We Wish Our Readers A Happy Thanksgiving



THE GRIDLEY HERALD

PROUDLY SERVING OUR AREA SINCE 1879 • NOVEMBER 20, 2026 • VOL. 147 NO. 47

SEE INSIDE

GRIDLEY AND BIGGS HEAD TO SEMIFINALS



PAGE **10**

SCHOHR EARNS NATIONAL FFA AWARD



PAGE **2**

Kory Hamman
Hamman Real Estate



1031 Tax Exchange Expert Specializing in seamless & profitable 1031 exchanges for Ag & Commercial property. Over 1/2 Billion in Sales!!!
(530) 228-1940

Wrapped in Appreciation

Veterans Day Concert Bestows Quilts of Valor on Veterans



Bob Jaquot smiles as he receives his Quilt of Valor during the Veterans Day concert in Gridley on Nov. 11.

Story and photos by Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Veterans Memorial Building hosted a Veterans Day concert and the presentation of Quilts of Valor to local veterans Nov. 11 at 7 p.m.

The Oroville Community Concert Band (OCCB) has been a staple of the annual Veterans Day concert, brought to the community through a partnership between American Legion Post 210, local Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Gridley Monday Quilters.

Maj. Cliff Wagner, U.S. Army Reserve (retired), served as master of ceremonies, welcoming attendees to the free concert honoring U.S. military veterans.

American Legion Post 210 stepped in for the U.S. Navy Sea Cadets, Golden Bear Division, who were

Continued on page 3



The color guard provided by American Legion Post 210 stands in front of the stage as the Oroville Community Concert Band performs "The Star-Spangled Banner" before a standing audience.

10U Titans Claim SYF Super Bowl Title



The 10U Titans football team, coaches and cheerleaders celebrate their SYF crossover Super Bowl championship Saturday, Nov. 14, at Enterprise High School in Redding. The Titans defeated the American Canyon Jr. Wolves 20-0 to finish the season undefeated with a 13-0 record. Courtesy photo

By MPG Staff

REDDING, CA (MPG) - The 10U Titans capped an undefeated season Saturday, Nov. 14, defeating the American Canyon Jr. Wolves 20-0 in the SYF crossover Super Bowl at Enterprise High School in Redding.

The Titans entered the championship game with a 12-0 record after defeating the Shasta Jr. Wolves the previous weekend to claim the divisional championship.

Both teams relied on their defenses throughout much of the Super Bowl matchup, with the Titans breaking through in the second quarter. Julian Camargo scored on a 1-yard touchdown run to give the Titans a 6-0 lead heading into halftime.

The score remained unchanged until early in the fourth quarter, when Hendrix Deahn intercepted a pass and returned it for a touchdown. Morgan Ruggirello added the two-point conversion, extending the Titans' lead to 14-0.

Adrian Thao added a late touchdown to secure the 20-0 victory.

The Titans' defense recorded three interceptions and held American Canyon scoreless to complete the shutout.

The championship victory gave the Titans a perfect 13-0 record to close the season.

Head coach Randall Huff praised his players for their teamwork and dedication throughout the season.

"I am so proud of these kids and how they were able to come together as a team," Huff said. "I look forward to seeing these kids grow."

Huff also thanked the families, friends and supporters who attended games throughout the season, particularly those who traveled to Redding for the championship.

"Congratulations to all of you and I will never forget this incredible season," Huff said. ★

Live Oak Faces Additional Public Safety Funding Strain

By Susan Meeker

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - Fewer deputies will be available to answer calls in Live Oak beginning Dec. 1, while county officials warn that financial problems threatening the city's fire protection could be even more difficult to resolve.

The Sutter County Board of Supervisors approved a reduced law enforcement contract Nov. 10, following the City Council's approval Oct. 21. But the discussion revealed that the new agreement addresses only part of a broader struggle to maintain public safety services within the city's means.

County Administrator Steven Smith said additional decisions lie ahead for both governing bodies.

"We've been working closely on fire services as well, and it's possibly even more grim than the law enforcement services," Smith said.

Smith said officials were examining all possible solutions. No changes to Live Oak's fire services were presented for approval Nov. 10. The law enforcement reductions, however, have a firm starting date.

Under the new one-year agreement, the city's assigned deputy positions will drop from eight to four, changing coverage from two deputies on duty around the clock to one. A sergeant will continue supervising the operation.

For residents, that means fewer calls will receive an in-person response and some emergencies could involve a longer wait for backup.

Sheriff Brandon Barnes said the department typically handles about 7,000 to 8,000 calls annually in Live Oak. Deputies will prioritize emergencies, threats or violence, missing persons and crimes against children.

Calls such as noise complaints, civil standbys and traffic-enforcement requests will generally be directed to the city's AI-powered phone system, officials said. Depending on the circumstances and available resources, those requests could receive a delayed response or no response. The sheriff retains discretion to send a deputy when warranted.

Barnes said having one deputy on duty may create challenges when an incident requires a second officer, who may have to travel from another part of the county.

City Manager Ben

Continued on page 9

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

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

The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W Cook

We note with great sadness the passing of Gwen Dundas. I've written of her before, as she was my 1st-grade teacher at Wilson School. She got me hooked on reading about Paddington Bear. A couple of months ago, I was in London and went to Paddington Station, as I still have a fondness for the stories of the bear from Peru. I am forever grateful to Mrs. Dundas for teaching me how to read. Beloved and admired by everyone, she will be missed.

***

No. 3 Butte College Football team (7-3) beat No. 6 Modesto Junior College, getting revenge for Modesto's 23-20 win on Sept. 26 earlier in the season. Butte is in the CA Community College playoffs and is in the 2nd round after beating Modesto. On the 21st, they can get revenge on Sierra College, which they lost to in overtime by one point at the end of the regular season. If they win, the Roadrunners will be in the State Championship game and face whoever comes from the Southern California bracket.

***

Speaking of winning, the last edition of the historic Gridley Herald was full of winners: Titans youth football winners, GHS girls flag football winners. Biggs and Gridley football teams going to the playoffs. Our kids benefit from great sports programs that usually win more than they lose. Gridley: "a town for winners."

***

The last Pi-Line, which revealed that men get pulled over in Gridley a lot more than women (63%), has created several incidents of hurt feelings, as women, upon hearing the news, make disparaging comments about men being worse drivers - and that the imbalanced pull-over rates are somehow justified. Perhaps the Gridley Police could offer a year-long amnesty for male drivers to bring the numbers back to a 50-50 male-to-female ratio and help the hurt feelings heal.

***

Josh F.W. Cook was the Gridley FFA Sentinel and was stationed by the door at every meeting. ★

Gridley Museum Takes History to the Stage

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Museum invites the community to an evening of drama, history and a laugh or two during its "In Their Own Words" Veterans Recording Studio project fundraiser Saturday, Nov. 21.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m. as the "We've Got Your Back" backup singers guide guests through musical skits and theatrical performances depicting moments in history from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

The goal of the program is to raise funds for the Gridley Museum's Veterans Recording Studio project, "In Their Own Words."

This is the second time the Gridley Museum has taken to the stage for a production of this caliber, selecting new scenes for its skits, incorporating period music and using historical accounts to entertain and educate guests.

The museum hopes to preserve the memories and stories of local veterans for future generations before they are lost to time. During the evening, the museum plans to preview some of the accounts recorded so far.

Recently, the Gridley Lions Club donated $500 to the museum to benefit the project and further development of the recording studio. Saturday's event aims to raise additional funds toward making the studio a reality.

The family-friendly event will be held at the Gridley Moose Lodge, 1533 Highway 99 in Gridley. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for a social hour before the main program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Donations will be accepted at the entrance, with veterans and Blue Star Moms admitted free of charge. ★



Dr. Jim Brown, left, presents a donation check to Gridley Museum Director RuthAnn King to support the museum's Veterans Recording Studio project, "In Their Own Words." Courtesy photo



Dennis Pooler, dressed as the character Klinger from the television series "M*A*S*H," listens to the heart of his wife, Barbara Pooler, one of the "We've Got Your Back" backup singers. The character will bring an element of comedy to the Gridley Museum's upcoming Veterans Recording Studio fundraiser. Photo by Seti Long

Gridley's Schohr Earns National FFA Proficiency Award

By Lloyd Green Jr.

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Gridley FFA member Joseph Schohr was named a national winner in Beef Production Entrepreneurship during the 99th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis on Oct. 22.

Schohr received the 2026 National FFA Agricultural Proficiency Award for his supervised agricultural experience, which grew from helping his parents manage cattle to operating his own beef cattle enterprise.

Through his project, Schohr developed skills in breeding management, artificial insemination, herd health and livestock selection. His operation includes a 30-head Hereford herd, with an emphasis on selective breeding and producing quality breeding stock.

The national recognition follows several achievements for Schohr, who previously earned state FFA proficiency awards in livestock production. He also served as California State FFA secretary and was a member of Gridley's state championship livestock judging team.

Schohr, a 2026 Gridley High School graduate and valedictorian, plans to pursue a career in animal science as a certified bovine embryologist.

The National FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards recognize members who develop agricultural skills and career experience through supervised projects. ★



Gridley FFA member Joseph Schohr, right, displays his awards after being named the 2026 National FFA Agricultural Proficiency Award winner in Beef Production Entrepreneurship during the 99th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis on Oct. 22. Schohr earned the national honor for developing and managing his own cattle enterprise. Photo courtesy of National FFA Organization

MEMORIAL

LYLE AKIN — 04/22/1959 - 11/06/2026



Lyle Akin passed away unexpectedly on November 6, 2026, leaving behind a rich legacy of service, ingenuity, and love. Lyle was born in Alamogordo, New Mexico, on April 22, 1959, to Mildred and Cecil Akin. The family relocated to Gridley in 1964, where Lyle grew up and graduated from Gridley High School in 1977.

In 1980, he married Janine Tucker, and together they built a life centered around their three children. Though Lyle initially set out to become a firefighter, finding Butte College's registration closed led him to the police academy instead; a fortunate turn of events that launched a career he deeply loved. Joining the Sutter County Sheriff's Department in 1990, he spent more than two decades in dedicated public service. Lyle helped pilot the department's first School Resource Officer program, blending his love for law enforcement with a passion for inspiring local youth, and forged strong, lifelong friendships before retiring as a Deputy in 2011.

Lyle believed in leaving everything, and everyone, better than he found them. A master tinkerer at heart, he was endlessly drawn to unique projects, new endeavors, and creative ideas. Far beyond bringing classic cars back to life, he took genuine joy in figuring out solutions and fixing an endless array of things for family, friends, and neighbors alike. Whether drag racing, fly fishing, or working away in the garage, Lyle approached every day with warmth, humor, and quiet generosity.

Lyle will be remembered as a selfless presence; a steady, dependable influence defined by his big heart, remarkable ingenuity, and unwavering commitment to helping anyone in need.

Lyle is survived by his wife, Janine; their three children, Josh, Lindsey, and Emily; and his eight cherished grandchildren: Alora, Molly, Sienna, April, Tucker, Clark, Declan, and Callum



District Attorneys Challenge Newsom's Clemency Order

By MPG Staff

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey has joined 28 other California district attorneys in a legal challenge to Gov. Gavin Newsom's decision to commute 548 death sentences to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole.

Ramsey announced his participation Nov. 16 in a challenge filed with the California Supreme Court by the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation. The lawsuit contests the governor's authority to issue blanket commutations without reviewing individual cases.

According to Ramsey, approximately 382 of the 548 inmates have multiple felony convictions, which require approval from a majority of the California Supreme Court before the governor can grant clemency under the state Constitution.

The legal challenge also has support from law enforcement organizations and victims' rights groups, including the California District Attorneys Association, Peace Officers Research Association of California and Crime Victims United.

Ramsey criticized Newsom for issuing the commutations without consulting victims' families or reviewing the circumstances of each case.

"Blanket commutations represent an abdication of the Governor's responsibility to evaluate each case on its merits," Ramsey said. "Each case leaves behind a victim's family that has endured agonizing proceedings for years or decades, reliving the tragedies that befell their loved ones until they finally thought they had achieved some level of closure and finality."

The challenge includes two Butte County death penalty cases involving Lee Max Barnett and Dannie Hillhouse, both of whom had prior felony convictions.

A jury sentenced Barnett to death in 1988 for the 1986 murder of Richard Eggett. According to the district attorney's office, Barnett robbed and tortured Eggett near a mining camp before killing him. Barnett also had a criminal history involving robberies, assaults and rapes.

In the second case, a jury sentenced Hillhouse to death in 1993 for the 1991 murder of Brett Schultz. Prosecutors said Hillhouse robbed Schultz and stabbed him repeatedly after Schultz encountered Hillhouse and his brother in Chico.

Ramsey also questioned whether life sentences without the possibility of parole would permanently prevent convicted murderers from seeking release.

He cited the case of brothers Erik and Lyle Menendez, who received life sentences without parole in 1996 before changes in state law allowed them to seek parole.

"Contrary to the Governor's assertion, life without the possibility of parole no longer guarantees that you will spend your life in prison," Ramsey said.

Newsom imposed a moratorium on executions in California in 2019. Ramsey argues that the governor's latest action goes beyond suspending executions by replacing death sentences without individual consideration. ★

FOLLOW US
for Local News and much more!
The Gridley Herald
Facebook: @GHMPG8



Wrapped in Appreciation



Three veterans honored at the Veterans Day concert in Gridley on Nov. 11 stand onstage after receiving personalized Quilts of Valor. Pictured from left are Mike Dahl, Bob Jaquot and Jim Karg.

Continued from page 1

unable to attend, ceremoniously escorting the colors to the front of the room and saluting them.

Gridley High School student Leo Donati led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation by Pastor Ed Melton before the OCCB took the stage.

The OCCB immediately broke into "The Star-Spangled Banner," filling the hall with music that moved those in the audience.

"When our friends from the Oroville Community Concert Band played our national anthem ... I can feel it in my chest, and in my heart, and in my spirit. It makes an impression," Wagner said.

Ethan Jacobson, Gridley Music Department director, introduced the program as the OCCB, led by Bob Scofield, began the first portion of the musical performance.

Five songs were performed before a pause in the music when Delaina Watson, representing the Gridley Monday Quilters, took to the podium. She introduced six veterans chosen from the community to receive the 2026 Quilts of Valor, all created by area quilters.

The following is a brief synopsis of each veteran's service.

Jim Karg served in the U.S. Army, enlisting at age 17 in October 1955. He served in Germany, Arizona, Kansas and Texas. Karg attained the rank of master sergeant (E-8) and received six Good Conduct Medals and two Commendation Medals.

"He hoped his service would mean his younger brothers and grandsons wouldn't need to serve," Watson said as Karg took the stage to receive his quilt.

Richard Sanders served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, including service in Cambodia in 1966. He reached the rank of E-4 and was injured five times. Sander received the Purple Heart and was honorably discharged.

Robert Brown served in the U.S. Navy and California Army National Guard in their military bands. He completed 13 years in the Navy as a musician first class and 20 years in the National Guard. He was unable to attend due to a health emergency.

Bob Jaquot served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970. He attained the rank of E-4 and received the Vietnam Campaign Medal and Expert Rifle Medal.

James Brock served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Roosevelt and USS Ticonderoga. He was honorably discharged in 1959.

Mike Dahl served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1967. He served in Thailand, supporting the transport of bombs to B-52 aircraft headed to Vietnam. Dahl attained the rank of E-5 and received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Expert Rifle award.

According to Watson, each personalized quilt carried a label from the Monday Quilters with a statement of appreciation, the recipient's name and the year. Watson recited a poem by Mary Welch.

"A few pieces of cloth from people who care, to honor your service, it only feels fair. Carefully chosen materials of red, white, and blue, sewn together for those patriotic and true. A top pieced together with caring and pride, then quilted with back and warm layers inside. Every stitch and seam sewn from the very start with appreciation and gratitude straight from the heart. For you who have sacrificed for those here at home, may this quilt warm and comfort you wherever you roam. Our hope is this quilt is to make sure you knew we appreciate all you've done and all you've been through."

The band resumed its performance with five more patriotic melodies before closing with a single trumpet playing "Taps," the solemn melody bringing the concert to an end. ★



James Brock admires the patriotic quilt designed especially for him and presented at the Gridley Veterans Day concert. Each year, the Gridley Monday Quilters select several area veterans to receive personalized Quilts of Valor.

Biggs Welcomes New City Clerk

By Susan Meeker

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - The Biggs City Council last week selected accounting technician Carrie Pahua as its new city clerk, putting her in charge of maintaining official records and helping residents access public information.

Vice Mayor Jerome Squires administered the oath of office Nov. 10, welcoming Pahua to her new role. She is training with City Clerk Roben Benish ahead of her official start Nov. 22, the beginning of a pay period.

City Administrator Nicolas Gauthier recommended Pahua for the appointment. The clerk's office supports city government and provides continuity in documenting City Council decisions, officials said.

Pahua brings her experience as a city employee to an assignment that connects the council's work with the residents it serves. The position is a resource for the public, council members and city employees, Gauthier said. Her duties will include coordinating the preparation, posting and distribution of council agendas and meeting materials, along with preparing minutes of council proceedings.

The office also maintains adopted resolutions, ordinances and agreements. Those documents preserve the city's legislative history and provide a record of the rules, policies and commitments approved by the council, officials said.

Pahua will coordinate required notices, filings and other administrative requirements associated with council actions. Her responsibilities also include supporting municipal elections and required disclosures, as applicable, Gauthier said.

For residents seeking information, Pahua will serve as the point of contact for access to city records, working with the departments responsible for those materials.

Biggs' municipal code designates the clerk as a city officer, although the council makes the appointment rather than voters electing someone to the position. Pahua will serve at the pleasure of the council.

She will receive the clerk stipend already authorized under the city's salary schedule. The appointment does not establish a separate employment agreement, create a new salary or authorize additional staffing. It otherwise leaves the terms of her city employment unchanged, Gauthier said. Any additional funding needed for the assignment would require separate approval.

Gauthier will coordinate the administrative steps needed to complete the transition, including updating city records and authorized contacts to reflect Pahua's appointment. ★



Ask for Jake!

Come see *Jake Richins* at Gridley Country Ford for all your new or used car or truck needs.

See me today for the Best Deal!

Office: 530-846-4724 Cell: 530-433-8959

99E and Spruce Street • Gridley

GRIDLEY COUNTRY Ford



Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

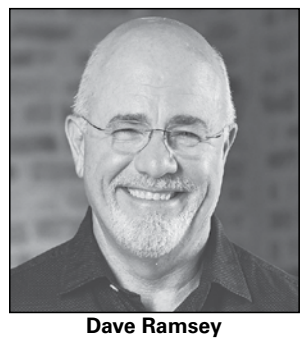
The sweet sound and smell of rain. The clouds in colors of gray and white scuttering by within the wind, Wee birds chirping inside of bushes, the cold splash of a drip dropping on one's head, it's raining it's pouring the earth is drinking deep.

The sound of the street sweeper doing its due diligence with leaves and dirt to keep our gutters clear. I still love this service that is provided in towns. Having lived remotely for a lot of years I appreciate when hard jobs are done for you by the city. I don't have to sweep out the gutter because the street sweeper comes by and poof, debris gone. We had a steep driveway in Berry Creek. We also lived in a drainage area so water rushed down our road and our pastures on hard rainy days. We had to dig deep ditches to keep the water from creating deep crevices in our driveway. No more of that!

Time to do some clean up. Be sure to leave some leaves on the ground somewhere. I like to clean under the fruit trees to help their health but I leave a lot of dead leaves under bushes for the over winter of little creatures in the garden. There are moths, beetles and some types of butterflies in all those dead leaves. Don't kill them you need them.

I'll be taking advantage of the St Timothy Community Garden free compost. I like to get it rough no screening, then I apply it like mulch in key places where the plants like that extra bump of energy. If you use their compost, please be respectful of their area. All you really need to bring with you are buckets for the compost.

Enjoy the smell and chill of Autumn days. Mother Nature is resting in readiness for new growth. ★



Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says

Contentment, Gratitude and Priorities

Dear Dave,

My husband loves his job, works a regular schedule and he makes over $180,000 a year. I love my work as a part-time substitute teacher in our local school system. We are debt-free, except for our home, and we've already invested and saved enough money to where we'll have a very comfortable retirement in a few years. My husband asked me the other day how I'd feel about finding a full-time job, so we can build more wealth. I don't really want to do this, but I wondered about your thoughts on our situation.

– Mira

Dear Mira,

You two have a responsibility to take care of each other and your own household, first and foremost. You didn't give me many numbers to go on, but from what you've told me it sounds like you're doing a really good job of that. Congratulations!

But to be honest, I'm not a big fan of the idea of you taking on a full-time job *only* to build more wealth—especially if you guys are in great shape financially, and you love what you're already doing. Sure, having a bunch of wealth allows you to do things you wouldn't otherwise be able to do. It can also help ensure a good, stable quality of life and put you in a position to be extremely generous. But if you have to surrender the joy in life to do it, all in the name of simply increasing your amount of wealth to an even higher level, I don't like that idea.

I want you to think about something. Contentment has nothing to do with how many hours you work, or how many zeroes are in your bank account. Contentment has to do with your state of being. It's connected to your happiness, your sense of gratitude and your priorities. The idea that contentment is on the same spectrum as ambition? I disagree with that notion wholeheartedly.

People should do something with their lives that they feel called to do and enjoy. Now, if your kids are going hungry, and your bills aren't getting paid, you need to put your head down and do what it takes to get on the right path. But in my mind, you guys are in a great place!

– Dave

Dave Ramsey is a nine-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. ★

Thank A Veteran Today

Local Classifieds

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

Auto & Truck Repair

NOW OPEN. FREE Brake Inspection. FREE Battery Check. Domestic and Foreign. 23 years experience. Military Discounts. Auto Doctor, 114 3rd St., Marysville, CA. Call now - 530-701-4300. (TFN)

Employment Wanted

Work as a caregiver. I am experienced and have experience with Hoyer Lifts. I am a good listener and kind. Call 530-632-1271 (TFN)

Advertising Works!

We Support Our Military

Health/Wellness

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

Services

Wash windows, light trash hauling, weed eating, cobwebs. Call James 530-632-1271. (TFN)

GOT LOCAL NEWS?
Call (916) 773 1111

Are You a Pro?
Get the word out!
Advertise in the Classifieds
Call 916-773-1111

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
916-773-1111

CALL A PROFESSIONAL

Busy B Handyman & Tree Service
Licensed and Insured

Handyman Services
Installation, Maintenance Repairs, Painting, Plumbing Electrical, Dry Rot Repair, Irrigation, Fencing

Tree Services
Trimming, Removal, Bushes & Shrubs, Lot Clearing, Lot Maintenance, Stump Grinding & Much More

Call or Text Robert Streets (530) 923-9935
NOT a Licensed Contractor — Free Estimates • Senior & Veteran Discounts

Dave Greenetz CONSTRUCTION, INC.
SPECIALIZING IN
• KITCHENS • BATHROOMS
• REMODELS
530.682.9602
www.GreenetzConstruction.com

HOMETOWN Realty
James Stowe
(530) 870-6056
manzanitacars@SBCglobal.net DRE #02298808
Specializing in Ranch & Farm Properties

OLD GYM EVENT VENUE RENTAL
Host unforgettable events in our stylish, flexible venue perfect for weddings, parties, and meetings.
Air Conditioned • 5,000 sq. ft. room • 250 Occupancy
$750 Rental Price • $500 Security Deposit
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
530-235-3277 bpadilla@cityofwilliams.org



TURN CLUTTER INTO CASH!
PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD TODAY
(916) 773 1111

FOLLOW US
for Local News and much more!
Messenger Publishing Group
Facebook: @MPG8dotcom

Ammunition Sales Return to Gridley at Candelario Ace

Story and photos by Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Something is in stock at Candelario Ace Hardware that has not been sold on retail shelves in the Gridley area for some time: ammunition.

The addition of ammunition to Candelario Ace's inventory is something owners Dagoberto "Dago" and Katie Candelario have wanted since taking ownership of the store in fall 2021.

"We started this process three months after we bought this place, in 2022," Dago said.

Candelario recounted a costly preparation process, including additions to the store's existing 65-camera security system, locked glass shelving and specialized screening and training for employees handling ammunition sales.

Security upgrades included audio and video recording capabilities at the registers and prominent signage notifying customers that they are being recorded. The black-and-white signs are particularly noticeable at the entrances.



In addition to ammunition, Candelario Ace offers California Department of Fish and Wildlife hunting licenses and federal duck stamps. Pictured from left are Antonio Candelario and his father, store owner Dago Candelario.

Following the lengthy application process, Candelario Ace received approval in early July. The Candelarios officially announced online Oct. 21 that ammunition was back on the shelves. The launch coincided with the opening of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's duck hunting season Oct. 24 in most zones.

Dago cited several reasons for wanting to stock ammunition, including keeping money local and providing hunters and marksmen with supplies closer to home.

"It was something the community has been asking for since we took over," Katie said.

The Candelarios opted for a soft opening of the ammunition department rather than a grand opening. Dago said inventory has been steadily arriving to keep the shelves stocked.

Candelario Ace's ammunition department is located at the back of the store, with hunting and general-purpose ammunition available. The store carries pistol and rifle ammunition, shotgun shells and its existing selection of pellet and airsoft guns.

Customers can expect a hunting-focused department with accessories such as protective eyewear and hearing protection, clay and paper targets, handheld clay target throwers and more.

Dago said he has researched competitors' prices and set his prices to remain competitive.

"We are easing into things," Dago said with a chuckle, adding that he intends to expand inventory as sales develop.

"Our goal is to have a full selection of all types of ammunition to cover all hunting and sporting needs, from rifle to pistol and shotguns," Dago said.

Currently, eight Candelario Ace employees have received specialized training to assist customers with ammunition purchases.

Dago reminded customers to be prepared to meet California Department of Justice and federal requirements when purchasing ammunition.

Under California law, ammunition purchases generally require a background check at the point of sale. Customers must provide acceptable identification, and additional documentation may be required depending on their identification and eligibility records. Purchases may be delayed or denied if the requirements are not met.

California law also requires purchasers to be at least 18 years old for rifle or shotgun ammunition and 21 for handgun ammunition.

Despite the requirements, Candelario Ace has already had multiple customers purchase ammunition, and Dago said the overall response has been positive.

Dago plans to monitor sales and department operations over the next few months, reviewing the results of the initial sales season in hopes of offering greater savings to customers in the coming year.

Candelario Ace Hardware is located at 1626 Highway 99 in Gridley and can be reached at 530-846-3625. ★

The Rise and Fall of Hamilton

Butte County's First County Seat

Story and photos by Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The rise and fall of Hamilton, once a bustling Gold Rush community and Butte County's first county seat, was the subject of a recent presentation to the Gridley Rotary Club by Gridley Museum ambassador Pat Teague.

Teague has spent considerable time gathering information from the Butte County Historical Society and historical documents and articles archived about the town's history.

Although the town existed for only a few years, its history is filled with Gold Rush fever, political maneuvering and potentially one of California's earliest major land scams.



A historical marker stands near the remains of Hamilton, Butte County's first county seat from 1851 to 1853. Erected by Argonaut Parlor No. 5 of the Native Sons of the Golden West and the Butte County Board of Supervisors, the marker identifies the former townsite and notes that the courthouse stood 600 yards east of its location.

Hamilton was located along the Feather River, near what is now the Oroville Wildlife Area. On a good day, a few of the remaining headstones can be seen through the trees while driving north on Larkin Road near the Afterbay outlet.

Hamilton began attracting settlers after Gen. John Bidwell discovered small traces of gold in the area in 1848. By 1850, miners, merchants and entrepreneurs were arriving, hoping to make their fortunes.

The town's founders had ambitious plans. Among them were Callen, Bristol, Stafford, Denton and London. They laid out streets, divided the land into lots and sold shares for $1,000, working toward what they envisioned as a $50,000 community. Ferry service to Marysville and then Sacramento was also part of the developing infrastructure, intended to lure more gold-hungry individuals from larger cities.

"The town was to be the gateway to the gold fields," Teague said.

Businesses quickly followed, including general stores, saloons and boarding houses. Merchants made considerable profits selling goods to miners, with potatoes reportedly selling for as much as $60 a bushel and butcher knives for $30.

"Merchants supplied the miners, and they also made their fortunes. This practice has commonly been referred to as 'mining the miners,'" Teague said.

Hamilton's promoters also worked to establish the town as Butte County's first county seat. Following a disputed election in December 1850, Hamilton won with 484 votes, defeating Ophir City and Goodwell's Bar.

A courthouse and jail were subsequently constructed, and by 1852, the community had approximately 200 residents and 35 buildings.

However, a land ownership scheme would ultimately lead to Hamilton's downfall.

The founders believed the land was public domain and proceeded to sell town shares, including individual lots and entire blocks, to investors despite not officially owning the property.

"In other words, possession is 9-10ths of the law," Teague said, describing the mindset of Hamilton's founders.

People purchased property, built homes and opened businesses, believing they were making legitimate investments in a growing community. What they didn't realize was that the land was part of the Fernandez land grant, which had not yet been legally transferred to those claiming ownership.



Gridley Museum ambassador Pat Teague discusses the history of Hamilton, Butte County's first county seat, during a presentation to the Gridley Rotary Club. Teague shared historical images and answered questions about the former Gold Rush community, where little remains beyond a small cemetery near the Feather River.

According to Teague, Gen. Robert V. Moore and his associate, James Henshaw, used a document announcing the purported purchase of the Fernandez grant to intimidate Hamilton's residents.

"The paper suggested that the entire town of Hamilton and the county government, were squatters on private land, and that they would be ordered to leave," Teague said.

The document served as an effective eviction threat, intimidating many of the settlers.

Frightened residents began selling their property and abandoning their investments. More than 200 people eventually left their homes and businesses behind. The courthouse, jail and other public buildings were abandoned, and by 1853, Hamilton was essentially a ghost town.

The most troubling part of the story was that the purchase was not legally completed until 1859, six years after Hamilton had ceased to exist.

Teague explained that the eviction threat was premature. Under emerging California law, residents potentially could have had another six years before facing eviction.

Today, little remains but a small, fenced cemetery with a handful of headstones and a historical marker identifying Hamilton as Butte County's first county seat.

What began as a promising Gold Rush community became a cautionary tale of land speculation, intimidation and lost opportunity. ★



Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl

The Gridley Herald is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to:
Publisher@MPG8.com
Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (530) 846-3661 or (916) 773-1111
www.gridleyherald.com

THE GRIDLEY HERALD
Serving Butte and Sutter Counties
Published Every Friday • USPS Permit 245
Postmaster send address changes to:
The Gridley Herald
300 Spruce St., Ste. C, Gridley, California 95948
Periodicals postage paid at Gridley, CA, 95948 under the Act of Congress March 3, 1880. Court Decree Number 27207. The Gridley Herald is an adjudicated newspaper for all legal advertising in Butte and Sutter Counties.

Single Copy 75 cents.
Subscription rates in Gridley $52 per year.
In Live Oak and Biggs - $62 year (Mail only)
In rural Butte or Sutter County - $72 year (Mail only)

Deadline for all advertising is Friday noon for the next week's issue.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.
MPG
CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

Chico Woman Charged with Arson

By MPG Staff

CHICO, CA (MPG) - A Chico woman with two prior arson-related convictions appeared in Butte County Superior Court on Friday, Nov. 13, following her arrest in connection with a series of fires in downtown Chico.

Micheal Ashley Childers-Marchick, 40, faces two counts of intentional arson and an allegation of a prior strike conviction. A judge set bail at $250,000.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Chico police received multiple reports of fires beginning around 4:30 p.m. Nov. 9 near Humboldt Skate Park and Chico City Plaza.

Officers investigated four small grass and brush fires within approximately one hour. The fires occurred near Little Chico Creek at Humboldt Avenue and Olive Street, Humboldt Avenue and Wall Street, Flume and Sixth streets, and the former Chico City Hall near Main and Fifth streets.

While officers investigated those fires, police received another report of someone setting a fire at the Chico Ice Rink in City Plaza.

Workers preparing the rink for its Nov. 12 opening reported seeing Childers-Marchick using a torch lighter to burn holes in a plastic tarp along the rink's side.

Officers responded and arrested Childers-Marchick following a brief struggle. Police found a torch lighter in her pants pocket. Investigators later placed her near the other fire locations when those fires occurred, according to the district attorney's office.

Childers-Marchick has two previous arson-related convictions in Chico.

In 2020, she received a six-year prison sentence for setting multiple fires along Lower Bidwell Park. Authorities arrested her near the Caper Acres Playground.

In 2023, she received a three-year state prison sentence for attempted arson after a witness saw her holding a lighter against a north Chico office building, leaving smoke and scorch marks.

Childers-Marchick remains in Butte County Jail pending her next court appearance Wednesday, Nov. 18, when she is scheduled to enter a plea.

If convicted, she faces a maximum sentence of 18 years in state prison. ★

Oroville Teen Faces Manslaughter

By MPG Staff

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - A 19-year-old Oroville man faces two counts of gross vehicular manslaughter following a January crash south of Chico that killed two teenage passengers.

Drew Thompson appeared in Butte County Superior Court on Nov. 12 to face the manslaughter charges and allegations that he violated probation in an unrelated case.

The California Highway Patrol arrested Thompson on Oct. 29 following an investigation into the Jan. 25 crash on Dayton Road.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said investigators determined Thompson was driving a compact sedan with two passengers at approximately 3:30 a.m. after a night of partying and drug use.

According to Ramsey, Thompson failed to negotiate a slight curve and struck a tree at 74 mph without braking. The posted speed limit was 55 mph.

The crash killed Santino Ramirez, 19, and Carter Lyles, 17, both of Oroville.

A passing motorist discovered the wreckage and pulled Thompson from the driver's seat. Thompson told the motorist that two passengers remained inside the vehicle.

Moments later, the vehicle caught fire. The motorist attempted to rescue the passengers but retreated because of the flames and intense heat.

Ramirez and Lyles suffered fatal injuries, and authorities pronounced both dead at the scene. Thompson suffered major injuries but recovered following an extended hospital stay.

The CHP's Major Accident Investigation Team conducted the investigation that led to Thompson's arrest.

While investigators continued examining the crash, Thompson appeared in court in March and May on unrelated domestic violence and marijuana-related driving under the influence charges stemming from incidents in October 2025.

Thompson pleaded no contest to those charges and received probation requiring him to abstain from alcohol and marijuana.

Following his Oct. 29 arrest on the manslaughter charges, Thompson posted a $120,000 bail bond and secured his release.

However, a probation officer had collected a urine sample from Thompson on Oct. 27. Results returned Nov. 2 showed traces of alcohol and marijuana, according to prosecutors.

Authorities arrested Thompson that day on allegations that he violated his probation.

During a Nov. 5 court appearance, a judge revoked his previous bail bond and set bail at $210,000 for the manslaughter and probation violation cases.

Thompson remained in custody when he appeared in court Nov. 12. The court continued both cases to the following week for further arraignment proceedings, appearance of counsel and entry of a plea.

The district attorney's office did not report a plea to the manslaughter charges as of its Nov. 13 announcement. ★

Community Calendar

Does your group or organization have an upcoming community event? Email lloyd.green@mpg8.com.

Events are typically published within two weeks of their scheduled date, as space allows.

Friday, Nov. 20

The Gobble Games

6-9 p.m. at Chico Ice Rink, 132 W. Fourth St., Chico. The Thanksgiving-themed event features ice rink games, prizes, fall crafts and the second annual Turkey Bowl, where community teams compete in bowling with a frozen turkey. Admission is free and includes activities, music and crafts. Ice skating costs $15 per person and includes participation in the Gobble Games.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Birding at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area

8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 3207 Rutherford Rd. This trip is located within the Grey Lodge Wildlife Area. We will meet at Parking Lot 14. The two-mile flat trail begins with a large pond where cormorants and many duck species take shelter. A Lands Pass $5.97 for the day of the trip is required unless you have a hunting or fishing license. You may purchase a lands pass here: https://wildlife.ca.gov/ Licensing/ Lands-Pass or by phone 800-565-1458 or wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold. For questions, contact Noah Ramsey at noahramsey16@gmail.com.

Colusa Holiday Craft Faire

9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Colusa Fairgrounds, Colusa. The annual holiday event will feature more than 100 vendors offering handmade gifts and other items, along with food concessions, entertainment and photos with Santa. Admission is free. For information, visit http://colusafairgrounds.com.

Gridley Pool
Conceptual Site Plan Review

10-11 a.m. at Butte Hall, Butte County Fairgrounds, 199 E. Hazel St., Gridley. Butte County invites residents to review the conceptual site plan for the proposed Gridley Pool. Project funding is dependent on a state grant award. For information, call 530-552-3500.

FBC Clothes Closet Annual Coat Drive

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2480 Pennington Road, Live Oak. FBC Clothes Closet will hold its fourth annual coat drive for children and adults, partnering with Something For Nothing to serve the Live Oak, Gridley and Biggs communities. Donations may also be dropped off Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the same location.

Fall Wreath-Making Class

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Durham Veterans Memorial Hall, 9319 Midway, Durham. Join the Durham Recreation & Park District as make festive fall wreaths. Our instructor will teach you how to make a beautiful wreath with fresh cut fall foliage. Each designer will take home an 18"-24" wreath. Snacks will be provided. $75 per person, all supplies included.

Holiday Barketplace, Noon to 4 p.m. at the Butte Humane Society Education Center, 13391 Garner Lane, Chico. Join us for a festive day filled with fun activities perfect for family and friends. Find unique gifts from local artisans. It's a great way to kick off the holiday season.

Sunday, Nov. 22

Colusa Holiday Craft Faire

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Colusa Fairgrounds, Colusa. The annual holiday event will feature more than 100 vendors offering handmade gifts and other items, along with food concessions, entertainment and photos with Santa. Admission is free. For information, visit http://colusafairgrounds.com.

Pumpkin Succulent Centerpiece Workshop

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Patrick Ranch Museum, 10381 Midway, Durham. Hosted by UC Master Gardeners of Butte County in partnership with Patrick Ranch Museum. $55 (materials included).

Christmas Preview

4 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Downtown Chico. Since 1978, Christmas Preview has been a Downtown Chico tradition, drawing folks together in the heart of our community to officially kick off the holiday season. Downtown merchants roll out the red carpet with hospitality, festive decorations, entertainment, and a visit from Santa for family photos. Welcome Center at 338 Broadway, Chico.

Monday, Nov. 23

Live Oak Lions Club

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

Tuesday, Nov. 24

Butte County Board of Supervisors

Generally meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 205, Oroville. The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 27 and more information is available at 530-552-3300.

Gridley Senior Group Breakfast

Every Tuesday and Thursday includes breakfast from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and Bingo from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Gridley Recreation Center, 194 Washington St. For more information, call 530-846-3264.

Biggs City Council

Meets on the second and fourth Tuesday each month, at 6 p.m. in the council chambers, 3016 Sixth St., Biggs. The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 27, and more information is available at 530-368-5493.

Holiday Pie Pre-Sale

Presented by the Durham Women's Club and Patrick Ranch Museum. 9-inch pies are $25 each: choose apple, pumpkin, or maple pecan. Order now, then drive through to pick up your pies at Patrick Ranch Museum, 10381 Midway, Durham, on Tuesday, November 24 from 2–6 pm. Online ordering at http://patrickranchmuseum.org/events/

Wednesday, Nov. 25

General Loss Grief Support Group

6-7 p.m., Be Xtra Community Event Center, 1251 E. Onstott Road, Yuba City. Grief with Hope hosts a weekly support group for people experiencing loss. The group provides a space to share, connect and receive support from others experiencing grief.

ESL Conversation Group

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

Thursday, Nov. 26

G.O.L.O.W. Turkey Trot 5K

8 a.m. at 2351 Pennington Road, Live Oak. The community is invited to participate in a Thanksgiving morning 5K run or walk benefiting Live Oak wrestling teams, from youth through high school. Proceeds will support uniforms, tournament fees and training opportunities. Participants are encouraged to wear purple, gold or G.O.L.O.W. gear. All ages and abilities are welcome. For registration and information, visit www.runsignup.com.

Friday, Nov. 27 through Sunday, Dec. 20

"10 Ways to Survive the Holidays"

Chico Theater Company presents a holiday comedy at 166 E. Eaton Road, Suite F, Chico. The production takes a humorous look at holiday chaos, awkward family gatherings and unexpected surprises. For tickets, showtimes and information, visit www.chicotheatrecompany.com.

Saturday, Nov. 28 and Sunday, Nov. 29

"The Nutcracker" Ballet

1:30 and 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Historic Oroville State Theatre, 1489 Myers St., Oroville. Sierra Pointe Ballet presents the holiday classic featuring the Sugar Plum Fairy, Mouse King and Land of Sweets. Tickets and information at www.orovillestatetheater.com.

Saturday, Nov. 28

Small Business Saturday

10 a.m.-5 p.m. in downtown Chico. Shoppers are encouraged to support local businesses during the holiday season. Downtown boutiques, gift shops, restaurants and specialty businesses will participate in the nationwide shopping event, which promotes shopping locally and supporting the community's economy.

Monday, Nov. 30

Live Oak Lions Club

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

Tuesday, Dec. 1

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

Live Oak City Council

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

Thursday, Dec. 3

Gridley Senior Group Breakfast every Tuesday and Thursday includes breakfast from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and Bingo from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Gridley Recreation Center, 194 Washington St. For more information, call 530-846-3264.

Rotary Club of Gridley

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

American Legion Bingo

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

Friday, Dec. 04

Live Oak Holiday Stroll

5-9 p.m. at the Community Building, 10200 O St., Live Oak. The Live Oak Parks and Recreation Department will host a holiday celebration featuring a Christmas tree lighting, pictures with Santa, family activities and local vendors. For vendor information, contact Live Oak City Hall.

Sunday, Dec. 06

Christmas Craft Fair

Noon to 5 p.m. at the Family Life Center at The Father's House, 10720 Live Oak Blvd., Live Oak. The holiday market will feature local craft vendors, handmade gifts, Christmas decorations, food, coffee and treats. Vendor spaces are available for $25 plus a new toy valued at $15 or more for the Christmas toy drive.

Biggs Christmas Tree Lighting and Street Market

3-7 p.m. in downtown Biggs. Holiday celebration featuring shopping, food trucks, live music and Santa. The street market opens at 3 p.m., followed by selfies with Santa at 4 p.m., an ugly sweater contest at 5 p.m. and the Christmas tree lighting at 6 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

7-11 a.m. at 1561 Hazel St., south of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Gridley. The Knights of Columbus hosts its monthly breakfast with plates available for $10. Children younger than 12 eat for $5.

Marysville Mini Market & Show

Noon to 5 p.m. at the Marysville Art Club, 420 10th St., Marysville. The free event will feature miniatures of all scales, from Barbie scale to railroad scale, for display and sale. Vendors are welcome. For information, call 530-442-1134.

Tuesday, Dec. 8

Girls on the Run Spring Registration

Registration opens at 6 a.m. for the Girls on the Run of the North State spring 2027 program. The program runs from the week of Feb. 1 through the week of May 3. Registration is first-come, first-served, with fees varying by location and scholarships available. To find a team or register, visit www.gotrnorthstate.org. For information, call 530-636-0786 or email info@gotrnorthstate.org.

Community Resources – Find Food

Christian Life Assembly Compassion Plus Food Pantry, 10 a.m. to noon, 1526 Humble Ave Gridley every Wednesday. Please park in the back lot.

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

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

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

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

North State Food Bank, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. monthly at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 410 Jackson St., Gridley. Next distribution on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

North State Food Bank, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Biggs Methodist Church, 441 C St., Biggs. Next distribution on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Call 530-712-2600 for more information.

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

Gridley Library Happenings

Friday, Nov. 20, 10 - 11 a.m., Sure Start Family Storytime, children ages 0 to 5 and their families can enjoy stories, music and crafts.

Friday, Nov. 20, 6 - 8:30 p.m., Ladies Night Out, participants ages 13 and older can enjoy a movie and light refreshments. Men and teens are also welcome.

Tuesday, Nov. 24 - Saturday, Nov. 28, Program Break, regular library programs will be suspended during the Thanksgiving holiday week.

Thursday, Nov. 26 - Friday, Nov. 27, Thanksgiving Closure, the Gridley Library will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday. ★

The Gridley Library is located at 299 Spruce St. For information, call 530-552-5652. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m. Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. A complete calendar of events is available at https://buttecounty.librarycalendar.com/events/month.

New Flood Maps Prompt Development Rule Changes

By Susan Meeker

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - The Butte County Board of Supervisors approved changes to floodplain development rules to protect residents' access to federal flood insurance before revised maps take effect early next year.

The ordinance, approved as part of the Nov. 10 consent agenda, brings county regulations into alignment with updated Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements. The new Flood Insurance Rate Maps affecting portions of Butte County become effective Jan. 8, 2027.

County officials said the revisions must be adopted and in effect before that deadline to maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. Failure to comply could leave residents unable to obtain coverage through the program.

The map updates follow a comprehensive FEMA floodplain study. The county's Department of Public Works worked with floodplain consultant KSN and County Counsel to review the requirements and prepare the ordinance.

The changes address construction standards in designated flood hazard areas, subdivisions, manufactured homes and development within floodways. They also update the technical information required from applicants and the county's enforcement procedures.

Under the ordinance, development applications must include information about the proposed work, site elevations and drainage facilities, along with flood-related certifications when required. These details help the county evaluate whether construction meets applicable standards.

The ordinance also addresses FEMA determinations that change the flood designation of individual properties. County officials must consider effective map changes when reviewing development, while determinations FEMA has superseded can no longer be used.

Enforcement provisions authorize notices of violation and stop-work orders for development that proceeds without required permits or fails to comply with floodplain requirements.

Supervisors waived the ordinance's first reading Oct. 27. The Department of Public Works identified no additional county budget or personnel costs associated with adoption. ★

State Testing Finds Most Produce Meets Pesticide Limits

By Lloyd Green Jr.

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Nearly 97% of fresh fruits and vegetables tested in California in 2024 contained no detectable pesticide residues or had levels within federal limits, according to an annual report from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

The department collected 3,032 produce samples from 550 California businesses and tested them for more than 500 pesticides and their breakdown products.

Of those samples, 1,195, or 39.4%, contained no detectable pesticide residues. Another 1,740, or 57.4%, contained residues within legal limits established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The remaining 97 samples, or 3.2%, contained illegal pesticide residues.

The department tested 115 types of fresh fruits and vegetables grown in California, elsewhere in the United States and in other countries.

Among the 920 California-grown samples, 2% contained illegal residues. Those samples originated in Fresno, Kern, Madera, Monterey, Santa Barbara, Stanislaus, Tulare and Ventura counties.

The department referred those cases to county agricultural commissioners for investigation and possible civil penalties.

"Californians should feel confident in eating the fruits and vegetables both grown and sold in the state," said DPR Director Karen Morrison. "Our rigorous requirements, statewide monitoring program, and follow-up enforcement on violators keep the food families eat safe."

Imported produce accounted for most violations, with 77 of the 97 samples containing illegal residues originating outside the United States.

The department identified China, Peru, Ecuador and Mexico among the countries associated with illegal residues. China accounted for 32% of the violations, followed by Peru at 8% and Ecuador and Mexico at 7% each.

The department also conducts additional assessments when it detects illegal pesticide residues to determine whether the produce poses a potential acute health risk.

In 2024, 15 samples met that threshold. The affected produce originated in Costa Rica, China and Mexico.

In those cases, the department quarantines the produce and immediately removes it from sale.

The department reported that the results remain consistent with trends over the past decade, with most produce samples meeting federal pesticide residue limits.

For more information, visit http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/residue-monitoring/. ★

Legal Advertising
916-483-0946

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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

300 Spruce • Suite C
Gridley, CA 95948

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STFICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001089
The following person(s) are doing business as: Amber and Flint Press, 446 W Sacramento Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
Funk-White, Makaya, 446 W Sacramento Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
Date filed in Butte County: October 14, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 13, 2026
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
AMBER 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001108
The following person(s) are doing business as: Triple R Vending, 5725 Via Pacana, Oroville, CA 95966
Triple R Venture, LLC, 5725 Via Pacana, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: October 21, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 21, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
TRIPLE 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001024
The following person(s) are doing business as: Rogers Upholstery, 5225 Miners Ranch Road, Oroville, CA 95966
Roger A Rudell, 5225 Miners Ranch, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: September 29, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: September 9, 2026
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: November 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
ROGERS 11-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001035
The following person(s) are doing business as: True Within, 19 Bentwater Loop, Chico, CA 95973
Avril M Lantican, 19 Bentwater Loop, Chico, CA 95973.
Date filed in Butte County: October 1, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
TRUE 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001124
The following person(s) are doing business as: Mobile Bites AI, 10110 Palermo Honcut Highway, Oroville, CA 95966
David E Cranfill, 5960 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95822.
Date filed in Butte County: October 26, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 26, 2026
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
MOBILE 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001146
The following person(s) are doing business as: Heritage Roots Real Estate Team, 168 East 3rd Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
Julie M Loeb and Monica A Grinstead, 168 East 3rd Avenue, Chico, CA 95926.
Date filed in Butte County: November 2, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: November 2, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
HERITAGE 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0000971
The following person(s) are doing business as: Marchuks Equipment Repair, 1206 Losser Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948
Cort W Marchuk, 1206 Losser Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948.
Date filed in Butte County: September 15, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 23, 2026
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
MARCHUKS 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001138
The following person(s) are doing business as: Blue Whale Soul, 393 Little Avenue, Gridley, CA 95948
Elizabeth L Nunes-Mabray, PO Box 1012, Gridley, CA 95948.
Date filed in Butte County: October 29, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 3, 2020
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
BLUE 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001156
The following person(s) are doing business as: Chico Orthodontics, 250 Vallombrosa Avenue Suite 300, Chico, CA 95926
Galen M Fillmore, DDS, MS, Inc., 558 Prather Road, Gridley, CA 95948.
Date filed in Butte County: November 4, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: November 4, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
CHICO 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001162
The following person(s) are doing business as: Dusty Babe Co, 166 Breeze Hollow Lane, Oroville, CA 95966
Katie A Graham, 166 Breeze Hollow Lane, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: November 6, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 2, 2026
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
DUSTY 12-11-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001169
The following person(s) are doing business as: No.1 Church of God in Christ, 3291 Burlington Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966
Kevin Thompson, 79 Rolling Hills Court, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: November 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: November 10, 1997
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
CHURCH 12-11-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001168
The following person(s) are doing business as: All Things Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning, 79 Rolling Hills Court, Oroville, CA 95966
Kevin Thompson, 79 Rolling Hills Court, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: November 9, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 6, 2016
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
ALL 12-11-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001132
The following person(s) are doing business as: Manly Maid Services, 2581 California Park Drive Apt 108, Chico, CA 95928
Greg Dragos Bujor, 2581 California Park Drive Apt 108, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: October 27, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
MANLY 12-11-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001135
The following person(s) are doing business as: Earth Glow Studios, Strand & Spark, 103 Magnolia Parkway, Oroville, CA 95966
Ghimenti, Gene Michael and Ghimenti, Donna Ann, 103 Magnolia Parkway, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: October 28, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
EARTH 12-11-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-0001152
The following person(s) are doing business as: Rowdy & Rooted Wellness, 15 Casa Loma Way, Oroville, CA 95966
Rowdy & Rooted Wellness LLC, 15 Casa Loma Way, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: November 3, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
ROWDY 12-11-26

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #26CV03054

Petitioner Chyna Wall and Jacob Maldonado filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jonathan James Wall to Isaac Daniel Maldonado.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing November 25, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928

Filed on September 28, 2026
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
MALDONADO 11-20-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
TROY D. HENDERSON AKA TROY DANIEL HENDERSON
CASE NO. 26PR00481

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Troy D. Henderson aka Troy Daniel Henderson.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Danielle LeClerc Klein, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Danielle LeClerc Klein be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: December 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

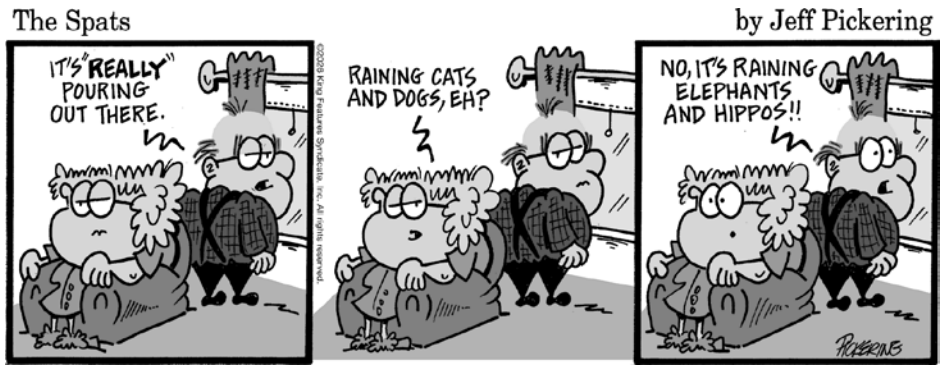
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Raoul J. LeClerc, P.O. Drawer 111, Oroville, CA 95965; 530-533-5661
Publish: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
HENDERSON 12-4-26

LEGAL ADS FOR BUTTE COUNTY?
We Can Do That!
Call to place your legal advertising
916-773-1111
All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing Group
MPG

COMICS & PUZZLES

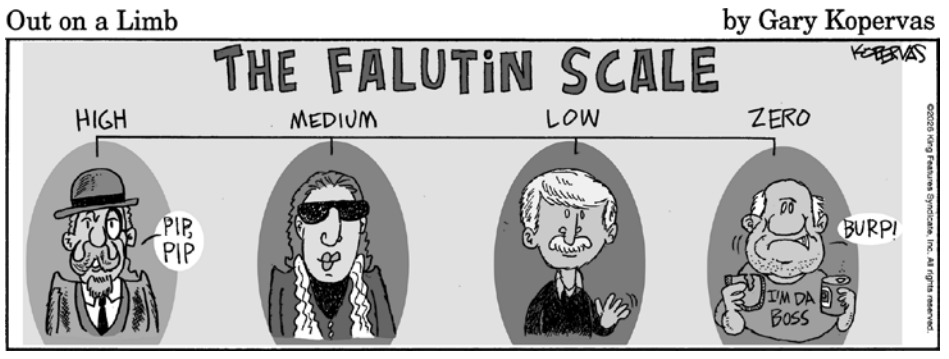
The Spats by Jeff Pickering



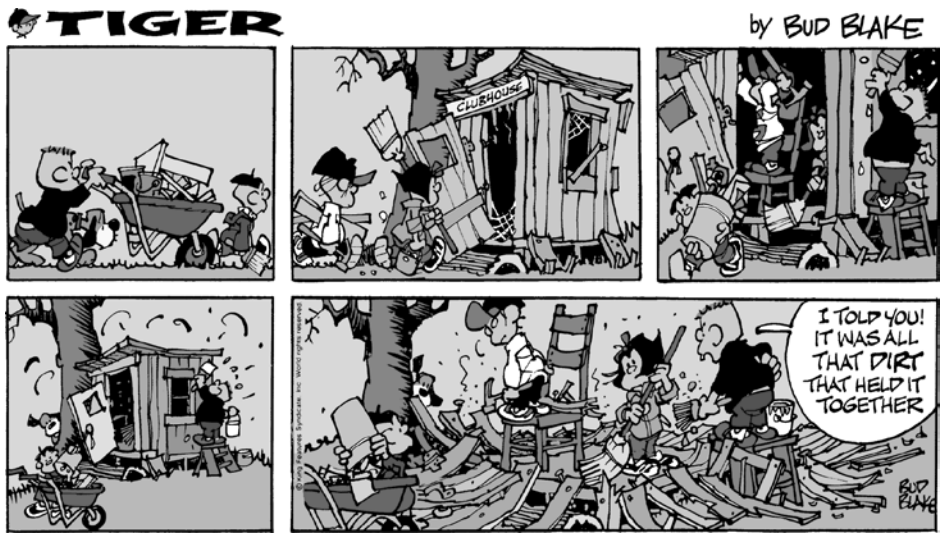
Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

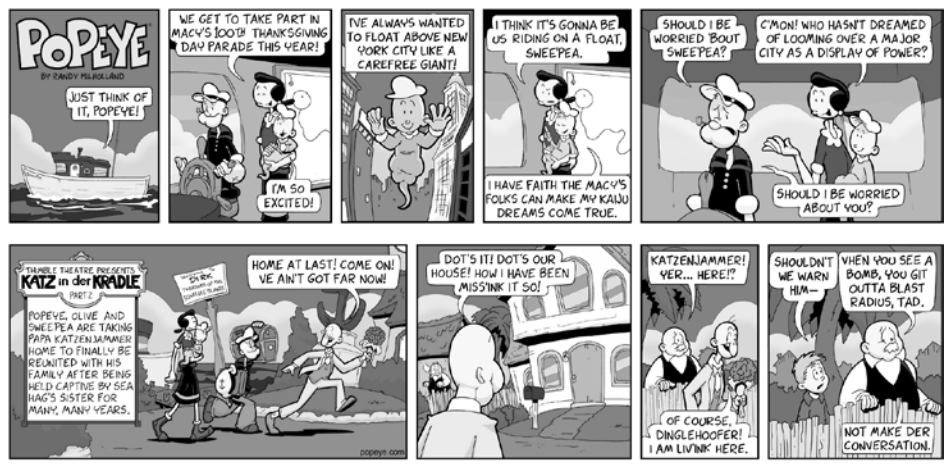


Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas



TIGER by Bud Blake





HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Pencil is missing. 2. Tie is missing. 3. Pocket is missing. 4. Arm is longer. 5. Light is not as long. 6. Fingers are not showing on clipboard.

Grin and Bear It by Wagner



"We've had a few minor problems ... misdemeanors, mostly."

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps





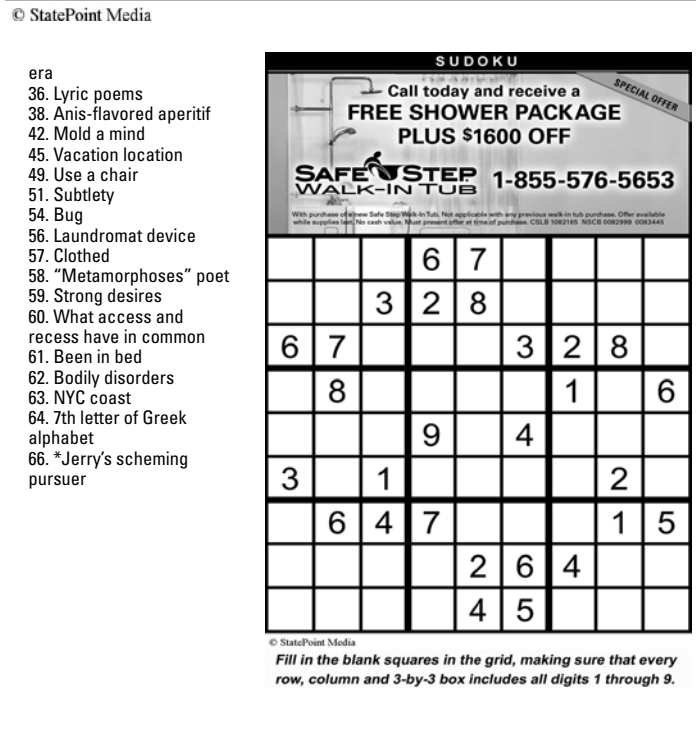
STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • CARTOON CHARACTERS

CLUES

ACROSS
1. Had, with thou
6. Not NFC
9. Sinbad's seven
13. Intense
14. George Gershwin's brother
15. Exclamation of regret, arch.
16. *Speed ____ in the 1960s cartoon
17. Neither's partner
18. Aggressive
19. *Electric-type Pokemon
21. *The Sailor Man
23. Grazing field
24. *Marge to Homer
25. Amazon's entertainment acquisition, acr.
28. Ocean motion
30. Remote
35. Miscellany
37. Narc's unit
39. Russian money
40. "Atlas Shrugged" author
41. Adam Sandler's "____ Gems"
43. One of three square ones
44. More true
46. Do like goo
47. Hindu dress
48. Approvals
50. Express complaint
52. Witch's work
53. Location
55. Cow chew
57. *Road Runner's nemesis
60. *"Peanuts" protagonist
64. Young eel
65. "He ____ and drank the precious Words..."
67. African antelope
68. Tarnish
69. Message in a bottle, acr.
70. Plasters, as on a ship
71. Puts two and two together
72. Emergency responder, acr.
73. Hollywood director Lubitsch

DOWN
1. "Jack and the Beanstalk" strings
2. Popular smoothie berry
3. *Donald or Baby Huey
4. *What Gru does to the moon
5. Three-line poem
6. Japan's indigenous people
7. To's follower
8. Carpus, pl.
9. Uncontrolled swerve
10. "Piece of cake!"
11. Advil target
12. Limit, to some
15. Come into view
20. Kind of #5 Down
22. Mosquito enemy!
24. Wilkommen, in U.S.
25. *Grandson of Rick Sanchez
26. Sunlight interference
27. Subtraction sign
29. *Pet of Bedrock City
31. Eggnog spiker, pl.
32. West African spiritual practice
33. Bell-bottoms bottom
34. *Cat of silent animation era
36. Lyric poems
38. Anis-flavored aperitif
42. Mold a mind
45. Vacation location
49. Use a chair
51. Subtlety
54. Bug
56. Laundromat device
57. Clothed
58. "Metamorphoses" poet
59. Strong desires
60. What access and recess have in common
61. Been in bed
62. Bodily disorders
63. NYC coast
64. 7th letter of Greek alphabet
66. *Jerry's scheming pursuer

CROSSWORD



© StatePoint Media

SUDOKU

© StatePoint Media

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.

Classified Advertising

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

MPG

916.773.1111



Swan Festival Highlights Conservation, Cultural Heritage

Story and photos by Shamaya Sutton

SUTTER, CA (MPG) - Generations ago, Indigenous elders told stories of the "great abundance," a time when migratory birds would blacken the skies of the Sacramento Valley, sometimes for days at a time. Following an invisible path known as the Pacific Flyway, the birds returned each year to the region's vast wetlands.

Over time, the landscape transformed, natural wetlands disappeared and bird populations diminished. But change continued, and new approaches to agriculture and conservation have helped reshape the landscape once again, preserving habitat for the swans and other waterfowl that signal the arrival of November each year.

"When we look out across the rice fields in our region, we aren't just looking at the scenery; we're looking at a living story that spans thousands of years," said Lisa Lindman, executive director of the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust (SBRLT).

This story of connection took center stage Friday, Nov. 13, as the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust welcomed guests to Munger Family Vineyard for the kickoff celebration of the 2026 California Swan Festival. The sold-out, four-day festival featured guided birdwatching excursions, wildlife tours and educational experiences, reflecting continued enthusiasm for the area's wildlife and landscapes.

This year's theme, "Seasons of the Swan," explored the generations of people who have shaped and cared for the land through two guest speakers: Shelly Covert, spokesperson and Tribal Council member of the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe, and Jon Munger, vice president of operations with Montna Farms.

"I really appreciate bringing these two subjects together tonight, because that is the world we live in," Covert said. "I have stories from my family, we have songs, we have a memory of an ancient place, but in my lifetime, I only know this world in which we live, and it's ever changing."

Recalling her childhood, Covert described a time when rice fields were routinely burned after harvest, a practice largely replaced by winter flooding. She reflected on the dramatic changes witnessed within her lifetime and the deeper losses experienced by Indigenous communities, including displacement, boarding schools and cultural loss, while still expressing a message of hope.

"This is the moment that's important," Covert said. "We can talk about the loss of the past, but what matters is us coming together and protecting the earth and the animals and really each other as community, if the equity and inclusion and all of those conversations are going to mean something today, where it takes root and where it is the most authentic is right here in our own home neighborhoods."

While agriculture and conservation were not always aligned, Covert emphasized that today's farming and ranching practices offer opportunities for cooperation. Munger expanded on that relationship, explaining how environmental concerns helped transform California's rice industry.



A flock of swans flies across flooded agricultural fields in Sutter County at sunset. The region provides important winter habitat for migratory birds along the Pacific Flyway.

During the 1980s, farmers routinely burned leftover rice straw after harvest, creating significant air quality problems. Legislation passed in 1991 began phasing out the practice, prompting farmers to adopt winter flooding. The practice allows rice straw to decompose naturally, improving soil health, reducing fertilizer needs and creating temporary wetlands that support millions of migrating birds.

"With that change in thinking and that change in regulation came opportunity," Munger said. "We were doing bad things for the environment and really learned we could do things better."

For Montna Farms, conservation has become central to its operations. In the early 2000s, the family established one of California's first agricultural conservation easements incorporating a winter-flooding requirement. Initially protecting approximately 1,200 acres, the agreements now encompass about 5,600 acres, preserving agricultural land and wildlife habitat from future development.

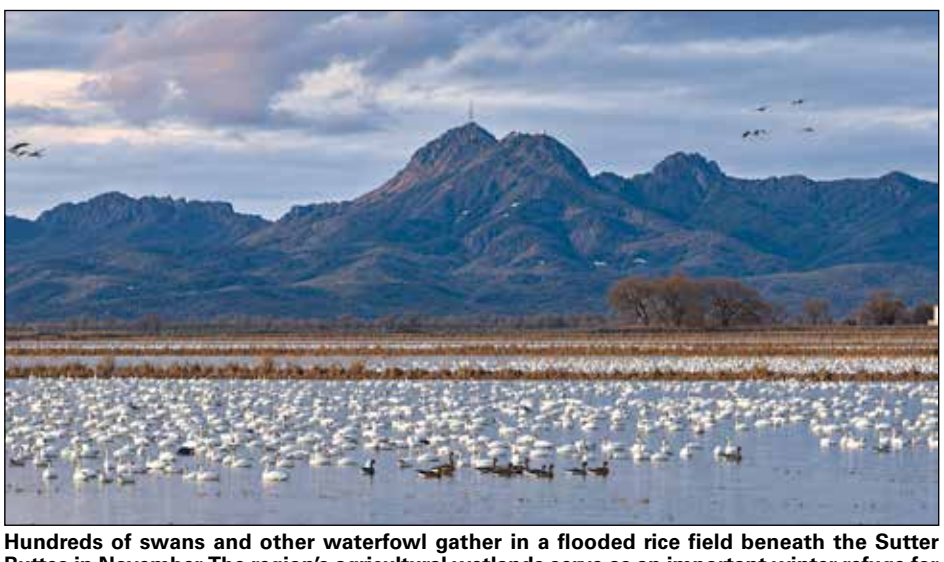
"It's a big decision for a family to make," Munger said. "I've never heard the family say, 'I wish we didn't do that.' I've always heard, 'How can we do more?'"

That commitment has expanded into research and partnerships benefiting shorebirds and salmon. Gradually draining flooded fields creates varying water depths for different bird species, while nutrient-rich water containing zooplankton, tiny aquatic organisms, can help feed juvenile salmon migrating toward the Pacific Ocean.

"We think about conservation every day," Munger said, emphasizing the importance of protecting farmland and maintaining access to water.

Reflecting on the presentations, Lindman recalled visiting a 1,000-acre farm in southern Sutter County where thousands of birds suddenly took flight. The sight, she said, offered a glimpse of the wildlife abundance that once characterized the valley and a reminder of the importance of protecting remaining habitat.

"When you combine the two perspectives that Shelly and Jon have shared, you realize something really profound: that the story of our valleys isn't broken into then and now. It is one continuous thread," Lindman said. "When the original stewards of the soil and today's private landowners stand side by side with the land trust, we send a powerful message that conservation prospers when we honor the past while building solutions for the future." ★



Hundreds of swans and other waterfowl gather in a flooded rice field beneath the Sutter Buttes in November. The region's agricultural wetlands serve as an important winter refuge for migratory birds traveling the Pacific Flyway.

County Expands Review of Cell Tower Sites

By Susan Meeker

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Companies seeking to build cell towers in unincorporated Butte County will have to explain why other locations would not work under rules the Board of Supervisors approved Nov. 10.

Past proposals have drawn opposition over their effects on scenic views and the safety of agricultural aircraft, particularly proposals in the Gridley and Richvale areas.

The board adopted the ordinance following a public hearing but directed the Department of Development Services to review concerns raised by AT&T and return with further changes if needed.

AT&T Wireless representative Marc Grabisch questioned whether requiring companies to examine nearby sites would help improve service in areas with poor coverage.

"Having to identify locations within two miles would just create an unnecessary administrative burden for no actual benefit," Grabisch said.

Butte County Development Services Director Paula Daneluk said the county already required companies to consider other locations when proposing facilities in residential zones, within 1,000 feet of those zones or near airports.

"And this amendment expands that requirement to all zoning districts instead," Daneluk said.

Under the ordinance, applicants must identify nearby telecommunications facilities, consider sharing existing sites and examine at least three additional locations, if available. They must explain why those options would not work.

Grabisch said carriers choose tower locations to fill specific gaps in coverage. Moving a tower even a quarter mile could leave some customers without adequate service because terrain, vegetation and buildings affect how far signals reach.

He also questioned whether the rules would apply to smaller wireless facilities, which provide coverage over shorter distances.

Board Chair Bill Connelly sought clarification about which installations would be affected before voting.

Daneluk said the new requirements apply specifically to towers. Smaller wireless facilities fall under a separate section of the county's ordinance.

The discussion also addressed how companies would find and evaluate nearby sites.

"We are asking them to identify their facilities, not the ones owned by others per se," Daneluk said.

The county would help identify other locations through its permit records, she said. That review would include whether an existing tower had room for another carrier's equipment.

The board requested the ordinance Sept. 22, and the Planning Commission recommended approval on a 4-1 vote Oct. 22. AT&T submitted its written objections shortly before the board hearing, prompting the direction for additional review. ★

Live Oak Faces Additional Public Safety Funding Strain

Continued from page 1

Moody said the consequences extend beyond the contract's financial terms.

"This is painful," Moody said.

Moody credited the county and Sheriff's Office with providing flexibility as the city works through its financial problems, but said insufficient funding directly affects the community.

The $1.85 million agreement runs through Nov. 30, 2027. Live Oak sought to end its previous contract because of cash-flow problems, prompting negotiations over a level of service the city could afford.

Barnes said the four deputy positions being removed from the contract are already vacant because the department deliberately left openings unfilled as employees departed. A lieutenant assigned to the Live Oak contract will move into the Sheriff's Office's main budget.

Barnes said the one-year term gives Live Oak time to improve its finances and potentially rebuild coverage. Whether the vacant positions are frozen or eliminated will be considered in the county's next budget process. ★

HOBLIT
DEALERSHIPS
Ford Chevrolet GMC
Hoblit Motors
530.458.2151
46 5th St. • Colusa
Hoblit Chevrolet GMC
530.458.2125
315 Market St. • Colusa
$500 OFF
Any in-stock vehicle
at either Colusa location
As a thank you to all our customers and the community for their continued support.

HoblitFord.com | HoblitChevy.com
NOT-VALID WHERE PROHIBITED. DEALERSHIP RESERVES ALL RIGHTS.
SEE COLUSA DEALERSHIPS FOR MORE DETAILS.

Gridley and Biggs Head to NSCIF Semifinals

By YSBC Sports

GRIDLEY (YSBC) - The Gridley Bulldogs won their first playoff game in the Division III playoff bracket after they beat the Corning Cardinals 35-0 last week.

This was Gridley's third-straight shutout in a row and the fourth-straight season with a playoff victory.

Bulldogs head coach Daniel Zumwalt told Yuba Sutter Butte Colusa Sports that they did a great job of not making mistakes during the victory.

Gridley pulled out to a 21-point lead in the first half after Zumwalt said they did a great job on controlling the clock throughout the game and having long and effective drives.

The Bulldogs rushed for more than 300 yards and all five of their touchdowns were from rushing.

Gridley senior running back Marcus Duncan led the Bulldogs with 95 yards on the ground and found the end zone three times in the win.

Gridley senior Michael Sandoval rushed for 82 yards and a score in the victory. Bulldogs sophomore linebacker Ben Zumwalt led the way defensively with 10 tackles on the night.



Gridley junior Michael Sandoval (5) rushes towards the end zone on Nov. 13 during the Bulldogs' victory over Corning. Photo by Chris Pedigo

Gridley will host Lassen on Friday night in what has developed into a rivalry over the past couple of seasons.

The Grizzlies traveled to the Boneyard on Oct. 2 and fell 14-7 in a battle.

The Bulldogs fell to Lassen in the 2024 NSCIF Division III playoffs. You can expect Friday to be another classic between the two programs as kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Biggs - The Biggs Wolverines won their first-round matchup in the postseason for the fourth time in the last five seasons.

Biggs defeated a talented Etna team that has been successful throughout the season as they came into the matchup with eight wins

Wolverines head coach Eddie Del Rio told YSBC that it was a great feeling to prove a lot of people wrong that doubted the program to be unsuccessful.

Biggs had a 9-0 lead at the half after junior Hudson Brewer booted a 25-yard field goal inside the final minute of the first half. Brewer had 127 yards rushing in the victory.

Del Rio expressed that Brewer keeps impressing him week after week as he continues to run the offense fluidly.

The Lions scored early in the third quarter to make it a two-point deficit, but once again their stout defense put up a strong stance against a fluid-balanced offense and kept them from putting more points on the scoreboard.

The Wolverines get another crack at Los Molinos Friday at 7 p.m on the road and Del Rio believes his squad has the opportunity to make a statement.

Los Molinos defeated Biggs 62-27 in the final week of September, as stated in previous articles, the Wolverines are a completely different team on the field. ★



Gridley senior Marcus Duncan (6) rushes towards the end zone for one of his three touchdowns in the Bulldogs' win over Corning on Nov. 13. Photo by Chris Pedigo



Biggs junior Hudson Brewer (44) rushes the ball during the Wolverines' victory against Portola on Oct. 23. Photo by Steven Bryla

