



**Chamber Cuts Ribbon  
for Cattlemens Ranch  
Steakhouse**

PAGE 2

**District 7 Candidate  
Ralph Nwobi Pitches  
Common Sense**

PAGE 3



# Elk Grove Citizen

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**SEE  
INSIDE**

**SPRING PALOOZA  
POSTER WINNERS  
HONORED**



PAGE 2

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



PAGE 5

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



PAGE 5



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## Bringing International Debate to Campuses



A high school student participates as a delegate during a Model United Nations conference on April 1 at Franklin High School, hosted by the student-led Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference

**By Idaly Valencia**

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - A student-led effort to expand opportunities for youth to debate international issues and strengthen their public speaking skills is gaining momentum across high school campuses in Elk Grove. The initiative, the Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference, or SVMUNC, recently brought together more than 40 students from seven high schools for a Model United Nations conference April 1 at Franklin High School. It also featured as a guest speaker Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen, who encouraged youth

to stay engaged in civic life and shared insight on local leadership. Model United Nations conferences are widely offered at schools and universities around the world, giving students the opportunity to represent different countries as delegates in simulated United Nations debates focused on global issues, diplomacy and policy solutions. Although Northern California has several regional and college-led conferences, Franklin High School junior Anoushka Vyas said she noticed a lack of accessible opportunities for students locally. To address that gap, Anoushka

began reaching out to students and teachers across the Elk Grove Unified School District to build a local organization focused on providing those opportunities closer to home. Founded in 2025, SVMUNC grew out of Anoushka's experience competing in debate for two years, where she said she recognized barriers that prevented some students from participating in humanities-focused academic programs. As a sophomore, she started a Model UN club at her school but found that operating solely as an on-campus club limited students'

*Continued on page 4*

## Cast Your Ballot

*Voting Centers and Hours Highlighted*



**By MPG Staff**

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - With the primary election approaching on Tuesday, June 2, Elk Grove residents will have several options for how they can cast their ballots, whether that is voting in person or dropping off a completed mail ballot. Sacramento County will operate two types of vote centers for the election: 11-day vote centers and 4-day vote centers, each with different opening dates and hours. Beginning May 23, 11-day vote centers will operate daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. before expanding to 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day. Locations include Elk Grove Space 4 Art, 2350 Maritime Drive, which will offer Spanish language assistance, and The Center at District56, 8230 Civic Center Drive, which will provide Tagalog assistance. Four-day vote centers will open May 30. Most locations will operate from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. before switching to Election Day hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on June 2. Those locations include Edward Harris Jr. Middle School, 8691 Power Inn Road, offering Chinese, Vietnamese and Punjabi language assistance; Elk Grove United Methodist Church, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd., with Spanish language assistance; Laguna Creek Sports Club, 9570 Racquet Court, with Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese language assistance; Pleasant Grove High School, 9531 Bond Road (with entrance from School Loop Road), with Punjabi language assistance; and Wackford Community and Aquatic Complex, 9014 Bruceville Road, offering Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Tagalog language assistance. Additional locations and operating from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. include Franklin Community Library, 10055 Franklin High Road, with Chinese language assistance; and Elk Grove City Council Chambers, 8400

*Continued on page 2*

## 'Paint the Grove' Starts New Chapter for Arts



The city recently announced the arrival of its inaugural mural festival, presented in partnership with Talking Walls, taking place on Historic Main Street (Elk Grove Florin Road to Waterman Road) June 1 to 6. Photos courtesy of City of Elk Grove

**City of Elk Grove News Release**

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - Paint the Grove, the City of Elk Grove's inaugural mural festival presented in partnership with nationally acclaimed mural curators Talking Walls, is designed to celebrate public art as a driver of placemaking, economic development and cultural vitality. From June 1 to 6, talented artists

will transform Historic Main Street (Elk Grove Florin Road to Waterman Road) into an open-air gallery and a catalyst for renewed energy in the heart of the city. In addition to the mural installations, a series of events being held on June 6 at Old Town Plaza, 9615 Railroad St., will activate the space and invite the community to engage more deeply with the artwork:

The Walking Mural Tour will be from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and offer an up-close look at the festival's murals, along with insight into the artists' processes, techniques and inspiration. It is an opportunity to experience the collection as a cohesive body of work while learning more about the stories behind each piece. From 4 to 8 p.m., the Local Artist

*Continued on page 2*

# Chamber Cuts Ribbon for Cattlemens Ranch Steakhouse

By Idaly Valencia

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - The Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 6 to welcome the new Cattlemens Ranch Steakhouse location to the local business community.

The restaurant, known for its Western-themed atmosphere and family-style dining experience, officially opened in April at the Laguna Gateway shopping center anchored by Best Buy. The building previously housed Logan's Roadhouse and Cicada Cantina.

Following the ceremony, Cattlemens Ranch Vice President and Chief Executive Officer Russell Hollett told the Elk Grove Citizen that opening a location in Elk Grove was a strategic business decision, noting that he lives nearby, has watched the area continue to grow and saw demand for another local steakhouse

option.

"I see the growth in this area, being from this area," Hollett said. "It's a fit for us, especially finding this place right on a major highway as well."

Hollett said the company, which was founded in 1968, takes a cautious approach to expansion to ensure long-term success and strong community connections of its restaurants.

Since opening, he said the restaurant has received positive support from residents as well as visitors traveling from out of town to experience its Western hospitality and signature steaks.

"Our goal is that every guest that comes in our doors wants to come back," he added. "It's not a sprint; it's the longevity that we are looking for."

Cattlemens Steakhouse is located at 9105 W. Stockton Blvd. and is open from 4 to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 3 to 10 p.m. Friday through Sunday. ★



Management and company representatives from Cattlemens Ranch Steakhouse are pictured during a ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by the Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce on May 6. Photo by Pete DePalma, Marauder Media Group

## Honoring Fallen Service Members on Memorial Day



American Legion Post members fold the flag on Memorial Day 2024 at Elk Grove Memorial Cemetery. Citizen file photo

### Cosumnes Community Services District News Release

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - Community members are invited to the annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Walk for Veterans on Monday, May 25 to honor fallen U.S. military service members.

The Elk Grove-Cosumnes Cemetery District, Cosumnes Community Services District, American Legion Post 233 and American Legion Post 55 are partnering to host the event, which includes a ceremony, commemorative walk and community barbecue.

The event begins at 10 a.m. with a formal ceremony at the Elk Grove Historic Cemetery, 8540 Elk Grove Blvd.

Following the ceremony, attendees may participate in a 1.25-mile commemorative walk to Elk Grove Park, 9950 Elk Grove

Florin Road, where a community barbecue will be held. The gathering offers attendees an opportunity to reflect and connect in a spirit of unity and gratitude.

Organizers ask attendees to reserve limited parking at the cemetery for those who require accessible parking.

Shuttle service will be available from Elk Grove Park to the cemetery from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., and after the ceremony for those not participating in the walk. Pickup and drop-off will be at the Elk Grove Historical Society Museum parking lot in Elk Grove Park.

This event serves as a tribute to service members who died in service to the United States. It also coincides with the nation's 250th anniversary, marking a significant milestone in American history.

Community members of all ages are welcome to attend. ★

## Spring Palooza Poster Winners Honored



Two high school students were recognized during the May 5 Elk Grove Unified School District board meeting for winning the Elk Grove Spring Palooza poster contest themed "Bee A Pollinator." The Spring Palooza event, formerly known as the Western Festival, was held May 1 to 3 at Elk Grove Regional Park. Both students received T-shirts and a check in recognition of their participation. First place went to Hui-Phuong Tran of Elk Grove High School, center left, who received \$150. Runner-up Natalia Gujardo of Pleasant Grove High School, center right, received \$100. Photo by Idaly Valencia

## 'Paint the Grove' Starts New Chapter for Arts

Continued from page 1

Battle will take place, where the festival will culminate in a live art competition featuring local artists creating original works in real time. Attendees can enjoy music from a live DJ, food trucks and booths hosted by local artists and arts organizations. A panel of judges will select a winner, and attendees will also have the opportunity to vote for a People's Choice award.

The residents of Elk Grove spoke, and we listened. Paint the Grove is a bold step toward the vibrant arts and creative economy the community has been asking for,

bringing investment and energy to the streets, supporting artists, attracting visitors and moving Elk Grove one step closer to becoming an arts destination.

*Elk Grove is a young, ethnically diverse, modern city of 182,842 people located in the dynamic and affordable Sacramento metropolitan region, the capital of the fourth largest economy in the world. Incorporated in 2000, Elk Grove is a family- and business-friendly community with low crime, excellent schools, more than 100 community parks, elevated dining and shopping options, lively events and festivals and over 270 sunny days per year.* ★

## Cast Your Ballot

Continued from page 1  
Laguna Palms Way, offering Tagalog language assistance.

Residents may also use ballot drop boxes throughout the city to cast their votes. Locations include

City Hall, 8401 Laguna Palms Way, open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Election Day.

It should be noted that city hall will be closed

May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

Additional drop box locations include Elk Grove Library, 8900 Elk Grove Blvd., open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day; Franklin Community Library, open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through

Saturday and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day; Laguna Creek Sports Club, open from 5 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays.

On May 25, the ballot box at Laguna Creek Sports Club will be available from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

and from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

The Center at District56 will have a ballot box available for drop-off from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, will be closed May 25 and will reopen from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Election Day.

West Coast Sourdough, 5030 Laguna Blvd., Suite

109, is another ballot box location available from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

For an interactive map with voting center and ballot box information, visit [bit.ly/4uFPbVB](http://bit.ly/4uFPbVB) (case sensitive). ★

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# Ralph Nwobi Pitches Common Sense

*Congressional Candidate Campaigns Affordability, Stability and Reform*

By Idaly Valencia

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)

- Drawing from his background in law, education and law enforcement, Republican candidate Ralph Nwobi recently outlined how his experience has shaped his political priorities as he campaigns to address issues facing constituents ahead of the June 2 primary election.

Nwobi, an attorney and former law professor, is running on a platform focused on affordability, public safety, immigration reform and education. He also emphasized that transparency and accessibility would be central to his approach if elected to represent California's 7th Congressional District.

The district, which was reshaped following Proposition 50 redistricting of the state's congressional boundaries, spans portions of Sacramento County that includes the communities of Elk Grove, Galt and Rancho Murieta as well as parts of El Dorado and San Joaquin counties.

Originally from Nigeria, Nwobi said he became a naturalized U.S. citizen after immigrating to the country more than 20 years ago. He said his experience navigating the immigration system has shaped his perspective on federal immigration policy, which he noted is an issue in District 7 due to its growing immigrant population.

Nwobi said his stance is clear: to support and encourage legal immigration while opposing unlawful immigration.

"We are a nation of laws... and I believe

things should be done the right way. I believe people should wait in line and migrate to the U.S. legally," Nwobi said.

He added that when immigrants follow the legal process, they contribute to the economy from the beginning by paying required application fees.

"I'm all about what benefits America, I'm all about what benefits District 7 residents, and that's why I'm running," Nwobi said.

Nwobi said his policy views are also shaped by his legal career. He currently operates a private practice, Nwobi Law Group, handling criminal defense, immigration, family law and civil litigation cases. He said he has practiced law in courts across California's 58 counties.

His experience spans multiple sides of the justice system, including serving as a public defender in Los Angeles County and working as a correctional officer in Texas and Nevada. He said those roles helped shape what he described as an "evidence-based approach" to policymaking.

"As a lawyer... it teaches you, if nothing else, that facts matter. It teaches you that truth matters," Nwobi said. "When it comes to policies, there has to be an evidence-based approach to solving problems for District 7 residents."

Affordability is another key issue driving his campaign, which he said remains one of the top concerns across the district. He pointed to rising gas prices, grocery costs and housing expenses as ongoing pressures on working families

in the region.

Nwobi said his campaign is focused in part on creating stability for constituents, which he described as essential for productivity and encouraging residents to remain in California.

"We have to look at housing almost from a moral sense, not just the economic part of it. If a person doesn't feel stable, they're not at their best," he said. "You want to make housing affordable so people can actually stay, have roots at a place and begin to think of how to contribute to the economy."

"Housing ties to people's stability... that affects how you function in society," Nwobi added, noting that homelessness is another component of the affordability issue he would work to address.

He also said elected officials can become disconnected from constituents as they gain wealth and distance from everyday financial pressures. Nwobi said his own experiences keep him grounded in those challenges.

"I can't lose touch with the average person because I am the average person," he said. "So, when I fight for these affordability issues, it's something that's based on lived experiences."

On public safety, Nwobi said his law enforcement experience gave him an in-depth perspective on police-community relations. He said he supports more education for young people on how to interact with law enforcement officers during traffic stops and other encounters.

"There are certain life skills that should be taught," he said. "I think that would drastically reduce a lot of fatalities that happen during interactions between law enforcement and young people."

Nwobi also stressed the importance of education and supporting teachers, noting that California should prioritize improving student outcomes and teacher pay. His experience in education includes substitute teaching positions with Elk Grove Unified School District and Stockton Unified School District.

He said he wants families to have access to a strong education for their children, adding that he speaks as a father with children currently in school.

"We want our kids to have good education with less government interference," Nwobi said. "Teachers should be paid well because education affects everybody across the board."

Having lived and worked in the Sacramento region since 2011, Nwobi said his combined experience allows him to address the needs of both urban and rural communities within the district, including downtown Sacramento and suburban areas such as Elk Grove.

He also emphasized his ability to work across party lines in Congress, describing himself as a "common sense Republican" focused on bipartisan solutions.

"You can have all kinds of ideas, but if you can't get other people to work



In a recent interview, attorney Ralph Nwobi outlined his campaign priorities as a Republican candidate for California's 7th Congressional District, including affordability, public safety, immigration reform and education. Photo courtesy of Ralph Nwobi

with you, nothing gets done," he said.

Having previously run as a write-in candidate for Congress in 2018, Nwobi said his current campaign is driven by improving quality of life and elevating attention to the district

at the national level.

"It's time we start electing people based on competence," Nwobi said. "I believe I have the life experience, skill set and mindset necessary to get the job done for District 7 residents." ★



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# Bringing International Debate to Campuses

Continued from page 1

ability to attend larger regional conferences because of distance and participation costs.

"Therefore, I founded the Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference, which is currently focused on providing accessible, no-cost opportunities for Elk Grove youth to learn about current events, diplomacy and global policymaking," Anoushka said.

With support from student officers from throughout the school district, Anoushka explained that their organization is currently working to expand its reach through social media, school-based clubs and a student newsletter.

SVMUNC aims to re-create the experience of attending a Model UN conference at no cost by hosting its events in gymnasiums and event halls with guidance from college and university groups, such as UC Davis Model United Nations.

The organization also offers workshops that help students understand conference procedures and debate structure, making the experience more approachable for first-time



Pictured with Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen, center, are Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference student officers Emila Steta, left, Ruby Mathew, Anoushka Vyas and Alice Hu at the April 1 Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference event at Franklin High School. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Valley Model UN Conference

participants.

The April 1 event marked SVMUNC's third conference since its founding and brought together new and returning students from diverse backgrounds who have begun building a community around the program, Anoushka said. She added that having Singh-Allen speak at the event reinforced the organization's mission of connecting students with local civic and public policy opportunities.

"Having Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen as our guest

speaker really inspired a lot of students and provided them with other resources to get involved in the community," Anoushka said.

"A large part of SVMUNC is to connect students with local opportunities related to humanities and public policy, so having the mayor talk about her journey in Elk Grove politics and how students could get involved truly opened up a lot of other opportunities for our delegates and reinforced our mission," she added.

The conference also

marked a milestone for organizers, who introduced more advanced conference elements for the first time, including veto powers, a constitutional rule allowing legislation to be blocked, and double delegations, in which two students partnered to represent a single country.

SVMUNC co-founder and Cosumnes Oaks High School junior Ruby Mathew said the conference demonstrated the program's "significant growth" as students worked through simulated

international tensions through teamwork.

"One moment that really stuck out was when all the draft resolutions got vetoed in the end, and the delegates had to go into a 'crisis.' There was a lot of scrambling and negotiations taking place in a short amount of time, but we luckily got a resolution passed in the end," Ruby said.

"This little moment really displayed the dedication and capability of the delegates to communicate with others who had differing viewpoints, all under time pressure."

Lexie Giang, an 11th-grader and site director for the Pleasant Grove High School Model UN club, said one of the most meaningful aspects of the conference was watching students from different schools connect through the experience.

"The most rewarding part of the conference was seeing students from different schools come together and actively engage in thoughtful discussion and debate," Lexie said. "As organizers, we spent months planning the event, so it was very fulfilling to watch delegates become more confident and involved throughout the day."

Alice Hu, head of SVMUNC social media

and a student at Franklin High School, said participating in the organization has strengthened her understanding of diplomacy and civic engagement at both the global and local level.

"SVMUNC has introduced me to a variety of global issues such as the implementation of health technologies in the context of Universal Health Coverage systems, the balance between state sovereignty and humanitarian aid, and more," Alice said. "Most importantly, it has taught me that no one is too young to get involved in global or local issues, and youth voices matter."

For students interested in debate or global issues, Laguna Creek High School senior Emila Steta encouraged them to "just do it" and get involved in a community where students can openly discuss political and global issues.

"We purposefully make every conference guided with as much involvement from chairs as possible to answer any questions or concerns our participants may have," she said. "Whether you're a person with a passing interest or actively looking to get involved with SVMUNC, politics affect everyone, so why not learn and take part in the discussion of your future?" ★

## RELIGION NEWS

### Chabad Offers Torah Classes

Local community members are invited to attend free weekly Torah Classes offered by Chabad of Elk Grove from 6:45-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at a private location.

The course, "Flashbacks in Jewish History," will examine how our past informs our future. Rabbi Chaim Groner leads the

discussion. For location, call (916) 724-4443.

### Field of Hope United Church of Christ

Community members are invited to Sunday worship services at 10:30 a.m. at 9624 Melrose Ave., Elk Grove. Sunday School and nursery services are available. For more information,

visit [www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org](http://www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org).

### Grace Church Hosts Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered ministry offering help in finding freedom from the issues (hurts, hang-ups and habits) controlling your life. Meetings are 7 p.m. Fridays

at 9766 Waterman Road. Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.

For more information, call (916) 714 3444 or visit [GraceChurchEG.org](http://GraceChurchEG.org).

### St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church's Mass Schedule

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church invites everyone to

celebrations of Holy Mass at 8700 Bradshaw Road.

Masses are at 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon on Sundays. Also Masses at 9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

For more information, call (916) 647-4538 or visit [SMGCC.net](http://SMGCC.net). ★

### MEMORIAL

## DONALD MENASCO - 1948 - 03/04/2026

Don passed away peacefully in March 2026, having spent his final year at the Northern Nevada State Veterans Home near his family in Truckee, CA. He leaves behind a legacy of service and family.

Born in 1948 and raised in Antioch, CA, Don built lifelong friendships and values that guided him throughout his life. He married his high school sweetheart, Shirley, and together they shared 48 years of marriage rooted in love and partnership.

Don proudly served in the United States Air Force, including a year in Vietnam. After his

service, he graduated from CSU Sacramento and built his life in Sacramento and Elk Grove. He became a successful businessman in the mortgage industry, known for his integrity and work ethic.

Above all, Don was devoted to his family. He is survived by his son Jeff; daughter-in-law Jessica; grandchildren Jack, Siena and Julia; and his brothers Tom and Ron Menasco and their families.

A Celebration of Life for Don will be held in Antioch. Guests are



kindly asked to RSVP at [DonCOL5.30.26@gmail.com](mailto:DonCOL5.30.26@gmail.com)

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the Northern Nevada State Veterans Home: <https://veterans.nv.gov/product/northern-nevada-state-veterans-home-donation/>

## Places of Worship



**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**  
8701 Elk Grove-Florin Rd.  
Pastor Joe Dapelo  
916-689-7300

### Service Hours:

Traditional – 8:30 a.m.  
Contemporary – 11 a.m.  
Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.  
5th Sunday – 9:30 a.m.

Website: <https://stpeterseg.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com>

**St. PetersLutheranChurchElkGrove**

### St. Luke's Lutheran Church (ELCA)

7595 Center Parkway  
Sacramento, CA 95823  
Pastor Rob Williamson  
916-421-5039

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Website: [slelca.org](http://slelca.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Stlukesac>

Stream Online via YouTube: @st.lukeslutheranchurch7590

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### Majestic Ministries International Church

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Sunday, May 31, 2 p.m.

Sunday June 28, 2 p.m.

Sunday July 26, 2 p.m.

Phone 916-440-2551

[www.majesticmi.org](http://www.majesticmi.org)

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# 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](http://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. ★



## On Spirit Airlines, the Government Protected Competition by Eliminating It

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. (c) 2026 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★*

# Study Examines Safer Alternatives to Post-Harvest Fumigants

**California Department of Pesticide Regulation News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)**

- The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) recently released the post-harvest commodity fumigation component of a multipart independent scientific study evaluating alternatives to fumigant pesticides.

Prepared by the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST), the convening report summarizes key themes and discussion points from a convening assembled by CCST to discuss fumigants that are used to protect stored food products after harvest, potential alternatives and opportunities to reduce exposure for workers and nearby communities.

CCST's convening included academic, industry, public health, environmental justice and regulatory experts who met for a series of discussions on post-harvest commodity fumigation in November 2025. The discussion specifically focused on four fumigant pesticides: methyl bromide, sulfuryl fluoride, phosphine and propylene oxide. All four fumigants are restricted material pesticides primarily used on produce after harvesting to protect food from fungal disease and insect pests while in storage. The report synthesizes findings from those discussions to summarize and reflect participants' diverse perspectives on the state



The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) recently released the post-harvest commodity fumigation component of a multipart independent scientific study evaluating alternatives to fumigant pesticides. Photo courtesy of DPR

of post-harvest commodity fumigation in California.

The convening report includes discussion summaries related to:

How and why post harvest fumigants are used today, including factors that drive fumigation for stored commodities.

Community exposure and emission concerns, along with current mitigation practices and opportunities to strengthen protections for nearby residents and workers.

Available and emerging alternatives to traditional fumigants, such as controlled atmospheres,

irradiation, pheromone based tools, and multi pronged Integrated Pest Management approaches.

Barriers that limit the adoption of alternatives, including international and national regulatory requirements, cost, and the need for additional research and training.

Key research gaps where further scientific study is needed to support a transition to safer, effective pest management tools.

#### Background

Funded by the Budget Act of 2023, DPR commissioned an

independent study following the release of the Sustainable Pest Management (SPM) Roadmap to look at fumigant use in the state; existing alternatives to fumigants; past and ongoing research dedicated to fumigant alternatives; the viability of adopting these alternatives to effectively manage pests in California and barriers to, and incentives for, wide-scale adoption of alternatives.

CCST's first report focused on the soil fumigants 1,3-D and chloropicrin, and DPR published its findings in May 2025. The

second report from CCST evaluated alternatives to sulfuryl fluoride, with its findings published in February 2026.

The CCST study is part of multiple efforts led by DPR to advance its mission to foster SPM in California with a vision for safe, effective and sustainable pest management for all Californians and the environment.

The final part of the study will focus on the pre-plant fumigants methyl bromide, dazomet, metam-sodium and metam-potassium and is anticipated to conclude this year. ★

## Local Taxpayer Protection Act Eligible for November 2026 Ballot

*Voters to Decide on Critical Measure to Restore Their Rights on Taxes*

**California Business Roundtable News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The Local Taxpayer Protection Act is officially eligible for the November 2026 statewide ballot, giving California voters the opportunity to restore rights taken from them by recent court decisions and directly address the cost-of-living crisis that is driven by new and higher taxes.

"This is a major milestone for taxpayers across California," said Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable. "Special interest groups have exploited the court-created Upland loophole to pass new and higher special taxes that have driven costs higher for residents and harmed small and local businesses throughout the state. The Local Taxpayer Protection Act restores the overwhelming will of the voters and ensures that California can once again be a place business can invest and people can afford to live."

Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, underscored the initiative's alignment with longstanding taxpayer protections. "This measure reinforces the intent of Proposition 13 and Proposition 218 by ensuring that government cannot sidestep voter approval thresholds through legal loopholes. It's



The Local Taxpayer Protection Act restores the overwhelming will of the voters and ensures that California can once again be a place business can invest and people can afford to live. Image designed by Magnific

about restoring the integrity of taxpayer protections that Californians have repeatedly supported at the ballot box."

The initiative responds to a series of court decisions and policy actions that have weakened voter protections established under Proposition 13 and Proposition 218 by once again requiring all local special taxes to be approved by a 2/3 vote of the people. In addition, the measure

re-establishes the statewide constitutional limit on real estate documentary transfer taxes. Significant increases in those taxes, such as Measure ULA in the City of Los Angeles, have proven detrimental to affordable housing construction, real estate investment, and the city's budget.

Matthew Hargrove, president of the California Business Properties Association, highlighted the broader economic

implications. "Uncertainty and lack of transparency in local tax policy make it harder to invest, grow, and create jobs in California. Measure ULA is a perfect example of what happens when special interests exploit court-created loopholes and drive taxes higher, pushing critically needed investments out of a community. This initiative provides needed clarity and stability, which benefits not only businesses but communities across the state."

Rob Gutierrez, president of the California Taxpayers Association, emphasized the importance of restoring clarity in the law. "This measure is about protecting taxpayers and restoring the rights they have given themselves through the ballot process. Now, more than ever, Californians deserve full transparency and a clear voice when it comes to taxes that impact their cost of living."

Now that the measure is eligible for the November ballot, the campaign will move into the next phase — engaging voters across the state on the importance of protecting taxpayer rights and ensuring accountability in government.

"Californians are demanding accountability," Lapsley added. "This measure ensures that taxpayers are informed, empowered, and in control. We look forward to taking this conversation directly to voters in November." ★

## California Comment on Latest Small Business Optimism Index

*If only the Legislature could be as helpful as Congress was on the Small Business Tax Deduction*

**National Federation of Independent Business News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - From John Kabateck, state director for the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) in California, on the April 14 release of the NFIB Small Business Optimism Index showing it fell 3.0 points in March to 95.8, leaving it below its 52-year average of 98.0. The last time the Optimism Index fell below its historical average was April 2025. The Uncertainty Index rose 4 points from February to 92, well above its historical average of 68.

"Sporadic dips in the indexes that measure economies are natural. What matters most is having the right state and federal policies in place that allow everyone to weather them long enough for them to rebound. That's why it was so supremely important that Congress not let the 20% Small Business Tax Deduction expire at the end of last year, which it didn't, and then it took the extra step by making it permanent. Now, only if the California Legislature could resist its worst tax and regulatory impulses and be as helpful."

#### From NFIB Chief Economist Bill Dunkelberg

"The 20% Small Business Deduction and other supportive small business tax provisions in the Working Families Tax Cut Act have had many positives for small



The NFIB Small Business Optimism Index showing it fell 3.0 points in March to 95.8, leaving it below its 52-year average of 98.0. Image designed by Magnific

business owners. However, the dramatic spike in oil prices has spooked consumers and owners alike. Small business owners are having to absorb those higher input costs and pass them along to their customers."

#### Highlights from the Latest NFIB Small Business Optimism Index

The frequency of reports of positive profit trends fell 11 points from February to a net negative 25% (seasonally adjusted), contributing the most to the Optimism Index's decline.

The net percent of owners expecting better business conditions fell 7 points from February to a net 11% (seasonally adjusted), the third consecutive monthly decline and the lowest level since October 2024. This was the second biggest contributor to the Index's decline.

In March, both planned and actual labor compensation decreased from the previous month. A seasonally adjusted net 33% reported raising compensation, down 1 point from February. A seasonally adjusted net 18% plan to raise compensation in the next three months, down 4 points from February and the lowest reading since July 2025.

Sixteen percent (seasonally adjusted) of small business owners plan to make capital outlays in the next six months, down 2 points from February and the lowest level since November 2009.

Keep up with the latest California small business news at [www.nfib.com](http://www.nfib.com). Follow us on X @NFIB\_CA and on Facebook @NFIB.CA. ★

# Methodist Hospital Recognized for Excellence in Patient Safety

## Dignity Health News Release

### SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Dignity Health Methodist Hospital of Sacramento, a member of CommonSpirit, earned a fourth-consecutive "A" Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit watchdog focused on patient safety. Leapfrog assigns an "A", "B", "C", "D" or "F" grade to general hospitals across the country using evidence-based measures of patient safety focused exclusively on errors, accidents, injuries and infections. Of all U.S. health-care systems, CommonSpirit has the largest number of hospitals with "Straight A" designations, a testament to their consistent commitment to patient safety and quality care.

"Earning an 'A' from The Leapfrog Group for the fourth consecutive time reflects the strong commitment our teams bring to patient safety every day," said Phyllis Baltz, president and CEO of Dignity Health Methodist Hospital of Sacramento. "This recognition speaks to their focus, accountability and dedication to delivering safe, high-quality care to our patients and community."

"An 'A' Grade is a strong sign that Dignity Health Methodist Hospital of Sacramento is



Dignity Health Methodist Hospital of Sacramento, a member of CommonSpirit, earned a fourth-consecutive "A" Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit watchdog focused on patient safety. Photo courtesy of Dignity Health

deeply committed to protecting patients from harm," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "We commend the leadership, Board, clinicians, staff and volunteers for the role each played in earning this distinction."

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade stands as the only hospital ratings program focused

solely on preventable medical errors, infections and injuries that kill more than 500 patients a day in the United States. This program is peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public. Grades are updated twice annually, in the fall and spring.

To explore Methodist Hospital of Sacramento's full grade

details and to find valuable tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit [HospitalSafetyGrade.org](https://HospitalSafetyGrade.org). Connect with The Leapfrog Group on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram and stay informed through The Leapfrog Group newsletter.

### About Dignity Health California

Dignity Health California is a

nonprofit network of over 9000 physicians, more than 35,000 employees, 29 acute care hospitals, and 200-plus care-centers, including community hospitals, urgent care, surgery and imaging centers, home health, and primary care clinics. Dignity Health California provides award-winning care to communities in five primary markets across the state: North State, Sacramento, Central Valley, Central Coast and Southern California.

Dignity Health is a member of CommonSpirit Health, one of the nation's largest nonprofit Catholic healthcare organizations, dedicated to providing compassionate, high-quality, and affordable patient-centered care with special attention to the poor and underserved. Learn more at [DignityHealth.org](https://DignityHealth.org) and [CommonSpirit.org](https://CommonSpirit.org).

### About The Leapfrog Group

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps for patient safety. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections. ★

# Sacramento County Employee Honored with Statewide Award

## Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County is celebrating a major achievement by one of its own. Emily Wight, a human services program planner with the Public Administrator, Guardian, Conservator (PAPGPC) office, has been recognized with a prestigious statewide honor for her dedication to public service.

Wight received the President's Award of Excellence from the California State Association of Public Administrators, Guardians and Conservators — an award presented annually to just one member out of more than 950 across California. The recognition highlights exceptional commitment to serving vulnerable populations and advancing the field.

"For me, to be recognized by my peers is perhaps the biggest achievement of my 20-year career thus far. I am proud to bring this award to the Sacramento County PAPGPC office as this reflects not only on me, but my office, my department and all of Sacramento County as I would not be where I am in my career without them," Wight said.

Over the years, Wight has held a variety of roles, beginning as a deputy handling Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) mental health conservatorships. She later worked in LPS



Emily Wight, a human services program planner with the Public Administrator, Guardian, Conservator (PAPGPC) office, has been recognized with a prestigious statewide honor for her dedication to public service. Photo courtesy of the California Association of PAPGPC

investigations, was promoted to supervising deputy overseeing multiple units, and in 2021 stepped into a new

challenge supporting the public administrator unit, managing decedent estates. In 2023, she advanced to program planner, where she now focuses on policy development, implementation and staff training.

"My favorite part of the job is helping people," Wight said. "I have enjoyed helping conservatees — some of Sacramento County's most vulnerable and underserved population — advocating for them to receive appropriate care and treatment, administering decedent estates, and making sure that individuals who pass away in Sacramento County with no will or no known next of kin have last rites and their disposition is handled with dignity and respect. Now I enjoy supporting our team by researching and developing policy and procedures as well as training staff including PAPGPC across the state."

The work of PAPGPC is often behind the scenes but critically important to the community.

"PAPGPC is a very unique role," she said. "In Sacramento County we are a small but very mighty office that helps adults with severe and persistent mental health conditions, older adults with major neurocognitive disorders and decedent estates. Oftentimes we are the unsung heroes in the background working hard to care for conservatees and decedent estates where there is no one else to advocate or step up to do the right thing." ★

# May is CalFresh Awareness Month



CalFresh benefits can be used to purchase a wide range of everyday grocery items, including fruits and vegetables, breads and cereals, and dairy and meat products. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

## Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - During the month of May, Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance is participating in CalFresh Awareness Month, launching a weekly video series to help residents better understand available food resources and how to access them.

Throughout the month, new videos will be shared weekly, offering helpful information about CalFresh and the many ways it supports individuals and families across the region.

Food plays a vital role in daily life, bringing comfort, stability and connection. CalFresh helps make that possible by providing monthly food benefits to eligible households. Known federally as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), CalFresh helps Californians purchase the groceries they need to stay healthy and nourished.

Between 2024 and 2025, approximately 5.5 million Californians received CalFresh benefits. Locally, about 270,000 residents in Sacramento County rely on the program to help feed themselves and their families.

CalFresh benefits can be used to purchase a wide range of everyday grocery items, including fruits and vegetables, breads and cereals, and dairy and meat products. Benefits may also be used to buy seeds and plants for growing food at home, which can make a meaningful difference, especially as grocery costs continue to rise.

Applying for CalFresh in Sacramento County is designed to be simple and accessible. Residents can apply online, by phone, mail, fax or in person. The Department of Human Assistance also offers phone support for those who need assistance or have questions about the application process.

For individuals or families struggling to afford groceries, CalFresh may be able to help. Access to support often begins with information, and sometimes, taking the first step can make a lasting impact.

This CalFresh Awareness Month, Sacramento County encourages residents to learn more, explore their options and share this information with others who may benefit.

To learn more or apply, visit [BenefitsCal.com](https://BenefitsCal.com) or call the Department of Human Assistance at 1-800-560-0976. ★

# County Seeks Input on Jail System Master Plan



Sacramento County is inviting residents and community stakeholders to share their perspectives through a newly launched survey as part of the county's ongoing Jail System Master Planning process. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

## Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County is inviting residents and community stakeholders to share their perspectives through a newly launched survey as part of the county's ongoing Jail System Master Planning process.

The survey is open to anyone connected to Sacramento County, including residents, employees, business owners, service providers, advocates and people with lived experience in the justice system.

The survey focuses on gathering feedback about priorities and key considerations related to jail facilities. Responses will be compiled and shared in summary form with consulting teams supporting the planning effort.

The survey will remain open through May 31.

As part of its outreach efforts, the county recently hosted a public webinar on April 23 where officials provided updates on the planning process and answered community questions. A recording of the webinar is available for those who were unable to attend or wish to review the discussion at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEddne1wAL4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEddne1wAL4).

Additional information about the Jail System Master Planning effort can also be found on the Public Safety and Justice Agency's Reports and Resources webpage.

Those interested in staying informed about future engagement opportunities can sign up for updates online at [saccounty.gov](https://saccounty.gov).

For questions or more information, individuals may contact the Public Safety and Justice Agency at [PSJA@SacCounty.gov](mailto:PSJA@SacCounty.gov). ★

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Whitnie Wiley, 5050 Laguna Boulevard #112-576, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Shifting Into Action" 5333 Spring Creek Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 15, 2026  
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02865  
Marshmallow Home Daycare, LLC, 8465 Elk Grove Florin Road Suite 100, PMB 1001, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Marshmallow Home Daycare" 8790 Owllet Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 10, 2026  
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Maria Reyes Bonds, PO Box 583052, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sacramento Mental Health Solutions" 8788 Elk Grove Boulevard, Bldg. 1 Suite J, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 9, 2026  
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Brian Keith Moland, 9244 Herbon Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Key Lime Desserts by Brian" 9244 Herbon Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 17, 2026  
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026  
KEY 5-22-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02216  
Pinnacle Landscape Development Inc., 9400 Foxford Court, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Pinnacle Pools/Pinnacle Pools & Landscape" 9400 Foxford Court, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County

March 19, 2026  
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026  
PINNACLE 5-22-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02448  
Sherv Singh, 9988 Verbania Court, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Steve's Pizza Waterman" 9385 Elk Grove Boulevard Suite 100, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 26, 2026  
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026  
STEVES 5-22-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03201  
Ramez Sayed Sadat, 6412 Brockenhurst Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "BlueBridge Property Deals" 6412 Brockenhurst Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 21, 2026  
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026  
BLUEBRIDGE 5-22-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03272  
Maria G. Reyes Bonds, PO Box 583052, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Prudentia Psychotherapy" 8788 Elk Grove Boulevard Bldg 1 Suite J, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 23, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
PRUDENTIA 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02439  
Leslie Horciza, 9245 Laguna Springs Drive Suite 200, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mobile Rapid DNA" 9245 Laguna Springs Drive Suite 200, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 25, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
MOBILE 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03317  
SteelType TCG LLC, 9800 Castell Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "SteelType TCG" 9800 Castell Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 24, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
STEELTYPE 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02220  
Albik Dental Inc, 5513 Mariolyn Way, Elk Grove, CA 95957 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Laguna Springs Dental" 9299 Laguna Springs Drive, Suite #100, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 19, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
LAGUNA 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02776  
David Anthony Kincannon Jr, 2513 Black Tern Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "High Pressure Prints" 2513 Black Tern Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 7, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
HIGH 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03176  
Audrey Hawkes and James Geary, 8525 Deodar Crest Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Simons Magic Shoppe" 8525 Deodar Crest Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 21, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
SIMONS 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03336  
Michelle Plaza, 8655 Pyreness Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "House of Elemente" 8655 Pyreness Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 24, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
HOUSE 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03452  
Andre Taylor and Britny Taylor, 4809 Ammolite Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Swoop Home & Road Services" 4809 Ammolite Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 28, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
SWOOP 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02946  
Trevor Stephen Gannon, 9961

Nelas Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Whistle Window Works" 9961 Nelas Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 13, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
WHISTLE 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03533  
TBI Cooks Inc, 5012 Fox Trotter Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Serenity Beauty" 5012 Fox Trotter Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 30, 2026  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
SERENITY 5-29-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03561  
Harkirat Kaur Aulakh DDS Inc, 7805 Laguna Boulevard Suite 310, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Profile Dental" 7805 Laguna Boulevard Suite 310, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 1, 2026  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
PROFILE 6-5-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03563  
Sonia Mejia, 8151 Civic Center Drive Apt 112, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "A Heart Of Many Colors" 8151 Civic Center Drive Apt 112, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 1, 2026  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
HEART 6-5-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-02621  
String of Words Speech Therapy, PC, 9630 Bruceville Road, Suite 106-242, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "String of Words Speech Therapy" 10286 Maribel Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 1, 2026  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
STRING 6-5-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03555  
Matcha Delight LLC, 9456 Soaring Oaks Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Matsu Matcha" 8325 Elk Grove Florin Road Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95829. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 1, 2026  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
MATSU 6-5-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03685  
Paul William Ward, 9632 Glacier Creek Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "View Slope" 9632 Glacier Creek Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 7, 2026  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
VIEW 6-5-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-03378  
Karl Heim and Taylor Heim,

11215 Sharmont Court, Wilton, CA 95693 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Heim Property Maintenance/Heim Built" 11215 Sharmont Court, Wilton, CA 95693. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 27, 2026  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
HEIM 6-5-26

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. FBNF2021-10754  
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME of: Profile Dental, 7805 Laguna Boulevard, Suite 310, Elk Grove, CA 95758.  
Richard Winter, 7805 Laguna Boulevard Suite 310, Elk Grove, CA 95758.  
The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on December 14, 2021 in the County of Sacramento.  
Filed with the clerk of Sacramento County: May 1, 2026.  
Publish: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2026  
PROFILE 6-5-26

## ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #26CV023122

Alma Meng-Ju Medina has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Alma Meng-Ju Medina to Mae Chen.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on July 22, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 28, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.  
Dated: January 29, 2026  
Richard C. Miadich, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026  
MEDINA 5-22-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #26CV000933

Mazen Ghassan Khenaisser has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Mazen Ghassan Khenaisser to Mazin Kenicer.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on July 13, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 28, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.  
Dated: January 14, 2026  
Richard C. Miadich, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
KHENAISSER 5-29-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #26CV010259

Ashley Marie Nutter has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Ashley Marie Nutter to Ashley Marie Yuhre.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on June 22, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 8D, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.  
Dated: April 28, 2026  
Julie G. Yap, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026  
NUTTER 5-29-26

## TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 0125002357 Notice of Trustee's Sale Loan No. 1184300100 APN: 116-0100-093-0000 You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 6/15/2021. Unless You Take Action To Protect Your Property, It May Be Sold At A Public Sale. If You Need An Explanation Of The Nature Of The Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. On 6/9/2026 at 9:30 AM Outside the south-facing exit of the Sacramento City Hall in the courtyard at 916 H Street, Sacramento, CA, Old Republic Title Company, as the duly appointed Trustee under the Deed of Trust recorded on 6/22/2021, as Instrument No. 202106221678, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Sacramento County, California, executed by: Tony Mehmet Gundogdu, Trustee under the Gundogdu Trust Agreement dated June 16, 2001 Aynur Gundogdu, Trustee under the Gundogdu Trust Agreement dated June 16, 2001, as Trustor, Heritage Bank of Commerce, as Lender/Beneficiary, Will Sell At Public Auction To The Highest Bidder For (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States by cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in the state) all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California, describing the land therein: As more fully described on said Deed of Trust. The street address or other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 9200 Elk Grove Florin Rd. Elk Grove, CA 95624 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made is an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied,

## PUBLIC HEARING

### NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT DRAFT 2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE AND PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on the Elk Grove Water District's Draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan Update (Draft Update) will be conducted on May 19, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Florin Resource Conservation District Board of Directors, to be held at 9829 Waterman Rd., Elk Grove, CA 95624. The Draft Update is available for public review and comment, and the Board of Directors of the Elk Grove Water District (EGWD) will receive comments on the Draft Update at that time. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, as part of the Public hearing on the Draft Update, EGWD will conduct a public hearing to: (1) project future water demand, (2) adopt an updated Water Shortage Contingency Plan, and (3) consider the water supply reliability.

Copies of the Draft Update are available for public review at the EGWD's Administrative office and website on or after May 1, 2026. Members of the public are invited to present their views on the Draft Update. Comments may be presented during the public hearing or may be submitted in writing prior to the hearing addressed to Travis Franklin, Program Manager, mailed to Elk Grove Water District, 9829 Waterman Rd., Elk Grove, CA 95624, or emailed to [trfranklin@egwd.org](mailto:trfranklin@egwd.org).

Elk Grove Citizen 5-8, 5-15-2026

## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that the Elk Grove Unified School District, hereinafter referred to as the District, will receive sealed proposals for the **Domestic Water Generator Additions at Various Sites** project at the Facilities and Planning Department, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Room 206, Elk Grove, California 95624 until **2:00 pm local time, on Thursday, June 4, 2026**, at which time bids will be opened.

Each bid must conform to the requirements of the Drawings and Project Manual and other documents comprising the Contract Documents, which are available from Signature Reprographics, 620 Sunbeam Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 454-0800. Prime Contractors will obtain downloadable copies for a non-refundable cost of **\$50 per set**. Signature Reprographics maintains the project plan holders' list, so it is a requirement that prospective bidders purchase their plans from Signature Reprographics to ensure that all potential bidders possess a complete set of documents including any addenda for the project. Plans may be previewed online at [www.egusdplans.com](http://www.egusdplans.com)

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on **Monday, May 18, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.** at **9510 Elk Grove-Florin Rd., Elk Grove, CA 95624, Room 209**. The District's Representatives will be present to discuss the project. Bids received from parties not attending this mandatory pre-bid conference will be rejected as non-responsive. All bidders are required to attend the pre-bid conference in its entirety.

The Elk Grove Unified School District is soliciting bids for four (4) Domestic Water Generator Addition projects to be constructed under a single contract at multiple elementary school sites. The work generally consists of installation of backup power generator systems serving existing domestic water wells, including structural, electrical, and site improvements necessary for complete and operational systems. This project requires a **Class A, B, or C-10** license.

**Cosumnes River Elementary School, Sloughhouse, CA**

- Propane-fueled backup power generator (connected to existing tanks)
- Installation of concrete foundations, generator equipment, transfer switches, and electrical connections
- Plumbing lines will be bored to minimize campus impact
- Work occurs on an occupied campus requiring close coordination with District staff to minimize disruption

**Old Franklin Elementary School, Elk Grove, CA**

- Natural gas-fueled backup power generator (connected to existing gas infrastructure)
- Installation of concrete foundations, generator equipment, transfer switches, electrical connections, and associated site improvements
- This project will be performed on a non-occupied campus

**Pleasant Grove Elementary School, Elk Grove, CA**

- Propane-fueled backup power generator (connected to existing tanks)
- Installation of concrete foundations, generator equipment, transfer switches, electrical connections, and associated site improvements
- Work occurs on an occupied campus requiring coordination with District staff to minimize disruption to school operations

**Sierra Enterprise Elementary School, Sacramento, CA**

- Natural gas-fueled backup power generator (connected to existing gas infrastructure)
- Installation of concrete foundations, generator equipment, transfer switches, and electrical connections
- Plumbing lines will be bored to minimize campus impact
- Work occurs on an occupied campus requiring coordination with District staff to minimize disruption

In accordance with California Labor Code Section 1770 *et seq.* payment of the appropriate general prevailing rate of wages for all crafts employed on the public works site is required of the Contractor and all subcontractors. This project has a goal of 3% Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises (DVBE) participation per the State Allocation Board requirements. Compliance with California Education Code Section 45125.1 mandating fingerprinting requirements apply to this project.

**NOTE: The complete Notice to Contractors is included in the bid documents.**

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,  
Sacramento County, California  
BY: Michael Bean  
Senior Construction Manager  
Elk Grove Unified School District

Elk Grove Citizen 5-8, 5-15-2026

## City of Elk Grove – City Council NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at the hour of 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Elk Grove City Council will conduct a public hearing at City Hall in the Council Chambers, 8400 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, California, to consider the following matter:

### Summary of Proposed Rate Adjustments

Residential Basic Monthly Rate - 1 Refuse Cart				
	CURRENT RATE	PROPOSED RATE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026		PERCENTAGE INCREASE
		Increase Amount	Total	Total
32 Gallon refuse cart	\$31.51	\$0.95	\$32.46	3.00%
64 Gallon refuse cart	\$36.54	\$1.10	\$37.64	3.00%
96 Gallon refuse cart	\$46.66	\$1.40	\$48.06	3.00%
Residential Monthly Rate - Multiple Refuse Carts				
	CURRENT RATE	PROPOSED RATE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026		PERCENTAGE INCREASE
		Increase Amount	Total	Total
Two 32 Gallon refuse carts	\$41.72	\$1.25	\$42.97	3.00%
Two 64 Gallon refuse carts	\$56.71	\$1.69	\$58.40	3.00%
Two 96 Gallon refuse carts	\$76.86	\$2.30	\$79.16	3.00%
One 64 Gallon & One 32 Gallon refuse cart	\$51.70	\$1.54	\$53.24	3.00%
One 96 Gallon & One 32 Gallon refuse cart	\$56.70	\$1.70	\$58.40	3.00%
One 96 Gallon & One 64 Gallon refuse cart	\$66.82	\$2.00	\$68.82	3.00%
Additional 32 Gallon refuse cart after 2 refuse carts	\$10.20	\$0.30	\$10.50	3.00%
Additional 64 Gallon refuse cart after 2 refuse carts	\$20.15	\$0.61	\$20.76	3.00%
Additional 96 Gallon refuse cart after 2 refuse carts	\$30.20	\$0.90	\$31.10	3.00%

Solid waste service rates are based on refuse cart size and refuse cart quantity. Per the franchise agreement between the City and Allied Waste, Allied is contractually entitled to an annual rate increase to reflect inflationary increases in the cost of solid waste collection and disposal services, which includes, without limitation, labor, fuel, landfill fees, and State regulatory fees. Solid waste service rates are based on refuse cart size and refuse cart quantity. Upon request, residents can have a total of three organics carts and/or three recycle carts at no additional charge. If you would like to request more than three organics or three recycling carts, additional rates will apply.

All interested persons are invited to present their views and comments on this matter at the public hearing. Written protests may be filed with the City Clerk either in writing or by email ([jlindgren@elkgrove.gov](mailto:jlindgren@elkgrove.gov)) at any time prior to the close of the hearing scheduled herein. If written protests are filed by a majority of the affected parcel owners, the proposed rate increases will not be imposed.

If you challenge the subject matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk, 8401 Laguna Palms Way, 1st Floor, Elk Grove, CA, 95758, at or prior to the close of the public hearing.

Dated/Published: May 15, 2026 and May 22, 2026

JASON LINDGREN  
CITY CLERK, CITY OF ELK GROVE

## ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (916) 478-3635. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Elk Grove Citizen 5-15, 5-22-2026

# POLICE LOGS

## May 6

7:49 a.m., Lewis Stein Road/Sheldon Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Matthew Gregory, 31, on warrant charges.

3:45 p.m., Elk Grove Boulevard/Franklin Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Sameerah Chandler, 43, on resisting arrest charges.

6:52 p.m., Elk Grove Boulevard/Harbour Point Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Sajadullah Nasrat, 18, on reckless driving charges.

9:44 p.m., Harbour Point Drive/Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Tyus Ellis, 28, on public intoxication charges.

## May 7

12:05 a.m., Franklin Boulevard/Whitelock Parkway, Elk Grove Police arrested Jolene Ocampo, 49, on DUI and DUI with a BAC above 0.08% charges.

12:12 a.m., Sheldon Road/State Highway 99, Elk Grove Police arrested Derrell Davis, 33; and Tyree Gates, 34, on possession of controlled substance, possession with priors, possession of hard drugs for sale, possession of marijuana for sale, criminal conspiracy and driving without a license charges.

3:25 a.m., 9010 block of Bruceville Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Clyde Moore, 43, on possession of controlled substance charges.

7 a.m., confidential location, Elk Grove Police arrested Jesse Sotelo, 54, on corporal injury to a spouse or cohabitant, assault with priors, attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon charges.

## May 8

8:28 a.m., confidential location, Elk Grove Police arrested Manuel Morales, 26, on violation of restraining order charges.

9:18 a.m., 4400 block of Hyrda Way, Elk Grove Police arrested Fenix McIntosh, 30, on battery and criminal threats charges.

5:03 p.m., 8100 block of Laguna Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Robert Ochoa, 49, on DUI and DUI with a BAC above 0.08% charges.

8:12 p.m., 8400 block of Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Celeste Silvestre, 33, on carjacking charges.

7:14 p.m., 8100 block of Laguna Boulevard, Grove Police arrested Brianna Pearson, 23, on DUI, DUI with a BAC above 0.08% and DUI of both drugs and alcohol charges.

10:14 p.m., Trenholm Drive/Starfish Way, Elk Grove Police arrested Ricardo Robles, 49, on DUI and DUI with a BAC above 0.08% charges.

## May 9

12:56 a.m., 8600 block of Brush Way, Elk Grove Police arrested Suelong Vang, 35, on public intoxication charges.

3:04a.m., 10000 block of East Taron Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Norris Jones, 29, on criminal threats, carrying a concealed weapon, carrying a loaded

firearm, felon in possession of a firearm, possession of a firearm by a violent felon, felon in possession of ammunition and possession of large-capacity magazine charges.

2:28 p.m., 7500 block of Laguna Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Anhhkhoa Nguyen, 34, on shoplifting charges.

5:11 p.m., confidential location, Elk Grove Police arrested Julian Vela, 37, on corporal injury to a spouse or cohabitant, assault with force likely to cause great bodily injury, criminal threats, child endangerment and possession of controlled substance charges.

11:23 p.m., Laguna Springs Drive/Snowy Springs Circle, Elk Grove Police arrested Irene Mora, 25, on DUI, DUI with a BAC above 0.08% and driving while on DUI probation charges.

## May 10

10:26 a.m., 10000 block of Promenade Parkway, Elk Grove Police arrested Antoinette Damphier, 41, on possession of methamphetamine for sale, transportation or sale of methamphetamine, possession with priors and possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

3:14 p.m., 8300 block of Sheldon Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Chivorn Veasna, 43, on possession of controlled substance, unlawful possession of benzodiazepine drugs and similar sedatives and possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

8:18 p.m., 9100 block of East Stockton Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Thihoang Nguyen, 32, on battery charges. ★

# MEETING MINDERS

Community members can watch these meetings online and submit public comments for the officials to review.

**The Elk Grove City Council** has its regular meetings at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. To view the meeting, visit [ElkGroveCity.org](http://ElkGroveCity.org).

**The Elk Grove Planning Commission** has its meetings at 6 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of the month.

A live video stream of this meeting can be viewed at the city of Elk Grove's website, [www.ElkGroveCity.org](http://www.ElkGroveCity.org).

**The Cosumnes Community Services District Board of Directors** has in-person meetings at 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

It governs the Cosumnes Fire

Department as well as Elk Grove's parks and recreation system.

The CSD board meetings can be watched live at [www.CosumnesCSD.gov](http://www.CosumnesCSD.gov) and they are held at 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

**The Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees** meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

This meeting is in-person at the Robert L. Trigg Education Center Board Room, 9510 Elk Grove Florin Road.

Members of the public can also view it by using the Zoom application and visiting the school district's website, [www.EGUSD.net](http://www.EGUSD.net).

Past board meetings can be watched on the district's YouTube channel, "ElkGroveUnified." ★

# LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Elk Grove Citizen Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Case No. 14303 - October 14, 1910  
The Elk Grove Citizen Adjudicated For and By the City of Elk Grove, Case No. CS01032 - August 25, 2000

2508 Garfield Ave. • Ste. A  
Carmichael, CA 95608

Legal Advertising  
916-483-0946

## TRUSTEE SALE

regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by the Deed of Trust, to wit: \$4,367,487.90 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. Notice To Potential Bidders: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself.

Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage

or deed of trust on the property. Notice To Property Owner: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call or visit this Internet website <https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustee-sales/>, using the file number assigned to this case 0125002357. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that oc-

cur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales conducted after January 1, 2021: Notice To Tenant: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after

the date of the trustee sale, you can call, or visit this internet website <https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustee-sales/>, using the file number assigned to this case 0125002357 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential

right to purchase. This property which is subject to this Notice of Sale does not fall within the purview of California Civil Code Section 2923.5. Date: 5/6/2026 Old Republic Title Company, as Trustee 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite #400 Concord, California 94520 (866)248-9598 by: Debbie Jackson, Vice President Published 5/15/2026, 5/22/2026, 5/29/2026  
ELK GROVE CITIZEN 5-29-26



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## City of Elk Grove – City Council NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on **Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at the hour of 6:00 pm**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Elk Grove City Council will conduct a public hearing at City Hall in the Council Chambers, 8400 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, California, to consider the following matter:

The City Council will consider the Written Report for Fiscal Year 2026-27 regarding service charges to be collected in the Laguna West Service Area (formerly County Service Area No. 5) and the annual service charges to be levied. Service charges are for street sweeping, road maintenance, drainage services, and administration costs. Staff is recommending that Service charges adjust as shown in the table below:

	FY 2025-26 Service Charge	FY 2026-27 Service Charge	Increase/(Decrease) in Service Charge	Maximum Service Charge	Multiplier
Single Family Residential	\$17.04	\$17.04	\$0.00	\$17.04	Unit/Lot/Parcel
Other Properties That Benefit From All Services	\$105.13	\$105.13	\$0.00	\$105.13	Acre
Non Street Sweeping/Road Maintenance Parcels	\$63.53	\$63.53	\$0.00	\$63.53	Acre

Information regarding this item (including a copy of the Written Report) may be obtained by contacting Cindy Tiffany at (916) 627-3452. All interested persons are invited to present their views and comments on this matter. Written statements may be filed with the City Clerk at any time prior to the close of the hearing scheduled herein, and oral statements may be made at said hearing.

If you challenge the subject matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk, 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA, 95758, at or prior to the close of the public hearing.

Published/Dated: May 8, 2026, and May 15, 2026

Jason Lindgren  
CITY CLERK, CITY OF ELK GROVE

### ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (916) 478-3635. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Elk Grove Citizen 5-8, 5-15-2025

## LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to California Business and Professional Codes #21700 21716, Section 2328 of the UCC of the Penal Code Section 535 the Under Signed, **SecurCare Self Storage**, will sell at public sale on or after Thursday, May 28 2026 10:00 am with bidding to take place on **Storagetreasures.com** the following misc. goods:  
SecurCare Self Storage 2328 Maritime Dr, Elk Grove, CA 95758.

Manjot Singh, Amy Clover, Deandra Fisher, Sammy Gray

Goods must be paid in CARD, MONEY ORDER, or CASHIER'S CHECK and removed within 48 hours of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.  
Elk Grove Citizen 5-15-2026

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# A Battle Beyond the Bite

## Lyme Disease Awareness Month Sparks Advocacy and Awareness

By Ormella Rossi

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - As the months of unanswerable 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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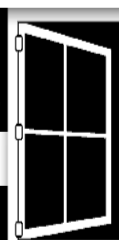
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### Continuing through Sunday, June 7

**Elk Grove Historical Society Yard Sale Donations** – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on select days at the Elk Grove House & Stage Stop Museum. We are collecting donations of vintage and antique glass, crystal, appliances, linens, jewelry, clothing, books and more for our upcoming yard sale in late June. All items must be clean and in working order. Full list of desired items (and exclusions) and drop-off dates at [elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com). 9941 E. Stockton Blvd.

### Friday, May 15

**Music on Main: Country Night** – 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Old Town Plaza. This free outdoor concert continues our series, this week featuring Kirk Basquez and a relaxed, community-focused atmosphere to enjoy live music outdoors. A variety of food, beverage and merchandise vendors will also be on site. 9615 Railroad St.

### Saturday, May 16

**Walk on the Wild Side** – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at SacSewer's Bufferlands. This free event celebrates "International Migratory Bird Day" and highlights local efforts in wildlife conservation and protecting and restoring native Central Valley habitat. Throughout the day, visitors can get up close and personal with wild animals, enjoy great folk music and explore conservation exhibits. There will be a children's activity center, self-guided tours of wetlands and riparian forests and food vendors available on site. *Directions to location at [sacsewer.com/event](http://sacsewer.com/event).*

**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.

**American Legion Post 55 Fundraiser** – 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. at District56. Join us to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States and Armed Forces Day. Your \$50 ticket helps us to support veterans in our community. Choose from a sliced tri-tip or grilled chicken dinner, served with potatoes, beans, salad, rolls and dessert. Order tickets online at [post55.AmericanLegionElkGrove.com](http://post55.AmericanLegionElkGrove.com). 8230 Civic Center Drive.

**Laguna Creek High School Band & Guard Annual Fundraising Dinner** – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Christopher Cellars Winery. Enjoy a great night out with dinner, wine, live entertainment and a silent auction while supporting the amazing students of the LCHS Band & Guard program. Dinner includes tri-tip, salmon, mashed potatoes, salad, roll and desserts. Grab your tickets today and help support our talented students. Link to purchase tickets at [elkgrove.gov/event](http://elkgrove.gov/event). 9654 Bradshaw Road.

### Sunday, May 17

**2026 Asian Pacific CultureFest** – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at District56. Sacramento Asian Pacific Cultural Village is hosting a free, inclusive, family-friendly event to celebrate and uplift the diversity of Asian American and Pacific Islander arts, culture, heritage and contributions. Enjoy local Asian American and Pacific Islander small businesses, food vendors and food trucks, performing artists and more. 8230 Civic Center Drive.

**Mud Factor 5k Obstacle Run** – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mahon Ranch. Choose from adult waves or family waves including kids 4 to 13. Registration and more information at [mudfactor.com/](http://mudfactor.com/) Sacramento. 10171 Grant Line Road.

**TAAP Artist Mixer** – 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Annie Peony Art Gallery. The Artist Association Project (TAAP) invites artists of all genres to this gathering. Join with painters, musicians, writers and actors to discuss events in the area. The goal is to promote art of every genre and help each other. Free admission, refreshments, entertainment and introductions. 9635 Elk Grove Florin Road.

## Tressa Gaye's Twisted Jazz on June 7



Tressa Gaye's Twisted Jazz is on the Jazz & Blues Time schedule for June 7. Photo courtesy of Nannosecond Productions

Cheryl Tiburzi and Gary Mendoza shared songs from the '60s during the season-opening May 3 Jazz & Blues Time performance at Elk Grove United Methodist Church.

Next on the schedule is Tressa Gaye's Twisted Jazz on June 7. Tressa (Tressa G. Dahlberg) is from a sixth generation Delta farming and musical family.

She attended Cosumnes River College as a music major and has sung in

church and school choirs, weddings, memorials and other special events all of her life. She sang in her father's band, "The New Holland Combine," for over 25 years, the Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society, and has performed the National Anthem for the River Cats and other sports events over the past 12 years.

Blues and jazz concerts hosted by Nannosecond Productions continue at the church the first Sundays of

the month.

The 4 p.m. shows ask a \$10 donation and all are welcome. Elk Grove United Methodist Church is at 8986 Elk Grove Blvd.

Following the June 7 program are these shows:

July 12: Papa Day Blues Band

Aug. 2: Val Starr (Blues & Rock)

Sept. 6: Red's Blues

Oct. 4: Capitol City Reflections (Jazz)

Nov. 1: Pinkie Rideau (Blues) ★

### Monday, May 18

**"Indigenous Peoples of California's Bay-Delta Region"** – 6:30 p.m. at the Elk Grove House & Stage Stop Museum. Join the Elk Grove Historical Society's speaker series, featuring Dave Stuart, an archaeologist and anthropologist currently researching for his next book on the history of the Bay-Delta Region. Free and open to the public. 9941 E. Stockton Blvd.

**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](http://elkgrovecommunityband.org). 8865 Elk Grove Blvd.

### Wednesday, May 20

**Big Truck Day** – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the District56 Aquatics Center parking lot. Celebrate "National Public Works Week" with the City of Elk Grove at this free event. Geared toward kids ages 2 through 6, this event showcases the variety of big trucks that help run our city. Kids can get behind the wheel of a city bus, check out cranes, street sweepers, tractors and more. There will be on-site activities, photo ops, food and drink available for purchase. 9701 Big Horn Blvd.

**Annual Tourism Luncheon** – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Interlude Kitchen & Bar. This annual gathering brings together regional partners, hospitality leaders and community stakeholders to connect, share insights and celebrate the continued growth of tourism in Elk Grove. Guests will enjoy lunch, hear updates from the "Explore Elk Grove" team and share conversations with local leaders. Link to buy tickets at [exploreelkgrove.com/events](http://exploreelkgrove.com/events). 8295 Laguna Blvd.

### Saturday, May 23

**Thunderbolts Capitol Auto Club Classic Car Show** – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Old Town Plaza. Food and live music with so many cars to see. Win door prizes and trophies for outstanding models. Rain or shine. Proceeds from cars registered

benefits Elk Grove Canine Association. 9615 Railroad St.

### Monday, May 25

**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.

### Ongoing Events

**Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group** – 10 a.m. every Tuesday at the Park at Laguna Springs. This is open to all Alzheimer's caregivers to learn more about the disease, helpful tips and shared experiences. For more information, contact Tracey at 916-826-9325. 9670 Laguna Springs Drive in the President's Room upstairs.

**Caregiver Coffee** – 10:30 a.m. the third Saturday each month at Elk Grove United Methodist Church. This is open to all as a way to share experiences in caregiving as well as resources. For more information, contact Ruth at 916-509-1414. Next meeting will be Saturday, May 16. 8986 Elk Grove Blvd.

**Elk Grove Certified Farmers Market** – every Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon at 8245 Laguna Blvd.

**Rotary Club of Elk Grove** – every Wednesday for lunch at noon, The Park at Laguna Springs, 9670 Laguna Springs Drive. More information at [elkgroverotary.org](http://elkgroverotary.org).

**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: (EG) Elk Grove Library, 8900 Elk Grove Blvd.; (F) Franklin, 10055 Franklin High Road; (NW) Nonie Wetzel Library, 170 Primasing Ave., Courtland; (VH) Valley Hi/North Laguna, 7400 Imagination Parkway, Sacramento:

Friday, May 15: Outdoor family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Join us at Morse Community Park, 5540 Bellaterra Drive, for songs, movement activities and stories all designed to support the early learning skills of young children. (F) Adult space, 10:30 a.m. to noon. (EG) Tween book group, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. This month we'll be discussing "Doña Quixote – Rise of the Knight" by Rey Terciero. Copies will be available at the front desk. (EG) Culture through Cloth: Threads of Belonging workshop series, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. In this workshop, we transform rainbow-colored thread into "flower cloth," exploring the vibrant color, pattern and texture of traditional Hmong needlework. Link to register on the library website. (VH)

Saturday, May 16: Explore and learn playgroup, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (F)

Wednesday, May 20: Explore and learn playgroup, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (VH) Teen space, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (EG) STEAM for kids - robotics, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (F)

Thursday, May 21: Outdoor family story time, 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Elk Grove Regional Park, 9950 Elk Grove Florin Road. (EG) Adult space, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (VH)

Friday, May 22: Outdoor family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Join us at Morse Community Park, 5540 Bellaterra Drive, for songs, movement activities and stories all designed to support the early learning skills of young children. (F) Adult space, 10:30 a.m. to noon. (EG)

Saturday, May 23: Explore and learn playgroup, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (F) One book, one coast: STEAM for kids, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. This month we will use a variety of tools to create art and comics inspired by graphic novels and manga. (VH)

Call 916-264-2920 or 800-561-4636 for more information on any of these events.

### 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. Breakfast: second Saturday, 8-10 a.m., 8830 Sharkey Ave.

**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. 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). 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.

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

**VFW Post 2073** – second Thursdays of the month. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., District56 Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive. For more information, call 916-684-3849. ★

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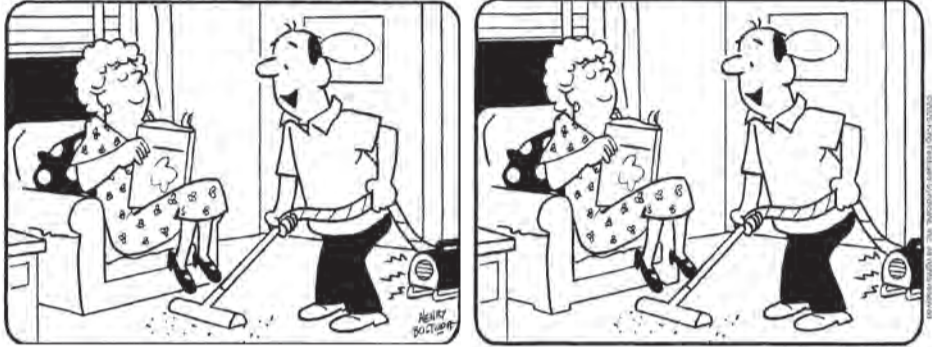


Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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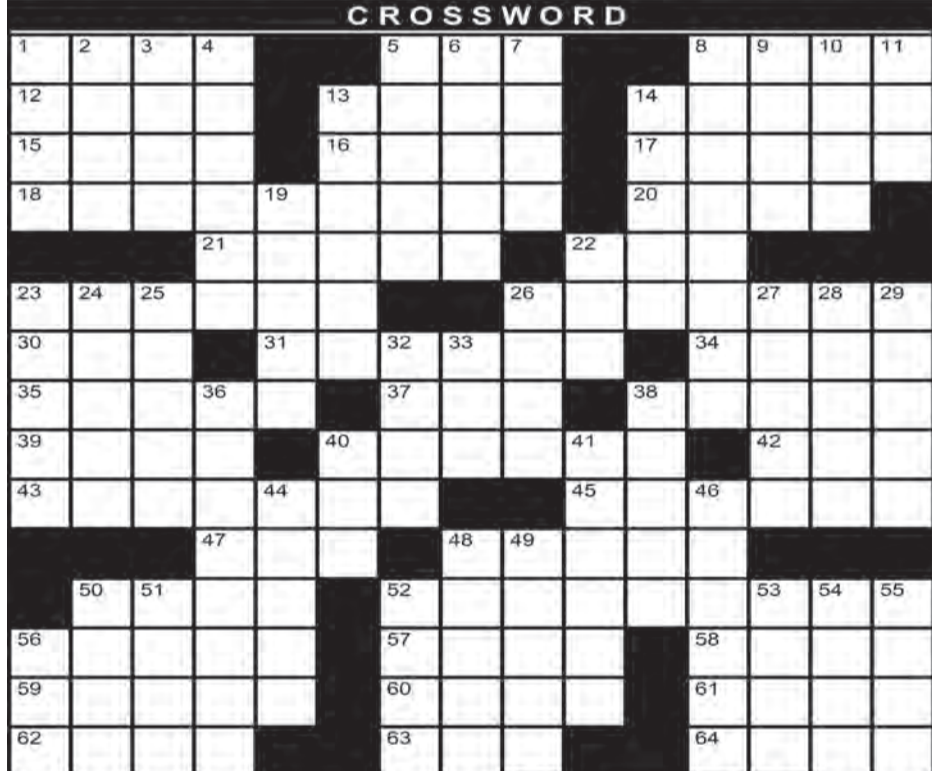
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  - \*Mount Everest mountain range
  - Research facil.
  - Itsy-bitsy bits
  - Forensic evidence, acr.
  - Relating to sacrum
  - What Cupid did (2 words)
  - Amazement interjection
  - Not victory
  - Eurozone money
  - Whisky measure, pl.
  - Dot-com address
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  - Auricular
  - Volcanic ash, e.g.
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  - Borat's swimsuit
  - Cruel treatments
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  - Munchausen's title
  - Supernatural life force
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  - You will
  - Icelandic epic
  - Double reed woodwind instrument
  - Like a good singer (2 words)
  - Not quite an adult
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  - Like a busybody
  - Commercial break contents
  - Coloring substances
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  - Opposite of stern
  - Balloon filler (2 words)
  - \*Vamos a la \_\_\_\_
  - Saintly glows
  - Carl Zeiss' product
  - \*Tallest mountain from base to peak (2 words)
  - European sea eagles
  - Dead, in France
  - Yoko of music fame
  - #11 Down's late husband, e.g.
  - Kind of acid
  - Dump truck quantities
  - Email period
  - Bible's wicked city
  - Blood circulation artery
  - \_\_\_\_ gang
  - Baby powder ingredient
  - Sting Rays and Mustangs
  - Angry
  - Sheds skin, as in snake
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# UC Davis Closes Causeway Cup Era with 12th Consecutive Title

## UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - For the 12th consecutive season, and in the final year of its awarding, the Causeway Cup returns to UC Davis, marking the Aggies' 16th title in the award's 20-year history.

Following Tuesday's baseball game at Dobbins Stadium, all competition between the Aggies and Hornets for the 2025-26 season has concluded, with UC Davis taking home 52.5 of 85 possible points.

The Cup-clinching result came Feb. 24, when women's golf placed second at the Causeway Invitational in Sacramento, finishing ahead of Sacramento State.

While the rivalry dates back decades, the two programs formalized the competition ahead of the 2004-05 season, introducing the Causeway Cup as an annual measure of head-to-head success across sports.

The Aggies have produced sustained success across multiple programs, highlighted by beach volleyball's 18-match winning streak from 2019 through 2026 and a dominant stretch from men's soccer, which won eight straight meetings from 2017-22 and 10 of the last 11 overall.

On the basketball court, both programs have delivered memorable moments. Since 2004, the women's basketball team has dominated the series, winning 16 of 22 matchups. On the men's side, close games have been the norm, with 16 contests decided by 10 points or fewer. In a marquee matchup on Nov. 14, in front of a University Credit Union Center crowd of nearly 4,000, UC Davis earned a 77-73 victory.

Perhaps no sport better embodies UC Davis' dominance in the Causeway Cup era than football. Since the Cup's inception in 2004-05, the Aggies have posted a 13-7 record against Sacramento State in the Causeway Classic, including key wins that helped propel UC Davis to some of the most successful seasons in program history. From conference title runs to deep postseason



For the 12th consecutive season, and in the final year of its awarding, the Causeway Cup returns to UC Davis, marking the Aggies' 16th title in the award's 20-year history. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

appearances, the rivalry has consistently carried weight beyond bragging rights.

"I feel fortunate to have been part of a program that played in and won the final Causeway Classic," head football coach Tim Plough said. "I'm sad to have the rivalry between the Aggies and Hornets end. Looking back over my career both playing and coaching, I have been a part of some great, high stakes games on both sides of the causeway. The rivalry brought our communities together in the spirit of competition that everyone felt a part of. Last year's victory was an important game to solidify our top 8 playoff seed and to lock that in with

a historic win keeping the Causeway trophy forever in Davis made it extra special."

"When you think about the Causeway Cup, it's really been more than two decades of competition and memorable moments between UC Davis and Sacramento State," said UC Davis Director of Athletics Rocko DeLuca. "There's always been a different level of intensity anytime the Aggies and Hornets compete, and our student-athletes, coaches, alumni and fans embraced that every year."

"As college athletics continues to evolve and our conference structures change, this feels like the right time to step back and

reassess what this rivalry looks like moving forward. I also think, with the sustained success UC Davis has had in the Causeway Cup over time, some of the broader interest and energy around the overall standings naturally changed."

"We're proud of what our programs accomplished during the Causeway Cup era and appreciative of everyone who helped make it an important part of the Northern California college athletics landscape."

For the complete Causeway Cup history, visit: [ucdavisaggies.com/sports/2025/10/8/2024-25-causeway-cup.aspx](http://ucdavisaggies.com/sports/2025/10/8/2024-25-causeway-cup.aspx). ★

# Mick Soli Dominates to Win Northern California PGA Legends Championship

## Ace on No. 3 Headlines Championship Performance at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex

### Sacramento Golf Council News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The 2026 Northern California PGA Legends Championship concluded April 28-29 at the Alister MacKenzie Golf Course at Haggin Oaks, where Mick Soli delivered a commanding performance to capture both the Professionals 70-75 division title and Overall Championship with rounds of 66-67-133 (11 under par).

Soli's victory was punctuated by one of the most memorable moments of the championship, a hole-in-one in the third hole during the final round. Mick hit a beautifully cut little eight iron that landed 15 feet behind the hole and slowly spun and trickled into the cup, his 31st career ace. The shot, witnessed by his playing partners, set the tone for a dominant performance that carried through both rounds.

Chuck Richesin separated himself among the amateur competitors with a dominate victory by four strokes, firing 67-71-138 (four

under par). No stranger to winning, Richesin has a long history of competing at Haggin Oaks and winning amateur championships.

#### Division Champions

The championship featured multiple divisions showcasing the depth of talent among PGA Professionals and Senior Amateur competitors: The champions were Mick Soli (Professionals 70-75 Champion & Overall Champion), David Bingham (Professionals 76-plus Champion), Richard Givens (Amateur 70-75 Champion) and Charles Richesin (Amateur 76-plus Champion and Low Amateur Overall).

Each champion delivered a strong and steady performance over two rounds, highlighting the competitive balance and high level of play across all divisions.

#### A Premier Championship Venue

The Alister MacKenzie Golf Course at Haggin Oaks once again proved to be an outstanding host venue. With its classic architecture, strategic bunkering and subtle green



The 2026 Northern California PGA Legends Championship concluded April 28-29 at the Alister MacKenzie Golf Course at Haggin Oaks, where Mick Soli delivered a commanding performance to capture both the Professionals 70-75 division title and Overall Championship with rounds of 66-67-133 (11 under par). Courtesy photo



Chuck Richesin separated himself among the amateur competitors with a dominate victory by four strokes, firing 67-71-138 (four under par). No stranger to winning, Richesin has a long history of competing at Haggin Oaks and winning amateur championships. Courtesy photo

complexes, the course provided a fair and demanding test for all competitors.

Course conditions were widely praised, with firm fairways and smooth, quick greens rewarding precision and thoughtful course management.

#### Honoring the Legends of the Game

The Northern California PGA

Legends Championship celebrates the enduring excellence of PGA Professionals and Senior Amateur players who continue to shape the game. The event brings together the best players in Northern California, with a rare opportunity for professionals and amateurs to compete together.

Soli's performance — marked by elite scoring, consistency and a moment of brilliance — adds a

memorable chapter to the championship's legacy.

#### About the

#### Northern California PGA

The Northern California PGA Section is one of the largest and most active PGA Sections in the country, dedicated to promoting the game of golf and supporting PGA Professionals through competition, education and community engagement. ★

# Benitez and Rodriguez Named to Team of the Week



Republic FC's Michel Benitez and Arturo Rodriguez were named to the league's weekly top squad. Photo courtesy Sacramento Republic FC

### Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - May 5, USL Championship announced

Benitez and Arturo Rodriguez were named to the league's weekly top squad.

After Orange County took a first half lead, Arturo Rodriguez led Republic FC's comeback. He continuously drove the club's attack, and in the 57th minute leveled the match with a goal of his own. Pep Casas found Jack Gurr in space on the right flank and the Englishman sent a cross into the box. Rodriguez battled

through contact to head the ball into the turf and just beyond the reach of OC's keeper for his first goal of the season.

He also finished the night with four chances created, 18 of 20 successful passes in the final third, and five possessions won.

Each team would go on to add another goal in the second half, making way for an action-packed end to the match. In the decisive final play, Michel Benitez once

again came up big for his club. An Orange County handball set Benitez up for a chance to win it from the penalty spot. His first attempt was saved as the keeper dove to his right, but the block went right back to Benitez who headed the ball to the opposite corner for his third goal of the campaign. It was a busy night for the two-way defender. He led all players with 81 touches and maintained a 90% passing accuracy as well as nine duels won.

This is the second Team of the Week selection for Benitez and first for Rodriguez, who was also named to the Prinx Tires USL Cup Round 1 Team of the Round earlier this month. ★

