



Warriors
Volleyball
Honor Seniors

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Warriors Fall at
Homecoming

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The Galt Herald

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OCTOBER 23, 2026

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A WEEK OF PRIDE



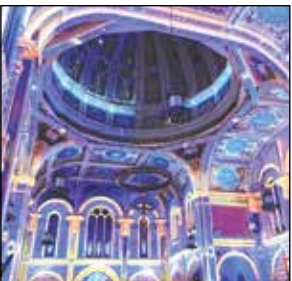
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LIGHTING UP
GALT WITH JOY
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LIGHT INSPIRES
SACRAMENTO
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Skate and Get Stoked

New Skate Park Will Replace 23-year-old Temporary Park



Galt City Council members and Parks and Recreation Director Armando Solis break ground Oct. 19 on a new skate park in the city. Photo by Keith Burbank

By Keith Burbank

GALT, CA (MPG) - Skaters are expected to get a \$2.9 million “permanent” skate park here by next year following a groundbreaking Oct. 19.

The existing one at 620 Chabolla Ave., next to the Parks and Recreation Department, was a temporary park that was built more than two decades ago. It is being taken down to make way for a permanent one.

It’s long overdue, said Nathan Faver, a skater and Galt resident, at the groundbreaking.

“I’m excited to see what the final version is,” he said.

Faver would like the lights for the

park to be on at least until 10 p.m., he said. It is hot until late during the summer, he said, so he waits to skate until late in the day.

Faver suggested the city install lights that can be turned off and on with the push of a button. That way skaters can use them when they need them, he said.

Parks and Recreation Director Armando Solis said lights are planned for the skate park. The new park will made of concrete, which is longer-lasting, requires less maintenance and is preferred by skaters.

The contractor has 110 days to complete the project, depending on the weather, Solis said. Those days are when work can occur. Excluded

are days when it rains and days needed for the area to dry out, Solis said.

The contractor may, Solis said, order everything now and wait until the spring to start working because of the expected wet weather.

Funding from Measure Q is helping the city pay for the park.

“With the help from Measure Q, we were able to double the size” of the park, Solis said.

About \$1.9 million in funding for the project is coming from the department’s capital funds while \$620,000 is funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and \$337,000 is funding from Measure Q, according to city

Continued on page 10

Solis Gives 38 Years

Parks and Recreation Director Retiring

By Keith Burbank

GALT, CA (MPG) - Armando Solis is ready to retire.

Following 38 years of service to the city, Galt’s Parks and Recreation director, is well above where he started in 1988 as a part-time janitor.

“I needed a job,” Solis said as the reason for choosing to work for the city. “I was 18 years old. They were hiring.”

That job turned into a career for a man who was once named Person of the Year and Employee of the Year. Other city employees had nothing but good to say about him, though some residents were critical of a recent decision.

“Working in local government comes with its challenges, and leadership requires a lot of responsibility, commitment, and dedication,” Parks Superintendent Jonathan Costa said by email. “I appreciate the opportunity I’ve had to work alongside him and be part of the work we do for the city.”

Solis was appointed director in 2014 and rallied to make Parks and Recreation one department again. Solis served as interim superintendent for a time when the city was

Continued on page 2



Armando Solis, Parks and Recreation Department director for the city of Galt. Photo by Paige Lampson

Higher
Interest
Rates Lead
to Decline in
September
New Home
Sales

North State Building
Industry Association
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Higher mortgage interest rates stemming from the increasing costs of energy as the war with Iran continues caused a drop in new home sales in September in the Sacramento region, the North State Building Industry Association reported today.

New home sales in the eight-county region totaled 286, which was down 14% from August, down 34% from September 2025 and down 30% from the historical average for the month dating back to 1997.

North State President & CEO Tim Murphy said interest rates rising to above 7% by the end of the month has caused many prospective buyers to hold off.

“Renewed tensions between the U.S. and Iran pushed oil and gasoline prices sharply higher, which lifted inflation expectations and put upward pressure on interest rates,” Murphy said.

He added that demand for housing remains strong, but higher mortgage rates, elevated construction costs and tighter real purchasing power are limiting both buyers and builders.

“Still, buyers should keep in mind that builders continue working hard to find ways to help them afford the new home of their dreams. I’d urge anyone thinking about buying a home to check with area builders to find out what incentives they are offering,” he said.

During September, Roseville saw the most new home sales with 61, followed by Rancho Cordova (52), Sacramento (47), Natomas (29) and Galt (24).

Sales were reported for 202 communities in Amador, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties. ★

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Solis Gives 38 Years



Armando Solis, Galt's director of Parks and Recreation, rides in a police vehicle. Solis was a reserve police officer for the city until 2023. Photo by Paige Lampson

Continued from page 1
looking for one, he said.

Jan. 1 will be his last day officially with the city, he said, but his last day of work will be Oct. 29.

"As Armando moves into retirement, I hope he takes pride in the years he has dedicated to Galt and the contributions he has made along the way," Costa added. "I want to thank him for his service and wish him the very best in this next chapter of his life."

Solis plans to decompress for 6 months to a year, he said, when asked what his plans are for retirement.

"Honestly, I don't know what I'm going to do," he said. "Travel. Play a lot of golf. I'm going to be a papa to my grandchildren."

He has four grandchildren and one more coming, he said.

"I want to be papa the most," he said. "A husband second. And then we'll go from there."

He raised two boys

in the city and coached baseball at both Galt and Liberty Ranch high schools, he said. He served 30 years as a Galt reserve police officer.

One of his most memorable experiences working for the city, he said, was building the Galt Market. Another was seeing the start of construction of Walker Park.

When he started working for the city, Solis said, it had no stoplight and no fast-food restaurants.

Who takes his position is unclear, he said. A decision has yet to be made, Solis said.

Some residents were critical recently of the decision to put a fence around the baseball field at Harvey Park. Solis defended the decision, which was made without public input.

City Councilman Paul Sandhu said the decision should have come before the City Council. Sandhu is running for reelection this year against Tom Silva. The two are seeking

the District 5 seat.

"He has been a great mentor to me, a great leader, and you can clearly see the passion that he has for the community," said Jackie Garcia, Galt's deputy director of Parks and Recreation, who has worked with Solis for eight years.

"One of the qualities I admire most about him is his immeasurable knowledge – not only of our department – but of the community as a whole," said administrative assistant Ashley Thompson.

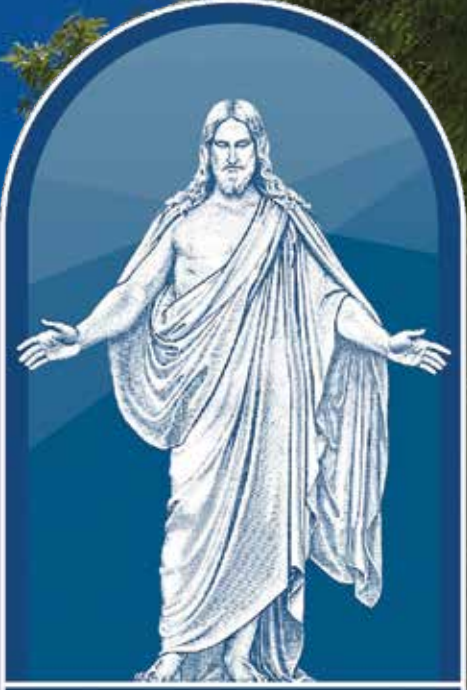
Office assistant Adeline Barth has known Solis for just over a year, she said. Solis has made an impact on her work ethic, how she communicates, her confidence and how she approaches her day-to-day life, she said.

"One of the biggest pleasures of this job is meeting, working with all the people within the Parks and Rec Department," Solis said. "I think people don't understand that we are the face of the city." ★

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Galt High Homecoming: A Week of Pride

Rubio, Razo Crowned King, Queen

By Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - The stadium lights blazed, the stands were packed shoulder to shoulder, and the roar of a Warrior crowd rolled across the field Oct. 16. But for two Galt High School seniors, the world seemed to go quiet for just a moment the instant their names rang out over the loudspeakers.

Robert Rubio and Emily Razo were crowned Galt's Homecoming king and queen at halftime of the varsity football game Friday — the emotional high point of a weeklong celebration that united students, staff, alumni, and families behind a single, roaring cause: Warrior pride.

For Rubio, the team's quarterback and a leader on the field, the crowning was a rush unlike any other.

"It felt amazing. I'm not gonna lie. It was great," Rubio said.

Razo was just as swept up in the moment.

"It was amazing, great, I was so excited," she said.

The two shared the spotlight after a week that Activities Director Megan Ehnat and her team carefully designed to feel special from the very first bell — a schedule built to be, in her words, "organic," "celebratory," and "ceremonious" for every Galt Warrior.

"This year we were finally able to lock in a schedule for Homecoming that not only feels organic, but truly celebratory and ceremonious for all Galt Warriors," Ehnat said. "We kicked off the Homecoming week and festivities with the Night Rally on Monday night and announced all of our royalty there. Warr Zone spirit sections began at both the Flag



Galt High School's cheerleaders ride through Galt in the Homecoming parade Oct. 16. Photo by Lisa Fowler

Football and Volleyball Senior Night games, and the boys took it to the courts in buff ball on Wednesday."

She added: "We are proud to see our Warriors connecting with their school pride and allowing themselves to have fun — our kids don't get to do this enough in today's generation!!"

The Week Builds

Homecoming week officially ignited on Monday night with the Night Rally, where the entire court was introduced and the royalty was announced before a buzzing crowd. From there, the momentum only grew. The Warr Zone — Galt's signature student spirit sections — brought their noise and energy to both the Flag Football and Volleyball Senior Night games, turning the stands into a wall of red and white. By Wednesday, the boys had traded the sidelines for the hardwood, taking to the courts in buff ball, a fan-favorite tradition that filled the gym with laughter, competition, and school spirit.

Each event stacked on the last, building toward Friday like a drumbeat. Students wore their class colors, clubs rallied their members, and the whole campus leaned into the kind of shared excitement that only Homecoming can create.

A Friday to Remember

By the time Friday arrived, Galt was ready to celebrate in full. Classes and clubs marched in a parade through downtown Galt, winding their way through the heart of the community before streaming into the stadium for a spirited rally. The streets came alive with banners, floats and cheering Warriors, and downtown Galt got a front-row seat to the pride that defines the school.

The celebration didn't stop at kickoff. Between the football games, a parade rolled across the field, keeping the energy at a fever pitch and giving every class and club another moment in the spotlight. And when the cheerleaders took center stage, they delivered a fantastic routine packed with advanced stunts — a performance that showcased months of hard work and drew gasps and applause from the crowd.

Then came halftime, and the moment everyone had been waiting for. With the stadium lights shining and the crowd on its feet, the king and queen were announced at halftime of the varsity football game. Rubio and Razo stepped forward to claim their crowns, capping a week of anticipation with a memory they

will carry long after graduation.

A Tradition of Many Crowns

Galt's Homecoming is bigger than a single king and queen. In keeping with a proud tradition, each class, club, and sport elects its own princesses and princes, filling the court with representatives from every corner of campus life — from the band and cheer squad to the debate-ready minds of CSF, the athletes of cross country and volleyball, and the creative spirits of the Thespians and Dungeons & Dragons clubs. Together, they represent the full, vibrant spectrum of what it means to be a Galt Warrior.

This year's court, announced at Monday's Night Rally and celebrated all week long, included the following royalty and the classes, clubs, and sports.

Class representatives included Edwyn Gallardo and Razo from the Class of 2027, Noe Cueva and Camila Ramirez from the Class of 2028, Jayden Sirben and Jayde LaGrone from the Class of 2029 and Elijah Mason and Kamila Valdez from the Class of 2030.

Royalty from clubs and organizations included Madiha Shah and Jazlene Agra from the Asian and Pacific Islander

Club, Zachary Hernandez and Alana Cohen from Band/GLUE, Leslie Villar-Sanchez and Arianna Becerra from Cheer, Hoa "Mickey" Le and Tiger Myrick from CSF, Jeffrey Cuneo and Kole Pierce from Dungeons & Dragons, Maeve Cordonnier from FCA, Elliott Kramer and Courtney Brouwer from FFA, Hunter Hileman and Aaron Gonzalez from G-Tech, Fernando Chavarin and Noemi Villanueva from Interact, Vanessa Mendoza and Nataly Alvarez from Latinos Unidos, Evelyn Barriga and Adrian Viramontes from Link Crew, Victoria Dinis and Andrew Mello from Portuguese and Mattie Dolan and Milo Haenggi from the Thespians.

Royalty from various sports included Rubio from football, Mateo Mejia Beas and Paola Corral from cross country, Chloe Goehring and Skyler Moore from flag football, Maliah Mangal and Morgan Jones from volleyball, and Viviannah Gibson and Kandice Meixner from girls golf.

One Warrior Nation

When the final whistle blew and the stadium began to empty, what lingered wasn't just the scoreboard or the crowns — it was the feeling of a community that had come together. From the Night Rally to the downtown parade, from buff ball to the half-time crowning, Homecoming 2026 gave Galt students something increasingly rare: a chance to simply have fun, to belong, and to be proud of where they come from.

Congratulations to King Robert Rubio and Queen Emily Razo, to the entire 2026 Homecoming court, and to every Warrior who made the week one to remember. Once a Warrior, always a Warrior. ★

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MEMORIAL

BARTHOLOMEW FREDERICK IMMOOS — 11/26/1955 - 09/21/2026

Bartholomew Frederick Immoos, known as Bart, passed away on September 21, 2026, at the age of 55 in Galt, CA. Born on November 26, 1970 in Lodi CA, Bart was a man noted for his sense of humor, persistence, and generosity.

Bart leaves behind his partner in life of 25 years, Delya Azua, his mother, Susan Heckley, and step-father, Richard Heckley. He was a proud father to Joshua Immoos and his wife Alyssa, and Nathaniel Immoos and his wife Nicole. Bart was



also grandfather to Scott, Braydon, Viola, Oliver, Ben, Abbie, and Evie. He is survived by his sister Julann and her husband David. Bart was preceded in death by his father, Frederick F. Immoos.

A burial ceremony will be held at Galt Cemetery on Friday, October 16 at 11 am. A celebration of life will follow on Saturday, October 17 at 1 pm at Sungrove Church in Elk Grove, located at 2285 Longport Ct.

Bart's life was marked by the laughter he shared, the challenges he overcame, and the help he extended to others. His presence will be deeply missed but fondly remembered by his family, friends, and all who had the pleasure of knowing him.



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12:20 PM	12:45 PM	12:50 PM	12:55 PM	1:00 PM	1:25 PM	1:25 PM	1:45 PM	12:25 PM	12:45 PM
2:20 PM	2:45 PM	2:50 PM	2:55 PM	3:00 PM	3:25 PM	3:25 PM	3:45 PM	2:25 PM	2:45 PM

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10:25 AM	10:45 AM	11:20 AM	11:45 AM	11:50 AM	11:55 AM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	10:25 AM	10:45 AM
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Future Voters Cast Ballots in 2026 Statewide Mock Election

Sacramento County Office of Education News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Democracy comes alive when youth transition from classroom instruction to hands-on civic participation. Middle and high school students at Leo A. Palmiter Jr./Sr. High School cast ballots in the California Student Mock Election, experiencing the democratic process firsthand and learning the power of informed voting ahead of the Nov. 3 General Election.

“Voting today made me realize how important every single vote is,” shared a Palmiter student voter. “It was exciting to see how the whole process works and know that our voices and ideas matter.”

The campus library transformed into an official polling station complete with voting booths, paper ballots and ballot boxes. Taking part in the hands-on simulation gave students a look at Election Day while instilling a deeper understanding of civic responsibility, electoral integrity and the value of an informed vote.

“Students had thoughtful questions about what ballot propositions mean, who gets to



Middle and high school students at Leo A. Palmiter Jr./Sr. High School cast ballots in the California Student Mock Election. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County Office of Education

participate and how votes are tallied,” said Palmiter Principal Brett Homesley. “The mock election gave them ways to explore those questions and see how civic duty works in real life.”

Participating in this event gave students valuable insight into the significance of civic engagement and public service. Coordinated by the California Secretary of State and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the statewide initiative helps youth discover the importance of elections and the power of their voices in the democratic process. Results are available now at: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection/mock-election-results/2026-results>

Civic learning does not end at the ballot box. Educators, families and community partners looking to introduce fundamental civic concepts to youth can explore the PBS LearningMedia Election Collection for nonpartisan educational guides. Additional interactive tools designed to inspire a lifelong passion for civic learning are available through iCivics. ★

Society for the Blind Announces Blindness Awareness Month in October

Nonprofit Society for the Blind News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Nonprofit Society for the Blind in Sacramento is encouraging local residents to honor Blindness Awareness Month throughout October by connecting people with vision loss to services so they can gain the skills they need to stay independent and thrive.

“Losing your sight can be a daunting, isolating experience, but it’s not the end of the road,” Shari Roeseler, executive director, Society for the Blind said. “With the right training, assistive tools and a community of support, a vibrant new way of living is completely within reach. During Blindness Awareness Month, we want to make sure everyone knows that people can live their best lives with vision loss or blindness. If you or someone you know is experiencing vision loss, please reach out to Society for the Blind today. We offer a support system and wide array of instructors who are blind or have low vision so you can build the skills you need, whether you are a child,



For more than 70 years, Sacramento-based Society for the Blind has continued to create innovative ways to empower individuals living with low vision or blindness to discover, develop and achieve their full potential. Photo courtesy of Nonprofit Society for the Blind

working-age adult or senior.”

For more than 70 years, Sacramento-based Society for the Blind has continued to create

innovative ways to empower individuals living with low vision or blindness to discover, develop and achieve their full potential.

Since 1954, Society for the Blind has grown from a dedicated group of volunteers to a nationally recognized agency and the

only comprehensive rehabilitative teaching center that provides services for a 27-county region of Northern California. The nonprofit provides low-vision eye care, life and job skills training, mentorship and access to tools to maintain independence for more than 5,000 youth, working-age adults and seniors experiencing vision loss each year.

In addition to its onsite Low Vision Clinic and assistive technology store, Society for the Blind offers four core classes – orientation and mobility, independent living skills, assistive technology and braille – to ensure people with vision loss can stay active, employed and living life to the fullest. The nonprofit also provides a program for seniors that includes support groups and classes. For youth, Society for the Blind offers a support groups for caregivers and parents of children with vision loss. The nonprofit also provides a braille production program and hosts events open to the public.

To learn more or make a donation, visit www.SocietyfortheBlind.org. ★



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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Gut Punch as Simmons Is Out

By V.G. Harris

Golden One Center will entertain a slightly different attitude as the Sacramento Kings are poised to begin the start of the 2026-27 NBA season.

Former three-time all-star and defensive standout Ben Simmons will not only be out for the start of the season, but it has also been reported that he will be out for the entirety of the 2026-27 campaign.

In practice Simmons sustained an Achilles tear to his right ankle which will take at least a year of rehabilitation.

For a team already spiraling after an abysmal 0-5 preseason, and the only team in the NBA to not win a single preseason game thus far, the Kings are staring at the Friday night opener in utter shock.

Sacramento is no stranger to adversity, but this disheartening news comes on the heels of a preseason that has not been kind to coach Doug Christie. Multiple articles have come out in recent days critical of this frenetic style of managing the preseason lineups and substitution patterns.

The current 0-5 record is not only the worst record in the NBA, it portends a myriad of issues as the Kings look to the opener with the Trailblazers on Friday night.

One article went so far as to rate Christie as the worst coach in the NBA. Amid the distraction of sordid shots aimed at the coach, notable former head coaches with a bevy of experience sit on the sidelines hoping for a call. At the top of the list is Mike Budenholzer, former coach of the Milwaukee Bucks and holder of an NBA title. Budenholzer spent 17 years learning his craft under legendary coach Gregg Popovich. Two-time coach of the year, Budenholzer compiled a 520-363 in 11 seasons as an NBA coach, and along with Tom Thibodeau ranks among two of the most employable candidates today.

Suffice it to say, if the noise gets any louder in Kings land, fans will be clamoring for better leadership, and who can blame them.

I still cannot believe the lineups coach Christie put on the hardwood during the pre-season, or the confounding reason he had for sitting 6-8 players at a time, while players

that have already been cut from the team not only played considerable minutes, but actually started games.

That being said, the Kings have a game to play, and going into that game with a positive spirit will be the order of the day.

Coming out of the preseason, Sacramento has every reason to believe that first round draft choice Darius Acuff Jr. is going to be the point guard of the future, and Emmanuel Sharpe has given fans every reason to be excited about the energy and defense he brings to the table.

The loss of Ben Simmons is a multiple gut punch, but throwing in the towel is not in the equation, and responding to adversity is how teams grow into something bigger.

I look for opening night to bring a sell-out crowd to Golden One Arena, and with them a chance for head coach Doug Christie to hit the reset button and silence some of his critics.

Everyone loves an underdog and look no further than coach Christie if you're looking for someone to root for.

Both Domantas Sabonis and Zach Lavine have shown no signs of lingering injuries, and Wednesday night looms large as the last opportunity for Christie and his Kings to break a preseason losing streak and go into the regular season on a high note.

The Trailblazers have already bested Sacramento just last week, and it wasn't a contest from the jump. That needs to change and players need to come to play.

I expect a much different season out of Zach Lavine. The same can be said of Keegan Murray, who thus far has been disappointing in preseason. That needs to change and no better time than Wednesday night.

On your feet Kings fans because the rest of the NBA has already counted you out and wouldn't it be something special to prove them wrong.

Look for GM Scott Perry to make some type of move soon that will bring support to Darius Acuff Jr. at the point guard position.

Does Russell Westbrook shock the world and return for one last season. Anything is possible but stay tuned.

All the best Kings fans! ★

New California Laws Arise From Latest Legislative Skirmishes in Endless ‘Tort Wars’



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The state Capitol is an arena where lobbyists for thousands of interest groups battle over issues that mostly involve money — very often big money. The Legislature and the governor can, and often do, write into law new provisions that financially benefit one interest or are costly for another.

One of the longest-running conflicts, dubbed “tort wars,” pits lawyers who file personal injury lawsuits and their allies against business interests and their insurers.

They fight over laws that specify which actions cause damages, known as “torts,” which can be the subject of liability lawsuits and what compensation can be collected if such cases prevail.

The stakes can be immense, involving many billions of dollars, so for tort warriors it’s a perpetual game of defining new, legally actionable acts; expanding or shrinking those already on the books, or devising tactics to thwart those employed by the other side.

The dynamics of tort politics were demonstrated one night in September 1987, as that year’s legislative session was nearing adjournment.

Veteran lobbyists for major tort war interests had been exploring a potential multi-point deal to resolve some long-simmering issues with key legislators behind closed

doors. The negotiators took a break for dinner and drinks at what was then Sacramento’s famous political watering hole, Frank Fat’s restaurant.

Spontaneously, as the liquor flowed and food was consumed, negotiations restarted right there, as Willie Brown, then the much-celebrated speaker of the state Assembly, bounced from table to table.

The result was the infamous “napkin deal” that gave everyone involved at least part of what they wanted. It was jotted down on a napkin, quickly drafted into legislation and passed with no public input.

One provision — which years later haunted Brown and other politicians — protected the tobacco industry from lawsuits by disease-stricken former smokers. (Footnote: I and the late Jay Michael, a lobbyist for medical interests who was one of the participants, co-wrote a book about lobbying that includes a detailed account of how the napkin deal came about.)

This brief history of tort wars sets the stage for what has been happening recently, including in the just-concluded 2026 legislative session.

Two years ago, the business side scored a significant victory with passage of two bills that narrowed the scope of the Private Attorneys General Act, which allows workers to sue their employers in the name of the state for alleged violations of workplace laws.

Employer groups had qualified a ballot measure to overhaul PAGA, as the law is known, which prodded lawyers and other rival interests to agree to a compromise in return for dropping the measure.

The 2026 session, as usual, featured a couple of other tort-related measures.

One, Assembly Bill 1776, is a significant expansion of the Cartwright Act, California’s long-standing law prohibiting monopolistic arrangements among businesses.

The state’s Law Revision Commission proposed extending it to actions by a single corporation that had monopolistic effects and allowing private parties to file suits under the revised law.

Business interests opposed the entire concept, saying it was unneeded, and they particularly disliked the private right of action. Before the bill received final approval that part was stricken, limiting enforcement to the attorney general or a local prosecutor.

The second measure, Senate Bill 690, arose out of an American Bar Association publication describing how some California attorneys were using, or misusing, California’s law against secret wiretaps to demand payment from corporations for using website tracking software to gather information.

Business groups depicted the practice as extortion, and SB 690 was drafted and enacted to make using the wiretap law this way much more difficult.

This year’s legislative session is over, but tort warriors already are gearing up for the next one.

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

Did I Understand you right - I won't get all my SS benefits immediately?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I was a little confused with one of your past articles. This September I hit my full retirement age and for every month I continue to delay, my SS benefit goes up a little more. But reading your article sounds like the extra benefits are only added at the end of the year. For example, let's say that at my full retirement age in September I get \$3,524, and in January 2027 I would get \$3,619. According to the Ask Rusty article I read, if I start my benefits in June of 2027, I will have earned \$3,735, but it sounds like I would only get \$3,619 up until the end of the year, and then they would adjust it. If this is the case, would I get retroactive money back for the 6 months I did not get the correct amount? **Signed: Seeking Clarification**

Dear Seeking: Thanks for your inquiry. Your understanding of the previous Ask Rusty article is correct. If you start your benefits in June 2027 (10 months after your full retirement age (or your “FRA,” in Sept. 2026), you will initially only get

the Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) you earned through the end of 2026. The DRCs you earned from January 2027 to June 2027 would not be credited until January 2028, and you would not get any retroactive benefits for the DRCs earned during the January – June 2027 timeframe.

SSA's reasoning for this is somewhat confusing but has to do with your ability to claim retroactive benefits when you claim after reaching your full retirement age. When claiming after reaching your FRA you have the ability to claim benefits retroactively for up to six months. So, to avoid potentially overlapping benefit payments, SSA defers applying your current year's DRCs until January of the following year. Thus, you essentially lose the extra 2027 DRC money for the remainder of 2027. And, FYI, the one exception to this rule is that when benefits are claimed mid-year at age 70, all DRCs are immediately paid. Please understand that I'm not endorsing this SSA rule; only trying to explain how it works and why. Like many SSA rules, there are nuances to how benefits are paid. And this is a classic example. And just remember, as attractive as taking 6 months of retroactive benefits may sound, it also means your monthly amount would be reduced by about 4% for the rest of your life.

As you contemplate

when you should claim your Social Security retirement benefits, you should always keep in mind your anticipated life expectancy when making that decision. If you expect to live at least to the “average” life expectancy for those in their mid-60s (about mid-80s for someone your current age), then waiting longer to claim is usually a better long term financial decision (even considering the DRC issue described above). But if your life expectancy is less than “average,” claiming sooner is usually a better choice.

If you have further questions about when to claim Social Security, please contact us at SSadvisor@amacfoundation.org or 1.888.750-2622. There is never a fee for our advisory service because we are a non-profit organization.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (<http://amacfoundation.org/services>) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★



Iran Exposes an Intolerable U.S. Vulnerability

targets. Camp Arifjan in Kuwait, where buildings and radar domes were hit, is just over 60 miles away.

A number of bases have been fully or partly evacuated, and the effects have been felt on U.S. operations. One reason that there was so much strain on the USS Abraham Lincoln during its lengthy deployment is that Bahrain was no longer available as a supply hub. We had to rely on facilities in Diego Garcia and Singapore, creating a supply chain thousands of miles long.

The Iranian missile and drone threat to our bases was foreseeable, and yet we didn't do enough to protect them. One option now is a broad pullback of our presence in the region. But so long as hydrocarbons power the modern economy, this is a nonstarter. The Gulf states would have an incentive to look elsewhere for strategic partners, most worryingly to Russia or China, and might conclude that they should do more to accommodate an Iran that would have effectively chased us from the Persian Gulf.

The answer to the threat to the bases is the same thing that created the threat in the first place -- innovation. We've long had bases in the Gulf, including a naval command headquarters in Bahrain since 1948, but the purpose and the nature of the presence has changed over time. As Kristian Alexander writes in an analysis for the Stimson Center, during the Cold War we didn't have a large

land presence at bases. After Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, that changed.

Today, the question is how to reconfigure our presence again to make it more defensible and sustainable. “U.S. bases,” Alexander writes, “remain indispensable for intelligence collection, command and control, maritime security, air and missile defense, logistics and long-range power projection.”

One option is to locate more facilities in Israel. Elliott Abrams of the Council on Foreign Relations points out that the Jewish state is much further away -- more than 1,000 miles from Iran --and would impose fewer restrictions on our access and overflight rights.

But we still require bases in the Gulf. We're going to need to disperse them, harden them (including with more underground elements) and build in more redundancy. The air defense needs to be more robust and layered, and less dependent on expensive missiles that are in short supply.

The war with Iran was supposed to represent a short, sharp defanging of the Iranian regime. Instead, it has dragged on and served as a lesson in key shortcomings of U.S. military power that must be addressed, lest they bite us again in a conflict with a much more powerful adversary.

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@cityof-galt.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 Regadanz 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. 12 2:04 a.m., DUI, south-bound state Highway 99 and Fairway Drive, Adult Arrest. 9 a.m., Theft, Shelduck Lane, license plate taken from vehicle. 12:41 p.m., Theft, Rachel Drive, paperwork stolen from vehicle.	Burglary, Walmart on Twin Cities Road. 11:50 a.m., Burglary, Honeysuckle Hill Avenue, electrical breakers stolen. 3:04 p.m., Child Neglect/Abuse, Lake Park Circle, Adult Arrest.
Oct. 13 4:13 p.m., Identity Theft, Buttercup Circle. 9:15 p.m., Theft, Lake Park Circle, bicycles stolen from driveway. 9:22 p.m., Narcotics Violation, Kiki’s Chicken Place, C Street. Adult Arrest.	Oct. 16 7:56 a.m., Vandalism, Flock camera cut down, C and Third streets. Oct. 17 1:44 a.m., Attempt Warrant Service, south-bound state Highway 99 and Liberty Road, Adult Arrest. 11:40 a.m., Fraud, Wells Fargo Bank on C Street. 4:50 p.m., Suspicious Person, Quik Stop on Fourth Street, Adult Arrest. 9:23 p.m., DUI, Trudy Way and McFarland Street, Adult Arrest.
Oct. 14 11:21 a.m., Auto	Oct. 18 2:29 a.m., DUI, ampm store on East Stockton Boulevard, Adult Arrest. ★

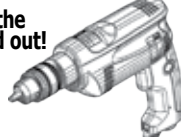
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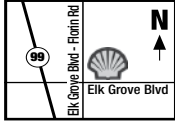
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A Champagne Toast to Boston Cream Pie!

Imagine a day dedicated to a dessert that’s not quite a pie, yet not exactly cake. I am talking about National Boston Cream Pie Day, celebrated every year on October 23. According to the daysoftheyear.com website, this day honors a unique desert that has been delighting taste buds since its creation in 1856 by an Armenian French chef named Sanzian at Boston’s Parker House Hotel. Despite its name, this treat is a cake: two layers of sponge cake filled with creamy custard and topped off with a rich chocolate glaze. And in earlier versions of the dessert, it was coated with toasted almonds for added texture. More modern versions skip this step. Some more traditional bakeries, however, still use almonds to honor the classic recipe.

It all started when a clever chef thought, “why not put custard between cake layers and top it with chocolate?” and just like that, the Boston Cream Pie was born. Fast forward to 1996, and Massachusetts decided this dessert was too good to just



eat. They named it their official state dessert. Imagine a cake so loved it gets its own official day. (California’s state dessert is a toss-up between Meyer Lemon Tart or Boysenberry Pie.) Why October 23? It’s unclear. Someone probably said, “Let’s make a day for it.” And BAM! Today is the day for dessert lovers to unite in their appreciation for a cake that has captured hearts with its creamy filling and chocolate topping, proving that sometimes having an identity crisis can be deliciously rewarding.

So, whether you’re in it for the cake, the custard, or the chocolate, this day is a sweet celebration of innovation,

indulgence, and a little bit of dessert identity confusion.

Enjoy celebrating more today. It is also Global Champagne Day! Champagne has been part of so many celebrations throughout various seasons of life. But this is the day to not only celebrate something with champagne, but to celebrate champagne. Global Champagne Day offers a delightful opportunity to show appreciation for and raise a glass to this bubbly and exuberant wine! Champagne has roots that can be traced all the way back to the 13th century in France and other parts of Europe. But it wasn’t until several hundred years later, in the 17th century, that its popularity began to increase. Global Champagne Day got its start in 2009 when it was established by a passionate wine tutor and blogger, Chris Oggenfuss. While champagne is a product of France (it can only come from this certain region in France!) the founding of Global Champagne Day has roots in the United States, specifically California,

where Oggenfuss is from. The purpose of the day is a simple one in that it is a day set aside to honor this wine that has been a favorite guest at various celebrations including weddings, graduations, coronations, and parties for years. Obviously, the most important course of action to take in celebration of Global Champagne Day is to enjoy drinking a glass – or even sharing a bottle. Grab a partner, a group of friends or coworkers and enjoy the end of the work week with a toast.

I am not a fan of champagne, but if it must be a wine toast, give me a nice cold flute of Pino de Grigio. Looks the same, but to me it tastes better.

Halloween is a week from Saturday. Are you ready for goblins, princesses, ninjas, and superheroes? No? Me neither. I am looking forward to Thanksgiving. And there are only 63 shopping days until Christmas.

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

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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

GULP...

I'VE HAD EGG ON MY FACE BEFORE...

...BUT THIS TIME I'VE GOT A "GRAND SLAM BREAKFAST."

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY RANDY THIBBOLDS

AUTUMN JUST MAKES ME APPRECIATE ALL OF THE SIMPLE PLEASURES.

...I KNOW. CHANGING LEAVES, PUMPKIN PATCHES, HOT APPLE CIDER...

...PLAYING WITH DARK KNOWLEDGE NOT MEANT FOR MAN.

RISE! RISE, I, MY CREATION, AND SPEAK!

QA GAVE ME LIFE? MIGHTY NEIGHBORLY OF YA!

I WANNA SHOW ME AROUND, POPEY? I WANNA MEET THE LOCALS!

UH, MAYBE NOT. YOU'RE A MONSTER. THEY'LL BE AFRAID OF YOU.

MONSTER'S A STATE OF MIND. I'M SURE ANY DIFFERENCES CAN BE TALKED OUT.

NOT WITH THE UNWASHED HASSES! THEY HAVE TORCHES AND PITCHFORKS! I DON'T ACCEPT YOU!

IF THEY DON'T ACCEPT ME, THAT'S THEIR PROBLEM. I DON'T EXIST TO PLEASE OTHERS.

I KNOW I'M A GOOD PERSON. THAT'S WHAT MATTERS.

THEY'RE NOT FUN WHEN THEY BECOME SELF-ACTUALIZED.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

THERE WE GO. ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO LEAVE CANDY FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS WHILE WE'RE GONE.

WE MUST GET SEVERAL AS THE BOWL IS ALWAYS EMPTY WHEN WE RETURN.

TRADE YOU SOME GUMMY WORMS FOR THOSE MILK DUDS?

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

POP'S BAKERY

POP'S BAKERY

Differences: 1. Cupcake is moved. 2. Money is shorter. 3. Sign is moved. 4. Man is taller. 5. Counter is wider. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

CORNHENSE

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

OKAY, I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE PLAYGROUND

THIS SWING SQUEAKS TOO MUCH!

PARN SLIDES TOO HOT TO TOUCH!

STUPID JUNGLE GYM HAS SPLINTERS

YUCK! THE WATER IS WARM

THIS SEESAW STIRS UP BUGS!

OKAY, WE'LL GO HOME

BUT WE ONLY JUST GOT HERE!

GRIN & BEAR IT

by Dave T. Phipps

HELLO, I AM YOUR A.I. TUTORIAL FOR YOUR NEW COMPUTER. I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE MIDDLE-AGED SO I WILL TALK SLOWLY.

"I'm afraid shock over my making a house call may have complicated his condition."

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. *Count Dracula's creator

5. Zeppelin lead-in

8. Dry riverbed

12. Stew bean

13. Workbench holding device

14. Thing of the past

15. Just right (3 words)

16. "If all ____ fails..."

17. Thin mountain ridge

18. *Michael Jackson's Halloween party song

20. Exclamation, with Louise

21. Like days long gone

22. Lion's "hand"

23. Large seabird

26. YHWH

30. 50 states, acr.

31. Gone (2 words)

34. Drawn in the sand?

35. Long stories

37. Over there

38. Subsequently

39. Doris Day's "Que ____"

40. One million ohms

42. Vatican vestment

43. Causes of PTSD

45. Theater passages

47. Local Area Network

48. Like autumn air

50. '60s British teen-agers

52. *Jason's last name

55. Subway in Paris

56. Pinnacle

57. First Nation song

59. Cheerleader's prop

60. *____'s "swelter'd venom" in #36 Down

61. Capital of Ukraine

62. Any day now

63. Francisco lead-in

64. Dried-up

DOWN

1. Club alternative

2. '80s band "Quiet ____"

3. Wet nurse

4. Maid, after getting married

5. City in Northern France

6. Ruhr's industrial center

7. Hunted ruminant

8. *Full moon shapeshifter

9. Sheltered, nautically speaking

10. Flighty one

11. Skater's turf

13. South African grass-lands

14. Indian prince

19. Intestinal obstruction

22. Liveliness in one's step

23. *Ghost at a Halloween party

24. According to

25. Nigerian money

26. Jupiter's sister and wife

27. Essential to life

28. Anoint

29. *Witches' hemlock and belladonna, e.g.

32. *Pennywise's are mismatched

33. *"Wool of bat, and tongue of ____"

36. *____toil and trouble; fire burn and ____ bubble

38. Anabaptist group

40. Gingerbread shape

41. *Red-____, like Winifred Sanderson of "Hocus Pocus"

44. Wide-mouth jar inventor

46. Small spots

48. "Cuckoo for ____ Puffs"

49. Kieran Culkin as ____

50. Not nice

51. Von Bismarck or Hahn, e.g.

52. Giant kettles

53. Great Lake

54. Tiresias in "Oedipus Rex," e.g.

55. Business degree, acr.

58. *All Hallows' ____

CROSSWORD

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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.

Lighting Up Galt with Joy and Generosity

The Hill Family’s ‘Holidays on Elm Street’ Combines Dazzling Displays with Community Giving

By Mike Powers

GALT, CA (MPG) - For Matt Hill, fall means more than cooler weather. It marks the start of elaborate decorations, synchronized music and colorful lights that have made his home a neighborhood attraction — and a way to give back to the community.

Known as “Holidays on Elm Street,” Hill’s Halloween and Christmas displays at Elm Avenue and Sparrow Drive combine custom-built props, thousands of lights and musical presentations.

Hill has maintained large holiday yard displays for more than 10 years. The synchronized Christmas light show began three years ago, followed by a Halloween show last year. He created the Holidays on Elm Street name and social media presence in 2024 to share schedules and community events.

Behind the spectacle is considerable creativity and work. Setup usually takes two days, though this year’s heat stretched it to three. Hill designs and



Halloween decorations incorporate salvaged materials and thrift-store finds. Photo by Matt Hill

3D-prints animated “singing faces” in his garage, assembling the pieces and filling them with lights so they move in sync with song lyrics. He also prints custom mounts for decorations and moving props.

Other features showcase his resourcefulness. A pirate ship was built from salvaged pallets, while a wine-drinking skeleton incorporates a barrel

that once served as a fountain base. Garage-sale and thrift-store finds are repurposed into decorations.

The Halloween display is currently running from 7 to 9:45 p.m. Christmas hours are generally 6 to 9:45 p.m.

Halloween requires more construction than Christmas, but Hill enjoys its musical variety. While Christmas features holiday classics, Halloween

includes spooky favorites, rock and metal songs, and themes from popular movies and television shows.

Some equipment serves both seasons. The large light grid known as the “pixel forest” returns for Christmas, and roof mounts hold spiders in October before being fitted with snowflakes. The same controllers operate both shows with different programming.

Beyond entertainment, the displays have become a way for Hill and his family to support local organizations. During Halloween Community Night, they collect canned goods and nonperishable food for the Local Sunshine Food Pantry. Last year, donations filled a 32-gallon container three times.

Holidays on Elm Street will host its Community Night and Canned Food Drive on Friday, Oct. 23, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Visitors can enjoy hot cider while



The Hill Family welcomes everyone to attend Holidays on Elm Street’s Community Night and Canned Food Drive on Friday, Oct. 23. Photo by Matt Hill

listening to the Halloween show’s music through speakers in the driveway. All food donations will go to the Local Sunshine Food Pantry to help support local families.

The family also partners with the Galt Police Department and Cosumnes Fire Department for an annual Christmas toy drive. Police provide a donation bin, and the Hill family has filled it each year. A fire engine has also visited during recent events. The family’s community efforts earned a 2023 Neighborhood Holiday Spirit Award from the local Raley’s grocery store.

Community enthusiasm remains strong. Neighbors wave, honk and send appreciative letters. Hill’s wife, Jessica, a music teacher at a nearby elementary school, often hears students asking when the decorations will return. Their children, Rosalie and Amelia, enjoy the shows

and help distribute drinks and stickers during community nights.

Fridays and weekends are busiest, particularly between 8 and 9 p.m. The family uses traffic cones and barriers to help keep visitors safe. Halloween night brings additional attractions, including a 10-foot Dark Angel, fog machines, blacklights, music for trick-or-treaters and plenty of candy.

Looking ahead, the family hopes to continue its Christmas Community Night partnership with local emergency services and is considering a mobile display for the Galt Christmas Parade.

Residents can follow Holidays on Elm Street on Facebook and Instagram for show updates and community events. Hill and his family invite everyone to enjoy the holiday lights and join them in making the season brighter for the Galt community. ★



Synchronized music and colorful lights have made Holidays on Elm Street a popular neighborhood attraction. Photo by Matt Hill



The Cosumnes Fire Department visits Holidays on Elm Street on Dec. 12, 2025, to participate in the 2nd Annual Community Night and Toy Drive. Photo by Matt Hill



The spooky show haunts West Elm Avenue every October night from 7 to 9:45 p.m. Photo by Matt Hill

Skate and Get Stoked

Continued from page 1
records.

The park will have features for skaters of different styles and skill levels, Solis told those attending the groundbreaking. Features include a box jump, quarter-pipe hip, round rail and layback extension, among others.

Skaters will have shade and be able to skate in the winter, he said.

“It’s going to be a great project,” Solis said.

“We really tried to get the community’s input to see what it is that you users really

wanted out here,” said Betsy Flores, assistant engineer for Galt.

Flores never skated, nor will she, she said. But she hopes the opportunity is there for her children and other children, she added.

The existing skate park was controversial, said former City Councilman Tom Malson, because some expected it to attract drug addicts.

But in the first year following construction police reported no issues, he said. And now this one is expected to be built, he said. ★

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HAND 10-30-26

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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.

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. Brought to you by the Portuguese Club of Stockton, benefitting local charities. 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 lodicomicon.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 event features 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.

Monster Mash Halloween Bash – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pixie Woods. Wear your favorite costume and enjoy a fall festival loaded with treats, magic shows, arts and crafts and a pumpkin giveaway (while supplies last, one per child 2-12 years old) and much more. \$6 admission, children 2 through 12 in costume are free. 3121 Monte Diablo, Stockton.

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.

Free Kids Pumpkin Painting – 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lodi Community Art Center. Young artists ages 5 through 18 are invited to get creative and decorate their own pumpkin during this free, fun, hands-on art activity. Pumpkins and all painting supplies are provided, so just bring your creativity and get ready to make something festive. Special thanks to Dogtown Pumpkins in Acampo for generously donating this year’s pumpkins. 110 W. Pine St., Lodi.

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.

Sunday, Oct. 25

Women’s Self-Defense & Awareness Class – 10 a.m. to noon at the Galt Adventist Church Gymnasium. Join us for a supportive, hands-on workshop designed to help women feel safer, more confident and prepared. Participants will learn practical awareness techniques, everyday risk-reduction strategies and introductory physical self-defense skills. Space is limited to 20 participants. To reserve your spot or for more information, contact Piper Smith at 916-212-4035. 619 Myrtle Ave.

Tuesday, Oct. 27

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.

Thursday, Oct. 29 through Sunday, Nov. 1

Halloween at the Fair – 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. daily at the San Joaquin County Fairgrounds. This October, the Fairgrounds transforms for the very first Halloween at the Fair. Four huge days of rides, treats, thrills, traditions and Halloween fun for the whole family. Visit the county’s largest Trunk-or-Treat and experience the color, culture and traditions of Día de los Muertos with ofrendas, cultural dance, live entertainment, traditional

art, food, vendors and more. Free tickets available at halloweenatthefair.com/tickets. 1658 S. Airport Way, Stockton.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Senior Health & Resource Fair – 9 a.m. to noon at the Chabolla Community Center. Discover valuable health, wellness, and community resources designed to support our seniors. Enjoy free Bingo games, refreshments, educational booths, health presentations, blood pressure and hearing screenings, and more while learning about resources that support a healthy, connected lifestyle. Call 209-366-7166 for more information. 610 Chabolla Ave.

Trick or Suite – 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Adventist Health Arena. This family-friendly event will open the Arena’s exclusive suite level to the public, giving children and parents the opportunity to explore themed suites, collect candy, and celebrate Halloween in a safe, indoor environment. The experience is made possible by our local sponsor Mercedes Jeremías and through a partnership of community organizations from across Stockton that are working together to create a festive celebration for local families. 248 W. Fremont St., Stockton.

Friday, Oct. 30

2026 Monster Mash – 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Courthouse Plaza. Main Street Youth & Family Services is excited to welcome our community back for another fun event. Bring the kids, dress up in your favorite costumes, and join us for a free, safe, family-friendly Halloween celebration for children, youth, and families. Candy provided by vendors and community partners. Food options, games, crafts & activities, costumes welcome, and lots of Halloween fun. 306 E. Main St., Stockton.

Stockton Cruise Night – 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Waterloo’s Gun & Bocce Club. Join us for our annual Trunk-or-Treat finale. It’s laid-back evening featuring classic cars, custom builds, lowriders, and modern classics – all in a positive, family-friendly setting. Enjoy local vendors, artists, and small businesses, plus food and cocktails available on-site from Heritage Dining & Provisions. 4343 N. Ashley Ln., Stockton.

Live Music with Phil ‘n da Pinots – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Barsetti Vineyards. It’s Halloween Party night. Wear your best costume and enjoy a potluck. Call 209-744-6062 for more information and reservations. 400 4th St., #150, Old Town Galt.

Saturday, Oct. 31

Run for the Brains – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Shumway Oak Grove Regional Park. Come have a spooky good time and an even greater run as you make your way through this closed course. This event presented by Kaiser Permanente raises funds and awareness for strokes. Your participation and donations will increase stroke awareness in our community, help reduce the number of strokes, and directly support those with stroke recovery. Registration and more information at runsignup.com. 4000 W. Eight Mile Rd., Stockton.

Halloween at the Historic Ryde Hotel – 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Do you dare to spend Halloween where history never left? Join us for an evening featuring a costume party with prizes for best costume, a spooky dinner buffet, paranormal presentation, ghost hunting with professionals, live music, and more. Choose the event only or packages that include rooms overnight. More information and tickets available at Eventbrite.com. 160 CA-220, Ryde.

Trick or Treat – 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at All Roots Allowed. Join us for a costume-friendly night, family fun, treats, and more. 12003 Walmort Rd., Wilton.

Galt Historical Society Halloween – 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Rae House Museum. Join us for a free spooky evening, including a haunted house and lots of scary creatures. Plenty of candy available for the kids. 204 Oak St.

Neighborhood Skate Party – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Galt Adventist Church. All are invited to our western-themed neighborhood skate party. We will have skating, food and a live DJ in our gated parking lot. Chili and cornbread will be served. Kids can bring skates, scooters or razors to use. We ask that families bring a bag of individually wrapped candy to share. For more information, call Piper at 916-212-4035 or Toni at 209-327-1010. 619 Myrtle Ave.

Sunday, Nov. 1

Farm to Table Celebration Fundraiser – 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Lindley House. This special gathering supports the Edible Schoolyard’s mission

of community health and well-being by providing access to food, land, and learning experiences for students and families. Tickets and more information at visitstockton.org/events. 1 Fyffe Ave., Stockton.

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. 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.

Oct. 28, 1 p.m.: Book club at Elk Grove United Methodist Church, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact Merrylyn at 916-549-4264.

Oct. 28, 5 p.m.: Interlude Kitchen & Bar, 8285 Laguna Blvd, Elk Grove. Contact Addie at 916-682-3609.

Oct. 30, Noon: Bingo Party at the Oaks Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, 116 Calle Entrada, Elk Grove. Contact DeAnna at 916-760-7474.

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

Tuesday, Oct. 27: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (WG)

Wednesday, Oct. 28: English conversation group, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G)

Thursday, Oct. 29: Spooky family movie time, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. We will be watching “Goosebumps” with snacks and a craft. (G)

Friday, Oct. 30: 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., District 56 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., District 56 Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove. For more information, call 916-684-3849. ★



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Light Inspires Sacramento Audience

Story and photos
by Keith Burbank

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Moving, changing colors of light filled downtown Sacramento’s Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Oct. 10, in a daring show called Luminiscence.

“It was amazing,” said Ed Dietz, a Folsom resident who saw the show. “Moving.”

Choreographed music, light and narration came together to create the experience. The show was scheduled to continue various nights through Nov. 14, but Executive Producer Clayton Ferguson said the show will be extended through Dec. 31. Luminiscence is playing in Philadelphia and at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City.

“It was very heart-warming,” said Roseville resident Larry Nisetich.

Oct. 10 was the second day of Luminiscence



The ceiling, dome and walls of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento are outlined in light in the show Luminiscence Oct. 10.

in Sacramento. The 7 p.m. show featured shades of blue and colors of the sun on the walls and ceiling of the church.

“Here a sanctuary rises,” the narrator said, referring

to the cathedral’s beginning. The first stone was set in 1887, the narrator later added. That voice – throughout the show – shared the story of the church.

Light rose, spread out and mixed inside the building. Images of clouds appeared and moved across the walls.

Light kept time with the orchestra and choir. Lines of light adorned columns of the church. Blocks of light formed and faded.

The cathedral “stands as a monument of light,” the narrator continued.

Rectangles of light descended the walls. The sound of wind whispered to the audience.

Light formed ornate floral designs that spread across the walls and changed with the music. Drums sounded as an image of lightning appeared on the wall.

Colors of reds, blues, orange and yellow appeared and faded. Up and down, left and right the light moved. Fragments of light gathered.

“We want to make it as immersive as

possible,” Vice President of Operations Ben Woodward said. Ferguson suggested the show is almost transportive.

Light like shards of glass spread on the walls in stained-glass colors. Voices joined the changing light. An organ played. Thunder sounded and lightning cracked. Aisles changed from dark to light in rapid succession.

Light fell like snow on the walls. Images of trees appeared in the windows. Light like pointillism filled the walls and ceiling of the church.

“Here devotion endures,” said the narrator.

Leaves floated up leading to floral designs of earlier centuries and patterns of blue and gold stars.

And a chorus member sang Ave Maria.

“The chorus was really good,” said Barbara Mills of Woodland. “The orchestra was fantastic.”

But it was a little hard to hear the narrator, Mills said.

Woodward addressed the difficulty hearing the narrator. He said spaces like the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament were not designed for audio projection.

More than 2 million people have seen the show in Europe, Ferguson said. The team behind Luminiscence brought it to the U.S. a year ago, he said.

Amanda Johnson of West Sacramento liked “the mixture of live music and beautiful light effects,” she said.

“It was special,” she added. “It was a beautiful experience.”



An archway in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento becomes blue in the show Luminiscence Oct. 10.

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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Liberty Ranch Stays Perfect

Wins 55-35 Against Argonaut

By Paige Lampson

JACKSON, CA (MPG) - The Liberty Ranch Hawks traveled to the Mother Lode on Friday night and left no doubt about who runs the Sierra Valley Conference, defeating the Argonaut Mustangs 55-35 on the road to remain unbeaten. The win moves the Hawks to 7-0 on the season and a perfect 4-0 in league play.

Some nights belong to one player, and Friday belonged to Joe Lara. The senior running back was, quite simply, unstoppable. Lara carried the ball 18 times for 239 yards — a staggering 13.3 yards per carry — and

found the end zone six times on the ground. As if that were not enough, he added two receptions for 100 yards, including an 82-yard catch-and-run for a seventh touchdown. All told, Lara piled up 339 all-purpose yards and accounted for 42 of his team’s points, a performance that will be talked about in Galt for a long time.

“We play as one team not 11 players. When it is time to go to war on that field, we all do ATC — Assignment, Technique, and Complete — and when we do that good things happen,” said senior lineman Cutler Perez.

Lara wasn’t alone. Senior Andrew Quinn matched him



The Hawk line busy at work. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan

with 18 carries, grinding out 140 yards and a touchdown of his own, giving the Hawks a punishing one-two punch out of the backfield. Through the air, senior Ryan Ogas was perfect — completing both of his pass attempts for 100 yards and a touchdown, good for a 177.1 quarterback rating. Liberty Ranch’s 406 rushing yards as a team told the story of a game controlled at the line of scrimmage.

And that line deserved much of the credit. The Hawks’ offensive front racked up 43 pancake blocks, led by senior Jayden Sedlacek’s 12 and senior Cutler Perez’s eight. It was the kind of dominant, unselfish play up front that turns good runs into great ones.

The defense did its part. Liberty Ranch finished with 62 total tackles, five tackles for loss, and a sack, while forcing five fumble recoveries. Senior Enzo Diaz led the way with 11 tackles (five solo) to go with a tackle for loss and a fumble recovery. Senior Wyatt Corriea added 12 stops, senior Andrew Quinn chipped in seven tackles — two tackles for loss — and a sack, and junior Jack Rowe recorded seven tackles and a fumble recovery. Ogas, Dixon, and Trosko each pounced on a loose

ball as the Hawks swarmed to the football all night.

Special teams were steady. Senior Hunter Owen handled the kicking duties, booting nine kick-offs for 265 yards and converting seven of eight extra points. Quinn added a 45-yard punt when called upon, while Diaz (four returns, 57 yards) and Rowe (two returns, 45 yards) gave the Hawks solid field position in the return game.

“We knew that Argonaut was going to be a tough opponent, and they gave us another good test. We made some mistakes that we will get corrected, and I

know the boys will be prepared to compete this Friday at El Dorado,” said head coach Warren Schroeder.

At 7-0 overall and 4-0 in the Sierra Valley Conference, the Hawks have positioned themselves as one of the teams to beat. But the schedule doesn’t get any easier: Liberty Ranch returns to action Friday at El Dorado, where the Hawks will look to keep their perfect season rolling. With Lara running like this and a defense flying to the ball, Liberty Ranch looks every bit the contender.



Andrew Quin stiff arms an Argonaut defender. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan



Joe Lara hustles into the end zone for one of his seven touchdowns. Photo courtesy of Tom Santillan

LOCAL SPORTS
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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Warriors Honor Six Seniors

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - For the final time this season, the Galt High School girls volleyball team took the court in front of its home crowd, and the Warriors made sure the night belonged to the six seniors who have given so much to the program.

Before Tuesday's Sierra Valley Conference match against Amador, Galt celebrated its Class of 2026 — Madi McDonald, Maliah Phulmati Mangal, Courtney Brouwer, Whitney Ehlers, Morgan Jones and Mary Kate Miller — honoring a group that head coach Jennifer Sanchez credited with shaping the culture of the team. The pregame ceremony, attended by family, friends and teammates, marked the last home appearance of the season for the seniors, who were recognized for their leadership, their resilience and the standard they set for the younger players around them.

Once the ball went up, the visiting Buffaloes spoiled the celebration on the scoreboard, sweeping Galt 25-11, 25-23, 25-16. Amador controlled the match from the opening serve, but the Warriors showed plenty of fight, particularly in a second set they pushed to the brink.

A Night to Honor the Class of 2026

The evening began with the senior ceremony, as each of the six honorees was introduced and walked onto the floor at Warrior Gymnasium alongside their families. For a program that has leaned on its upperclassmen all season, it was a chance to pause and reflect on everything the group has meant to Galt volleyball.

Senior night is always an emotional occasion, but this one carried extra weight. It was the Warriors' final home match of the season, meaning it was the last time the six honorees would take the floor at home in a Galt uniform. The ceremony marked both an ending and a celebration — a tribute to a group that has grown together over multiple seasons and helped carry the program through the ups and downs of a demanding Sierra Valley Conference schedule.

McDonald, Phulmati Mangal, Brouwer, Ehlers, Jones and Miller have each filled different roles over the course of their careers, and on Tuesday night those roles were on full display. Phulmati Mangal, a libero and setter, has been the engine of the Galt offense all season, while Brouwer and Ehlers have anchored the back row as an outside hitter and a defensive specialist. Jones has provided a steady presence at middle hitter, and McDonald and Miller have contributed in a variety of spots — from serving to defense — whenever the Warriors have needed them.



Courtney Brouwer digs deep.



Galt celebrates the Class of 2026 — Madi McDonald, Maliah Phulmati Mangal, Courtney Brouwer, Whitney Ehlers, Morgan Jones and Mary Kate Miller — in the team's last home match of the season.

It was, in every sense, their night.

Amador Takes Control Early

Amador wasted little time establishing itself, racing out to a commanding lead in the opening set and closing it out 25-11. The Buffaloes' attack proved difficult to contain throughout the night; they finished with 38 kills as a team, compared to 20 for Galt, and were led by Lisl Watts, who recorded 14 kills at a .385 hitting percentage, and Macy Patterson, who added five kills on a .500 clip.

The second set was a different story. Galt settled in, traded points with the Buffaloes and forced Amador to earn every rally. The Warriors' defense kept them within striking distance, and the set came down to the closing points before Amador escaped, 25-23. It was the closest Galt came to stealing a set on the night, and it reflected the competitiveness the seniors have tried to instill in the program.

The third set saw Amador pull away again, closing out the match 25-16 to complete the sweep. Even as the deficit grew, the Warriors kept competing, leaning on the same resilience that has defined their senior class all season.

Senior Standouts

Even in defeat, the seniors delivered the kind of performances that have defined their careers.

Whitney Ehlers led the Galt attack with four kills on 13 attempts, posting a .077 hitting percentage and adding seven digs

to go along with three service attempts.

Morgan Jones chipped in two kills on 19 attempts, collected three digs and recorded the Warriors' only block of the match, while also contributing three points from the service line on nine attempts.

Maliah Phulmati Mangal orchestrated the offense with 13 assists — an average of 4.3 per set — and added eight digs, finishing 8-of-9 from the service line at 88.9 percent with two points.

Courtney Brouwer turned in a gritty defensive effort, leading the team with 11 digs (3.7 per set) and handling a team-high 23 serve receptions while adding an assist.

Mary Kate Miller was steady in the back row with six digs (3.0 per set) and 10 serve receptions, and she was perfect from the service line on four attempts, adding a point.

Madi McDonald saw action across three sets, contributing a dig and helping steady the Warriors' ball handling.

Together, the six seniors

accounted for the bulk of Galt's serve receiving and back-row defense, and their fingerprints were on nearly every rally the Warriors strung together.

Underclassmen Step Up

The seniors weren't the only Warriors to make an impact. Junior Zoey Sanchez led Galt with 10 kills, hitting .381 on 21 attempts while averaging 3.3 kills per set. She also recorded the team's only service ace, scored five points and added six digs.

Freshman Hattie Shillam added three kills on 15 attempts, and junior Jane Humphreys dished out six assists to go with seven digs and two points from the service line. Sophomore Emma McDonald chipped in two digs, while juniors Lily Cathey and Adelle Werdon and freshman Ellie Lubich also saw the floor.

The mix of veteran leadership and young contributors is exactly the balance the seniors hoped to leave behind — a roster that can carry the program forward.

'I Am Incredibly Proud'

Following the match, Sanchez

reflected on what this senior class has meant to her and to the program.

"This senior class has brought an unwavering drive to the court every day, but what truly set them apart was their positive attitude and their eagerness to learn," Jennifer Sanchez said. "They trusted the process and no matter the challenge, they were willing to step out of their comfort zones to try new drills, positions or whatever was asked of them. They helped build a culture of resilience and positivity that will be remembered by all of our other players. I am incredibly proud and honored to have been their coach for their senior season."

Looking Ahead

The Warriors will close out their season on the road, but Tuesday's match was about more than the final score. For McDonald, Phulmati Mangal, Brouwer, Ehlers, Jones and Miller, it was a last chance to play at home in front of the crowd that has supported them — and a reminder of the legacy they leave behind.



Ellie Lubich and Morgan Jones jump high and deflect a kill.

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PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

A Senior Night Salute

Flag Football Celebrates Outgoing Class

Story and photos by Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - On a night reserved for celebration, the Galt High School flag football team paused to honor the eight seniors who have anchored the Warriors' program, saluting their leadership, grit, and dedication before taking the field against Amador for the team's Senior Night matchup.

The Warriors fell to the visiting Buffaloes, 39-0, in a contest that slipped away early. But the evening's spotlight belonged to the players who have given so much to Galt flag football. Amador struck for seven points in the opening quarter and erupted for 25 more in the second to build a commanding halftime cushion. Then they added a final touchdown in the fourth. Galt's defense battled from the first snap to the last, but the offense could not find the end zone against a stout Buffaloes unit.

Even in defeat, the Warriors had plenty to cheer. The Senior Night ceremony drew families, friends, and underclassmen to the sideline to recognize a class that has helped shape the young program, and the seniors responded with the kind of effort that has come to define their time in a Galt uniform.

The eight seniors recognized



Galt High School's flag football program honored its eight seniors — No. 2 Jannet Jimenez, No. 3 Brittney Jaramillo, No. 6 Trinity Clark, No. 8 Chloe Goehring-Tassell, No. 9 Kristine Meixner, No. 11 Danah Godinez, No. 18 Maggie Thomlinson — before the Warriors' Senior Night game against Amador.

before kickoff represent the heart of the Warriors' roster, contributing on both sides of the ball and setting the standard for the underclassmen who will carry the program forward.

Jannet Jimenez (No. 2, defensive back) patrolled the secondary and finished the night with five flag pulls, all of them solo, providing steady, physical coverage on the back end.

Brittney Jaramillo (No. 3, wide receiver/running back) suited up for the Warriors on Senior Night, bringing versatility and leadership to a young offense.

Trinity Clark (No. 6, center) was a force in the trenches, racking up seven flag pulls to go with a sack for a loss of five yards and a flag-pull loss. Her presence up front anchored the Galt defense all evening.

Chloe Goehring-Tassell (No. 8, quarterback/running back/wide receiver) did it all for the Warriors. The senior completed 8 of 25 passes for 65 yards and carried 14 times for a team-high 83 rushing yards, adding a flag pull and a hurry on defense. Her

dual-threat performance kept Galt moving against a relentless Amador defense.

Kristine Meixner (No. 9, athlete) contributed four flag pulls, all solo, using her athleticism to disrupt the Buffaloes' attack.

Danah Godinez (No. 11, linebacker) led the Warriors' defensive effort with a team-high nine flag pulls, all solo, flying to the ball on nearly every play.

Maggie Thomlinson (No. 18, linebacker) suited up for the Warriors on Senior Night, bringing toughness and leadership to the Galt defense.

Harper Sutenfield (No. 19, athlete/wide receiver/defensive back) brought her signature versatility to the field one final time, contributing on offense, defense, and special teams.

Galt finished the night with 164 rushing yards on 26 carries — an average of 6.3 yards per attempt — and 65 passing yards on eight completions. The Warriors' defense combined for 34 flag pulls, including three tackles for loss, one sack, and a pass defended.

Chloe Goehring-Tassell paced the ground game with 83 yards on 14 carries, while Berkley Ward added 64 yards on seven attempts, including a 35-yard burst. Through the air, Madison Chapin hauled in three receptions

for 28 yards, Ava Reeve added two catches for 21 yards, and Abigail Chapin chipped in with a 17-yard punt return. On special teams, Abigail Pantajo punted five times for 131 yards, pinning Amador inside the 20 once. ★



Madison Chapin hauls in one of her three receptions on the night.

JV Warriors Fall Short

Lose Homecoming 29-35

Story and photos by Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt High junior varsity football team gave its homecoming crowd plenty to cheer about Friday night, but the Warriors could not quite close the gap, dropping a hard-fought 35-29 decision to El Dorado.

Galt's offense was relentless on the ground all evening, piling up 310 total yards — 278 of them on the ground — behind a rushing attack that averaged a robust 8.7 yards per carry. The Warriors punched in three rushing touchdowns and added another through the air, keeping pace with the Cougars in a back-and-forth affair that came down to the final possessions.

Sophomore quarterback Chance George kept the El Dorado defense honest

through the air, completing 2 of 3 passes for 32 yards and a touchdown for a sparkling 141.7 passer rating. But it was the running back corps that did the heavy lifting.

Freshman Austyn Gubac led the way with 74 yards on just eight carries, including a 63-yard burst that was Galt's longest play from scrimmage and went for a touchdown. Freshman Leland Sutenfield was nearly as explosive, rumbling for 71 yards on six carries — an 11.8-yard average — with a 32-yard long and a score of his own. Freshman Hank Van Steyn made the most of limited touches, ripping off 62 yards on only four carries (15.5 yards per attempt) with a 43-yard long. Freshman Grayson Tassell chipped in 56 yards on nine carries, including a 40-yard run. Sophomore



Brody Patterson catches a beautiful touchdown pass.

Michael Silva rounded out the scoring with a short touchdown plunge.

Through the air, sophomore Brody Patterson hauled in a 17-yard touchdown pass, and Gubac added a 15-yard reception out of the backfield. Gubac finished the night with a team-high 89 all-purpose yards, while Sutenfield (71), Van Steyn (62) and Tassell (56) all made significant contributions to the 310-yard team total.

The Warrior defense turned in a scrappy, physical effort, recording 30 total tackles — 10 solo and 19 assisted — to go along with three tackles for loss and a pair of sacks.

Sophomore Andy Sanchez and Sutenfield each brought down the El Dorado quarterback, combining for 2.0 sacks and 14 yards lost. Sutenfield (3 tackles, 1.0 TFL), freshman Adan Francisco Chaidez (3 tackles) and



Freshman Grayson Tassell runs the ball.

freshman Julián Mojica (4 tackles, 2 solo) helped set the tone, while freshman Andrew Lee added three assisted stops. Freshman Aaron Byrd came up with a fumble recovery, and Patterson blocked a punt to give the Warriors a spark on special teams.

A Homecoming to Remember

Despite the final score, it was a night that showcased the young Warriors' promise. A freshman- and

sophomore-heavy roster went toe-to-toe with El Dorado, moving the ball at will on the ground and making big plays when it mattered. The 29-point outburst and 310-yard offensive output were among the team's best of the season, even as the Cougars escaped with the win.

Galt will look to build on that momentum — and turn those hard-earned yards into a victory — as it heads to its next matchup. ★

GALT HERALD JUNIOR ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Keoni Fenika
Liberty Ranch 8U



Elliot Parker
Liberty Ranch 8U



Gavin Spragg
Liberty Ranch 10U



Anthony Derrick Jr
Liberty Ranch 10U



Jojo Armstrong
Liberty Ranch 12U



Liam Plasencia
Liberty Ranch 12U



Gino Guerrero
Liberty Ranch 14U



Dominic Fletes
Liberty Ranch 14U

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Warriors Fall at Homecoming

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson

GALT, CA (MPG) - After three straight weeks on the road, the Galt Warriors finally came home Friday night, and for a half of football they gave one of the largest crowds of the season everything it could have hoped for on homecoming night.

The Warriors raced to a 21-8 lead midway through the second quarter, moved the football almost at will, and had the El Dorado Cougars back on their heels. But four turnovers — the kind of self-inflicted mistakes that have dogged Galt all season — flipped the momentum in an instant, and El Dorado leaned on a high-powered passing attack to pull away for a 43-29 victory.

The evening began on a celebratory note. And with the homecoming crowd packed into the stands, senior quarterback Robert Rubio was crowned homecoming king at halftime, adding a memorable personal moment to a night that, for two and a half quarters, had the Warriors believing an upset was well within reach.

Galt received the opening kick-off and wasted little time moving the ball. Senior James Gilbert hauled in a couple of passes to drive the Warriors deep into Cougar territory, setting up first-and-goal at the 2-yard line. From there, senior Arthur Cordova punched it in for the game's first score. The extra point was good, and Galt led 7-0 with 9:22 left in the first quarter.

El Dorado answered through the air, stringing together a series of completions to reach the end zone with 7:45 remaining. The Cougars converted a two-point try to take an 8-7 lead.

The Warriors responded immediately. Late in the quarter, Rubio capped a drive with a 1-yard quarterback sneak, and the extra point was true, putting Galt back on top, 14-8, with 2:32 left in the first quarter.

El Dorado threatened again before the period ended, but the Warrior defense stiffened and held the Cougars out of the end zone. Galt took over at the start of the second quarter.

The Warriors' ground game kicked in. Senior Carlo Sterni took a handoff, appeared to be stopped, then broke free, found a seam in the El Dorado defense, and sprinted to the end zone. The score pushed Galt's lead to 21-8 with 10:52 left in the half — the high-water mark of the night.

El Dorado answered on the ground, scoring on a run with 8:33 remaining to cut the lead to 21-15.

Galt was forced to punt with 5:32 left in the half, and the Cougars made the Warriors pay. El Dorado connected on a long touchdown pass with 3:42 remaining, and just like that the Warriors found themselves trailing 21-22.

Galt still had a chance to reclaim the lead before the break, driving deep into El Dorado territory once more. But the Warriors fumbled with 42 seconds left in the half, ending the threat. El Dorado nearly added another score before the horn, but the Galt defense did everything it



Warrior Parker Millard knocks the cougar quarterback off his feet.



James Gilbert catches a pass.



The Warriors line prepares to score from the 2-yard line.

could to keep the Cougars out of the end zone, and the teams went to the locker room with El Dorado ahead, 22-21.

El Dorado received the ball to open the second half but was forced to punt, giving Galt possession at its own 25-yard line. Both teams traded blows, giving everything they had, but the Warriors were forced to punt again with 5:13 left in the third quarter.

El Dorado capitalized, finding the end zone to extend its lead, and Galt found itself down 21-29.

El Dorado struck again at the start of the fourth quarter, pushing the margin to 21-36.

The Warriors kept fighting. Driving deep into Cougar territory, Galt appeared poised to

score, but a touchdown pass into the end zone was intercepted with 8:50 left in the game — a turning point that summed up the night.

Still, the Galt defense refused to quit. The Warriors shut down the El Dorado offense one more time, handing the ball back to the offense with 5:36 remaining.

But on the ensuing possession, Galt threw another interception, and El Dorado made the Warriors pay immediately — breaking free on the very first play for a touchdown. The score pushed the Cougars' lead to 21-43 with 4:09 left.

To their credit, the Warriors never stopped battling. Galt punched in one final touchdown — the last score of the night coming from James Gilbert — and the two-point conversion was good, caught by junior Alberto Arroyo, bringing the final to 29-43.

Despite the final score, the box score told the story of an offense that moved the ball all night. Galt piled up 358 total yards — 260 on the ground and 98 through the air — and scored 29 points, its second-highest total of the season.

Gilbert led the way with 142 all-purpose yards, rushing 13 times for 112 yards and a touchdown while adding three catches for 30 yards. Sterni was electric, carrying five times for 95 yards

and a score, including a 54-yard burst. Rubio added 13 rushing yards and a touchdown on the ground while completing 9 of 20 passes for 98 yards through the air. Cordova ran for a score and caught two passes for 20 yards, and Ricky Akers chipped in 22 rushing yards and a 12-yard reception.

Through the air, Mark Grammer had a 29-yard grab, and Arroyo added a 3-yard catch to go with his two-point conversion.

Defensively, the Warriors

were led by Akers, who racked up a game-high 10 tackles (nine solo) to go with a tackle for loss. Noah Ojeda added seven tackles, including two for a loss. Taylor White finished with four stops, and Cordova and Sterni each added four. Gilbert recorded three tackles and a tackle for loss, and senior Parker Millard registered the team's lone sack, dropping the El Dorado quarterback for an 8-yard loss. The defense also delivered a pair of key stops, including a goal-line stand at the end of the first half.

Head coach JJ Woodward was candid after the game, praising his team's fight while lamenting the turnovers that decided it.

"I thought Friday night showed how close we are to putting everything together. We were up 21-8 midway through the second quarter and were playing some of our best football of the season. Unfortunately, 4 turnovers completely changed the game. When you give a team that many extra possessions, especially a team that can throw the football the way El Dorado can, eventually it's going to catch up with you."

What encouraged Woodward most was the Warriors' resilience.

"What I'm proud of is that our kids continued to fight. We scored 29 points, our second-highest total of the season, and even after the momentum swung against us, our kids never quit. The frustrating part is that the final score doesn't really show how well we played for stretches of that game. We've shown that we can move the football and compete. Now we have to learn to protect the football and finish games. If we eliminate those self-inflicted mistakes, I really believe we're a much better football team than our record shows."

Senior Parker Millard was named the Warriors' Warrior of the Week. Millard, a 5-foot-10, 240-pound defensive tackle and offensive guard, made the play Woodward described as the embodiment of the program's identity.

"Parker Millard is our Warrior of the Week. He made an outstanding block that showed exactly what we want our program to be about — effort, toughness and doing your job for your teammates. It was the kind of play that deserves to be recognized."

For the Warriors, the message is simple: the pieces are there. Galt proved it can move the ball, score points, and stand toe-to-toe with a high-powered opponent. The challenge now is protecting the football and finishing drives — the difference between a close loss and a hard-earned win.

The Warriors return to the field with a chance to put that lesson to work. Galt hits the road to face Amador on Friday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m., then closes out the regular season at home with a pair of league matchups — Argonaut on Oct. 30 at 7:30 p.m. and Liberty Ranch on Nov. 6 at 7:15 p.m. ★



Carlo Sterni breaks tackles and outruns the rest to score.



Homecoming King quarterback Robert Rubio heads to the sideline after making the first down.