

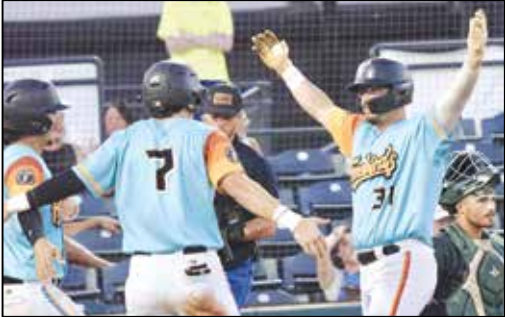


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NAMES NEW
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Community Rallies for Back-to-School Giveaway



Parents and children browse backpacks, clothing and school supplies during the Something for Nothing giveaway Aug. 1 at The Father's House church in Live Oak. Organizers estimate about 325 children received assistance ahead of the new school year. Photo by Seti Long

By Seti Long

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - More than 300 local children received backpacks, clothing, shoes and school supplies during the Something for Nothing Live Oak, Gridley and Biggs giveaway Aug. 1 at The Father's House church in Live Oak.

A line stretched the length of the building before the doors opened as families gathered to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Ammanda Mendez, a stay-at-home mother of four, started the Something for Nothing Live Oak, Gridley and Biggs Facebook group after moving to Live Oak in 2025 and noticing fewer community resources than she had experienced growing up.

"When my family first moved to Live Oak in March of 2025, it was a huge adjustment," Mendez said. "I had always lived in larger cities throughout California where community giving was just ... normal."

Mendez said her family struggled financially while she was growing up, and support from others made a lasting impact.

"People helped each other. They shared what they have. They lifted one another up. The poorest always give the most," she said.

With the start of the school year approaching, Mendez decided to organize a community giveaway to help local families.

"I prayed on it, and I felt drawn to do the event. I knew it was going to be

a big task, but this community really came through," she said.

Over several months, volunteers collected backpacks, clothing, shoes and school supplies. Mendez said supplies were geared primarily toward students in sixth through 12th grades, whom she believes are often underserved by traditional back-to-school drives.

She said 118 parents registered for the event on behalf of 265 children, but additional families who had not registered were also served. After recounting the remaining inventory, Mendez estimated about 325 children ultimately received assistance.

"My goal was 300 children, so I would say this event was a success," she said.

Continued on page 4

Doug Arnold
Ends Final
Chapter of
Public Service



Biggs Vice Mayor Doug Arnold, right, is recognized during his final City Council meeting before resigning July 28 as he prepared to move out of California. Arnold concluded more than two decades of public service, including eight years on the Planning Commission and 14 years on the City Council. Gridley Herald Archive photo

By Susan Meeker

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - Vice Mayor Doug Arnold has resigned from the Biggs City Council, bringing to a close decades of public service that included eight years on the Planning Commission and 14 years as an elected official.

Arnold announced his resignation on July 28 while finalizing his move out of California, making him ineligible to continue serving on the council. His current appointment was scheduled to expire in December.

The resignation marked the end of Arnold's second stint on the council. After previously serving 12 years as a councilmember, he returned in December 2024 to fill the vacancy created by Chuck Nuchols' sudden resignation following a disagreement with another councilmember. Arnold's return came during a tumultuous period that included multiple council vacancies, leadership changes and administrative turnover.

In addition to his elected service, Arnold spent many years in Butte County's engineering department before retiring.

Arnold said at his last official meeting that he initially declined the opportunity to return to public office before ultimately agreeing to fill the vacancy.

"I wasn't planning on it, and people came to me and talked me into it, so I jumped in the middle of it," Arnold said. "It's been good. It's been a really good council. We all got along and we've got things done."

Mayor Bo Shephard credited Arnold with stepping into the role when the city needed an experienced councilmember, noting that his years of service helped provide continuity and stability for the council.

Continued on page 4

Live Oak Opens World Series with Defeat

By Steven Bryla

GREENVILLE, N.C. (YSBC) - The Live Oak 10-12 softball team were beaten 11-1 by Daviess County Little League (KY) in their opening game of the 2026 Little League Softball World Series on Sunday, Aug. 2.

The game endured a four-and-half hour rain delay to the start time of the game that forced an 8 p.m. first pitch in Greenville, North Carolina.

Live Oak came out swinging the bats right away in the top of the first as pitcher Eveya Martinez led off with a single to open the game off DCLL pitcher Michaela Knight.

Knight is one of two athletes on the Kentucky roster that was on the 2025-26 Trinity High School varsity roster in Whitesville, KY as seventh graders.

In the bottom half of the first, DCLL lit up the scoreboard off Martinez in the inning as they played seven runs across the plate.

There were a couple of errors that contributed to the big inning by



Live Oak infielder/pitcher Eveya Martinez (9) swings at a pitch during their opener against Daviess County LL on Sunday, Aug. 2. Photo by Ryan Dudek

DCLL as four runs were unearned.

Martinez was relieved in the first inning by infielder Charlotte Dudek.

Dudek opened her time in the circle with a walk but was able to get the final two outs of the

inning to end the threat from DCLL.

Dudek pitched 3 2/3 innings where she allowed four runs off six hits and struck out six.

After the first inning, Knight settled into the circle and found her

groove as she favored the outside corners to the hitters in the box and mixed her pitches well.

Knight finished the game with four innings pitched, allowed four hits and struck out seven.

Continued on page 3

The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

Have you seen that old house on the corner of Chatfield and Highway 99? It's on the west side of the road, so if you're driving north, you can see it. It's been there in a terrible spot, too close to the road, for probably 50 years, and it has always been in some sort of state of disrepair. I think it even burned down

like twice, but it was so solid it didn't go down. It just burnt and stayed there, and then they fixed it. In the last year and a half, the place is really starting to look up, and this week they started what looks like it's gonna be some landscaping in a lot of ways. It's kind of cool, so whoever you are at the corner of Chatfield & Highway 99, you're making the neighborhood a little bit nicer, and you've got a house that has a lot of character, has seen a lot of things, and will be seen by lots of people as you drive north on Highway 99.

Not that I wanna tell anybody how to live their life or how they should run their business or what they should do. But Gridley

Ford has red trucks, white trucks, and blue trucks, but they're not lined up in the right order. If they just moved a couple of the trucks around right next to the highway, they could have red, white, and blue trucks celebrating the 250th anniversary of America.

The 2026 Butte County Fair in Gridley starts Thursday, Aug. 27, through Sunday, Aug. 30. The fair will be open from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Thursday, 4 p.m. to midnight on Friday, 2 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday. Start eating less now so you can do fair food then.

Josh F.W. Cook was born in Gridley.

MADD Recognizes Gridley Police Officers

By Lloyd Green Jr.

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Two members of the Gridley Police Department received regional recognition from Mothers Against Drunk Driving Sacramento.

Officer Abigail Chufar was named the recipient of MADD Sacramento's 2026 Outstanding Officer Award, while Officer Ashley Gibson received the organization's 2026 Community Champion Officer Award. The awards recognize law enforcement officers whose work supports MADD's mission of reducing impaired driving and strengthening community safety.

Chufar, who joined the Gridley Police Department in July 2024, was recognized for her proactive enforcement efforts during the 2025 calendar year.

According to the department, Chufar made 75 arrests in 2025, including 18 felony arrests and 57 misdemeanor arrests. Among those arrests were five DUI cases involving impaired drivers, along with arrests related to drug possession, individuals under the influence of controlled substances and alcohol-related offenses. She also made more than 20 warrant arrests.

The department noted that Chufar handled 1,661 calls for service during the year, including 1,125 officer-initiated incidents, reflecting a proactive approach to policing. She also conducted 429 traffic stops, issued 197 citations and managed 123 criminal investigations.

"Officer Chufar's dedication, professionalism and impact make her highly deserving of recognition for MADD's Outstanding Officer Award," the department wrote in its nomination.

Gibson, who joined the department in June 2023, earned the Community Champion Officer Award for combining enforcement with education and youth mentorship as the department's school resource officer.

Working in partnership



Gridley Police Officer Abigail Chufar received the 2026 MADD Sacramento Outstanding Officer Award for her proactive enforcement efforts, including impaired driving investigations and traffic safety. Photo courtesy of the Gridley Police Department



Gridley Police Officer Ashley Gibson received the 2026 MADD Sacramento Community Champion Officer Award for her work as a school resource officer, youth mentor and advocate for impaired driving prevention. Photo courtesy of the Gridley Police Department

with the Gridley Unified School District, Gibson serves five schools throughout the district. Her responsibilities include maintaining a visible presence on campuses, responding to safety concerns, building relationships with students, staff and parents, and participating in educational programs focused on alcohol awareness and substance abuse prevention.

The department said Gibson has become a trusted mentor for many students while continuing to perform the duties expected of a patrol officer,

including responding to calls for service, conducting investigations, preparing reports and testifying in court.

One incident highlighted in her nomination occurred in August 2025 while she was conducting traffic enforcement near Spruce Street and State Route 99, an area frequently traveled by students. Gibson stopped a driver who allegedly ran a red light at a high rate of speed. During the investigation, she determined the driver was impaired by alcohol and arrested the individual on suspicion of driving under the influence, violating probation, displaying false registration tabs and the traffic violation.

The department said the arrest removed an impaired driver from a heavily traveled area near local schools and demonstrated Gibson's commitment to protecting students and the community.

"Officer Gibson has made a meaningful and lasting impact on the students, schools and families within the Gridley community," the department wrote. "Her proactive efforts to reduce underage drinking, promote responsible behavior and enhance community safety embody the values and mission of MADD's Community Champion recognition." ★

Casa de Esperanza Names Justice Manager

By Lloyd Green Jr.

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - Casa de Esperanza has hired Tamara Peci as its new justice and community response manager, a position created to strengthen services for survivors of sexual assault, commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking in Yuba, Sutter and Colusa counties.

Peci, who recently retired from the Yuba County Sheriff's Office after more than 20 years of public service, will work with victim advocates, law enforcement, healthcare providers, prosecutors and community organizations to improve coordination and expand access to survivor services.

The new position will also focus on developing Casa de Esperanza's response to commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking while helping survivors connect with advocacy, information and community resources. Part of the role includes identifying barriers that prevent survivors from accessing services and supporting collaboration among partner agencies.

Casa de Esperanza Executive Director Michelle Downing said the organization believes strong partnerships are essential to meeting survivors' needs.

"Our community is strongest when we work together," Downing said. "Every organization brings valuable expertise and plays an essential role in supporting survivors. Our vision is not to duplicate services, but to connect them."

Downing said collaboration has become increasingly important as victim service organizations face uncertainty over future state and federal funding.

"By strengthening relationships, improving communication, and working together toward shared goals, we can build an even stronger network of support for survivors across our region," Downing said. "As funding for victim services becomes increasingly uncertain, collaboration is no longer just beneficial, it's essential."

During her career with the sheriff's office, Peci worked alongside advocates, healthcare professionals, prosecutors, law



Tamara Peci has joined Casa de Esperanza as justice and community response manager, a new leadership position focused on strengthening services for survivors across Yuba, Sutter and Colusa counties. Photo courtesy of Casa de Esperanza

enforcement agencies and community organizations, gaining experience with coordinated responses for victims. At Casa de Esperanza, she will serve as a liaison to partner agencies, support multi-disciplinary initiatives and help strengthen survivor-centered services.

"I am honored to continue serving this community in a new capacity," Peci said. "Throughout my career, I learned that no single organization can meet every need a survivor may have. Meaningful collaboration creates stronger outcomes."

She said she looks forward to building existing partnerships while exploring new opportunities to improve support for survivors throughout the region.

Casa de Esperanza has served Yuba, Sutter and Colusa counties for nearly 50 years, providing emergency shelter, a 24-hour crisis line, legal advocacy, therapy, housing support and other services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and human trafficking. For more information about programs and services, visit www.casaysc.org or call the Hope Haven Counseling and Support Center at 530-674-5400. Individuals seeking immediate support can contact the organization's 24-hour support line at 530-674-2040. ★



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Feather Falls Brewery Among Nation’s Best



Members of the Feather Falls Brewing Company team at the brewery in Oroville. The brewery earned six medals, including four golds, at the 2026 U.S. Open Beer Championship and was named the nation's No. 3 brewery. Photo courtesy of Feather Falls Brewing Company

By Lloyd Green Jr.

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Feather Falls Brewing Company has been named the third-ranked brewery in the nation after earning six medals, including four golds, at the 2026 U.S. Open Beer Championship.

The annual competition attracts breweries from across the United States and around the world, with entries judged in more than 180 beer categories.

Feather Falls Brewing Co. finished third overall in the competition's Top 10 Breweries rankings, placing the Oroville brewery among the nation's top performers.

The brewery earned gold medals for Volcano Mudslide in the Sweet Stout category, Angry Mama Bear in Imperial Porter, Crouching Cougar in American Barley Wine Ale and Charging Buffalo in Belgian-Style Dark Strong Ale.

It also received a silver medal for Rye Not? in the Rye Beer category and a bronze medal for Oroveza in the Australasian, Latin American or

Tropical-Style Light Lager category.

"This national recognition is an incredible honor for our entire brewing team," Brewery Manager Andy Durocher said. "Each of these beers reflects the knowledge, creativity, and attention to detail that goes into every batch we produce."

Durocher said the recognition extends beyond the brewery.

"Being named the No. 3 brewery in the country is a tremendous achievement and a proud moment for Feather Falls Casino Resort and our entire community," he said.

The six-medal performance continues a string of national recognition for Feather Falls Brewing Co., which produces a range of year-round and seasonal beers at its brewery inside Feather Falls Casino Resort.

The U.S. Open Beer Championship is considered one of the country's largest beer competitions, recognizing breweries across a wide range of styles each year.

For more information about Feather Falls Brewing Company, visit <http://featherfalls-casino.com/feather-falls-brewing-co/>. ★

'Bandits & Bandanas' Returns Aug. 22

By MPG Staff

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture will once again turn the Sutter Theater Center for the Arts into a celebration of country music while raising money for one of the community's largest arts projects.

The organization's annual "Bandits & Bandanas" fundraiser returns Saturday, Aug. 22 with this year's theme, "Bandits & Bandanas Meets the Grand Ole Opry." The evening will feature live entertainment, dinner, games, auctions and tours of the historic Main Stage, where organizers hope to continue building support for the theater's next phase of redevelopment.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will help advance plans to restore the rear portion of the historic Sutter Theater into a 299-seat performance venue. Once completed, the Main Stage will provide a permanent home for concerts, theatrical productions, educational programs, visiting performers and community events. Organizers say the expanded venue also will strengthen downtown Yuba City's role as a regional arts destination.

"Lots of folks don't realize that behind the existing lobby, art gallery and Clark Family Black Box Theater at the front of the building, there is a 299-seat theater waiting to be refurbished," organizers said.

The space served as part of the original Sutter Movie Theater and has remained largely untouched for more than



Dan Flores, from left, Tanya Flores and Doug Marr attend the 2024 Bandits & Bandanas fundraiser at the Sutter Theater Center for the Arts. This year's Grand Ole Opry-themed event is scheduled for Aug. 22 in Yuba City. Photo courtesy of Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture

70 years. Organizers said the raised stage and proscenium arch still stand where audiences once watched films including "Singin' in the Rain," "Rear Window," "Star Wars" and "Indiana Jones." The goal is to preserve that history while transforming the building into a modern performing arts venue.

The fundraiser begins at 5:30 p.m. with the Giddy-Up Saloon, followed by a chuckwagon supper at 6:30 p.m. Entertainment begins at 7 p.m. at the Sutter Theater Center for the Arts, 754 Plumas St. Individual tickets are \$75, while reserved tables of eight are available for \$550. Sponsorship opportunities also remain available.

Returning director, Alex Cesena will lead the evening's cabaret-style production featuring Kathy Campbell, Thor Campbell, Tanda Phelps and special guests Shannon and Josh Dukeberry.

Guests also can participate in live and silent auctions featuring donated items and experiences, including a chef-prepared dinner, landscaping services, artwork and other community donations. The event also marks the return of "Chicken Sh*t Bingo," a longtime crowd favorite that has become one of the fundraiser's signature attractions.

Another highlight of the evening will be guided tours of the unfinished Main Stage. Because the space is not normally open to the public, attendees will have an opportunity to see the theater before construction begins and learn more about plans for its restoration.

Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture has served as the region's local arts council affiliate for 45 years, providing arts education, performances and community programming throughout Yuba and Sutter counties. Organizers say the annual fundraiser plays an important role in helping move the Main Stage project closer to completion.

Tickets and sponsorship information are available at yubasutterarts.org. ★



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Live Oak Opens World Series with Defeat



The Live Oak 10-12 team waves to their support from the YS area on Saturday, Aug.1 in the opening ceremonies in Greenville, N.C. Photo by Ryan Dudek

Continued from page 1

Martinez had two singles in the loss.

DCLL eventually forced the run rule on Live Oak in the fourth inning as LL rules state that if a team has a 10-run lead after four innings, the game is over.

With the loss, Live Oak moved to the consolation bracket in the tournament and played Tuesday against the loser of Asia-Pacific (Japan) and Latin America (Puerto Rico).

Weather impacted the games on the opening day of the tournament and rain was expected throughout



Live Oak pitcher Charlotte Dudek (19) tosses a pitch on Sunday, Aug.2 in the loss to Daviess County LL in Greenville, N.C. Photo by Ryan Dudek

the entire week of competition. Game times were

subjected to changes as five games were scheduled for Monday. ★



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MEMORIAL

RONALD ALAN SANFORD — 06/13/1939 - 07/20/2026



Ronald Alan Sanford, 87, passed away on July 20, 2026. Born and raised in Gridley, California, Ron was the middle son of Keith and Aileen Sanford and brother to Roger and Tom. He attended UC Berkeley, where he met the love of his life, Nancy “Wallace” Sanford. They shared 65 wonderful years of marriage.

Ron proudly served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Alaska during the 1964 Great Alaska Earthquake. After his military service, he and Nancy returned to Gridley, where they built Gridley Growers into a successful Honda dealership. Later, Ron turned his lifelong

books. He also enjoyed teaching photography and speaking to groups, inspiring others to appreciate the natural world.

Ron is survived by his beloved wife, Nancy; sons Mike (Diana) and Dan (Dalisa); grandchildren Kelsie (Aaron), Jill (Greg), Jason, Devon (Caden), and Hank; seven treasured great-grandchildren - Maddox, Stella, Gianna, Titus, Nixon, Jackson and Addison—and Cedar, the family dog.

Above all, Ron loved his family, his adventures with Nancy, and a life well lived. He often said, “we loved every minute of our life,” and those who knew him, know he truly did.

Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

I know it feels like the wrong time of year to be thinking of your fall and winter vegetable garden. But now it the time to plan and by September is the time to plant. Our weather might be very hot in September so one method of planting seedlings or seeds and saving them from extreme heat

is to create microclimates. This can be done in a number of ways. Any creative idea that makes some shade over your plants will work. Sometimes one or two degrees of change will help with success. Some people make teepees out of boards; others use shade cloth with supports. The idea is to provide shade for the new plants. Maybe you have some thriving tall tomatoes, watch and see if their shade pattern can aide the new plants. Sometimes planting pole beans now can be planned to make a shaded planting area. The ideas are endless once you set out to solve the problem.

There is a lot of talk about a super El Nino this fall and winter. I'm

looking into it with ideas in mind to help my garden if it should be as much rain as they talk about. I always say that Gridley sits in and odd vortex of weather patterns. I noticed this when I moved here 14 years ago. The clouds build, they lower and then they go around us. I've seen this so many times. The one thing that usually indicates rain in Gridley is the wind will pick up as the clouds come in and lower. This is not a guarantee but it is something I've noticed. Maybe we'll luck out and get regular rain, we'll find out in a couple of months.

We now have a plethora of melons from the mystery seeds. Not a bad thing to have plenty of! ★

Doug Arnold Ends Final Chapter of Public Service

Continued from page 1

City Administrator Nicholas Gauthier said Arnold's experience and dependability helped guide both the council and city staff through that period of transition.

"You've been an absolutely great, steady hand on this council," Gauthier said. "Having you as vice mayor, knowing that I can always count on you to be here and have that

anchor point, that's been so valuable."

During a special meeting July 31, the council formally accepted Arnold's resignation and appointed Councilmember Jerome Squires to serve as vice mayor for the remainder of the year.

The council also directed Gauthier to begin the appointment process to fill Arnold's vacant seat rather than call a special election.

Gauthier said state law allows the council to appoint a replacement because a majority of its members were elected, meaning the appointment will become the council's second appointed seat.

Applications for the seat are due by 4 p.m. Aug. 14, with interviews and an appointment scheduled during a special meeting Aug. 17. ★



Food & Farm
NEWS

Avocado Farmer Helped Revolutionize the Modern Skateboard

Long before Larry Balma was tending avocado trees in San Diego County, he helped transform the sport of skateboarding. In 1975, he co-founded Tracker Trucks, a San Diego-based company that designed and manufactured stronger, wider, more durable skateboard trucks—the T-shaped metal piece that connects a board's wheels to its deck and allows riders to steer. At a time when skateboarding equipment frequently broke under the demands of the sport's emerging tricks, Tracker's engineering advances gave riders unprecedented stability and resilience, setting a new standard for skateboards. "All the innovations on the original Tracker trucks have ultimately been adapted to every other skateboard truck designed since," Balma said. Today, Balma is just as likely to be found discussing crop yields and water costs as skateboard design. He and his wife, Louise Balma, manage 25 acres of agricultural land, with 16 acres devoted to avocados.

Smart Sprayers Slash Farm Labor and Herbicide Costs

An increasing number of specialty crop farmers in California are minimizing labor and chemical costs through the adoption of high-tech herbicide sprayers used for weed control. "When I talk to growers, it's getting good reviews," Walt Duflock, vice president of innovation at the Western Growers Association, said of the emerging technology used to power various smart sprayer machines. "I think spraying does have a moment in the next couple

of years to come." Brothers Justin and Joe Ritchie, who farm about 1,300 acres of pistachios and almonds in Kern County, purchased a smart sprayer that differentiates between the green of growing plants and the brown of soil or dead plants, applying herbicide to only the green plants. "With the size of our operation, it's paid for itself the first season just in chemical savings," Justin Ritchie said.

Commentary: California's Pest Prevention System Needs an Update

More California farms and ranches are incorporating small-scale overnight camping into their operations. The trend comes as farms seek to diversify their incomes amid rising land ownership costs, water uncertainty and fluctuating crop prices, according to the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources. It was also boosted by Assembly Bill 518, state legislation approved last year that created a new state category for small nature-based campsites so that they no longer need a commercial occupancy permit. "It is a positive that agricultural producers may have more options to diversify their income in a way that is compatible with their farming business and that invites the public to appreciate the beauty of California's agricultural lands," said Rachael Callahan, statewide agritourism coordinator for the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. "It is promising that policymakers are thoughtfully engaging with how to create new opportunities for farmers and ranchers, and remove barriers, to ultimately strengthen farm viability." ★

Community Rallies for Back-to-School Giveaway

Continued from page 1

According to Mendez, every backpack, article of clothing and school supply distributed during the event was donated by community members, businesses and organizations.

"This event was 100% community supported and funded. No fancy corporate sponsors, no grants, no tax write-offs," Mendez said. "Every single backpack, school supply and piece of clothing was given freely from the hearts of members and organizations in Live Oak, Gridley and Biggs."

The Something for Nothing group has previously hosted a household goods giveaway and semiannual "free sales," where donated items are offered free to community members.

After the backpack giveaway, volunteers distributed the remaining supplies to additional families through the group's Facebook page.

Mendez said she hopes to expand the effort next



Volunteers gather before opening the doors to the Something for Nothing back-to-school giveaway Aug. 1 at The Father's House church in Live Oak. More than 300 children received backpacks, clothing, shoes and school supplies during the community-supported event. From left are Elizabeth Ramirez, Ammanda Mendez, Lynda Greer and Valerie Sanchez. Photo courtesy of Ammanda Mendez

year by creating a separate event focused on middle and high school students.

"While planning this event, I came to learn that the sixth-12th graders are very underserved in our community and I feel they need their own specific event to get what they need for school," she said. "That's my plan for next year."

She said the Facebook

group continues to connect residents with free items while creating opportunities for neighbors to help one another.

"It's truly amazing the kindness and the giving culture this community has had all along, but never an outlet to pour it out until I created the group," Mendez said. "I am so happy I did. Much more to come in the future!" ★

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Child-Friendly Interview Room Opens for Abuse Victims

By Susan Meeker

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - A newly redesigned child interview room at the Butte County District Attorney’s Office will help young abuse victims share their experiences in a safe, child-friendly setting while reducing the trauma of repeated questioning.

The room supports the Butte County Child Abuse Response Team, or CART, a multidisciplinary program that has coordinated child abuse investigations since 1993. The program brings investigators, prosecutors, social workers and victim advocates together so children generally need to participate in only one forensic interview.

Phyllis’s Garden, a nonprofit that creates trauma-informed interview spaces for child abuse victims, designed the renovated room.

Kris Pedretti, co-founder and chief executive officer of Phyllis’s Garden, survived a 1976 sexual assault committed by the man later identified through genetic genealogy as the Golden State Killer. “To many people, a soft interview room really just looks like a beautiful room,” Pedretti said. “But to a survivor of sexual assault, it sends a very important message. And that message is that they matter and that they will be believed.”

Pedretti said a welcoming environment helps children feel secure enough to describe what happened, benefiting both their recovery and the investigative

process.

District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the child-friendly approach allows a specially trained forensic interviewer to obtain an accurate account in a setting designed for children while investigators observe remotely. Interviews are digitally recorded and livestreamed to another room where team members can watch without intruding. During breaks, they can provide additional questions to the interviewer, helping avoid multiple interviews while ensuring investigators gather the information needed for criminal or juvenile proceedings.

CART includes the Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services Children’s Services Division, the District Attorney’s Special Victims Unit and Victim Assistance Bureau, the Butte County Sheriff’s Office, police departments in Chico, Gridley, Oroville and Paradise, Chico State University Police, the California Highway Patrol, California State Parks, Community Care Licensing and the Butte County Sexual Assault Response Team when medical examinations are needed.

Ramsey said 774 children have been interviewed through the county’s child interview center during the past five years.

The Butte County Board of Supervisors joined Ramsey and CART representatives to dedicate the new interview room on June 28. ★

Gallagher Introduces Water Reliability Bill

By MPG Staff

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - Rep. James Gallagher has introduced legislation in Congress that would expand federal support for water storage projects, habitat restoration and infrastructure improvements throughout the Sacramento River Basin.

The measure, called the Doug LaMalfa Sacramento River Basin Water Security and Reliability Act, was introduced July 31 in the U.S. House of Representatives. If approved, it would extend federal authorities for water storage projects, authorize funding for ecosystem restoration and create a committee to coordinate water management efforts among federal agencies.

Among the bill's provisions is continued federal support for water storage projects, including the proposed Sites Reservoir. The legislation also would allow federal participation in operations and maintenance costs for qualifying projects that provide public benefits.

Gallagher said the proposal is intended to improve long-term water reliability while supporting environmental restoration.

"The Sacramento River Basin is the lifeblood of Northern California," Gallagher said. "Our communities, our farmers, and our economy all depend



Rep. James Gallagher

on a reliable water supply. This legislation strengthens our water infrastructure while investing in the long-term health of our rivers so future generations can continue to benefit from these resources."

The legislation would authorize up to \$500 million over the next decade for habitat restoration, salmon recovery and related conservation projects. It also would allow eligible water contractors to reinvest revenue from voluntary water transfers into drought resilience projects, maintenance and dam safety improvements.

Roger Cornwell, chair of the Northern California Water Association, said the organization supports the proposal.

"The Sacramento River Basin is a working landscape where the water system supports communities, farms, fish, millions of migratory birds, recreation, and hydropower," Cornwell said. "We can more reliably and affordably deliver water for all of California when we make strategic investments in the Sacramento River Basin." ★

Butte County Fair Offers Savings Before Aug. 26

By Lloyd Green Jr.

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - With less than a month before opening day, the Butte County Fair is encouraging visitors to purchase discounted admission and carnival tickets before Aug. 26 while reminding exhibitors that entry deadlines are approaching.

The 2026 Butte County Fair, themed "Golden Days & Country Ways," runs Aug. 27 through Aug. 30 at the Butte County Fairgrounds in Gridley.

Advance general admission tickets are available online at [ButteCountyFair.org](https://www.buttecountyfair.org) and at the fair office, 199 E. Hazel St. Carnival wristbands for unlimited one-day rides are also available during the presale period for \$30. Presale pricing ends at 5 p.m. Aug. 26.

Advance admission prices are \$10 for adults ages 13 and older, \$8 for children ages 6 through 12 and \$8 for seniors 65 and older. Children age 5 and younger are admitted free.

The fair will also offer several special admission promotions. Seniors 65 and older receive free admission on Thursday, which also features bingo and karaoke. Friday is Kids Day, when children 12 and younger are admitted free, along with free team roping in the grandstands.

Competitive exhibit entries also remain open in several divisions. Entries for clothing, textiles and quilts, crafts, digital arts,

fine arts, preserved foods, photography and family projects close at 11:59 p.m. Aug. 9. Entries for floriculture and farm and garden exhibits remain open until 11:59 p.m. Aug. 16.

Several arena events are expected to highlight this year's fair.

The Jeff Mardesich Memorial Roping returns Friday, Aug. 28, with a minimum of \$5,000 in added prize money. Signups begin at 5 p.m., books close at 5:45 p.m. and competition starts at 6 p.m. Organizers will also hold a free dummy roping competition for children, with buckle awards presented in the 6-and-under and 7-to-9 age divisions.

Saturday's featured attraction is Flat Track Motorcycle Racing. Gates open at 6 p.m. Admission for the event is \$10, and children younger than 5 are admitted free.

The fair concludes on Sunday with the annual Destruction Derby. Gates open at 5 p.m. The evening will also feature the PowerWheel Derby, where children ages 4 through 9 can compete in two age divisions. Organizers are accepting advance registrations, and entry is \$25.

Fair officials encourage visitors to purchase tickets before the Aug. 26 deadline to receive discounted pricing and avoid waiting in line during the four-day event.

For more information visit: <https://www.buttecountyfair.org> ★

Community Calendar

Does your group or organization have an upcoming community event? Email lloyd.green@mpg8.com.
Events are typically published within two weeks of their scheduled date, as space allows.

Saturday, Aug. 8
Movies in the Pool: “Luca”
7 to 10 p.m., Pleasant Valley Pool, 2320 North Ave., Chico. Enjoy Disney and Pixar's "Luca" from the pool during this family-friendly movie night hosted by the Chico Area Recreation and Park District. Guests are encouraged to bring pool floats. Movie snacks will be available for purchase.

Sunday, Aug. 9
Back to School Bask and Health Fair
11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dorothy Johnson Center, 775 E. 16th St., Chico. Building Leaders, Advocates, and Community Connections (BLACC) will host a free community event featuring backpack and school supply giveaways, health services, educational resources, a Vitalant blood drive, food, drinks, games and more. Backpacks and school supplies will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Tuesday, Aug. 11
Trail Film Festival
6:30 to 9 p.m., The Commons Chico, 2412 Park Ave., Chico. Presented by the Bidwell Run Club, this film festival features stories celebrating trail running, hiking, endurance and outdoor adventure. Proceeds benefit Bidwell Run Club, a nonprofit dedicated to building an inclusive outdoor community. Tickets and information are available at www.butte365.com/event.

Wednesday, Aug. 12
Drive-Thru Dinner
Butte County Farm Bureau, 3688 Durham Dayton Highway, Chico. Support the Butte County Farm Bureau with a family-style drive-thru dinner at the future home of the organization. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For ticket information, visit www.buttefarmbureau.com/programs/events.

Thursday, Aug. 13
Bunco in the Barn
6:15 to 8 p.m., Patrick Ranch Visitor Center, 10381 Midway, Durham. Enjoy an evening of Bunco at Patrick Ranch. Dinner will be available from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. for \$5. Bunco admission is \$10, or \$15 for Bunco and dinner. For more information, call 530-342-4359 or email lesa@patrick-ranchmuseum.org.

Inspire Campus Community Celebration
7 p.m., Inspire School of Arts and Sciences, 1050 Fremont St., Chico. Celebrate the opening of Inspire's new campus with a ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring remarks from alumni, staff and community members, along with live music and light refreshments.

Saturday, Aug. 15
Native Grasses & Fire Resilient Landscapes
9 a.m. to noon, Upper Bidwell Park, Parking Lot A, Chico. Join botanist and watershed program manager Wolfy Rougle of the Butte County Resource Conservation District for a guided walk exploring native grasses, prescribed fire and climate-resilient land stewardship. Registration and information are available at www.butte365.com/event.

Nature Ice Cream Social
10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Chico Creek Nature Center, 1968 E. Eighth St., Chico. Enjoy Shubert's Ice Cream, visit the Janece Webb Living Animal Museum, meet animal ambassadors, participate in crafts and games, and explore Bidwell Park during this family-friendly event presented by the Chico Area Recreation and Park District.

Saturday, Aug. 22
Warren McCutcheon Poker Run
Registration begins at 8 a.m., American Legion Post 210, 249 Sycamore St., Gridley. The ride benefits veteran causes and includes a meal ticket and poker hand with registration. First bike out is at 10 a.m. and the last bike out is at 1 p.m. Registration is \$25 for riders and \$15 for passengers. For information, text Josh at 530-455-9925. All proceeds benefit veteran causes.

Sunday, Aug. 23
Aquathon Water Aerobic Fundraiser
10 a.m., Nelson Pool, 2280 Sixth St., Oroville. Quota of Oroville will host an Aquathon water aerobics fundraiser to help purchase a service dog for Kelly Horn, who recently lost her mobility assistance dog. The event will include water aerobics, raffle prizes and community activities. Tickets are \$30. For information, contact Kiki Silva at 209-329-1057.

Butte County Libraries
Butte County Libraries are pausing programs for next couple of weeks at the Gridley branch, 299 Spruce St. and Biggs branch, 464A B St. Call 530-552-5652 for more information.

Meeting Minders
Ongoing Activities (Current as of publication, please verify schedule with the organization):

American Legion Bingo, Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Gridley Veterans Hall, 267 Sycamore St.

Biggs City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday each month, at 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 3016 Sixth St., Biggs. The next meeting is scheduled Aug. 11 and more information is available at 530-368-5493.

Butte County Board of Supervisors generally meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 205, Oroville. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 11 and more information is available at 530-552-3300.

Downtown Chico Thursday Night Market continues every Thursday night, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. through September 24. You'll find the market on Broadway between 2nd and 4th Streets, including side streets and City Plaza, Chico. Enjoy more than 100 vendors along the streets, a certified farmers' market, weekly live performances by entertainers of all kinds, and lots of family fun. For more information call 530-345-6500.

Durham Grange Farmers’ Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Sunday through Oct. 25 at 9386 Midway in Durham, behind Dollar General. This vibrant market promises an array of fresh produce, delicious foods, handmade goods and more, making it the perfect spot to shop local and support small businesses.

ESL Conversation Group meets Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Esperanza House Family Center, 630 Washington St. Practice speaking English in this free, friendly group setting. All levels are welcome to attend any or all sessions. There is also a Zoom option from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Butte County Library. Contact literacy@buttecounty.net for more information.

Friday Night Concerts, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Chico City Plaza, 132 W. 4th St., every Friday through August 28. Grab take-out from your favorite downtown restaurant and enjoy your meal picnic-style in the Plaza while the band plays. Support local restaurants and soak up the music-filled summer atmosphere.

Gridley City Council meets on the first and third Monday each month, 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 685 Kentucky St. Meeting agendas are posted to the following site on the Friday prior to each meeting: <https://www.gridleyca.gov/168/Gridley-Mayor-City-Council>.

Gridley Friends of the Library, first Monday each month, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 299 Spruce St.

Gridley Senior Group Breakfast every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. includes Bingo at 9:30 a.m. Gridley Recreation Center 194 Washington St. For more information, call 530-846-3264.

Gridley Unified School District (GUSD) Board meetings are generally on the first and third Wednesday each month, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 530-846-4721 for more information. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 12.

Live Oak City Council usually meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall, 9955 Live Oak Blvd. Call 530-695-2112 for more information.

Live Oak Lions Club meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Train Depot, 9826 Hwy. 99. Club mailing address is P.O. Box 325. Phone 530-701-3722.

Rotary Club of Gridley meets every Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Hall, 446 Kentucky St. For more information or membership, call 530-632-5990.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group meets the first and third Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. at the Gridley Recreation Department, 194 Washington Street. For more information, call 530-353-5349. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, Aug. 5.

Community Resources – Find Food

First 5 Family Center at Esperanza House, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays at 630 Washington St., Gridley. Must be pregnant or live with and actively care for a child up to age 17. Call to schedule an appointment: 530-720-2255.

First Baptist Church of Live Oak Food Pantry, 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month, at 2480 Pennington Road, Live Oak. This is a drive-through Food Pantry, with entrance on Gum Street and exit on Pennington Road. Next distribution will be July 26. Call 530-695-2894 for more information.

Gridley Senior Food Distribution, 801 Washington Street, Room B. Once a month, call ahead for details: 530-846-4233.

Gridley United Methodist Church, 285 Magnolia St. Monday through Friday, during daytime hours. Come by the church and if they have food they will give client a box. Call 530-846-2520 for more information.

North State Food Bank, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. monthly at St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, 410 Jackson St., Gridley. Next distribution on Tuesday, Aug. 11. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

North State Food Bank, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Biggs Methodist Church, 441 C St., Biggs. Next distribution on Tuesday, Aug. 11. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

Sacred Heart Parish, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 1561 Hazel St., Gridley on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Call 530-846-2140 for more information. ★

Legal Advertising
916-483-0946

LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Gridley Herald Adjudicated For and By the County of Butte, Adjudication No. 27207 – October 29, 1951

300 Spruce • Suite C
Gridley, CA 95948

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000613
The following person(s) are doing business as: Gold Coast Nut, 1126 Hixson Avenue, Biggs, CA 95917
Gold Coast Nut, LLC, 700 Hazel Street, Gridley, CA 95948
Date filed in Butte County: June 3, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 1, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 2026
GOLD 8-7-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000630
The following person(s) are doing business as: Oroville Certified Farmers Market, 2525 Oro Dam Boulevard, Oroville, CA 95966
Joyce B Townsend, 20 Sutter View Court, Oroville, CA 95966 and Tracy Grant, 6625 Citrus Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: June 8, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: May 6, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a

fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 2026
OROVILLE 8-7-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000684
The following person(s) are doing business as: Strive Dance, 1920 Bird Street, Oroville, CA 95965
Strive Dance LLC, 1920 Bird Street, Oroville, CA 95965
Date filed in Butte County: June 22, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 2026
STRIVE 8-7-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000716
The following person(s) are doing business as: El Patron Mexican Cocina, 1354 East Avenue Suite E, Chico, CA 95926
ATMD LLC, 1354 East Avenue Suite E, Chico, CA 95926
Date filed in Butte County: June 29, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 7, 2023
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed

before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 2026
EL 8-7-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000747
The following person(s) are doing business as: Thicc Bunz Society, 745 Yuba Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965
Alexandria M Robbins and Tyler B Tillman, 745 Yuba Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965
Date filed in Butte County: July 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 9, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 2026
THICC 8-7-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000754
The following person(s) are doing business as: Chico Dryer Vent Plus, 1141 Honey Run Road, Chico, CA 95928
Heinz, Brent, 1141 Honey Run Road, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: July 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires

five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2026
CHICO 8-14-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000687
The following person(s) are doing business as: Wild Roots Divine Massage Therapy, 2231 St George Lane Unit 50, Chico, CA 95926
Harley A Mason, PO Box 5024, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: June 22, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 2026
WILD 8-21-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000775
The following person(s) are doing business as: Stidham Plumbing, 369 Aleut Street, Biggs, CA 95917
Stidham, Zachariah Martin, 369 Aleut Street, Biggs, CA 95917
Date filed in Butte County: July 16, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 2026
STIDHAM 8-21-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000770
The following person(s) are doing business as: Serenity Haven Palliative Care, 1960 Bird Street, Oroville, CA 95965
A Sharma Medical Group PC, 1401 21st Street Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811
Date filed in Butte County: July 14, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 2026
SERENITY 8-21-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000813
The following person(s) are doing business as: Gridley Grocery Outlet, 1550 CA-99, Gridley, CA 95948
Rai Family Enterprise LLC, 1093 Bellevue Road, Atwater, CA 95301
Date filed in Butte County: July 27, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of

the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: August 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026
GRIDLEY 8-28-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME – STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
FILE NO. 2026-0000716
The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: El Patron Mexican Cocina, 1354 East Avenue Suite E, Chico, CA 95926
ATMD LLC, 1354 East Avenue Suite E, Chico, CA 95926
Original filing date: June 7, 2023; Statement expires: June 7, 2028. The Registrant began transacting business on: June 7, 2023. Business conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. Date Filed in Butte County: June 29, 2026.
This statement was filed in the office of Keaton Denlay, County Clerk of Butte County
Publish: July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2026
EL 8-14-26

ORDER TO SHOW FOR
CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #26CV01931
Petitioner Melissa Rose Hanover filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Melissa Rose Hanover to Melissa Rose Hanover Summerfeld.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing August 19, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on June 24, 2026
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2026
HANOVER 8-14-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #26CV01932
Petitioner Elazar Vilensky filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Elazar Vilensky to Elazar Vilensky Summerfeld.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing August 19, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on June 24, 2026
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2026
VILENSKY 8-14-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #26CV01934
Petitioner Melissa Rose Hanover and Elazar Vilensky filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jesper Evan Vilensky to Jesper Evan Summerfeld.
THE COURT ORDERS that all

persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing August 19, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on June 24, 2026
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2026
VILENSKY 8-14-26

SUMMONS

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER: 26CV01627
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
Jeremiah Johnson, all persons unknown claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the property adverse to Plaintiff's title, or any cloud on Plaintiff's title to the Property, and DOES 1 to 100
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Jarren Camposl.
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion.
Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO FILL A VACANCY
FOR MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL BY APPOINTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Biggs will accept applications for appointment to the City Council to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Council Member Douglas Arnold. The term of this Council seat is from the date of appointment to the installation of an elected member following the November 2026 election. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age and reside within the corporate limits of the City of Biggs.

To be considered for the position, applicants must attend the City Council meeting on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 6 p.m.

During the City Council meeting each applicant will be asked to respond to questions from the City Council to assess their knowledge, qualifications, and application details. The order in which the applicants will be called upon will be determined by random draw at the special meeting.

It is the Council's intent to make an appointment at the special meeting of August 17, 2026. The appointee will be sworn in by the City Clerk and will take his or her place on the dais for the remainder of the meeting. All applicants should read all published materials for the meeting and be prepared to fully participate as a Council Member if selected.

Application Period: July 31, 2026, through August 14, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

Applications are available from:
Biggs City Clerk
530-868-5493
465 C Street
Website: biggs-ca.gov
Email: cityclerk@biggs-ca.gov

Additionally, it should be noted that anyone seeking to apply for this appointment may also fulfill the nomination packet for the coming election. The nomination packet is due August 7, 2026, not to be mistaken for the appointment due date of August 14, 2026.

The Gridley Herald 8-7-2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE CITY OF GRIDLEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing on the project described below. The hearing before the City Council will be held at a special meeting scheduled **Monday, August 17, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.** in Gridley City Hall Council Chambers, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley. All interested persons are invited to attend in person, attend remotely, and/or submit comments in writing until 4:00 pm on Monday, August 17th, 2026, via email to planningdept@gridley.ca.us <mailto:csantana@gridley.ca.us> or via the payment/document drop box at Gridley City Hall and will be conveyed to the City Council for consideration.

The information to connect to the Zoom meeting in order to view the meeting, will be provided on the City Council agenda available to the public on Monday, August 17th, 2026, located on the City of Gridley website.

Tentative Parcel Map 1-26: the City Council of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing to consider the recommendation of the Tentative Parcel Map 1-26 for APN 009-122-004-000 at 800 Spruce Street to City Council.

Recommended Action(s):
a. City staff recommends the City Council to approve the Tentative Parcel Map 1-26 for APN 009-122-004-000.

In accordance with Government Code Section 65009, if any person(s) challenges the action of the City Council on these projects in court, said person(s) may be limited to raising only those issues that were raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk or City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing. For further information regarding these projects, please contact Christopher Smith, Principal Planner at (530) 846-3631 or email at planningdept@gridley.ca.us

The Gridley Herald 8-7-2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE CITY OF GRIDLEY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing on the project described below. The hearing before the Planning Commission will be held at a special meeting scheduled **Wednesday, August 19th, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.** in Gridley City Hall Council Chambers, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley. All interested persons are invited to attend in person, attend remotely, and/or submit comments in writing until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, August 19th, 2026, via email to planningdept@gridley.ca.us <mailto:csantana@gridley.ca.us> or via the payment/document drop box at Gridley City Hall and will be conveyed to the Planning Commission for consideration.

The information to connect to the Zoom meeting in order to view the meeting, will be provided on the Planning Commission agenda available to the public on Wednesday, August 19th, 2026, located on the City of Gridley website.

Tentative Parcel Map 2-26: the Planning Commission of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing to consider the recommendation of the Tentative Parcel Map 2-26 for APN 009-061-001-000 at 999 Indiana Street to Planning Commission.

Recommended Action(s):
a. City staff recommends the Planning Commission to recommend to City Council the approval of Tentative Parcel Map 2-26 for APN 009-061-001-000.

In accordance with Government Code Section 65009, if any person(s) challenges the action of the Planning Commission on these projects in court, said person(s) may be limited to raising only those issues that were raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk or Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. For further information regarding these projects, please contact Christopher Smith, Principal Planner at (530) 846-3631 or email at planningdept@gridley.ca.us

The Gridley Herald 8-7-2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE CITY OF GRIDLEY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing on the project described below. The hearing before the Planning Commission will be held at a regular meeting scheduled **Wednesday, August 19th, 2026**, at 6:00 P.M. in Gridley City Hall Council Chambers, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley. All interested persons are invited to attend in person, attend remotely, and/or submit comments in writing until 4:00 pm on **Wednesday, August 19th, 2026**, via email to planningdept@gridley.ca.us or via the payment/document drop box at Gridley City Hall and will be conveyed to the Planning Commission for consideration.

The information to connect to the Zoom meeting in order to view the meeting will be provided on the Planning Commission agenda available to the public on Saturday, August 29th, 2026, located on the City of Gridley website.

Tentative Subdivision Map 2-20 (Chandler Park): the Planning Commission of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing to consider a two-year extension request for Tentative Subdivision Map 2-20 (Chandler Park), APN 022-210-092-000, a 41.92-acre subdivision, pursuant to Government Code Section 66452.6. The tentative map was previously set to expire on June 19, 2026; the requested extension would extend the map's expiration date to June 19, 2028.

Recommended Action(s):
a. City staff recommends the Planning Commission approve a two-year extension of Tentative Subdivision Map 2-20 (Chandler Park), APN 022-210-092-000, extending the map's expiration date to June 19, 2028.

In accordance with Government Code Section 65009, if any person(s) challenges the action of the Planning Commission on these projects in court, said person(s) may be limited to raising only those issues that were raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk or Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. For further information regarding these projects, please contact Christopher Smith, Principal Planner at (530) 846-3631 or email at planningdept@gridley.ca.us.

The Gridley Herald 8-7-2026

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SUMMONS

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.

ca.gov), o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a rec-lamar las cuotas y los costos ex-entos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una con-cesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): Butte County Superior Court, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928

The name, address and tele-phone number of plaintiffs at-orney, or plaintiff without an attorney is: (El nombre, la direc-cion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abo-gado, es): Charles B. Holzhauer, PO Box 842, Chico, CA 95927. 530-720-1948
Date: (Fecha) April 13, 2026
Clerk (Secretario) Sharif Elmallah,
Publish: July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 2026
CAMPOS 8-21-26



Gridley Schools See Hiring Gains Before Classes Begin

By Susan Meeker

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Gridley Unified School District will begin the new school year with a larger pool of teacher applicants than last year, but district officials still expect to rely on six teacher interns and one emergen-cy-permitted teacher to staff hard-to-fill classrooms.

The district's annual Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators, approved earlier this sum-mer, allows Gridley Unified to hire teachers under emer-gency permits, limited assignment permits and intern credentials when fully credentialed appli-cants are unavailable. The declaration is required each year by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and provides districts with hiring flex-ibility for difficult-to-fill positions.

Superintendent Justin Kern said the district expects to hire six teacher interns and one teacher under an emergency per-mit for the 2026-27 school year, fewer than originally anticipated in the declara-tion presented to the school board.

The district employs the equivalent of about 100 full-time teachers, mak-ing the anticipated seven hires a relatively small but important part of staffing classrooms for the coming year.



Kern said some vacan-cies consistently prove more difficult to fill than others.

"Historically and currently, our most chal-lenging positions to fill are in Special Education and specialized single-sub-ject areas, particularly Mathematics and Science," Kern said.

Despite the ongoing shortage in specialized teaching fields, Kern said recruiting has improved compared with a year ago.

"It is better," Kern said. "Our overall applicant pool was noticeably larger this year, allowing us to fill open positions more readily than in the previous school year."

The declaration approved by the district estimates the potential need for emer-gency permits, limited assignment permits and intern credentials in sev-eral credential areas if fully qualified applicants cannot be found. Officials said the declaration is a planning document required before districts may request those credentials from the state during the school year.

Kern credited several

recruiting efforts with help-ing expand the applicant pool.

To attract qualified edu-cators, the district posts openings through EdJoin, California's primary online education employment system, attends regional recruiting events includ-ing job fairs at California State University, Chico, and has established part-nerships with colleges and universities to develop internship pathways for future teachers.

Even with those efforts, Kern said the shortage has a disproportionate impact on rural and mid-sized school districts.

"Competing within a limited labor pool for can-didates holding these specific single-subject credentials remains an ongoing hurdle for rural and mid-sized districts throughout California."

The declaration allows the district to request the appropriate creden-tials from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing if fully cre-dentialed teachers cannot be hired before or during the school year. ★

Man Sought After Live Oak Incident

By MPG Staff

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - A Marysville man remains wanted after a five-hour search by Sutter County Sheriff's deputies Wednesday night failed to locate him following a reported felony domestic violence incident in Live Oak.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the 9500 block of Richmond Way at about 6:30 p.m. July 29 after receiving a report of a domestic violence incident. The Sheriff's Office said the suspect, 23-year-old Andreus Routh of Marysville, fled on foot as deputies arrived.

Deputies established a containment perimeter after receiving reports that Routh was moving through residential backyards by jumping fences. The Sheriff's Office said deputies believed he could attempt to enter occupied homes or barricade himself while trying to avoid arrest.

Routh had prior firearm-related offenses and is known to carry firearms, the Sheriff's Office said. Because it was unknown whether he was armed during the incident, the Sheriff's Office acti-vated its Special Enforcement Detail Team

and requested assistance from area law enforcement agencies.

"Anyone who sees Andreus Routh should not approach or attempt to contact him," the Sheriff's Office said in a statement. "Due to his criminal history and known association with firearms, he should be considered potentially armed. Instead, immediately contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911."

During the search, the Sheriff's Office issued a CodeRED emergency notifica-tion advising residents in the surrounding neighborhood to shelter in place while deputies searched for the suspect. The agency said the notification was intended to protect residents and allow law enforce-ment to conduct the operation safely.

Despite the extensive operation, dep-uties did not locate Routh. The Sheriff's Office said detectives and patrol deputies continue to investigate the case and search for the suspect.

Anyone with information about Routh's whereabouts is asked to contact the Sutter County Sheriff's Office at 530-822-7307 or call 911 if he is seen. The Sheriff's Office warned the public not to approach him. ★

Live Oak Woman Faces Drug Charges

By Lloyd Green Jr.

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - A suspicious vehi-cle parked at Plumas Bank in Yuba City led to the arrest of a Live Oak woman on multiple narcotics-related charges over the weekend after deputies reported finding several suspected illegal drugs and additional contraband at the jail.

Sutter County Sheriff's deputies located the vehicle and identified one of its occu-pants as Melissa Johnson, 46, of Live Oak. According to the Sheriff's Office, Johnson had been previously released from custody in connection with an earlier narcotics sales investigation and was subject to search.

During the search, Deputies recovered

about 5 ounces of suspected psilocybin mushrooms, a vial of suspected LSD, about 50 sugar cubes believed to be infused with LSD, 13.65 grams of suspected metham-phetamine, several hydrocodone pills, a digital scale, drug paraphernalia, 13 nalox-one test strips and cash.

Johnson was taken to the Sutter County Jail, where correctional staff allegedly found another bag containing suspected methamphetamine concealed on her per-son during the booking process.

She was booked on suspicion of posses-sion of controlled substances, possession for sale, bringing a controlled substance into a jail facility and committing a new offense while released on her own recognizance. ★

Biggs Corrects Compliance Oversight

By Susan Meeker

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - The Biggs City Council approved several measures last week to strengthen the city's compliance with state requirements, including adopting an updated renewable energy procurement plan after discovering a required update had been overlooked for five years.

Gauthier acknowledged the city had fallen behind on one of its required state filings.

"All cards on the table," Gauthier said. "This paperwork was due in 2021. Something happened, it got dropped. So the city has been out of compliance for five years."

Gauthier said the Northern California Power Agency identified the oversight and worked with the city to prepare the required update. He said the state granted Biggs flexibility because of the city's size and unique electric portfolio.

"The city is going to be fine," Gauthier said. "The state would still like us to make sure we do this every five years."

The council adopted the updated Renewable Energy Resources Procurement and Enforcement Plan, which formally establishes the city's renewable energy purchasing policies and enforcement procedures required under California's Renewable Portfolio Standard program. Gauthier said the action is administrative, carries no fiscal impact and ensures the city's program reflects current state requirements.

Gauthier said the updated plan replaces an earlier version adopted by the council and incorporates changes in state renew-able energy laws, including long-term contracting requirements and provisions allowing publicly owned utilities to limit costs under certain circumstances while

remaining in compliance.

The council also approved continued participation in the North Sacramento River Corridor Interconnected Surface Waters planning effort, a regional effort involving multiple agencies working to coordinate groundwater management.

Gauthier said the current proposal establishes a framework for participating agencies to share information, conduct joint analyses, coordinate communica-tion, pursue mutually beneficial projects and resolve issues as the planning process moves forward.

"They want to know we're taking baby steps," he said. "We need to know, is everyone okay with this being the framework?"

He said participating agencies will add more detail to the framework during future meetings as work con-tinues on the regional groundwater man-agement effort.

The council also approved a resolu-tion clarifying its intent when adopt-ing 2024 water rate adjustments.

Gauthier said city offi-cials discovered language in the original ordinance that could be interpreted as applying different annual increases to metered and flat-rate cus-tomers. After reviewing recordings of the original council meeting, public notices and consulting with the city attorney, offi-cials determined the council intended both customer groups to receive the same annual increases.

He said customers have been billed according to that intent since 2024, mean-ing the resolution does not change rates or generate additional revenue.

"This is just good housekeeping to keep ourselves clear and transparent with the public," Gauthier said.

The council approved all three compli-ance-related actions unanimously. ★



West Nile Activity Expands Across Yuba and Sutter Counties

By Lloyd Green Jr.

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - The Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District is urging residents to protect themselves from mosquito bites after detecting addi-tional West Nile virus activity throughout Yuba and Sutter counties.

Mosquito samples collected in recent weeks tested positive for West Nile virus, along with two dead birds and three sen-tinel chicken flocks used to monitor mosquito-borne diseases.

"The virus is now considered wide-spread in mosquitoes throughout the valley floor in Sutter and Yuba Counties," District Manager Stephen Abshier said.

The district said there have been no reported human cases of West Nile virus in either county, but officials consider the risk of infection elevated because of the widespread mosquito activity.

The warning comes as West Nile virus activity continues to increase across California. According to the California Department of Public Health, 11 human cases have been reported statewide this year in seven counties. The state has also confirmed 251 infected dead birds, 1,001 positive mosquito samples, two infected sentinel chicken flocks and two infected horses.

Mosquito surveillance remains in full operation in Yuba and Sutter counties, and mosquito control efforts are being expanded in areas where the virus has been detected.

West Nile virus is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most peo-ple who become infected never develop

symptoms, but about one in five may experience fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting or a skin rash. Symptoms generally appear three to 14 days after an infected mosquito bite.

In rare cases, the virus can affect the brain or nervous system, causing encephalitis or meningitis. Older adults, particularly those age 55 and older, and people with certain medical conditions face the greatest risk of severe illness.

Abshier encouraged residents to remem-ber the district's four "D's" for preventing mosquito bites: defend yourself with EPA-registered insect repellent, avoid outdoor exposure during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active, keep door and window screens in good repair and drain standing water where mosquitoes breed.

Officials also recommend checking around homes and yards for common mosquito breeding sites. Mosquitoes can reproduce in as little as one-half inch of standing water, meaning even small amounts left in containers can produce mos-quitoes. Residents should regularly clean gutters, empty flowerpot saucers, change water in birdbaths, drain children's wading pools, repair leaking faucets, remove water from buckets and toys, drill drainage holes in tire swings and keep ponds and swim-ming pools properly maintained.

Residents are encouraged to report dead birds to the California Department of Public Health at www.westnile.ca.gov or by calling 877-968-2473.

Additional information is available from the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District at www.sutter-yubamvcd.org. ★

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The Gridley Herald



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Gallagher Urges State to Protect Goat Grazing

By Lloyd Green Jr.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - Rep. James Gallagher is joining three other California members of Congress in urging Gov. Gavin Newsom and state legislative leaders to restore an overtime exemption for commercial goat herders, arguing that the policy change could weaken one of California's established methods of reducing wildfire fuel.

In a letter sent Monday to Newsom, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas and Senate President Pro Tempore Monique Limón, the lawmakers said the July 1 expiration of the exemption has created "an immediate and unsustainable operational crisis" for commercial goat herding businesses. They contend that without legislative action, many operations may no longer be able to remain in business.

Commercial goat herders are commonly hired by government agencies, utilities and private landowners to graze vegetation that can serve as fuel during wildfire season. According to the letter, the industry manages nearly 100,000 acres annually while also helping control invasive weeds and reducing the need for chemical herbicides.

"Commercial goat herding is a simple and effective way to reduce



Rep. James Gallagher

dangerous fuel loads before wildfire season," Gallagher said in a statement. "Sacramento shouldn't be making it harder for these businesses to operate when they're doing vital work to protect communities across California. State leaders should work fast to fix this before we lose this important industry."

The lawmakers argue that goat herding differs from most industries because livestock require continuous care, making traditional hourly work schedules difficult to apply.

"Herding is a uniquely structured industry," the letter states. "For years, California goat herding operations were exempt from certain overtime requirements, which is an approach that allowed them to remain economically viable, care for their herds responsibly, and compensate employees fairly."

The lawmakers said the expiration of the exemption has created what they describe as "an untenable business environment that

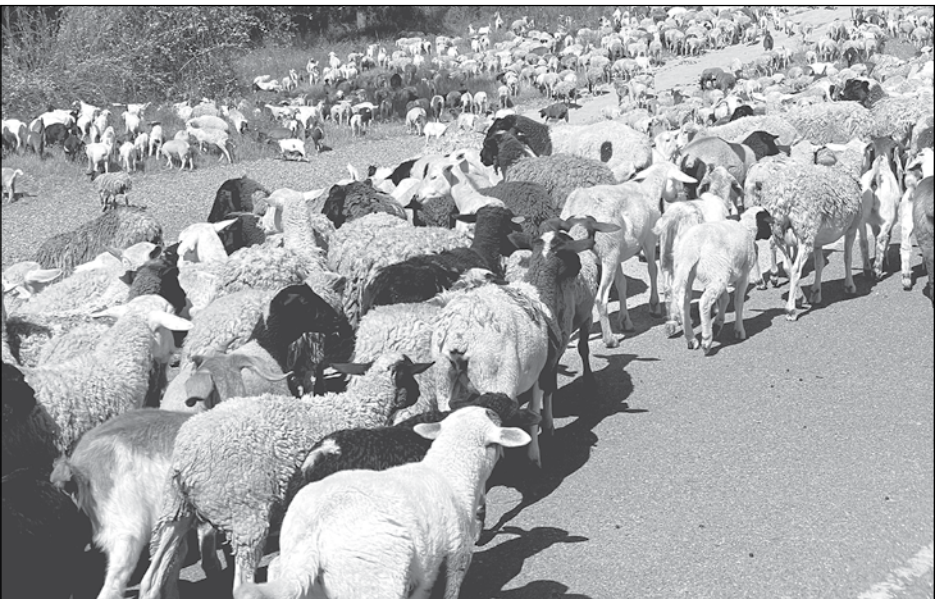
threatens the survival of the industry." They warn that if businesses close, California could lose an important tool for wildfire prevention while state and local governments face higher costs for vegetation management.

The letter also argues that the impact would extend beyond wildfire prevention.

"Without a solution, goat herding businesses will be forced to shut down," the lawmakers wrote. "The consequences would be severe: the loss of critical wildfire-prevention and land-management services, the unemployment for hardworking employees, and increased costs for state and local governments that rely on these services to protect communities."

Gallagher, McClintock, Vince Fong and David Valadao urged state leaders to act quickly, saying commercial goat herding remains an important part of California's wildfire mitigation strategy.

"We respectfully urge the Governor and leaders in the Legislature to act swiftly to address this issue and ensure that California can continue to benefit from commercial goat herding," the letter states. "Without action, herders will be unable to operate in the state and will be left with no other choice but to close their businesses." ★



Goats and sheep are ideal for vegetation management to help reduce herbaceous fuels over larger areas and in areas with difficult terrain that are difficult to maintain with manned crews. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Gridley Police Report

June 12 – July 27



Nathan John Pierce, 45, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 1:02 a.m. July 12 in the 1300 block of State Route 99 on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08% or higher. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Melchor Salgadomedina, 32, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 3 a.m. July 13 at East Gridley Road and Humble Avenue on an outside agency misdemeanor warrant. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Theodore Franklin Osbourn Jr., 32, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 5:25 p.m. July 18 at Archer Avenue and State Route 99 on suspicion of violating probation. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Jeffrey Howard Hancock, 82, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 8:03 p.m. July 20 at West Liberty Road and State Route 99 on suspicion of felony hit-and-run resulting in death or injury. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Isaac Abraham Enriquez, 45, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 6:20 p.m. July 23 in the 1600 block of State Route

99 on suspicion of shoplifting. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Frank Louis Bartolomucci, 80, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 3:49 p.m. July 24 in the 300 block of Spruce Street on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08% or higher. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Miguel Angel Enriquez, 34, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 11:33 p.m. July 25 in the 300 block of Locust Street on suspicion of inflicting corporal injury on a spouse or cohabitant and damaging a wireless communication device. He was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Calista Abigail Creekmore, 26, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 12:22 a.m. July 26 in the 900 block of Vermont Street on suspicion of misdemeanor domestic battery. She was booked into the Butte County Jail.

Iqbal Shahid, 62, was arrested by the Gridley Police Department at 11:24 p.m. July 27 at Sycamore Street and Butte View Drive on suspicion of misdemeanor domestic battery. He was booked into the Butte County Jail. ★

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS 

Juvenile Sentenced in Friend's Death

By MPG Staff

OROVILLE, CA. (MPG) - A 14-year-old boy was sentenced July 22 to one year in Butte County Juvenile Hall after admitting responsibility in the fatal shooting of his 14-year-old friend last month in Oroville.

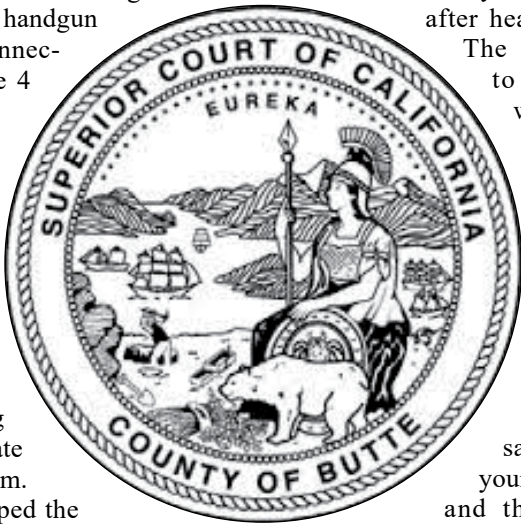
Butte County Juvenile Court Judge Jesus Rodriguez sentenced the boy on a felony charge of involuntary manslaughter and a misdemeanor charge of possession of a handgun by a minor in connection with the June 4 shooting.

During the sentencing hearing, relatives of the victim spoke about their loss. The boy's grandmother addressed the defendant directly, telling him she did not hate him and forgave him.

She said she hoped the case would become "a turning point" in his life and encouraged him to make the most of his time in juvenile hall. She also shared that her grandson came to live with her after both of his parents died of natural causes in 2024.

The defendant admitted the charges on July 1.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey previously said firearms experts determined that a poor-quality modification to the handgun's trigger and hammer



mechanism could have caused the weapon to discharge as the boy described to investigators.

Authorities said the two friends had been handling a semi-automatic handgun in the defendant's bedroom. The boy told investigators they had found the firearm in a nearby field known locally as Stumps Field. As they were leaving the room, he threw the gun onto his bed. The weapon discharged, striking his friend in the head.

A family member called 911 after hearing the gunshot.

The victim was taken to Enloe Hospital, where he later died.

Investigators described the firearm as a homemade "Frankenstein" ghost gun of poor quality.

Following the charges filed in June, Ramsey said, "Any loss of a young life is a tragedy, and this case is especially heartbreaking because it involves two minors and a firearm."

"Our responsibility is to seek justice for the victim, accountability for the conduct that led to this death, and fairness throughout the legal process," Ramsey said. "We hope this prosecution serves as a reminder that firearms carry enormous responsibility and that reckless or unlawful actions can have irreversible consequences for families and our community." ★

Chico Man Convicted in Park Fire Arson

By MPG Staff

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - A Butte County Superior Court judge has found a Chico man guilty of arson for causing the 2024 Park Fire, one of California's largest wildfires, following a three-day bench trial.

Judge Kristen Lucena on July 24 found Ronnie Dean Stout, 44, guilty of setting the fire that burned 429,603 acres across Butte, Tehama and Shasta counties after concluding the evidence proved he intentionally pushed his burning vehicle into a gully in Upper Bidwell Park on July 24, 2024.

Stout faces a sentence of 25 years to life under California's Three Strikes law. Sentencing is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Oct. 9 in Butte County Superior Court in Oroville.

Lucena also found true a special allegation that the fire destroyed multiple residential structures. The court further found that Stout's prior convictions for child molestation and robbery qualified as strikes under state law.

During the trial, Supervising Deputy

District Attorney Marc Noel presented testimony from witnesses who said Stout had been drinking, harassing people at the Bear Hole swimming area and driving recklessly before his 2007 Toyota Yaris slid off Upper Park Road and became stuck on a dirt berm near Alligator Hole. Witnesses testified they watched him repeatedly rev the engine, spinning the tires in dry grass and brush on a Red Flag warning day with temperatures exceeding 100 degrees.

Cal Fire Battalion Chief Matt Palade, the lead arson investigator, testified that heat from the vehicle ignited the dry vegetation beneath it. Another witness testified she saw Stout get out of the car and intentionally push the burning vehicle over the embankment into a gully, where it ignited additional vegetation.

That witness photographed Stout as he left the area. After posting the images on social media, multiple witnesses recognized him and contacted investigators.

Palade testified that

about three hours after the fire began, he contacted Stout by phone. During the conversation, Stout repeatedly asked, "What did I do wrong, bro?"

In closing arguments, Noel displayed that statement in court while outlining the prosecution's case that Stout recklessly drove off the road, ignited the fire by spinning his tires in dry vegetation and then deliberately pushed the burning car into the gully. Prosecutors also presented a three-dimensional crime scene reconstruction and an 826-page Cal Fire damage assessment documenting the destruction caused by the fire.

The damage assessment concluded the Park Fire destroyed 427 homes in Butte and Tehama counties.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said his office plans to present victim impact statements during the Oct. 9 sentencing hearing and invited those affected by the fire to submit statements by email to parkfireimpact@butte-county.ca.gov. ★



Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl

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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



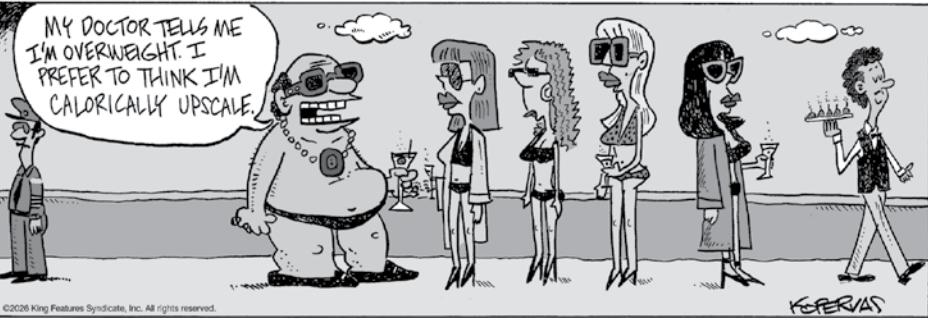
by Jeff Pickering

Amber Waves



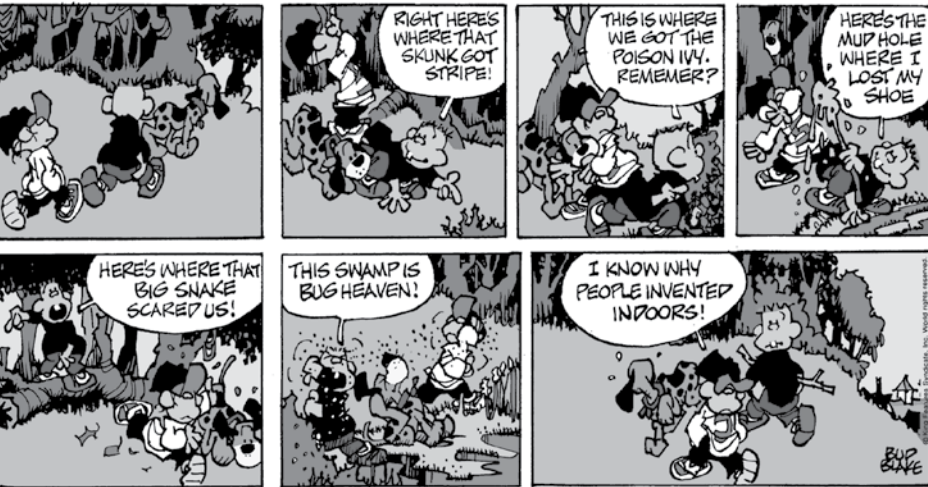
by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

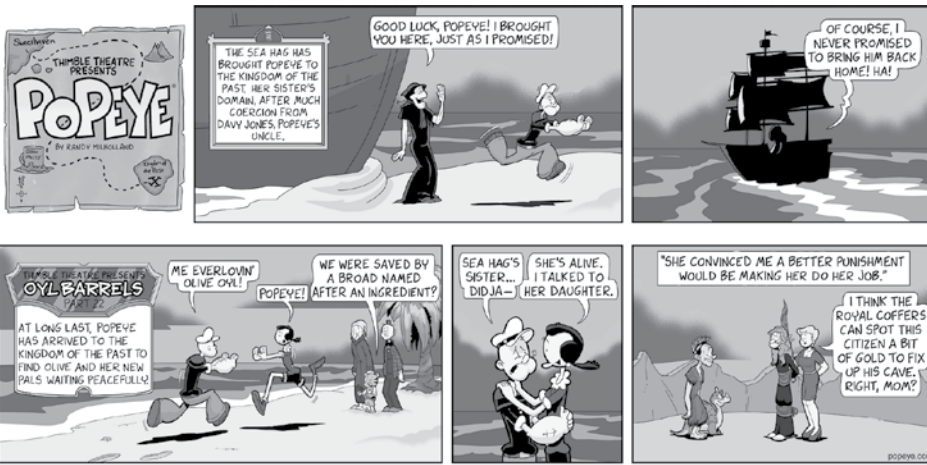


by Gary Kopervas

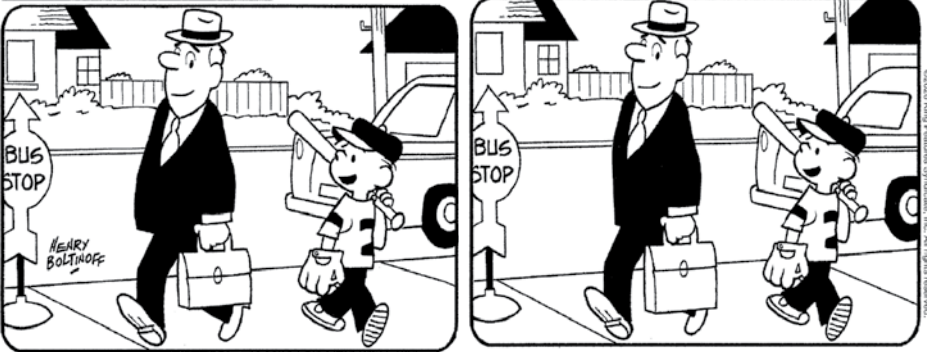
TIGER



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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

GRIN & BEAR IT

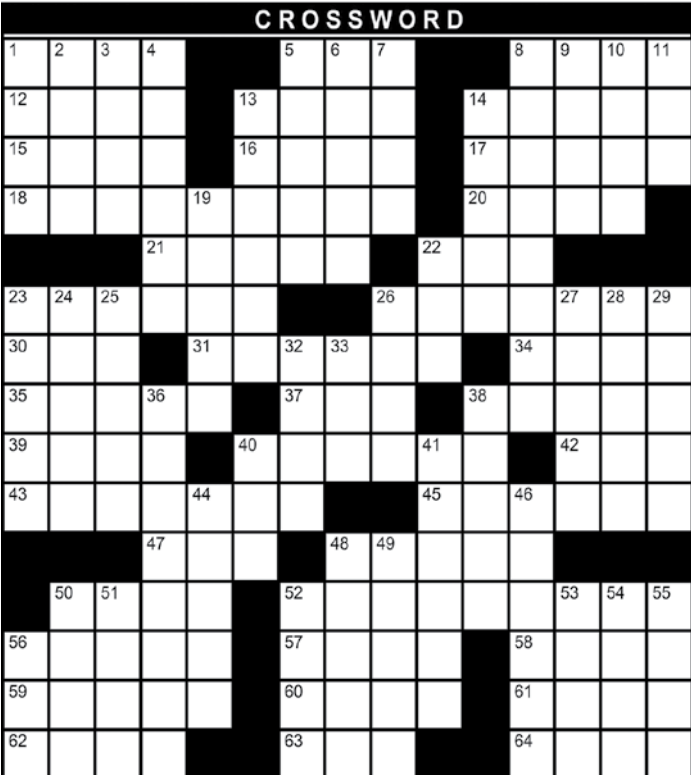


Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Thanksgiving tubers
 - Patrol
 - Boo-hoos
 - Burn soothing plant
 - "Frat Pack" member Wilson
 - ligation
 - Sound an alarm
 - Marvin, Majors and Greenwood
 - O. Henry's specialty
 - *Marilyn Monroe: "Happy Birthday, Mr.
 - Sporting sword
 - Blue pencil marks
 - Knight's title
 - *One for every year
 - Custodian
 - Be in debt
 - Stay clear of
 - Accompanies relief
 - #1 Down, pl.
 - Owned
 - Subway in Paris
 - Shore extension
 - Per
 - Even, poetic
 - City in Netherlands
 - Like voice during laryngitis
 - Barents or Laptev, e.g.
 - Noah's passengers
 - Type of code
 - *Astrological sign for those born on New Year's Eve
 - Black one and white one, for Tchaikovsky
 - Crematorium jars
 - "The Odyssey," e.g.
 - Make this, not waste
 - Let it stand, to proofreader
 - Governmental space agency, acr.
 - The windows to the soul
 - Money in Myanmar
 - Theodora or Dorothea
- DOWN**
- Bark or yelp
 - Relating to armpit
 - *...and many
 - Detected
 - *Like 16
 - Hiking sandals of a certain brand
 - Of the present month
 - *Greeting to the birthday honoree, sometimes
 - Bassoon cousin
 - Misery cause
 - Canny
 - Dated tunes
 - Make a logical connection (2 words)
 - Runs without moving
 - Lumberjack's tool
 - Another word for nutria
 - Look forward to
 - Not as old
 - George Lucas' warrior-monk
 - Concentration of a solution lab test
 - Shrek and Fiona, e.g.
 - Cotes du, wine region
 - Online room
 - As opposed to mishap
 - *"We want your presence, not your
 - New Zealandian

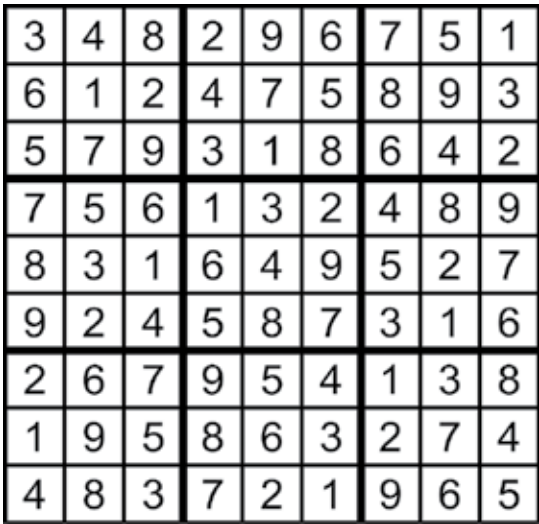


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Freebirds Win Series Against Oakland

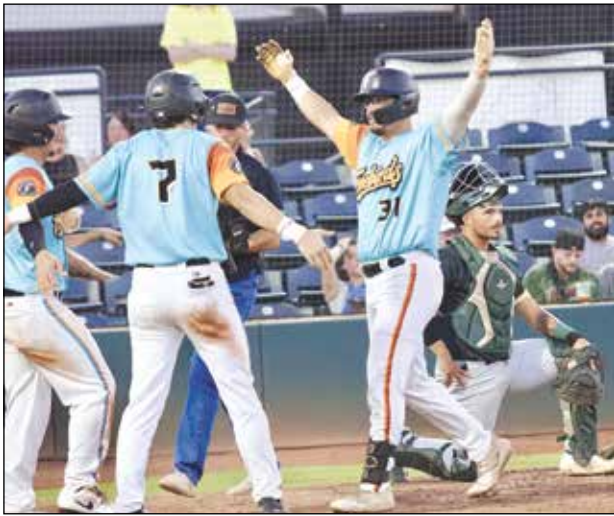
By YSBC Sports

MARYSVILLE, CA (YSBC) - The Yuba-Sutter Freebirds endured another losing week in the Pioneer Baseball League as they went 2-4 from July 28-Aug. 2.

Yuba-Sutter began the week with taking two-out-of-three from the Oakland Ballers before they endured a sweep by the Modesto Roadsters.

The Freebirds opened the week with a bang as they sent four balls out of Bryant field in the 20-10 victory over the Ballers on July 28.

YS put up a 10-run inning in the first, which included seven hits. Outfielder Cooper Hext went a perfect 6-for-6 at the plate in the victory that included a double, home run and brought in two runs-batted-in (RBIs).



Yuba-Sutter infielder Christian Castaneda (31) celebrates a three-run blast during the Freebirds' win over Oakland on July 28. Photo by Chris Pedigo

The Ballers returned the favor in game two of the series as they played eight runs across the board within the first-four innings on the way to a win.

In the rubber match of the Oakland series, the Freebirds got a solid

pitching outing from Riley Egloff picked up the win after pitching six innings where he allowed three runs off five hits and struck out five.

Hext had another multi-hit game where he had four RBIs in the win.

YS hit the road last



Yuba-Sutter outfielder Cooper Hext (7) lines a base hit on July 28 during the Freebirds' victory against Oakland. Photo by Chris Pedigo

weekend and once again ran into the hottest team in the PBL (Modesto).

The Roadsters entered the series last weekend against the Freebirds with the best record in the second half of the season (8-1).

Modesto blasted YS in the series opener on July

30 with a 22-1 victory. The Roadsters opened with an 11-run inning en route by getting to Freebirds starter Anthony Silvas early in the game.

Modesto defeated YS by double-digits again in the second game of the series as they consistently collected hits off Freebirds

pitcher Chase Martinez.

In the series finale on Sunday, it was a pitchers duel between former YS pitcher Jonah Jwnkins tossed seven-shut-out innings against the Freebirds.

The former Hugh Wheeler allowed one hit and struck out eight in the Modesto victory.

For YS, Jared Schaeffer tossed five solid innings in the loss where he allowed one run off five hits and sat down three Roadsters' back to the bench empty on strikes.

Freebirds catcher Max Ortega and infielder Zach Chamizo grabbed the two hits for YS in the loss.

The Freebirds began another series against Modesto on Tuesday and will welcome Oakland back to Bryant Field on Friday, Aug. 7 through Sunday, Aug. 9. ★

History of Sacramento Baseball on Display

Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - For baseball fans looking to escape the summer heat, a drive to the Sacramento History Museum will treat visitors to the Play Ball! exhibit that traces the history of baseball in Sacramento from the first official game in 1860 to the present-day River Cats team.

Although not an overwhelmingly large showing, it focuses primarily on the Sacramento Solons following the evolution of the team, then additionally highlights the origins of baseball in the area including barnstorming tour visits by baseball legends including Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Willie



Memorabilia from the Solons' revival in the mid-1970s is featured in the Sacramento History Museum's Play Ball! exhibit which runs until Oct. 18.

Mays and Hank Aaron while also drawing attention to local players who made it to "the show".

A minor league baseball team

in the Pacific Coast League that had its heyday from 1903 to 1960 before a brief revival from 1974-1976, the Solons were one

of baseball's true farm teams and were affiliated with the St. Louis Cardinals dating back to the 1930s.

Visitors will find Solon memorabilia displayed throughout along with a special section featuring the River Cats, substantiating the claim made by Sacramento native and the most successful player/manager to come from the area, Dusty Baker who said that "This is a baseball city. It always has been, since I can remember."

For those wishing to take in the display that runs through Oct. 18, the museum is located at 101 I Street, Old Sacramento State Historic Park. Admission is \$12 for adults (18+) and \$6 for youth (6-17). ★



One of the early Sacramento Solons jerseys on display at the Play Ball! exhibition at the Sacramento History Museum.





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