



## End of an Era for Colusa Softball

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## U.S. Open Clay Shooting National Championship

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COLUSA COUNTY

# Pioneer Review

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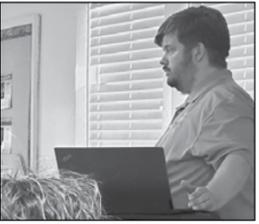
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## County Acts Swiftly on Bridge Threat



Traffic trailers and "Cone Zones" on both sides of the 92-year-old Colusa Weir Bridge on River Road urges motorists to use caution and slow down before crossing after state engineers found critical structural damage that requires an emergency temporary fix until permanent repairs can be completed.

Story and photo by Susan Meeker

**COLUSA, CA (MPG)** - The Colusa County Board of Supervisors acted swiftly last week to authorize emergency repairs on the Colusa Weir Bridge following the discovery of critical structural damage that poses a potential safety risk to the traveling public.

At the urging of Colusa County Chief Executive Officer Wendy Tyler and Public Works Director Colt Esenwein, the board unanimously approved emergency repair efforts without going out to competitive bid after finding sufficient legal cause to do so at its July 25 meeting in Williams, which had already been scheduled and noticed.

Tyler said the cost of the temporary fix to "shore up" the bridge, located on River Road north of Colusa on the east side of the Sacramento River, is unknown.

"I wish I had more financial information," Tyler told the board. "Unfortunately, we do not. But I can guarantee you that we will watch the cost as closely as we can. It's not going to be cheap."

The 500-foot Colusa Weir Bridge was constructed in 1933 when the concrete flood control structure was built to divert water from the Sacramento River into the Butte Basin when river levels exceed safe capacity.

The cost of the repair, likely in the hundreds of thousands, will come from the county's bridge fund held

for such purposes.

Tyler said River Road access is an essential route for traffic and agricultural transport.

"The other option would be to close the bridge, which in my mind would not be an option," Tyler said.

Although the bridge is known for its 'thump-thump-thump' gaps that allow the bridge to expand and contract in tune with Mother Nature, Esenwein suspects similar repairs made on the 92-year-old structure about 40 years ago may be an indication there was some original design miscalculation.

According to a previous state inspection report, the Colusa Weir Bridge met minimum structural tolerability and needed monitoring but

*Continued on page 4*

## Deadline Approaching for Groundwater Assessment Vote

By Susan Meeker

**WILLIAMS, CA (MPG)** - For people who own property in the Colusa Subbasin, their vote could shape the future of how groundwater is managed in Colusa and the region.

As a deadline looms for landowners to vote on a new groundwater tax, tensions are rising in California's Colusa Subbasin, where a proposed \$1.9 million groundwater management program has drawn sharp criticism from people who said the plan rewards deep-well agribusiness and opens the door to groundwater trading.

The ballots for the tax measure, proposed earlier this summer, would increase the Colusa Groundwater Authority's annual budget from about \$480,000 to \$1.9 million to fund an ambitious program that includes groundwater demand management, domestic well mitigation, satellite imagery software, planning and administration - all to maintain local control of groundwater.

Colusa Groundwater Authority officials remind property owners that postmarks will not count in this critical Proposition 218 process, after ballots are counted at a 1 p.m. public hearing on Aug. 7 in the Colusa Industrial Properties conference room.

Colusa Groundwater Authority's strategy aims to meet the mandates of California's 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which requires local agencies to ensure groundwater reliability across the basin, or risk a state-imposed plan that officials say could come at a much higher cost.

That warning was emphasized at the final public outreach meeting in Williams on July 22.

Ryan Aston, of SCI Consulting, who had presented the proposal multiple times at outreach meetings in Williams and Colusa, said property owners should understand the significance of their vote.

Aston explained a new tiered assessment structure, if approved, will replace the current \$1.21 per acre on all parcels with assessments based on four new land use classifications.

For the tax to go into effect, the majority of votes tied to each assessed parcel (1 vote per \$1 assessed value) must agree to tax themselves 53 cents per acre for non-irrigable land; \$11.19 per acre for

*Continued on page 2*

## Veterans Sculpt Bold Tribute to Honor Service

Story and photos by Susan Meeker

**COLUSA, CA (MPG)** - Colusa County military veterans launched an ambitious new vision for Veterans Memorial Park at their annual picnic on July 26, which featured good food, strong fellowship and a major announcement.

Colusa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2441 and the Maxwell American Legion Post 218 have hosted their biggest fundraising event each year since 2011 to support local veterans and expand the park's permanent tribute to veterans.

So far, nine memorial walls have been completed, each holding 135 personalized bricks representing the local men and women who served in the military or died in service to the nation, said Master of Ceremonies Jon Chaney, describing the achievement as a proud testament to the region's strong sense of service. A tenth



Teamwork off the football field, Colusa High athletes dish up lunch at the annual community picnic on July 26 to honor local veterans.

wall is currently under construction.

"For our little town, we've done well," Chaney said.

Saturday's event also marked the announcement of a bold new initiative: the installation of two life-sized bronze statues near

the flagpoles. One statue will feature a saluting military figure with a plaque reading: "Honoring all of those who have served."

The second will depict the Combat Cross, a battlefield memorial consisting of a soldier's rifle (typically an M16) with a

Kevlar helmet resting atop and boots at the base. The memorial will also include a kneeling soldier holding an American flag.

Chaney said fundraising for the project is underway, with both the Veterans of Foreign Wars and

*Continued on page 2*

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MEMORIAL

JAMES (JIM) W. MURPHY JR • 09/11/1930 – 07/11/2025

James (Jim) W. Murphy Jr. passed away peacefully at his home in Florence, Oregon on 7/11/2025 at the age of 94. Born on September 11, 1930 in Arbuckle California, he spent his early years farming. He retired and moved to Florence, Oregon in 1994, where he enjoyed his retirement by socializing with his neighbors, gardening, woodworking and driving to the ocean to watch the sunset with his wife (along with a burger and fries).

He is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Nancy, his children Dorothy, Jim, Mike, Kim, Aaron, Mary, and Bill, and his stepchildren, Jill and Ginger. He was preceded in death by his stepchildren, Susie and Bobby. His extensive family includes his children, 27 grandchildren, 41 great



grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Jim graduated from Arbuckle High School where he played football. He also joined, and went on maneuvers and training, with the California National Guard. He enjoyed being involved with his children as he was a 4-H leader and coached his sons in

little league. Even though Jim could not swim, he loved taking the family skiing on Ladoga Lake. His passion for working in his garage, from woodworking to welding, is a legacy that now lives on through the generations of family that Jim adored. He also shared his ability to hunt, fix anything around the house, and cook dinner for the family. He was stubborn, wise, proud, but most importantly he was dedicated and loving.

From his children; To our amazing Dad, our hero, we want to simply say thank you. Thank you for always being there for us every step of the way. Thank you for your guidance, your support, and your unwavering love. We can never put into words how much you mean to us but want you to know your love will forever be in our hearts.

## Community Leaders Explore New Christian School After Sudden Closure of OLL

By Lloyd Green Jr.

**COLUSA, CA (MPG)** - In the wake of the unexpected closure of Our Lady of Lourdes School (OLL), more than two dozen community members gathered Tuesday July 22, to discuss the future of Christian education in Colusa County.

The meeting, hosted by the Ministerial Association of California Counties (MACC), focused on a bold proposal: opening a new Christian private school, possibly as early as this fall.

Jason McMullan, executive director of the Ministerial Association of California Counties, led the discussion and shared that while his organization had already been planning for a preschool and school in its long-term strategy, Our Lady of Lourdes School's closure accelerated those conversations.

"This is an unfortunate circumstance, but also an opportunity," McMullan said. "We're stepping in, not to reinvent the wheel, but to keep it turning. School choice shouldn't vanish with the closure of one campus."

Tuesday's meeting wasn't just a presentation; it was a listening session. Attendees, including parents, former Our Lady of Lourdes School families and local faith leaders, were asked to share their thoughts on curriculum, grade levels, tuition expectations and how they might participate in the school's development.

"We don't want to build this in isolation," McMullan said. "We want parents at the table helping make real decisions—from curriculum to class size to fundraising priorities. This is their school just as much as it's ours."

McMullan said the Ministerial Association of California Counties aims to preserve as much of Our Lady of Lourdes School structure as possible. That includes reaching out to former teachers and administrators, maintaining elements of the previous curriculum and possibly leasing the Our Lady of Lourdes School building, if it remains available.

"Our preference is to use the same site," McMullan said. "We're already in conversations with church leadership, but if that's not

an option, we have a network of churches with classroom space. We're not limited to one address."

In addition to a traditional school model, the Ministerial Association of California Counties is exploring hybrid and satellite options to serve students in rural areas like Stonyford or Grimes, leveraging their experience in multi-site ministry.

McMullan assured families that the Ministerial Association of California Counties is financially prepared to support the launch. "We've already set aside funding and are prepared to take a loss in the first year if that's what it takes to get this off the ground."

Tuition is expected to be comparable to what Our Lady of Lourdes School families paid, with scholarships and full tuition waivers available for those in need.

"We know cost is a factor," said McMullan. "But it should never be the thing that prevents a child from getting a values-based education. We believe in a hand-up model, not just handouts. If parents are willing to put in effort, time, or partnership, we'll find a way to meet them where they're at."

Some parents expressed concern about how quickly a school could launch, especially by fall 2025. But McMullan was confident, citing the organization's track record of building programs under pressure.

"This won't be easy, but it's not impossible," McMullan said. "We've built entire outreach programs in less time. We have the staff, we have the administrative infrastructure, and now we're building the will."

The Ministerial Association of California Counties will host follow-up meetings and to help gauge community interest, McMullan has posted an online form where parents can share feedback, express their intent to enroll, and provide contact information for follow-up. The form is available at: <https://forms.office.com/r/RTPeU8x5fa>

"If we get six students, we'll budget for six. If we get thirty-four, even better," said McMullan. "But we won't move forward unless the community is ready to walk with us."

For updates on future meetings and progress, community members are encouraged to follow the Ministerial Association of Colusa County on Facebook.

*Editor's Note: This article was published on Aug. 1, 2025. The initial meeting took place on July 22, with a follow-up scheduled for July 30. Please note that some information may have changed since the time of reporting.* ★

## Deadline Approaching for Groundwater Assessment Vote

Continued from page 1

groundwater-only parcels; \$7.42 per acre for conjunctive use parcels (uses both surface and groundwater); and \$2.66 per acre for surface water-only parcels.

If approved, the assessment would be adjusted annually for five years, based on the Consumer Price Index, before becoming fixed, Aston said.

The meetings have drawn mixed reactions over whether property owners should approve higher groundwater fees to support Colusa Groundwater Authority programs, especially as some argued that already emerging technologies AI and satellite imagery will soon surpass local management efforts, rendering them outdated before they begin.

Foothill cattle ranchers and small growers argue the proposed groundwater fees unfairly target them for impacts caused by high-volume agricultural operations, which severely depleted aquifer levels during the drought.

Joe Lauwerijssen, of Arbuckle, pointed to land subsidence within the basin - limited to areas near Arbuckle and Artois in Glenn County - as evidence that groundwater depletion was driven by large farming operations that shifted from low water-use field crops to high-demand permanent orchards, triggering the costly groundwater regulations that now burden all landowners.

"You have a problem caused by a minority of people and are asking the majority of people to pay for it," Lauwerijssen said.

Ballots will be accepted in person at a formal public hearing held at 1 p.m. on Aug. 7 at Colusa Industrial Properties conference room, when all votes will be tabulated and the outcome announced, Aston said.

As of July 22, just over 1,000 of the 6,700 ballots issued had been returned.

For the assessment to go into effect, a majority of returned ballots (50% plus one) must be marked "Yes." The assessment will not be implemented if the majority vote "No."

"Only returned ballots are counted," Aston said. "It's not the total of all the ballots out there in the universe."

In Proposition 218 elections, ballots are weighted to reflect the financial obligation or "benefit" tied to each parcel, which ensures that landowners with more at stake have proportionally more influence.

Property owners living within the cities and managed utility districts have some say, because the groundwater assessments - paid with their tax dollars - could result in higher utility costs. Property owners in the City of Williams are already positioned to consider a Proposition 218 tax increase of their own, after city officials announced on July 16 the struggle to provide residential

water services because water rates have not kept up with costs.

Aston said municipal groundwater users only have a small weighted vote - compared to agriculture users - but they "do have a voice."

Supporters of the assessment, mainly large operators, and CGA officials, warned that rejecting the assessment could lead to a costly state takeover at a charge of \$300 per well and \$55 per acre - or more - but even the Colusa Groundwater Authority board was split when it approved putting a significant tax increase out to vote.

"It was not a unanimous decision," Chair Jim Wallace said.

Steve Marsh, who owns 1,000 acres of grazing land in the Williams foothills with just a shallow well to water livestock, said he bought into the "state boogiemans" argument 10 years ago when the intent was to put meters on ag wells to make those who use significant amounts to pay for it.

"Now, we are avoiding that and setting up something else," Marsh said. "I appreciate my (non-irrigable) costs are going down but I feel that I contributed, so what's it for me? I was hoping that once this was established, there would be meters."

Without confidence that Colusa Groundwater Authority's program will make "deep pumpers" pay for tapping into massive amounts of groundwater to sell when surface water is available for their crops, Lauwerijssen said he would also vote no on the increase, voicing suspicion repeated by multiple opponents at the last four meetings that the assessment may pave the way for groundwater trading driven by profit, rather than sustainability.

"You can't socialize the downside of it and privatize the upside of it," Lauwerijssen said.

Proponents of the tax increase rejected that claim, insisting the threat of losing water rights for farming in California is very real if the local groundwater authority fails to adhere to Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's (SGMA) requirements to prevent long-term declines in groundwater levels and the "undesirable results" of over pumping, particularly land subsidence, which can destroy structures, roads, the basin's entire agriculture economy.

Jeff Sutton, general manager for the Colusa County Irrigation District, said state intervention could bring extreme pumping limits, reallocation of groundwater rights, and higher fees, potentially affecting the reliability and affordability of water for all farmers, rural residents, and municipalities.

"We now have control over our groundwater; we can use a scalpel and make the pain as small as possible," Sutton said. "But if the state implements an interim plan, they are going to use an axe." ★

## Veterans Sculpt Bold Tribute to Honor Service



Colusa Veterans of Foreign Wars member Jon Chaney announces a bold new vision for Veterans Memorial Park at the annual Veterans Picnic in Colusa on July 26.

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American Legion actively seeking sponsors to help raise the \$100,000 needed to construct the two statues that will stand as timeless pillars honoring service, sacrifice and remembrance.

Both the Colusa Veterans of Foreign Wars and Maxwell American Legion

are actively seeking new members, open to those who served honorably in all branches of the military. Veterans of Foreign Wars eligibility is based on service dates and duty stations (overseas conflicts). The American Legion is open to all veterans who served during wartime, regardless of deployment locations. ★

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# LaMalfa Announces Army Contract to Support Beale Air Force Base



Doug LaMalfa

**Congressman Doug LaMalfa News Release**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - Congressman Doug LaMalfa, a Republican from Richvale issued the following statement after the Army awarded a \$10.2 million contract for updates to

the Aircrew Readiness Facility at Beale Air Force Base.

The project will support the 940th Air Refueling Wing, which handles midair refueling operations that keep our military aircraft flying longer and farther.

"I appreciate President Trump's steady support for military readiness here in Northern California," LaMalfa said. "Refueling units like the 940th at Beale are a key part of our ability to respond anywhere in the world on short notice. Updating this facility means crews can train, prepare, and stay

sharp right here at home. It's important that the Pentagon continues to recognize the role bases like Beale play in keeping our country strong and prepared."

Work will take place at Beale Air Force Base, with completion expected by October 2026.

*Congressman Doug LaMalfa is chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus and a lifelong farmer representing California's First Congressional District, including Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba counties.* ★

# Community Appeal Intensifies Over Slaughterhouse

By Susan Meeker

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - The grassroots group Colusa Humans Against Offensive Odors has intensified its opposition to the proposed meat slaughterhouse in the Colusa Industrial Park. They argue that public notifications contained, what they believe, is misleading zoning information and allowed Planning Director Jesse Cain to grant a minor use permit for the facility which violated the public's right to transparency.

Colusa Humans Against Offensive Odors representative Mark Tomey confirmed that residents came together to raise the \$1,500 appeal fee, which was formally submitted on July 25 at 4 p.m. The appeal followed a Public Records Act request submitted on July 23 for access to all environmental documentation, CEQA-related files, and city correspondence regarding the project.

Zoning concerns have now added to the dispute over another odor-producing business going near current and planned residential neighborhoods after the city refused to grant a republishing and rehearing of the July 15 public hearing. This decision was made after the city was accused of misstating zoning information in mandatory mailed notices and in the submitted legal notice published in the June 20 newspaper.

Tomey said the city attorney denied the request on July 25, citing incorrect language "would have had no impact" on the hearing's outcome, thus causing no documented injuries.

"Not only is this incorrect and irrelevant, but it's against the Brown Act," Tomey said. "In the community's opinion, misinformation that has no regard for the public's best interest is the status quo for city management and should be stopped as soon as it begins."

At the heart of the dispute is whether a minor use permit granted by Cain should be escalated to discretionary review and enforceable conditions due to potential safety hazards, such as groundwater contamination, odor, traffic and

noise - particularly since residents claim industrial uses at the park has already surpassed comfortable living conditions in Colusa.

"Although no one was injured to date, we are here to keep that from ever happening by simply requesting a clearer, more comprehensive list of conditions of approval that will keep the slaughterhouse liable, should any issues arise," Tomey said.

Residents said if the slaughterhouse owners are confident in their unwritten mitigation actions, then they should have no problem collaborating with the community and writing in conditions they can abide by.

Cain, Colusa Industrial Properties CEO Ed Hulbert, and slaughterhouse facility operator Brent Nobles, stated at the public hearing that strict state and federal regulatory oversight of slaughterhouses already exists to ensure environmental safety and that the facility's design includes modern waste management systems.

According to Cain, the slaughterhouse is allowed by-right with a Minor Use Permit, based on land use designations and zoning that he said aligned with the city's General Plan after the industrial park transitioned from county authority in 2015, which designated certain parcels, including the southwest corner of the park by the CIP wastewater plant, for heavy industrial uses with a streamlined permitting process.

Supporters of the project argued that a local slaughterhouse will strengthen Colusa's agricultural infrastructure, reduce livestock transportation costs, and provide jobs, but agreed that the project, by its very nature, should trigger at least some additional conditions of approval, given the 30-year string of broken promises that Colusa residents would not be "negatively impacted" by projects such as the mushroom farm, fertilizer plant, and hoop-house cannabis.

Even if the City Council upholds the minor use permit on appeal, they can still enforce or modify conditions attached to the permit, under California law.

The city has not set the date for the appeal. ★

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Colusa Groundwater Authority

Colusa Groundwater Authority. Everyone should VOTE NO! by the Aug. 7 deadline to stop this unfair assessment. Housing affordability is becoming more difficult for more and more people and the 925% assessment increase, which amounts to over \$90,000 each year as proposed by the CGA is morally wrong and most likely unconstitutional.

The CGA has decided they need to increase their assessments from \$ 480,000 per year to over \$ 1.99 million per year, a 415% increase. What is morally wrong is that they have targeted homeowners with municipal water with a 924% increase ( \$ 1.21 per acre to \$ 11.19 per acre ) on the assumption that homeowners in Princeton, Maxwell, Colusa, Williams, Grimes, and Arbuckle are some how responsible for the subsidence and domestic well problems near Arbuckle just because they use groundwater to drink and for their houses. Worse is that they want municipal water users to disproportionately pay part of \$ 1.1 million each year for an unnecessarily comprehensive accounting system and a satellite data system. Spending \$ 250,000

per year on the satellite data system is especially egregious because this data can be obtained from Government entities for free!

This \$1.99 million annual assessment is not just for the next couple of years – the CGA specifically voted not to have a sunset termination date. The CGA stresses that they need to spend this money to avoid State intervention which at best would be years away even if the CGA failed to exist – the CGA has over \$ 1.3 million in cash and receivables on hand, so they already have a reserve of twice the current assessment in addition to recurring \$ 480,000 every year to go back to the drawing board and produce a reasonable budget. Worse is that the municipal water users already have strict State and Federal oversight over the municipal systems, so rate payers are already paying for State supervision.

You have the power to do your part and Vote NO! The vote is dollar weighted so you can make a difference with your vote.

Ben King

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Colusa County Landowners,

The Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA) mailed ballots to ~6,700 landowners in June to approve or reject new property assessments to raise \$1.9 million to fund ongoing efforts to comply with the State Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Read your ballot packet, check the CGA website ([www.colusagroundwater.org](http://www.colusagroundwater.org)), and understand what your vote means. How you vote is up to you, but if this ballot passes, you want your property to be accurately assessed.

Time is of the essence. Ballots must be received by 1 p.m., Aug. 7 - postmarks do not count! If the proposal passes, the assessment will appear on your 2025-26 tax bill.

Under Prop 218, ballots are weighed by the dollar amount of the assessment, not one vote - one parcel. Landowners who have acreage and agricultural wells are in the highest rate and have a significant voting advantage.

Your assessment category may be

inaccurately identified. Consultants used a "broad brush", based on ArcGIS mapping, to identify parcel assessment categories. Refer to the descriptions and map with your ballot. Much of the basin is considered "Conjunctive Use" (in blue), meaning the parcel has both an irrigation well and surface water, like Colusa County Water District (CCWD). There is a preponderance of small parcels in the blue area. Most of these are residential, have only domestic wells and access to CCWD water. They belong in the lower "Surface Water" rate.

Check your ballot. If your parcel rate category is not correct, get it corrected! Contact Ryan Aston, 707-430-4301 X118, [ryan.aston@sci-cg.com](mailto:ryan.aston@sci-cg.com), ASAP. If you did not get a ballot, or want to change your vote, also contact Ryan.

Please share this information widely, especially to Spanish speakers. Neither the ballot nor the explanatory materials were published in Spanish.

Penny Walgenbach, Arbuckle, CA

# County Acts Swiftly on Bridge Threat

Continued from page 1

was otherwise in fair-to-good condition.

Esenwein said the county was alerted to the recent problem after a citizen contacted authorities on July 14 to report the unexpected and noticeable bump on the bridge's north end. Promptly responding to the call, the Colusa County Public Works Department and a consultant conducted an initial inspection and identified a 4-inch gap about 4-inches deep between the road and concrete, raising immediate concern.

Esenwein said he immediately requested an emergency structural review by the California Department of Transportation, which was reluctant at first to come out, but did so because the bridge was due this year for its biennial inspection.

Caltrans completed its inspection on July 22, uncovering significant structural deterioration beneath the bridge deck. The damage stemmed from a slipped joint seal between concrete slabs, which led to flexural cracking at the bottom of several pier columns that support the bridge, officials said.

Tyler said state engineers classified the deterioration as critical, necessitating the

county to conduct urgent stabilization measures to prevent further damage or potential collapse.

Emergency repair crews are expected to begin work immediately to reinforce the compromised pier columns sufficient to ensure stability for the bridge to withstand the volume and weight of traffic anticipated in the coming weeks. The repairs will also prepare the bridge to withstand winter hydrological flows when the weir is active.

Meanwhile, Esenwein, who the board authorized to secure the services needed, will prepare a state-required plan of action for permanent repair of the bridge. Eventual replacement is also a probability, given the bridge's age, but would be dependent on state funding becoming available, officials said.

Due to the bridge's compromised stability, county officials will post and try to enforce slower speed limits until repairs are made and urges motorists to use caution.

Tyler said further updates will be provided to the board as repair work progresses and the bridge nears restoration. ★

# Arbuckle Water District Improves Online Access

By Lloyd Green Jr.

**ARBUCKLE, CA (MPG)** - The Arbuckle Water District has launched a new website designed to improve accessibility and better serve the needs of its customers, following feedback and rising standards for digital compliance.

The transition comes as federal and state laws increasingly require public agencies to meet specific accessibility benchmarks online. In April 2024, the U.S. Department of Justice finalized a rule under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), mandating that all local government websites and mobile apps conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. While California's AB 434 focuses on state agencies, many local districts are adopting the same standards to ensure equal access.

Previously hosted on a self-managed, template-built GoDaddy platform, the district's old website offered limited functionality and accessibility. The new site,

built by RuralWaterImpact.com, cost approximately \$500 to set up, with an annual fee of around \$605 for hosting, support, and maintenance according to its website. RuralWaterImpact is a platform commonly used by small water systems nationwide.

In addition to improved navigation and screen-reader compatibility, the new website includes access to board meeting agendas, water quality reports, payment options and service alerts. Residents can also subscribe to receive email and text notifications, something not previously available.

The district noted that content will be updated regularly, and visitors are encouraged to check back often as more features and information are added. A feedback option is also available for users who encounter accessibility challenges or have suggestions.

The move signals a commitment not just to legal compliance, but to community engagement and transparency.

The new website is live at [arbucklepud.org](http://arbucklepud.org) ★

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\*Application Procedure for CUSD Positions:

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 🕒 Hora: 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM  
 📍 Lugar: Calle E - Williams, CA

¡Disfruta de comida gratis, música, juegos para niños, rifas y mucho más! Trabajemos juntos para construir una comunidad más segura y fuerte.  
 ¡Esperamos verte allí!



Este evento es presentado con orgullo por la Autoridad de Protección contra Incendios de Williams, la Asociación de Bomberos Voluntarios de Williams, el Departamento de Policía de la Ciudad de Williams y la Asociación de Oficiales de Policía de la Ciudad de Williams.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT E STREET-WILLIAMS CA



Join Us for National Night Out 2025!

You're invited to a night of community fun, food, and connection! Come out and meet your neighbors, local police, fire department, and community organizations as we celebrate National Night Out.

📅 Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025  
 🕒 Time: 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM  
 📍 Location: E Street- Williams, CA

Enjoy free food, music, games for kids, raffles, and more! Let's work together to build a safer, stronger community.

We hope to see you there!



This event is proudly presented by the Williams Fire Protection Authority, the Williams Volunteer Firefighters Association, the City of Williams Police Department, and the City of Williams Police Officers Association.

# VOTE NO!!

## COLUSA GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY ASSESSMENT 925 % RATE INCREASE ON CITY HOMEOWNERS

Colusa Groundwater Authority  
P.O. Box 475  
Colusa, CA 95932

### OFFICIAL ASSESSMENT BALLOT COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY SGMA OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

YES, I approve the proposed yearly SGMA assessment\*

NO, I do not approve the proposed yearly SGMA assessment\*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Record Property Owner, or Authorized Representative*

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am the property owner or owner's authorized representative of the parcel(s) identified on this official ballot.  
*\*(The proposed assessment amount is printed on the back of this ballot.)*

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE COMPLETION AND RETURN OF OFFICIAL ASSESSMENT BALLOTS**

This assessment ballot may be completed by the person(s) or firm(s) owning the property or properties identified by parcel number on this ballot. An explanation of who may complete the assessment ballot on behalf of the recorded property owner and additional instructions are provided on the other side of this Official Assessment Ballot.

To be tabulated, assessment ballots MUST be received before the close of the public hearing scheduled for:

**Thursday, August 7, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at Colusa Industrial Properties located at 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa, CA 95932.**  
You are invited to attend the public hearing. You may return your ballot in the following ways:

- 1) Mail your assessment ballot to the address shown on the enclosed return envelope so that it is received before August 7, 2025.
- 2) Deliver it in person at the August 7, 2025 public hearing so that it is received before the close of the public hearing on August 7, 2025.

### Professional Services Budget

Administrative	
Auditor	\$10,000
Financial Services	\$5,000
Legal Services	\$55,000
Program Manager	\$175,000
Prop. 218 Parcel Update	\$0
<b>Administrative Subtotal</b>	<b>\$245,500</b>
Office Expenses	
JPA Insurance	\$2,000
Outreach (mailings/copying/printing)	\$5,500
Website	\$1,500
Supplies	\$500
Admin Contribution-Butte sub Basin GSP	\$12,500
<b>Office Expenses Subtotal</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>
SGMA Compliance	
GSP Annual Reports	\$35,000
GSP Periodic Evaluation and Updates (5 Year Update)	\$37,500
<b>SGMA Compliance Subtotal</b>	<b>\$72,500</b>
Additional Administrative components	
Public Engagement & Outreach	\$30,000
GSP Implementation Manager	\$75,000
Grant Procurement	\$30,000
Contingency (10%)	\$149,250
<b>Admin Components Subtotal</b>	<b>\$284,250</b>
Services and Contingency	
Professional Services - GSP Implementation	\$15,000
Professional Services - Long Term Financial Planning	\$20,000
Legal Defense Reserve	\$10,000
County Tax Roll Fee Support	\$5,000
Contingency (10%)	\$31,750
<b>Services and Contingency Subtotal</b>	<b>\$81,750</b>
<b>Professional Services Subtotal</b>	<b>\$706,000</b>

### Planning Services Budget

Long Term Funding Planning	
Update Revenue Requirements	\$20,000
Implement New Rates (PR+ Challenges)	\$30,000
<b>Long Term Funding Planning Subtotal</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
Project Planning	
Obtain Programmatic EIR for Projects	\$20,000
Refine/Develop Projects	\$20,000
<b>Project Implementation Subtotal</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
Study Implementation	
Refine/Develop Studies	\$20,000
Implement Studies to Fill Data Gaps	\$25,000
Subsidence Monitoring Network; Real-time Monitoring	\$50,000
<b>Study Implementation Subtotal</b>	<b>\$95,000</b>
<b>Professional Services Subtotal</b>	<b>\$185,000</b>

### Groundwater Sustainability Services Budget

Domestic Well Mitigation	
Administer Domestic Well Mitigation Program	\$25,000
Implement Domestic Well Mitigation Program (Dedicated Fund)	\$225,000
<b>Domestic Well Mitigation Subtotal</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>
Demand Management Mitigation	
Groundwater Accounting Program Setup	\$200,000
Groundwater Accounting Program Annual Ops	\$300,000
Satellite Imagery Input	\$250,000
Groundwater Well Measurements/Data QA/QC	\$50,000
Demand Management Actions/Board Policy	\$50,000
<b>Demand Management Mitigation Subtotal</b>	<b>\$850,000</b>
<b>Groundwater Sustainability Services Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,100,000</b>

**Total Budget: \$1,991,000**

Contact Ryan Aston - ryan.aston@sci-cg.com  
(800) 273-5167 for New Ballot or Questions

City of Williams contact is Councilwoman  
Kate Dunlap - wckdunlap@cityofwilliams.org

County of Colusa contact is Supervisor  
Janice Bell - jbell@countyofcolusaca.gov

City of Colusa contact is City Manager Jesse Cain  
citymanager@cityofcolusa.gov

Rate Increases are drastic for City municipal water users and other groundwater users. Assessment increases from **\$1.21** per acre to **\$11.19** per acre.

City of Williams ( 3456 acres)  
\$38,700 proposed assessment - **\$34,500 INCREASE**

City of Colusa ( 1837 acres )  
\$20,500 proposed assessment - **\$18,300 INCREASE**

Grimes Water ( 1446 acres)  
\$16,200 proposed assessment - **\$14,500 INCREASE**

Maxwell Water ( 1408 acres)  
\$15,800 proposed assessment - **\$14,100 INCREASE**

Princeton Water ( 1177 acres)  
\$13,200 proposed assessment - **\$11,800 INCREASE**

Budget increases from \$480,000 to \$1,991,000 even though the CGA has \$1 million in cash currently.

There is **NO SUNSET** for this assessment. The \$1.991 assessment will be in place **FOREVER** and increase.

- Proposed budget allocates **NO** money to actually try to solve subsidence problem in Arbuckle area.
- The CGA wants to spend \$1.1 million on a comprehensive accounting system and satellite data for ET measurement
- \$850,000 per year for accounting system and set up.
- \$250,000 per year satellite data even though this data can be obtained for **FREE**
- The CGA consultants Davids Engineering already has used OPEN ET in Colusa Subbasin and this system is **FREE**
- USDA ARS is actively working on new ET measurement systems – again **FREE**
- The accounting system and satellite system will likely be obsolete in the near future due to advances in AI and satellite infrastructure

Paid for by Ben King

# VOTE NO!! ON COLUSA GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY ASSESSMENT

# Hunters and Families Gather for Arbuckle Expo



Visitors chat with representatives from the California Department of Fish and Game during Arbuckle's second Outdoor Expo, held Saturday, July 26. Hosted by High Noon Guns & Ammo, the event featured booths from the First Hunt Foundation, Dunnigan Fire Department, Pheasants Forever, California Deer Association, Sutter Buttes Holster Co., Rambo's Guide Service and several food trucks. Organizers plan to return next year. Photo By Lloyd Green Jr.

# Joy, Rhythm, No Worries



The young stars from this summer's Sound Space Performing Arts Camp lit up the Levitt Amp Concert Stage area on July 24. Photo by Susan Meeker

By Susan Meeker

**COLUSA, CA (MPG)** - The spirit of joy, creativity, and community was in full swing when the young stars from this summer's Sound Space Performing Arts Camp lit up the Levitt Amp Concert Stage area on July 24. Prior to the Joelton Mayfield concert,

the children performed a playful Lion King-inspired art and dance, grooving to the beloved anthem "Hakuna Matata."

The 2025 Sound Space Performing Arts Camp, a vibrant summer arts program supported by the Colusa County Arts Council and Trinity United Methodist Church, concluded on July 23. ★

**WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS**



## City of Colusa Employment Opportunity



### Now Hiring: Assistant City Manager

*Make a lasting impact in a leadership role with a beautiful, historic Northern California city!*

**Assistant City Manager for the City of Colusa**  
\$10,658 monthly plus excellent benefits

Application and job description are available at City Hall 425 Webster Street, Colusa, CA 95932 and [www.cityofcolusa.gov](http://www.cityofcolusa.gov)

Closing date August 25th, 2025, at 5:00 pm; late applications will not be accepted.



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| ✂ Greeting Cards       | ✂ Photo Albums        |                                    |
|                        | ✂ Gifts & Candies     |                                    |

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640 MARKET STREET - COLUSA

**HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 AM TO 6 PM**  
CLOSED SATURDAY & SUNDAY

## COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE ASSIGNMENTS:

### Substitute Cafeteria Assistant I

**Location:** District-wide; **Details:** As needed; **Pay Rate:** \$19.58/hour; **Requirements:** ServSafe; High school diploma or equivalent preferred.

### Substitute Custodian

**Location:** District-wide; **Details:** As needed; **Pay Rate:** \$21.57/hour; **Requirements:** High school diploma or equivalent preferred.

### Substitute Bilingual Para-educator

**Location:** District-wide; **Details:** As needed; **Pay Rate:** \$20.55/hour; **Requirements:** High school diploma or equivalent; Paraprofessional testing or transcripts verifying 48 semester units.

### Substitute Para-educator

**Location:** District-wide; **Details:** As needed; **Pay Rate:** \$20.06/hour; **Requirements:** High school diploma or equivalent; Paraprofessional testing or transcripts verifying 48 semester units.

### Substitute Yard Duty

**Location:** District-wide; **Details:** As needed; **Pay Rate:** \$19.11/hour; **Requirements:** High school diploma or equivalent preferred.

**Deadline to Apply: Continuous.**

**\*Application Procedure for CUSD Positions:**  
Apply online at [www.edjoin.org](http://www.edjoin.org).

Colusa Unified School District. | 745 10th Street, Colusa, CA 95932

## LEGAL ADS FOR COLUSA COUNTY?

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# U.S. Open Clay Shooting National Championship



**National Champion Skeet Squad (L-R) Dustin Wurm, James Cooley, and Conrad Burrows.** Photo courtesy of Bob Maffei



**Trap Runner Up National Champion and Skeet Squad National Champion, James Cooley, with instructor Bob Maffei.** Photo courtesy of Bob Maffei



**Trap Squad Runner Up National Champion, Summer Anderson.** Photo courtesy of Bob Maffei

**By MPG Staff**

**LAS VEGAS, CA (MPG) -** The Clark County Shooting Complex in Las Vegas was the stage for the 2025 U.S. Open Youth Clay Shooting National Championship, held from July 8 through July 12. The sprawling facility, which features rifle, pistol and archery ranges as well as RV parking, is especially known for its extensive shotgun facilities. These include 23 Trap and Skeet fields, a 5-stand range, and a Sporting Clays course with covered shooting stations to provide protection from the elements.

The championship brought together 406 youth shooters from California and Nevada to compete in Skeet, Trap and Sporting Clays disciplines. Competitors trained for months leading up to the event under the guidance of instructors Gordon Cooley and Bob Maffei. Training took place at top-tier clubs such as Golden State Trap and Skeet Club, Stockton Trap and Skeet Club, Yolo Sportsmen's Gun Club, Quail Point Sporting Clays and Colusa Gun Club. These sessions were aimed at ensuring the athletes would perform at their peak when it mattered most.

Shooters were placed into six divisions: young adult, varsity, junior varsity, intermediate advanced, intermediate entry and rookie with individual and squad awards given for National Champion, Runner-Up and Third Place finishes. Skeet and Sporting Clays squads were composed of three shooters, while Trap squads consisted of five. All squads were pre-registered, ensuring fairness and eliminating score cherry-picking after events concluded.

Among the standout performers was Gage Locatelli of the Yolo Clay Dogs, who took home the Sporting Clays National Champion title in both individual and squad competition and was also the runner-up in Individual Skeet and Skeet Squad. Drake Locatelli, also of the Yolo Clay Dogs, earned runner-up titles in both Skeet and Sporting Clays in the Rookie division. Blake Romiski, another Yolo Clay Dogs shooter, was part of both the runner-up Skeet Squad and the National Champion Sporting Clays Squad. James Cooley of the Misfits took runner-up honors in Trap, shooting a perfect 100 targets and placed sixth in Individual Skeet. He was

also part of the Skeet National Champion Squad, along with teammates Dustin Wurm and Conrad Burrows.

Wurm was crowned the Skeet National Champion in the Young Adult division and competed as part of the top Skeet Squad. Jaden Dement of the Clay Crushers earned fifth place in Individual Skeet and fourth place in Sporting Clays, helping his squad take third in the Sporting Clays event. Madilyn Maisano of Coon Creek tied for seventh place in Individual Skeet in the Varsity division and earned a third-place finish with her squad. Raegan Parisio of A & A Shooters tied for seventh in Skeet and was one of the top female finishers in the nation for Sporting Clays, tying for tenth overall. Blake Ellis of Sutter Trap tied for sixth in Intermediate Entry Trap, while Summer Anderson helped her Junior Varsity Trap Squad claim a runner-up finish. Jacob Maisano of the Sharp Shooters had one of the most decorated showings, earning runner-up in Skeet, sixth in Trap, leading his squad to a Trap National Championship, and winning the High Overall National Champion title.



**National Skeet Champion, Dustin Wurm.** Photo courtesy of Bob Maffei



**Highover All National Champion Jacob Maisano.** Photo courtesy of Bob Maffei

Altogether, these 12 shooters brought home an impressive collection of accolades: two national individual titles, five individual runner-up titles, six squad national championships, two squad runner-up finishes, two third-place squad titles, and one high overall national champion title. Their achievements are a testament not only to their skill and dedication but also to the support of the many people and organizations that made their success possible.

"A particular note of gratitude is extended to Ed Hulbert and the Colusa Industrial Properties for their continued promotion of youth shooting sports in Colusa County as well as a heartfelt

thanks to Gordon Cooley, whose generous donation of time and expertise was instrumental in helping these young shooters prepare. Their collective efforts were key in making this championship experience both successful and unforgettable," said Maffei.

Maffei also expressed a special thanks to the gun clubs that opened their facilities for training, to California Youth Shooting Sports Association (CYSSA) for organizing competitions throughout the year, to the Youth Shooting Sports Alliance (YSSA) and the Clark County Shooting Complex for hosting Nationals, and especially to the parents who volunteered their time and energy to support their shooters. ★

## California Sends More Search and Rescue Crews to Texas

**California Governor Gavin Newsom's Office News Release**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -** On July 17, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the deployment of 3 additional Urban Search and Rescue Team (US&R) members to Texas to assist with ongoing response efforts related to severe flooding impacts. A total of 42 California US&R members are now in Kerr, Texas supporting the mission.

This deployment of Human Remains Detection (HRD) Teams includes canines and their handlers. The July 17 deployment comes from the Oakland Fire Department and Sacramento Fire Department. Los Angeles County, Menlo Park, Orange County and Riverside County all have team members on the ground in Texas aiding in the search.

California personnel deployed use highly developed and specialized skills to assist emergency operations in and around the hardest hit areas of flooding. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Service (Cal OES) is working in close coordination with Texas and through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).

"We help our fellow Americans in times of need. California is proud to assist in the ongoing response to

the devastating Texas floods," said Governor Gavin Newsom.

Canine teams from California have been requested, and been approved for, extending their work assignments from 14 to 21 days. To prevent overworking the dogs, a rotation schedule has been implemented where the canines work two consecutive days in the field, followed by a rest day at Base of Operations.

"This is a very difficult task. I appreciate the hard work being done by our crews under very difficult conditions," said Cal OES Director Nancy Ward. "Cal OES is proud to help those in need in Texas."

This deployment builds on California's far-reaching efforts to aid other states during emergencies. In 2023, California deployed Urban Search and Rescue members to Hawaii to support wildfire response. In 2022, California deployed firefighters, disaster recovery experts, and other personnel to Montana, New Mexico, and Oregon. In 2021, California sent fire engines to assist Oregon's response to the Bootleg Fire and Specialized Urban Search and Rescue Resources teams to Florida following the Surfside condo collapse.

This deployment does not impact California's emergency response and firefighting capabilities. ★



## Scam Alert!

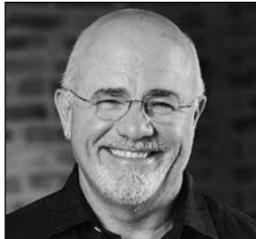
**Colusa County Sheriff's Office News Release**

**COLUSA, CA (MPG) -** The Colusa County Sheriff's Office has received multiple reports of individuals posing as Colusa County Sheriff's Office personnel calling residents to say that they have warrants for their arrest. These individuals then try to collect money over the phone, often demanding payment via gift cards, wire transfers or digital apps.

This is a scam. The Sheriff's Office will never call you and ask for money over the phone. We do not accept payment over the phone for warrants, fines or missing jury duty.

If you get a suspicious call, do not give or confirm any of your personal information and hang up immediately. Please only call our office if you've fraudulently given money to a scammer.

Stay alert, stay safe. ★



**Dave Ramsey**

## Dave Ramsey Says You Still Need a Will

Dear Dave,  
I'm 26, so I haven't had time to accumulate a lot of money yet through my career. I do have a good, full-time job, though, and have started saving money. Do I need a will or trust when I'm so young and have so little in terms of assets?

- Alisha

Dear Alisha,

I love the fact that you're already thinking about things like this. You're a wise young lady.

Considering that you're young and just starting out, you don't need anything complicated in place. Trusts tend to be geared toward people with complex estates, so it doesn't sound like that's something you need to worry about. But you do need a simple, inexpensive will.

You didn't give many details, so let's say you have a car, along with the money in the bank you mentioned, plus a few

belongings. With a basic will, it'll be no problem to work through your estate and follow your directives if something unfortunate should happen. Here's something else to think about, too. Another important document you'll want in your will package is a healthcare power of attorney directive. This includes things like who's going to make medical decisions for you if you're unable to make them yourself. As a part of this, you'd also want to fill out the paperwork on whether to disconnect life support systems in the event you're in a coma.

All this stuff's a real wake-up call, right? I know these kinds of things aren't fun to think about—especially at your age. But thinking about them, and doing something about them, is the right thing to do. It's the smart thing to do. Plus, it will take a huge burden off your loved ones. And all this becomes even more important if you have children, because the state will step in and

decide what happens to them if you don't.

Having these things laid out ahead of time, and sharing them with your family and close friends, would be a very thoughtful and mature thing to do, Alisha. Think about it. They're already going to be grieving and distraught if something happens to you. You don't want to make things harder by leaving a lot of important and difficult decisions for them to make in the middle of it all.

- Dave

*Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling 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.* ★



More Winegrape Farmers Navigate Season Without Guaranteed Buyers

Amid a global downturn in wine consumption, an increasing number of California winegrape growers are cultivating their crops without a winery contract this season.

Tulare County Dairy Rebounds after Recovering from Bird Flu

At least one dairy in Tulare County has made a full recovery this summer, a year after many in the region suffered losses from bird flu.

Farmer Harvests Bountiful Blueberry Crop in Mendocino County

Mendocino County farmer Taylor Serres Murnig reported harvesting a bountiful blueberry crop in late June and early July.

New Resource Aims to Help Aging Farmers Plan For Succession

Nearly half of California farmers are 65 and older, and many have yet to plan for what happens to their farms when they retire.

GARDENER'S CORNER

August In the Garden

By Gerry Hernandez, UC Master Gardener

You can plant carrots, beets, lettuce, spinach and turnips directly in the garden. Indoors you can start seeds for broccoli, cabbage, kale, bunching onions and radicchio.

Continue to weed. Be especially sure to get weeds before they flower and set seeds. Check the mulch you have spread around and be sure it is thick enough to suppress weeds.

News Briefs

Stagehands Rising Presents New Play

The Colusa County Planning Department invites residents of Maxwell and the surrounding areas to participate in the second Maxwell Community Plan public meeting scheduled on Thursday, July 25, at 6 p.m., at the American Legion Building, 250 Oak Street, Maxwell.

CRAFT-TASTIC KIDS Camp

There is still one more fun week of the Colusa Recreation's CRAFT-TASTIC KIDS Camp! Spark your child's creativity this summer with two fun-filled weeks of arts, crafts, games, and delicious snack making!

Commodity Distribution

The North State Food Bank Emergency Food Assistance Program will distribute commodities for the month of July 2025 during the times designated below or until they are gone, whichever comes first.



GOT LOCAL NEWS? 530.458.4141 Millie.Lee@MPG8.com

COLUSA COUNTY SHERIFF Persons listed in this log from local law enforcement agencies are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Only activities deemed significant are included. Includes names like Nathaniel Saint Garcia, Sergio Roman Beltran Jr., Angel Daniel Cervantes, etc.

CHURCH DIRECTORY Table with columns for church names, addresses, and worship times. Includes First Christian Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, Colusa Assembly of God, etc.

# CHECK IT OUT!

## Exciting Picks to Add to Your Reading List!

By Tania Cervantes,  
Circulation Librarian

We live in a fast-paced world where time often slips away and the joy of immersing oneself in a great book is a treat, yet sometimes finding the perfect read can feel like searching for a needle in a haystack. I often rely on others' recommendations and book club picks to find my books. Here are a few I have added to my list: "Wayward Girls" by Susan Wiggs, a New York Times best-selling author, is a gripping novel set in 1968 in Buffalo, New York, and based on a true story. The narrative follows six teenage girls confined in a Catholic reform school, weaving a heart-wrenching and compelling tale of hope, survival, redemption, and justice. As the girls navigate their challenging circumstances, their bond strengthens, as well as their friendship and resilience in the face of adversity.

If you enjoyed "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver, then "All the Forgivenesses" by Elizabeth Hardinger is an ideal choice for your reading list. Inspired by the author's own family lore, this engaging novel is set in Appalachia and the Midwest during the turn of the 20th century. The book follows resilient farm girl Bertie, who takes on the responsibility of raising her siblings after their mother's death. The story paints a vivid picture of a family burdened by hardship, illustrating how poverty and a lack of choices can impact an individual's life and shape their journey.

"Daikon" by Samuel Harley is a captivating story set in Japan during the final days of World War II. This tale unfolds

amid the devastation and despair during Japan's last moments in the conflict. The novel shows an alternative scenario, exploring what might have occurred if the United State Allies had possessed a third atomic bomb that was dropped (but not detonated) in Japan. The suspenseful narrative will keep readers on the edge of their seats. One reviewer noted that "reading it felt like stepping into 1940s Japan," making it a must-read for fans of historical fiction.

In "Such Kindness," bestselling author Andre Dubus III, known for his acclaimed novel "House of Sand and Fog," tells the poignant story of Tom Lowe, a man who rises from poverty to create a better life for his family. As a contractor, Tom ambitiously builds their dream home himself, but he faces a series of setbacks when he makes the mistake of taking out an adjustable-rate loan and violates his own rule of never working alone, resulting in a serious accident. This incident leads him to become addicted to painkillers and plunges him into financial ruin. However, after hitting rock bottom, Tom's life begins to turn around when he shifts his focus from blaming others for his misfortunes to recognizing and appreciating the kindness he has received along the way.

Reading a great book can be an enjoyable adventure. It's all about finding the stories that speak to you, whether it's a thrilling mystery, a heartwarming romance, or a mind-bending sci-fi tale. Explore new genres and trust your gut when something catches your eye and let the pages take you somewhere new- happy reading! ★

# Gratitude



By Kathy Craig Harteis

I'm working at being more grateful. As tough as this year has been for me, I still know I'm blessed.

Everyone has struggles. Some greater than others.

We need only look around to see a greater hardship or need than we might be dealing with.

Some years back we were encouraged to keep gratitude journals. I did it for a time, but like

most things it slowly faded away. I'm thinking I should get back to it. Sometimes we need a nudge to remind us to be grateful. Writing your blessings down is a good start. If we are able see and review the list it is a good way to renew our gratitude. It's kind of hard to feel sorry for ourselves if we see written reminders of all of the goodness heaped on us.

I'm a fan of cooking competition shows. The other day I binge watched one such show. The winner was an amazing baker. When they said he was from Pocatello, Idaho I began to wonder if I had a connection to him.

A couple of years ago my granddaughter Annika who lives in Pocatello was married.

I recalled the delicious cake and cupcakes from her wedding. Yep, same baker.

I was glad to see him rewarded for his talent.

I've been in a few cooking competitions. Believe me when I say it is nerve-racking adventure. I've won a few, but came in second or third as well.

Cooking and baking is an art. I can do it. Something to be grateful for I suspect.

Life is good today - be grateful.

A native of Grimes, CA, Kathy Craig Harteis is a former local journalist and former owner and chief executive of Kathy Craig Media Consulting, in Colusa. She currently lives in Beach, North Dakota, where she lived for many years while raising her family. ★

# Community Calendar

## Saturday, Aug. 2 New California Constitution Meeting

The Colusa County New California State will meet on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Colusa County Library, 738 Market Street, to review and vote on the New California Constitution. To preview documents, please visit new-californiastate.com.

## Tuesday, Aug. 5 Maxwell National Night Out

The Maxwell National Night Out will be on Tuesday, Aug. 5, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Maxwell Little League Field, 141-151 Pacific Avenue. Sponsored by the Maxwell Park & Recreation District & Auxiliary, join in on the annual community-building campaign to promote partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. There will be a FREE hot dog dinner, water slides, bounce house, and a whole lot of fun!

## Williams National Night Out

The Williams National Night Out will be on Tuesday, Aug. 5, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., on E Street, Williams. Presented by the Williams Fire Protection Authority, the Williams Volunteer Firefighters Association, the City of Williams Police Department and the City of Williams Police Officers Association. This will be a night of community fun, food, and connection. Come out and meet local police, fire department and community organizations. There will be free family-friendly activities, food, music and more.

## Thursday, Aug. 7 Levitt AMP Colusa Free Live Concert

The Levitt AMP Colusa Music Series kicks off another fun-filled summer of dancing and picnicking at the Veterans Memorial Park in Colusa on Thursday, Aug. 7, at 6:30 p.m. The concert will include musical talents of Red Light Cameras (Indie Pop/Rock). Bring your own chairs, blankets, and dancing shoes! Levitt AMP Colusa is supported in part by the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation and is presented by the City of Colusa in partnership with the Colusa County Arts Council.

## Colusa Farmers Market

The Colusa Certified Farmers Market, hosted by the Ministerial Association of Colusa County, will be held weekly on Thursdays beginning June 19-Aug.21, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Veterans Memorial Park in Colusa.

## Friday, Aug. 8 Senior (Citizen) Spread

Trinity United Methodist Church of Colusa will host a senior citizen lunch program on Aug. 8, the second and fourth

Friday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Friendship Hall, 511 Oak Street, Colusa. Lunch will be served at noon, and the cost is \$5 a person or \$3 a person if one provides a side dish. The main dish will be provided, but attendees may provide side dishes and desserts. For more information contact the church office at 530-458-4509.

## Wednesday, Aug. 13 Colusa VFW Monthly Meeting

The Colusa VFW Post #2441 meets the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Aug. 13. Dinner is served at 6 p.m., and a business meeting is held at 7 p.m. New members are welcome to join, just inquire or send an email to ColusaVFW@gmail.com. For hall rental please call 530-405-6322. Colusa VFW Post #2441 is a non-profit veterans organization serving the veterans and citizens of Colusa County.

## Caregivers Support Group Meeting

The Caregivers Support Group for those caring for individuals with Dementia/Alzheimer/Parkinson's Disease will meet from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on the Second Wednesday of every month at the First Presbyterian Church, 326 Jay St., Colusa. The meetings are confidential and are open to all who are interested.

## Saturday, Aug. 16 Maxwell Harvest Festival

BM Bar Custom Meats presents Maxwell Harvest Festival on Saturday, Aug. 16, at 6 p.m. at Maxwell High School. Bull riding, ranch broncs, BBQ competition, Dutch oven cook-off, craft fair and vendors. Tickets are \$20. Afterparty with live music at Maxwell Inn Bar & Grill. For more information, contact 530.438.0014.

## Monday, Aug. 18 Colusa County Republicans Meeting

The Colusa County Republicans will be meeting on the third Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Colusa Assembly of God Church, 1747 CA-20, Colusa.

## Friday, Aug. 29 Chamber Business After Hours

The Colusa County Chamber of Commerce is inviting all their members to join Chamber Business After Hours at The Tap Room, 121 8th Street, Colusa, on the last Friday of the month, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Time to relax and enjoy while also having opportunity to review member products and services, network, and raffle. For more information visit colusa-chamber.com. ★

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nnewlin2019@colusalegal.com

430 Market Street, Suite "B"  
Colusa, CA 95932  
Reg. #00-1



Publisher,  
Paul V. Scholl

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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 "In the Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

## Pioneer Review

Serving Colusa County since 2008

It is the intent of the Colusa County Pioneer Review to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

Colusa County Pioneer Review is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the Colusa County Pioneer Review are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the Pioneer Review is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to Colusa County Pioneer Review, 430 market St., Suite G, Colusa, CA 95932. Subscription rate is \$78 per year in Colusa (by mail only), \$88 in Colusa County (by mail only), \$98 outside Colusa County (by mail only). Newsstand copies are sold for \$1.00

The Colusa County Pioneer Review is published weekly on Fridays. Call (530) 458-4141, or (916) 773-1111 for more information.

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# LEGAL ADVERTISING

Colusa County Pioneer Review Adjudicated For and By the County of Colusa, Adjudication No. CV24253 on Sept. 19, 2017.

Legal Advertising  
7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5  
Carmichael, CA 95608

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Project T&S Constuction is seeking DBE subcontractors & suppliers for Water project in Colusa. For more information please contact Anthony (916) 869-1164 or anthony\_@916pipe.com 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025, 08/22/2025 · CCPR

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 2025-0000061

Date filed: July 02, 2025

The following persons are doing business as:

### THE TAP ROOM

Business Address:

121 8TH STREET, COLUSA, CA 95932

Mailing Address:

1633 LURLINE AVE., COLUSA, CA 95932

Name of Registrant(s):

KLD VENTURES LLC

1633 LURLINE AVE., COLUSA, CA 95932

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company, State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A.

/s/ KLD Ventures, LLC

Kelvin DeBoer CEO

State CA # 20250028781

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Colusa County on date stamped above. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original on file in my office.

/s/ Cristy Jayne Edwards, Clerk-Recorder

07/18/2025, 07/25/2025, 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025 · CCPR

## CITY OF WILLIAMS

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Williams will hold a Regular Meeting on **Wednesday August 20th at 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 810 "E" Street, Williams, CA.

All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting and present written and / or oral comments on the matters being considered or may also submit an e-mail to kramsaar@cityofwilliams.org prior to the meeting. If you challenge these matters in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing(s) described in this notice, or in written correspondence submitted to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing(s).

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, please notify City Hall 72 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for special needs – (530) 235-3279.

PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinance amendment to the Williams Municipal Code Chapter 17, Section 17.01.040.3, regarding maximum height of Duplexes in Residential districts, and finding the action to be statutorily exempt from CEQA under Public Resources Code § 21080.17

PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WILLIAMS AMENDING CHAPTER 5 SECTION 5.04.250 OF THE WILLIAMS MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING DELINQUENCIES AND PENALTIES FOR BUSINESS LICENSE TAX

This notice is posted in accordance with the provisions of the California Government Code, Title 7, Chapter 65000, as amended.

Date of Posting: August 1st, 2025

Posted by: Kathryn Ramsaur, City Planner

08/01/2025, 08/08/2025 · CCPR

## Thank You First Responders

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO

### ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

**Thomas Edward Charter, aka, Thomas E. Charter, aka, Thomas Charter, aka Tom Charter, aka Tom E. Charter**

### CASE NUMBER: PR8438

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Thomas Edward Charter, aka, Thomas E. Charter, aka, Thomas Charter, aka Tom Charter, aka Tom E. Charter

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Perry Charter, in the Superior Court of California, County of: Colusa. The petition for probate requests that: Perry Charter be appointed as personal representative 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 personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to 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 the court as follows:

Date: August 26, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Dept: 1 Room: TBD

Address of the court: 532 Oak St, Colusa, CA 95932

Colusa County Superior Court

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 decedent, 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 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 a person 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 petitioner or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:

Robert D. Harp

901 Bruce Road, Suite 130

Chico, CA 95928

Telephone: 530-895-1512, Ext. 116

08/01/2025, 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025 · CCPR

# CALL

## 530-743-6643

# TO PLACE YOUR COLUSA COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

## CITY OF COLUSA

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

CONTRACT NO. 0610002-001C

Sealed proposals for the work shown on the plans entitled:

### CITY OF COLUSA;

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### PROJECT PLANS FOR:

**Colusa New Water Production Well, Pilot Testing, Upgrades to Well Nos 4, 5 & 6, Abandon Wells 2 & 3 & Walnut Ranch Wells 1 & 2**

IN

### THE CITY OF COLUSA

Bids will be received at **City Hall in the City of Colusa City Hall, 425 Webster St. Colusa, Ca 95932, until 2:00 PM on August 26, 2025**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Proposal forms for this work are included in these contract documents, in a booklet entitled:

### CITY OF COLUSA

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### PROPOSAL AND CONTRACT FOR

**Colusa New Water Production Well, Pilot Testing, Upgrades to Well Nos 4, 5 & 6, Abandon Wells 2 & 3 & Walnut Ranch Wells 1 & 2**

IN

### THE CITY OF COLUSA

General work for this project consists of installing a new well (Well No. 9) with an approximate capacity of 2,200 gallons per minute that will include treatment for iron, manganese, and arsenic as needed; abandon Well No. 02, Well No. 03 and Walnut Ranch Well; install iron and manganese treatment to Well No. 05; install odor control treatment to Well No. 06; and integrate Well No. 04 into the City of Colusa's supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system.

**A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2025, at 2:00 PM** at Colusa City Hall, 425 Webster St. Colusa, Ca 95932. This meeting is to inform DBEs of subcontracting and material supply opportunities. Bidder's attendance at this meeting will be considered in determining the bidder's good faith effort to obtain DBE participation.

This project has a goal of 24% percent disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) participation.

**A preconstruction conference will be required for this project. A time and date will be determined after contract award.**

**THIS PROJECT IS SUBJECT TO THE "BUY AMERICA" PROVISIONS OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1982 AS AMENDED BY THE INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY ACT OF 1991.**

Bids are required for the entire work described herein. All documents shall be submitted in the original Proposal and Contract book, or attached to the appropriate pages, to be considered a responsible bid. (Pages may be stapled in.)

The contractor shall possess either a Class A license, or a combination of license classes required for all work at the time this contract is awarded.

This contract is subject to state contract nondiscrimination and compliance requirements pursuant to Government Code, Section 12990.

Please direct questions to the Project Manager, California Engineering Company, Inc., Yuba City, CA (530) 7510952, attention David L. Swartz, PE, PLS.

The successful bidder shall furnish a payment bond and a performance bond.

The City of Colusa hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement; disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation.

Pursuant to Section 1773 of the Labor Code, the general prevailing wage rates in the county, or counties, in which the work is to be done have been determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. These wages are set forth in the General Prevailing Wage Rates for this project, available at the County of Colusa and available from the California Department of Industrial Relations' Internet web site at <http://www.dir.ca.gov>. The Federal minimum wage rates for this project as predetermined by the United States Secretary of Labor are set forth in the books issued for bidding purposes entitled "Proposal and Contract," and in copies of this book that may be examined at the offices described above where project plans, special provisions, and proposal forms may be seen. Addenda to modify the Federal minimum wage rates, if necessary, will be issued to holders of "Proposal and Contract" books. Future effective general prevailing wage rates which have been predetermined and are on file with the California Department of Industrial Relations are referenced but not printed in the general prevailing wage rates.

Attention is directed to the Federal minimum wage rate requirements in the books entitled "Proposal and Contract." If there is a difference between the minimum wage rates predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and the general prevailing wage rates determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations for similar classifications of labor, the Contractor and subcontractors shall pay not less than the higher wage rate. The Department will not accept lower State wage rates not specifically included in the Federal minimum wage determinations. This includes "helper" (or other classifications based on hours of experience) or any other classification not appearing in the Federal wage determinations. Where Federal wage determinations do not contain the State wage rate determination otherwise available for use by the Contractor and subcontractors, the Contractor and subcontractors shall pay not less than the Federal minimum wage rate which most closely approximates the duties of the employees in question.

In addition, the City of Colusa shall have the primary responsibility for maintaining payroll records, and shall be subject to the requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act of 1931 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014.

CITY OF COLUSA

CITY CLERK:

Shelly Kittle

DATED

08/01/2025, 08/08/2025 · CCPR

## Tax Auction

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTIES FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

September 16th -18th, 2025

(Made pursuant to Section 3692, Revenue and Taxation Code)

On June 17th, 2025 the Board of Supervisors of Colusa County, California, signed Resolution 25-022 authorizing Cindy Dillard, Colusa County Tax Collector to sell tax defaulted properties subject to the power to sale at a public auction.

The sale will be conducted on the internet at [www.publicsurplus.com](http://www.publicsurplus.com), beginning on September 16th, 2025 at 8:00 am (PT) and ending on September 18th, 2025, TBD (PT), as a public auction to the highest bidder for cash in lawful money of the United States or negotiable paper, (cashier's check or money order) for not less than the minimum bid as shown on this notice. If any of these properties are not sold/offered due to any reason/s, those properties may be reoffered for sale within 90 days of this Tax Sale date at the discretion of the Tax Collector. This reoffer information will be announced at the end of this auction.

A computer workstation will be available to persons who need one at 547 Market St, Suite 111, Colusa, CA 95932 during their business hours. The County and its employees are not liable for the failure of any electronic equipment that may prevent a person from participating in the sale.

Due diligence research is incumbent on the bidder as all properties are sold as is. The winning bidder is legally obligated to purchase the property. Transfer taxes will be added to and collected with the purchase price.

Only bids submitted via the internet will be accepted. Pre-registration is required. Register online at [www.publicsurplus.com](http://www.publicsurplus.com). At the time of registration, bidders must submit a refundable deposit of \$1,000.00 electronically at [www.publicsurplus.com](http://www.publicsurplus.com). The deposit will be applied to the successful bidder's purchase price. Full payment and deed information indicating how title should be vested is required within 6 business days after the end of the sale. Only credit card payments will be accepted for deposit.

The right of redemption will cease on Monday, September 15th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. and properties not redeemed will be offered for sale. If the parcel is not sold, the right of redemption will revive and continue up to the close of business of the last business day prior to the next scheduled sale. The right of redemption will revive for any property purchased by a credit transaction if payment in full is not received by the close of business on the date specified by the tax collector.

If the properties are sold, parties of interest, as defined in California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 4675, have a right to file a claim with the county for any excess proceeds from the sale. Excess proceeds are the amount of the highest bid in excess of the liens and costs of the sale, which are paid from the sale proceeds. Notice will be given to parties of interest, pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation code 3692 (e), if excess proceeds result from the sale.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Tax Collector at 547 Market Street, Suite 111, Colusa, CA 95932, calling (530) 458-0440, or by visiting our website at [www.countyofcolusa.org](http://www.countyofcolusa.org)

### PARCEL NUMBERING SYSTEM EXPLANATION

The Assessor's Parcel Number (APN), when used to describe property in this list, refers to the assessor's map book, the map page, and the individual parcel on the map page. The assessor's maps and further explanation of the parcel numbering system are available in the assessor's office. Example: An assessor's parcel number such as 001 001 001 000 would mean Book 1 of the assessor's maps, map page 1 and parcel 1 on the map.

The properties that are the subject of this notice are situated in Colusa County, California, and are described as follows:

FEE PARCEL	OWNER	DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID
001-133-009-000	MITCHELL ANNIE DANYEL	439 7TH STREET, COLUSA	\$ 18,394.19
001-276-002-000	PECK EUGENE L & WINIFRED C JT	933 SIOC ST, COLUSA	\$ 15,031.68
001-284-005-000	LUNSFORD ROBERT E & JEAN JT	1132 5TH ST, COLUSA	\$ 11,563.87
005-191-002-000	RAMIREZ ERIBERTO	766 SIXTH ST, WILLIAMS	\$ 12,260.08
005-191-008-000	MOLINA AMBROSE	730 SIXTH ST, WILLIAMS	\$ 17,346.97
005-320-011-000	KESTERSON AMBER MENDEZ	522 WATERFOWL WAY, WILLIAMS	\$ 98,781.06
010-040-011-000	HULL GAIL RICHARD & NANCY JANE JT	T18N R7W POR SEC 36.5 AC	\$ 1,383.02
010-050-053-000	BEITER RONALD & MERCIA CP	5056 LODOGA STONYFORD RD, STONYFORD	\$ 5,697.49
010-050-079-000	MIRANDA JAMES & MAYETTA JT	5035 EAST PARK RD, STONYFORD	\$ 15,995.76
010-280-050-000	THOMAS SANDELLE CLARK	3.63 AC POR SEC 24 T17N R6W	\$ 4,444.59
010-310-047-000	HOLMES HENRY & CARRIE M TR	2814 LODOGA STONYFORD RD, STONYFORD	\$ 2,029.91
011-184-002-000	MUNIOZGUREN AUGUSTIN ET AL TC	4190 GRAPEVINE ST, SITES	\$ 3,260.85
012-025-003-000	HOGAN SEANA KATHLEEN	238 COMMERCIAL ST #B, PRINCETON	\$ 29,604.54
013-126-042-000	MONDRAGON-LANDEROS HERIBERTO	.20 AC POR HARDENS ADD TO MAXWELL	\$ 7,901.61
014-020-004-000	ECHOLS JOSEPH THOMAS ET AL	158 AC POR SEC 6 & 7 T16N R7W	\$ 9,447.10
015-095-005-000	BROOK JESSIE A	27 ORANGE AVE, COLUSA	\$ 5,229.93
015-330-049-000	CRABTREE OLEND DEE SR (LT) ET AL TC	1638 WILSON AVE, COLUSA	\$ 8,761.32
016-210-024-000	SCHAEFER JAMES & APRIL JT	2199 ZUMWALT RD, WILLIAMS	\$ 32,358.61
016-250-021-000	WELCH BETTY A	799 J ST, WILLIAMS	\$ 5,988.63
018-020-010-000	PETRAY CECIL	70 AC SEC 6 T14N R5W	\$ 2,653.67
020-102-009-000	HAYNES MELVIN & CARMEN TC	81 FIFTH ST, ARBUCKLE	\$ 7,180.59
021-270-008-000	KALAJIAN MURAD JOHN ET AL	.01 AC 15 FT SQ SEC 13 T13N R2W	\$ 1,096.55
030-490-005-000	TAYLOR LORRAINE OR DAVID OR JASON OR KELLER SUSAN	2551 LODOGA STONYFORD RD, STONYFORD	\$ 1,864.48
030-510-030-000	CENTURY RANCH INC	.29 AC CEN RCH UNIT B 4 LOT 915	
030-510-031-000	CENTURY RANCH INC	.32 AC CEN RCH UNIT B 4 LOT 916	
030-520-018-000	CENTURY RANCH INC	.47 AC CEN RCH UNIT B 4 LOT 917	\$ 20,817.74
030-520-019-000	CENTURY RANCH INC	.40 AC CEN RCH UNIT B 4 LOT 918	
030-520-020-000	CENTURY RANCH INC	2673 LODOGA STONYFORD RD, STONYFORD	
030-520-021-000	CENTURY RANCH INC	.37 AC CEN RCH UNIT B 4 LOT 920	
118-010-002-501	MCDANIEL LUCILLE SURVIVING TRUSTEE FAMILY TR ET A	UND 1/2 INT IN 160 AC SEC 11 T14N R6W	\$ 5,028.38

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Cindy Dillard, Colusa County Tax Collector

Executed at Colusa, Colusa County on July 15th, 2025

07/25/2025, 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025 · CCPR



Legal Advertising Hotline  
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916-773-2999

# LEGAL ADVERTISING

Legal Advertising  
7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5  
Carmichael, CA 95608

Colusa County Pioneer Review Adjudicated For and By the County of Colusa, Adjudication No. CV24253 on Sept. 19, 2017.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
**FILE NO. 2025-0000067**  
*Date filed: July 18, 2025*  
The following persons are doing business as:  
**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CEMETERY**  
Business Address:  
**1741 WESTCOTT ROAD, COLUSA, CA 95932**  
Name of Registrant(s):  
**COLUSA FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES OF THE DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO**  
**2110 BROADWAY, SACRAMENTO, CA 95818**  
This business is conducted by a Corporation State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/01/2013.  
*Doug Perez, CFO*  
*34114304*  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Colusa County on date stamped above. I hereby certify that the foregoing Is a correct copy of the original on file in my office.  
*/s/ Cristy Jayne Edwards, Clerk-Recorder*  
**08/01/2025, 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025, 08/22/2025 · CCPR**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
**FILE NO. 2025-0000056**  
*Date filed: June 18, 2025*  
The following persons are doing business as:  
**RUNNING WILD ARTISAN**  
Business Address:  
**1155 LAFAYETTE STREET, COLUSA, CA 95932**  
Name of Registrant(s):  
**RUNNING WILD ARTISAN**  
**1155 LAFAYETTE STREET, COLUSA, CA 95932**  
This business is conducted by a Corporation State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/09/2025.  
*Running Wild Artisan*  
*Aprile Adkins, President*  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Colusa County on date stamped above. I hereby certify that the foregoing Is a correct copy of the original on file in my office.  
*/s/ Cristy Jayne Edwards, Clerk-Recorder*  
**08/01/2025, 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025, 08/22/2025 · CCPR**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
**FILE NO. 2025-0000060**  
*Date filed: July 01, 2025*  
The following persons are doing business as:  
**FAR WEST LEAVITT INSURANCE SERVICES**  
Business Address:  
**650 NORTH MAIN STREET, LAKEPORT, CA 95453**  
Mailing Address:  
**PO BOX 130, CEDAR CITY, UT 84721**  
Name of Registrant(s):  
**LINCOLN-LEAVITT INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**  
**PO BOX 130, CEDAR CITY, UT 84721**  
This business is conducted by a Corporation, State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A.  
*/s/ Kevin P. Grady/Secretary*  
*Articles of Incorporation 2173002*  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Colusa County on date stamped above. I hereby certify that the foregoing Is a correct copy of the original on file in my office.  
*/s/ Cristy Jayne Edwards, Clerk-Recorder*  
**07/18/2025, 07/25/2025, 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025 · CCPR**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
**FILE NO. 2025-0000062**  
*Date filed: July 14, 2025*  
The following persons are doing business as:  
**DESIGNS BY ARACELI**  
Business Address:  
**617 LINCOLN ROAD, COLUSA, CA 95932**  
Mailing Address:  
**PO BOX 1253., COLUSA, CA 95932**  
Name of Registrant(s):  
**PLAZA, ARACELI**  
**PO BOX 1253, COLUSA, CA 95932**  
This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company, State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/14/2025.  
*Araceli Plaza*  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Colusa County on date stamped above. I hereby certify that the foregoing Is a correct copy of the original on file in my office.  
*/s/ Cristy Jayne Edwards, Clerk-Recorder*  
**07/25/2025, 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025 · CCPR**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
**FILE NO. 2025-0000065**  
*Date filed: July 15, 2025*  
The following persons are doing business as:  
**GOAT GET IT GRAZING COMPANY**  
Business Address:  
**614 OAK STREET, MAXWELL, CA 95955**  
Mailing Address:  
**PO BOX 8, MAXWELL, CA 95955**  
Name of Registrant(s):  
**DIRKS, CHELSEA**  
**PO BOX 8, MAXWELL, CA 95955**  
This business is conducted by an Individual State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A.  
*Chelsea Dirks*  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Colusa County on date stamped above. I hereby certify that the foregoing Is a correct copy of the original on file in my office.  
*/s/ Cristy Jayne Edwards, Clerk-Recorder*  
**07/25/2025, 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025 · CCPR**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** on August 12, 2025 at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Board Chambers located at 546 Jay Street, Suite 108, Colusa, California, the Colusa County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of an Ordinance establishing or amending fees for the Colusa County Clerk/Recorder/Registrar of Voters as follows:

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Fn1
<b>CLERK/RECORDER/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS</b>			
<b>Clerk Fees</b>			
Fictitious Business Name Statement	\$ 10.00	\$ 70.00	
Additional Name	\$ 5.00	\$ 8.00	
Withdrawal	\$ 5.00	\$ 55.00	
Abandon	\$ 5.00	\$ 55.00	
Certified Copy	\$ 2.00	\$ 8.00	
Search per name	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	
Copy of Publication	\$ 6.50	\$ 8.00	
<b>Fish and Wildlife CEQA</b>			
County Filing Fee	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	*
Environmental Impact Report (pass thru to state)	\$ 4,123.50	\$ 4,123.50	*
Negative or Mitigated Declaration (pass thru to state)	\$ 2,968.75	\$ 2,968.75	*
Projects Subject to Certified Regulatory Programs (pass thru to state)	\$ 1,401.75	\$ 1,401.75	*
<b>Marriage License</b>			
Public (\$31.00 pass thru to state)	\$ 56.00	\$ 198.00	
Confidential License (\$32 pass thru to state)	\$ 60.00	\$ 222.00	
Issue Duplicate	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00	
Ceremony	\$ 30.00	\$ 95.00	
Commissioner Day	\$ 75.00	\$ 110.00	
Deputy Witness	\$ 5.00	\$ 50.00	
<b>Surety</b>			
Filing Power of Atty	\$ 3.50	\$ 10.00	
<b>Notary Public</b>			
Filing, Canceling, Revoking, Withdrawing	\$ 7.00	\$ 30.00	
Certification of Notary	\$ 1.75	\$ 25.00	
<b>Miscellaneous Fees</b>			
Search Per file	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	
Per hour/15 minute increment		\$ 40.00	
IRS Liens and Releases	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	*
Certification	\$ 1.75	\$ 18.00	
Certificate of acknowledgement	\$ 1.75	\$ 18.00	
Certificate of official capacity	\$ 10.00	\$ 18.00	
Reg Process Server	\$ 100.00	\$ 175.00	
Reg Prof Photocopy	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00	
Reg Legal Doc Asst	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00	
Copy Fee 1st page	\$ 1.00	\$ 8.00	
Each Adtt	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00	
Certification Fee	\$ 1.75	\$ 8.00	
Searches for Genealogy purposes 15 minutes		\$ 40.00	
<b>Recording Fees</b>			
<b>Standard size</b>			
1st page	\$ 16.00	\$ 17.00	
Documentary Tax	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.55	*
Non-Conforming per page (Modernization)	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	*
Spaced more than nine lines per inch or 22	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	*
DA Fraud Program Fee		\$ 10.00	*
SB 2 Building and Jobs	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	*
<b>Additional Page</b>			
Each Additional page	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	*
Additional title	\$ 16.00	\$ 17.00	
Additional Indexing per recorded reference	\$ 1.00	\$ 4.00	
Indexing 10 or more names	\$ 1.00	\$ 10.00	
Preliminary 20 Day Notice	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	
Document recorded without a Preliminary			
Change of Ownership Report	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	
Release of lien	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	*
Involuntary Lien notice	\$ 5.00	\$ 11.00	
Each additional name	\$ 2.00	\$ 11.00	
Combined Documents per title - two or more serially incorporated documents	\$ 16.00	\$ 17.00	
Each additional page	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	
Maps Recording 1st page	\$ 11.00	\$ 40.00	
Each additional	\$ 2.00	\$ 10.00	
UCC Fin Statements 1-2	\$ 16.00	\$ 20.00	
UCC Fin Statements 3 +	\$ 26.00	\$ 30.00	
Conformed Copy	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00	
<b>Copy Fees</b>			
Copies First page	\$ 1.00	\$ 8.00	
Each Additional	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00	
Copies Non-Standard first page	\$ 2.00	\$ 8.00	
Each Additional	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00	
Map copies 1st page	\$ 2.00	\$ 10.00	
Each additional	\$ 2.00	\$ 4.00	
<b>Miscellaneous Fees</b>			
Certificate under seal per document	\$ 1.00	\$ 8.00	
<b>Vital Statistics Fees</b>			
Birth Record	\$ 29.00	\$ 32.00	*
Public Agency	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00	*
Marriage Record	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00	*
Public Agency	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	*
Death Record	\$ 24.00	\$ 24.00	*
Amendment to vital record	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00	*
Certificate of no record (Same as fee in HSC 103625)			
<b>Election Fees</b>			
Election Services per hour		\$ 180.00	
Candidate Filing Fee for Elected County Officials			
Portion of First year salary	1.00%	1.00%	
Candidate Statement	Pro Rata Share	Pro Rata Share	
Standard Voter File CD	\$ 200.00	\$ 120.00	
Printed Walking List (street index) first 1000	\$ 20.00	\$ 45.00	
Each additional 1000	\$ 2.00	\$ 5.00	
Vote by mail reports	\$ 55.00	\$ 45.00	
Candidate List by Office	\$ 3.00	\$ 8.00	
Political Reform Document Retrieval Fee per page	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	*
FPPC over 5 years old	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	*
Voter Certification	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.50	*
Computerized record (current or recently canceled) per name	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	*
Search per file	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	*
Fine for late campaign disclosure statements or late statement of economic interests per day maximum fine of \$100	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	*
Election Map copies	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	*
Notice of Intent to Circulate County Initiative Petition to be refunded within 1 year of the date of filing the notice of intent, the county elections official certifies the sufficiency of the petition	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	*
Special Elections	Actual cost	Actual cost	
District	Actual cost	Actual cost	
City Elections	Actual cost	Actual cost	
School District Elections	Actual cost	Actual cost	

**Fn1** \* denotes fee is set by State Statute and subject to change upon action of the State legislature

All documentation supporting the establishment or amendment of the fees is on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board, located at 547 Market Street, Suite 102, Colusa, CA.  
Any member of the public may appear at the hearing and be heard.

Dated: July 15, 2025  
By            ORIGINAL SIGNED             
Patricia Rodriguez, Deputy 08/01/2025, 08/08/2025 · CCPR

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# COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

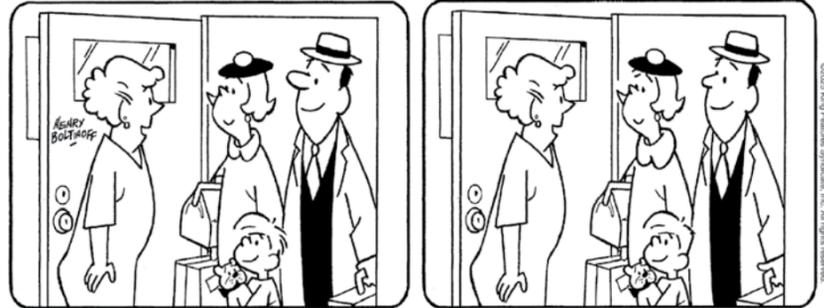


Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



**TIGER**

by BUD BLAKE



**GRIN & BEAR IT**



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



S	Y	L	P	H		S	K	I		M	O	R	N				
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S	E	E	M				O	R	E		S	H	E	E	R		

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**CLUES**

**ACROSS**

1. Mythical air spirit
6. Water glider
9. Opposite of eve
13. Artfully shyly
14. X
15. Move a plant
16. Sainly glows
17. Industrious insect
18. Inundated
19. "An American Tragedy" author Theodore
21. "Ignatius J. Reilly, "A Confederacy of Dunces" protagonist
23. Neither's partner
24. Flipside of pros
25. What hernias do
28. Snowman's corn cob
30. 1970s dancing venues
35. Home to China
37. Biceps exercise
39. W.E.B Du Bois's org.
40. Clays or mucks
41. Quetzalcoatl worshiper
43. Viracocha worshiper
44. Muse of love poetry
46. The Hippocratic one
47. High in decibels
48. Orthopedic device
50. Egyptian goddess of fertility
52. Before, before
53. Kitten's plaything
55. Between Cancer and Virgo
57. "Beatrice Belden's nickname
60. "American Library Association's medal for children's literature
64. C in CSI
65. To boot
67. #61 Down plus E
68. Altar's location, pl.
69. Fled
70. Indian cuisine dip
71. Give an impression
72. Mining product
73. See-through

**DOWN**

1. Common tropical marine fish
2. Part of BYO
3. Orpheus' instrument
4. "Patricia MacLachlan's "Sarah, \_\_\_\_\_ and Tall"
5. Medicinal herb
6. \_\_\_\_\_ anise, chai tea spice
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Kesey's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
8. Foreword
9. Whipper
10. Milky-white gem
11. Like certain people's glasses
12. Greatest possible
15. Ex grape
20. "Fear of Flying" author \_\_\_\_\_ Jong
22. Finish line, e.g.
24. Not doubting
25. "Percival Everett's re-imagining of "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
26. Steal a throne
27. Type of wave
29. "The Godfather" author Mario \_\_\_\_\_
31. Go yachting
32. Birch bark vessel
33. Come to pass
34. "Dashiell Hammett's hardboiled detective Sam
36. \_\_\_\_\_ Spumante
38. Classic game show "\_\_\_\_\_ Make a Deal"
42. Argentina's western neighbor
45. December birthstone, pl.
49. "Mai" follower
51. Paris' underground tourist attraction
54. Yesteryear style
56. West African religious practice
57. Genealogical plant
58. Winter window design
59. Allah's cleric
60. Opposite of all
61. Huron's neighbor
62. Baptism or shiva, e.g.
63. 2025, e.g.
64. "The Young and the Restless" network, acr.
66. Boat propeller

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7	1	8	3	5	2	4	6	9
6	8	4	7	2	9	1	5	3
1	9	5	8	3	6	2	4	7
3	2	7	5	4	1	8	9	6
9	3	1	2	6	5	7	8	4
8	4	2	9	7	3	6	1	5
5	7	6	4	1	8	9	3	2

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		4				5	3	
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3	2				8			
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	7	6		1				

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.

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# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Attitude is everything or can we say 90% of everything. No one takes the last shot thinking there's a 10% chance it's going in. No, you believe with all your heart you can make the shot and when it actually goes in, it simply confirms what you knew all along. That you are excellent at what you do, and success just naturally follows.

That's the way it is with athletes, coaches, and it certainly pertains to fans as well.

During the Sacramento Kings eye popping wins during summer league that left them a gnat's eyelash of winning the title for the third time, fans were more than buoyant. Four players stood out, beginning with the Kings heralded rookies Maxime Raynaud and Nique Clifford. Second year players Isaac Jones and Devin Carter also made a splash, and gave every Kings fan a reason to start shopping for good seats in the upcoming season.

Could next season be something special and once again return the Sactown boys to the playoffs? Not if you listen to the morning show on 1140 am or the talking heads on ESPN. Sadly, even some Kings fans are seeing the glass half full, and instead of extenuating the positive, are finding reasons why the Kings won't have a winning season.

I grew up in San Jose as a youngster, where the Warriors were the only NBA team in Northern California, but sadly were perennial losers. Right up until the team drafted a guy by the name of Rick Barry. A power forward who not only won rookie of the year honors, but lead the team to their first ever championship in San Francisco in 1976. With only one star on the team, and a cast of characters that probably couldn't crack the lineup of any other NBA team, all the Warriors did was sweep the Washington Bullets 4-0 in the NBA finals. It would ultimately be Rick Barry's only championship of his career, but like Jerry West who also had but one championship, Rick would see his jersey retired and enter the NBA hall of fame with great pride.

Entering the 1976 season, although there was no ESPN at the time, basketball pundits scoffed at the idea that the Warriors would even make the playoffs, let alone win a championship.

So, for all the naysayers out there, I say get a life. Domantas Sabonis is not window dressing, and neither is sharpshooter Zach Lavine who was second in the NBA in 3-point percentage last season.

Truly DeMar DeRozan doesn't get his due, but if used effectively DeMar can make opposing teams weep. His mid-range shooting is something to admire, so capitalize on his strength and let DeMar show fans how he can fill the scoring column and stretch the floor.

Everyone is waiting to see how Nique Clifford's summer league success will translate to the NBA regular season, but there is no reason to believe that he can't duplicate the double faceted scoring and rebounding that he has been known for during his college career.

Are people watching big man Isaac Jones? Jones has a knack around the rim that few players can duplicate, and he loves drawing fouls and converting 3-point plays. Jones isn't just NBA ready, he is ready to make a difference, and he will do just that if coach Christie is smart enough to give this talented forward 20 plus minutes every game.

The same can be said for Devin Carter and newcomer Nique Clifford. These young players will make their share of mistakes, but they also get fans on their feet. All of these players are extremely athletic, and their best NBA years are ahead of them.

Scott Perry is no rookie, and thus far he has shown a measure of restraint as it relates to making trades. I like that, and although I would like to see things come together quickly, it simply isn't the way things are done.

Let's give Perry his accolades for a noteworthy draft, and ample time to secure the last couple of moves that may very well propel this current team into the playoff's next season.

Don't be afraid to be a homer Kings fans. It feels good and just like the 1976 Warriors, anything is possible.

Keep faith Kings fans and start buying tickets. You won't be sorry!

All the best!

Your thoughts are always welcome at [vgarriskingsfan@gmail.com](mailto:vgarriskingsfan@gmail.com). ★

## Social Security Matters I'm Turning 70. When Should I Apply for Social Security?



By Russell Gloor,  
AMAC Certified Social  
Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I have a very simple question: I will turn 70 on September 20th and want to start my Social Security benefits in September. What month should I file my claim? Have there been delays with the reductions in SSA staff? Thank you for your help. **Signed: Ready to Claim.**

**Dear Ready to Claim:** Social Security allows you to submit your application for benefits up to 4 months prior to the month you wish benefits to start (you will specify your desired benefit-start-month on the application). Thus, to have your benefits begin in September (the month you turn 70), you can submit your application as early as May 2025. That will give SS plenty of time to get your benefits started on time. Remember, though, that SS pays benefits in the month following the month earned, so if you start benefits in September,

you will receive your first SS payment in October (on the 3rd Wednesday). And, since you will be turning 70 in September you are entitled to full benefits effective from the first of that month. Congratulations on choosing a strategy which maximizes your monthly payment. By claiming at age 70, your monthly SS benefit will be about 31% more than it would have been at your full retirement age, and you will get that higher monthly amount for the rest of your life.

Re your question about possible delays, Social Security staff reductions have not included "front line" agents (those who handle applications), so the SS recent staff adjustments should not likely delay processing your application. Although some back-office staffing turmoil currently exists at SSA, they have been moving more people to front-line positions to try to improve their service. Just be aware, however, that it normally takes the SSA about 2 to 3 months to process new applications, which is why they allow applications up to 4 months in advance. You will specify the month you wish benefits to start on your application. In any case, although your

application should be fine if you submit it this month, rest assured that they will pay you starting with the month you requested, even if they must do so retroactively.

FYI, you can apply for Social Security in person by making a telephone appointment to do so at 1.800.772.1213, or you can apply online at [www.ssa.gov/apply](http://www.ssa.gov/apply). To apply online, you need to have first created your "my Social Security" online account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount). Here is a video which explains the online application process: [www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim\\_r01.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm).

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## Why California's Agricultural Industry Is at Odds Over Solar Farms



By Dan Walters,  
CALMatters.org

The Imperial Irrigation District, which provides water to farmers in the southeastern corner of California, drew a figurative line in the sand earlier this month, calling for a halt to the conversion of agricultural fields into solar panel farms.

Noting that more than 13,000 acres of fertile land had already been converted, the water district asked the Imperial County Board of Supervisors to protect productive farmland.

"Our identity and economy in the Imperial Valley are rooted in agriculture," Gina Dockstader, who chairs the district board, said in a statement. "Solar energy has a role in our region's future, but it cannot come at the cost of our farmland, food supply, or the families who depend on agriculture. This resolution is about protecting our way of life."

The Imperial Valley conflict is one manifestation of an increasingly sharp debate within California's \$60 billion agricultural sector — the largest of any state — over what should happen as the acreage devoted to crops and livestock shrinks.

The state Department of Conservation says that agricultural lands declined by more than 1.6 million acres between 1984 and 2018, averaging 47,000 acres a

year. The most productive land experienced the largest decline. Urbanization — the conversion of fields into homes and businesses — accounted for most of the decline, but residential development has slowed in recent years, contributing to a chronic housing shortage.

Other factors, such as labor shortages, production costs and uncertain water supplies, have created what industry leaders say is a crisis. The Public Policy Institute of California has estimated that the recently imposed limits on tapping underground aquifers to irrigate crops will result in 500,000 acres of farmland being taken out of production.

More recently, President Donald Trump's imposition of tariffs and a crackdown on undocumented immigrants have put more pressure on the agricultural industry.

As farmers, particularly the larger corporate growers, take land out of production, many believe that their economic salvation lies in solar panel arrays that generate the emission-free electricity that the state wants, as it phases out power fueled by hydrocarbons.

However, that doesn't sit well with farmers who want to continue production, as the Imperial Irrigation District's call for a solar moratorium implies.

Like many conflicts, this one has landed in the Capitol in the form of legislation. Assembly Bill 1156 would make it easier for farmers whose lands are contractually obligated to remain open space under the Williamson Act to avoid paying the heavy penalties required by law.

The Williamson Act, enacted six decades ago to

slow the sprawl of urban development into farmlands, gives farmers hefty breaks on property taxes on land they maintain as open space. AB 1156 would specifically declare that farmers can replace crops with solar farms without incurring penalties if the owner is experiencing water shortages. The bill is backed by the solar power industry, environmentalists, labor unions and many large farmers.

The California Farm Bureau and family farm groups oppose it, arguing that it will undermine the Williamson Act because almost any farmer can declare a water shortage, given the chronic uncertainty of California water supplies. Emulating the Imperial Irrigation District's stance, opponents say wholesale conversion of farmland into solar farms will devastate rural communities that depend on agriculture for jobs.

Politically, it's a David vs. Goliath conflict. AB 1156, carried by Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks, an Oakland Democrat, has been moving briskly through the legislative process. It's already cleared the Assembly and is likely to hit the Senate floor soon.

The solar farm displacement issue is only one of many factors that will determine the future of agriculture in California. The larger existential issue deserves more political attention than it's getting.

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



### The Mossad Canard

It's almost conventional wisdom in certain quarters that Jeffrey Epstein must have been working for the Israeli intelligence service Mossad.

"It's extremely obvious to anyone who watches that this guy," Tucker Carlson said of Epstein the other day, "had direct connections to a foreign government. No one is allowed to say that that foreign government is Israel because we've been somewhat cowed into thinking that that's naughty."

Steve Bannon, covering all his bases, says Epstein was working for Mossad, MI6, Saudi intelligence and the CIA, while Charlie Kirk of Turning Point USA only says that Epstein may have been working for Mossad.

The first question to ask about this purported relationship is, Why would Mossad want to associate itself with Epstein? He was under investigation for his sexual crimes going back to 2005 and convicted of a few of them (as part of a sweetheart plea deal) in 2008, and would be under federal investigation again about a decade later.

Clearly, it would risk an enormous black eye for the State of Israel to connect itself to a known sex offender whose lifestyle was flamboyant and an ongoing crime scene.

What would be the supposed upside? Compromising information on the

rich and powerful? Presumably, there'd be much easier ways to honey-trap men with untoward sexual appetites than hope they become friendly with Jeffrey Epstein and compromise themselves on his private island.

If the notion of Epstein as an Israeli spy seems implausible, if not farcical, it's gotten some superficial plausibility from parts of the record that have been exaggerated or misinterpreted.

Perhaps most important, the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida who worked out the plea deal with Epstein, Alex Acosta, supposedly said that he was told to go easy on Epstein by higher-ups in the Bush administration at the time because Epstein was with intelligence. Acosta allegedly said this as part of his vetting process to become Trump's first secretary of labor in the first term.

But this didn't come directly from Acosta; rather an unnamed source told the story to a reporter. Acosta denies he ever said it. Asked about the matter at a press conference as labor secretary when the Epstein story reemerged, Acosta seemed to deny it, although, admittedly, in a halting and indirect fashion.

As part of an extensive 2020 Justice Department Office of Professional Responsibility report into the handling of the case by Acosta and the Southern District, Acosta told the investigators that he had no information about Epstein being an intelligence asset and that his answer at the press conference was meant to be a "no." The

report related that "OPR found no evidence suggesting that Epstein was such a cooperating witness or 'intelligence asset,' or that anyone --including any of the subjects of OPR's investigation -- believed that to be the case."

What about Epstein's well-documented relationship with former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak? One assumes that a Mossad asset wouldn't spend inordinate time with a former high-ranking Israeli official.

Alan Dershowitz, who represented Epstein, maintains that he asked his client if he had contacts with intelligence agencies, and Epstein said "no," even though it would have been in his legal interest to disclose any relationships.

Regarding Epstein's death, which many believe was really a murder, the Mossad accusations get more fantastic: Israeli intelligence had to clean up after itself by killing an American citizen on U.S. soil, while he was held in a U.S. jail?

By the way, if Mossad killed Epstein, and was capable of pulling off a no-fingerprints operation in extremely difficult circumstances on U.S. soil, surely they would have killed his close associate Ghislaine Maxwell before she went to trial with an incentive to trial her guts.

All of this so beggars belief that it's almost not worth addressing, except that influential voices on the right believe Israel might be behind one of the most hideous scandals in recent American life.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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# End of an Era for Colusa Softball



In his first year in Colusa, Lay guided his team to the NSCIF D5 Championship.

**Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea**

**COLUSA, CA (MPG)** - This season marks the end of an era for the RedHawk softball team after long-time head coach Jamie Lay stepped down after 11 seasons at the helm.

"I've been at this for a while and it's time," said Lay. "I'm looking forward to being able to do more with my family and get in a little more fishing."

Lay, who started his coaching career at Lindhurst High School, spent five years from 2008-2012 working alongside legendary coach Bill Biggs, before taking over in Colusa in 2015.

Even though Lay moved on to coach the RedHawks, Biggs was happy to see Lay get his chance in Colusa and still views his one-time protégé not only as a friend, but also believes that he is as good as they come in terms of coaching.

"I have coached youth sports in this area for 35 years and during that time I have either had Jamie and/or a member of his family on my staff or coaching against me," said Biggs who is now an assistant at East Nicolaus. "If he was one of my coaches, I could relax a little because my kids were going to be taught the fundamentals of playing and I never had any issues with any of his coaching decisions. If Jamie was coaching the team we were playing against, I knew we were going to play a tough hard and practiced harder. He coached with integrity and we need more like him."

Lay's accomplishments

are considerable given that he amassed an overall record of 196-93-3 and led his team to five appearances in the Northern Section Division V title game, with the RedHawks winning it all in 2015 and 2017.

Yet, there is more to Lay's impact than just the wins, as Emily Corriea, the captain of Lay's 2015 team explained, "Jamie was the type of coach that made you want to work hard. He made softball fun and pushed me to not only be a better player, but a better teammate as well. More than that though, he took an interest his players off the field. To this day he still checks in just to say hi or see how I'm doing."

Lay, the second longest tenured softball coach in school history, leaves behind a competitive and respected program, something that came as no surprise to Colusa athletic director Eric Lay.

"Jamie has been a model of character and class," said Eric, who also happens to be Jamie's older brother. "He has done things the right way building a program rooted in teamwork and respect. He has always put his players, teams and assistant coaches first, creating a culture of pride and commitment that will be felt long after his departure. His legacy stands on quiet leadership, genuine care and consistent success."

While this season marks the end of Lay's current tenure, don't be surprised if the 2015 Northern Section Coach of the Year returns at some point in the future when his grandkids are ready to play. ★



Above: Colusa softball coach Jamie Lay stepped down after 11 seasons at the helm for the RedHawks. Below: Lay's RedHawks won a second section title in 2017 with a win over their rival East Nicolaus.



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