete-game victory and was nothing short of brilliant. Quinn went the full seven innings, allowing just eight hits and three earned runs while striking out six Bradshaw Christian batters and walking only two. She threw 103 pitches and kept the Lions off balance throughout, holding them scoreless in four of the seven innings and shutting the door every time Bradshaw Christian threatened to make things interesting. It was the kind of performance a senior pitcher dreams of delivering on her final home appearance: controlled, confident and commanding from start to finish.

Liberty Ranch wasted no time setting the tone offensively. The Hawks erupted for three runs in the bottom of the first inning and added two more in the second, building a 5-1 lead before Bradshaw Christian could find any momentum. After a quiet middle stretch, the Hawks blew the game open with three more runs in the fourth inning and two additional tallies in the sixth, finishing with 10 runs on 11 hits.

The offensive standout of the game was junior Shelby Duarte, who went a perfect 4-for-4 at the plate with four RBIs: an extraordinary performance that anchored the middle of the Hawk lineup all game long. Freshman Kaci Springmeyer was equally impressive, going 3-for-4 with two runs scored and three RBIs. Junior Khali Barrantes reached base three times in four plate appearances, scoring twice and driving in one. Freshman Gianna Farren added two hits and a stolen base, while junior Ava Clarida contributed three hits including a double from the Bradshaw Christian side.

Among the seniors, Bella Granata went 1-for-2 with a double, was hit by a pitch and scored a run, making the most of every at-bat. Carlie Perez reached base twice on walks, scored a run and drew the defensive assignment at first base where



Senior Laura Quinn pitches for the Hawks.

she recorded four clean putouts without an error. Xiana Juarez drew two walks and reached base both times she came to the plate. Riley Sickels and Ava Van Warmerdam were in the lineup as well, contributing to a day that was as much about their presence as their production.

The victory over Bradshaw Christian could not fully erase the sting of a difficult final stretch of league play. The Hawks dropped two games to Amador and fell to Argonaut 5-2 – a team they had previously handled 10-4 – in a late-season stumble that pushed Liberty Ranch to second place in the Sierra Valley Conference standings. Amador claimed the league title with an outstanding season, finishing with just two losses.

But second place in a competitive league is nothing to hang heads over, and the Liberty Ranch program has plenty to be proud of. This team won games, competed at a high level all season and produced the kind of memories that stick, including a Senior Day afternoon that the six honorees and everyone in attendance will not soon forget.

Senior Day in high school sports is one of those traditions that reminds everyone why the games matter beyond the scoreboard. For Riley Sickels, Ava Van Warmerdam, Laura Quinn, Carlie Perez, Bella Granata and Xiana Juarez, the walk across that field represented four years of early mornings, long practices, tough losses, big wins and the bonds that form when a group of young women compete together for something bigger than themselves.

They sent themselves off the right way, with a complete-game gem from Quinn, a double-digit run output from a lineup firing on all cylinders, and a home crowd that made sure they knew exactly how much they meant to the Liberty Ranch softball community.

The Hawks still have postseason baseball to look forward to, but for six seniors, the home chapter of their Liberty Ranch story ended on a warm afternoon with a win, flowers, family and a lot of love from the only team they ever called home.

★



Junior Khali Barrantes snags a pop fly.

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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Warriors Make a Splash: Galt Girls Swim Team Claims SVC Championship Banner



Congratulations to the league champion Galt Warrior girls’ swim team. Courtesy Photos

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

ELK GROVE, CA MPG) - In what may be one of the most memorable moments in Galt High School swimming history, the Warriors girls swim team captured the Sierra Valley Conference Championship this season, finishing with 410 points and earning a share of the overall SVC title in a three-way tie for the conference crown. For a program that has been building something special, this was the moment everything came together, and it happened under the guidance of first-year Head Coach Erica Atkins.

Whether it is the first swim banner in school history or simply the first one in a very long time, the championship flag that now hangs in the Galt High gymnasium represents something bigger than points on a scoreboard. It represents a team that believed in itself, prepared all season long and delivered when the moment demanded it most.

“This group of young women worked incredibly hard all season,” said Coach Atkins. “To come away with a league championship banner in my first year is something I will never forget, and more importantly, something these athletes have

earned every single day in that pool. I couldn't be more proud of what they accomplished.”

On the boys’ side, Bradshaw Christian claimed the boys team title with 467 points, followed by Rosemont at 431 and Union Mine at 212. Galt’s boys finished fifth with 176 points, with El Dorado fourth at 179. But on this day, it was the Warrior girls who brought the hardware home.

If there were a pair of athletes who defined the Warriors’ championship performance, it was junior Courtney Brouwer and junior Madison McDonald. Between the two of them, they collected multiple individual event victories and helped set the tone for a dominant team effort.

Brouwer was the Warriors’ standout performer of the day, winning two individual events. She touched the wall first in the 100 Butterfly with a time of 1:05.08 and then doubled back to claim victory in the 200 Individual Medley in 2:26.47: a performance that put her name at the top of the results sheet twice in the same meet.

She also added a second-place finish as part of the Girls 200 Freestyle Relay and a second-place finish in the 200 Medley Relay with her relay



Courtney Brouwer, Tiger Myrick and junior Madison McDonald pose with their First Place medals and all-league patches.

teammates.

McDonald matched that energy with a commanding first-place finish in the 500 Freestyle, touching the wall in 6:06.86, edging Amador’s Rae Johnson by less than half a second in one of the closest races of the meet. She also earned second place in the 200 Freestyle with a time of 2:17.29, narrowly behind Johnson. McDonald was a central piece of both relay efforts as well.

On the boys’ side, sophomore Tiger Myrick gave the Galt faithful plenty to cheer about. Myrick claimed first place in the Boys 100 Butterfly with a blazing time of 58.57, leading the A-Final and finishing well ahead of the field. He also earned second place in the Boys 200 Freestyle with a time of 2:03.19, trailing only Bishop’s Cayden Wiley. Myrick additionally anchored the Galt Boys 200 Freestyle Relay team (with Jayden Tackett, Bowdyn Beck and Mateo Mejia Beas), which placed fourth overall with a time of 1:48.32.

One of the most electrifying moments of the entire championship came not in the scheduled finals, but in a preliminary swim-off that had fans on the edge of their seats. Junior Maggie Thomlinson and Liberty Ranch’s Haley Andrews were tied heading into the 50 Freestyle finals, forcing a swim-off

FULL GALT RESULTS

Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay 2nd Galt A (McDonald, Thomlinson, Brouwer, Pinkham) 2:12.84	Girls 100 Yard Freestyle 8th Brooklynn Gaither, FR 1:08.56 10th Kinley Schlesinger, SO 1:08.28 11th Izzy Brum, JR 1:11.79 14th Isla Brum, FR 1:15.57
Girls 200 Yard Freestyle 2nd Madison McDonald, JR 2:17.29 7th Kayden Gregg, JR 2:33.84 14th Crystal Lamb, FR 3:01.80	Boys 100 Yard Freestyle 7th Bowdyn Beck, SO 1:01.51 11th Vicente Avalos, SR 1:05.80 12th Lucas Villalpando, SR 1:06.70
Boys 200 Yard Medley Relay 4th Galt A (Myrick, Mejia Beas, Tackett, Beck) 1:57.32	Girls 500 Yard Freestyle 1st Madison McDonald, JR 6:06.86 10th Miranda Rivera, SO 7:36.70 11th AnaLucia Alvarado, FR 7:42.25
Boys 200 Yard Freestyle 2nd Tiger Myrick, SO 2:03.19	Boys 200 Yard Freestyle Relay 4th Galt A (Tackett, Beck, Mejia Beas, Myrick) 1:48.32
Girls 200 Yard IM 1st Courtney Brouwer, JR 2:26.47 4th Emma McDonald, FR 2:45.04 8th Brooklynn Gaither, FR 2:56.47 12th Lillie Jackson, JR 3:09.72	Girls 100 Yard Backstroke 5th Lillie Jackson, JR 1:21.61 10th AnaLucia Alvarado, FR 1:28.83 11th Isla Brum, FR 1:33.08
Boys 50 Yard Freestyle 9th Jayden Tackett, SR 26.59 11th Mateo Mejia Beas, JR 28.06 14th Vicente Avalos, SR 29.47	Girls 100 Yard Breaststroke 4th Lucy Thomlinson, FR 1:21.74 5th Bailey Pinkham, SR 1:25.11 6th Emma McDonald, FR 1:25.58 8th Kayden Gregg, JR 1:26.08
Girls 50 Yard Freestyle 4th Lucy Thomlinson, FR 28.82 5th Bailey Pinkham, SR 28.93 8th Maggie Thomlinson, JR 30.01 10th Kinley Schlesinger, SO 30.14	Boys 100 Yard Breaststroke 5th Mateo Mejia Beas, JR 1:13.67 6th Jayden Tackett, SR 1:13.91
Girls 50 Yard Freestyle Swim-Off 1st Maggie Thomlinson, JR 29.59	Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay 2nd Galt A (Brouwer, Pinkham, Thomlinson, McDonald) 1:54.54
Girls 100 Yard Butterfly 1st Courtney Brouwer, JR 1:05.08 9th Maggie Thomlinson, JR 1:26.02 11th Miranda Rivera, SO 1:36.76 12th Crystal Lamb, FR 1:41.23	Girls 400 Yard Freestyle Relay 3rd Galt A (Schlesinger, McDonald, Gaither, Thomlinson) 4:25.41
Boys 100 Yard Butterfly 1st Tiger Myrick, SO 58.57 8th Mason Garcia, SO 1:21.17	

to determine who would advance.	Boys 1st Bradshaw Christian 467 2nd Rosemont 431 3rd Union Mine 212 4th El Dorado 179 5th Galt High School 176 6th Liberty Ranch 43 7th Amador 28
Thomlinson rose to the occasion, winning the swim-off with a time of 29.59 to Andrews’ 30.03: a clutch performance that exemplified the competitive spirit the Warriors brought to every event all season long.	For Coach Atkins, it is a fitting reward for a team that refused to let a first-year season be a rebuilding year. The Galt girls swim program has announced itself as a legitimate force in the Sierra Valley Conference, and with several key contributors returning next season, the banner hanging in the gym may just be the first of many. ★
Team Scores	
Girls 1st Galt High School 410 2nd Bradshaw Christian 385 3rd El Dorado 364 4th Liberty Ranch 246 5th Union Mine 172 6th Rosemont 132 7th Amador 88 8th Argonaut 5	

GALT HERALD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Max Matos
Galt High JV Track



Elia Rodriguez
Galt High Track



Isabela Richardson
Liberty Ranch STUNT



Riley Morrow
Liberty Ranch STUNT

Photos by Kellie Beck

Photos by Tracy Portrait Studio

Galt STUNT Honors Five Seniors in Home Celebration

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt High School STUNT program paused earlier this month to honor five seniors who have given their dedication and skill to the Warriors.

Celebrated alongside their families in a Senior Night ceremony at Galt High School, the five young women were recognized for the commitment they brought to the program each and every day.

Head Coach Natalie Whitcanack expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the

senior class for everything they have poured into the Galt STUNT program. Their work ethic, their passion for the sport and the standard they set for younger athletes coming up behind them will not be forgotten.

STUNT demands the same discipline and athleticism as any CIF-sanctioned sport, and these five seniors embraced that challenge from day one. They helped to lay the foundation for what this program is becoming, and the Warriors are better for it.

Congratulations to the Galt High STUNT Class of 2026. Your legacy lives on in the program you helped to build. ★



Galt High School’s STUNT seniors were recognized for the commitment they brought to the program each and every day. Photo courtesy of Tracy Portrait Studio