



**Strauss Festival
Presents ‘Vienna
Once More’**

PAGE 7

**Community Invited to
Celebrate California
Admission Day**

PAGE 2



Pocket News

VOL 35 • ISSUE 14 *Bringing You Community News For Over 30 Years* JULY 24, 2026

**SEE
INSIDE**

**WILL ‘EDUCATION
CZAR’ IMPROVE
ACADEMIC RESULTS?**



PAGE 5

**WOMEN’S
EMPOWERMENT
CELEBRATES 25 YEARS**



PAGE 3

**A STELLAR
SUMMER LEAGUE**



PAGE 5



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**

Wishing for a House with Three Unicorns



Founded in 1982 in memory of Dougy Turno, who died of a brain tumor at age 13, the Dougy Center has a tree of life in its entrance.

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

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Olivia Chan loved unicorns. She loved life and enjoyed interacting with other children. She would have loved visiting The Olivia Chan Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

founded by her parents, Reina and Mel, along with their family, to create a safe environment where children and families feel supported and understood while navigating grief. Olivia Chan Foundation’s T-shirts have Olivia’s memorable quote: “I wish I was a grownup, and I wish I was a unicorn.” If she was here now,

she would be “Wishing for a House with Three Unicorns.” Reina explained, “After discovering the Dougy Center, Mel and I flew to Portland, Oregon, to receive training. They’re an amazing organization and have been a tremendous source of support for us.”

Continued on page 4

Elks 6 Earns Almost \$5,000 from Car Show



Peter Steinart listens as Jane Gallagher, chair of the Classic Car Show, announces that Elks Lodge No. 6 raised nearly \$5,000 for the lodge’s veterans’ programs. Sacramento City Councilmember Rick Jennings, who brought his classic 1973 Mercury to the show, presented the awards. Carol Mitchell, Elks 6 president, was especially proud that an Elks 6 member won Best of Show.

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

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6’s second annual Classic Car Show, held on Saturday, July 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Elks 6 Lodge parking lot, raised nearly \$5,000 for the lodge’s veterans

activities, services, and events. After attracting 60 classic cars last year, organizers were delighted to welcome more than 100 entries this year. Featured categories included Modified, Classics, Lowriders and Classic Trucks. Awards included trophies, dash plaques, and Best of

Show honors. The event was free and open to the public. Visitors enjoyed classic rock music, while participants were treated to coffee and doughnuts. The Fry Boys Food Truck served gourmet burgers and loaded fries, and a beer garden offered draft and

Continued on page 3

Engaging with City Meetings Easier with New Hub



The Public Participation Hub was developed with accessibility as a priority. Photo courtesy of City of Sacramento

**City of Sacramento
News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Participating in Sacramento City Council and City Commission meetings is now easier with the launch of the city’s new Public Participation Hub, a centralized online resource that gives residents multiple ways to stay informed and participate in local government. The new hub brings together meeting agendas, livestreams, written public comments, speaker requests and accessibility resources into one easy-to-use platform. Whether residents want to attend a meeting in person, watch online or provide feedback from home, the hub offers a single destination to connect with city government. “The Public Participation Hub reflects our commitment to making local government more accessible, transparent and easier to navigate,” Assistant City Clerk Wendy Klock-Johnson said. “Whether someone is attending their first meeting or has participated for years, these new tools make it easier for every resident to engage in the decisions that shape our community.” The Public Participation Hub is available at publiccomment.cityofsacramento.gov.

More Ways to Participate
Residents can:
Watch City Council and City Commission meetings live or on demand.
Submit written comments on agenda items online.
Request to speak using a digital speaker slip.
Access language and accessibility resources.
Learn about participation options before attending a meeting.
Meeting agendas include links for submitting written comments beginning when an agenda is published.

Continued on page 3



SENIOR LIVING
OFFERING ASSISTED LIVING & INDEPENDENT SENIOR APARTMENTS
1180 Corporate Way, Sacramento, Ca 95831
(916) 395-0210 | accgt.org

Community Invited to Celebrate California Admission Day



Commemorate this special date for the Golden State with free cake and ice cream! Photo courtesy of the California State Capitol Volunteer Association

California State Capitol Volunteer Association News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Visitors to the California State Capitol in downtown Sacramento on California Admission Day, Wednesday, Sept. 9, are in for a special treat. The California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association invites the community to celebrate California's 176th birthday, which is known as Admission Day. California entered the Union on Sept. 9, 1850, and became the 31st state.

The community is invited to commemorate this special date for the Golden State with free cake and ice cream (while supplies last), served by volunteers dressed in historic attire.

Attendees will also enjoy entertaining

live music performed by the Capitol's ukelele group playing songs from the 1850s. The fun, free and family-friendly event runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and takes place on the west steps of the State Capitol Building.

The California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association (CSCMVA) is a volunteer cooperating association partnering with the California State Parks to promote educational and interpretive activities at the California State Capitol Museum. Information about volunteering is available at www.capitolmuseum.ca.gov/about/volunteer.

And, for more information about the California State Capitol Museum, call 916-324-0333 or visit capitolmuseum.ca.gov. ★

Wheelchairs, Medical Equipment for Veterans

By Abbey Wicks

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Veterans of All Wars in West Sacramento have a growing supply of medical equipment including wheelchairs, crutches and walkers available to veterans and their families across the greater Sacramento region.

The nonprofit specializes in getting medical equipment to veterans in need. The club is not affiliated with Veterans of Foreign Wars, according to Carl Zagar, treasurer. The group offers services to any veterans, not just those who served in combat.

Their stock of medical equipment is piling up in their West Sacramento storage facility, Zagar said. The club's current supply also includes a limited number of electric carts.

Interested individuals can contact Zegar at zegarcarl@gmail.com and indicate what type of equipment they are interested in. Equipment can be picked up from the group's West Sacramento location; deliveries are possible if necessary.

Donations of medical



Veterans of All Wars have a growing supply of medical equipment available for veterans in the greater Sacramento region. Photo courtesy of Carl Zagar

equipment are accepted year-round. Monetary donations to the Veterans of All Wars can be mailed to PO Box 53, West Sacramento, CA 95691. ★

LOCAL
ARREST
RECORDS

Find out what's happening in your local area

Arrest Logs updated daily

POCKET SAC NEWS.COM

California State Fair

July 11-27

TIMES LIKE THESE

CAL EXPO

New Hours:

Mon - Thur: 4pm - 10pm

Fri - Sun: 10am - 10pm

CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR

JULY 11-27, 2025

Experience Counts!

Nearly 45 years of representing our Greenhaven/Pocket friends and neighbors with Professionalism and Integrity!

Nick LaPlaca

916-764-7500

Nick@NickLaPlaca.com

Gina LaPlaca

916-548-1628

GinaSellsSac@gmail.com

CaIDRE #01259236

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices

Drysdale Properties

CRS

CRB

PRESIDENTIAL MEMBER

KW KELLER WILLIAMS

Women's Empowerment Celebrates 25 Years

Women's Empowerment News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Amidst the smell of barbecue and the squeals of children laughing, dozens of Sacramento women who have risen from homelessness gathered with their children and reunited with classmates at William Land Park on June 27 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Sacramento nonprofit Women's Empowerment.

The celebration included a barbecue lunch, face painting and yard games for children.

Since 2001, more than 2,000 women and their 4,000 children have graduated from the comprehensive program designed specifically to help women break the



Dozens of graduates from Sacramento nonprofit Women's Empowerment gathered at William Land Park in June to celebrate the nonprofit's 25th anniversary.
Photo courtesy of Women's Empowerment

generational cycle of homelessness for themselves and their children.

The initial nine-week empowerment program includes transportation assistance, onsite childcare, classes, and one-on-one work with a social worker, housing navigator, job developer and more.

Each woman who graduates from the initial program can return for services at any point, including paid job training and transitional housing. Women's Empowerment is funded through private donations from the community and grants. To learn more and make a donation: womens-empowerment.org. ★

Elks 6 Earns Almost \$5,000 from Car Show



Peter Steinart stands beside his 1956 Nash after receiving the Best of Show trophy.



Five-year-old Asa arrived in his own classic car but had to wait with his father, Aaron Dahlstedt, until it was safe to leave the Elks Lodge 6 Second Annual Classic Car Show.

Continued from page 1

bottled beer (no outside alcohol was permitted).

Profits from the beer garden benefited the Elks 6 Veterans Committee.

Carol Mitchell, Elks 6 president, and Jane Gallagher, chair of the Classic Car Show, both emphasized the Elks' commitment to veterans, noting that all proceeds from the event support Elks 6 veterans programs.

Revenue came from entry fees, raffle ticket sales and the beer garden.

Sacramento City Councilmember

Rick Jennings arrived in his classic 1973 Mercury and was invited to present the awards.

Rory McDonagh and his Chevy Camaro earned fifth place.

Donald Aron's Porsche 356 Speedster took fourth place.

Tony Anounci's bright red 1957 Chevy Bel Air, sporting the personalized license plate "NEAT 57," placed third.

Kyle Venotia's Chevy Camaro finished in second place.

Best of Show went to Peter Steinart and his beautifully restored 1956 Nash. ★

Engaging with City Meetings Easier with New Hub

Continued from page 1

Comments remain open through the close of the meeting and are connected directly to individual agenda items, making it easier for residents to provide feedback on issues that matter most.

For City Council meetings, residents who cannot attend in person may also participate by phone.

Phone participation is not available for City Commission meetings.

Watch Meetings from Anywhere

City Council and City Commission meetings are streamed live and archived on the city's official YouTube channel, giving residents the flexibility to watch meetings live or at a

later time.

Livestreams include AI-generated closed captions in English and Spanish. Recorded meetings also support YouTube's translation tools, allowing captions to be viewed in more than 100 languages. AI-generated captions and translations are provided to improve accessibility and

may contain errors. Official meeting records remain the authoritative source.

Help at City Hall

Residents attending City Council meetings in person will also notice LEX (Lobby Experience xPert), a new service designed to help visitors navigate the public participation process.

LEX staff are available in the City Hall lobby during council meetings to answer questions, assist with digital speaker slips, explain participation options and help residents access meeting resources.

Designed for Accessibility

The Public Participation Hub was developed with accessibility as a priority. Features include an ADA-accessible digital speaker slip, AI-generated

live captions and multi-lingual caption translation tools to help reduce barriers for community members participating in local government.

The new hub builds on the city's commitment to transparency and meaningful public engagement while expanding access beyond state requirements. Residents can explore the Public Participation Hub and choose the participation option that works best for them. ★

WHY PAY A HIGHER MORTGAGE
WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE TO?
COME HOME TO THE EXPERTS

GREEN HAVEN
CAPITAL INC
MORTGAGE LOANS

More Lenders = More Competition = Lower Rates and Fees / Multiple options to lower payments / Lower Payments = More Money in your Pocket!

916.476.6507 info@greenhavencap.com

Kevin Oto
President/Broker
DRE Lic# 01721444
NMLS ID: 62641

Kyle Garman
Mortgage Broker
DRE Lic# 01886785
NMLS ID: 354318

Bryan Tom
Mortgage Broker
DRE Lic# 01960546
NMLS ID: 1234757

Lavega Sims
Mortgage Broker
NMLS ID: 447751

Apply Online Here!

5890 S Land Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95822. Equal housing opportunity lender. We do not conduct business in states where we are not licensed. Interest rates are subject to change. https://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org/ CAL DRE #01842493, NMLS ID: 173062, CAL CFL #60D80-174459

Beautiful Remodel in Desirable Neighborhood!

2441 39th Avenue, Sacramento 95822

Bright, open floor plan with fireplace and comfortable, open living spaces.
3 Beds | 2 Baths
\$449,000 | 1,277 Sq. Ft.

Upgraded flooring, paint, kitchen, bathrooms, lighting, baseboards, ceiling fans, appliances, fixtures, faucets.

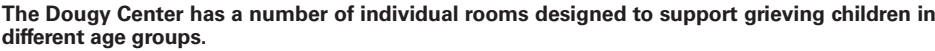
DUNNIGAN
Realtors

MONA GERGER
916-247-9555
CalDRE# 01270375
mona@monagerger.com

Backyard designed for year-round enjoyment with built-in pool, covered patio, space for gardening and entertaining.

Continued from page 1

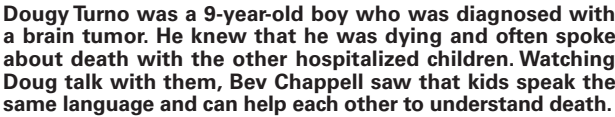
The Albany Carousel owes a tremendous debt



This spring, a new carousel figure, Kitty the Unicorn, joined the Albany Historic Carousel and Museum after more than 14 years of volunteer

Like all of the carousel's animals, Kitty was finished using a stipple-painting

After more than a decade



Riders who choose a magical trip on Marcy as she bounds around the middle row will see Marcella represented as a blue-winged fairy in a blue dress flying alongside Marcy's neck. She holds a red rose and ribbons

Olivia once said, "I wish I was an adult, and I wish I was a unicorn." If Olivia had another wish, it would be that every child entering the Olivia Chan House would be greeted by pictures of three unicorns: Lucky, Kitty and Marcy. ★

We Moved !

2122 28th Street, Sacramento




- Complete Funeral, Mortuary and Cremation Services
 - Green and Natural Options Available
 - Zero Percent Interest for up to 48 Months When Planning in Advance!
 - No Credit Checks



916.443.7917

www.klumppsfuneralhome.org



Jessycab Shoemaker
JShoemaker@klumppsfuneralhome.org
Manager of Funeral Services
Funeral Director FDR3709

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

A Stellar Summer League

By V.G. Harris

Well, Kings fans, the 2026 NBA summer league is officially over, and the No. 1 draft choice of the Golden State Warriors, Yaxel Lendeborg, shined as he led the Warriors to the 2026 championship over the Memphis Grizzlies.

Lendeborg was only the second player to ever play in an NCAA championship and an NBA summer league championship in the same year. The other player? None other than Davion Mitchell in 2021.

Still a sore spot with me, trading Davion away for basically nothing will go down as one of the dumbest moves the Sacramento Kings have ever made.

But on to the more positive parts of this year’s summer league.

The Sacramento Kings got what they were hoping for and so did the Kings faithful. Coming out of the gate strong in the friendly confines of Golden One Arena, Sacramento treated their fans to back-to-back victories and showcased their No. 1 draft choice Daius Acuff jr.

Darius did not disappoint, averaging 19 points and 4.6 assists throughout, and although his field goal percentage of 35% was less than desirable, Darius comported himself admirably, and considering the hype and his age, I give Darius a B++ for his summer league effort.

At only 19 years of age, Darius showed up and gave the Sacramento fans plenty to cheer for, and without a doubt Golden One will be filled to the brim with the start of the preseason to see what this young baller can bring to this young team.

Not to be overlooked are three players that stood out and surprised many fans. Drafted late in the first round, Emanuel Sharp showed Kings fans why GM Scott Perry traded down to snatch this young guard who shined in every aspect on both ends of the floor.

Sharp scored 15.7 points per contest, boasting 2.6 steals and three rebounds, while looking more like an NBA veteran than the rookie he is. Look for Sharp to make a significant contribution to the full squad in the upcoming season.

Likewise, newcomer Jonathan Mogbo made a splash as he seemed to be all over the court and gave the Kings a much-needed defensive

effort in the paint. At six-foot-nine and 225 pounds, Mogbo is a great complement to crowd favorite Dylan Cardwell, and suddenly an area of great concern appears to be getting noticeably better.

The Kings are looking balanced for the first time in memory, as their once weak backcourt is showing up and giving fans a real reason for optimism.

One player that every Kings fan should be watching with real excitement is rookie Marquel Sutton who at six-foot-nine and 225 pounds came out of nowhere to literally steal the show. Marquel showed an aptitude for not only rebounding and low post scoring but had no problems hoisting the threes with regularity.

Will Dylan take a big step forward this year and not only help Domantas Sabonis on the boards but add to the scoring column as well?

Dylan has had his troubles scoring down low and hasn’t much of a midrange game, but can he improve in this area and learn to shoot free throws? He needs to, and as much as he represents a crowd favorite, he has the ability to energize the team as well with his tenacious defense and crowd-pleasing enthusiasm.

Fans buy tickets to see players like Cardwell perform, but the name of the game is “getting better.”

The same is true for Keegan Murray who is about to embark on his fifth NBA season, and after a tepid season last year when he was rarely on the court due to injuries, Keegan needs to find his stroke and become the player the Kings have always believed he can be.

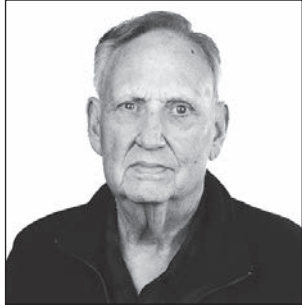
Everyone is rooting for Keegan, but 2026-27 becomes a critical time for Keegan to demonstrate why he was a first round draft pick, and another season like the last one will likely end his time in Sacramento.

Have heart Kings fans and get ready to do some significant hand clapping because there is reason to celebrate and we’re just getting started.

What will a healthy Sacramento Kings team look like and can some of the young veterans up their game. That’s why we buy tickets, and although the pundits are already predicting a less than stellar year for Sacramento, I remain the eternal optimist.

All the best! ★

Does Crowning California’s Governor the Education Czar Mean Academic Results Will Improve?



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

In late June, after only a few minutes of discussion, both houses of the Legislature completely overhauled how California manages the nation’s largest public school system and its nearly 6 million students.

The votes for Assembly Bill 181 — 21-4 in the Senate and 52-4 in the Assembly — reflected a bipartisan consensus, rare for major issues, that the system has been failing California’s children. The votes were based on an implicit, perhaps even desperate, hope that streamlining administration might raise the state’s mediocre levels of academic achievement.

The measure demotes the elected state superintendent of schools from the head of the state Department of Education to a member of the state school board and replaces the superintendent with an “education commissioner” appointed by the governor.

Assemblywoman Darshana Patel, a San Diego Democrat, research scientist and local school board member, cogently expressed that hope during the Assembly’s brief floor debate.

“We can’t keep doing the same thing and expect different outcomes for our students, our schools and our communities. They are the ones who are the real victims of this misalignment of our systems and structures,” she said,

adding, “The proposal before you today would promote a more coherent policy making. The change will allow policy makers and the public to hold the governor accountable for educational outcomes.”

The last sentence of her remarks is the key element. While the governor has always been an important member of California’s complex education leadership structure, the multitude of other participants has made it easy to pass the buck when academic test results and other measures expose academic shortcomings.

Suddenly undoing many decades of managerial status quo, as first proposed in Gov. Gavin Newsom’s state of the state address last January, is a remarkable feat unto itself. Doing so over the opposition of the California Teachers Association elevates it to a minor political miracle.

“The proposal would divert attention away from the real needs of students and schools by introducing a significant governance change that is both unnecessary and counterproductive,” the powerful union wrote in a statement before AB 181’s approval. “This proposal does nothing to improve student outcomes or strengthen public education.”

For decades, the teachers association and other education unions have easily gotten their favored candidates for state superintendent elected. And those chosen officials have faithfully echoed the unions’ position that the key to increasing outcomes is allocating more money.

School funding has increased sharply since the turn of the century, but test scores have not followed suit. Some categories, such as elementary school reading levels, remain embarrassingly low.

The first hint that change was on the table came late last year, when Policy Analysis for California Education, a consortium of education faculty at five major universities, issued a lengthy critique of the current system. The report said California’s complicated mélange of state and local authority “often results in overlapping responsibilities, fragmented authority, and challenges in ensuring streamlined decision-making.”

By design, the consortium’s recommendations closely resembled Newsom’s proposal and the final legislation.

The obvious question is if streamlining education governance and making the governor accountable, at least on paper, for academic outcomes will merely rearrange chairs on a sinking ship, or actually generate more achievement for the \$25,000-plus that the new state budget will be spending on each public school student.

California’s education establishment has been reluctant to change its mantra that more money is needed to boost results and equally reluctant to embrace improvements in instructional techniques, such as using phonics to upgrade elementary reading ability.

The onus will be on Newsom’s successor, most likely Xavier Becerra, to become the new schools sheriff in town.

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

Can my spouse file at 63 and then get half of mine when I later claim?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: My spouse is 63 and I am 65. I am planning to take my Social Security benefits at age 70. Can my lower earning spouse take his own benefits now, and then - when I take my full benefits at age 70, can he then file for 50% of mine instead of the lower benefit he is getting because he claimed at age 63?

Signed: Higher Earning Spouse

Dear Higher Earning Spouse: Yes, your lower-earning spouse can take his benefits based on his personal lifetime earnings record at any time (i.e., age 63) and, when you later claim your own SS at 70, your spouse will be evaluated to determine whether he is eligible for a “spousal boost” based on your Social Security record. But to be sure you are clear, if you claim at age 70, your spouse will not get 50% of your age 70 benefit amount.

Spousal benefits are always determined by comparing each partners’

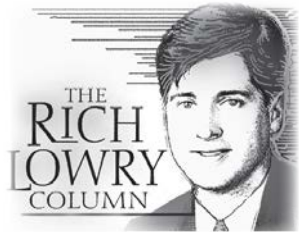
full retirement age (FRA) entitlement and, if your spouse’s FRA entitlement is less than half of your FRA entitlement, your spouse will get a “spousal boost” to bring his monthly SS retirement payment up to what he is entitled to as your spouse. The amount of the “spousal boost” would be the difference between his FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement, which would be added to his own (age 63) SS retirement amount. And that means that his total benefit amount would be less than half of your age 70 amount (less also than 50% of your FRA amount, because he claimed at age 63).

One caution for your spouse to be aware of: if he is still working and claims at age 63, he will be subject to Social Security’s Annual Earnings Test (AET), which limits how much he can earn before SS takes away some benefits. The earnings limit for 2026 is \$24,480 (changes annually) and if that is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 of benefits for every \$2 he is over the limit. FYI, Social Security will “take back” by withholding future benefit payments, so he will not get his benefits for some months if he exceeds the annual earnings limit. And if the

annual earnings limit is significantly exceeded, your spouse could even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits (until he either earns less or reaches his full retirement age (the earnings limit goes away when FRA is reached)).

The only way your spouse can avoid both a reduced personal benefit and the annual earnings test limitation is to wait until his own full retirement age to claim Social Security. However, if he’s not working full time and needs the Social Security money sooner, then claiming at age 63 may be a good choice. In any case, he won’t get half of your age 70 amount.

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). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisor) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). ★



An early period of World War II was known as “the phony war.” What we may be witnessing now in the U.S.-Iran war is the end of a “phony peace.”

The nearly five-month-long conflict has featured a couple of sham cease-fires, each marked by supposed Iranian pledges to reopen the Strait of Hormuz that came to nothing.

With the Iranians firing on shipping in the Strait again, Trump has declared the so-called memorandum of understanding signed about a month ago to be a dead letter. After lifting sanctions on Iranian oil and ending the U.S. blockade of Iranian ports, Trump has reinstituted both. He maintains that the U.S. will control the strait and, at some point, charge a 20% fee on all shipping for our trouble (a bad idea that Trump appears already to have abandoned).

It was clear a couple of days into the war that the Strait of Hormuz had become the key strategic variable and that President Trump wouldn’t easily be able to walk away from the conflict without reopening the strait again.

The MOU was an illusory means of achieving this goal via diplomacy. The problem is that we thought -- or wanted to believe -- that the agreement said the Iranians would allow unobstruct-

Another Sham Deal with Iran Comes Undone

ed passage again, while the Iranians thought -- or wanted to believe -- that it said they would control the strait. That the MOU was subject to these starkly divergent understandings made it a memorandum of obfuscation.

The Iranians, of course, aren’t operating in good faith, but it is a point in their favor that the MOU didn’t simply say, “There shall be freedom of navigation in the strait.” Instead, it talked of how the Iranians would “make arrangements” for ensuring “the safe passage of commercial vessels, with no charge for 60 days only.” In other words, the Iranians held the whip hand in the strait and could charge a fee for transit after a two-month interval. Furthermore, Iran would conduct dialogue with Oman “to define the future administration and maritime services in the Strait of Hormuz.”

Amazingly enough, then, a war that had started with optimistic talk of toppling the Iranian regime was ending with an agreement allowing the Iranians to figure out how to run a waterway vital to the international economy that they hadn’t controlled at the outset of the conflict.

Is it any wonder that the Iranians, who must have been stunned at the success of their gambit in the strait, have been pressing their luck? It must have emboldened them even more to hear Trump say that he was so eager for the MOU be-

cause the economic costs of Iranian disruption of the strait threatened to make him a new Herbert Hoover.

Effectively turning over the control of the strait to the Iranians -- coupled with the inconclusive U.S. war against the Houthis to try to eliminate their threat to shipping in the Red Sea -- would have been a black mark on the Trump administration’s record regarding a long-standing tenet of American grand strategy.

Freedom of navigation has always been considered essential to U.S. national security and a linchpin of global commerce. Trump is right to want to take back the Strait. The question, though, is whether he will be willing to apply enough force and have the staying power to bring a battle for the strait to a successful conclusion. The domestic politics are difficult, given that the American public is not supportive of the war and has now been repeatedly told that it is about to end with a brilliant diplomatic deal.

While we have an enormous firepower advantage, the Iranians have proven that they can disrupt the Strait with threats and a few projectiles. They aren’t going to give up their strategic windfall easily, as two bogus but highly touted peace deals now demonstrate.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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



WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS MPG

ABOUT TOWN

Area Museum Experiences
A sampling of must-see and must-do experiences and special activations offered by local museums include:

Aerospace Museum of California
– As a proud partner of Blue Star Museums, active military members along with five additional guests can enjoy free admission through Labor Day (Sept. 7).
Details at aerospaceca.org.

Sacramento History Museum – “Play Ball! Sacramento in the National Pastime.” The exhibition is filled with historical baseball uniforms, bats, balls, and gloves from different time periods, along with programs, tickets, awards and trophies, an Edmonds field base, home plate and ticket box, along with scrap-books, news articles, photos and more. Through October.
Details at sachistorymuseum.org.

California Automobile Museum
– Route 66: California Dreamin’: a colorful collection of rare and gorgeous vehicles celebrating the Mother Road

through the lens of 100 years of history.

Sunday Drives: Third Sunday of every month, enjoy a free ride (with paid museum admission) in one of the museum’s many beautiful cars from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There’s no better way to enjoy history than to experience it firsthand down the streets of downtown Sacramento.
Details at calautomuseum.org.

California State Railroad Museum – Golden Hour Express Train, Wednesday evenings through Aug. 19. Depart from historic Old Sacramento for a scenic, hour-long round-trip journey along the Sacramento River. Relax in the comfort of our first-class, air-conditioned cars or take in the sunset from an open-air gondola; the choice is yours.

With sweeping riverside views, refreshing beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), and a vibrant social atmosphere, it’s the perfect way to toast the evening. Each ticket includes two drink tokens to enjoy during the ride.

The Chinese Railroad Workers’

Experience offers visitors a view of the Chinese workers who built the western portion of the nation’s first Transcontinental Railroad. Marginalized by history, the Chinese workers were more than a nameless group of laborers.

Details at californiarailroad.museum.

Crocker Art Museum – Suzanne Adan, “I’m No Spring Chicken,” through Oct. 11. Adan (born 1946) creates personal universes that combine fantasy, popular culture and autobiography. Approximately 100 of these compelling works, in a variety of media, are included in Suzanne Adan: I’m No Spring Chicken, a retrospective assembled in her 80th year.

A native Californian, Adan was born in Woodland and raised in nearby Yolo. She earned her BA and MA from Sacramento State College in 1969 and 1971, respectively. It was there that she met her husband, sculptor Michael Stevens, and became influenced by instructor Jim Nutt, a member of Chicago’s Hairy Who.

Details at crockerart.org.

SMUD Museum of Science and

Curiosity Laser Concert Series – Bad Bunny (18+ event), Aug. 7-8; Grateful Dead, Sept. 18-19. This immersive music experience, paired with spectacular full-dome lasers, is the best way to listen to your favorite artists outside of a live performance.
Details at visitmosac.org.

Elks Lodge 6 Calendar of Events

Greenhaven-Pocket Farmers Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays through November: ghpfarmersmarket.com.

Sunday Morning Breakfast, 8:30-11 a.m.; \$15.

Martial Arts, 5 to 6 p.m. Mondays.

Sactown Swings: lessons, 7:15 p.m. Wednesdays, social dance, 8-10 p.m.

Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:30 to 7 p.m. See elks6.com for weekly menu.

Yoga, noon Mondays and 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Karaoke, 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays.

Soulful Fridays, 6 to 10 p.m. ★

There are hundreds of

LOCAL EVENTS

Waiting to be discovered at

pocketsacnews.com/calendar

Theater

Concerts

Crafts

Fitness

Dining

Cultural Groups

Museums

Gatherings

Clubs

Festivals

Expos

Classes

Spiritual

Support Groups

We are your neighbors

nextdoor

Pocket News

Stop by for a visit

nextdoor.com/page/pocket-news

CALL A PROFESSIONAL

LYTLE

CONSTRUCTION INC.

Remodeling and Design

LIC# 480492

Certified Kitchen & Bath Remodeler

Award-Winning Design/Build Firm

Serving Sacramento for more than 25 years

• Additions

• Kitchens

• Bathrooms

• Custom Cabinetry

FREE Consultation

916-422-6639

www.lytleconstruction.com

Summer Yard Clean-up Specials!

• HAULING & YARD CLEAN-UP

• RAIN GUTTER CLEANING

• CONCRETE REMOVAL

• HEDGE TRIMMING /SHRUB REMOVAL

• PRESSURE WASHING

Call LESTER

(916) 838-1247

Lic#128758/Ref

Pressure wash your driveways clean! Your decks, too!

Clean out your garage! Replace that old lawn!

Hard work—not a problem!

SPECIALS FOR SENIORS*/SERVING THE AREA SINCE 1996*

CAPITOL ELECTRIC

Reasonable Residential & Commercial Work since 1960

Repairs, Trouble Shooting

Custom Lighting/FREE Est.

Excellent ref from Angie's List

(916) 213-3740

Neil McIntire — C.S.L.# 394307

ROONEY'S PLUMBING

FULL SERVICE PLUMBING

916-456-7777

rooneysplumbingco.com

Licence #683668

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

PROFESSIONAL PET WASTE REMOVAL SERVICE

Total clean

SCOOP TEAM

HONEST SERVICE. FAIR PRICING. SPOTLESS RESULTS.

916-250-2506

WWW.TOTALCLEANSCOOPTeam.COM

FREEDOM HANDYMAN SERVICE

I specialize in all areas of home improvement !

Quality work the first time, guaranteed!

Co2 & Smoke Alarms - Light Bulb Replacement - Door Bells

Grab Bar Installations - Security Doors - Sprinkler Repair & New Valves

Carpentry Electrical - Plumbing - Sheetrock - Ceiling Fan Installation

Fix leaks of all types

Accepts All Major Credit Cards "Senior Discount"

NO JOB TOO SMALL!

Call Eric (916) 470-3488

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

MPG

Visit our website for more news!

PocketSacNews.com

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

CSLB# 1089369,

Licensed, Bonded

& Insured

Call (916) 619-8189 to advertise with us today!

Pocket News • Messenger Publishing Group

Community Worship

River's Edge Church

6449 Riverside Blvd. • 391-9845

Sunday Worship: 10:00am

www.recsac.org

Saint Anthony Parish

660 Florin Road • 428-5678

Sunday Masses: 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

Daily Mass: 8:00 a.m Monday through Friday • www.stasac.org

Greenhaven Lutheran Church

475 Florin Road (across from Kennedy High School) • 428-8449

Bible Study & Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:15 a.m.

www.greenhavenlutheran.org

Publisher,

Paul V. Scholl

Pocket News is a member of Messenger Publishing Group

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email 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.

Pocket News

Serving Pocket and Sacramento County since 1993

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

Subscriptions should be mailed to *Pocket News*, 2508 Garfield Ave. Suite A, Carmichael, CA 95608.

The *Pocket News* is published twice a month. Call (916) 773-1111 for more information.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.

Strauss Festival Presents ‘Vienna Once More’

By Beth Hedlund
and Margie Jones
Strauss Board
Co-Chairs

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The Strauss festival returns to its roots in Vienna with the 2026 theme “Vienna Once More.” A young couple meets in Vienna during Oktoberfest, falls in love and marries. The stage transforms in the second act to a Christmas Market where the couple returns to Vienna, this time with their family in tow, to share the magic of Vienna with their children.

Classical Strauss music will be played by the 40-piece Camellia Symphony Orchestra and showcased in a variety of dances: polka, quadrille and waltz. Gorgeous costumes and amazing stage settings bring the story all together for guests to enjoy. A volunteer cast of 80 features dancers ages 4 to 78 for four nights, July 23 to 26, in Elk Grove Park at 9950 Elk Grove-Florin Road.

Cast members include the Little’s, Beginning Polka, Polka, Quadrille and Waltz groups, each with their own unique style of dance. Strauss’ famous ending waltz of the performance, The Blue Danube, will round out the show with a spectacular display



The annual Strauss Festival theme this year is “Vienna Once More,” bringing back to Elk Grove Park’s outdoor amphitheater from July 23 to 26 a free performance of classical Strauss music showcased in a variety of dances including polka, quadrille and waltz. Photo courtesy of Strauss Festival

of fireworks at the show’s conclusion each evening! It is exciting to have a number of first-time dancers to Strauss, as well as the veteran dancers that have been with Strauss for 20-plus years. Such an incredible legacy of volunteers and fans the Strauss festival has developed over the past almost four decades!!

Plan to have refreshments at the Park as there will be food trucks: The Greek, Cowtown Creamery, Costa’s, Carpenter Coffee, Kona Ice, The Fry Boys, Francisco Serona Taco, and hot dogs by Elk Grove Rotary, just to name a few.

A variety of Bogle wines will be available for purchase, as well as a

variety of beers and sparkling wines. Check out the Strauss Merchandise Booth for 2026 Strauss shirts, stickers, mini flashlights and other Strauss merchandise. The Strauss History Booth will be open and have on display previous festival posters and memorabilia from the last 37+ years.

There are a number of seating options; blanket seating, bleachers seating and seating for those who need ADA accommodations. Blanket seating includes an area for your blanket and/or chairs which can be put down beginning at 10 a.m. on the morning of the show you wish to see. The bleacher seating is available on a

first-come basis. ADA seating is available and needs to be reserved ahead of time with a limited number of seats available for each performance. (For complete details on seating options, see www.strauss-festival.com, email info@straussfestival.com or call 916-714-2527.

“Vienna Once More” runs for four nights, July 23 to 26 with the promenade of dancers beginning at 7:30 p.m. At 8:15 p.m., the show begins and concludes each evening around 10 p.m.

For the 37th year, Strauss continues to honor the wishes of Iris Zimbelman, that the Strauss Festival should be free to all who wish to attend. Even if it

is hot during the day, by the time the show begins at 8:15 p.m., it is beautiful in the park. In fact, we encourage patrons to bring a sweater as the Delta Breeze tends to kick up in the evening!

Note that there is a small parking charge of \$10 per car at the park which goes directly to the Strauss Festival.

Join us for a nostalgic evening with this 37th year of an enchanting, full stage production, “Vienna Once More.” The Strauss Festival is an Elk Grove “Gem” of which we are extremely proud!

Share the Joy of Reading at the Strauss Festival

Book Drive

The Strauss Festival of Elk Grove is inviting the community to help spread the love of reading through a special Book Drive benefiting Elk Grove Reads, a free bookstore operated out of the Elk Grove Food Bank.

Festival guests are encouraged to bring new or gently used books to the festival each evening, July 23 to 26. Every book donated earns an entry into that night’s raffle for exclusive Strauss Festival merchandise.

Winners will be drawn nightly, giving attendees multiple chances to take home fun festival prizes while supporting two outstanding local organizations.

Your book donations will help provide reading opportunities for children and families throughout our community while also supporting EG Reads and the Elk Grove Food Bank’s efforts to serve those in need.

Whether it’s a favorite children’s story, an inspiring novel, or an educational book in great condition, your donation can make a lasting difference. Join us at the Strauss Festival and help turn the page toward a brighter future; one book at a time!

★

Local Classifieds

Advertise in your local community newspaper
Call 916-685-5533

Concrete

Perez Landscaping & Concrete

- Concrete Finishing/Stamping
- Landscape installation and Design
- Sodding, •Planting
- Irrigation •Retaining Walls
- Yard maintenance.

Free estimates. Fore more info. call **916-834-2352**
email: Elverperez@att.net
Lic #14-00016214

3DR CONCRETE

All your concrete needs.

Bobcat services, driveway repair.

Comm. & Res.

Lic. # 968987

Insured

(209) 570-7304

Home Improvement

ALL PHASE HOME REPAIR

Elk Grove, CA

- Electrical •Plumbing
- Fencing •Fans •Decks
- Doors •Windows •Tile Flooring •Trim base-board •Sheetrock •Dry Rot Texture •Painting
- Lighting •Concrete •Sprinkler Repair •Framing and more!

All phases of home repair & any construction needed- Big or small. Quality work guaranteed!

Low prices- free est. Serving Elk Grove, Rancho Murieta, Galt, Wilton, Herald, Sac. & Surrounding Areas

CSLB#1134987
Bonded & Insured
(916)287-6164

Landscaping

YARD CLEANUP & DECORATIVE ROCK

Spring one-time cleanup pruning. Also bark, weed control, sod, seed, hauling, etc.

Mobile homes, commercial or residential.

Local gardener.

916-205-9310 or 916- 627-9000

Visit: mpg8.com

Home Improvement

ALL PHASE HOME REPAIR

Interior/Exterior Remodel, Improvements and Repair

Quality Work Guaranteed

AFFORDABLE RATES!

- Bathrooms • Kitchens • Electrical • Plumbing
- Fencing • Fans • Decks • Doors • Windows • Tile
- Baseboards • Sheetrock • Dry Rot • Texture
- Lighting • Sprinkler Repair • Framing and More

Give Us a Call We Are More Affordable Than All!

916-287-6164

FREE Estimates

Landscaping

YARD CLEANUP

Sod installation

Landscape installation

Lawnmowing services

Fence repair

Call for free estimate

916-271-7265

Landscaping

BRILLIANT LANDSCAPE

Artificial Turf

Fencing

Retaining Wall

Concrete

Drainage

Irrigation

Planting

Tree Trimming

209-251-9387

LIC# 1108441

Painting

Shelton Painting, Inc.

- Repaints: Exterior & Interior
- Dry Wall Repair

Free Estimates

(209) 745-7897

3 Generations of Quality Painters

#908019

We accept Visa & Mastercard

Rain Gutters

ClarK GUARD

LEAF FREE GUTTER SYSTEM

Make the last time you cleaned your gutters the last time you clean your gutters.

- ROOF REPAIRS
- DRY ROT
- RAIN BARRELS
- SIDING
- WATER DRAINAGE
- PAINTING

Paul Clark
916.753.7463 Cell
LIC# 410035

www.pmcgutterman.com
paulmclark49@gmail.com

Automotive

Elk Grove Shell

Your Local Full Service Auto Repair Shop

Committed to Customer Satisfaction

Specializing In:

- Oil Changes
- Smog Repair
- Smog Inspection
- Safety Inspection
- Transmission Service
- Brakes
- Wheel Alignment
- Check Engine Light Diagnosis
- Tires
- Tune-Up
- Batteries
- 30, 60, 90K Service
- Brake & Lamp Station

Mon-Fri, 8-5 • 916-685-7796

8901 Elk Grove Blvd.

OFFICAL LAMP ADJUSTING STATION

SMOG CHECK

OFFICAL BRAKE ADJUSTING STATION

Roofing

JIM MOYLEN ROOFING

OWNER OPERATED License # 407605

44 Years in Business BBB Credited A+ Rating

Free Estimates. Quality Roofing Built on Trust. Delivers dependable service and lasting results. We use premium materials and meticulous craftsmanship to ensure every job stands the test of time.

EL NINO IS COMING. IS YOUR ROOF PREPARED? A small leak today can become expensive tomorrow. Let our company inspect your roof and keep your home protected through the rainy season.

- July Specials: FREE Solar attic fan installed on new roof
- \$2500 gutter guard installed on most homes (call for quote)

Jim at 916-531-2793 or call Mike Moylen at 209-894-6605

Roofing

THE DAVIS ROOFING GROUP

Trusted Roofing Experts with Over 30 Years of Experience

- New Roof Installation
- Roof Repairs
- Roof Maintenance
- Roof Leak Repairs
- Roof Moss Removal
- Commercial Roofing Repairs
- Commercial Roof Installations
- Seamless Gutters and Downspouts
- Lifetime Gutter Guard Screen Installation

FREE ESTIMATES

916-900-ROOF (7663)

TheDavisRoofingGroup.com

LIC# 1039405

LICENSED, BONDED & FULLY INSURED

Roofing

PREMIER ROOFING INC.

LIC# 1097848

- ROOF REPAIR
- ROOF MAINTENANCE
- COMPLETE RE-ROOF
- NEW ROOFS
- GUTTER CLEANING
- CELL 209.810.6233

209.745.7565

1premierroofing@gmail.com

SACRAMENTO VALLEY ROOFING & GUTTERS INC.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

- NEW ROOF INSTALL
- TEAR OFF & REROOF
- ROOF REPAIR
- OVERLAY ROOF INSTALL
- DRY ROT REPAIR
- SEAMLESS GUTTER INSTALL
- GUTTER REMOVAL & INSTALL
- GUTTER REPAIR
- GUTTER GUARD & INSTALL
- DOWNSPOUTS INSTALL
- CUSTOM COLORS

FREE ESTIMATES!

916-719-8288

RAMON M. FOREMAN/OPERATOR

LIC# 1072137

WE ARE BONDED AND INSURED

Tractor Work

MAC Industries DIRT WORK

- Excavations •Utility Trenching •Foundations-All types
- Laser Grading & Dozer work •Driveways •Building Pads •Drainage-All Types
- Field Mowing / Firebreaks •Flail •Bushog
- Septic System Installation •Drilling •Foundations
- Post •Tree holes •Trenching •Irrigation
- Drainage •Rototilling •Disking
- License #919198 & Insured

Michael- 916-747-9667

Bill- 916-869-1019

Roofing

ROUTT ROOFING

Specializing in Res Roofing & Repairs

We Hand Nail for Quality!

Free Estimates

916-423-1288 or 209-748-5588

BBB Since 1975 Lic.#302302

Advertise in your local community newspaper

Call (916) 685-5533

Local Museums Offer Ways to Enrich the Lazy Days of Summer with Plenty of Must-See and Must-Do Experiences

Sacramento Area Museums News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Greater Sacramento region is rich with museums and popular destinations that offer plenty of must-see and must-do experiences to explore before summertime makes way for a busy fall season. The community is encouraged to show support for local museums by making plans to visit favorite locations (or discovering new ones).

The California Automobile Museum is revving up summertime evenings by participating in the monthly Third Thursday program happening throughout the Old Sacramento Waterfront. Guests will get an exclusive chance to explore the “Route 66: California Dreamin” exhibit by the light of the neon moon, celebrating the Mother Road through the lens of 100 years of history, plus admissions are half-off. In addition, there will be special activities for kids and adults 21 plus can tap into an exclusive drink selection for sale (with one free drink ticket per entry.) For more details, visit www.calautomuseum.org/thirdthursdays.

Make plans to experience “Reflecting on the Land,” a powerful new exhibit making its debut Aug. 21 at the California Museum. Highlighting the voices, knowledge and visions of California's Indigenous peoples, the exhibit will challenge visitors to reckon with the stories that have shaped our understanding of this land, and those that have been left out. From the landscapes of 250 years ago to hard-won victories like the restoration of the Klamath River, the exhibit traces the living legacy of more than 200 tribes across the state and looks ahead to radical, hopeful visions of what sovereignty and self-determination can look like on this land. Thought-provoking, timely and deeply rooted in community, this is an exhibit for anyone ready to engage with California's past, present and future on its own terms. “Reflecting on the Land”



An incredible “Play Ball! Sacramento in the National Pastime” exhibit is on display now at the Sacramento History Museum and is filled with historical baseball uniforms, bats, balls and gloves from different time periods and more! Photo courtesy of the Sacramento History Museum

was developed by Exhibit Envoy in partnership with California Humanities, and tours through Exhibit Envoy thanks to generous funding from the 11th Hour Project, By the People: Conversations Beyond 250 and the Weingart Foundation. Additional details will be posted Aug. 6 at www.californiamuseum.org/exhibitions/temporary/

The California State Railroad Museum & Foundation is fun for all ages and is a great – and fully air-conditioned – place to see an impressive collection of rail equipment, historic locomotives, compelling exhibits, toy trains and more. Plus, a tried-and-true summertime favorite experience is a weekend excursion train ride pulled by an authentic, historic locomotive – either Granite Rock 10 steam locomotive or a historic diesel engine (motive power subject to change without notice.) The memorable experience offers guests the chance to enjoy train travel from an earlier era. For more details about the Museum Mixer, weekend excursion train rides and visiting the museum, visit www.californiarailroad.museum.

At the Crocker Art Museum the community is encouraged to experience the final Summer Family Friday of the season on Aug. 7 from 10:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. This fun-filled morning includes an art and performance extravaganza geared for kids ages 3-12, and the adults who tag along with them. Activities include hands-on art making, sensory activities and special shows from local musicians and a performing arts group. More details are available at www.crockerart.org/events/4722/summer-family-friday-4722. Plus, iconic rom coms will be screened in the Crocker's outdoor courtyard against the Teel Family Pavilion's iconic architecture on Aug. 20; closing the summer series are “Dirty Dancing” and “Clueless.” For more, visit www.crockerart.org/events/series/movies-off-the-wall.

Get ready to savor a lively night at Fairytale Town during a special, end-of-summer Tales and Ales Brewfest on Aug. 22. Local craft breweries from throughout Sacramento

and Northern California will be in the park pouring unlimited tastes while live musicians perform on the Mother Goose Stage. Plus, children will enjoy complimentary root beer floats and hands-on activities in Mr. McGregor’s Garden. Local food trucks will be on-site with food and beverages available for sale and there will be a raffle with exciting prizes. Tales & Ales is an all-ages fundraiser with proceeds supporting Fairytale Town’s education programs and park improvements. For more information visit www.fairytaletown.org/calendar/tales-ales-brewfest-2/

The SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity offers an opportunity to experience favorite musical artists like never before. The UC Davis Multiverse Theater at MOSAC is thrilled to present a music laser series to the planetarium – including a Bad Bunny Laser Concert on August 7-8. The immersive music experience, paired with spectacular full-dome lasers, is the best way to listen to favorite artists outside of a live performance. With

a robust library of classic rock, pop music and family-friendly favorites playing over our 25,000-watt Dolby 5.1 surround sound system, the laser shows provide a whole new music experience. Make plans to visit and explore the full schedule of events at www.visitmosac.org.

Always free and open weekdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Museum of Medical History is also open on Second Saturdays (for the same time hours), monthly through September. Guests will journey through time and learn about medical treatment during California's Gold Rush, the flu pandemic of 1918, Prohibition-era medicine, Polio and its groundbreaking vaccine, modern advances in cardiology, radiology, surgery and so much more. Reservations are not required, and physician docents will be onsite giving tours and interpretation of the hundreds of artifacts in the Museum's collection. For more information visit www.museumofmedicalhistory.org.

Baseball and summertime go hand-in-glove especially at the Sacramento History Museum. An incredible “Play Ball! Sacramento in the National Pastime” exhibit is on display now and filled with historical baseball uniforms, bats, balls and gloves from different time periods, along with programs, tickets, awards and trophies, an Edmonds field base, home plate and ticket box, along with scrapbooks, news articles, photos and more. “Play Ball!” tells the fascinating and fun story of Sacramento’s 175-year baseball history, stretching from the early days of the Gold Rush to the latest inning at Sutter Health Park just across the Sacramento River. For more details about the exhibit and Baseball Talk activation, visit <https://sachistorymuseum.org/>

For more information about upcoming activities offered by Sacramento area museums, like them on Facebook, follow on Instagram @SacMuseums or visit www.SacMuseums.org. ★

EMD and Food Safety Take Center Stage at State Fair



Food safety inspections help reduce the risk of foodborne illness by ensuring vendors follow safe food handling practices. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) is conducting food safety inspections throughout the California State Fair to help ensure the fair's more than 150 food vendors are serving food safely.

From corn dogs and funnel cakes to barbecue, fresh lemonade and specialty desserts, every temporary food facility at the fair must meet the same food safety standards as restaurants operating year-round in Sacramento County.

“Fairgoers should be able to enjoy their favorite foods with confidence,” said Rolando Villareal, Environmental Health Division Chief. “Our inspectors work closely with vendors before and throughout the fair to verify safe food handling practices, proper cooking and holding temperatures and compliance with California's food safety regulations.”

Wondering how Sacramento County keeps food served at the California State Fair safe? Inspectors verify that vendors are keeping hot foods hot and cold foods cold, preparing food safely and in compliance with California Retail Food Code,

washing hands properly, using food from approved sources and maintaining safe water supplies and proper wastewater disposal.

Environmental health inspectors conduct routine and unannounced inspections throughout the California State Fair. They also investigate food-related complaints and provide education to vendors to help maintain safe food handling practices.

EMD inspectors work directly with vendors to correct violations. Depending on the severity of the issue, inspectors may require immediate corrective action or temporarily suspend food service

until the violation is resolved to protect public health.

Food safety inspections help reduce the risk of foodborne illness by ensuring vendors follow safe food handling practices. Regular inspections help protect the hundreds of thousands of visitors who attend the California State Fair each year.

The 2026 California State Fair opened July 17 and runs through Aug. 2 at Cal Expo. EMD inspectors will remain on-site throughout the event to help protect public health and ensure food vendors continue meeting California food safety standards. ★

City of Sacramento Police Department News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On Tuesday, July 14, just before 12:30 a.m., Sacramento Police Department officers responded to reports of an assault with a weapon in the 3500 block of 5th Avenue.

Responding officers located an adult male victim with at least one stab wound. Despite lifesaving measures, the victim was pronounced deceased on scene. An adult male suspect was detained on scene.

Due to the circumstances, Homicide Detectives and Crime Scene Investigators responded to take over the investigation. They processed the scene, collected evidence and interviewed witnesses. The circumstances of the incident remain under investigation.

The suspect, 21-year-old Maximus Morgan of Sacramento, was arrested and booked into the Sacramento County Main Jail on homicide related charges.

The Sacramento County Coroner’s Office will

release the identity of the deceased after next-of-kin have been notified.

The Sacramento Police Department encourages any witnesses with information regarding this investigation to contact the dispatch center at 916-808-5471 or Sacramento Valley Crime Stoppers at 916-443-HELP (4357).

Callers can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000. Anonymous tips can also be submitted using the free “P3 Tips” smartphone app. ★

Homicide Investigation and Arrest

Water District Opens Vacant Buildings for Rare Firefighter Training Before Demolition



Metro Fire’s partnership with SSWD is one of the most critical relationships, working together to protect the community.

Sacramento Suburban Water District News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -

Before demolishing two vacant District-owned buildings, Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) partnered with the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (Metro Fire) to transform the site into a unique hands-on training environment for firefighters.

The buildings provided Metro Fire crews with the opportunity to practice critical emergency response skills in actual structures. Over multiple training sessions, firefighters conducted search-and-rescue operations in smoke-filled conditions, practiced forcible entry through security bars, performed rooftop ventilation cuts, established water supplies from nearby fire hydrants and simulated fire suppression under realistic conditions.

Metro Fire first approached SSWD in March, seeking permission to use the boarded-up site for non-destructive structure-fire drills. SSWD agreed and coordinated site access, hydrant availability, security and staff support.



By making the property available to Metro Fire, SSWD helped firefighters gain experience in real-world incidents and put a public asset to productive community use.

Metro Fire conducted an initial multi-company drill in April. Both agencies then began planning more advanced, destructive training once asbestos abatement was complete and the buildings were cleared for use.

“Our partnership with

Metro Fire is one of our critical relationships,” said SSWD General Manager Dan York. “SSWD works with Metro Fire to maintain and provide water service to over 6,500 fire hydrants throughout our district. Being able to utilize these buildings to



Fire crews practiced search-and-rescue operations in smoke-filled conditions, forcible entry through security bars, roof operations, including vertical ventilation cuts, door breaches and extinguishing fires under simulated fire conditions. Photos courtesy of Mer Carty/Sacramento Suburban Water District

help in their training is another way we are working together to protect our community.”

By making the property available to Metro Fire, SSWD helped firefighters gain experience in real-world incidents and put a public asset to productive community use.

“Training in acquired structures gives our firefighters the opportunity to practice in conditions that closely resemble actual emergencies,” said Metro

Fire Public Information Officer Captain Mark Nunez. “Every realistic training opportunity helps crews sharpen the skills they’ll rely on when someone calls 911.”

Fire crews practiced search-and-rescue operations in smoke-filled conditions, forcible entry through security bars, roof operations, including vertical ventilation cuts, door breaches and extinguishing fires under simulated fire conditions. The training

provided fire crews with a rare opportunity to practice these realistic skills and techniques under conditions similar to those when a building is on fire.

SSWD’s partnership with Metro Fire demonstrates how local public agencies work closely to strengthen emergency preparedness and protect the communities they serve, and how even an old, used asset can be put to productive use before demolition.

★

California Museum Welcomes Clancey as Executive Director

The California Museum News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -

The California Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Erin Clancey as the Museum’s new executive director. Clancey, a visionary museum executive with over 25 years of experience shaping major cultural institutions, will assume the role in September 2026. She will be succeeding Amanda Meeker, who recently retired from her 28-year career at the California Museum.

“Erin brings an exceptional depth of knowledge and a genuine passion for making history, art and cultural experiences accessible to all,” said California Museum Board of Trustees Chair, Anne Marie Petrie. “California’s story is unlike any other; it’s one of remarkable diversity, innovation and influence. It deserves someone who understands how to bring that story to life for every visitor, and Erin is that person. We are thrilled to welcome her home to California and confident she is the right person to shape the Museum’s future.”

“I am honored and thrilled for the opportunity



A Davis native, Erin Clancey will be returning home after building a distinguished career in curatorial and exhibitions leadership at institutions across the country. Photo courtesy of The California Museum

to lead the California Museum at such an important moment in its evolution,” said Clancey. “The Museum is in an extraordinary position to continue telling meaningful stories about the people, ideas and movements that have shaped our state. I look forward to working with its talented staff, board, partners and communities across California to broaden access and steward the Museum into its next chapter.”

A Davis native, Clancey will be returning home after building a distinguished career in curatorial and exhibitions leadership at institutions across

the country. Erin currently serves as Associate Vice President of Collections & Exhibits at The National WWII Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, where she has been based since 2017.

During her tenure, she has led a multidisciplinary team across seven divisions including exhibitions, collections, archives and digital assets and guided the interpretation of collections through tours, programs and exhibitions. Under her leadership, the museum launched a comprehensive digital collections platform that made the museum’s holdings publicly accessible for the first time.

Before joining the World War II Museum, Clancey served as the Chief Curator at the Skirball Cultural Center & Museum in Los Angeles, where she oversaw a collection of more than 85,000 artifacts and led the conception and production of exhibitions spanning ancient history, the Civil Rights movement and contemporary art.

She managed a multidisciplinary team of curators, registrars, exhibit designers and gallery educators and built lasting relationships with cultural institutions, scholars, donors and artists across the country.

★

Sacramento International Airport Seeks Public Input to Shape Next 20 Years of Growth



Sacramento International Airport invites travelers, residents and community members to share their priorities for the airport’s future through a public survey. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -

Sacramento International Airport (SMF) has launched a public survey as part of its Airport Master Plan update, inviting travelers, residents and community members to share their priorities for the airport’s future.

The Airport Master Plan is a comprehensive, long-range planning document that guides development and improvements over a 20-year horizon. The plan evaluates existing facilities, forecasts future passenger and aircraft activity, identifies

infrastructure needs and outlines a recommended development strategy shaped in part by input from the public.

“This master plan is about more than buildings and runways. It is about understanding what our community needs from its airport for decades to come,” said Director of Airports for Sacramento County, Cindy Nichol. “We are asking the people who fly through SMF and live in this region to tell us what matters most to them.”

The public survey is now open and takes only a few minutes to complete. Residents and

travelers are encouraged to share feedback on topics including flight options, terminal amenities, parking and accessibility. You can access the survey on the Sacramento County website.

Public participation is a key component of the master plan. Input gathered through the survey and community outreach will help inform facility recommendations, capital improvement priorities and the airport’s long-term development strategy.

The survey will remain open through Aug. 14. For more about the plan, visit the Department of Airports website.

★

Sarah Puddicombe Elevated to Head Rowing Coach

Sacramento State Athletics Sports News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State Director of Athletics Mark Orr announced July 13 that Sarah Puddicombe has been elevated to head coach of the Hornets’ rowing program. She becomes the fifth head coach in the team’s history (1995-pres.).

Puddicombe assumes leadership of the program after longtime head coach Mike Connors announced his retirement in June.

A two-time first team All-American, and NCAA national champion as both a coach and student-athlete, Puddicombe has spent the past three seasons (2024-26) as assistant coach with the Hornets and also had an earlier stint as a Sacramento State assistant from 2005-07.

Puddicombe brings continuity, experience and a deep understanding of the Hornets’ culture. During her tenure at Sacramento State, she has her fingerprints all over the program, which includes coaching the novice squad, recruiting, running practices, developing race strategies and lineups, academics, travel, administrative duties and much more.

“We are thrilled to name Sarah Puddicombe as the next head coach of our rowing program,” Orr said. “She is an outstanding leader with deep ties to Sacramento State, a championship pedigree and a genuine passion for developing student-athletes. She understands the tradition that has been built here, has earned the respect of our team and the rowing community and is the right person to lead our program into its next chapter. We are excited to see her continue the program's tradition of excellence both on the water and in the classroom.”

A local product from Orangevale, CA, Puddicombe has 23 years of coaching experience. Prior to her second stint with the Hornets, she spent seven years as the head coach of Capital Crew - the Sacramento State Aquatic Center’s youth rowing program for high school students (2016-23). In addition, she had collegiate coaching stops at Cal (2008-16), UC Davis (2007-08)



Puddicombe assumes leadership of the program after longtime head coach Mike Connors announced his retirement last month. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

and Sacramento State (2005-07).

“First and foremost, I want to congratulate Mike Connors on a wonderful career and his continued dedication to this team over the past the 24 years at Sacramento State,” Puddicombe said. “Coaching has never been just a job for me - it has been my life’s passion. The opportunity to become a head coach represents the chance to bring together everything I have learned over two decades of developing student-athletes and building successful teams.”

“I am excited to build off a program defined by excellence, integrity and unity, where student-athletes are inspired to exceed expectations and leave a legacy that extends far beyond the finish line. Thank you to Mark Orr and the hiring committee for trusting me to lead this program that will compete for championships while fostering a lifelong love of the sport and the University.”

Puddicombe competed four years at UC Davis (1999-02) where she was a two-time All-American coxswain, three-time team captain and helped the Aggies to a 2002 NCAA Div. II national championship.

She would later add another national championship at Cal, where she helped coach the Bears to a 2016 title. During her time at Cal, the team also had eight consecutive top three finishes at the NCAA Championships and seven Pac-12 Conference team titles. That included a run of five straight Pac-12 titles from 2009-13.

Puddicombe was promoted to associate head coach at Cal in 2012, and was responsible for signing 67 student-athletes to National Letters of Intent from 2008-14. She coached four individual boats to top four finishes at the NCAA Championships (including a gold in 2014 and 2016) and five individual boat Pac-12 titles.

During her seven-year stint at Capital Crew, a total of 72 of her 105 seniors were recruited to row in college. In addition, she qualified boats to the US Rowing Youth National Championships every full season of her tenure, which included winning a national championship in the Junior 4+ in 2017 and the Junior pair in 2022.

Other coaching stops included serving as a volunteer coach at the Under-23 National Team Camp in 2008 and 2010. She also worked as a Jr. Pre-Elite Rowing Coach from 2004-06, and made her coaching debut with Capital Crew from 2004-05.

Puddicombe graduated in 2002 from UC Davis with a degree in wildlife, fish and conservation biology. She would later add a master’s degree in 2009 from the University of Phoenix.

★

Rex Connors Earns Third Straight Buck Buchanan Award Preseason Watch List

UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Senior defensive back Rex Connors has been named to the 2026 Buck Buchanan Award Preseason Watch List, Stats Perform announced on the morning of July 14. The Buck Buchanan Award recognizes the top defensive player in NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) football, with this year's preseason watch list highlighting many of the nation's top defensive standouts entering the 2026 season.

Connors earns preseason recognition for the third consecutive year after establishing himself as one of the premier defensive backs in the FCS.

A team captain in 2025, Connors appeared in four games before suffering a season-ending injury but still delivered standout performances. He recorded a season-high 15 tackles against Utah Tech, earning both Stats Perform FCS National Honorable Mention Defensive Player of the Week and Big Sky Defensive Player of the Week honors following the victory.

Connors also reached one of the most significant milestones in program history during the 2025 season, becoming UC Davis’ all-time leading tackler with the



Connors earns preseason recognition for the third consecutive year after establishing himself as one of the premier defensive backs in the FCS. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

313th tackle of his career against Washington.

Entering his final collegiate season, Connors returns as the leader of an experienced Aggie defense and once again stands among the top candidates for one of the FCS’s highest individual honors.

UC Davis opens the 2026 season on Aug. 29 at Portland State.

Single game tickets are on sale now. Secure your seats for any of UC Davis’ six home games today. Mini Plans offer a great way to save by bundling multiple games. Choose from two different options

and select the games that fit your schedule.

Both Mini Plan options include the Montana game and allow fans to add one or two additional home games at a discounted rate compared to purchasing single-game tickets. All Mini Plan seats are

located in Sections 119 or 125 on the west side of UC Davis Health Stadium.

Season tickets start at just \$100 for new alumni (2017–26 UC Davis graduates) and \$140 for the general public. Season ticket holders also receive a variety of exclusive benefits, including priority access to postseason tickets, select away games and parking.

Additional benefits include a dedicated Aggie Ticket Representative, flexible payment plan options and invitations to exclusive season ticket holder events. Purchase your season tickets today. For more information, email the Aggie Ticket Office at aggietickets@ucdavis.edu or call 530-752-2471.

Group ticket discounts begin with just 10 tickets and provide the perfect opportunity for company outings, family gatherings, birthday celebrations and more.

Create a memorable birthday experience with a player high-five tunnel or reserve a turnkey tailgate space for your group before kickoff. Call the Aggie Ticket Office at 530-752-2471 to customize an unforgettable game-day experience.

For more information about purchasing tailgating or parking for the 2026 season, contact Jordan Kurtz at 530-304-1433 or jkurtz@ucdavis.edu.

★

Applications Open for Republic FC and Wilton Rancheria Indigenous Future Leaders Scholarship

Republic FC Sports News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On July 13, Republic FC announced its second-annual Indigenous Future Leaders Scholarship, in partnership with Wilton Rancheria, for a local student. Applications are now open and must be submitted by July 31 at 11:59 p.m. Students can find more information and apply at SacRepublicFC.com/Scholarship.

Republic FC Rising Scholars powered by the PG&E Corporation Foundation offers multiple scholarships throughout the year to support students from underrepresented communities as they continue their academic journeys.

“We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to pursue their dreams while staying connected to the communities that shape who they are,” said Republic FC Vice President of Business Operations and Community Investment Scott Moak. “We’re proud to continue to recognize and invest in Native American students whose



Applications are now open and must be submitted by July 31 at 11:59 p.m. Photo courtesy of Republic FC

leadership will help strengthen our region for generations to come.”

Applicants are required to be residents of the six-county Sacramento region and of Native American heritage. In addition, they must be a high school senior who will pursue higher level education at a

four-year college/university or California community college or are currently enrolled at a California community college or university with a minimum of six units. A committee of Republic FC representatives and Native American leaders, including last year’s scholarship recipient,

will review applications and select a winner.

“Wilton Rancheria is proud to invest in our youth and create opportunities for future generations to thrive. This scholarship reflects our commitment to continuing that legacy,” said Wilton Rancheria Chairman Jesus Tarango. “Together with Republic FC, we are investing in the next generation of students who will carry their communities forward with pride and use their education to make a lasting impact.”

The winner will be recognized on Aug. 15 at Heart Health Park during Republic FC’s Native American Heritage Night and will receive the \$2,000 prize as well as a VIP experience and presentation of the scholarship during halftime.

The match will also feature an exclusive scarf giveaway at entry, a Makers Market with works from Native American artists, special food options, on-field recognitions and more. Kickoff is slated for 8 p.m. and tickets are available now at SacRepublicFC.com.

★