



Service Above Self

PAGE 3

Cardinal Oaks Park Glows Up

PAGE 3



Carmichael Times

VOLUME 47 • ISSUE 23 Serving Carmichael & Sacramento County since 1981

JUNE 5, 2026

SEE INSIDE

LET'S NOT JUST TALK ABOUT HOUSING AFFORDABILITY



PAGE 11

LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN FOR MLB EXPANSION TEAM



PAGE 13

AQUATIC CENTER HOSTS ROWING CHAMPS



PAGE 2



Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

PRSRTD STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CARMICHAEL, CA
PERMIT NO. 350
OR CURRENT
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Batter Up for New Business



Baseball coach Marc Morales wields scissors for the official opening of the Baseball Therapy facility in Carmichael. Patrons, families and Carmichael Chamber of Commerce members join the celebration.

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Hot dogs, popcorn and the cry of "play ball" recently kicked off Carmichael's newest sporting business.

Baseball Therapy is bringing the click-clack of cleated feet to Carmichael Oaks shopping center. The 6,200 square foot facility offers batting cages and pitching and fielding lanes. Individuals or teams can book space. Among instructors is

Carmichael Little League organization's revered "Coach Marc" Morales.

Beyond baseball skills, Morales and business manager Alejandro Argueta aim to boost youth confidence and community connection. "It was never just about building another baseball facility," Alejandro Argueta told opening day supporters. "It was about creating a place where kids feel support, families feel welcome and baseball becomes a tool for growth. "We call it Baseball Therapy

because for so many of us, baseball is more than a game," Argueta continued. "It's where we learn to work hard, to trust teammates and to keep showing up when things get difficult. For many kids, the baseball field is one place where they truly feel believed in."

Morales and Argueta aim for a culture where players of varying talent get similar support. "For us, success will be measured by the athletes who leave this place believing in

Continued on page 3

Sacramento County's New 311 Connect Mobile App is Here



Sacramento County's updated 311 Connect Mobile Application has been launched as of May 29. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County is launching a newly updated 311 Connect Mobile Application now featuring a modern design, improved usability and enhanced security to deliver a smoother, more intuitive experience for our community.

Everything you count on from 311 is still at your fingertips, now with the following key improvements:

Modernized User Interface

The app features a refreshed appearance with an updated color palette and graphic style. Redesigned navigation helps users find what you need faster. New Sacramento County branding is highlighted throughout the app.

Unified Account Experience

App authentication now fully matches the 311 Connect web portal. Your Sacramento Countywide user profile powers both the app and website.

New Service Request Type

A new service request type, Report Illegal Fireworks, is available directly through the app.

What To Expect

If you already have the 311 Connect Mobile Application installed, update the app manually in the App Store or Google Play.

When signing in for the first time after updating the app, you will be prompted to authenticate using your Sacramento Countywide profile.

Your existing mobile app service request history will automatically transfer to the new app, allowing residents to pick up right where they left off.

Learn more about 311 Connect, your link to County Services, as well as Cami, the new digital assistant at saccounty.gov. ★

Carmichael Dishes Great Taste

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - More than 350 foodies chowed down at La Sierra Community Center Friday, May 29 for the annual Taste of Carmichael festival.

In its 21st year, the mammoth event is among fundraisers that boost Carmichael Kiwanis Club benevolence to many causes. All funds raised will go back to the community. Raffles and silent auctions further aided club programs benefiting kids, families and the environment.

43 restaurants, markets, merchants and organizations enriched the culinary blowout. Vintners and breweries libated and guests rocked off calories dancing in the center's courtyard. Famed Carmichael band Wasted Space provided three hours of rock music.



Baseball legend Dusty Baker (center) brings samples from his West Sacramento family winery to his hometown for the Best of Carmichael fundraiser. Friend Anthony Miranda and Shenanigans Bar manager Jennifer Holman approve the Baker brand.

Vendors were boosted this year by several new Carmichael restaurants. Baseball legend Dusty Baker attended to promote his Baker Family Winery in West Sacramento. "Dusty was a big draw," said event co-chair Linda

Martin. "He grew up in Carmichael and was here to support his hometown. People were thrilled to shake his hand."

Event sponsors included: Dignity Health; Lind Brothers; Ken and Lynn Hall; SMUD; Buck Family Auto; Kim White,

realtor; Dr. Gabrielle Rasi (Almond Orchard Dental Care); Supervisor Rich Desmond; Hal Snow; Maita Subaru.

For information on the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael, visit: www.kiwanisclubof-carmichael.com

More photos on page 13

AVORIO DENTAL

Upen J. Patel, DDS, MAGD

Cosmetic • Implant
Snoring & Sleep Apnea • Emergency

NO INSURANCE?
NO PROBLEM!
\$108
New Patient Visit!

MISSING OR
BROKEN TEETH?
Loose Denture
Solutions

All-on-X | Modern
Computer-Guided
New Teeth
in One Day

Team Sports
Dentist
Custom Mouth
Guards

916 483 5566 | www.avoriodental.com | [@doctorupenpatel](https://www.instagram.com/doctorupenpatel)

We Accept all Medical Insurance Plans for Sleep Appliances. Helping you maximize your benefits for sleep apnea treatment.

Outdoor Adventure Meets STEM Learning at Effie Yeaw Summer Camps



Children can explore the outdoors, build robots, create video games and discover the wonders of nature this summer at Effie Yeaw Nature Center's 2026 Under the Oaks Nature Day Camps. Photo courtesy of Effie Yeaw Nature Center

Effie Yeaw Nature Center News Release

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Children can explore the outdoors, build robots, create video games and discover the wonders of nature this summer at Effie Yeaw Nature Center's 2026 Under the Oaks Nature Day Camps.

This year's lineup includes expanded morning nature camps and afternoon STEM camps, along with new opportunities for families to combine both experiences into a full day of summer learning and adventure along the American River Parkway in Carmichael.

Designed for children ages 5 to 14, the camps blend hands-on outdoor exploration with science, creativity and active play in one of the Sacramento region's most unique natural settings.

"Summer camp at Effie Yeaw gives children the chance to unplug, explore, and build a meaningful connection with nature," said Rachael Cowan, interim executive director of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. "Whether they are tracking wildlife on the trails, learning about animals, creating art, or designing games and robotics projects, campers are building confidence, curiosity, friendships and lifelong memories."

Located within a 100-acre nature study area, the camps encourage children to experience the outdoors through hikes, games, storytelling, hands-on activities and nature discovery.

Morning nature camps feature themes such as wildlife tracking, birding, outdoor adventures, ecology and animal survival skills. Afternoon STEM camps expand the experience with coding, robotics, engineering, art, stop-motion filmmaking and Minecraft-themed learning activities.

Popular camps include: Outdoor Adventures, a two-week camp where campers build confidence and teamwork skills while hiking, rafting, fishing, and exploring habitats of the Nature Study Area and beyond; Wildlife Investigators, which turns campers into nature detectives searching for clues in the wild; Birds of a Feather, focused on the remarkable behaviors of birds; Space Odyssey Robotics Camp, where young explorers tackle engineering challenges inspired by space travel; and Minecraft Coding and Modding Camps, combining creativity with technology and problem-solving.

Campers enrolled in both morning and afternoon sessions may stay for a supervised lunch period at no additional charge before transitioning to the afternoon STEM camp.

Camps are open to both members and nonmembers. Pricing is: \$235 per one-week camp (members), \$285 per one-week camp (nonmembers), \$565 per two-week camp (members) and \$615 per two-week camp (nonmembers).

More information and registration are available at <https://www.effieyeawnature.org/camps>. ★

Aquatic Center Hosts Rowing Champs



Harvard University men nail a light-weight division championship. The race is among final events in the Intercollegiate Rowing Association regatta at Lake Natoma (Gold River)

Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Lake Natoma's normally placid waters last weekend echoed with cheers and college chants during the Intercollegiate Rowing Association's National Championship Regatta.

Biceps felt the burn and noses reddened in spring sunshine.

The American River lake provides ideal conditions for the contest, confirmed Sacramento Aquatic Center Director Brian Dulgar. "Weather seldom comes into play in determining winners, here," he said. "It's about the best athletes winning. We have one of the fairest courses in the nation."

The ornate Varsity Challenge trophy was up for grabs in Sunday's thrilling final race. Favored teams were from Washington, Princeton, California and Harvard universities.

Despite a strong start by Berkeley's Golden Bears, the Washington Huskies beat the Californians by one second. Princeton took bronze. A Harvard eights team finished first in the lightweight men's division. Princeton students claimed the women's eights championship.

The regatta drew more than 500 athletes and many more fans to the Sacramento State Aquatic Center in Gold River.

Top collegiate rowers upheld a century

of sports tradition. Muscle and technology ruled as shells streaked through 2000-meter courses with the barest sound of blades. Onboard noise came from grunting athletes. Coxes with bull horns yelled "stay strong! Dig deep!"

Hundreds of spectators crowded the finish line, many wading knee-deep in icy water to welcome winners to shore. The weekend marked the fourth time the Aquatic Center has welcomed the championships since 2009, and first time since the pandemic.

"Only a few facilities in the nation can host this regatta," explained Brian Dulgar. "We're proud to be considered among the best locations. Athletes love coming here. Officials appreciate that our races run like a Swiss watch. Our organizing team is fantastically efficient."

The event impacts Folsom, Gold River and Rancho Cordova economies. Hotel and restaurant business swells during competition days. Brian Dulgar confirms several overseas sports bodies are eyeing Lake Natoma as a training site for 2028 Olympic rowers.

"Our event is watched from all over the world," he said. "The regatta brings international recognition to our facility and to our region."

Sacramento State Aquatic Center offers spring, summer and fall activities. The center is located at 1901 Hazel Avenue, Gold River. ★

Must See Homes

JUNE EDITION

1333 Villagio Dr, El Dorado Hills | Offered at \$869,000

ucked inside the gated Serrano community and backing to a peaceful greenbelt, this beautifully maintained home offers comfort, style, and thoughtful updates throughout. The bright living space features soaring ceilings, clerestory windows, plantation shutters, and updated hardwood floors that fill the home with natural light. The remodeled kitchen includes quartz countertops, refinished cabinetry, stainless steel LG appliances, and a layout that flows seamlessly into the dining and living areas. Enjoy flexible living with a downstairs bedroom and bath, an upstairs loft, a relaxing primary suite with scenic views, and a low-maintenance backyard with a covered patio—just a short walk to Bella Terra Park.

2740 El Caprice Dr, Rancho Cordova | Offered at \$699,000

Rare opportunity to own a versatile property featuring three units on a 4/10-acre lot. The main home offers 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms with an estimated rental income of approximately \$2,500 per month. One attached ADU is currently rented at \$1,095 per month, while a second unfinished ADU offers the opportunity to customize and add additional rental income. Ideal for a family compound, multigenerational living, or investment property with multiple income streams. The large lot provides usable outdoor space, along with an oversized heated 2+ car garage for storage or workspace. Additional features include a secure gated entry, storage shed, and ample parking. Conveniently located near shopping, one block from extended Folsom Lake College, and easy access to light rail.

1019 Ice Cream Ln, Sacramento | Offered at \$864,000

Step into this beautifully designed Model 3 smart home offering 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, and 2,309 square feet of modern city living. Built in 2017 and ideally positioned within the community overlooking a peaceful courtyard, the home features an open layout with engineered hardwood flooring, a chef's kitchen with high-end stainless steel appliances, double gas range oven, wet bar, and built-in mini fridge, plus a private patio for outdoor relaxation. Upstairs, the spacious primary suite offers a walk-in closet and spa-like bath, while the resurfaced rooftop deck showcases stunning city views and sunsets. Located just moments from Golden 1 Center, dining, nightlife, and commuter routes, this home delivers the best of Sacramento living.

6042 Landis Ave, Carmichael | Offered at \$589,000

Welcome home to this beautifully maintained 3-bedroom, 2-bath residence on a private lane in the heart of Carmichael. Surrounded by mature trees and lush landscaping, the home offers a bright and airy floor plan filled with natural light, cathedral ceilings, and a cozy white-painted brick fireplace. The kitchen and dining area flow seamlessly together with a gas stove, breakfast bar, and ample storage, while the spacious primary suite features dual sinks, a step-in shower, and backyard access. Outside, enjoy a private low-maintenance backyard with a covered patio and garden beds, all conveniently located near Ancil Hoffman Park, the American River, trails, shopping, dining, and great schools.

Bringing You Home Since 1988
 37+ Years of Experience...1,380+ Happy Homeowners (And Counting)

CRAIG DIEZ
 REAL ESTATE AGENT
 916.425.5884
craig@diezandsiggproperties.com
CraigDiezProperties.com
 CalDRE #01019930

Make our communities shine

Make our communities bright with our Shine awards. Nonprofits can apply for a chance to receive funding for projects that support and revitalize local communities in the Sacramento region.

We're seeking proposals that promote zero carbon workforce development, affordability and community resiliency, economic development and STEM education.

As your community-owned, not-for-profit electric service, we're always looking for ways to make our communities shine!

Learn more at smud.org/Shine

- Shine awards range from \$5,000 to \$100,000.
- Applicants must be incorporated nonprofit organizations within our service area.
- Awards are competitive and funds are limited.
- Attend a technical assistance webinar for more details.
- Apply online by **July 31 at 5 p.m.**

Powering forward. Together.

© SMUD 0638-05/26 © A trademark/service mark of Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Reg. U.S. Pat. & Tm. Off.

Cardinal Oaks Park Glows Up

Story and photo by Mike Powers

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Cardinal Oaks Park, a hidden gem in western Carmichael is getting a much-needed polish. Bordered by El Camino Avenue to the south and Kenneth Avenue to the north, Cardinal Oaks Parks is a quiet local community green belt with aging amenities and limited accessibility. Thanks to funding from Measure G and the COVID-era American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) the park is currently undergoing improvements to its facilities and grounds.

On most days Cardinal Oaks Park sees a few dog-walkers, children playing soccer or residents enjoying the shade of tall redwoods and majestic oaks. An old swing on a metal chain squeals while squirrels scamper across green fields, and birds sing and flit amongst the trees.

On Wednesday, May 27, heavy equipment hummed hard at work in the background, while local community members gathered with representatives from Carmichael Recreation and Parks District (CRPD), local lawmakers and construction project managers for a groundbreaking ceremony at Cardinal Oaks Park.

CRPD District Administrator Stacey Yankee stressed the value of voter-approved funding. Voters within the CRPD passed



Representatives from Carmichael Recreation and Parks District, Xeel Engineering, CA Assemblyman Josh Hoover's office, and CA Senator Roger Niello's office break ground on improvements at Cardinal Oaks Park on May 27.

General Obligation Bond Measure G with 67% of the vote in 2022.

"Measure G has allowed us to do so much in this district, and we're thinking beyond simply maintaining our parks," said Yankee. "It's allowed us to reimagine what our parks are gonna look like for the future generations."

District 3 Supervisor Rich Desmond reminisced about playing with his young children at Cardinal Oaks Park when his

family lived just a couple blocks away, and emphasized the important role that parks play in the identity of a community.

"They are what creates the fabric of our community...what brings us together," he said.

Supervisor Desmond, along with his colleagues at the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, approved \$325,000 in discretionary ARPA funding to help make the park improvements a reality. The ARPA

funds are part of the \$1.9 trillion federal economic stimulus package that helped the nation out of the COVID epidemic.

Construction efforts at Cardinal Oaks Park are being managed by Xeela Engineering, LLC. While construction is ongoing, CRPD officials said the community should plan for complete closure of the park through the beginning of August. Project completion is scheduled for the end of October 2026.

In the meantime residents can look forward to the exciting new amenities at the park. A parking lot at the southern entrance, improved pathways throughout the park and a new water fountain will all offer increased accessibility and meet ADA compliance. New playground equipment will give children of all ages better options for exploration and adventure. Increased lighting along pathways in the park will improve safety.

In just a few months the whole community — the dog-walkers, the soccer players, the squirrels, the birds and all the rest — will have a brand new Cardinal Oaks Park to come home to.

For more information about the CRPD and other Measure G projects visit: <https://www.carmichaelpark.com/measure-g-projects>. ★

Batter Up for New Business

Continued from page 1

themselves a little more than when they walked in," said Argueta.

The partners want to extend opportunities, regardless of children's financial circumstances. To that end, they have established a Baseball Therapy Impact Foundation. This nonprofit will provide scholarships for programs that build skill, character and opportunity - on and off the field.

"We want this building to be a safe place, where kids grow not only as athletes but as people," explained Argueta. "We want lessons learned here to carry

into their classrooms, their friendships, families and lives."

During opening celebrations, County Supervisor Rich Desmond pledged a District donation of \$500 for the foundation. "I am so moved by what Alejandro Argueta told us," said Desmond. "Sacramento is a baseball community. Your vision here is what everyone wants. Kids need this belief in their potential to grow into responsible citizens."

Baseball Therapy is located at 6432 Fair Oaks Boulevard. Birthdays and social events are also hosted at the facility. ★

Supervisor Rich Desmond (right) celebrates opening day for Baseball Therapy with company partners Alejandro Argueta and Marc Morales (second and third from right). Honorary Carmichael Mayor Mike Rockenstein (left) represents the Chamber of Commerce.



Service Above Self

DOVIA Awards Celebrate Local Volunteers

Story and photos by Ormella Rossi

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Who are the volunteers quietly shaping programs for seniors, students, disaster survivors and families across the Sacramento region? That question was answered May 20 as Directors of Volunteers in Agencies (DOVIA) honored 22 nominees during its annual awards reception at Meristem in Fair Oaks.

The event, held at 9200 Fair Oaks Blvd., brought together volunteer leaders and supporters from across Sacramento, Yolo, Sutter, Yuba, El Dorado and Placer counties to recognize service in three categories. The awards included Youth Volunteer of the Year, recognizing volunteers under age 21 with at least 25 hours of service with the winner receiving a \$500 scholarship; Individual Volunteer of the Year, honoring volunteers over 21 with at least 25 hours of service; and Volunteer Manager of the Year, recognizing a paid or unpaid leader for exceptional volunteer program management, with the winner receiving a one-year complimentary DOVIA Sacramento membership.

DOVIA Sacramento, active since the late 1970s, serves as a regional hub for volunteer managers, offering training, peer networking and professional development while promoting volunteerism across nonprofit and public agencies.

"For 48 years, DOVIA Sacramento has celebrated the extraordinary people who uplift our community while also training the volunteer program managers who support Sacramento's many service driven organizations," said Leslie Fritz of the DOVIA board. "One of the tenants of good volunteer management is to remember to thank



Individual Volunteer of the Year nominees included Geri Beck; Fred Bustillos; Brittini Cearley and Kerry Connelly; Tyler Heberle; Sarah Goold, Tawney Lambert, Kim LeClaire and Denise Watts; Kelvin Lee; Betty Marchbanks; Tim McCrink; Robin Payne; Roxie and Ernie Rice; and Sandy Valdez.



Youth Volunteer of the Year nominees included Elizabeth Caton, Kendayl Taber and Lily Lower; Kelsie Johnson; Melvin Lam; Dahlia Monso; Angelica Maltese; and Isabella Sandoval, Madison Dailey, Alyla Parks and Kaitlyn Babitz.

and recognize volunteers. Today we will be doing that."

This year's program was emceed by Fritz. She noted support from Sacramento Venture Philanthropy as program sponsor, with additional contributions from Big Day of Giving donors.

Top honors went to volunteers whose service ranged from youth-led community building to decades of nonprofit support.

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, including Phil Serna, Patrick Kennedy, Rich Desmond, Rosario Rodriguez and Pat Hume, presented certificates recognizing nominees.

The Youth Volunteer of the

Year award was presented to Angelica Maltese nominated by Blossom Vale Senior Living Center. Maltese, an elementary school student, created an "Adopt a Grandparent" program and has visited her adopted resident weekly since 2024. She also compiled resident recipes into a Blossom Vale cookbook shared with families, which organizers described as a lasting tribute to residents.

Roxie and Ernie Rice of the Firefighters Burn Institute were named Individual Volunteers of the Year. The married couple has volunteered for a combined 37 years, supporting burn survivors

and families, organizing outreach events and helping expand the nonprofit's reach despite its small staff.

Goya Gutierrez nominated by NorCal Resist was recognized as Volunteer Manager of the Year. Gutierrez was honored for developing programs supporting immigrant communities, including an after-school tutoring program for refugee children and volunteer-led assistance for families navigating local services.

All nominees were recognized during the ceremony.

Youth Volunteer of the Year nominees included Elizabeth Caton, Kendayl Taber and Lily Lower nominated by San Juan

Unified School District; Kelsie Johnson nominated by Blossom Vale Senior Living; Melvin Lam nominated by Interim Healthcare Hospice; Dahlia Monson nominated by WEAVE, Inc.; Angelica Maltese nominated by Blossom Vale Senior Living Center; and Isabella Sandoval, Madison Dailey, Alyla Parks and Kaitlyn Babitz nominated by Sacramento County Animal Shelter-Bradshaw.

Individual Volunteer of the Year nominees included Geri Beck nominated by Meristem, Rotary and HART; Fred Bustillos nominated by West Sacramento Community Emergency Response Team; Brittini Cearley and Kerry Connelly nominated by Project R.I.D.E., Inc.; Tyler Heberle nominated by Sacramento LGBT Community Center; Sarah Goold, Tawney Lambert, Kim LeClaire and Denise Watts nominated by Food Literacy Center; Kelvin Lee nominated by SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity; Betty Marchbanks nominated by Keaton's Child Cancer Alliance; Tim McCrink nominated by Sacramento Valley Conservancy; Robin Payne nominated by Agency on Aging Area 4; Roxie and Ernie Rice nominated by Firefighters Burn Institute; and Sandy Valdez nominated by AARP Foundation Experience Corps-Sacramento.

Volunteer Manager of the Year nominee was Goya Gutierrez nominated by NorCal Resist.

Organizers said judges evaluated nominees independently, noting close competition across categories as they reviewed service completed between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2025. Judges included Brad Squires of Sacramento Venture Philanthropy; Mark Cullum, district director for California state Assemblymember Josh Hoover; and Molly Patterson of the Elk Grove Police Department. ★

Sacramento Region Celebrates Signing of Water Forum 2050 Agreement

Landmark regional agreement advances water reliability and protection of the Lower American River in a changing climate

Sacramento Water Forum News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Leaders from across the Sacramento region gathered May 11 at the Sofia Tsakopoulos Center for the Arts to celebrate the signing of the Water Forum 2050 Agreement, marking a major milestone in the region's long-standing collaborative approach to water management.

The updated agreement builds on the original 2000 Water Forum Agreement and continues the region's commitment to two coequal objectives: providing a reliable water supply for the region's economy and communities while protecting the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the Lower American River.

Representatives from water suppliers, environmental organizations, business groups and public agencies participated in the event, which featured keynote remarks from California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot and recognition of the individuals who helped shape both the original agreement and the Water Forum 2050 process.

"Water Forum 2050 demonstrates what is possible when diverse interests stay at the table and work toward shared solutions," said Water Forum Executive Director Ashlee Casey. "At a time when climate change is placing increasing pressure on California's water systems and rivers, this agreement reflects a continued regional commitment to

collaboration, adaptation and stewardship of the Lower American River."

The Water Forum process began in the 1990s in response to growing concerns about the health of the Lower American River, water supply reliability and groundwater declines. Since the original agreement was signed in 2000, the region has invested in major water supply and habitat enhancement projects while avoiding the conflicts and litigation that often accompany water management issues in California.

The Water Forum 2050 Agreement updates and extends that collaborative framework in response to new challenges driven by climate change, including hotter temperatures, shrinking snowpack, more intense droughts and floods and increasing pressure on river ecosystems.

"California faces growing water challenges driven by climate change, and the Sacramento region continues to demonstrate the value of collaboration and long-term planning with a multi-benefit approach," Crowfoot said. "The Water Forum 2050 Agreement reflects the kind of regional leadership and partnership that will be essential to protecting water supplies, supporting healthy rivers and preparing communities for the future."

A key component of the updated agreement is the American River Climate Adaptation Program (ARCAP), a regional strategy intended to improve water management flexibility and protect cold water in the Lower American



The updated agreement builds on the original 2000 Water Forum Agreement and continues the region's commitment to two coequal objectives: providing a reliable water supply for the region's economy and communities while protecting the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the Lower American River. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Water Forum

River during critically dry periods. ARCAP will strive to connect conservation, groundwater recharge, reservoir operations and regional infrastructure projects into a coordinated system supporting both water supply reliability and environmental stewardship.

"The Water Forum has helped create a foundation of trust and transparency that allows this region to respond to challenges together," Casey said. "Now the focus turns to implementation — continuing the work needed to strengthen water supply reliability, protect the Lower American River, and prepare the region for a changing climate."

"Water is at the heart of what makes Sacramento County a great place to live, work, and raise a family — and that

means protecting both the tap and the river," said Sacramento County Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez. "The Water Forum 2050 Agreement ensures we don't have to choose between a reliable water supply and a healthy American River. After more than two decades of proving that balance is possible, we are proud to renew that commitment."

"Thirty years ago, this region chose collaboration over conflict and long-term planning over short-term thinking," said Mayor of Sacramento Kevin McCarty. "The Water Forum 2050 Agreement carries that tradition forward, helping Sacramento prepare for more extreme conditions while continuing to support economic growth, reliable water supplies and a healthy Lower American River."

"As a proud member of the Water Forum Business Caucus, the Sacramento Metro Chamber recognizes the critical role long-term water reliability plays in the economic vitality and sustainability of the Capital Region," said Robert Heidt, president & CEO, Sacramento Metro Chamber. "The Water Forum 2050 Agreement reflects years of thoughtful collaboration between business, environmental, civic, and public sector leaders to advance solutions that support both a healthy environment and a thriving regional economy. This agreement is an important step forward in ensuring our region is prepared for future growth, climate challenges, and the evolving needs of our communities."

"The Lower American River is an ecological

treasure that supports wildlife, recreation, and our region's identity. The Water Forum 2050 Agreement, with the innovative ARCAP, provides the framework we need to protect this vital resource and provide for the region's needed water supply as climate pressures grow," said Ted Rauh, water committee lead, Environmental Council of Sacramento.

"Water Forum 2050 shows what's possible when public agencies collaborate with a broad range of partners to achieve common goals. This agreement strengthens the region's ability to prepare for climate extremes — from floods to droughts — while safeguarding the health of the Lower American River," said Gary Bardini, director of planning, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA).

"Water Forum 2050 is critical for water supply reliability as we move into an uncertain future. It provides the long-range foundation that is needed to adapt to changing conditions and manage our surface and groundwater resources in a sustainable way," said Mike Grinstead, acting chief of water supply, Sacramento County Water Agency.

About the Water Forum

The Water Forum includes a diverse group of water providers, environmentalists, business groups, and local governments working to balance water supply needs with protection of the Lower American River. Learn more at waterforum.org. ★

6.75% Initial APR

5 Year FIXED RATE

CHECK THE EL DORADO ADVANTAGE:

- ✓ FIXED RATE for 5 Years
- ✓ Local Processing & Servicing
- ✓ No Closing Cost on Qualifying Transactions; Except for Appraisal/Evaluation Costs
- ✓ Have Funds Available for Current and Future Needs
- ✓ Home Improvement, Debt Consolidation, College Tuition
- ✓ Interest May be Tax Deductible (Please consult your tax advisor)

www.eldoradosavingsbank.com

CARMICHAEL • 4701 Manzanita Ave. • 916-481-0664

800-874-9779 Se Habla Español

The initial Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is currently 6.75% for a new Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC), and is fixed for the first 5 years of the loan which is called the draw period. After the initial 5 year period, the APR can change once based on the value of an Index and Margin. The Index is the weekly average yield on U.S. Treasury Securities adjusted to a constant maturity of 10 years and the margin is 3.50%. The current APR for repayment period is 8.125%. The maximum APR that can apply any time during your HELOC is 15%. A qualifying transaction consists of the following conditions: (1) the initial APR assumes a maximum HELOC of \$200,000, and a total maximum Loan-to-Value (LTV) of 70% including the new HELOC and any existing 1st Deed of Trust loan on your residence; (2) your residence securing the HELOC must be a single-family home that you occupy as your primary residence; (3) if the 1st Deed of Trust loan is with a lender other than El Dorado Savings Bank, that loan may not exceed \$300,000, have a total maximum Loan to Value (LTV) of 65% and may not be a revolving line of credit. Additional property restrictions and requirements apply. All loans are subject to a current appraisal or property evaluation, which typically range from \$100 to \$1,000. This cost will be disclosed in your commitment letter and paid at loan closing. Property insurance is required and flood insurance may be required. Rates, APR, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Other conditions apply. A \$525 early closure fee will be assessed if the line of credit is closed within three years from the date of opening. An annual fee of \$85 will be assessed on the first anniversary of the HELOC and annually thereafter during the draw period. Ask for a copy of our "Fixed Rate Home Equity Line of Credit Disclosure Notice" for additional important information. Other HELOC loans are available under different terms.

TIME FOR
SUMMER
HOUSE
CLEANING!

\$15, \$20, \$25 PER SPACE

Spaces On Sale NOW!

Elk Community Parking Lot Sale

Saturday, JUNE 6th

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Reserve Your Parking Lot Space Now at the Lodge Reception Office

(Food available for purchase at event: coffee, donuts, BBQ Lunch)

5631 Cypress Ave • Carmichael, CA 95608-6613

For more information call 916-489-2103 or email carmelks@mycci.net

66th Annual Carmichael Elks

2 LIVE BANDS!

4th of July Parade and Open House

"Celebrating American Providence"

Come and Celebrate the Carmichael Elks Parade and Open House

Parade Kick Off: 10:30 A.M.

Grand Marshal:
Rosie Buck - Local Community Leader

Parade Route: Fair Oaks Blvd. from Marconi to the Elks Lodge at 5631 Cypress Ave.

Celebrate the 4th after the parade with free swimming, children's games, a BBQ, live music and dancing at the Carmichael Elks Lodge, 5631 Cypress Ave., Carmichael. For questions, call Lodge Office at (916) 489-2103.

Parade Co-Sponsorships: Platinum \$250, Gold \$100, Silver \$50
Parade applications may be picked up at the Elks front office or email parade coordinator Jim Warrick at jdwarrick@lanset.com

Fair Oaks Blvd Closed to through traffic 10 A.M. to 12:00 Noon
Use Garfield-California for alternate North/South Traffic

Nonprofits Selected for Inaugural Capacity-Building Initiative

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County and the Sacramento Region Community Foundation are announcing the ten nonprofit organizations selected to participate in the inaugural cohort of the Sacramento Countywide Nonprofit Partnership Initiative (SCNPI), a 20-month capacity-building program designed to strengthen the sustainability of mid-sized nonprofits serving Sacramento County residents.

Selected organizations work across Sacramento County to address homelessness, housing instability and food insecurity — some of the region's most pressing challenges. Through SCNPI, each organization will receive practical training and workshops, one-on-one technical assistance, peer learning opportunities, mentorship from experienced nonprofit leaders, and flexible grant funding to support organizational improvements.

“Nonprofits are on the front lines of our region's most difficult challenges every day, and the strength of their internal systems is just as important as the services they provide. This initiative is about investing in organizations to build the leadership, infrastructure and sustainability they need to grow their impact over time. We're proud to partner with the County of Sacramento to support these ten organizations and the communities they serve,” said Kerry Wood, the Foundation's chief executive.

Chevon Kothari of the Sacramento County Health and Human Services Agency Deputy



The Rancho Cordova Food Locker is one of the ten nonprofit organizations selected to participate in the inaugural cohort of the Sacramento Countywide Nonprofit Partnership Initiative and reduce stigma around food assistance. Photo courtesy of the Rancho Cordova Food Locker

County Executive added, “Our nonprofit partners are essential to delivering critical SafetyNet services across the County. Through this initiative, we are investing in the capacity, tools and resources nonprofits need to sustain and strengthen their impact,” said Chevon Kothari, Sacramento County Health and Human Services Agency Deputy County Executive.

The ten organizations selected for the SCNPI cohort, their primary service area and major programs are as follows.

AcademySTAY (Sacramento): Transitional housing and wrap-around support for foster youth ages 18-24 pursuing college or

vocational training.

Alchemist CDC (Sacramento): Connected programs spanning food access, workforce development, entrepreneurship and community space, helping residents move from immediate crisis toward long-term stability.

Elk Grove Food Bank Services (Elk Grove): Comprehensive food access and homeless services through a client-choice warehouse, senior mobile distributions, home delivery and school-based programs.

Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation (Orangevale): Operator of the Orangevale-Fair Oaks Food Bank and HART (Homeless

Assistance Resource Team), serving residents across Orangevale, Fair Oaks, Citrus Heights and Folsom.

Rancho Cordova Food Locker (Rancho Cordova): A dignity-centered food access program currently transitioning to a community food hub model to expand services and reduce stigma around food assistance.

Rebuilding Together Sacramento (Sacramento): Homelessness prevention through critical home repairs, safety modifications and accessibility improvements for low-income homeowners, seniors, veterans and people with disabilities.

Refugee Enrichment and Development Association (REDA) Inc. (Sacramento): Culturally responsive housing, food, education and mental health services for refugee and immigrant communities across the greater Sacramento Valley.

Sacramento Cottage Housing, Inc. (Sacramento): Permanent supportive housing and wrap-around services for individuals and families, with deep, relationship-based coaching designed to break cycles of homelessness over the long term.

South County Services (Galt): Providing food distribution and homeless services for rural communities across South Sacramento County, including the isolated Delta region towns where few other services reach.

Three Sisters Gardens (Sacramento): Urban agriculture, food distribution and youth workforce development, paying young people to learn agriculture, food systems and green career pathways.

The initiative builds on the Sacramento Region Community Foundation's more than 40 years of investing in the nonprofits that serve the capital area — including through capacity-building programs like Big Day of Giving and smaller cohort-based efforts that have helped organizations strengthen their leadership and operations over time. It reflects Sacramento County's broader commitment to building a more resilient nonprofit ecosystem across the region.

For more information about the Sacramento Countywide Nonprofit Partnership Initiative, visit <https://www.sacregcf.org/>. ★

Keeping Street Food Safe



“People often think inspections are about closures, but our real focus is education, collaboration and helping vendors operate safely while protecting public health,” said Erica Uriarte, environmental health supervisor. Photo by Designed by Magnific

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County's Environmental Management

Department (EMD), in coordination with partner agencies, continues outreach and enforcement efforts aimed at improving food safety and helping sidewalk

food vendors operate legally and safely throughout the county.

County staff regularly conduct inspections in areas with known or reported

unpermitted food vending activity. These visits focus first on education and collaboration, providing vendors with information about permitting requirements, food safety standards and available business resources. Recent enforcement operations have included support from the Code Enforcement Division and the Department of Finance.

“People often think inspections are about closures, but our real focus is education, collaboration and helping vendors operate safely while protecting public health,” said Erica Uriarte, environmental health supervisor.

“Sacramento County Code Enforcement supports enforcement of food vendor regulations through proactive education and outreach,” said Mike Sanchez, chief of code enforcement. “Our mission is to protect the health and safety of residents in Unincorporated Sacramento County by collaborating with partner agencies to conduct routine inspections and promote compliance with applicable regulations.”

During recent inspections, county staff observed several examples of unsafe food handling and operating conditions that may pose a risk

to public health. Inspectors documented issues such as raw meat stored on the ground in trash bags; foods requiring refrigeration being held at unsafe temperatures; lack of handwashing facilities; and unsafe cooking or food storage equipment.

When food is not prepared, stored or served following approved safety standards, there is an increased risk of foodborne illness and contamination.

“Providing education and helping vendors understand how to legally operate is our primary goal,” said Erica Uriarte, environmental health supervisor. “We want vendors to succeed while protecting public health and ensuring food sold in our communities is handled safely.”

All Sacramento County permitted vendors are inspected for food safety compliance and are required to display color-coded placards showing their inspection status.

At mobile food vendors, consumers are encouraged to look for a valid Sacramento County mobile food sticker displayed on the operation.

At local restaurants, consumers are encouraged to look for a Green Placard

(Pass), Yellow Placard (Conditional Pass) and Red Placard (Closed).

Purchasing food from permitted vendors helps ensure the food has been inspected and handled under approved food safety standards.

Potential health and safety concerns associated with unpermitted food vending may include food from unapproved sources; food stored directly on the ground; no restroom access; lack of refrigeration to keep food cold; vermin and insects; no potable water; no handwashing facilities on-site; no food safety training for food handlers; poor personal hygiene; and unsafe cooking equipment.

Sacramento County's efforts are centered on reducing barriers to compliance and increasing awareness among vendors and consumers alike. The county also provides multilingual outreach and education resources to help vendors navigate the permitting process.

Residents can learn more about permitted food vendors and food safety resources by visiting the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department's Unpermitted Food Vendor webpage. ★

County Seeks Climate Emergency Task Force Members

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The County of Sacramento is seeking community members to serve on its Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force, a volunteer advisory body helping shape the County's response to climate change through collaboration, public engagement and policy recommendations.

Applications are available through the Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force website:

<https://green.sacounty.gov/us/en/climate-emergency-mobilization-task-force.html#gsc.tab=0>.

The Task Force meets every other month on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. Meetings are held in the Sacramento County Board Chambers, located at 700 H St. in Sacramento.

Members receive a stipend of \$70 per meeting.

The County is seeking applicants representing environmental justice communities, including North Highlands,

South Sacramento, Vineyard, West Arden Arcade and countywide representatives; subject matter experts in air quality, agriculture, the built environment, economics, energy and transit/transportation; and student and youth residents.

Task Force members are expected to attend one regular meeting every other month, with the possibility of one or two subcommittee meetings or events per month; dedicate approximately two to six hours per month to research, correspondence and outreach; complete

ethics training and file annual financial disclosures related to conflicts of interest; and represent diverse viewpoints and collaborate with stakeholders across the community.

Task Force members work alongside County staff to develop and support implementation of a climate emergency response plan focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing communities for the impacts of climate change.

“The Task Force's primary focus is gathering public input

and providing informed recommendations to the County on actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change,” said Josh Lathan, sustainability manager. “We invite anyone who has a commitment to collaboration, equity and partnerships in advancing public policy to apply.”

Residents interested in applying or requesting assistance or alternative application formats may contact Josh Lathan at lathanj@sacounty.gov or by calling 916-875-9493. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The Finals Are Here

If you've been watching what has turned out to be the coming out party for San Antonio's Victor Wembanyama, it would be easy to miss his impact in the final and deciding seventh game of the western division series. Wembanyama put up a solid 22 points, seven rebounds and two assists in what for him appeared to be a pedestrian performance. But stats alone won't tell this story which is one you don't want to miss.

When Oklahoma City ran the table last season with an overwhelming performance in the NBA playoffs and finals, they established themselves as by far the organization that had the best team. Many fans throughout the nation had to learn the names of the players as few were household names, but the chemistry on the court was something rarely seen.

At the center position the thunder reminded me of the 1975 Golden State Warriors when they came out of nowhere to win the championship with two no name centers that split time the entire series and were the consummate team players.

OKC took a chapter out of that book to produce seven-foot Chet Holgren and Isaiah Hartenstein who played as an ensemble that took the league by surprise and gave a lesson to one and all when it comes to true team basketball.

After enjoying one short year as NBA champions the Thunder have been dethroned, and of all things beaten at their own game.

Although the Spurs Victor Wembanyama will get the majority of the headlines and well deserved, it was the nearly perfect execution of team basketball that won the seventh game of this series. A total of seven players were in double digit scoring, and the Thunder were left wondering who beat us?

It was the team that beat you, and I have high hopes that the front office of the Sacramento Kings was watching.

Unable to capitalize on the stellar performance of MVP Shai-Gilgeous-Alexander who led the Thunder with 35 points, four rebounds and nine assists, OKC found out what they already knew. MVP or no, one player cannot do it by himself, and on their own court they had to watch as the San Antonio Spurs schooled the reigning

champions of how to play effective team basketball.

I admit to not seeing this coming. I was confident that the Thunder would unveil what got them there last year, but on this night, it was not to be. Inexplicably Chet Holgren played 33 minutes and added a paltry four points for the night and a total of four rebounds. His counterpart Isaiah Hartenstein played 21 minutes and had seven points and five rebounds for his efforts. While neither made a noticeable impact, Holgren may well have had the worst performance of his NBA career.

Everyone that plays this game has a worst ever performance, but few save it for the seventh game of a series that would have propelled them to the NBA finals.

Already pundits all beating the drum that Holgren is on the chopping block, and sadly for him, Chet Holgren may have played his last game for the OKC Thunder.

Time has a way of healing all wounds, and things may look better when a week or two passes, but great players answer the bell when it counts, and without question Holgren did not answer the bell.

Congratulations to San Antonio for their historic win, and even more on showing the world how to build a championship team, because that is quite likely what they are about to become.

The New York Knicks are saying wait a minute! How about us?

They would be right to say so, and I believe the finals may well surprise some people, but at this moment San Antonio looks like the odds-on favorite.

Pay attention Sacramento, because it was team basketball and not any one player that took out the thunder. Yes, Wembanyama is a force, but 22 points and seven rebounds is not an overwhelming stat, and it's what San Antonio did as a team that won the day.

Will we all be watching the finals as they get under way on Wednesday? I certainly will and it should be an entertaining series, but I'll be glued to my TV set on June 23 when the NBA trots out Adam Silver for this year's highly anticipated draft night.

All the best Kings fans! ★

Gavin Newsom's Rosy Painting of California's Economy Leaves Out Its Darker Undertones



By Dan Walters,
CALMatters.org

As Gavin Newsom makes his increasingly frequent appearances outside the state — seemingly preparing for a 2028 presidential campaign — one of his stock messages is that California's economy is soaring.

"We dominate in every category," Newsom bragged during a recent presentation to the Center for American Progress, a left-leaning think tank. "We are the center of the universe (and) America's coming attraction."

He cited the state's \$4-trillion-plus economic output that, were it a nation, would rank 4th or 5th largest in the world, and mentioned the ranks of Nobel Prize winners and vigorous venture capital investment in the state.

Moreover, he boasted, California has used that economic vigor to finance an array of social programs and services, such as universal health care, proving, he said, that such largesse can co-exist with capitalistic gains.

Subliminally, Newsom was pitching the notion that electing him as president could bring California-like prosperity and generosity to the nation as a whole. However, since Newsom is using the economy as a major talking point, it would be fair to provide key facts he fails to mention.

Yes, California has world-class economic output, but it

is due largely to a very narrow sector, Silicon Valley's high-tech industry, which has hugely benefited its entrepreneurs and capital investors.

However the industry is undergoing a shakeout due to the artificial intelligence phenomenon and it's shedding thousands of jobs, thus concentrating wealth even more.

Meanwhile the state's other world-famous sector, Southern California's movie and TV industry, is hurting badly as production migrates to other states and nations — so badly that the state is offering subsidies in an effort to slow the hemorrhage.

Ever since the COVID-19 pandemic, California's unemployment rate has routinely ranked among the nation's highest, with a million members of its labor force lacking jobs.

Beacon Economics, a major consulting firm that closely charts California's economic situation puts it this way: "On one hand, California's economy is in good health. While the official figures for the last quarter are still being tallied, the state's economic growth comfortably outpaced the national average of 2.5% in 2025, tracking toward an annual growth rate near 3%."

"At the same time, the job market is sagging. California now has the highest unemployment rate of all fifty states in the Union, stubbornly hovering at 5.5%, and its job market appears to be going in the wrong direction. The total number of jobs in California actually shrank by 0.6% since the beginning of this year, making it the 17th worst-performing state in the nation in terms of job creation."

One result of these contradictory data is one of the nation's highest levels of income disparity, as a recent report from the Public Policy Institute of California points out. Only eight other states have wider gaps.

"The gap between top and bottom incomes in California has increased substantially (by 57%) since 1980, when families at the top earned seven times more than those at the bottom," the PPIC report says, reflecting 72% income growth for those in the top tenth in income but 19% growth for those in the bottom tenth.

The Census Bureau's calculation of poverty that includes the state's staggering living costs puts California's rate at the highest, 17.7%, tied with Louisiana. A similar calculation by PPIC and the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality puts it at 16.9%, while another 17.9% of the population is "near-poor."

About 15 million Californians are poor enough to qualify for healthcare under the state's Medi-Cal program but, as Newsom failed to mention in his Center for American Progress presentation, his new budget reduces Medi-Cal eligibility for some Californians to shrink the state's chronic budget deficit, which he also didn't mention during his recitation of cherry-picked data.

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 being Released from Incarceration. What Are My Social Security Options?



By Russell Gloor,
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: In a previous column, you wrote about people who filed for Social Security late in life. I am currently incarcerated and will be filing for Social Security in the fall of 2029. I will be 74 years old in the first week of January 2029. Unless I read it wrong, could I be eligible to collect the previous 6 months? If this is so, how would that work? Would I get that all at once or incrementally? According to the chart we once got in the mail, I should be collecting the maximum amount. I've worked all of my life and never collected Social Security before. Also, my ex-wife remarried and has since passed away. Do I qualify for part of her Social Security? **Signed, "D" in Danbury**

Dear "D" in Danbury: I'm afraid you cannot receive Social Security benefits while you are incarcerated, even if you are eligible for them prior to your release. Thus, you cannot get retroactive Social Security benefits for any period you were still incarcerated. For clarity, although most who apply at a later age (e.g., in their 70s) do have the option to

claim retroactive benefits, you cannot get any SS benefits for any month you were still incarcerated. Further, you will not get credit for delaying your application for SS benefits while you are incarcerated (you won't earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) during your incarceration).

Assuming (from what you shared) that you expect to be released from incarceration in the fall of 2029, you can apply for your SS benefits to start upon your release. Be aware, however, that it usually takes several months for your application for SS benefits to be processed, and you can specify the month you wish your benefits start. Your benefit amount will be based upon your average monthly earnings for the 35 highest earning years over your lifetime. But you cannot get retroactive SS benefits for time prior to your release from incarceration. Since Social Security does not pay benefits for partial months, you can file for your SS benefits to start effective with the month following the month in which your incarceration ends. Be sure you have your official prison release documentation (parole or discharge papers) in hand when you apply for your Social Security benefits.

FYI, some correctional facilities have a "Prerelease Agreement" with Social Security, which may enable you to file for your SS benefits three to four months prior to your release from incarceration. Be sure to

check with your facility to see if they have such an agreement with Social Security and, if so, use it to apply for your benefits in advance of your release. This will facilitate your SS benefits starting more quickly upon your release.

You did not ask about healthcare coverage, but since you will be eligible for Social Security, you will also be eligible for Medicare upon your release. When you apply for your Social Security benefits, you can also apply for Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient medical services), the premium for which will be deducted from your Social Security payment. FYI, Medicare Part A (coverage for inpatient hospitalization services) is free and automatic because you are also eligible for Social Security.

Finally, regarding survivor benefits from your ex-wife, you can only get a surviving ex-spouse benefit if you were married for more than 10 years and your own SS retirement amount is less than your ex-wife was receiving at her death. In other words, you can only get one SS benefit — either your own or your deceased ex-wife's amount, whichever is higher.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). ★



The Democrats couldn't complete their term paper, but handed it in anyway because too many people were wondering what had become of it.

Under pressure, the DNC finally released its autopsy of the 2024 election, after rampant speculation about what it contained and why it hadn't yet been made public. Did it include references to Gaza or didn't it? Why or why not? What explosive revelations were being kept from us?

It turns out that the autopsy is a thoroughly unimpressive, unfinished document that, in the sheer incompetence in its drafting and handling, says more about the low state of the current Democratic Party than any of its analysis.

DNC Chairman Ken Martin maintains that he delayed so long because he didn't want to create a distraction by releasing a poorly done report, which sounds like a typical Washington excuse for hiding something. Except it wasn't. Once everyone saw the report, they realized Martin was right about the embarrassingly poor handling of his own outfit.

At the start, the autopsy contains a disclaimer that "the DNC was not provided with the underlying sourcing, interviews or supporting data for many of the assertions contained herein and therefore cannot independently verify the claims presented."

Then, throughout the document, there are hostile

An Autopsy as Malpractice

annotations casting doubt on its claims. And the report doesn't have a conclusion. The Democrats would have been better off going with ChatGPT.

That said, the report acknowledges that Democrats are out of touch and too dependent on the Republicans making poor candidate choices (something the GOP may be about to do again in its Texas Senate primary with the Trump-endorsed, scandal-plagued Attorney General Ken Paxton).

It notes how Trump's they/them ad hitting Kamala Harris on trans issues was devastating and unanswerable.

It recognizes that Harris didn't do enough to separate herself from Biden and make an affirmative case for herself, rather than relying on voters supposedly considering Trump unacceptable.

On the other hand, it fails to grapple with the issues of inflation and immigration (except to complain about Harris being given a role with some responsibility over the border). These were the two biggest substantive issues in the election, while the autopsy also whiffs on Biden's age and his catastrophically poor judgment in trying to run for reelection. (It also doesn't mention Gaza, bitterly disappointing the anti-Israel left.)

Yet, our expectations for such documents shouldn't be very high. What was the report going to say? That Democrats disgraced themselves by pretending that Biden was fit for a second term, and only shifted course when he got exposed in the first debate,

and then had no alternative but to turn to a charmless nonentity as a last-minute substitute?

The history of party retrospectives like this isn't good. Donald Trump won the presidency in 2016 by taking the recommendations of the GOP autopsy after its 2012 election defeat and often doing the opposite in substance and tone.

Democrats may be rudderless and increasingly extreme, but that doesn't mean they won't have a good election night this coming November. Usually, a party that has just lost the White House rises or falls in the midterms based on the incumbent president's job approval rating, rather than its own political creativity or inherent appeal.

As for retaking the White House, that typically depends on nominating someone who is charismatic and fresh, who has an unexpected approach to politics, and who develops a new coalition -- think Barack Obama in 2008, or Donald Trump in 2016.

TITLE: None of this comes about by having a political strategist talk to a bunch of people about the immediate past election and write a long report about it. Needless to say, Democrats should be grateful that the stakes of their autopsy are so low -- otherwise, they would have had to endeavor to actually finish it, and grapple with truths about the 2024 election conveniently passed over in the just-released document.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

POPEYE by KEN PHELPS

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

OCYBARRELS by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Candle is taller. 2. Arm is resting on table. 3. Back of chair is different. 4. Dial on stove is moved. 5. Light is shorter. 6. Hair is different.

TIGER by Bud Blake

GRIN & BEAR IT by Dave T. Phipps

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • GREETINGS

CLUES

ACROSS

- Shapeless masses
- RFK's brother
- German card game
- "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" author
- Ancient Chinese dynasty
- Top of a steeple
- Ice house
- Not outs
- Gustatory sensation
- "What's cooking, good _____?"
- "Greeting aimed at a king
- Like a fox
- Easy run
- "Harper Valley _____"
- Off-limits
- Daryl Hannah/Tom Hanks movie
- Snaky swimmers
- Coal unit
- Vigorous fight
- Done before dealing
- Walk leisurely
- Like certain food trend
- Raccoon's South American cousin
- Dano or Rudd, e.g.
- Deep-red variety of chalcedony
- Straying, as in baseball
- FBI agent, slangily
- It's the limit?
- Alex Honnold's "Free _____"
- Long Island iced
- "Military greeting
- _____ greetings, in December
- Last test
- Had a meal
- Ilya Rozanov or Shane Hollander, e.g.
- Take puppy from a pound
- Hemingway's "_____ Whom the Bell Tolls"
- Bodily swelling
- Hibernation stations
- Pampering spot
- Extend subscription

DOWN

- Leave without farewell, slangily
- Kids' construction set
- Capital of Norway
- Amazon offerings, originally
- Spoiled, in U.K.
- Nest material
- Even, poetically
- 70s dance joint
- Capone's shoe cover
- "Twice-done greeting move, in Italy
- Creative
- PGA peg
- Bacterial throat infections
- Spiral-horned antelope
- FedEx competitor
- Lower back pain, in the olden days
- "Salaam, in English
- Operatic voice
- Hitching post?
- "Bro first motion
- Smaller in amount
- Road-tripping guide
- Baby carrier?
- "Cowboy's greeting
- Bristle
- Little Jack Horner's treat
- Fill with happy spirit
- Injury's painful partner
- Toddler
- Closer
- Toronto Maple _____
- Comment to the audience
- Fries, e.g.
- At another time, to Romeo or Juliet
- Swimming lengths
- Doris Day's "Que _____"
- Kitchen appliance
- Given at birth
- Cabbage dish
- Temporary craze
- "_____ of the morning!"

B	L	O	B	S		T	E	D		S	K	A	T		
A	E	S	O	P		W	E	I		S	P	I	R	E	
I	G	L	O	O		I	N	S		T	A	S	T	E	
L	O	O	K	I	N	G		C		U	R	T	S	Y	
			S	L	Y		L	O	P	E					
P	T	A			T	A	B	U		S	P	L	A	S	H
E	E	L	S			L	U	M	P		S	E	T	T	O
A	N	T	E			A	M	B	L	E		S	L	O	W
C	O	A	T	I		P	A	U	L		S	A	R	D	
E	R	R	A	N	T		G	M	A	N		S	K	Y	
			S	O	L	O		T	E	A					
	S	A	L	U	T	E		S	E	A	S	O	N	S	
F	I	N	A	L		A	T	E		R	I	V	A	L	
A	D	O	P	T		F	O	R		E	D	E	M	A	
D	E	N	S			S	P	A		R	E	N	E	W	

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff!
Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!

MPG

916.773.1111

5	4	2	8	7	9	6	1	3
8	7	1	3	6	4	2	5	9
9	6	3	2	5	1	8	4	7
6	3	4	5	9	8	1	7	2
1	2	5	7	3	6	4	9	8
7	8	9	1	4	2	5	3	6
4	1	6	9	8	7	3	2	5
3	9	8	4	2	5	7	6	1
2	5	7	6	1	3	9	8	4

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

MPG

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • GREETINGS

CLUES

ACROSS

- Shapeless masses
- RFK's brother
- German card game
- "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" author
- Ancient Chinese dynasty
- Top of a steeple
- Ice house
- Not outs
- Gustatory sensation
- "What's cooking, good _____?"
- "Greeting aimed at a king
- Like a fox
- Easy run
- "Harper Valley _____"
- Off-limits
- Daryl Hannah/Tom Hanks movie
- Snaky swimmers
- Coal unit
- Vigorous fight
- Done before dealing
- Walk leisurely
- Like certain food trend
- Raccoon's South American cousin
- Dano or Rudd, e.g.
- Deep-red variety of chalcedony
- Straying, as in baseball
- FBI agent, slangily
- It's the limit?
- Alex Honnold's "Free _____"
- Long Island iced
- "Military greeting
- _____ greetings, in December
- Last test
- Had a meal
- Ilya Rozanov or Shane Hollander, e.g.
- Take puppy from a pound
- Hemingway's "_____ Whom the Bell Tolls"
- Bodily swelling
- Hibernation stations
- Pampering spot
- Extend subscription

DOWN

- Leave without farewell, slangily
- Kids' construction set
- Capital of Norway
- Amazon offerings, originally
- Spoiled, in U.K.
- Nest material
- Even, poetically
- 70s dance joint
- Capone's shoe cover
- "Twice-done greeting move, in Italy
- Creative
- PGA peg
- Bacterial throat infections
- Spiral-horned antelope
- FedEx competitor
- Lower back pain, in the olden days
- "Salaam, in English
- Operatic voice
- Hitching post?
- "Bro first motion
- Smaller in amount
- Road-tripping guide
- Baby carrier?
- "Cowboy's greeting
- Bristle
- Little Jack Horner's treat
- Fill with happy spirit
- Injury's painful partner
- Toddler
- Closer
- Toronto Maple _____
- Comment to the audience
- Fries, e.g.
- At another time, to Romeo or Juliet
- Swimming lengths
- Doris Day's "Que _____"
- Kitchen appliance
- Given at birth
- Cabbage dish
- Temporary craze
- "_____ of the morning!"

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19						20			21	22				
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41			42		43				
44				45		46				47				
48				49		50			51		52			
					53	54			55	56				
	57	58	59					60			61	62	63	
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IT-UP 1-855-576-5653

	4		8					1	
			1	3				5	9
	6				5				
6						8	1		2
1			7			6			8
7		9	1						6
					8				2
3	9					5	7		
	5					3			8

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

CALL A PROFESSIONAL

SLS
Superior Landscape Services
 Landscaping and Maintenance

- Sprinkler Repair/Install • Pruning
- Mowing/Trimming • Fertilizing

Insured
 Lic#794551

Please Call (916) 761-0999
Dave Cochran Owner
 dave_SLS@surewest.net

Jose's Landscape Maintenance

- ✓ General Lawn Service
- ✓ One Time Clean Ups
- ✓ Lawn Aerate
- ✓ Dethatch
- ✓ Sprinkler Repair

Call Jose at 916-991-6923

Gen. Bus Lic # 32014-01649 \ Spe Bus Lic # 12016-00134

AFFORDABLE TRENCHLESS & PIPE LINING

Install a Water/Electric line under your existing driveway!

SEWER PROBLEMS? WATCH OUR VIDEO.
 www.ydig.com

We're #1 in the #2 business

Off (916) 488-1215 Lic #754886

SMOOT LANDSCAPING

- Drought tolerant landscape
- Low voltage lighting
- Garden renovations
- Concrete and stone
- Consultations available

Celebrating 45 years

916.454.1300

www.SmootLandscaping.com • Contractor License #633224

TRACTOR SERVICE

- Mowing • Rototilling
- Discing • Scraper/Loader

Call
(916) 991-8431

GREENWAY TREE SERVICE

Specializing in Expert Tree Pruning, Tree Removal & Stump Grinding

Free Estimates
 Competitive Prices

Licensed and Insured

(916) 224-9750

ALL AMERICAN PRO CONSTRUCTION & RESTORATION

★ FAMILY-OWNED & OPERATED ★ VETERANS & SENIOR DISCOUNTS ★
 ★ GREAT CRAFTSMANSHIP & CUSTOMER SERVICE ★

SPECIALIZING IN KITCHEN & BATH REMODELS, WATER DAMAGE, PLUS MUCH MORE.

BIG OR SMALL, WE DO IT ALL.
GIVE US A CALL: 916-504-0188

HTTSP://AAPC.BUILD

CSLB# 1089369, Licensed, Bonded & Insured

Rewired To Read **Reading & Spelling Specialist**

rewiredtoread.com
916-664-6805

LeAna Spletstoesser AA, AS, M.A.
 26 Years Experience

FULL RANGE OF FLAT ROOFING SERVICES **RPA FLAT ROOF**

- New Construction • Leak Repairs
- Waterproofing • Top-Grade Materials
- Experienced • Reliable • Honest Pricing
- Excellent Customer Service

We take pride in completing every project on time and to the highest standards.

Call Today! (916) 267-5026

Lic. # 1153892

RestoreYourHome.com
 Quality, Service and Craftsmanship
 John W Rouse III

Kitchen • Bath • Home

kitchens, baths, home renovations, interior home remodeling, windows, doors, floors, cabinets, tile, countertops, electrical, plumbing, finish carpentry

916.342.6596 • johnflooring@aol.com

Shanei Oriental Rug Gallery

Oriental Rugs | Persian Rugs | Navajo | Tapestries

Sell . Buy . Hand Washing . Restoration . Appraisal

916.792.5408 11267 Coloma Road - Gold River

Pick-up & Delivery **www.SHANEI.com** Since 1989

MURIETA CARPET & Stone Care

- ✓ Deep Steam Carpet Cleaning
- ✓ Tile & Grout Restoration
- ✓ Natural Stone Cleaning & Sealing

Carpet • Tile • Grout • Natural Stone

RONNIE CRAVEA 916-502-1531

Proud Rancho Murieta Resident
 Licensed & Insured
 Lic # GNB32024-01516

Call for a FREE Estimate Today!

PARADISE PONDS

Our family-owned company specializes in building **water features and koi ponds**. Over 10 years of experience serving Northern California homeowners. We also provide **routine maintenance, cleanings, repairs, and remodels**. For more details, please visit our website at **www.ParadisePonds.net**

Contact us for more information!
 Call or Text: **(916) 399-3953** | Email: **info@paradiseponds.net**
 1875 Diesel Dr, Suite #8 Sacramento, CA, 95825

PROFESSIONAL PET WASTE REMOVAL SERVICE

Total clean SCOOP TEAM

HONEST SERVICE. FAIR PRICING. SPOTLESS RESULTS.

916-250-2506

WWW.TOTALCLEANSCOOPTeam.COM

FOLLOW US
 for Local News and much more!

Messenger Publishing Group

Facebook: @MPG8dotcom

Local Classifieds Advertise in your local community newspaper Call 916-773-1111

Hall Rentals

Event hall for rent. 2,800 sq. ft. Coffee bar. Plenty of parking. Saturday and Sunday. \$500. 5809 Gibbons Dr. (916) 470-7323. (TFN)

Job Opportunities

SK Hynix NAND Product Solutions Corp DBA Solidigm has an opening in Rancho Cordova, CA for FW Dev Eng. Dsign & dev compilers & assemblers, utility prgrms, & op systs. MS+3 OR BS+5 yrs exp reqd. Salary: \$173,618-\$237,400. Telecom may be permit. When not telecom, must rprt to wrksite. To apply email resume to HRresumes@solidigm.com & ref job #9462397 (6/5/26)

Help Wanted

Kp International MARKET

Many Positions are Available. Please no phone calls. Apply in person.
10971 Olson Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Job Opportunities

SK Hynix NAND Product Solutions Corp DBA Solidigm has an opening in Rancho Cordova, CA for AI SW Eng. Bld machine learning wrkflws & infra. MS+6 months exp reqd. Salary: \$124,592-\$136,700. Telecom is permit. To apply email resume to HRresumes@solidigm.com & ref job #9767914 (6/5/26)

Health/Wellness

XOSIALX - Get Social. Be EXCEPTIONAL XILERATE is redefining energy for everyone. It provides an authentic, jitter-free boost that appeals to both regular energy drink users, and those who may have avoided them due to artificial ingredients or harsh effects. FREE TO JOIN. www.canderson.xosialx.com (TFN)

Buy and Shop Local!

Landscaping

CREATE YOUR PARADISE

Winter Yard Cleanups, Complete Landscape Design/Installation, Sprinkler System Installs/Repairs, All Types Concrete Work, Fence Installation, Retaining Walls- All Types, Drainage Systems-all types, Landscape Lighting, Residential/ commercial

American Landscape Design & Installation, Est 1987
 American Construction & Property Maintenance Company

WE ACCEPT VISA & MASTER CARD
(916)612-0776
 Lic#690968

Landscaping

YARD SERVICE

ONE-TIME CLEANUP
 Mow, Weed, Prune & Haul
 NEED: Landscaping bark?
 Gutters cleaned?
 Light fence work?
CALL 916/205-9310
 or 916/627-9000/

Music Lessons

Guitar Lessons

Beginner to Advanced . \$20/ half-hour; \$30 full hour. 916-507-6658, freddiebbalbert@gmail.com (12/31/2026)

Roofing

BERNARDINO ROOFING

Reroofs, Repairs, Maintenance, Dryrot, Gutters, Family Operated. BBB MEMBER!

FREE ESTIMATES
 SENIOR DISCOUNTS
 Lic.#817945 43 Years Experience
916.920.0100
 www.bernardinoroofing.com

Buy & Shop Local!

Room Wanted

Elderly man looking for furnished room to rent. \$600 - \$800. Call Scott (916) 910-4796. (TFN)

Tree Service

BP TREE SERVICES LLC.

TREE & STUMP REMOVAL
 TREE TRIMMING/ SHAPING
 FREE ESTIMATE
 10% OFF WITH THIS AD
 Insured. Workman's comp. Arborist

916-722-6321
 BPTreeServices.com
 VISA / MASTER CARD
 California Contractors Lic #1036031

GOT LOCAL NEWS?
 Call (916) 773 1111

LEGAL ADS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY?

We Can Do That!

Call to place your legal advertising
916-773-1111

MPG

All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing Group

Advertising Works!

NOTICE TO READERS

California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

DISCLAIMER

Be wary of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send any money for fees or services. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

Protect and Heal your whole family with Affordable CHIROPRACTIC MEMBERSHIPS

All-inclusive monthly memberships from \$39-\$69 per visit. CALL or TEXT us today!

We now offer **MASSAGE THERAPY** by experienced practitioners
NEW PATIENT SPECIAL \$50 FIRST HOUR

- Improves mobility, maintains flexibility
- Family owned and operated
- 25+ years experience serving the community
- Affordable memberships - plan for your health
- All inclusive - services and therapies
- Relieves pain from head/back/neck/sciatica

AMERICAN RIVER CHIROPRACTIC
 2280 Vehicle Drive, Suite 110 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916-776-6362 • americanriverchiropractic.com
 CALL or TEXT today!

SUNSET NO AL CLUB

EVENT HALL FOR RENT.
 2,800 sq. ft.
 Coffee bar.
 Plenty of parking.
 Saturday and Sunday.
 \$500.

5809 Gibbons Dr. • (916) 470-7323

What's Wrong with the Legislature Can be Explained in these Two Bills

How Can Measures Passing 78-0, 34-2 in One House Never Get a Hearing in the Other Chamber?

National Federation of Independent Business News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The state's largest small business association is calling attention to two measures that did leap out of their house of origin only to meet a slow death in opposite-chamber committees that haven't so much as given them a first hearing.

"Someone or some very powerful group wants Assembly Bill 649 and Senate Bill 84 killed, and the way the Legislature does that openly, as opposed to burying them in suspense files, is to never give them a hearing," said John Kabateck, state director for the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) in California. "We won't speculate who wants them dead. Both would curb lawsuit abuse, so we'll leave it to everyone's imagination to guess who might benefit from seeing AB 649 and SB 84 thrown into the black holes of the legislative universe



Assembly Bill 649 and Senate Bill 84 aim at curbing lawsuit abuse against small businesses owners. Designed by Magnific

never to be seen again."

AB 649, creating a Small Business Right to Cure program, passed the Assembly on a remarkable 78-0 vote. Upon its arrival in

the Senate, it was assigned to that body's Judiciary Committee and has not been acted on since July 14 of last year.

Similarly, SB 84, allowing 120

days to correct a violation of certain state laws, sailed out of its house of origin on a big bipartisan 34-2 vote. Upon its arrival in the Assembly, it was assigned to

that body's Judiciary Committee and has not been acted on since June 18 of last year.

"The treatment of these two bills are two screaming examples of what's wrong with Sacramento," said Kabateck. "They are not a committee's bills; they are the peoples' bills. Shame on legislators more beholden to lobbyists than to small business owners back home."

Keep up with the latest California small business news at www.nfib.com. Follow us on X @NFIB_CA and on Facebook @NFIB.CA.

For over 80 years, NFIB has been advocating on behalf of America's small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. NFIB is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, and member-driven association. Since our founding in 1943, NFIB has been exclusively dedicated to small and independent businesses and remains so today. For more information, please visit nfib.com. ★

Let's Not Just Talk About Housing Affordability — Let's Act

By Tim Murphy, North State BIA

SACRAMENTO REGION (MPG) - For the past decade, Californians have been leaving the Golden State in droves to find more affordable places to live. We now have proof they're making the right decision.

A recent UC Berkeley/UCLA study found that Californians who move out

of state are dramatically more likely to become homeowners — about 48% more likely within seven years.

That should concern policymakers. California has many strengths — great weather, economic opportunity, innovation and natural beauty among them. But when middle-class families increasingly feel they must leave the state to achieve homeownership, it's a

sign something isn't working.

Housing affordability has become one of the defining economic issues facing California, and especially younger families trying to put down roots. The good news is that government officials appear to be paying more attention to the problem than they have in decades.

Most major candidates for governor, for example, have pledged in one form or

another to reform the state's housing approval process and make housing more affordable. That's encouraging, because the reality is that California's affordability crisis didn't happen by accident.

Over many years, layers of fees, regulations, lawsuits and anti-growth policies have combined to make housing in California among the most expensive in the nation.

Fortunately, there are practical steps state and local leaders could take that would help.

One obvious starting point is reducing the fees builders pay to construct new homes. According to a recent study commissioned by the North State Building Industry Association, government fees in the greater Sacramento region now average roughly \$109,000 per new single-family home.

Those costs don't simply disappear. They become part of the final price paid by homebuyers.

Speeding up the permitting process would also help. California's environmental laws were created with good intentions, but in practice they often allow a single lawsuit to delay housing projects for months or even years. Even when land is already zoned for housing, projects can face long and unpredictable approval timelines.

Those delays are expensive. Builders estimate that a six-month delay can add

\$10,000 to \$12,000 to the cost of a home. If an area is already zoned for housing, approvals should be straightforward and permits should move quickly.

Another important point is that California cannot solve its housing shortage solely through high-density development in existing neighborhoods. Urban infill housing absolutely should be part of the solution. But it cannot be the only solution.

Polling conducted for the building industry consistently shows that most Sacramento-area residents still prefer single-family homes with yards in suburban communities. Families want choices. A healthy housing market includes apartments, condos, townhomes, infill projects and suburban neighborhoods.

California needs more of all of them.

Condominiums and townhomes deserve particular attention because they have historically provided one of the best entry points into homeownership for younger buyers.

Unfortunately, excessive construction litigation has made many builders reluctant to construct entry-level condos in California. No other state has quite the same environment for these large class-action lawsuits.

That's the main reason relatively few for-sale condos are built today compared to

decades past.

The answer isn't to eliminate consumer protections. Builders absolutely should stand behind their work. But lawmakers should strengthen "right to repair" laws that allow builders to correct legitimate issues before lawsuits move forward. If repairs are properly made, litigation should largely end there.

Assembly Member Buffy Wicks recently introduced legislation intended to encourage more condo and townhome development. Efforts like that deserve serious consideration because these housing types can help first-time buyers begin building long-term financial security.

California's housing affordability crisis was largely created by policies that, while often well-intentioned, have made housing slower and more expensive to build. The encouraging part is that this problem is solvable.

The basic solution is not mysterious: California must build enough homes, condos and apartments to meet the needs of the people who want to live here. The longer the state delays meaningful reform, the harder homeownership will become for the next generation of Californians.

Everyone is talking about housing affordability. Let's not just talk — let's act on long-overdue reforms. ★

Does your business Need a Ribbon Cutting? We can help!

CARMICHAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CarmichaelChamber.com

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Come and Experience God's Amazing Grace

Come grow with us at Grace Baptist Church where the Old Time Gospel Message is still preached and God-Honoring music is still sung. Grace Baptist still stands on the Principles, Doctrines and Separation, found and taught in The Bible.

SERVICE SCHEDULES

Sunday Schools (All Ages)..... 9:45 am

Sunday Worship..... 11:00 am

Sunday Evening..... 6:00 pm

Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 pm

6724 Palm Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628
(Located one block South of Madison; just East of Dewey)

PASTOR CHARLES CARTER

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION (916) 967-3915 WWW.GBCFAIROAKS.NET

Carmichael Times

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

It is the intent of the *Carmichael Times* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The *Carmichael Times* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the *Carmichael Times* are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the Times is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to *Carmichael Times*, 2508 Garfield Ave., Suite A, Carmichael, CA 95608. Subscription rate is \$52 per year within Carmichael, \$72 within Sacramento County.

The *Carmichael Times* is published weekly. Call (916) 773-1111 for more information.

Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

Carmichael Times is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@mpg8.com.

Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.

Baseball's Postseason Run Ends in WAC Title Game

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

MESA, AZ (MPG) - Senior Ryan Ellis capped off an unbelievable week at the plate by finishing 4-for-4 with two more extra-base hits while Luis Pimentel-Guerrero added a home run and three RBI as part of his three-hit day, but Sacramento State's offense could not keep up with top-seeded Tarleton State, falling 21-11 in the highest scoring Western Athletic Conference Tournament game in league history on the afternoon of May 23 at Hohokam Stadium.

The Hornets, who were making their first WAC Tournament championship game appearance since winning the crown in 2019, finished their season at 29-32 overall, finishing 3-2 in tournament play.

With the win, the Texans improved to 37-19 overall and clinched the conference's automatic NCAA Tournament berth, winning both the league's regular season and postseason trophies.

Ellis and Pimentel-Guerrero were two of Sacramento State's all-tournament team honorees, joined on the list by reliever Sean Cary and infielder Jace Jeremiah. The quartet were the first Hornets named to the league's all-tournament team since Jack Bollengier earned a spot in 2021, while the four honorees were the most since 2019 when Dawsen Bacho was named MVP along with all-tournament picks Travis Martizia, Matt Smith, and Ryan Walstad.

Ellis finished a home run short of the cycle on Saturday, ending the day 4-for-4 at the plate with a pair of singles, a double, and a triple



The Hornets, making their first WAC Tournament championship game appearance since winning the crown in 2019, finished their season at 29-32 overall, finishing 3-2 in tournament play. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

while also drawing a walk and scoring three times. The senior capped off one of the most explosive tournament performances in school history, tying the school WAC Tournament record with 12 hits — 10 of those going for extra bases — set by Ian Dawkins in 2018.

For the week, Ellis hit .632 (12-for-19) with nine runs scored, eight doubles, a triple, and a home run, driving in eight runs and slugging 1.316 for the weekend. The nine runs scored also set a school tournament record, surpassing both Dawkins and Keith Torres, who had eight in 2018 and 2019, respectively, while his .632 average topped

Buddy Morales' mark of .600 (6-for-10) in 2006.

His eight doubles broke James Outman's mark of five in 2018, his four hits on Saturday are tied for the most in a single WAC Tournament game in school history, while his eight RBI are tied for the second-most in a tournament.

Jakob Poturnak, who finished with two hits and a pair of RBI, and Pimentel-Guerrero, who added three hits and three RBI, also slugged home runs in the game, while Jeremiah drove in four thanks to an RBI single in the third and three sacrifice flies. Jeremiah's four RBI matched the school single-game

WAC Tournament record, becoming the ninth Hornet to do so.

After spotting Tarleton State a run in the first, the Hornets answered with three in the home half on Ellis' RBI triple, Jeremiah's first sac fly of the day, and Pimentel-Guerrero's blast over the right-field wall for a 3-1 lead.

The Texans punched right back with four in the second and a single run in the third, but Sacramento State responded with three in the home half to tie the game. Jeremiah's RBI single got the scoring started as Poturnak followed with another run-scoring hit and the Hornets evened things up on a

bases-loaded wild pitch to make it 6-6.

That lit the powder keg for the rest of the day. Tarleton State took the lead for good with a five run fourth, added three in the sixth and scored seven times in the final two innings. Meanwhile, Sacramento State kept clawing, scoring twice in the fourth on a Jeremiah sac fly and a Pimentel-Guerrero single, and another run-scoring hit by Pimentel-Guerrero in the sixth.

Jeremiah added a sac fly in the eighth and Poturnak led-off the ninth with his 11th home run of the year, but the game was too far out of reach. ★

Suite Selection for Republic FC's New Downtown Stadium Begins

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As construction crews advance important infrastructure work, Republic FC is launching a new, elevated matchday experience, marking a new era of premium offerings in Sacramento sports and entertainment hospitality.

Republic FC's new downtown home will feature two new suite types — 12 Field Suites and 15 Executive Suites — adding to the world-class venue set to open in 2028. Current Members, along with Suite depositors will have the first opportunity to select a suite, but fans can also sign-up to learn more about the club's new premium seating options. Visit RepublicStadium.com to place a deposit and set an appointment to learn more about the suite products that are now available.

"Sacramento's world-class venue is coming to life, and these suites represent our vision for what premium truly means in this market. We've designed a hospitality and benefits package that we believe will stand among the best in American soccer — but more importantly, it will feel distinctly Sacramento," said Republic FC President & General Manager Tim Holt. "Whether you're a business looking to entertain clients, a family wanting to create lasting memories, or a group looking for the ultimate matchday outing, we've built something special for each experience."

Designed by celebrated premium experience designer Edith Ponciano of EP Atelier, whose portfolio includes BMO Stadium, Chase Center Arena, Q2 Stadium and Snapdragon Stadium, the suites draw deep inspiration from Sacramento's distinctive architectural character and the warmth of its finest neighborhoods. The interior design of the suites, clubs and additional social spaces will complement the overall venue architecture and fan first design elements crafted by MANICA



Suite holders will enjoy an unparalleled matchday experience, beginning with dedicated concierge hospitality service and access to premium parking upon arrival. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC

— leading sports architecture firm that recently opened Inter Miami CF's venue, NU Stadium.

"Sacramento has a unique elegance expressed through the region's homes, restaurants and architecture," said Edith Ponciano of EP Atelier. "Our goal has been to create spaces that honor Sacramento's timeless character while offering an elevated sense of comfort, creating environments that feel warm, inviting and residential in nature rather than traditionally sports-inspired. These suites are designed to feel equally suited for game day and everyday moments beyond the stadium."

The suites are inspired by Sacramento itself. Each space is designed to feel warm, welcoming and familiar, drawing from the homes and neighborhoods that define our region. Classic entryways, outdoor patios, shared spaces to gather and celebrate and the best seats in the house with elegant touches to showcase the core spirit of Sacramento through elevated design.

The Field Suite at Republic



Republic FC's new downtown home will feature two new suite types — 12 Field Suites and 15 Executive Suites — adding to the world-class venue set to open in 2028. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC

FC's new stadium is a first-of-its-kind premium group experience in Sacramento — an indoor/outdoor, climate-controlled suite for private group gatherings and celebrations, positioned on the West touchline. Completely covered and fully all-inclusive, it places guests at the heart of the action for sports and entertainment

events. The twelve suites will offer all-inclusive food and beverage programming, seating for twelve guests and spacious 24-inch seating and coveted field-level access, ensuring an intimate and luxurious view of the action.

Perched above the action, the Executive Suites at Republic

FC's new stadium delivers a refined, home-inspired premium experience for guests, clients, friends and families. Sightlines connect guests to every event, while refined interiors — featuring welcoming sitting spaces, shared dining areas and seamless indoor/outdoor flow — evoke the elegance of Sacramento's finest homes. The fifteen elevated suites will feature all-inclusive food and beverage service, room for twelve guests with the option for four additional tickets and generous 24-inch-wide theater-style seats, creating a premium setting with exceptional sightlines and a more private, upscale experience.

Suite holders will enjoy an unparalleled matchday experience, beginning with dedicated concierge hospitality service and access to premium parking upon arrival. Inside, guests are treated to all-inclusive food and beverage programming and exclusive access to the premium club and social spaces in the West Tower. Beyond matchday, suite holders can take full advantage of their investment year-round. Suites are available for private use on non-match and non-event days, supported by concierge event service to seamlessly arrange access to the venue's various club and social spaces for corporate gatherings or private celebrations. Packages are also available for additional stadium events, including concerts and other year-round events.

For more information, visit RepublicStadium.com to learn more about the suites, place a deposit and book an appointment with a representative. Republic Stadium is set to open in 2028 as the largest professional sports and entertainment venue in the region. Later this year, the club will open a stadium experience center where Season Ticket Members and depositors will be among the first to check out the features and amenities of the stadium. ★

Sacramento Launches Campaign for MLB Expansion Team

California capital unveils The Sacramento Pitch, backed by a fully entitled 50-acre stadium site and nearly \$2 billion in public-private commitments

The Sacramento Pitch News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

The Greater Sacramento region formally launched The Sacramento Pitch on May 28, its campaign for a Major League Baseball expansion franchise, backed by a fully entitled stadium site, significant public-private investment and the largest underserved major league sports market in the country. The effort positions Sacramento as a leading West Coast expansion candidate with site control, development readiness and financial momentum already in place.

“When MLB moves forward on expansion, Sacramento will be impossible to ignore,” said Mark Friedman, founder and chairman of Fulcrum Property and Board Chair of the Greater Sacramento Economic Council. “We have the market, the site, the capital and the community. Sacramento is ready to compete—and Sacramento is ready to win.”

The campaign is anchored by a fully entitled 50-acre downtown site in West Sacramento that is designed to support a modern ballpark and mixed-use development. The site is controlled by the initiative’s leadership. The project has identified nearly \$2 billion in public-private funding, including \$800 million in land and private investment and \$1 billion in expected investment from the City of West Sacramento through a combination of tax increment financing, existing hotel taxes and additional sources. The City’s investment would be generated solely by activity in the ballpark district. It would not impact the City’s general fund or require a taxpayer vote.

Over 40 years, Sacramento’s proposed ballpark is projected to lead to \$1.77 billion in new tax revenue, of which, \$1 billion will be reinvested into the ballpark district and \$770 million directed towards supporting schools, the county and other



Over 40 years, Sacramento’s proposed ballpark is projected to lead to \$1.77 billion in new tax revenue, of which, \$1 billion will be reinvested into the ballpark district and \$770 million directed towards supporting schools, the county and other special districts. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento Pitch

special districts.

“This is a defining moment for West Sacramento, and we’re ready,” said West Sacramento Mayor Martha Guerrero. “Major League Baseball is already seeing firsthand the passion, energy and civic pride that exists here. This region offers a practical and achievable path for long-term MLB success, and we have the financial capacity, community support, and clear vision needed to bring Major League Baseball permanently to West Sacramento. We’re built for this. We’re ready. Bring it on.”

The Greater Sacramento region has a population of nearly 2.7 million and has grown roughly 10 percent over the past decade, faster than both California and the nation overall. 4.1 million people live within 50 miles. Greater Sacramento is the second fastest-growing employment market in the Western United States, adding more than 200,000 jobs since the pandemic lows. The region is the 20th largest TV market in the country, with about 1.5 million TV households. It is the largest U.S. market with only one permanent Big 5 professional team.



The campaign is anchored by a fully entitled 50-acre downtown site in West Sacramento that is designed to support a modern ballpark and mixed-use development. Photo courtesy of The Sacramento Pitch

Sacramento is home to the NBA’s Sacramento Kings, which has seen a 99 percent sell through of tickets since 2021. The Pacific Coast League’s Sacramento River Cats have also been based in the city since 2000 and have led the minor leagues in attendance ten times in that span. The region is also temporarily hosting the MLB’s Athletics franchise until a permanent stadium is ready for them in 2028.

Leaders in the region have

demonstrated operational readiness, competitive differentiation and proof of ability to execute on a project of this scale.

“Greater Sacramento has the fundamentals of a major league region with the upside of an underserved market,” said Barry Broome, president and chief executive officer of GSEC. “Sacramento is the largest media market in the country with only one major league sports team. The region’s economy is accelerating, fueling the

population growth needed to support a top-tier club and its fan and corporate base. We are a natural fit for an MLB expansion team.”

A new organization, The Sacramento Pitch, has been formed to spearhead efforts around Sacramento’s bid.

The steering committee for the organization includes: Chair, Mark Friedman, Founder and Chairman, Fulcrum Property Group; Honorary Co-Chair, Martha Guerrero, Mayor of West Sacramento; Honorary Co-Chair, Kevin McCarty, Mayor of Sacramento; Dusty Baker, Sacramento native and World Series Champion player and manager; Barry Broome, President & CEO of the Greater Sacramento Economic Council; Regina Cuellar, Chairwoman, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians; Derrek Lee, Sacramento native and former Major League Baseball player; West Sacramento Mayor Pro Tem, District 4 Verna Sulpizio Hull; Matina Kolokotronis, COO, Sacramento Kings; Kevin McClatchy, Chairman of McClatchy and former owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates; Mike Testa, President & CEO, Visit Sacramento; John Williams, Chairman, United Auburn Indian Community.

“I have always believed Sacramento is a major league city. Throughout my career, I’ve traveled across the country, and there’s something different about the people here. This community truly loves baseball, said World Series Champion player and manager Dusty Baker. “For more than a century, this region has built a proud baseball legacy and developed generations of Major League Baseball players. I could not be more excited for the prospect of bringing a permanent MLB team here.”

For more information about the bid and to stay updated on the latest developments, visit: thesacramentopitch.com. ★

Carmichael Dishes Great Taste



Carmichael’s Cantina Azteca is a longtime Taste of Carmichael supporter. Owner Ismael Pantoja (center) is joined by Yadira Zambrano (left), Brad and Heidi Sanborn, Tom and Karen Jones and Jesus Pantoja.



Skip’s Kitchen owner Skip Wahl (center) offers freshly-grilled signature sandwiches. Anticipating the mini-burgers are General Davie, Amy Slavensky, Jeremy Hester, Dale and Elaine Lorzo and Izzy DeLancey.



Family-owned Strings Café contributes menu favorites for event patrons. Pasta servers are Estefani Lopez (left) and Esmeralda and Mario Torres.



Raley’s supermarket staffers serve treats. The Carmichael store has supported the Kiwanis Taste of Carmichael fundraiser for 21 years.

Senior Health Fair

Resources for The Golden Years

INFORMATION & ENTERTAINMENT

FOR SENIORS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



Saturday, June 20, 2026
10 am to 3 pm

FREE Parking

FREE Admission

Wyndham Sacramento Hotel
Northeast 5321 Date Avenue
Off of Highway 80 at Madison,
Sacramento, CA 95841

- FREE EXHIBITS! • FREE ENTERTAINMENT!
- HEALTH SCREENINGS! • SAMPLES & PRIZES!

Rock-n-Roll Concert and Classic Car Displays!



- Senior Care
- Medicare Options
- Home & Garden
- Sports & Fitness
- Anti-aging Programs
- Mental Health
- Veterans Information
- Chiropractors and Massage
- Natural Healing
- Health & Other Insurance
- Investment and Retirement
- And Much More!

Great Entertainment & Live Music

Hear old time rock n' roll, cruising songs, surfer songs. It's the music you grew up with!

sponsored by



www.SeniorHealthFair.org To Exhibit: 916.910.9499 or info@recovery4all.org



MEASURE G PROJECTS IN PROGRESS!

Learn about exciting Measure G projects and get community updates by visiting our website



Scan the QR code to learn more!

carmichaelpark.com/measure-g-updates



AM 1380 THE ANSWER

NEWS. OPINION. INSIGHT.

Sacramento's Best Talk



AM1380TheAnswer.com

KP International MARKET
FOOD COURT NOW OPEN
10971 Olson Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916.853.8000
Market - 7 Days: 8am - 9pm
Food Court - 7 Days: 11am - 7:30pm
Korean/Mex/Viet: 7:30pm last call
Chinese/Japanese: 8:00pm last call

KP KARAOKE SPECIAL Sun-Thu Come before 6pm (Valid Time)
Fri-Sat Come before 5pm (Valid Time)

- For 6 people \$115.00** + Gratuity
3Hours Karaoke + Pizza + Pitcher Soda + 2 Main Dishes (Small Boats)
- For 12 people \$210.00** + Gratuity
3Hours Karaoke + 2Pizza + Pitcher Soda + 4 Main Dishes (Medium Boats)
- For 14 people \$230.00** + Gratuity
3Hours Karaoke + 2Pizza + Pitcher Soda + 4 Main Dishes (Family Boats)
- For 18 people 295.00** + Gratuity
3Hours Karaoke + 3Pizza + Pitcher Soda + 6 Main Dishes (Large Boats)
- For 28 people \$395.00** + Gratuity
3Hours Karaoke + 3Pizza + Pitcher Soda + 6 Main Dishes (Party Boats)

Dishes To Choose From: Beef, Pork, Chicken, Fish, Vegetarian, etc.

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

- Tuna Block Saku (for sashimi) 298 g
REG. \$16.99/EA **\$8.99/ea**
- Baked Wheat Cake 250 g
REG. \$6.79/EA **\$3.59/ea**

WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

- Beef Cross Rib/Shoulder Roast Boneless **\$5.79/lb**
- Beef Ribeye Roast Boneless **\$9.29/lb**
- Chicken Thighs Bnls/Sknl's **\$2.69/lb**
- Pork Neck Bones **\$1.99/lb**
- Pork Loin Chops Boneless **\$2.69/lb**
- Pork Baby Back Ribs **\$4.49/lb**

WEEKLY HALAL SPECIALS

- Chicken Thighs Bnls/Sknl's **\$2.79/lb**
- New Zealand Lamb Shoulder Meat Bone-In **\$5.99/lb**
- Beef Cross Rib/Shoulder Roast Boneless **\$5.99/lb**

FRESH PRODUCE

- Mini Sweet Pepper 1 lb **\$2.99/ea**
- Grey Squash **\$1.29/lb**
- Red Pear **\$1.29/lb**
- Popeye Spinach 10 oz **\$1.99/ea**
- Russet Potato 10 lb Bag **\$1.99/bag**
- Sleeved Garlic 5pc China **\$1.49/ea**
- Cauliflower **\$1.99/ea**
- Seafood Mushroom 150 g **79c/ea**

AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

- NIDO Nestle Nido Kinder Powder Milk 1.4 kg **\$26.99/ea**
- Latin Fusion Fruit Drinks with Pulp 16.9 oz **\$1.29/ea +CRV**
- Maseca Corn Flour Gluten Free 4 lb **\$5.99/ea**
- Capri Sun Fruit Drinks 10 pk 5.1 oz **\$3.99/ea**
- Angel Soft Mega 16 Soft Tissue 18 rolls **\$15.99/ea**

ASIAN GROCERY

- Chaoh Chaoek Coconut Milk 13.5 fl oz **\$1.99/ea**
- Argentina Corned Beef 12 oz **\$6.99/ea**
- Lucia Quail Eggs in Water 15 oz **\$3.79/ea**
- 555 SARDINES in Tomato Sauce 5.5 oz **4 for \$3.00**
- Caffino Coffee Latte Bold 11.4 oz **\$2.99/ea**

EUROPEAN GROCERY

- Goldch All Natural 100% Avocado Oil 750 ml **\$11.99/ea**
- Riga Lux Smoked Sprats in Oil 250 gr **\$3.99/ea**
- McVitie's Digestives Biscuit 355 gr **\$2.69/ea**
- Bettino Guava Nectar 1 liter **\$3.29/ea**
- Maitre Truffaut Marzipan Chocolate 100 gr **\$2.69/ea**

EUROPEAN DELI

- Columbus Seasoned Roast Beef **\$13.19/lb**
- Alex's Meat Mortadella Bologna **\$6.69/lb**
- Green Olives w/ Peruvian Chile **\$6.39/lb**
- Pepper Prosciutto Provolone **\$8.29/lb**

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

- Salted Mackerel Fillet 283 gr **\$7.99/ea**

HOUSEWARE

- KAZEN WOK PAN 30 CM **\$16.99/ea**
- ELECTRIC RICE COOKER 10 CUPS **\$54.99**
- ELECTRIC RICE COOKER 7.5 CUPS **\$59.99**
- ELECTRIC BBQ GRILL **\$39.99/ea**

Advertised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAINCHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE JUNE 03 - JUNE 09, 2026.