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The Galt Herald

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126TH YEAR • ISSUE 42

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OCTOBER 16, 2026

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Safety a Top Issue

Two Candidates Seek City Council Seat



The iconic water tower in Galt. Photo by Keith Burbank

By Keith Burbank

GALT, CA (MPG) - Two-term City Council incumbent Paul Sandhu is facing a challenger here in the Nov. 3 election.

Tom Silva, a California Army National Guard veteran, is challenging Sandhu for the District 5 seat in the first election since City Council districts were formed. The District 5 race is the only one this year with more than one candidate.

"I felt like it was important to be that voice for my neighborhood," said Silva. "My neighbors have

concerns that want to be addressed."

Silva served on the board of the Galt Joint Union Elementary School District from 2018 to 2022 and for two years was president. He co-founded Veterans for Galt, which brings veterans together to help one another.

Sandhu, a local business owner, was first elected in 2018 and ran, he said, because "there was a disconnect between the city staff and the citizen."

Since then, a lot has improved, Sandhu told The Galt Herald. He is running in 2026 because there are

things still in the pipeline, he said, such as issues with growth and the master plan for parks, among others.

Both candidates agree traffic safety is a top concern. Silva is concerned about safety on Ranch Road, where he lives.

A neighbor there waited 15 minutes to back out of her driveway because traffic was so dense, he said. Vehicles are passing each other on the road, too, a neighbor complained to him, he said.

"We want to make sure the roads are safe," Sandhu said, adding he

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Galt Council Opposes MEHKOs

By John McCallum

GALT, CA (MPG) - The City Council here Oct. 6 unanimously approved sending a letter to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors opposing the proposal to implement a county-wide Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations (MEHKO) program.

The first-of-its-kind program was established by state law in 2019 under the California Retail Food Code whereby individuals can apply for permits allowing them to sell freshly prepared meals directly to customers from their home kitchens. The program, which operates in 17 counties and the city of Berkeley, has some restrictions such as requiring permit applicants to pass an accredited food safety management course while others involved must possess an up-to-date accredited food handlers' card.

According to the city staff report, Sacramento County originally declined to opt into the program. In recent months, the county Environmental Management Department (EMD) has conducted public outreach and research into creating a program, receiving feedback from individuals, food businesses and perhaps others.

Kristyn Bitz, Galt Community Development Department planner told the council that if the county enacted a MEHKO program all jurisdictions in the county would have no choice but to opt in.

"Which means the city of Galt, like all the other cities in the county, would have to allow these enterprise kitchens in residential zoning districts," Bitz said.

Many of the city's concerns revolve around potential impacts to local zoning requirements and infrastructure — impacts echoed by council members during a discussion. Allowing MEKHOS in single-family zones would mix commercial restaurant activity with residential uses — something zoning is designed to prevent.

MEKHOS could increase vehicle traffic in neighborhoods, create demand for parking and increase noise, odors and waste. The increased cooking might also produce more wastewater, oils, fats and grease than residential waste disposal systems are designed to handle.

"It does erode the characteristics of a residential zoning district," Bitz said. "Houses weren't built for this activity."

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Glances Back in Galt

By Dan Tarnasky

GALT, CA (MPG) - 125 years ago

Whitaker and Ray on Oct. 5, 1901, announced a mammoth special sale for Oct. 12, to be held in their Galt department store, according to The Weekly Witness, the original name of The Galt Herald. The enormous cut in the price of goods will attract people from far and near to make their fall purchases in Galt one week from today.

Also announced Oct. 5, 1901, the Amador Branch train, beginning last Tuesday, makes two trips daily between Galt and Ione, according to The Weekly Witness. The train arrives in Galt at 11 a.m. and leaves at 2 p.m. It arrives in the evening at 5 p.m. and arrives in Ione at 6 p.m.

100 years ago

Just before closing time Oct. 1, 1926, two strangers entered Mrs. Louis Alderman's store. While one was being served, the other managed to walk away with several articles of clothing. Sweaters, ties,



The Christian Church in Galt in 1926. Photo courtesy of the Galt Area Historical Society

etc., were taken; the exact amount of which Mrs. Alderman was unable to check at the time.

Sunday, October 10th was Rally Day at the local Christian Church. The day was given over largely to patriotic services in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of our nation's independence. Despite the elements, people came from all directions, some driving 25 miles to attend services.

Mr. C.M. Menzies of Stockton announced Oct. 29, 1926, that his organization will open a Chevrolet branch in Galt in the building on the highway just vacated by Mr. J.T. Hendley, who is to open an agency in Woodland. Mr. Menzies

says the agency here will be the same as in Lodi and Stockton, with a complete line of models on display, as well as a complete stock of tires, tubes, accessories, and Chevrolet parts.

75 years ago

Members of the Galt City Council were educated Wednesday, Oct. 5, 1951, when young Bob

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Galt Council Opposes MEHKOs

Continued from page 1

Council members expressed concerns about increased traffic in neighborhoods. Councilman Mathew Pratton said he lives on a busy, long and straight road where speeding vehicles already create issues for residents. Vice Mayor Tim Reed said he lives on a cul-de-sac, which cannot handle potential increased parking demands.

“That’s not what people bought homes for,” Reed added.

According to a presentation from Sacramento County EMD, MEHKOs must be operated by the primary resident in their own home, with renters needing landlord permission. Meals must be prepared and served the same day and are limited to dine-in, takeout or delivery with the latter required to be made by someone associated with the MEHKO and not a delivery service such as Uber or DoorDash.

Restrictions on MEHKOs include prohibiting the storage of prepared foods, displaying signs or advertising onsite, off-site catering and serving alcohol without a

license. MEHKOs are also limited to serving 30 meals per day and 60 meals a week or 80 meals per day and 200 per week if a permitted compact mobile food operator is used.

“Who polices that?” Councilman Shawn Farmer asked.

City Attorney Frank Splendorio said it would fall to county health inspectors, who would also be responsible for periodic health inspections.

“Are these the same county health inspectors who rarely show up at the businesses we have already?” Farmer replied.

Splendorio said they are.

Concerns, too, were raised about impacts of MEKHOs on Galt’s existing restaurants and other food businesses such as permitted food trucks. Both commercial interests require extensive financial investments and time to obtain permits and licenses and adhere to regulations governing their operations.

“It’s very difficult to get an approval for a food truck in Galt,” Bitz said. “Much more difficult than setting up a MEHKO would be.”

During public comment, Africa Cook, a member of the Sacramento County MEHKO Coalition, asked the council to hold off on sending a letter of opposition to the county until they learned more about the home kitchen business. She said MEHKO operators understand concerns over impacts to residential neighborhoods, health safety and fairness, and ask the council to look not at what might happen but what has happened with MEHKOs in other communities.

A report issued by the Cook Alliance, a home-based food business nonprofit, using public records from cities and law enforcement, indicate that more than 97% of MEHKOs had never received a complaint of any kind between 2019 and 2024. Thirty-two complaints were received about the 898 licensed MEHKOs compared to 606 complaints about unlicensed home food businesses during the same period. Only two of the complaints against MEHKOs pertained to food-borne illnesses.

“What that report has shown is the common

fears around MEHKOs have not shown to be valid,” Cook said. “Regulating this activity makes the food economy more fair not less fair for the brick and mortar restaurants.”

The report also indicated 73% of MEHKOs have provided meaningful financial household income, something Cook said is key given the negative economic impacts now on families. Seventy-nine percent of operators are people of color and 70% are women. Additionally, 61% of MEHKO operators said they were profitable. Fifty-seven percent said it provided income when they were unable to find work. Fifty-three percent said it helped pay mortgages and rent and 32% said it helped them to



“grow towards a larger food business.”

The report also shows takeout makes up 56% of MEHKOs’ business. Thirty-two percent is dine-in and 11% is delivery. It also shows 44% of MEHKO operators provide “dishes specific to my cultural community” and 35% use locally-sourced ingredients — attributes the report’s survey respondents said they found appealing.

In deciding to write the letter to the county,

council members said they were not trying to stifle business opportunities.

“This is about trying to have a level playing field for people who want to operate businesses in this town,” Farmer said. “For me, it’s about the location, where it’s allowed, not about entrepreneurship.”

Besides sending the letter of opposition to the county, Reed volunteered to represent Galt at an Oct. 20 Board of Supervisors meeting and give public comment. ★

Galt Youth Basketball Registration Closing Soon

Volunteer Coaches Needed



The 2025-2026 Youth Basketball League 7th- and 8th-grade co-ed champions celebrate their season with Coach Cortez. Photo courtesy of the City of Galt

By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - The City of Galt Recreation Division is encouraging families to register young athletes for the upcoming youth basketball season and inviting community members to volunteer as coaches.

Registration for the city’s Youth Basketball program closes Oct. 19. The program is open to students in first through eighth grades and focuses on developing basketball skills, building confidence and teaching teamwork.

Practices are anticipated to begin the week of Nov. 2, with games scheduled from Dec. 12 through Feb. 27.

Registration fees vary by

grade level. The first-grade clinic costs \$100, while second- and third-grade registration is \$110. Fees are \$120 for fourth-graders and \$130 for players in fifth and sixth grades and seventh and eighth grades.

Families who register after the Oct. 19 deadline will be charged a \$25 late fee per player.

The Recreation Division also is seeking volunteer coaches to support young athletes throughout the season. Coaches will help players develop their abilities, gain confidence and learn the importance of teamwork in a positive environment.

Community members interested in coaching are encouraged to contact the

Recreation Division at 209-366-7177.

Families can register their children online at <https://bit.ly/GaltYouthBasketball>. Additional information about the basketball program and volunteer coaching opportunities is available by calling the Recreation Division.

With registration closing soon, families are encouraged to sign up before the deadline to avoid late fees and help ensure their young athletes are ready for the upcoming season.

To register, visit <https://bit.ly/GaltYouthBasketball>. Those interested in volunteering can learn more and sign up at <https://bit.ly/volunteercoaches>. ★

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MEMORIAL

GENEVA CECILIA ERICH — 07/01/1920 - 10/05/2026

Geneva Cecilia Erich, a longtime resident of Galt, California, passed away on October 5, 2026, at the remarkable age of 106.

Born on July 1, 1920, Geneva grew up in California and lived an extraordinary life spanning more than a century. Throughout her 106 years, she witnessed a world of incredible change while remaining the fiercely independent and strong-willed woman her family knew and loved.

Geneva had a passion for traveling, gardening, cooking, and crocheting, but above all, she treasured spending time with her family. She especially loved sharing stories of her childhood, bringing memories of a different era to life for those fortunate enough to listen. Through her stories, she passed along pieces of history, family traditions, and memories that will continue to be cherished for generations.

Known for her determination and independent spirit, Geneva lived life on her own terms. Her strength, resilience, and unmistakable personality remained with her throughout her remarkable life.

Geneva was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Roy Erich, and her grandson, Rodney Erich. She is lovingly remembered by her children, Virginia Bauer and Rodney Erich; her 7 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

Geneva leaves behind a beautiful legacy of love, strength, family, and cherished memories. Her stories will continue to be told, her traditions carried forward, and her spirit remembered by the generations who were blessed to know her.

Funeral Services

A Catholic Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, October 22, 2026, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Galt, California.

Arrangements are being handled through Cherokee Memorial in Lodi, California.

Forever loved, never forgotten, and reunited with her beloved Roy.

Safety A Top Issue

Continued from page 1

would get the consent of residents when crafting a solution.

He favors increased police patrols to improve safety, he said.

“I will be taking care of my district,” he emphasized, since the city moved away from at-large seats.

“Calming measures on Ranch Road,” Silva said, “is only part of a larger issue as far as safety, not just with Ranch Road, but with Galt in general.”

Some of Sandhu’s other priorities include homelessness, quality of life

and growth. He would like to attract more industry to Galt, he said, which would bring more revenue to the city.

But he said he wants to avoid having new growth affect existing residents.

Sandhu, if elected, would like the seat Council Member Shawn Farmer has now on the Sacramento Homeless Policy Council, he said. He would be a strong, outspoken voice for Galt on that council, he said.

Asked what other issues he would like to address as a City Council member,

Silva stressed he is an advocate for veterans.

“It’s something I’ve done for a long time,” he said. He served in the California Army National Guard for 33 years before retiring, he said.

Silva worked in the veterans’ center at the University of the Pacific, he said, following his graduation there with a bachelor’s degree in business.

“I am definitely driven to serve others,” Silva said.

Both candidates want to maintain Galt’s small-town charm, each said. ★



Tom Silva, District 5 Galt City Council candidate. Photo courtesy of the University of the Pacific



Paul Sandhu, incumbent and District 5 Galt City Council candidate. Photo by Paige Lampson

Glances Back in Galt

Continued from page 1

Boyd from Galt High School explained the common term “slapping a hooker” as defined by the California Highway Patrol. A hooker occurs when an automobile driver turns around at high speed, causing sand and gravel to go in all directions, a loud screeching of brakes, and occasionally a front lawn to be torn up unceremoniously.

We report another sad accident. Ed Olson of

Robinson Feed Store ran into a golf ball Sunday, Oct. 12, 1951, and four stitches were necessary to arrange his face back to the way it looked before the accident.

50 years ago

Despite warnings Oct. 14, 1976, from the Wicked Witch of the North that their Fifth Street hall will be bombed by a 500-broom fleet carrying nuclear crossbones, the Galt Jaycees will again this year sponsor their annual



The Whitaker and Ray Building in Galt in 1901. Photo courtesy of the Galt Area Historical Society

Halloween Night Carnival for kids at the Fairgrounds’ Administration Building beginning at 6 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 31.

Betty Johnson was the recipient of the Employee of the Year award given

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 1976, at the annual Employee of the Year banquet at the Golden Acorn. She is

an employee of the Galt Super Market and was one of 27 candidates nominated for the honor. ★

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BY JOSH F.W. COOK

★ CALIFORNIA ★

POLICY AND ETHICS

CA Water Woes a Plenty

By Josh Cook

Native American tribes are now contesting the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s relicensing of Oroville Dam—something they could not do when the dam was first licensed more than 60 years ago. That challenge adds another layer of legal uncertainty to a water regulatory system already running on borrowed time.

California’s water infrastructure has barely grown since the Oroville Dam was completed in nineteen sixty-eight. The state has added millions of people since then. Still, no comparable storage or conveyance projects have followed—Sites Reservoir, the one major new reservoir in decades, is still only about one million acre-feet in the best case. Population outran the plumbing (infrastructure), and the gap is why you have a miserable low-flow shower to start your day every day.

California faces a projected nine-million-acre-foot annual water gap by 2024, driven by weather changes, shrinking snowpack, and regulatory shifts. The new State Water Plan 2028 sets that as its first statewide target: roughly two Shasta Reservoirs of supply to replace.

On top of all that, the Colorado River is tightening. Under the Trump administration’s twenty twenty-seven and twenty twenty-eight operating plan, California must cut four hundred forty thousand acre-feet a year—about twelve percent of its allotment—while Arizona and Nevada take deeper reductions.

Reservoirs are at record lows, and the federal Bureau of Reclamation controls the taps. Meanwhile, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act is ending the era of unlimited pumping in the Central Valley. Local agencies are now imposing limits and fees; some farmers are already leaving fields dry, and up to 900,000 acres may eventually go fallow.

The Delta tunnels remain unfinished. The Delta Conveyance Project has cleared some federal biological reviews but still faces court fights, financing questions, and water-rights decisions. Construction is unlikely before twenty twenty-nine at the earliest.

All of this leaves California’s water system dependent on federal support. The state cannot balance its own books without Bureau of Reclamation operations, Colorado River agreements, and federal actions by EPA, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries, and collaboration with Federal Indian Tribes on treaty-level land and water rights.

Sacramento is effectively waiting on Washington—and on Trump—to keep the system from breaking, and without cooperation, the system will cease to function.

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12:30 PM	12:45 PM	12:50 PM	12:55 PM	1:00 PM	1:25 PM	1:45 PM	2:25 PM	2:45 PM	3:20 PM	3:45 PM	3:50 PM	4:05 PM	4:15 PM	4:25 PM	4:30 PM
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Subscriptions should be mailed to *The Galt Herald*, 217 Fourth Street, Galt, CA 95632. Subscription rate is \$52 per year within Galt, \$72 within Sacramento County.

The Galt Herald is published weekly. Call our main office (916) 773-1111 for more information. Visit www.MPG8.com.

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Sacramento Celebrates Completion of American River Bridge Project

Dignitaries, Law Enforcement and Cycling Advocates Celebrate Accomplishment



The improved bridge provides a multimodal connection between downtown and eastern Sacramento, linking residents and travelers to medical centers, employment opportunities and major activity hubs. Photo courtesy of California Department of Transportation

California Department of Transportation News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On Oct. 7, local dignitaries, law enforcement officials, cyclists and other Caltrans partners gathered at Cal Expo to celebrate the completion of the \$288 million American River Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

The rehabilitation project of the American River Bridge on State Route 51/Capital

City Freeway from north of the B street underpass to north of the Exposition Boulevard overcrossing in Sacramento included replacing the bridge deck, protecting the bridge piers from scour, and adding a Class I bicycle path, creating a dedicated bicycle connection across the American River.

“This project aligns with Caltrans’ mission of improving lives and communities through transportation,” said Caltrans District 3 Director Sergio

Aceves. “The bridge is safer, ride quality is improved, and it provides new access for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The improved bridge provides a multimodal connection between downtown and eastern Sacramento, linking residents and travelers to medical centers, employment opportunities and major activity hubs.

The rehabilitation helps preserve a critical piece of Sacramento’s transportation infrastructure while providing

a safer, more durable and more connected route across the American River.

The department issues construction updates on X @ CaltransDist3 and on Facebook at CaltransDistrict3. For real-time traffic, click on Caltrans’ QuickMap or download the QuickMap app from the App Store or Google Play.

Caltrans District 3 is responsible for maintaining and operating 4,385 lane miles in 11 Sacramento Valley and

Northern Sierra counties. Caltrans reminds motorists to “Be Work Zone Alert” and slow in construction zones for the safety of travelers and crews performing these improvements.

The department issues construction updates on X @ CaltransDist3 and on Facebook CaltransDistrict3. For real-time traffic, click on Caltrans’ QuickMap or download the QuickMap app from the App Store or Google Play. ★

Agriculture Contributes Nearly \$1.2 Billion to Local Economy, Supports 6,924 Jobs



Sacramento County agriculture had a 2025 gross production value of \$550.3 million, up 2.6% from the prior year. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County agriculture pumped \$1.198 billion to the local economy in 2024 and supported 6,924 jobs, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures Chrisandra J. Flores announced Oct. 6 while presenting the County’s 2025 Crop and Livestock Report to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors.

“This year’s Crop and Livestock report goes beyond our usual assessment,” said Flores. “Instead of stopping at farm production values, it includes a 14-page special report that quantifies local food

processing, employment and economic ripple effects across the county. The findings offer vital information for anyone who values a vibrant, resilient local economy.

Sacramento County agriculture had a 2025 gross production value of \$550.3 million, up 2.6% from the prior year.

Wine grapes remained the county’s leading commodity at \$164.4 million, followed by processed tomatoes, market milk, pears, aquaculture, nursery stock, poultry, cattle and calves, almonds and rice.

In 2024, the latest year for which complete data is available, agriculture

contributed \$1.198 billion to the county economy when production, local processing and multiplier effects are included. This represented over three million dollars per day (approximately \$3,281,000) or about \$136,700 per hour and \$2,300 per minute.

Agricultural production and processing directly supported 4,977 jobs, plus another 1,947 from multiplier effects, for a total of 6,924 jobs.

As measured by a widely used index, Sacramento County agriculture has a high level of economic diversification across commodity types, which has provided critical stability and resilience to

the agricultural industry and to the larger county economy.

The findings provide policymakers, agricultural producers, and community leaders with a clearer understanding of agriculture’s true economic footprint and the information they need to make informed decisions.

The Sacramento County 2025 Crop and Livestock Report—including its 14-page economic analysis—may be viewed on the Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measure website. A limited number of printed copies of the report are available at the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office at 4137 Branch Center Road in Sacramento.★

Federal Grant Furthers Critical Homeless Services



Congresswoman Doris Matsui secured and presented Sacramento County with a \$1 million grant to further that mission on Oct. 6 at the Florin Road Safe Stay Community. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The road from being housed to unhoused to being housed again is not circular or linear. It is fraught with turns, breakages and twists that no one can predict or always avoid. A person’s ability to fully circumvent homelessness isn’t always up to them; it also depends on the support they have around them, the environmental factors they live in and the uncontrollable circumstances in which they live their lives. So many people are one catastrophic life event away from homelessness—but for some, that life event never comes.

But for many, that life event does come. And they don’t have families to care for them, to

offer them a bed, or to help with bills, food, childcare and transportation—essential elements we need to continue working, going to school and keeping ourselves afloat.

Not everyone living on the streets is on drugs. Not everyone on the streets is suffering from an acute mental illness. Not everyone is there by choice, and many—so many—are actively working to change their circumstances.

Sacramento County, in partnership with nonprofit partners, its cities, and with state and federal funds, is working tirelessly to lift people out of these circumstances, put them back on their feet in whatever way makes sense for them, and put them back on the straightest path to rehousing.

Congresswoman Doris Matsui secured and presented Sacramento County with a \$1 million grant to further that mission on Oct. 6 at the Florin Road Safe Stay Community. Open since August 2023 and now run by partner Five Keys, the Florin Road Safe Stay Community was the county’s first tiny home campus. Having now served more than 614 people, with a 35% successful outcome rate, these funds will further the goal of increasing successful outcomes and moving more people from the street to shelter to housing as quickly and successfully as possible.

“This infusion of critical funding comes at a pivotal moment in Sacramento County’s mission to continue its success in addressing homelessness in impactful

and unique ways,” said District 2 Sacramento County Supervisor Patrick Kennedy. “We’re grateful to Congresswoman Matsui’s tenacity in working for Sacramento and for the important work of addressing homelessness when funding is rapidly dwindling. We’re grateful for her continued advocacy in Washington.”

The Florin Road Safe Stay was the County’s first individual-occupancy-style shelter. After the success of Project Roomkey during COVID, the county pivoted its old sheltering model to focus on what people said yes to: privacy, a locking door and a place where they could shelter with a partner, their pet and their possessions in dignity. A shelter that was near the neighborhood

where they camped—near whatever support system they deemed important to them.

“It is difficult to build a stable future when your most basic needs aren’t being met. At Florin Safe Stay, we are providing people with something critically important: a safe place to begin again,” said President and CEO of Florin Road Safe Stay Heather Calomese. “At Five Keys, we believe something very simple: Your circumstances today do not determine your possibilities tomorrow.”

Homelessness does not have to define people. It does not need to be the last chapter of their story. It is part of their story, but so are the helpers—we can all rewrite the end of the story together. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Let ‘Em Play

By V.G. Harris

After witnessing two home games at the Golden One Center, I can unequivocally state that the Sacramento Kings fans have lost none of their passion for NBA basketball.

Although not a sellout crowd, the home fans rooted on their Kings with true enthusiasm and passion.

To many fans myself included, we were puzzled as to why coach Christie made the decision to sit out Ben Simmons, Malik Monk and Keegan Murray. I later learned that Monk was nursing a toe sprain, but there was no report as to why Simmons and Murray were held out for the first two preseason games.

The Lakers meanwhile put their full contingent on display, and the final score recorded the results. In the first game it was over by half time as the Lakers took a more than 30-point lead and never looked back.

In the Thursday game in Los Angeles while the Lakers star Luka Doncic put on a show, once again coach Christie had veterans sitting on the bench. Neither Domantas Sabonis nor Vach Lavine recorded a single minute, and once again the outcome was predictable.

What makes this apparent strategy so strange, is that if there is one intangible that most pundits and fans agree is critical to winning it is team chemistry. Team chemistry can only develop if players have the opportunity to play together, and what better time to get the ball rolling than the preseason.

The Sacramento fans finally got to see a cameo appearance from Ben Simmons and Keegan Murray Saturday night against the Golden State Warriors. Simmons recorded nine minutes of action and Murray was on the hardwood for a total of eight. Although Simmons did not grab a single rebound, he scored seven points and went three for four from the charity stripe. Murray managed five points and no rebounds, but at least the fans got a glimpse of the two players expected to make an impact in the upcoming season.

The play thus far has fans scratching their heads, and without a full contingent of players on the floor, what is being witnessed is a hodge-podge that does little more than confuse fans.

Five or six preseason games doesn’t allow for a lot chemistry to develop, so let’s get these players on the court and let them adjust to one another. Rotations and minutes remain a critical component and fans are already finding their favorites.

Whether Darius Acuff Jr., Emmanuel Sharpe, Alex Karaban, or some of the second-year players, fans want to see these players on the court and getting enough of a look to see what they’ve got offer.

Emmanuel Sharpe has impressed from the get-go, and if coach Christie is honest about finding players that exemplify defense, look no further than young Sharpe. Sharpe not only is playing exemplary defense, but he is also a capable scorer as well.

What will be interesting is whether his standout play will translate to the regular season, and will he receive 20-25 minutes per game?

It is way too early to become overly critical although I’m certainly confounded with this rather odd beginning to the preseason.

I will give coach Christie and the staff the benefit of the doubt and presume that he is being overly cautious with Simmons and Murray while trying to avoid early injuries.

At some point basketball players have to play basketball, and no doubt that is what we will see.

Looking for the positives, especially during the preseason, before the real action gets started, has to be the order of the day. I firmly believe that the Kings will begin to gel when they actually find themselves on the court together and can begin the process of building that ever-essential team chemistry.

Make no mistake about it, there is abundant talent on the team right now, and I’m looking forward to the night that it all comes together.

Two areas that concern me most are guarding the three-point line and getting the team to shoot a higher percentage from the line. These two areas are ever so critical, and at the moment the Kings have gotten off to a tepid start in both categories.

Stay tuned Kings fans, because the real action is about to start!

All the best! ★

California’s Hallmark Economic Sectors are Confronting Threats to Their Survival



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California’s economy is not only one of the world’s largest at more than \$4 trillion but one of its most diverse.

No single industry dominates. Rather, there are three hallmarks with global reach — film and TV production, technology and large-scale agriculture — and a variety of less famous sectors.

In terms of sheer financial and employment importance, healthcare is California’s biggest economic activity at something over \$500 billion a year, most of which comes from federal and state governments.

Southern California’s logistics industry — the movement of goods through its ports and its vast warehousing and transportation complexes — dwarfs Hollywood in economic importance. And tourism is huge in both of California’s major urban centers.

These are uncertain times for California’s economy. It has not fully recovered from the economic shutdown during the COVID-19 pandemic, it still has more than a million unemployed workers, and its 5.1% unemployment rate is currently tied for the highest of any state.

Economic turbulence is especially strong in California’s three hallmark sectors and could have existential importance.

The recent kerfuffle over

the merger of two Hollywood icons, Paramount and Warner Bros., underscored fears that Southern California is losing its dominance of film and TV production to other states and nations. The region has lost thousands of production jobs in recent years and the state government has attempted to stem the outflow with an array of subsidies.

Politico put it this way: “It all amounts to an existential crisis for the state’s leaders — one that this year’s candidates for governor and Los Angeles mayor confront as readily as those stumping in West Virginia grapple with questions over whether the coal mines will come back, or those in Michigan over whether the automotive assembly lines will ever roll again.

“Beneath the fight over tax incentives lies a larger question: whether the middle-class life that generations of Angelenos built working in Hollywood will soon become a thing of the past.”

Silicon Valley, some 340 miles north of Hollywood, is undergoing upheaval of a different kind. Artificial intelligence is a booming new product for high-tech firms, drawing countless billions of dollars in venture capital. It is also a target for federal and state politicians responding to public concerns about AI impacts.

The potential of societal harm from uncontrollable AI and physical harm from AI’s huge data centers have made the new technology the hottest issue in this year’s elections. It also has adversely affected the job picture as tech companies employ AI to trim their own payrolls. The San Jose Mercury News reported recently that Silicon Valley

firms have laid off nearly 14,000 workers so far this year, more than 2025’s yearly total.

Finally, there’s trouble down on the farm.

State officials have been pushing farmers to reduce their use of water to irrigate crops, both surface water from streams and reservoirs and underground water. Farmers also face shortages of labor, due to the Trump administration’s crackdown on immigrants lacking permanent legal status.

The Public Policy Institute of California has estimated that the state’s farmers will see a 20% reduction in water and may have to take as many as 900,000 acres out of production.

The most famous California agricultural product, wine, not only must contend with water and labor issues but a sharp decline in demand, leading to winery closures and decreasing acreage of wine grapes.

“Wine sales have decreased by more than 20% over a five-year period, causing prices paid for grapes to drop and prompting California growers to take roughly a quarter of the state’s vineyards out of production,” the Associated Press recently reported.

While Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislators have pledged millions of dollars to support Hollywood, they’ve ignored agriculture’s problems — and even worsened them via water restrictions.

Dan Walters is one of the most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state’s political, economic, social and demographic trends. ★

Social Security Matters

Does a Veteran who uses VA Healthcare need Medicare at age 65?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I’m not yet old enough, but must I enroll in Medicare at Age 65? I am a disabled military veteran with VA benefits, so must I still take Medicare when I turn 65? **Signed: Disabled Veteran**

Dear Disabled Veteran: First, please accept my gratitude for your military service to our country. And please also know that if you now rely 100% on the VA for all your healthcare needs, and you expect that to continue for the rest of your life, then you have the option to decline enrolling in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. However, if you believe that using healthcare providers from outside the VA may someday be in your future, you should enroll in Medicare when you are first eligible.

Although you are required to enroll in Medicare Part A (coverage for inpatient hospitalization services)

if you collect Social Security after age 65, enrolling in Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient medical services) is always optional because there is a monthly premium for Part B (\$202.90 for 2026 - changes yearly). So, as a military veteran using VA healthcare, you have a choice to either enroll in Medicare Part B at age 65, or not if you get all your healthcare services from the Veterans Administration. Just be aware that VA healthcare is not considered “creditable” for Medicare purposes, so if you do not enroll in Medicare Part B during your Medicare Initial Enrollment Period (IEP), and later choose to enroll in Medicare Part B, there will be a permanent Late Enrollment Penalty for enrolling in Medicare Part B outside your initial enrollment period (your Medicare IEP is 3 months on either side of the month you turn 65).

So, the decision you will need to make as you approach 65 years of age is this: will all of your healthcare needs always be provided through the VA? Or do you want the convenience (and flexibility) to know you can use any healthcare provider anywhere the U.S. or its territories, whenever and wherever you

wish. If the latter is true, then you should likely enroll in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. You can still use the VA for some services if you are enrolled in both, but there is no coordination of benefits (e.g., the VA will not make copayments if you use Medicare services, and vice versa). Which means that you may also wish to also consider a Medicare Advantage plan or a Medicare Supplement plan to go with Medicare Part B if/when you enroll.

I hope this answers your question, but please don’t hesitate to contact us again if needed. And, importantly, thank you for your service to our country.

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The System Worked in the Cornell 7 Case

We’ve heard it from politicians, celebrities and influencers -- the system failed the accuser in the Cornell 7 case. This near-universal view is advanced with great certainty and a sense of outraged righteousness, but mistaken nonetheless. Based on the information available to them at the time, the authorities handled the matter in keeping with the facts and the law.

This isn’t to defend anything that occurred during that debauched night at the Chi Phi fraternity, which was “Lord of the Flies” meets “Eyes Wide Shut.” Nor does it foreclose the possibility that Jane Doe was the victim of crimes. But the critics of the school and the district attorney who declined to prosecute the case fail to account for a central element of the case -- a sworn statement by Jane Doe herself in November 2024 that appears to fail to allege any crime.

After getting slammed for his handling of the case, Tompkins County district attorney Matthew Van Houten publicly defended his office. He quoted extensively from Jane Doe’s statement. These excerpts do indeed describe her actions that night, in the words of the DA, as “voluntary, conscious and consensual.”

By her own account, she drank heavily before heading to the fraternity. She danced flirtatiously with a friend she was

interested in, and then agreed to a threesome because of “how attracted” she was to him and “drunken curiosity.” This was before she ingested any drugs. The assignation stopped when her friend dropped out because of drowsiness, while the other male began to dry heave. She periodically checked on her sleeping friend, while “consoling” the other male. This was a squalid scene, but not one where she was unconscious or refusing.

Another male entered the room, and he began making out with her, with Jane Doe apparently lodging no objection. Her friend then woke up and made another lewd proposal that she declined. More males piled into the room. It was suggested she take “more ketamine,” and vaguely recalling she had already snorted some at some point, she figured “why not do it a second time.”

When the guys, who behaved abysmally, asked if they could snort the drug off her body, she said, “Sure.”

Finally, another young man entered the room and said he was shutting down “whatever the f*** this is.”

Still, her so-called friend persisted and took her to another room with another male to begin having group sex again. She said she was tired and plaintively asked her friend, “What happened to just you and me?” But she apparently didn’t say “no.” Finally, around 5:45 a.m., she said she “was tired and needed

to turn in.”

This isn’t a hostile version of events concocted by a defense attorney -- it’s what she attested to weeks after the night of Oct. 19. The DA didn’t disbelieve her, or decide he couldn’t prove her allegations; he correctly determined that she described no actual crime.

It’s not the job of a DA, obviously, to get an alleged victim to change her story after she’s sworn to it in writing, or to make prosecutions based on vibes.

For its part, Cornell didn’t sweep the matter under the rug. The school carried out 50 interviews involving 32 witnesses. It expelled two of the students; suspended two others; banned from campus one who had already graduated; and allowed two others to remain, provided that they completed various trainings, including writing “reflective essays” (this is the source of the erroneous idea that essay-writing was the only consequence for the young men).

Both the DA and Cornell did their job. It’s not that the system failed Jane Doe but, rather, that she changed her version of events two years after the fact in a civil lawsuit against the men and the university, among others.

The risk now is that the system, with New York Attorney General Letitia James leading a politicized investigation, will be perverted to produce a predetermined outcome.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

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

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

The cafe is open at 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays for adults age 60 and older. Those interested can apply at the Chabolla Center when meals are being served or they can call 916-444-9533.

Sunshine Food Pantry Donations
Sunshine Food Pantry is a food closet that helps provide for residents. Collections of canned food and dry good nonperishable items are received at United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt; call to make an appointment for donations at 209-745-4133.
The food closet is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

Senior Bingo Weekly at Chabolla
The Galt Commission on Aging is hosting free Senior Bingo games at the Chabolla Community Center at 600 Chabolla Ave. from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays (except holidays and when required by the city).

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

Recycle Household Batteries
City of Galt residents can recycle their household batteries in one of two green household-battery recycling bins: on the west side at the front entrance to the Galt Police Department or on the east side at Galt Community Park, just west of the fire station.

The green bin is only for dry-cell household batteries.

For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 209-366-7260.

Nominate

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

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

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

TOPS Weekly Meetings
TOPS, Taking Off Pounds Sensibly, meets every Wednesday at Grace Presbyterian Church, 10 N. Mills Ave., Lodi. Meeting time: 10-10:45 a.m. Weigh-ins: 9-9:50 a.m. No charge for first meeting.

Volunteers Sought for Senior Resource Center
The Commission on Aging is looking for volunteers to operate a computer and are willing to answer questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on

social media and by email at the Galt Senior Resource Center.
Volunteer slots are available in two-hour increments for up to four hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, excluding holidays.
Volunteers will be trained and can contact commission members with questions.
The resource center is at the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. If interested, call 209-294-3308 and leave a message or inquire in person.

Square Dance Classes Mondays
The Diamond Dancers Square Dance Club hosts social square-dancing classes in Galt.
The classes are open to everyone and are held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Valley Oaks Grange Hall.

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

Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings

Narcotics Anonymous (Nar-Anon) family group meetings for friends and family members who are dealing with drug

addiction are held locally from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Galt United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt. ★

POLICE LOGS

The following arrests were reported by the Galt Police Department. All individuals are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Galt police responded to a variety of calls and arrested seven people from Oct. 5 to Oct. 11.

Oct. 5
6:25 p.m., Suspicious person, Horizon Community Church on Fairway Drive. A man was drinking and was “fighting a tree.”

Oct. 6
10:16 p.m., Warrant served, Obrien Circle, Adult Arrest.

Oct. 7
4:34 a.m., Warrant served. Kost Road and Hamel Way, Adult Arrest.

9:43 a.m., Narcotics violation, Pringle Avenue and North Lincoln Way, Adult Arrest.

2:56 p.m., Fraud, Valley Oaks Senior Apartments on Oak Avenue. Fraud against landlord.
3:32 p.m., Theft, River

Oaks Elementary School, Vintage Oak Avenue, suspect took a wallet and cash from a vehicle.
9:33 p.m., Domestic violence, Palin Avenue, Adult Arrest.

Oct. 8
1:51 p.m., Drunk and disorderly person, Taco Bell on Twin Cities Road, Adult Arrest.

7:09 p.m., Missing adult, Tractor Supply Company at Twin Cities Road.

Oct. 9
9:46 a.m., Dead person, Pringle Avenue.
2:35 p.m., Suspicious circumstances, Teal Lane, possible vehicle damage from a pellet gun.

Oct. 10
7:44 a.m., Theft, McFarland Street. Two vehicles were broken into.

11:11 a.m., Warrant served, Stockton Boulevard and Walnut Avenue. Adult Arrest.

9:05 p.m., DUI, Interstate More for Less on North Lincoln Way. Adult Arrest. ★

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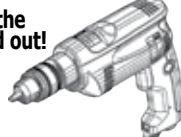
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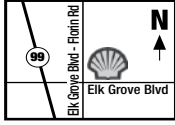
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It is Breast Cancer Month – Have you had a Mammogram?

Today is National Mammography Day. As part of the larger observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, this event is specifically set aside to act as a reminder for women and men 40-plus – or those who have certain risk factors – to talk to their doctors about scheduling a mammogram. According to the day-oftheyear.com website most incidences of breast cancer happen as we get older. National Mammography Day calls attention to the important preventative and life-saving practice of having regular mammograms, especially for women 40 and up.

The initial celebration of National Mammography Day dates back more than 30 years. The event was proclaimed by U.S. President Bill Clinton in October 1993 and has been celebrated annually since then. Recognizing that the official recognition of this day brings to light the importance of breast health, several non-profit groups, government agencies, healthcare professionals and universities have gotten involved with observing National Mammography Day, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Breast Cancer



Foundation. As technology has improved over the years, more and more women with breast cancer are able to get early diagnoses that allow them to have treatments that help them beat cancer. And that’s a big win for everyone!

Mammograms are a type of low-dose X-ray that creates images of the inside of the breast. With only a tiny amount of radiation, mammograms are considered safe. For many women, the process of having a mammogram may be uncomfortable but is an important tool for cancer prevention. If a “screening” mammogram reveals concerns, a follow-up mammogram or a sonogram will likely be requested. As an important part of breast health, women are encouraged to know their own bodies and recognize if changes take place. Some doctors recommend women perform regular

monthly breast self-exams to help them stay apprised of their own breast health.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among women in the United States, behind skin cancers. While breast cancer is typically thought of as an issue for women, men can also get breast cancer. Mammography technology has helped cut breast cancer mortality in the United States by approximately 40% since 1990. And if caught early, the rate for successful treatment of breast cancer is greater than 90%. Mammography screening cuts the risk of dying from breast cancer by approximately 50%.

Be smart and don’t put off getting a mammogram.

On another note, an estimated one billion people in the world suffer from spinal pain, and the spine is the largest single cause of disability on the planet. Yes, we also celebrate World Spine Day today.

The day seeks to promote effective prevention and management of the spine. When a person’s spine and back are in good health, people typically don’t even notice or pay attention to it. But the moment the spine begins not working so

well, it can be difficult, painful and even debilitating. The campaign for the day is meant to motivate government, communities and public health bodies to be more committed to tackling the problem of spinal pain. With more than 800 official organizational supports all over the globe, World Spine Day aims to help promote spinal health. World Spine Day is the time for individuals, health professionals and community leaders all over the world to promote healthier spines in children and adults.

Now that we are sitting and standing correctly for a healthy spine and hopefully have made an appointment for a mammogram, let’s talk about decorations. There are some great Halloween decorations out there. But I think I like the all-autumn decorations such as gourds; pumpkins; leaves in orange, gold, and brown; pinecones, turkeys, pilgrims and maybe a scarecrow or two. It seems like a natural flow to go from October to November. And it’s a two-for-one. Decorating one time can cover two months.

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

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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

DO YOU LOVE GRANDMA? OF COURSE I DO!!

DO YOU EVER BUY HER FLOWERS? I DIDN'T KNOW SHE SOLD FLOWERS.

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY KENDY HILGOLLAND

IT'S BEEN A WHILE. I THINK I WANT TO HAVE ANOTHER CHILD.

AS IN REPRODUCE, RIGHT? NOT FOR DINNER.

EH, I'LL SEE WHICH WAY THE WHIM TAKES ME.

BLAST IT ALL!

WHAT'S WRONG, SEA HAG?

I CAN'T REMEMBER WHY I MADE THIS... THING.

YOU MADE A HALLOWEEN SATYR?

I MADE SOMETHING THE OTHER DAY BUT WHAT I DON'T KNOW!

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

I'VE HAD IT WITH HELEN. SHE'S ALWAYS RUNNING AROUND LIKE A CHICKEN WITH ITS HEAD CUT OFF.

ALWAYS ACTING BOSSY. I THINK SHE FEELS SHE RULES THE ROOST.

SHE'S ALWAYS PUTTING HERSELF FIRST IN THE PECKING ORDER....

DID YOU PAUSE FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT OR JUST RUN OUT OF MORE CHICKEN PUNS?

IT'S NOT SMART, SO I DIDN'T MAKE IT FOR A HELPER. IT'S WEAK, SO I DIDN'T MAKE IT FOR PROTECTION.

HONESTLY, ALL IT DOES IS MAKE THAT SOUND.

SO WHY WOULD I CONJURE IT INTO EXISTENCE?!

THIS THING'S REALLY ANNOYING ME.

OH, YEAH! THAT'S WHY?

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

GLEN AND I ARE SAVING FOR RETIREMENT. IT'S NOT A LOT, BUT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO SQUIRREL AWAY SOME MONEY...

STOCKS? BONDS? BOTH IRAS?

NO, GLEN CRAMMED OUR FOUR THOUSAND AND ELEVEN DOLLARS INTO THE CHEEKS OF HIS MOUTH.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is shorter. 2. Saw blade is longer. 3. Hat is different. 4. Finger is moved. 5. Leg is thinner. 6. Tree is thinner.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

MY FOLKS TOOK ME TO THE OPERA LAST NIGHT.

HOW'D YOU LIKE THE OPERA?

TOO CROWDED.

WHAT WAS THE PLOT?

I PUNNO. IT WAS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.

ACTION?

JUST STANDING AROUND SINGING.

HOW 'BOUT SNACKS?

NO FORBORN, NO CANDY, NOTHING!

COSTUMES AND SETS?

COULDN'T SEE.

LIKE THE MUSIC?

I FELL ASLEEP.

SO WHY DID THEY TAKE YOU?

FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

NORMALLY THE RULE OF THUMB IS YOUR BOWL SHOULD BE SMALLER THAN THE TUB OF ICE CREAM IT COMES IN.

"I hate it when jousting season begins!"

S	C	U	B	A		A	S	H			R	O	C	K				
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L	E	N	S						E	B	B			D	E	S	K	S

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Diver's acronym

6. *Bat wood

9. 1970s "pet"

13. *High-flying fly ball

14. *Tampa Bay player

15. Round loaf, in Paris

16. Oak fruit

17. Golf peg

18. Investigative report

19. *Winningest World Series team

21. *How many feet between bases?

23. Help

24. Queen of Hearts' pastry

25. *80-game restriction, e.g.

28. Cecum, pl.

30. Mr. Miyagi's forte

35. Some soaps have none

37. Mobile phone in Britain, slangily

39. Heat-conducting solid

40. Australian palm

41. Borders on

43. Large African antelope

44. Campus VIPs

46. *Umpires: Men in

47. Wednesday Addams' roommate

48. *Babe Ruth, a.k.a. the ____ of Swat

50. Campaign worker

52. Before, old-fashioned

53. Buck or doe

55. GDP predecessor

57. *Grand slam: home run with bases ____

60. *____-inning stretch

64. Courteous and respectful

65. Large coffee pot

67. Habituate

68. Administer ceremonial oil

69. Bird word

70. Come in

71. Magnifying glass

72. Flow's partner

73. Classroom furniture pieces

DOWN

1. Fix a cat

2. Kind of cola

3. "Once ____ a time..."

4. Muslim woman's cover

5. Relating to apnea

6. Crafts' partner

7. Ed.'s request

8. Laughing predator

9. *Record holder for most career hits

10. Give a boot

11. Modeling material

12. Piano's E or G, e.g.

15. Small chicken variety

20. Organ swelling

22. Rub the wrong way

24. Arranged in rows and columns

25. *Record holder for most career home runs

26. Farewell, in France

27. Edible cactus

29. *One of five first Hall of Fame inductees

31. Blood vessel network

32. Repent

33. Short-trunked ungulate

34. Exclude or omit

36. Rave's partner

38. Purse on red carpet

42. Swamp plant

45. Equestrian's seat

49. Born, in bio

51. Begrudged

54. Derive

56. Tubular pasta

57. *Third base ____

58. Kitchen appliance

59. Pains

60. Nose-in-the-air type

61. Bonkers

62. Hiker's journey

63. Not his

64. *____ Ripken Jr.

66. *Umpire's blown call

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

Fathers and Daughters Enjoy Fishing and Family Fun

American River Parkway Foundation News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Twenty-one daughters and their fathers enjoyed a morning of fishing at Sailor Bar Park on the American River Parkway on Saturday, Oct. 10.

This is the third annual Father-Daughter Fishing event hosted by the American River Parkway Foundation in partnership with local nonprofit Sisters of Nia, which works to uplift, educate and empower young girls in grades sixth, seventh and eighth.

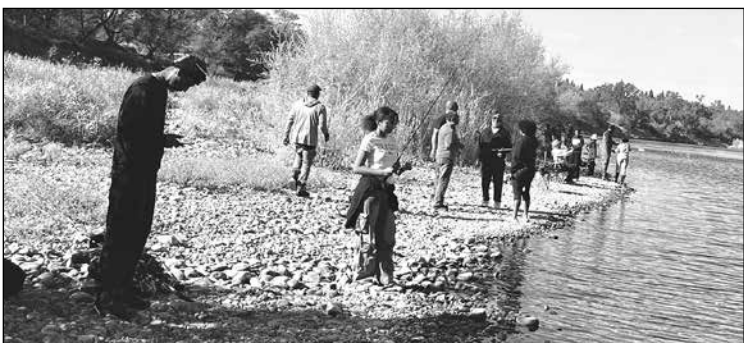
The Father-Daughter Fishing event is part of the Parkway Foundation’s Parkway CONNECT program, which aims to remove barriers that prevent families from experiencing the American River Parkway.

“This was our largest group to date, and it was so great watching the girls out by the water casting the fishing poles with their dads. In addition to fishing, some even made a fish print to remember our morning together. Most of the group had fished before, but only five or six had been to the American River Parkway,”

said Education Manager of the Parkway Foundation Jackie Hadley.

One way the Parkway Foundation helps remove barriers that prevent families from experiencing the Parkway is by covering the cost of Parkway CONNECT events through grant funding and donations.

“All of the fishing gear for this event was donated, which is a testament to how passionate our community members are about helping more people experience and recreate on the American River Parkway,” added Executive



One way the Parkway Foundation helps remove barriers that prevent families from experiencing the Parkway is by covering the cost of Parkway CONNECT events. Photo courtesy of American River Parkway Foundation

Director of the Parkway Foundation Dianna Poggetto.

So far this year, 411 people of all ages and backgrounds discovered the Parkway through Parkway CONNECT events. For more information about the Parkway CONNECT program, visit www.ARPF.org/Parkway-Connect. Or check out the Discover the Parkway YouTube series to hear from past participants about the impact of this program.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07358
Hand in Hand Women’s Day of Unity, 771 Adare Way, Galt, CA

95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Hand in Hand Women’s Day of Unity” 771 Adare Way, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 23, 2026

Publish: October 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026
HAND10-30-26
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07209
Glenda Hart Aitkens and Daryl

A Aitkens, 604 Pringle Avenue #79, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Once Upon a Tyne” 604 Pringle Avenue #79, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 16, 2026
Publish: October 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026
ONCE10-30-26
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06585
Laura Alicia Origel, 126 S. Emerald Oak Drive, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) “Laura Cleaning Services” 126 S. Emerald Oak Drive, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 24, 2026
Publish: Oct 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 2026
LAURA11-6-26
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LUZ MARIA BARRON
CASE NO. 26PR002641
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Luz Maria Barron.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Ricardo Barron, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Ricardo Barron be appointed as personal representative(s)

to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows October 26, 2026, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Andrew D. Smith, 115 W. Walnut Street, Suite 3, Lodi, CA 95240; 209-333-9292
Publish: October 2, 9, 16, 2026
BARRON10-16-26

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON THE RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENTION TO ANNEX TERRITORY COSUMNES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1 (ELK GROVE FIRE PROTECTION)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to California Government Code Section 53322, the Board will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4thh, 2026, at the meeting place of the Board, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove, California, to consider:
A. A summary of the text of Resolution 2026-22 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COSUMNES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DECLARING INTENTION TO ANNEX TERRITORY TO COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY OF THE SPECIAL TAX THEREIN is as follows:

The Board has conducted proceedings to establish Community Facilities District No. 1 (Elk Grove Fire Protection) (the “CFD”) pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended (the “Act”), Chapter 2.5 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5, commencing at Section 53311, of the California Government Code and The Board hereby finds and determines that public convenience and necessity require that territory be added to the CFD. The name of the existing CFD is “Cosumnes Community Services District Community Facilities District No. 1 (Elk Grove Fire Protection).” The territory included in the existing CFD is set forth in the map of the CFD recorded in the office of the County Recorder of the County of Sacramento in Book 116 at Page 1580 of Maps of Assessment and Community Facilities Districts, to which map reference is hereby made. The territory now proposed to be annexed to the CFD is as shown on Annexation Map No. 61 to the CFD, on file with the Clerk of the Board (“Board Clerk”). The services and facilities to be financed by the CFD (the “Services and Facilities”) and pursuant to the Act are described in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 2012-25 of the District, adopted on June 6, 2012 (the “Resolution of Formation”) which is incorporated herein by reference. The Resolution, Description of Facilities, Rate, and Method of Apportionment of Special Tax, and the proposed boundaries of the Community Facilities District No. 1 Annexation No. 61 are on file with Nou Vang, Cosumnes Community Services District, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, California, and are available for review there during business hours by any interested persons.

On Wednesday, November 4th , 2026, at the meeting place of the Board, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, California, this Board, as the legislative body for the CFD, will conduct a public hearing on the annexation of the territory to the CFD and consider and finally determine whether the public interest, convenience, and necessity require the annexation of the Property to the CFD and the levy of the Special Tax thereon.

At the public hearing, the testimony of all interested persons or taxpayers for or against the proposed annexation will be heard. If owners of one-half or more of the area of land in the existing CFD and not exempt from the Special Tax, or if the owners of one-half or more of the area of land in the territory proposed to be annexed and not exempt from the Special Tax, file written protests against the proposed annexation, and protests are not withdrawn so as to reduce the protests to less than a majority, no further proceedings to annex the same territory shall be undertaken for a period of one year from the date of the decision of the District Board on the issues discussed at the hearing.

The Galt Herald 10-16-2026

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 8.16.200 OF THE GALT MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING DISPOSAL AND PROCESSING REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, AB 2902 and AB 2346 directed the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (“CalRecycle”) to adopt regulations to allow more flexibility to jurisdictions regarding the procurement mandates set forth in SB 1383; and
WHEREAS, the AB 2902 and AB 2346 regulations require the City of Galt to adopt an enforceable mechanism prior to utilizing the flexible means set forth in the stated regulations; and
WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend section 8.16.200 City disposal and processing regulations.
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Chapter 8.16.200 (City disposal and processing regulations) to comply with legislative mandates AB 2902 and AB 2346. These mandates are to add flexibility for adjusting procurement targets and expand recovered organic waste products that are eligible procurement options.
Section 2. Authority. The City Council enacts this ordinance under the authority granted to cities by Chapter XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution.
Section 3. Section 8.16.200 City disposal and processing regulations is hereby amended to read in its entirety as set forth in Attachment 1.
Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unlawful, unenforceable or otherwise void, that determination shall have no effect on any other provision of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unlawful.
Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its final adoption as provided by Government Code Section 36937. Within 15 days after its final passage, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance, or a summary thereof, to be published in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Galt in accordance with Section 36933(c) of the California Government Code.
§ 8.16.200. City disposal and processing regulations.
D. Recovered Organic Waste Product Procurement

This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its adoption. Within fifteen (15) days after its adoption, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance, or a summary of it, to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Galt.

This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its adoption. Within fifteen (15) days after its adoption, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance, or a summary of it, to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Galt

The foregoing ordinance was introduced and the title thereof read at the regular meeting of the City Council the 15th day of September, 2026 and by unanimous vote of the Council members present, further reading was waived.

On a motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Reed, the foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Galt at a regular meeting thereof, this 6th day of October, 2026, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Council Members: Reed, Pratton, Sandhu, Farmer, Rodriguez
NOES: Council Members:
ABSTAIN: Council Members:
ABSENT: Council Members:

/s/ Bonnie Rodrigiez
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:
/s/ Tina Hubert
City Clerk, City of Galt

A certified copy of the full text of this ordinance is posted in and available for public review at the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Galt, located at 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California

The Galt 10-16-2026

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE DISTRCT ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GALT TO REZONE 8.78 ACRES FROM HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL TO COMMERCIAL ALONG CRYSTAL WAY AND S. CARILLION BLVD

WHEREAS, on or around August 4, 2025 the applicant, Buzz Oates Construction submitted an application to the City for approximately ±12.42 acres requesting approval of a Tentative Parcel Map (TPM) and Rezone; and
WHEREAS, the Project site is located at the intersection of Crystal Way, South Carillion Boulevard, and the ramp to SR 99 (Assessor’s Parcel Numbers [“APNs”] 150-0092-026 and 150-0092-027), shown on the map attached hereto as EXHIBIT A and incorporated herein by reference, and Applicant has requested the subdivision of two existing parcels into five new parcels and the rezone of three of the newly-subdivided parcels from a Highway Commercial to a Commercial designation (“Project”); and
WHEREAS, the Project proposes five parcels and as part of the Project approvals, the parcel lot lines will be adjusted via a parcel map; and
WHEREAS, Parcels one and five will retain a Highway Commercial (HC) zoning, while parcels two, three, and four will be rezoned to Commercial (C) to facilitate the orderly development of the Project by providing a zoning designation that is more compatible with the site's configuration and future development potential; and
WHEREAS, staff has reviewed the proposed Project, requirements for a rezone, and the underlying General Plan and zoning policies, goals, and criteria and determined that the requisite findings may be made to support a rezone from HC to C as to parcels two, three, and four of the Project site; and
WHEREAS, a public hearing on the rezone for parcels two, three, and four of the Project was held by the Planning Commission on August 13, 2026 and the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed rezone for the Property, considered all evidence in the record including the staff report, supporting documentation, and oral and written evidence and public comments, and using their independent judgement, recommended approval of said rezone; and
WHEREAS, all potential environmental impacts resulting from the Project, including this rezone, were analyzed, addressed, and, where necessary, mitigated pursuant to the Modified Initial Study / 15183 Checklist for the Project adopted by the City Council on September 15, 2026; and
WHEREAS, no further CEQA review is required.
WHEREAS, on September 15, 2026, the City Council held a duly noticed public hearing at which all persons wishing to testify in connection with the rezone were heard and the proposed rezone was comprehensively reviewed.
NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, does ordain as follows:
SECTION 1. Purpose.
SECTION 2. Findings.
SECTION 3. Rezone.
SECTION 4. No Mandatory Duty of Care.
SECTION 5. Severability.
SECTION 6. Effective Date.
SECTION 7. Notice. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after its final passage and adoption. Within fifteen (15) days after its final passage, the City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published in full in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code or publish a pre-adoption and post-adoption summary as otherwise authorized by law.
On a motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Reed, the foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Galt at a regular meeting thereof, this 15th day of September, 2026, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Council Members: Reed, Pratton, Sandhu, Farmer, Rodriguez
NOES: Council Members:
ABSTAIN: Council Members:
ABSENT: Council Members:

/s/ Bonnie Rodrigiez
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:
/s/ Tina Hubert
City Clerk, City of Galt

A certified copy of the full text of this ordinance is posted in and available for public review at the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Galt, located at 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California

The Galt 10-16-2026

Sierra Donor Services Recognized DMV Partners During DMV Appreciation Month

Sierra Donor Services News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sierra Donor Services (SDS) proudly honored Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) partners across Northern California, celebrating DMV Appreciation Month during September.

As an important link in the donation and transplantation process, DMV staff play a vital role in helping individuals register as organ, eye and tissue donors, bringing hope to nearly 20,000 in California and more than 100,000 patients in need of lifesaving transplants across the nation.

Every year, September highlights the invaluable 21-year partnership between DMV offices and Sierra Donor Services in promoting the Donate Life California organ donor registry. 95% of Californians who register as donors do so through the DMV, making their front-line staff essential advocates for donation. They are more than DMV staff or state employees; they are life ambassadors. 2026 marked a historic milestone: a record breaking 20 million registered Californians who said ‘yes’ to donation.

This achievement gives us hope, but for those waiting for a transplant, the need is immediate. Every day, approximately 10 or more people are added to the national waiting list, while 16 people across the country die every day because a life-saving organ wasn't available. However, one donor can save up to eight lives through organ donation and heal the lives of 75 more through tissue donation, giving the hope of second chances to those patiently waiting.

“Our DMV partners are



Sr. External Affairs Coordinator of Sierra Donor Services, Kevin Cao at Sacramento South DMV. Photo courtesy of Sierra Donor Services

everyday heroes, and we celebrate them every month, not just for the month of September,” said Sean Van Slyck, chief executive officer of Sierra Donor Services. “Many times, they are the first people to introduce Californians to the option of donation. Their dedication and compassion directly impact lives saved through transplantation.”

Throughout September, Sierra

Donor Services visited several DMV offices across its service county areas to personally thank staff, recognized staff for the life-changing work they provide, and share stories of lives saved through donation. DMV employees were also recognized on social media and the organization’s website, highlighting their contributions to the donation community.

DMV staff are responsible for facilitating over 95% of new donor registrations in California.

Sierra Donor Services supports 19 DMV offices across 11 counties and the city of Santa Rosa in Northern California and Nevada.

DMV Appreciation Month is part of a national campaign led by Donate Life America and state donor registries.

“Donate Life California is proud to continue its strong partnership with Sierra Donor Services and the California DMV,” said Lacey Felder, senior program manager of Donate Life California. “Since more than 95% of Californians register as donors through the California DMV, this partnership provides a trusted and accessible way for individuals to make this important decision. We extend our gratitude to the DMV for its critical partnership, dedication, and commitment to saving and improving lives through organ, eye and tissue donation.”

Sierra Donor Services encourages all Californians to say ‘yes’ to donation when visiting the DMV and to thank DMV employees for their role in saving lives. As Sierra Donor Services reflects on over 40 years of impact, the organization remains committed to its mission of saving lives, honoring donors, and educating the public. Be part of this life-changing legacy. Register today at SierraDonor.org.

About Sierra Donor Services
Founded in 1985, Sierra Donor Services is a federally designated, mission-driven nonprofit organ procurement organization (OPO) dedicated to saving and improving lives through organ, eye and tissue donation. Serving over 5 million people across Northern California, Nevada, and New Mexico, SDS is part of a collaborative network of organ procurement organizations working to advance donation efforts across California, Nevada, New Mexico and Tennessee. For more information, or to register as a donor, visit SierraDonor.org. ★

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About Town

Continuing through Sunday, Nov. 1
Pumpkin Patch at Fog Willow Farms – Fog Willow is a friendly, safe, exciting “Edu-Tainment” farm where you can celebrate all that is agriculture, all that is family and all that is fun. Open daily through Sunday, Nov. 1. See the website at fogwillowfarms.com for information and schedule of activities. 11011 Cecatra Drive, Wilton.

Continuing through Saturday, Oct. 31
Greetings from Galt Community Photo Contest – annual contest that celebrates our community through photography. For this year’s theme, “Places & Character of Galt,” show us the places and details that make Galt recognizable. Capture local landmarks, historic features, architecture, streetscapes, neighborhoods, civic spaces and other unique or familiar sights around town. Whether it’s a well-known landmark or an everyday view that feels distinctly Galt, we want to see our community through your lens. Requirements and submission instructions at bit.ly/GreetingsFromGalt.

Saturday, Oct. 17 and Sunday, Oct. 18
Lodi Open Studios Tour – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. This free, self-guided art tour features 13 artists at nine studios throughout the Lodi area, with studios open both days. Pick up a tour brochure and follow the interactive map to visit participating studios, meet the artists, see where they create, and shop original artwork. More information and map at lodiopenstudios.com.

Saturday, Oct. 17
Galt Market Community Garage Sale – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Galt Flea Market. It’s time to turn unwanted items into new finds. Have items ready for a new home? Vendor spaces are available for those interested in selling. Shoppers can spend the morning browsing for bargains, hidden treasures, and one-of-a-kind finds. Local food trucks will also be on site with food available for purchase. For vendor information, contact Venicia Lesley at The Galt Market at 209-366-7168 or vlesley@cityofgalt.org. 610 Chabolla Ave.

Wilton Hall Yard Sale & Dollar Days – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Wilton Hall Vintage & Antique Mall. Everything’s better when the price tag makes you say, “Well, for a dollar ...” 11040 Wilton Rd., Wilton.

Guided Paddle Along the Cosumnes River – 9 a.m. to noon. Join experienced naturalists for a leisurely paddle along the Cosumnes River and its peaceful sloughs. This unique on-the-water experience offers an opportunity to explore one of California’s last free-flowing rivers while learning about the wildlife, plants, and history that make this area so special. Participants must provide their own watercraft (canoe, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard), paddle, and properly fitted personal flotation device (PFD/life jacket). Participants should be comfortable paddling for several hours in outdoor conditions. Registration and more information at Eventbrite. com. 13501 Franklin Blvd.

Hats, Heels & Harvest Champagne Luncheon – 11 a.m. at the American Legion Hall. Get ready to celebrate a spectacular harvest at a fall-themed luncheon presented by the Lodi Butterfly Auxiliary of Hospice of San Joaquin. Soak up the warm sunshine at our courtyard reception and indulge in mouthwatering appetizers. Don’t miss the chance to wear stunning hats and win fabulous raffle baskets. It’s an event you won’t want to miss. Tickets and more information at hospicesj.org/events. 320 N. Washington St., Lodi.

Wilton Firefighters Association Annual Chili Cook-Off – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wilton Community Center. Chili, cars, vendors, firefighters, and bragging rights – Wilton’s biggest bowl of fun is back. In addition to supporting the Firefighters Burn Institute, funds raised from our event also benefit local programs including Dillard School, local 4-H Programs, the WFA Scholarship Fund, and other community events and needs. 9717 Colony Rd., Wilton.

Harvest Festival – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Harvest Church Ministries. This year’s event is free for the whole family and packed with tons of fun: live performances, music, pony rides, carnival games and prizes, community resource booths, food, and more. Join Harvest Church Ministries to enjoy a day with your families and make memories with your children. 3051 E. Main St., Stockton.

Make it Magic Carnival – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Revel Lodi. Enjoy games, prizes, cotton candy, and popcorn all topped off with a live magic show featuring Magic Forest from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Bring your friends and neighbors for a day filled with laughter and community spirit. 2923 Reynolds Ranch Pkwy., Lodi.

PALS Haven Rescue Brew Release Party – noon to 2 p.m. at Five Window Beer Company. The winners of the 2026 Fundraising Photo Contest will be celebrated at this release party. Beer with the winning labels will be available for sale. Proceeds benefit PALS Haven Rescue. 9 W. Locust

St., Lodi.
Family Carnival – 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Michael David Winery. This lively outdoor carnival brings kid-approved entertainment to a beautiful winery setting, perfect for all ages to enjoy together. Highlights include face-painting and balloons, bubble station, hands-on crafts, lawn games, and local food trucks. 4580 W. Hwy. 12, Lodi.

Love Lodi: Heart of the City Gala – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Hutchins Street Square. This special celebration shines a spotlight on the volunteers and local leaders whose dedication, generosity, and service create lasting impact throughout Lodi. Gather with neighbors who believe in showing up, giving back, and building a vibrant Lodi together. Tickets and more information at lovelodi.org. 125 S. Hutchins St., Lodi.

Live Music with Donovan Bryant – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards. Come out, enjoy some live country music, and spend your Saturday evening supporting local music and a local Galt business. Call 209-744-6062 for more information and reservations. 400 4th St., #150, Old Town Galt.

Astronomy in the Park – 7 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. at Shumway Oak Grove Regional Park. Bring a blanket and chairs; Stockton Astronomical Society will bring the telescopes. Visitors of all ages are invited to explore the universe through guided telescope viewings, hands-on learning, and fascinating presentations from local astronomers. Free event, \$6 parking. 4520 W. Eight Mile Rd., Stockton.

Sunday, Oct. 18
Trick or Treat on Weber Street – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Children’s Museum of Stockton. A ghoulishly great time for children and families returns to the Children’s Museum. Grab your favorite costume, candy buckets, and best of pals and come enjoy all the goodies that await you. Free event. 402 W. Weber Ave., Stockton.

Karaoke / Band Practice – 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards. Join us to sing along with “Phil ‘n da Pinots,” request your own songs, or even join the band on stage to play along. Call 209-744-6062 for more information and reservations. 400 4th St., #150, Old Town Galt.

Roots, Radiance & Resilience: An Evening in Pink – 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Immensee Vineyard Ranch. Join the community in an October celebration of breast cancer awareness, wellness and hope. Tickets and more information at Eventbrite. com. 10700 Wilton Rd., Elk Grove.

“Piano Men: Generations, a Tribute to Elton John and Billy Joel” – 3 p.m. at the Charlene Powers Lange Performing Arts Theatre. Enjoy a high-octane, emotionally charged musical journey led by father-son duo, Terry and Nick Davies, and a world-class band that takes audiences on a ride they won’t soon forget. Bonded by blood and a deep love for the music of Billy Joel and Elton John, Terry and Nick showcase their musical genes through a rollercoaster of iconic hits, delivered with authenticity, showmanship and a deep sense of legacy. Tickets and more information at lodi.gov/calendar. 125 S. Hutchins St., Lodi.

Monday, Oct. 19
Elk Grove Community Concert Band Free Concert – 7 p.m. at Joseph Kerr Middle School. Christopher J. Tootle is musical director of the band, which includes professional, semi-professional and amateur adult musicians, and talented Elk Grove Unified School District school musicians. The band’s season continues with concerts on Dec. 14, Feb. 3, 2027, April 5, 2027, and May 24, 2027. Learn more at elkgrovecommunityband.org. 8865 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove.

Observe the Moon and Saturn: Jewels of the Autumn Sky – 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Cosumnes River Preserve. Enjoy telescope viewing, stargazing, and lunar photography tips for your smartphone. In partnership with the Sacramento Valley Astronomical Society, telescopes will be set up for an unforgettable opportunity to observe the Moon up close and discover the beauty of Saturn and its iconic rings. Knowledgeable astronomy enthusiasts will be on hand to guide you through the night sky, share fascinating facts, and help you discover the wonders waiting overhead. Registration and more information at Eventbrite.com. 13501 Franklin Blvd.

Tuesday, Oct. 20
Galt Market After Hours – 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Galt Market grounds. We’re bringing the Galt Market into the evening. Join us for a new, condensed market experience featuring a select mix of vendors, fresh produce, food, unique finds and live music. Stop by after work, bring your family and friends, and enjoy a relaxed evening of shopping, food and live entertainment while experiencing the Galt Market in a whole new way. 610 Chabolla Ave.

Wednesday, Oct. 21
Puppies, Paint & Pinot – 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Pinot’s Palette Elk Grove. Support local rescue efforts while enjoying a fun evening of painting and wine. Join Heart of Galt

Rescue for this event where you’ll create your own paw-some masterpiece while helping support rescue pups and Heart of Galt’s mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome. To sign up, see pinotpalette.com/elkgrove/events. 8962 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove.

Friday, Oct. 23 through Sunday, Nov. 1
“Oliver!” – onstage at St. Peter Community Theater. Follow young Oliver Twist through Victorian London in a lively production filled with unforgettable characters, memorable songs, humor, and heart. Evening and matinee performances available at 209-481-8071. 2400 Oxford Way, Lodi.

Friday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 24
43rd Annual Fall Boutique – at the Stockton Ballroom. Join us Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join us for this popular annual handmade market. Discover one of a kind Fall and holiday decor and gifts created by over 50 local, talented vendors. This is a free event and parking is plentiful. For more information, contact the Stockton Ballroom at 209-464-3924. 9650 Thornton Rd., Stockton.

Saturday, Oct. 24 and Sunday, Oct. 25
Fall Comic Con – at the Lodi Grape Festival and Event Center. Get ready for a weekend of pop culture excitement at Lodi Comic Con Fall, returning for two action-packed days of comics, cosplay, gaming, and more. Full schedule, tickets and more information at lodicomiccon.com. 413 E. Lockeford St., Lodi.

Saturday, Oct. 24
Dia de los Muertos Celebration – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Galt Cemetery. Join us as we gather as a community to remember, honor and celebrate our loved ones. This free community event will bring families and friends together for a day of remembrance and celebration. The free event will feature a dove release, live entertainment, car show, food vendors, and more. 14180 Joy Dr.
Harvest Festival 2026 – at Apple Creek Vineyard Farm, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join us for a farmers’ market, pumpkin patch, shopping from local vendors, and all kinds of fun. Free admission. 11517 Colony Rd., Galt.

Family Friendly Nature Walk – 10 a.m. to noon at the Cosumnes River Preserve. Come join us for a fun and educational family-friendly nature walk and guided scavenger hunt. This in-person program is perfect for families looking to explore the outdoors, learn about local wildlife and habitats, and enjoy a relaxed guided experience on the Preserve. Our knowledgeable guides will lead a leisurely stroll while the group searches for interesting plants, birds, and animals along the way. It’s a great opportunity to connect with nature and spend time outdoors together. Reserve your spot at Cosumnes.org. 13501 Franklin Blvd.

Dia de los Muertos Street Fiesta – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Mexican Heritage Center & Gallery. Throughout the entire month of October, families build altars at the Mexican Heritage Center & Gallery dedicated to their loved ones who have passed. These beautiful tributes are on display for the public to respect and admire. Join the festivities in Downtown Stockton as four blocks of Sutter Street/Market Street are shut down for a day filled with celebration and culture. 111 S. Sutter St., Stockton.

Falloween Festival – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Idol Beer Works. Bring the whole family for a festive fall celebration filled with Halloween fun, local shopping, and activities for kids. Browse local vendors and makers, enjoy trunk-or-treating, and make some seasonal memories together. 100 S. Sacramento St., Lodi.

Candy Crawl & Boo-Tique Market – noon to 4 p.m. on Stockton’s Miracle Mile. Parents are welcome to bring their kids to the Mile to trick or treat at participating businesses, restaurants, and shops. Enjoy the Boo-tique Market after the Candy Crawl at Tuxedo and find a fun gift for yourself or a friend. Pacific Avenue from Alpine to Harding and Harding Way from El Dorado Street to Lincoln Street, Stockton.

Downtown Lodi’s Safe Halloween – noon to 2 p.m. Every year on the Saturday before Halloween, downtown transforms into a festive trick-or-treating destination. Put on your favorite costume and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of Halloween excitement throughout Downtown Lodi. Participating businesses join in the festivities with plenty of candy for trick-or-treaters.

Old Town Galt Trick or Treat on 4th Street – 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. L’Chayim of Galt invites you to bring the family and enjoy a free stroll. Local businesses, service groups, nonprofits and community organizations will be joining in the Halloween fun. Come dressed in your favorite costume and enjoy an evening of trick-or-treating in Old Town Galt. This event is free and open to the community. 4th Street from B Street to E Street.

Lodi Oktoberfest – 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Lodi Legion Hall. Hosted by Lodi Tokay Rotary every year since 2006, this

annual celebration brings together German beer, authentic cuisine, live music, festive games, and plenty of Oktoberfest spirit. Tickets and more information at lodioktoberfest.com. 320 N. Washington St., Lodi.

Movies Under the Columns – doors open 7 p.m., movie starts at dusk at Wishek Amphitheatre. We’ll be sharing “The Nightmare Before Christmas” under the stars. Gather your friends and family, pack a blanket or two, and settle in for a fun evening of movies and community. Free and open to all. 125 S. Hutchins St., Lodi.

Ongoing Events
Galt Café & Cars – every second Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at Café Latte. Open to cars, trucks, bicycles, motorcycles and anything else with wheels. Next event is Saturday, Nov. 14. 1000 C St.

Twin Cities Cruisers Cars and Coffee – last Sunday of every month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Life’s Grind coffee house in the Raley’s shopping center. All makes and models are welcome. 10420 Twin Cities Road. Next show will be Sunday, Oct. 25 with a special Trunk-or-Treat.

Widowed Persons Social Club – Oct. 16, 10 a.m.: Pinochle at Elk Grove United Methodist Church, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact Jim at 916-768-1923.

Oct. 22, Noon: No-host lunch and Bunco at Patty’s Pizza, 8591 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact Lois at 916-212-4196 or Susie at 916-798-0007.

Oct. 23, 10 a.m.: Mixed variety game day at Elk Grove United Methodist Church, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact Gerri at 916-698-1940.

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

Wilton Bingo – First Saturday each month. The next bingo will be on Saturday, Nov. 7 in the Wilton Community Center. Doors open at 5 p.m. with food available for sale and Bingo starts at 6 p.m. All proceeds go to two nonprofits: the local Park Council and the Wilton History Group. 9717 Colony Road at Dillard Road, Wilton.

Library Events
Sacramento County Libraries have the following upcoming events at (G) Galt Marian O. Lawrence Library, 1000 Caroline Ave. and (WG) Walnut Grove, 14177 Market St.
Friday, Oct. 16: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (G) English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G) Bad art night for adults, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. This is your judgment-free zone to get messy, get creative, and embrace the beautifully imperfect. No experience necessary. No talent required. (WG)

Saturday, Oct. 17: UC Sacramento County Master Gardeners and Plant Swap, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. More details on the library website. (G)

Tuesday, Oct. 20: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (WG)

Wednesday, Oct. 21: English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G)

Friday, Oct. 23: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (G) English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LOCAL SPORTS
→ COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

JV Hawks Stay Perfect

Story and photo
by Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Liberty Ranch junior varsity Hawks kept their perfect season rolling Friday night, turning back the visiting Amador Buffaloes 34-14, Oct. 9 to improve to 3-0 on the year and claim sole possession of first place in the Sierra Valley Conference.

Playing the early game in front of the home crowd, the JV Hawks set the tone for the evening before the varsity took the field, controlling the game on both sides of the ball and never letting Amador mount a serious threat. The win keeps Liberty Ranch unbeaten through the first

three weeks of the season.

It was a complete team effort from a young squad that has answered every challenge so far, and the 34-14 margin was the latest sign that the Liberty Ranch program is building momentum from the ground up. With the win, the JV Hawks remain the team to beat in conference play.

The JV Hawks will look to stay perfect when they hit the road to face the Argonaut Mustangs on Friday, Oct. 16, playing the early game before the varsity takes on the Mustangs in Jackson. ★

Right: Hawk Kason Lauchland shuts down the Buffalo runner.



Galt JV Falls Just Short

By Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - Galt's junior varsity football team made the trip to Rosemont Oct. 9 and came home on the wrong end of a thriller, dropping a 28-26 decision in a game that was not settled until the final whistle blew.

The Warriors dug themselves an early hole, surrendering 14 first-quarter points while managing just a single touchdown of their own. Rosemont tacked on eight more in the second quarter to carry a 22-14 lead into the locker room. And when the two teams traded six points apiece in the third, Galt trailed 28-20 heading into the final period.

That is when the Warriors dug in. Galt's defense pitched a shutout over the final 12 minutes, giving the offense a chance to complete the comeback. The Warriors punched in one more touchdown to climb within two points, but the rally stalled there.

The ground game carried the offense all night long. Galt piled up 232 rushing yards on 39 carries — a healthy 5.9 yards per attempt — and scored three of its four touchdowns on the ground. Sophomore Michael Silva led the way with 94 yards on 15 carries, consistently moving the chains and keeping the Rosemont defense honest. Freshman Grayson Tassell added 62 yards on just eight carries, ripping off a 20-yard run for the team's longest gain of the night. Freshman Austyn Gubac chipped in 49 yards on nine carries and found the end zone twice, while Bryson Garbarino (19 yards) and Leland Suttentfield (7 yards) rounded out a balanced, committee-style backfield that kept fresh legs in the game.

Through the air, sophomore quarterback Chance George completed 2 of 5 passes for 15



Austyn Gubac runs the ball while Sebastian Lupian blocks. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan

yards and a touchdown, good for a quarterback rating of 87.5. His scoring strike went to sophomore Brody Patterson, who hauled in a 13-yard touchdown catch — the team's longest reception of the evening. Gubac also caught one pass for two yards out of the backfield. All told, Galt racked up 247 total yards and 332 all-purpose yards for a solid night's work that simply was not quite enough.

Defensively, the Warriors got a team-high five tackles

from freshman Adan Francisco Chaidez, who was active all over the field with four solo stops. Freshman Aaron Byrd added four tackles, while Charles Patterson and Jonathan Jimenez each finished with three. Jimenez was a disruptive force up front, recording the team's only tackle for loss and its lone sack, dropping the Rosemont quarterback for a four-yard loss. Max Matos, Andrew Lee, Colin Azevedo, and Andy Sanchez each tallied two tackles, and

Victor Gutierrez-Landin chipped in an assist as the Warriors held Rosemont scoreless over the final quarter.

Special teams had its moments as well. Hank Van Steyn handled the kickoff duties, booming five kicks for 125 yards with a 30-yard long. In the return game, Galt totaled 85 yards on four kickoff returns. Gubac was busy, bringing back three kicks for 55 yards, while Tassell took one back 30 yards to set the offense up with good field position. Van

Steyn also handled the place-kicking, converting 2 of 3 extra points. In a two-point game, that lone miss loomed large.

The loss was a tough one for a Galt squad that battled to the very end and outscored Rosemont in the second half. The Warriors will look to build on the positives — a punishing running game, a defense that clamped down late, and a resilient fourth-quarter effort — as they move forward in their season. ★

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LOCAL SPORTS
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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Galt Athletics Changes Directors

New athletic director brings nearly a decade of coaching, a teacher's patience and a construction-family work ethic to a job that never really ends

By Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - When the 2026–27 school year opened, Galt High School welcomed a new athletic director who was anything but a stranger. Jason Burgin, a social science and U.S. history teacher on campus since the 2018–19 school year, spent one season as the Warriors' varsity head football coach and then stepped into the role over the summer. The promotion is less a departure than a widening of a job he had already been doing in pieces for years.

Burgin's path to the office runs through the field and the mat. A graduate of Newark Memorial High School in the Bay Area, he competed in football, wrestling, and track, and he continued his wrestling career at the junior college level until a bulging disk ended it. He spent about 20 years working in the Newark area before relocating to the Sacramento region and joining Galt High, where he served as head JV football coach and varsity offensive line coach through the COVID years. He has been a volunteer assistant wrestling coach and volunteer track and field throwing coach. In March 2023, he was named varsity head football coach, replacing Merv Brookins.

That résumé is precisely why he said yes to the athletic director position — and why he paused before he did. "Athletics have always been near to my heart due to the many profound lessons that occur," Burgin said. "I wouldn't have become an educator and a coach without the exceptional guidance of a few amazing coaches along my journey, so to me accepting the position of Athletic Director allows me to support those who mentor and support our student-athletes as well as help build flourishing programs to benefit the maximum amount of students as possible." His only hesitation was personal: before accepting, he needed to talk with his wife, fully aware of the physical, emotional, and logistical commitments the job would demand.

A Day That Begins at 5:30 a.m. and Ends at 10:30 p.m.

Ask Burgin to describe a typical day and the answer is a reminder that high school athletics is an endurance sport for the adults, too. His mornings start early in what he calls the Warrior athletic program, with weight training beginning at 6 a.m. He arrives around 5:30 a.m. to make sure the facilities are ready, using that hour to mentor student-athletes with lifting programs, technique feedback and preventative care.

"Because to me, success on the field is truly built in the weight room," he said.

From there, he processes athletic highlights and sends them to activities for the daily announcements, making sure student accomplishments are recognized before 7 a.m. so activities



New Galt High Athletic Director Jason Burgin supervising an away game at Natomas High School. Photo by Paige Lampson

director Mrs. Ehnat has time to include them. By 8 a.m. he holds a quick digital debrief with the front office staff — "the true backbone," he calls them — and checks in with assistant athletic director Mikka Alvarez to confirm that acknowledgments and the day's game plan are ready, all before he heads off to teach AP Government and World History.

On a game night, the logistics multiply. Before class, Burgin touches base with officials about parking and hospitality, confirms with the physical education department where officials and opposing teams will be housed, and reaches out to the visiting team to ensure it has received the visiting-school letter and has its questions answered. "Hosting other programs is essential in our character development," he said.

By lunch he is readying payment kiosks for ticket takers and taking inventory of athletic training equipment, and in third period he meets with his student assistant athletic director team to walk through the evening's checklist.

The afternoon brings teacher meetings — 504 and IEP sessions, vendor check-ins — and verifying the Hudl live-stream pay-per-view is set up. Before the school day ends, he is out at the stadium confirming the field and press box are ready, with rosters printed, the anthem

queued, and the officials' hospitality area stocked. As spectators arrive, he moves between the ticket area, the officials, and the visiting teams, then works the sidelines, bleachers, snack bar, entry gate, and press box through the night. During the JV game he helps set up the staff tailgate, and before varsity he stages the breakthrough banner. As the game winds down, the checklist reverses: shutting down systems, breaking down hospitality and the tailgate, coordinating the departure of officials and the visiting team, and monitoring the parking lot. Only then does he lock up and head home — around 10:30 p.m.

The Workload Nobody Sees
What the stands never see, Burgin said, is the volume of behind-the-scenes labor that makes a season run: coaching recruitment and hiring, constant monitoring of athlete eligibility and documentation, and managing the department's social media. It also means updating the Hudl pay-per-view and live stream using professional-grade production software, meeting with the Warrior Athlete Advisory Council to build a cohesive culture across programs and checking in with teachers and staff to keep students on track academically and behaviorally. Add requisitions for equipment and planning with

Boosters for community outreach, and the job looks far less like a whistle and clipboard and far more like a small business.

Clearances are a case in point. With help from Alvarez and Mrs. Beck, Burgin has processed more than 250 clearances, "and we add more every day." Every student-athlete must be fully cleared before participating in out-of-season conditioning or skill development, and coaches have been instructed that any athlete without paperwork must handle it before taking part in team activities. When several home contests land on the same night, Burgin leans on weekly administrative meetings to plan ahead, then commandeers the golf cart and rotates between venues, observing and helping wherever he can.

Measuring Success Beyond the Scoreboard

Burgin is candid that the win-loss column is not how he defines a good year.

"As a character-driven program, we measure success by athletes remaining eligible, working toward zero ejections, community involvement, and player retention," he said.

A recent temperature check with the athlete advisory council found students enthusiastic about the department's direction, while still valuing the systems built by former athletic director Mr. van

den Raadt.

That philosophy extends to which programs he believes need attention. Burgin points to the coed tennis program and girls' golf as areas deserving focused support, noting he has been working with Coach Martin on strategic vision and that interviews are scheduled for tennis. His commitment to girls wrestling is well established: during his time on the wrestling staff, Galt produced its first girls state qualifier, Valentina Ortega, and he has pushed to move the program beyond reliance on volunteers toward a more established coaching staff.

He is equally clear about what he expects from the coaches he hires.

"Our coaches have to be concerned about each student-athlete as an entire person," he said. "Game plan and strategy are not enough to be an effective coach in our program. One must consider mental health and well-being, physiological development, fundamental skill development, self-branding and community involvement."

The goal, he said, is to create "student-athletes of character who become highly skilled adults with integrity that will impact our community for generations to come."

Balancing a full teaching load with the demands of the office comes down to preparation.

"Those who fail to prepare, prepare to fail," Burgin said, crediting years of teaching the same courses and a background in wrestling and construction for his ability to rise early and plan weeks or months ahead.

At home, he credits his wife, who reminded him that this role had been his dream since he became a coach. The two support each other's endeavors — her's include nonprofits and a busy travel schedule — and they keep agreed-upon household responsibilities, with Burgin often using weekends to stay ahead so the couple can enjoy their time together during the week.

"Regardless of how busy one may become, they should never take advantage of the kindness and support of their partner," he said.

When he gets tired or grumpy, Burgin said he draws on his family's construction background, his own athletic pursuits, and the resilience of the Wintu and Yana people.

"I have to remind myself that it's not about me, but about the kids and community that I love dearly," he said, "and that having this opportunity to serve them from this capacity lets me pay forward the blessings that I once received as a student-athlete."

A year from now, he hopes the community will see that Galt's student-athletes are thriving through recognition, development, and mentorship. For a program that has long measured itself by more than its record, that may be the truest scoreboard of all. ★

GALT HERALD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Chloe Goehring-Tassello
Galt High Flag Football



Ricky Akers
Galt High Football



Ryan Ogas
Liberty Ranch Football



Enzo Diaz
Liberty Ranch Football

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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Hawks Demolish Amador 54-10

Liberty Ranch scores on the game's opening play and never looks back in a four-quarter beatdown

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Liberty Ranch Hawks didn't need long to make their intentions known Oct. 9. On the very first play Friday night, senior running back Andrew Quinn took the handoff, knifed through the middle of the Amador defense, and outran everyone to the end zone. The 53-yard touchdown came before many fans had even settled into their seats, and it set the tone for a night that would only grow more lopsided.

By the time the final horn sounded Friday night, the Hawks had rolled to a 54-10 victory over the visiting Buffaloes, closing out a four-game home stand with their most complete performance of the season. When it was over, Liberty Ranch had piled up 553 total yards, scored on eight different trips to the end zone, and put the game into a running clock before the third quarter was half over.

It was, quite literally, over almost before it began.

For a team that spent all week preaching a fast start, the opening snap could not have gone any better. Quinn — a senior who finished the night with 66 rushing yards on just two carries — burst through the heart of the Amador front, broke into the open field, and cruised 53 yards for the score. Just seconds into the game, the Hawks led 7-0 and the home crowd was roaring.

The Buffaloes answered with a drive of their own, but it stalled, and Amador was forced to punt. Enzo Diaz settled under the kick and returned it, giving the Hawks excellent field position and setting up the offense to strike again. This time it was senior Wyatt Corriea's turn. Corriea took a handoff, hit the hole, and raced 46 yards to paydirt, stretching the lead to 14-0 with 7:56 still to play in the first quarter.

Liberty Ranch wasn't finished. On the Hawks' next possession, quarterback Ryan Ogas dropped back and delivered a beautiful ball down the field to Diaz, who laid out and dove into the end zone to complete the catch.

Three possessions. Three touchdowns.

Amador finally got on the board early in the second quarter, cashing in a drive with a field goal to make it 21-3. Any hope of momentum, though, was snuffed out almost immediately.

Senior Joe Lara answered with a touchdown run, a 60-yard burst that pushed the lead to 28-3 with 11:39 remaining in the half. The Buffaloes punted again on their next series, and Liberty Ranch went right back to work. This time Ogas called his own number, plunging in on a quarterback sneak to make it 34-3 with 7:33 left before the break.

Lara wasn't done. The senior found the end zone once more on a touchdown reception, and when Amador was forced to punt again with 1:22 remaining in the half, the Hawks jogged to the locker room



Enzo Diaz stays inbounds and scores from flight.



The Hawk line opens up the middle and Andrew Quinn scores a touchdown on the first play of the game.



Liberty Ranch quarterback Ryan Ogas zig-zags through the Amador defense, leaving a trail of Buffaloes sprawled in his wake.

holding a commanding 40-3 lead.

The halftime numbers told the story of a mismatch. Ogas had been nearly flawless, and the Liberty Ranch defense had smothered everything Amador tried to do. With a lead well past the running-clock threshold, the second half would be played under a continuous clock — a mercy rule that only underscored how thoroughly the Hawks had taken control.

Liberty Ranch kicked off to open the third quarter, and Amador's opening drive of the half ended in frustration. Facing fourth down, the Buffaloes went to the air, but the pass fell incomplete, and the ball turned over on downs.

With the clock running and the starters still executing, Ogas found Lara in the end zone one more

time, and the lead ballooned to 47-3 with 4:33 left in the third quarter. It was Lara's third touchdown of the night — a fitting cap to a dominant all-around performance.

Amador finally managed

to run one in with 6:55 left in the game, trimming the margin to 47-10. But the Hawks had one more answer in them. With about a minute to play, backup quarterback Hunter Owen — who had already



The unstoppable Joe Lara drags two Buffaloes into the end zone and scores.

handled the kicking duties that night — took the snap, handed off to senior Thai Huynh, and watched him punch it in for the game's final score. When the PAT split the uprights, the Hawks had their 54-10 final.

At the center of it all was Ogas, who turned in the best game of his career under center. The senior completed 15 of 17 passes for 268 yards and three touchdowns without a single interception, posting a near-perfect quarterback rating of 167.3. He spread the ball around, but his favorite target — and his favorite play — was clear.

“We had a good game plan this week. We came out and executed great right after the start. You know, the first play was a touchdown, so it started off strong. We got to run a lot of the plays we work on a

lot throughout the week at practice, but we came out, strong start, and executed our plays,” said Liberty Ranch senior quarterback Ryan Ogas. “My favorite play was definitely my first touchdown pass to Enzo Diaz, number one. It was a good pass and he dove on the pylon, and it was just a good play.”

That connection was a theme all evening. Diaz finished with a game-high eight receptions for 174 yards and a touchdown, repeatedly finding soft spots in the Amador secondary. Lara was nearly as dangerous. He hauled in four passes for 69 yards and two scores to go with his rushing touchdown, giving him three total trips to the end zone on the night.

The final statistics reflected the scoreboard. Liberty Ranch racked up 553 yards of total offense, including 285 on the ground — an eye-popping 19.0 yards per carry — and 268 through the air. The Hawks scored five rushing touchdowns and three through the air. The offensive line paved the way with 13 pancake blocks, led by Deshaun Jackson's four and Culter Perez's three.

Defensively, the Hawks were just as dominant. Liberty Ranch finished with 60 tackles, including five tackles for loss, and kept constant pressure on the Amador backfield. Deshaun Jackson led the way with seven tackles and a tackle for loss, while Andrew Quinn, Wyatt Corriea, Jack Rowe and Jesus Posada each chipped in six stops. Quinn, Corriea, Posada, Conrad Dixon and Jackson all recorded tackles for loss, and the pass rush generated two hurries, one apiece from Cruz Parkinson and Quinn.

The secondary got in on the act as well, with the Hawks picking off three Amador passes — two by Liam Trosko and one by Diaz — while Caleb Martinez pounced on a fumble to complete a dominant night of takeaways.

On special teams, Owen handled all eight kickoffs and connected on six of seven extra points, while Diaz was a threat in the return game, bringing back three punts for 44 yards, including a long of 31.

The win wraps up a four-game home stand for Liberty Ranch, which now takes its high-powered offense on the road. The Hawks travel to face the Argonaut Mustangs Oct. 16, looking to carry the momentum from a statement victory into conference play.

If Friday night was any indication, they'll be a handful for anyone. A team that can score on the first play of the game, build a 40-3 halftime lead, and still be executing clean football deep into a running-clock fourth quarter is a team that's playing with confidence — and, as Ogas put it, executing the plan exactly the way it was drawn up.

The Hawks came out strong. They never let up. And Amador never had an answer.

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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Warriors Fall to Rosemont

By Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - For one quarter here Friday night, the Galt Warriors looked like a team ready to stand toe-to-toe with anyone in the Sierra Valley Conference. They ran the football with authority Oct. 9 and answered Rosemont's opening touchdown with one of their own. They walked off the field after 12 minutes locked in a 7-7 tie. But over the next 12 minutes, the Wolverines turned a promising evening into a punishing one. And by the final whistle Galt was staring at a 41-21 Sierra Valley Conference defeat that dropped the Warriors to 1-5 overall and 0-3 in league play.

The final score told only part of the story. Galt finished with 393 yards of total offense — 231 on the ground and 162 through the air. What the Warriors could not do was protect the football. Three interceptions, repeatedly handed the Wolverines short fields and snuffed out drives that had been moving with ease.

Rosemont made Galt pay for nearly every mistake, scoring 21 points in the second quarter alone to turn a tie game into a two-touchdown halftime lead, then pulling away with 13 more in the fourth.

The Warriors could hardly have scripted a better beginning. Behind a determined ground game, Galt marched down the field and found the end zone in the opening quarter, and its defense kept the Wolverines largely in check early. When the first quarter ended, the teams were tied and the Galt sideline was buzzing.

That momentum evaporated in the second quarter. Rosemont quarterback Cohen Randall found his rhythm, and the Wolverines rattled off three unanswered touchdowns before the break to seize a 28-14 lead.

Galt, to its credit, refused to fold. The Warriors opened the third quarter with their most impressive march of the night, finishing it in the end zone to trim the deficit to 28-21. For a moment, it looked as though they might steal the night. But the fourth quarter belonged to Rosemont, which added 13 more points to salt away the game and hand Galt its third straight league loss.

If there was a silver lining for Galt, it was the running game. The Warriors piled up 231 yards on 33 carries — an average of seven yards per attempt — and scored all three of their touchdowns on the ground.

Senior James Gilbert led the charge, carrying nine times for 52 yards and two touchdowns while adding a catch for 11 yards. Gilbert, a 6-foot-2, 180-pound linebacker and wingback, has been the Warriors' most reliable



James Gilbert makes his way into the end zone. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan



Carlo Sterni makes ground before being tackled. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan

weapon all season; he entered the night as the team's leader in rushing yards per game and total touchdowns, and he added to both totals Friday.

He got plenty of help. Senior Carlo Sterni needed just three carries to rack up 55 yards, ripping off a 29-yard run that stood as Galt's longest of the night. Senior Arthur Cordova added 53 yards on 10 carries, and sophomore Ricky Akers contributed 39 yards on four attempts. Sophomore fullback Sean Mace punched in a short touchdown, giving the Warriors a third scorer on the ground.

Galt's 231 rushing yards were among its best totals of the year, trailing only the 493-yard outburst in its lone win over Natomas.

The passing game was a different story. Rubio completed 10 of 23 attempts for 162 yards, but he was intercepted three times and finished with a quarterback rating of 28.1. When he did connect, he was effective — Galt's completions averaged 16.2 yards — but the turnovers proved too costly to overcome.

Akers was his favorite target, hauling in four passes for 74 yards, including a 32-yard grab that matched the team's longest

play through the air. Sterni caught two passes for 40 yards, senior Marcus Bell added two receptions for 27 yards, and Gilbert and junior Mark Grammer each chipped in a catch.

Akers finished with 113 all-purpose yards, the most of any Warrior, while Sterni added 95 and Gilbert 63. Galt has no shortage of ways to move the football; the challenge remains finishing drives and avoiding the mistakes that erase them.

Galt head coach JJ Woodward, who returned to the program last year determined to rebuild it, addressed his team's miscues and the second-quarter surge that ultimately decided the game.

"I thought our kids competed hard Friday night, and I'm proud of the fight they showed. We were down 14 at halftime, came out and shut Rosemont out in the third quarter, and made it a one-score game going into the fourth," said Galt Head Coach JJ

Woodward. "Unfortunately, there were several critical moments that didn't go our way, including some calls that I felt had a significant impact on the game. But I'm not going to put this loss on the officials. We turned the ball over too many times, and you simply can't do that and expect to beat a good football team. What I want people to recognize is that these kids haven't quit. They're continuing to battle, continuing to improve, and we're getting closer to playing the kind of football we know we're capable of playing. Now we have to learn how to finish."

The loss was another chapter in a difficult season for Galt, which has now dropped three straight and four of its last five. The Warriors' lone victory came on Sept. 11, a 42-31 shootout win over Natomas.

Reasons for encouragement were apparent Friday. A year ago, Rosemont blanked Galt 38-0. This time, the Warriors moved the ball for nearly 400 yards and were within a touchdown entering the fourth quarter — real progress for a program that has cycled through head coaches in recent years.

Woodward is in his second season of his return to Galt, where he has deep roots. He has called the community home for more than 15 years. He arrived determined to end a run of instability that had seen the program cycle through five head coaches in five years.

Complete defensive statistics for the Warriors were not available by press time. Galt's defense did come away with two interceptions, and the unit kept the Wolverines off the scoreboard in the third quarter — the one period in which the Warriors outscored their opponent.

Galt returns home Friday, Oct. 16, to host El Dorado (1-5) in a Sierra Valley Conference matchup. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. The Cougars dropped a 27-19 decision to Bradshaw Christian in their most recent outing. ★



Ricky Akers and Noah Ojeda tackle a Rosemont runner. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan



Nestor Sanchez runs the ball for the Warriors. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan