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COLUSA COUNTY Pioneer Review

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FEBRUARY 20, 2026

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Fire Departments Rally for Paramedic



Firefighters stand at Fifth and Market streets in Colusa during a Jan. 31 boot drive to support paramedic Melissa Lopez as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer. The effort raised more than \$6,000. Photo courtesy of Colusa Fire Department

By Lloyd Green

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - Firefighters across Colusa County are stepping up to support one of their own as local paramedic Melissa Lopez continues her fight against breast cancer.

The Williams Fire Department will host a community raffle to raise funds for Lopez, who has served the county for 15 years. The drawing will take place March 14 during the Williams Firefighters Sportsman's Night. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

Prizes include a RIA 1911 A1 .45 stainless handgun, a Benelli SuperNova 12/28 shotgun and a Winchester gun safe. Organizers list the total prize value at \$3,000. Tickets cost \$20 each.

Tickets are available from any

Williams firefighter, at the Williams Fire Department, the Arbuckle Fire Department and the Maxwell Fire Department. Community members can also call (530) 473-2269 or email mpineda240@williamsfire.net for information.

The raffle follows a recent boot drive hosted by the Colusa Fire Department and supported by Williams Fire and other agencies. Firefighters collected donations on Jan. 31 at Fifth and Market streets, and Fremont and Seventh streets in Colusa.

Colusa Fire Chief Logan Conley said the boot drive raised more than \$6,000 to assist Lopez with expenses related to her treatment.

After the event, the department thanked the community for its support.

"We are beyond grateful for this

incredible community that came together for our boot drive, in support of our own paramedic, Mellissa, who is courageously fighting breast cancer," the department said in a statement. "Because of your generosity, kindness and willingness to show up, we were able to raise an amazing donation that will help support her through this journey."

Lopez's colleagues described her as a dedicated first responder who has served residents across the county for more than a decade.

"This is what community looks like: compassion, strength and standing together when it matters most," the department said. "From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for supporting Mellissa and reminding us how powerful unity can be."

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**Del Monte
Exit Shakes
Sutter Peach
Growers**

By Susan Meeker

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - Del Monte Foods' bankruptcy reached a decisive point this month when a federal court approved the sale of most of the company's assets to three buyers. The ruling confirmed that the company's Modesto fruit cannery, the last Del Monte plant operating in California, will close because no buyer stepped forward to keep it open.

For Sutter County, the closure creates an immediate crisis for the region's cling peach growers, who have supplied Del Monte for generations and now have no confirmed processor for the 2026 season.

"This bankruptcy is going to have serious impacts on our local agricultural community," Sutter County Supervisor Karm Bains said during a recent board meeting. "For more than 140 years, Del Monte has been a cornerstone of American agriculture."

Bains said Del Monte's long presence helped define the region's farming identity and tied the community to the industry.

Sutter County growers harvested about 106,000 tons of clingstone peaches in 2024, generating a gross value of \$66.4 million, according to the most recent crop report.

"Here in Sutter County, a major cannery and extensive peach orchards supported generations of workers and family farms,"

Bains said.

The Feb. 9 court approval finalized three major transactions. Fresh Del Monte Produce will acquire Del Monte Foods' vegetable, tomato and refrigerated fruit businesses, along with global ownership of the Del Monte brand. B&G Foods will take over the company's broth and stock lines. Pacific Coast Producers will acquire rights to Del Monte's shelf-stable fruit products in the United States, Puerto Rico and Mexico. None of the buyers agreed to purchase or operate the Modesto cannery. Industry analysts point to shifting consumer preferences away from traditional canned fruit to fresh, frozen and alternative packaging, along with rising labor, energy and transportation costs that have made large canning operations increasingly difficult to sustain.

Without the Modesto facility, more than 200 Sutter County peach-growing families have no confirmed processing home for their 2026 crop, officials said. Many

Continued on page 2

Arbuckle Public Utility District Presses for Budget Controls

By Lloyd Green

ARBUCKLE, CA (MPG) - At its first meeting since its town hall in late January, the Arbuckle Public Utility District board focused on tightening its finances, controlling operating costs and accelerating plans to avoid a potential wastewater emergency this spring.

Board members questioned whether current monthly revenues are sufficient to sustain routine operations without drawing from restricted county reserves. After reviewing financial reports, Board President Kevin Wood said the district must determine whether it can cover expenses between meetings.

"If we're not able to pay our current bills with the money coming in, we need to figure out why," said Wood.

The district reported



Arbuckle Public Utility District Director Juan Diaz, President Kevin Wood, Secretary Jonathan Ring and General Manager Gary Felkins sit at the dais during the board's regular meeting following the January town hall, where officials discussed finances, sewer system maintenance and emergency planning. Photo by Lloyd Green.

approximately \$94,000 on hand after accounting for February payroll and bills. That figure included about \$27,000 earmarked for

employee retirement contributions. Directors agreed to defer the retirement payment for at least one month to preserve cash while staff

prepare a clearer operating budget.

Wood directed staff to produce a full year

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Deputy Sheriffs Donate to Officer Memorial



Lt. Chuy Ruiz and Janice Bell, members of the Colusa County Law Enforcement Memorial committee, receive a \$2,000 donation from the Colusa County Deputy Sheriff's Association. Centered is Brenna Van Atta, and at left is Nichole Lopez. Photo courtesy of the Colusa County Law Enforcement Memorial Association

By Lloyd Green

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - The Colusa County Deputy Sheriff's Association has contributed \$2,000 toward the proposed Colusa County Law Enforcement Memorial, providing a boost to ongoing fundraising efforts for the courthouse project.

Lt. Chuy Ruiz and Janice Bell, both members of the memorial committee, joined Brenna Van Atta and Nichole Lopez in presenting the donation on behalf of the association. Organizers said the contribution moves the project closer to construction.

The memorial, first proposed in 2024, will honor five Colusa County law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty. The names of the officers, representing three local agencies, will be engraved on stone panels along with their departments and badges. The design also includes space for future additions.

During a recent presentation to the Colusa County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Merced Corona, who chairs the memorial committee, said the monument will be located on the west side of the historic Colusa County Courthouse near the existing flagpole. The site was selected after earlier concerns about preserving the courthouse's historic

appearance.

Corona said the tallest portion of the memorial will stand about five feet high and is intended to complement, not overshadow, the courthouse grounds. The planned footprint includes an area of roughly 20 by 20 feet, with potential for benches and walkways depending on available funding.

The project is being funded entirely through private donations, with no county funds used. The committee has partnered with the North Valley Community Foundation to manage contributions and financial reporting.

Organizers have set a fundraising goal of \$100,000, though current estimates place construction costs closer to \$60,000. Construction will begin once sufficient funds are raised, with hopes of dedicating the memorial during a future National Police Week.

Tax deductible donations may be made by check payable to the Colusa County Law Enforcement Memorial and mailed to P.O. Box 782, Arbuckle, CA 95912, or to the North Valley Community Foundation, 1811 Concord Ave., Suite 220, Chico, CA 95928. Online donations are also accepted through the North Valley Community Foundation website nvcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=9906

Arbuckle Public Utility District Presses for Budget Controls

Continued from page 1

breakdown of monthly expenses, separating routine operating costs from emergency repairs and capital improvements. Several directors said the district needs a predictable monthly spending target so it can determine when transfers from reserve accounts are truly necessary.

"Give us a monthly budget so we know what we should be spending," said Director Juan Diaz.

Sewer system issues also drew attention. Crews recently cleared a blockage in a downtown alley and discovered significant gravel accumulation in a section of line with no intermediate access point. The district now must jet that stretch regularly to prevent backups.

Directors also raised concerns about grease disposal from a nearby commercial kitchen that operates behind a retail property. Director Jonathan Ring called for immediate follow up with county officials if grease is entering the system improperly.

"I don't really care whose fault it is," said Ring. "It needs to stop."

In an effort to reduce strain on the wastewater system, the board also discussed asking local car wash operators to voluntarily suspend or limit operations through November. Wood said commercial car washes represent some of the district's highest water users and even modest reductions could significantly lower inflows to the treatment ponds.

Rather than issuing a formal demand, Wood said they plan to meet with operators to explain the situation and request voluntary cooperation.

Beyond day-to-day operations, the board is moving to secure emergency funding from the State Water Resources Control Board. A formal letter is being prepared requesting access to funds to help offset the cost of hauling wastewater if pond capacity becomes strained later this year.

The board also discussed potential land acquisition for a future treatment facility and authorized preliminary outreach to property owners. Wood said negotiations must begin soon if the district hopes to have an alternate solution online by late summer. *

Del Monte Exit Shakes Sutter Peach Growers

Continued from page 1

growers say they cannot easily shift to other processors because of capacity limits, transportation costs or existing contracts. County officials said the loss of the cannery will also affect far more than growers. Local trucking companies, packing sheds, farm labor contractors and suppliers all depend on the seasonal movement of fruit into Modesto. Bains said the disruption will be felt across the region and will influence agricultural planning for years to come.

Sutter County is working with agricultural groups and industry partners to identify possible alternatives, Bains said. Discussions include short-term processing options and support for

growers who may be forced to make difficult decisions about their orchards. With preparations for the 2026 harvest already underway, growers say the lack of a buyer leaves them facing the possibility of removing trees, a step officials warn would permanently alter Sutter County's agricultural landscape and diminish one of the region's signature crops.

"Our focus is on protecting family farms," Bains said.

County officials stressed that time is short. Without a processor in place soon, they said the fallout could ripple through the local economy, affecting jobs, small businesses and the broader agricultural community. *

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Colusa Welcomes New Firefighter



David Avera, left, Manny Soto, center, and Logan Conley stand during a recognition ceremony at the City of Colusa Fire Department. Soto recently graduated and earned the title of firefighter. Photo courtesy City of Colusa Fire Department

Chiefs Meet with Lawmakers on Fire Funding



Arbuckle Fire Chief Jaime Ramirez, Sen. Megan Dahle, Nevada Consolidated Fire District Chief Jason Robatelle and Williams Fire Chief Jeffrey Gilbert meet at the State Capitol on Feb. 11. Photo courtesy of the Williams Fire Department

By Lloyd Green

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Fire chiefs from Williams, Arbuckle and Nevada traveled to the State Capitol on Feb. 11 to discuss fire protection funding and long-term planning with state lawmakers.

Williams Fire Chief Jeffrey Gilbert, Arbuckle Fire Chief Jaime Ramirez and Nevada Consolidated Fire District Chief Jason Robatelle met with the

chief of staff for Assemblymember Lisa Calderon, Assemblymember Heather Hadwick and Sen. Megan Dahle.

The group discussed funding opportunities and long-term solutions to support fire protection services across California.

The chiefs were joined by Audra Hartman of Public Policy Advocates and Carmen Berry of the Fire Districts Association of California. ★

Almond Board Opens Elections

By MPG Staff

MODESTO, CA (MPG) - The Almond Board of California announced the launch of its 2026 Board of Directors election cycle, which began Feb. 6.

The annual process operates under the federal marketing order for almonds and invites eligible growers and handlers statewide to declare candidacy and vote.

The candidate declaration period

remains open through April 1. Interested individuals must submit written intent to run by that date. The board will verify eligibility for independent grower and handler seats against handler grower lists for the 2025-26 crop year.

Seats open for the 2026 term include Independent Grower No. 1 for a one-year swing term, Independent Handler No. 1 for a three-year term and Independent Handler No. 3 for a one-year swing term.

Each seat includes a corresponding alternate position.

After April 1, the board will mail ballots to eligible independent growers and handlers April 21. Voters must return ballots by May 21. The board will announce results June 2. Newly elected members will begin their terms Aug. 1.

Eligible voters should confirm their contact information with their handler to ensure proper placement on the grower list. Voters may request replacement ballots from the board.

The board includes five grower representatives and five handler representatives, each with an alternate. Members guide research funding, marketing programs, environmental initiatives and compliance with the federal marketing order.

Election details, requirements and forms are available at Almonds.org/Elections. ★



MARILYN MARGARET AZEVEDO • 03/20/1934 - 02/06/2026

Marilyn Margaret Azevedo passed away peacefully on February 6th at the age of 91. She was born March 20, 1934 as Marilyn Jackson in Sacramento to her mother, Lois, where she lived and attended school until the age of 11 when she moved with her family to Maxwell. She graduated from Maxwell High School in 1952 and after briefly attending the College of the Pacific in Stockton, she returned to Maxwell to marry her high school sweetheart Anthony John (Tony) Azevedo. After Tony's two-year stint in the Army, stationed in Louisiana, they returned to Maxwell to begin their life together farming and raising a family. They raised 3 children, Debbie, David And Danny. Marilyn was proud of her little town of Maxwell and belonged to various social clubs over the years, but was most active in the American Legion Auxiliary where served as President for 6 years. She also was very active in the United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir and her solo singing voice was often in demand for local weddings and other events. She was especially fond of playing bridge and was a member of various local bridge clubs over the years. Family always came first



for Marilyn and she was always very active in, and supportive of all of her children's activities and lives. She was preceded in death by her mother Lois, her stepfather Irwin Dages, her husband Tony, and two young daughters Katheryn and Donna Louise. She is survived by her daughter Debbie and her husband Michael, her son Danny, her son David and his wife Kim, and their daughter Anuhea who she always described as her pride and joy. Services will be Tuesday Feb. 24th at 11AM at the Maxwell United Methodist Church. Pastor Terry Deland officiating. Burial will follow at the Maxwell Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Maxwell Fire Dept. or Park & Rec. McNary-Moore Funeral Service

MEMORIAL

FRANKLIN (RUSS) PILGRIM CONNER - 04/29/1944 – 01/24/2026

Franklin (Russ) Pilgrim Conner was born on April 29, 1944 and passed away Jan. 24, 2026.

Frank is survived by his wife Sharon, son Steve Conner, daughter Kristina Conner, and stepdaughter Christi Conner. He was one of four siblings including Lenore Elston, Fred Pilgrim and Anna Lawrence also

stepdaughter Kari Jacobs; stepson Wesley Jacobs with numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

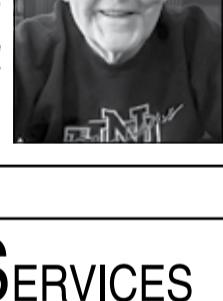
Raised in Maxwell, CA, Frank graduated in 1962. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea and was discharged at Fort Carson, Colorado. He chose to make Colorado his home.

In 1982 he married Sharon and together they

established their own lighting business. Frank loved hunting and fishing, he shared his expertise as a certified instructor for shooting and gun safety.

A private family service will be held in his honor.

Donations may be made in Frank's memory to Happy Cats Haven, 327 Manitou Ave. Manitou Springs, Co. 80829.



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Food & Farm NEWS

Grape Glut Lessens as Growers Scrap Vines

After a yearslong glut, the market for California winegrapes could reach equilibrium in the near future. The state saw "an explosion" of vineyard removals during the past two years, Jeff Bitter, president of the grower-owned marketing group Allied Grape Growers, said last month at the Unified Wine and Grape Symposium in Sacramento. Between October 2024 and August 2025, winegrape growers removed more than 38,000 acres across California—roughly 7% of the state's acreage—leaving about 477,000 acres. Experts projected there will be future demand for around 410,000 acres of winegrapes in the state. "We haven't got to where we need to be yet in order to balance supply and demand," Bitter said. But he added that ongoing removals and an unknown amount of abandoned acreage due to financial stress could bring production close to the industry target as early as this year.

Bill Brings Back ag Overtime Tax Credit Proposal

A bipartisan bill introduced last month by California state legislators would create a tax credit to offset the cost to farmers of paying overtime wages. Senate Bill 921, authored by state Sen. Shannon Grove, R-Bakersfield, and state Sen. Melissa Hurtado, D-Sanger, aims to mitigate the impact that California's agricultural overtime law has had on work opportunities for farmworkers. In 2016, the state adopted Assembly Bill 1066, which beginning in 2019 phased in a requirement that

farmworkers—like workers in most sectors—be paid time and a half when they work more than 40 hours a week or eight hours a day. The law was intended to boost earnings for farmworkers. But research indicates it reduced farmworker income as employers cut hours to avoid paying overtime. "Behind every meal is a story of love, sacrifice and hard work in the fields," Hurtado said in a statement. "SB 921 honors the sweat and sacrifice behind our food with a modern, fair approach to wages."

Solving Veterinary Shortage is Crucial For Agriculture

California's agriculture sector leads the nation due in part to the state's thriving dairy, cattle and poultry sectors, all of which rely on veterinarians. However, the U.S. Department of Agriculture last year identified 243 rural veterinary shortage areas across the country—an all-time high—including in counties across California. "We currently face a critical shortage of food-animal veterinarians nationwide," Gary S. May, chancellor of the University of California, Davis, said in an Ag Alert® commentary. "That's why UC Davis is expanding its capacity to train future generations of veterinarians who will return to their communities and serve the state." The campus' veterinary school recently received a \$120 million gift from philanthropists Joan and Sanford I. Weill. May said the funding will be used to "expand its impact by training these future doctors, advancing large-animal care and strengthening California's health and agricultural future at an unprecedented scale." ★

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Sunday

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Wednesday

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Online:Youtube WNCChurch

Facebook: Williams Neighborhood Church

Community Calendar

Saturday, Feb. 21

Colusa County Historical Society

Annual Luncheon - Noon, Friendship Hall, Trinity United Methodist Church, 511 Oak St., Colusa. Speaker Charles Price of Pacific Gas and Electric Company will discuss the history of energy in Colusa County. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for nonmembers, including lunch. Register at colusi.com/events/2026-annual-meeting-and-luncheon.

Holiday Topper Dinner and Dance

- 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner, Colusa County Fairgrounds Main Exhibit Hall. Hosted by the Glenn Colusa CattleWomen and Cattlemen. Prime rib dinner by Cow Camp Catering, silent auction and dancing to Whiskey River Band. \$150 per couple. Must be 21 or older. Tickets: David Forster, 530-713-7820.

Tuesday, Feb. 24

Business Planning Workshop

- 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Colusa City Hall, 425 Webster St. Free workshop hosted by the City of Colusa, Colusa County Chamber of Commerce and Butte College SBDC. Registration required at bit.ly/4pu1Ac2.

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

- 6:30 p.m., Colusa County Library, 738 Market St. Open to the public. Includes financial report, election of 2026 officers and library updates. Guest speaker Bob Dunning.

Thursday, Feb. 26

Propanil Stewardship Meeting

- 10 a.m. to noon, CIP Conference Room, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa. Hosted by UC Cooperative Extension. Topics include propanil stewardship, resistance management and regulatory updates. DPR and CCA credits available. Information: 530-822-7515 or [sutteryuba@ucanr.edu] (mailto:sutteryuba@ucanr.edu).

Friday, Feb. 27

Chamber Business After Hours

- 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., The Tap Room, 121 8th St., Colusa. Networking event for chamber members. Information: colusachamber.com.

Saturday, Feb. 28

Williams Community Center

FreeCycle - 8:30 a.m. to noon, 860 C St., Williams. Free exchange event. Table setup begins at 8 a.m. Reserve a table: Toni, 707-235-5108.

Parkside UMC Barbecued Chicken Dinner

- 5 to 7 p.m., Parkside United Methodist Church Social Hall, 9th and G streets, Williams. The annual "Chicken in a Barrel" dinner includes chicken, rice, bread and dessert. Takeout will be available, with limited seating on site. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for children ages 4 to 12, and free for children 3 and younger. Raffle prizes will also be offered.

Grad Night Crab Feed

- 5:30 p.m., Colusa Fairgrounds Main Exhibit Hall, 1391 10th St. Crab feed, live auction and raffle supporting the Class of 2026 Grad Night. \$65 single ticket, \$600 sponsor table for eight. Information: Laura 530-632-7936, Cindy 530-501-5278, Amber 530-300-8998.

Maxwell Blue and Gold Dinner and Auction

- 5:30 p.m., Maxwell Legion Hall, 250 Oak St. Supports junior high and high school athletics. \$50 per person.

Monday, March 2

Colusa County Democratic Central Committee Meeting

- 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., 400 Roberts Rd., Colusa. Information: colusacountydemocrats.org.

Tuesday, March 3

Practical Training on Nitrogen Management in Row Crops

- 8:30 a.m. sign in, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. program, UC Cooperative Extension, 142 Garden Highway, Yuba City. Lunch included. The in person workshop will cover practical tools for nitrogen management, nitrogen sources and application considerations, crop nitrogen budgeting and monitoring, irrigation management, and soil sampling. Three hours of CCA and three hours of INMTP continuing education credits are available. RSVP is encouraged at surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=48698. Information: Giuliano Galdi, 559-286-9633, gcgaldi@ucanr.edu

Wednesday, March 4

Book Bedazzling Fundraiser

- 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Colusa County Library Main Branch, 738 Market St. \$20 per person. Materials provided. Hosted by Friends of the Library.

Friday, March 6

Stagehands Present "The Curse of Dionysus"

- March 6 and 7 at 7:15 p.m., March 8 at 2:15 p.m., Stagehands Theater, Colusa County Fairgrounds, entrance at 9th Street. Tickets \$10 at the door. Doors open 45 minutes before showtime.

Saturday, March 7

Colusa Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast

- 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., Scout Cabin, 9th and Parkhill streets, Colusa. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. Cost is \$10.

Non-profit Group Meetings

Colusa Rotary meets weekly at noon

Tuesdays at Rocco's Bar & Grill, 546

Market St., Colusa.

Friends of the Colusa County Library meets monthly on the second Monday at noon in the Morse Conference Room at the Colusa Library, 738 Market St., Colusa.

Colusa County Veterans</b

Community Calendar

Continued from page 4

meeting dates are Feb. 24, March 10 and 24, April 7 and 21, May 5 and 19, June 2, 16 and 30, Aug. 11 and 25, Sept. 8 and 22, Oct. 6 and 20, Nov. 3 and 17, and Dec. 15. Agendas are available at countyofcolusa.ca.gov.

Colusa County Planning Commission meets the first Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Historic Colusa County Courthouse, 547 Market St., Colusa. Agendas are available at countyofcolusa.ca.gov.

Colusa County LAFCO meets April 2, June 4, Aug. 6, Oct. 1 and Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. in the Historic Colusa County Courthouse, 547 Market St., Colusa. Agendas are available at colusalafco.org.

Colusa County Fish and Game Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Historic Colusa County Courthouse, 547 Market St., Colusa, with entrance on the Sixth Street side. Agendas are available at countyofcolusa.ca.gov.

Colusa County Transportation Commission meets the same day as the Board of Supervisors at 3 p.m. in the Historic Colusa County Courthouse, 547 Market St., Colusa. Agendas are available at countyofcolusa.ca.gov.

Colusa County Office of Education meets the second Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. in the CCOE Large Conference Room, 345 Fifth St., Colusa. Agendas are available at ccoe.net.

Community Resources - Find Food

The North State Food Bank Emergency Food Assistance Program

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GARDENER'S CORNER

Camellia Petal Blight

By Colusa Master Gardeners

Camellia petal blight affects all cultivars of *Camellia japonica*. *Camellia sasanqua* is infected less often in California. Because of our wet weather during bud and bloom, I expect more camellia petal blight this year.

Identification - Infection by the *Ciborinia camelliae* fungus initially causes small, brown, irregularly shaped blotches in petals. Spots enlarge rapidly until the entire flower is brown and dead. Except when wet, blighted petals are dry or leathery but do not crumble when handled. Blossoms drop prematurely to the ground, often as intact flowers.

Life Cycle - During the winter and spring when camellias blossom, fungus discharges large numbers of spores that are carried by wind onto emerging blooms, where they germinate and infect flowers when they are wet.

Solutions - Prevention is the best control. Remove the top layer of soil when new plants are purchased and replace it with pathogen-free soil. Plant camellias in a well-ventilated location and avoid overhead irrigation. Pull off infected flowers as they appear and collect fallen blossoms and dispose of them in a covered location away from the plants.

Do not add camellia petals or leaves to mulch that will be used around camellias.

Each year, when blossoms are no longer present, apply a fresh layer of pathogen-free mulch and maintain a 4-inch layer of mulch beneath and somewhat beyond plants to suppress the disease. Remove fallen petals and other debris before applying fresh mulch.

There are no fungicides that eliminate the disease but there are some that can reduce the infections.

The above sanitation methods are the best way

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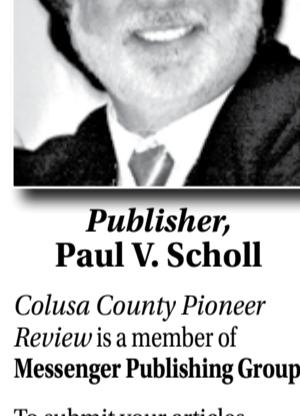
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Paul V. Scholl**

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Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

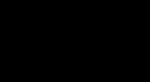
It is the intent of the *Colusa County Pioneer Review* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

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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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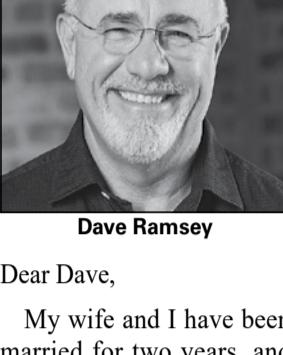
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Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says Compromises Are Part of Marriage

the real reason for the objection. It could very well be that she doesn't want to be further away from her family, and that's natural—to an extent. But like you said, there could be other factors involved.

There might be something in your past that bothers her, or something she doesn't want you to revisit. There may even be feelings of discomfort with your family for things that have happened or been said. It could also be the insecurity that goes along with a move, a new home and a new job. I don't know how far away you're talking about moving, but it could also be she's worried about leaving her job.

From a relationship standpoint, you two each need to lay your cards on the table and be honest with each other. Open up, and really talk about it. Otherwise, it's going to become a sore spot and cause even more problems. Part of marriage is making compromises. Sometimes compromises must be made by one, or both, people in or-

der to do what's best for the relationship in the present and in the long run.

It could be that you just need an impartial referee. Would you both be willing to attend a few sessions with a good pastor or marriage counselor together? Talking to either one doesn't mean your marriage is on the rocks, but sometimes a compassionate and objective third party can help dig down below the surface to uncover issues and help find a reasonable solution to problems.

I hope this helps. God bless you both, Freddie.

— Dave

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

Digging Deeper into Grace

By Tom Tripp

In the Bible, God makes a promise to be with us always — no matter what we may go through: "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged" (Deuteronomy 31:8).

The first 18 books of the Bible offer repetitive examples of God keeping that promise so that we, too, can be sure that God will never abandon us!

When Abram left his homeland and moved to a foreign country, God spoke to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield" (Genesis 15:1). When Hagar fled from mistreatment, God met her with assurances of his care for her and her child (Genesis 21). When Jacob's life was threatened, and he ran away, God met him in a vision of angels going up and down a ladder from heaven (Genesis 28). When Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt, "the Lord was with him, and...the Lord caused all that he did to prosper" (Genesis 39:3). When two Hebrew parents took the risk of putting their baby in a basket in the Nile River, God was with the child, and Moses was rescued (Exodus 2). When the Israelites escaped captivity in Egypt, the Lord was with them and led them through the desert with a pillar of

fire (Exodus 13:21). When Moses died, and Joshua felt incapable of filling his shoes, the Lord said to Joshua, "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

On and on in the first 18 books of the Bible and beyond, we find more and more assurances of God standing with Deborah, Samson, Ruth, David, Hezekiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Esther, Nehemiah and Job.

With the arrival of Jesus in our world, God's promise never to abandon us reached an even higher crescendo. Since God became one of us in Jesus, and since Jesus died for us, we can be assured that even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, God will be with us, walking that way with us, carrying us through.

Paul expresses it beautifully in Romans 8:38-39: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Whatever you go through, God will be with you, never leaving you, and never abandoning you! ★

CHECK IT OUT!

Colusa County Free Library Announces Temporary Adjustments to Branch Hours and Programs

By Stacey Zwold Costello,
Library Director

In an effort to provide consistent and reliable service across all seven branches while a new Circulation Librarian is hired and trained, the Colusa County Free Library will implement temporary adjustments to branch hours and program schedules starting March 1. With only seven staff members, the Colusa County Free Library team manages not only open hours and programs, but also cataloguing materials, administrative tasks and other essential behind-the-scenes work that often goes unseen. These temporary schedule and program adjustments are designed to ensure that core services remain available, to limit unexpected closures and to provide patrons with dependable access to library resources.

The library team is committed to meeting community needs while balancing the realities of staffing.

Updated Branch Hours, March through May: Arbuckle, Monday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday noon to 5 p.m.; Colusa, Monday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday closed, Thursday noon to 7 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Grimes, Thursday 2:30 to 5 p.m.; Maxwell, Tuesday noon to 6 p.m.; Princeton, Wednesday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Stonyford, Wednesday 2 to 6 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Williams, Tuesday 1 to 6 p.m., Wednesday 1 to 6 p.m., Thursday closed.

These temporary changes allow staff to maintain a consistent presence at each branch while completing critical tasks that support library operations and patron services.

The Colusa County Free Library is grateful to patrons for their understanding and support during this temporary adjustment period. Patrons are encouraged to check individual branch hours and program schedules on the library website or by calling their local branch. ★

Supervisors Seek State Funds for Special Election

By Lloyd Green

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - The Colusa County Board of Supervisors on Feb. 10 approved a letter requesting state funding to help cover the cost of administering a special election to fill the Congressional District 1 vacancy created by the death of Doug LaMalfa.

The vacancy triggers a Special Vacancy Primary Election and, if no candidate receives a majority of the vote, a Special Vacancy General Election scheduled for Aug. 4. County officials said the election may be consolidated with the statewide direct primary or conducted as a separate election, each option carrying different legal timelines and administrative demands.

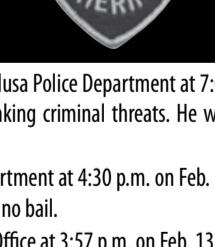
In the letter, county leaders said special elections impose significant and unplanned costs beyond normal election operations.

Those expenses may include additional ADA compliant voting equipment, duplicate ballot production and processing, increased staffing, overtime and compressed certification timelines. If a general election is required, counties must repeat much of the process within a short period of time.

Supervisors said existing funding sources do not fully offset those expenses, placing added strain on county budgets.

The letter states that state assistance is necessary to ensure counties can meet all legal, accessibility and security requirements while maintaining consistent election standards and public confidence in the process.

Supervisors urged the state to provide funding to help counties cover reasonable and necessary election costs so voters across Congressional District 1 can participate fully in the election. ★



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.

Kevin Brett Corwell Jr., 40, listed as transient of Meridian, was arrested by the Colusa Police Department at 7:05 p.m. on Feb. 12 at Highway 20 and Wescott Road on suspicion of battery and making criminal threats. He was booked into the Colusa County Jail on \$25,000 bail.

Heather Renee Thurston, 42, of Arbuckle, was arrested by the Colusa Police Department at 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 11 on suspicion of probation violation. She was booked into the Colusa County Jail with no bail.

Damien Luis Madrigal, 30, of Colusa, was arrested by the Colusa County Sheriff's Office at 3:57 p.m. on Feb. 13 at Bridge Street and Sloc Street near Shop N Save in Colusa on suspicion of being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm and violation of post release community supervision. Bail was set at \$50,000. He was also booked on a no bail hold for the supervision violation.

Michael Vincent McMahon, 28, of Folsom, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol at 11:12 p.m. on Feb. 13 on Highway 20 westbound near King Road on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into the Colusa County Jail on \$2,000 bail.

Juan Antonio Ramirez Estrada, 34, of Maxwell, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol at 3:37 a.m. on Feb. 14 on Interstate 5 northbound south of E Street on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more. He was booked into the Colusa County Jail on \$2,000 bail.

Brayden Sevenlee Skaggs, 26, of Williams, was arrested by the Williams Police Department at 12:50 a.m. on Feb. 15 at Ninth and E streets in Williams on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more. He was booked into the Colusa County Jail on \$2,000 bail.

Miguel Angel Alcaraz Duarte, 26, of Williams, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol at 8:15 p.m. on Feb. 15 on Interstate 5 northbound under Husted Road in Colusa on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more. He was booked into the Colusa County Jail on \$2,000 bail.

Rejuvenation



By Kathy Craig Harteis

All it takes is time at the coast to rejuvenate yourself.

We've had a few days at a beautiful little inn in Mendocino.

Sleeping with the window open, listening to the waves and smelling the sea air has a wonderful effect of peace.

It's our first stay in a bed and breakfast. I have to admit I like the

pampering of it all.

I admit yesterday was a rainy day that delegated us back to our room early in the day.

We watched the SuperBowl. Not too exciting. It was kind of a walk away for the SeaHawks. As far as halftime goes, I'm old and didn't know who Bad Bunny was. Regardless, being that NFL stands for 'National' Football League I'd expect half-time should be in English. I'm just a little old lady brought up in a Christian, conservative home so what do I know? I'm sure a lot of people enjoyed it. I just think I would more enjoy a performance I could understand.

And so it goes.

So this week I tried to give away an item on Facebook. Immediately

someone offered to buy it. I explained it was free. This person went into a long explanation about how he wanted to pay. Red flag when he just kept insisting. It screamed of a scam so I shut him down. If these people spent as much time on a real job as they do trying to rob people it would be a lot better.

All is well. The item is now going to a person I know and like.

One more day at the coast. Life is good today.

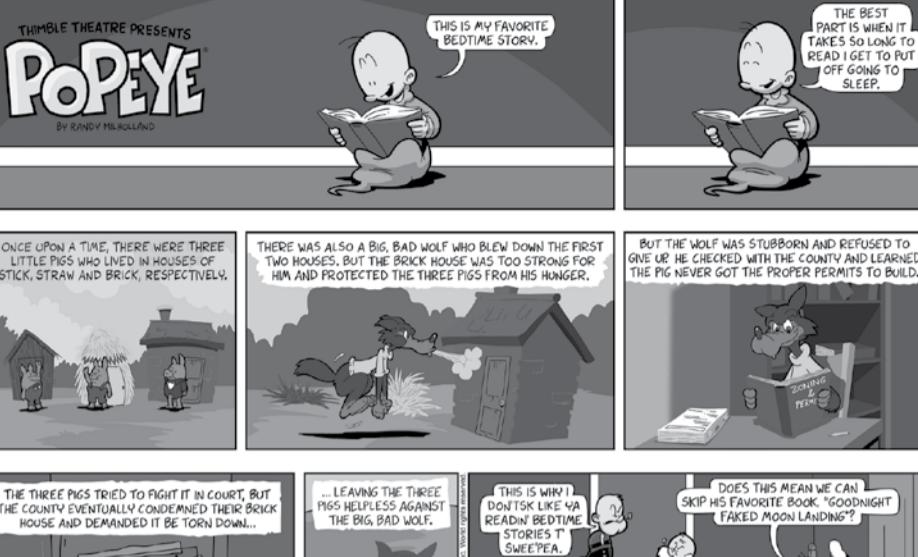
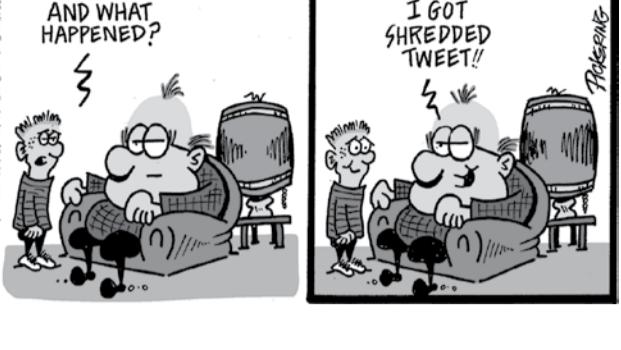
A native of Grimes, CA, Kathy Craig Harteis is a former local journalist and former owner and chief executive of Kathy Craig Media Consulting, in Colusa. She currently lives in Beach, North Dakota, where she lived for many years while raising her family. ★

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



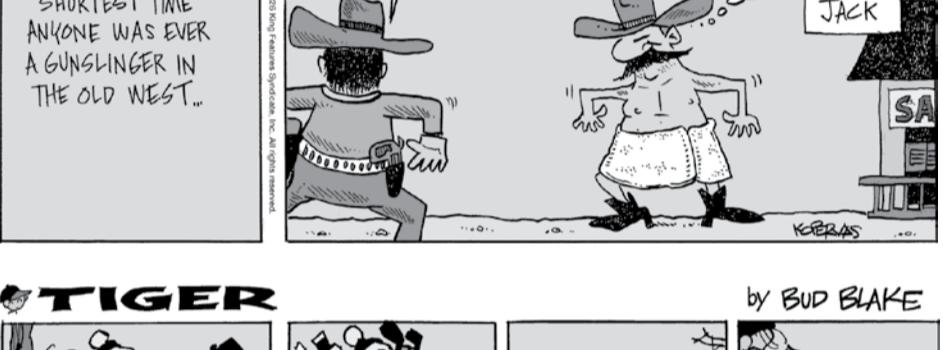
Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb



by Gary Kepervas



Find at least six differences in details in panels.

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by Bud Blake



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

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Colusa, CA 95932

FICTIONAL BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 2026-0000007

Date filed: January 8, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:
HEARTLAND TO HOMEBusiness Address:
2620 S. 5TH AVE., OROVILLE, CA 95965Mailing Address:
PO BOX 674, COLUSA, CA 95932Name of Registrant(s):
MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION OF CA COUNTIES

PO BOX 674, 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: N/A.

Greg Prow, CFO

5349609

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

01/30/2026, 02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026 • CCPR

FICTIONAL BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 2026-0000012

Date filed: January 29, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:
RIMROCK MANUFACTURINGBusiness Address:
3145 WILL S GREEN AVE., COLUSA, CA 95932Name of Registrant(s):
JUSTIN WALLACE

16565 COUNTY RD 94B, WOODLAND, CA 94022

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: 1/1/98.

Justin Wallace

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

02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026 • CCPR

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF COLUSA

CASE NUMBER: CV24914

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF:
HUGO VELAZQUEZ and BLANCA ORNELAS
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner(s) HUGO VELAZQUEZ and BLANCA ORNELAS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

From: VALERIA ORNELAS

To: VALERIA VELAZQUEZ ORNELAS

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, If any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted, Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the county may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:

3/10/26, 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 1

547 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932

A copy of the Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Colusa County Pioneer Review.

Date: FEB. 3, 2026

BRENDAN MICHAEL FARRELL, Judge of the Superior Court

02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026, 03/06/2026 • CCPR

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF COLUSA

CASE NUMBER: CV24899

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF:
LAURA PLASCENCIA
AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner(s) LAURA PLASCENCIA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

From: LAURA RAMOS PLACENCIA

To: LAURA PLASCENCIA

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, If any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted, Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the county may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:

3/10/26, 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 1

547 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932

A copy of the Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Colusa County Pioneer Review.

Date: 1/15/2026

BRENDAN MICHAEL FARRELL, Judge of the Superior Court

02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026 • CCPR

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YUBA COUNTY
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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF COLUSA
CASE NUMBER: CV24916
IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF:
MICHAEL GOMEZ ESCOBAR
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner(s) MICHAEL GOMEZ ESCOBAR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

From: MICHAEL ANGELO GOMEZ ESCOBAR

To: MICHAEL ANGELO ESCOBAR

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, If any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted, Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the county may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:

4/7/2026, 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 1

547 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932

A copy of the Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Colusa County Pioneer Review.

Date: 2/10/2026

BRENDAN MICHAEL FARRELL, Judge of the Superior Court

02/20/2026, 02/27/2026, 03/06/2026, 03/13/2026 • CCPR

Lien Sale 03/01/2026 9am at
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02/20/2026 • CCPR

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reclamation and the Sites Project Authority are partnering on capacity interest in the project to construct a new 1.5 million acre-foot off-stream reservoir approximately 10 miles west of Maxwell, CA for water storage, conveyance, and service. The agreement to be negotiated supports the reservoir project by outlining the terms and conditions to which each party must adhere.

The following negotiation sessions will be held in the Cottage Café Conference Rooms C1001-C1003, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825:

- February 25, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- February 26, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To register and for more information, please contact Jake Brannum, repayment specialist, CGB Regional Office, at jbrannum@usbr.gov.

The public is welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to provide comments regarding this contracting action. Participation instructions and the proposed contract will be available at each session.

02/20/2026 • CCPR

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ROY JUNIOR IDDINGS, aka ROY IDDINGS,
aa ROY J. IDDINGS
CASE NUMBER: PR8459

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Roy Junior Iddings, aka Roy Iddings, aa Roy J. Iddings.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Stephen Leroy Iddings, in the Superior Court of California, County of: Colusa. The petition for probate requests that: Stephen Leroy Iddings 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: 2/23/2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Dept: 2 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:

Erin E. Steidlmyer/STEIDLMYER LAW, APC

659 J Street/PO Box 268

Colusa, CA 95932

Telephone: 530-458-7795

02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026 • CCPR

FICTIONAL BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 2026-0000002

Date filed: January 5, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:

JLC FARMS

Business Address:

7000 NORMAN ROAD, PRINCETON, CA 95970

Name of Registrant(s):

JAMES L. CAMPBELL

PO BOX 252, PRINCETON, CA 95970

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: 01/05/2026.

James L. Campbell

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

02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026, 03/06/2026 • CCPR

SUMMARY NOTICE OF SALE

\$4,065,000*

COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
(COLUSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA),
2026 GENERAL OBLIGATION
REFUNDING BONDS

Notice is hereby given that bids will be received up to 8:05 A.M. Pacific Standard Time, on March 5, 2026 in electronic form via PARITY®. Bids will be reviewed by Government Financial Services Joint Powers Authority, 9800 Old Placerville Road, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95827 at (916) 444-5100, for the purchase of the Colusa Unified School District (Colusa County, California) 2026 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (the "Bonds"). All bids shall comply with the requirements of the resolution adopted by the Colusa Unified School District's (the "District") Board of Trustees in connection with the Bonds (the "Resolution") and the bid parameters to be distributed with the Preliminary Official Statement prepared in connection with the offer and sale of the Bonds. The winning bid shall be selected based upon the lowest true interest cost conforming bid submitted for the Bonds and the winning bidder and the District will enter into a purchase contract with respect to the purchase and sale of the Bonds (the "Purchase Contract"). Copies of the Preliminary Official Statement, the Resolution, the bid parameters of the sale and the Purchase Contract may be obtained via Ipreo/Parity's website, by contacting AVIA Communications, Inc., at (949) 608-9660 or aviacommunications.com or by contacting Government Financial Services Joint Powers Authority, at (916) 444-5100.

The date and time for the sale of the Bonds may be changed at the sole discretion of the District by providing notice thereof through PARITY® not less than 24 hours before the time for receipt of bids.

* Preliminary, subject to change

COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2/20/2026 • CCPR

FICTIONAL BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 2026-0000010

Date filed: January 27, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:

P&M FARMS

Business Address:

W FRESHWATER RD., WILLIAMS, CA 95987

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 1552, WILLIAMS, CA 95987

Name of Registrant(s):

GONZALEZ, PEDRO J.

1003 NICOLAUS DR., WILLIAMS, CA 95987

MARTINEZ DE GONZALEZ, MARGARITA

1003 NICOLAUS DR., WILLIAMS, CA 95987

News Briefs

California First District Opens 2026 Art Competition

The Office of California's First Congressional District has opened the 2026 Congressional Art Competition to high school students across the district. This year's theme is "America, a 250-year Celebration of Liberty." Students can find guidelines and entry details at forms.house.gov/services/ca01-art-competition. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 10. The annual competition will continue following the recent passing of Rep. Doug LaMalfa. The program offers high school students in the First District an opportunity to present their work at the national level. The winning artwork will hang for one year in the U.S. Capitol alongside entries from other congressional districts nationwide.

Fairgrounds to Host Community Yard Sale

The Colusa Fairgrounds will host a community-wide yard sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 28 at the fairgrounds. Organizers are offering 10-by-10 indoor and outdoor vendor spaces for \$25. The event is open to Colusa residents, out-of-town sellers, businesses and informational booths. Fairgrounds staff will promote the sale through social media and flyers. Sellers must provide their own tables and chairs. Outdoor vendors should bring a canopy. Organizers are also inviting food trucks to participate in the second annual event. To reserve a space, contact Araceli at araceli@colusacountyfair.com or call 530-458-2641.

Fairgrounds to Host Community Yard Sale

The Stagehands will once again bring a bit of Easter magic to Colusa with their "Egg My Yard" fundraiser, offering candy filled eggs delivered directly to homes the night before Easter. The group is currently taking orders from Colusa residents who would like prefilled eggs placed in their yards for children to discover on Easter morning. Organizers note that spots are limited and the promotion is open to City of Colusa addresses only. Pricing is set at \$20 for 24 eggs, \$30 for 36 eggs and \$40 for 48 eggs. Additional options are available on the order form. Order forms must be submitted by March 27. To request a form or ask questions, email thestagehands@yahoo.com or text 530-682 3241. Proceeds from the fundraiser will support The Stagehands and its ongoing community efforts. ★

Matthew Rhine Named

Upper Elementary Principal

By Lloyd Green

WILLIAMS, CA (MPG) - Williams Unified School District has named Matthew Rhine as the new principal of Williams Upper Elementary School.

District officials announced the appointment this week, welcoming Rhine to the campus and to the community.

Rhine brings more than 20 years of experience in public education. He began his career in Lancaster and served as a middle school teacher, instructional

coach and vice principal in Palmdale. Most recently, he worked as principal of Community Collaborative Charter School, a TK-8 campus in Sacramento.

His family moved to Northern California in 2021. And he looks forward to supporting students' academic and social growth and building partnerships with families.

Outside of school, Rhine is a husband and father of twin sons. He enjoys cycling, hiking and spending time outdoors with his family. ★



Matthew Rhine has been named principal of Williams Upper Elementary School. Photo courtesy of Williams Unified School District

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Thank A
Veteran
Today

County Files for 211 Approval

By MPG Staff

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - Colusa County has submitted an application to the California Public Utilities Commission to activate the 211 system locally, county officials announced in recognition of National 211 Day on Feb. 11.

The county is working in partnership with Help Central Inc., which operates Butte-Glenn 211, to establish the service.

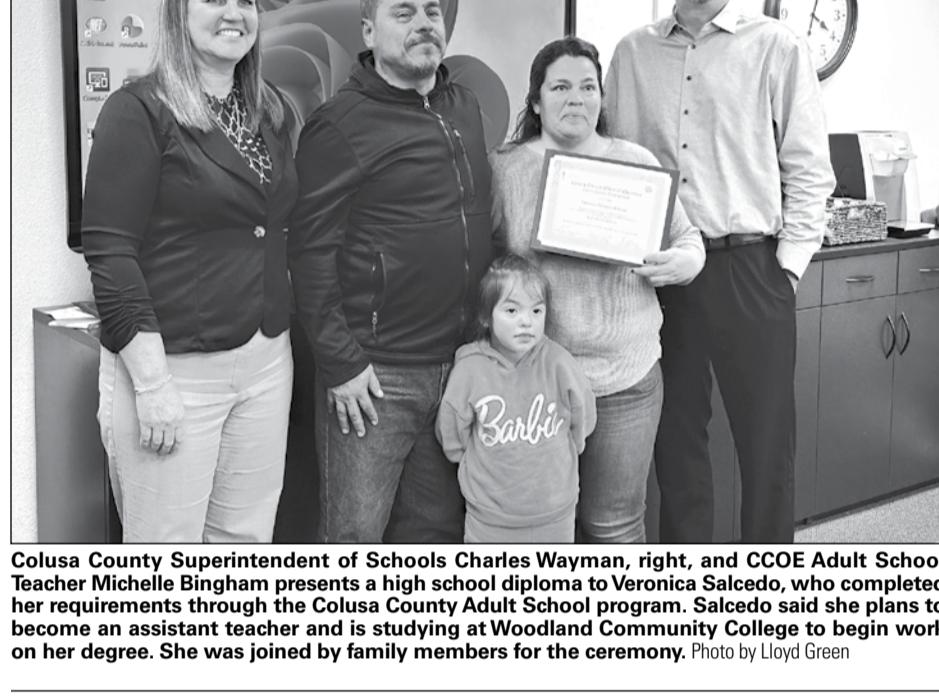
The 211 system provides free, confidential information and referral services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The service connects residents to community resources, including housing, food assistance, health care, mental health services and employment support.

While the county awaits approval from the California Public Utilities Commission, officials have launched an online community resource database at HelpCentral.org. The database will serve as the foundation for the full 211 system once activation is complete.

The website is now available and allows residents to search for local low-cost and no-cost programs and services. Officials noted the database remains under development and may not yet include all available services.

Residents also may access live help text services by texting their ZIP code to 898211. Text line hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. ★

Adult School Graduate Earns Diploma



Colusa County Superintendent of Schools Charles Wayman, right, and CCOE Adult School Teacher Michelle Bingham presents a high school diploma to Veronica Salcedo, who completed her requirements through the Colusa County Adult School program. Salcedo said she plans to become an assistant teacher and is studying at Woodland Community College to begin work on her degree. She was joined by family members for the ceremony. Photo by Lloyd Green

Williams Fire Celebrates Service



Richard Lau, left, receives Exempt Member recognition from Williams Fire Chief Jeff Gilbert during the Williams Fire Department's Annual Ladies Night event. Photo courtesy of the Williams Fire Department

By Lloyd Green

WILLIAMS, CA (MPG) - The Williams Fire Department continued a long-standing tradition of recognition during its Annual Ladies Night event, honoring members for service and dedication to the community.

Among those recognized was Richard Lau, who received Exempt Member status for his years of commitment to the department. Lau was presented with

a plaque by Williams Fire Chief Jeff Gilbert during the ceremony.

The department also named Keenan Jorge as Senior Firefighter of the Year, Braulio Rivera as Cadet Firefighter of the Year and Eduardo Ramirez as Firefighter of the Year.

According to the department, the annual event serves as an opportunity to celebrate the service, professionalism and volunteer spirit that support fire protection efforts in Williams. ★



FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO. 2026-0000013
Date filed: January 29, 2026
The following persons are doing business as:
G&L FARMS
Business Address:
425 RAILROAD AVENUE, MAXWELL, CA 95955
Mailing Address:
PO BOX 21, MAXWELL, CA 95955
Name of Registrant(s):
COSTA, CARLI E.
PO BOX 21, MAXWELL, CA 95955
COSTA, LAURIE L.
PO BOX 21, MAXWELL, CA 95955
COSTA-BARAJAS, ALLISON C.
PO BOX 21, MAXWELL, CA 95955
This business is conducted by a General Partnership, State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A.
Laurie L. Costa
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
02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026 - CCPR

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO. 2026-0000011
Date filed: January 28, 2026
The following persons are doing business as:
GROB APARTMENTS
Business Address:
551 8TH ST., WILLIAMS, CA 95987
Mailing Address:
729 HARRIS ST., COLUSA, CA 95932
Name of Registrant(s):
GENERA, BARBARA
729 HARRIS ST., COLUSA, CA 95932
GENERA, GINO
729 HARRIS ST., COLUSA, CA 95932
This business is conducted by a General Partnership, State of CA. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A.
Barbara Genera
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
02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026 - CCPR

Thank You First Responders

Basketball Roundup



Williams' Diego Ambriz had a team-high 11 points in the Yellowjackets loss to Quincy on Feb. 10.



Pierce's Jaslene Condrey recorded a double-double in the Bears' win over East Nicolaus on Feb. 13.



Princeton freshman Emmanuel Andrade poured in 22 and 27 points respectively for the Eagles in games last week.

Story and photos
by Jennifer Corriea

BOYS

Maxwell 35 – Biggs 69 (2/10)
Maxwell 60 – Portola 48 (2/13)

After a loss to Biggs to start last week, the Panthers bounced back to beat Portola and bring an end to Mid-Valley League play.

In Biggs, Levi Velasquez and Tanner Vierra each dropped in nine points to lead Maxwell, although no information from the win in Portola was made available.

Having finished fifth in the MVL, Maxwell (11-13, 3-7) opened the Northern Section CIF Division VI playoffs as the No. 6 seed in Hayfork on Thursday night with the winner squaring off against either Biggs or Plumas Charter on Feb. 24.

Williams 26 – Quincy 54 (2/10)
Williams 49 – Biggs 81 (2/13)

It was a disappointing end to the regular season for the Yellowjackets as they fell to Mid-Valley League foes Quincy and Biggs.

On the road against the Trojans, Diego Ambriz finished with a team-high 11 points, but no other information from the loss to the Wolverines was provided.

Despite the setbacks, Williams was awarded the No. 15 seed in the Northern Section CIF Division IV playoffs and traveled to Oroville on Feb. 18 to take on the No. 2 Tigers.

Princeton 62 – Elk Creek 33 (2/9)

Princeton 57 – Loyalton 60 (2/10)

In the blowout win at home over the Elks, Emmanuel Andrade poured in 22 points, Nate Ramirez wasn't far behind with 18 points and Erick Haro cleaned up on the boards pulling down 13 rebounds.

Following up in Loyalton the next day, the Eagles played tough but came up short in spite of a 27-point effort from Andrade.

Ramirez tossed in 14 points and Robert Guzman cleared away nine boards.

Princeton (5-19, 4-10) continued its season in the Northern Section CIF Division VII playoffs as the No. 7 seed and were in Happy Camp on Feb. 17 to play the No. 2 Indians.

GIRLS

Pierce 37 – Durham 57 (2/10)

Pierce 37 – East Nicolaus 33 (2/13)

Although the Bears could not get by first place Durham, they did knock off East Nicolaus at home, dropping the Spartans from second to third in the Sacramento Valley League.

In Durham Nita Rodriguez, who played a half in goal for the Bear soccer team prior to the start of the basketball game, posted a double-double that included 11 points and 13 rebounds.

Jaslene Condrey also finished with 11 points in the loss.

Condrey stayed hot against the Spartans recording a 14-point, 12-rebound double-double, while Rodriguez corralled 16 boards.

Pierce (13-15, 7-5) looked to make some noise in the Northern Section CIF Division IV playoffs as the No. 9 seed when they made the trek to Susanville to play No. 8 Lassen on Feb. 17.

Maxwell 40 – Biggs 54 (2/10)
Maxwell 20 – Portola 51 (2/13)

The Panthers ended Mid-Valley League play with a pair of losses, but saw their season continue on Feb. 18 in the Northern Section CIF Division VI playoffs where they took on No. 7 Etna.

On the road against Biggs, Ruby Herrera had a team-high 14 points and Miyah Reyes pulled down 12 rebounds to lead Maxwell.

In Portola, Herrera and Reyes each tossed in seven points, but it wasn't enough for the No. 10 seeded Panthers.

Williams 21 – Quincy 56 (2/10)

Williams 23 – Biggs 54 (2/13)

Despite showing improvement as the season progressed, the Yellowjackets ended the year without a win to their credit.

Jennifer Vega Jimenez led the effort in Quincy with nine points, while Lupita Zuniga's 10-point, 10-rebound double-double paced Williams against the Wolverines. ★

Colusa Girls Fall to Winters

Story and photos
by Jennifer Corriea



Colusa's Braelyn Santana plays defense in the RedHawks' game against Winters on Feb. 13.



The RedHawks' Marlie Berry dribbles up court in Colusa's 30-37 loss to Winters on Feb. 13.

No. 6 seeded Miners with a second-round game on Feb. 19. ★

RedHawk Boys Rally to Clip Winters

Story and photos
by Jennifer Corriea



Colusa's Kaleb Castanon tossed in the game winner for the RedHawks in an SVL matchup with Winters on Feb. 13.



The RedHawks' Gaven Recendez puts up a shot in Colusa's victory over Winters on Feb. 13.

and the foul.

After Castanon knocked down the free throw the Warriors had one last opportunity but were unable to capitalize, allowing Colusa to steal the win after trailing the majority of the contest.

It was an effort that Davis found to his liking as he explained.

"Seeing our squad leave it all on floor for our seniors and myself was storybook for this old coach," Davis said. "The guys were determined and confident going into our final league game. I'm proud of these gentlemen. They had a player only meeting a few weeks back and I love what we are seeing resulting from that."

Ayala led the RedHawks with 10 points, while Castanon finished with nine.

Colusa (14-13, 8-4) ended the regular season as the third-place team in the SVL and enter the Northern Section CIF Division IV playoffs as the No. 9 seed, which sent them to Susanville on Feb. 18 to play No. 8 Lassen. ★

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Soccer Roundup



Pierce seniors Yarely Ruiz (10) and Anahi Ruiz (16) celebrate after their final match for the Bears on Feb. 10.



Williams' Darielle Navarro controls the ball during the Yellowjackets' final match of the season against Pierce on Feb. 10.



Colusa's Eric Gonzalez scored a brace of goals in both of the RedHawks' wins last week.

Story and photos
by Jennifer Corriea

GIRLS

Pierce 5 – Williams 0 (2/10)

In its only action last week, the Bears ended a three-match skid with a shutout victory over county rival Williams to close out their season.

Sophia Oliveros led the way with a brace, while Sophia Mendoza, Olivia Dudley and Yarely Ruiz added one apiece to the total.

Pierce (5-9-1, 2-5-1) finished as the third-place team in the Sacramento Valley League.

Colusa 9 – Maxwell 0 (2/11)
Colusa 1 – Willows 1 (2/12)

Lizbet Ayala came away with a

four-goal haul and Itzel Cruz recorded a hat trick as Colusa, who also got one goal apiece from Janell Garcia and Natalee Stegall, blitzed Maxwell.

However, the RedHawks could not put away the Honkers the following day and had to settle for the draw.

Ayala accounted for the lone goal.

Colusa (11-6-2, 5-2-1) is the No. 3 seed in the Northern Section CIF Division III playoffs and had a rematch against No. 6 Willows on Feb. 19, with the winner advancing to a second-round match against No. 2 Shasta Charter on Feb. 24.

Williams 0 – Pierce 5 (2/10)

Williams 0 – Winters 4 (2/12)

The Yellowjackets saw their season come to an end last week with two shutout losses to their Sacramento Valley League

opponents.

Finishing fourth in conference play and with an overall record of 3-8-2, Williams did not earn a playoff berth.

BOYS

Colusa 4 – Maxwell 2 (2/11)

Colusa 3 – Willows 1 (2/13)

Colusa closed out the regular season on a high note after defeating Maxwell on the road before returning home to down Willows.

Eric Gonzalez and Yandel Ornelas both scored a brace of goals in the win over the Panthers.

Against the Honkers, Gonzalez replicated his performance with his second brace of the week, while Ricardo Hernandez added a goal for good measure.

Seeded No. 6 in the NSCIF Division III playoffs, the RedHawks (6-11-2, 2-5-1) were in Williams on Thursday for a first-round match against the No. 3 Yellowjackets.

Williams 1 – Pierce 2 (2/10)

Williams 1 – Winters 3 (2/12)

Last week wasn't an ideal one for the reigning NSCIF Division III champions as they suffered two setbacks to end the regular season.

Jose Cervantes scored with an assist from Jonathan Garcia in the loss to Pierce, while Max Garcia scored the lone goal against Winters while Jonathan Garcia came through with another assist.

Williams (7-3-4, 3-2-3) begin their title defense as the No. 3 seed at home against No. 6 Colusa on Feb. 19. *

Pierce Boys Soccer Captures SVL Crown



Pierce goalkeeper Alejandro Alcaraz has averaged 6.7 saves per match in the Bears' best season since 2009-10.

Story and photos
by Jennifer Corriea

ARBUCKLE, CA (MPG) - For the first time since the 2009-10 season, the Pierce boys soccer team ended the regular season as the Sacramento Valley League champion after edging Williams 2-1 in a match played on Feb. 10 at Greg LeMaster Field.

Facing their county rival on Senior Night, the match boiled down to the second half where the Bears drew first blood on a goal by Francisco Ruiz.

Yet, the defending Northern Section Division III champion Yellowjackets were not going down without a fight and countered with a goal from Jose Cervantes.

However, Pierce ultimately had the answer as with time running down,

Adrian Duarte put the game winner in the back of the net.

With the victory, the Bears handed the 'Jackets their first loss in SVL play this season and in the process not only secured the championship for Pierce, but also the No. 1 ranking in the Northern Section ahead of teams from Pleasant Valley and Gridley.

Pierce (12-1-2, 6-0-2) which previously won NSCIF titles in 2001, 2003, 2007 and 2008, now enters the 2026 Division III playoffs where it also received the No. 1 seed and a first-round bye.

It returns to the home pitch on Feb. 24 for a second-round match against the winner between No. 4 Hamilton City and No. 5 Redding Christian. *

County Wrestlers Advance to NSCIF Tournament



Pierce wrestlers who qualified for the section tournament pose with the coaching staff at the division championships on Feb. 14. Photo courtesy of Pierce High School Wrestling



Wrestlers from Williams made a strong showing at the division championships held at Paradise High School on Feb. 14. Photo courtesy of Nik Willis

By Jennifer Corriea

PARADISE, CA (MPG) - Competing at the 2026 NSCIF Division III/IV Wrestling Championships hosted by Paradise High School on Valentine's Day, wrestlers from the Pierce and Williams squads made big strides as they qualified for the Northern Section Championship Tournament at Shasta College in Redding that starts today and runs through tomorrow.

Pierce had the largest contingent advance to the meet, seeing eight move on, while Williams will send four to the competition.

In the biggest moment for the Bears, Grace Szmurlo made school history, becoming their first ever division champion after she secured a huge upset in the semifinals then went on to win her title match.

Kiana Alvarez and Quin Stephens both finished second in their respective weight classes, while Rylie Delepiere registered multiple upsets on her way to a third-place finish.

Additional qualifiers for Pierce were Miguel Hernandez, Jordan Arens, Chase Friel and Ailize Saavedra.

In another significant accomplishment, the Pierce girls took third in the team competition, falling just half a point short of second place.

Meanwhile, Williams also made a strong showing with Lupita Flores taking second place at 112 pounds then had a trio including

Julian Camarena, Rafael Moreno and Jose Valdez all qualify for the section meet as well, with fourth place finishes in their respective divisions. *

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California Lawmakers Strike Back at DUI Repeat Offenders

Assemblyman Tom Lackey
News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- After witnessing the devastation caused by drunk drivers firsthand, former California Highway Patrol (CHP) Sergeant Assemblyman Tom Lackey (R-Palmdale) is partnering with Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris (D-Irvine) and Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera) to protect victims, and hold repeat DUI offenders accountable.

"As a CHP officer, I have stood on the side of the road with families who have just lost loved ones to drunk drivers. Those scenes will never leave me," Assemblyman Lackey said. "When you have seen what I have seen, you understand that one weak law can cost a life. We owe it to the victims to do better."

"After losing my eldest grandchild Samantha to a drunk driver, this fight is deeply personal to me," said Senator Archuleta. "It is clear to me from my time with the Montebello Police Department



"When you have seen what I have seen, you understand that one weak law can cost a life. We owe it to the victims to do better." Photo courtesy of Freepik

that these are completely preventable tragedies. California must finally step up and make real change. This isn't a partisan issue. We owe it to every family to prevent these heartbreaking

losses and save lives."

Despite the devastating and permanent consequences of drunk driving, California's laws fail to protect the public from repeat offenders and those who

kill while driving intoxicated. Victims and survivors are ignored by a system that fails to address the magnitude of their loss.

Assemblyman Lackey, Senator Archuleta, and Assemblywoman

Petrie-Norris have each introduced their own bills targeting impaired driving, working together on a coordinated package to protect California drivers and hold repeat offenders accountable.

AB 1685 increases the points assessment for a conviction of vehicular manslaughter and vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated from two points to three, bringing repeat offenders closer to license suspension or revocation.

AB 1686 will allow for a felony or misdemeanor charge for a second offense of a DUI within 10 years.

AB 1687 changes the time-frame for how long the Department of Motor Vehicles can revoke a person's license after they have been convicted of their third DUI from three years to eight years.

"This legislation isn't about retribution," Lackey said. "It's about saving lives. Every DUI death is preventable, and we owe it to families to stop repeat offenders before anyone else suffers this unimaginable loss." *

Bill Strips Veterans of Choice, Delays Access to Earned Benefits

Assemblyman Jeff Gonzalez
News Release

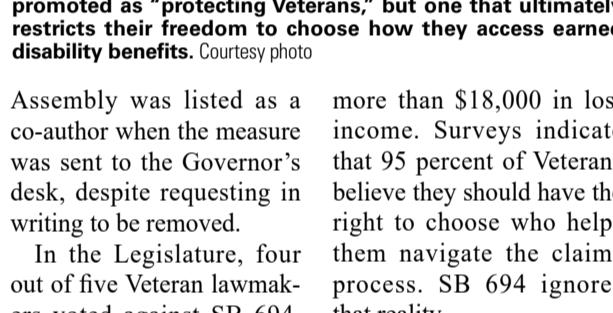
CALIFORNIA (MPG) - Feb. 10, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 694 (Archuleta), a measure promoted as "protecting Veterans," but one that ultimately restricts their freedom to choose how they access earned disability benefits.

Despite calls for a veto, the governor chose to side with institutional interests over the lived experiences of disabled Veterans. SB 694 eliminates lawful private assistance options that many Veterans rely on after traditional systems fail them. These systems are plagued by backlogs, understaffed offices, and delays that can last months or years, often resulting in underrated claims or denials.

"There's a market for private assistance because the system doesn't work for everyone," said Josh Smith, CEO and co-founder of Veteran Benefits Guide. "Seventy percent of the 55,000 Veterans we've helped over the past decade tried free services first. They came to us because they had no other option."

Veterans did not turn to private assistance out of convenience, but out of necessity. SB 694 removes those options entirely, replacing choice with gate-keeping and delay.

The bill was advanced using procedural maneuvers that shut out meaningful Veteran input. It moved through the Assembly as a different bill before being gutted and amended in the Senate. The only Veteran serving in the



Newsom signed Senate Bill 694 (Archuleta), a measure promoted as "protecting Veterans," but one that ultimately restricts their freedom to choose how they access earned disability benefits. Courtesy photo

Assembly was listed as a co-author when the measure was sent to the Governor's desk, despite requesting in writing to be removed.

In the Legislature, four out of five Veteran lawmakers voted against SB 694. Supporters framed Veteran choice as exploitation, sidelined dissenting Veteran voices, and elevated institutional stakeholders while ignoring the lived experiences of disabled Veterans who rely on these services to survive.

"As the only veteran in the Assembly, Jeff knows firsthand the needs of veterans and to take away their resources like this is unacceptable to those who served our country," said Assembly Republican Leader Heath Flora.

"Veterans know what delay costs," said Assemblyman Jeff Gonzalez (R-Indio). "When benefits are held up, it's not abstract. It means missed rent, postponed medical care, untreated PTSD, and families left without stability. As a Veteran, I find it deeply troubling that the state would take away options Veterans chose because the system was not working for them."

Industry data shows that prolonged benefit delays can cost Veterans an average of

more than \$18,000 in lost income. Surveys indicate that 95 percent of Veterans believe they should have the right to choose who helps them navigate the claims process. SB 694 ignores that reality.

Lawmakers were presented with an alternative. Assemblyman Gonzalez worked on a bipartisan proposal that would have preserved Veteran choice, established real consumer protections, cracked down on bad actors, and provided additional funding for County Veteran Service Offices. That balanced approach was rejected in favor of a blanket prohibition that limits access rather than improving outcomes.

Other states have chosen reform over restriction. California instead chose prohibition. This decision will eliminate jobs, drive legitimate Veteran serving businesses out of state, and reduce transparency for Veterans seeking help.

"This bill does not protect Veterans. It protects a broken status quo," Gonzalez added. "If we are serious about having Veterans' backs, we should be expanding access and accountability, not taking options away from the people who earned these benefits through their service."

Caltrans News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Caltrans recently announced major steps in strengthening its commitment to public transportation by establishing a new Deputy Director for Transit and Rail Programs and restoring the Division of Mass Transportation to create a dedicated team focused on providing faster, more reliable and connected transit services statewide.

The department is also releasing its first holistic Director's Policy on Transit to support more coordinated and efficient transit and rail services along the State Highway System and ultimately improving connections for millions of California riders.

"Caltrans is taking great strides in making our transportation network safer and more efficient by prioritizing transit to improve mobility for Californians of all ages and abilities," said Caltrans Director Dina El-Tawansy. "These critical steps will help California achieve its progressive climate, health, equity, and environmental goals while fostering socially and economically vibrant, thriving and resilient communities."

The Director's Policy outlines the department's vision of delivering transit priority projects on state highways and enhancing Caltrans' role in developing transit statewide. It focuses on transit priority facilities such as dedicated bus lanes, signal priority and other infrastructure to make road-based transit service faster and more reliable on the State Highway System.

These changes will help reduce travel times, improve safety and make transit a more attractive option for Californians. The policy aims at improving air quality by reducing the number of cars on our roadways and lowering greenhouse gas emissions and prioritizes transit as a core consideration in Caltrans' decision-making



processes to ensure all communities enjoy equitable and improved access to transit.

To drive this transformation, Caltrans is aligning resources and expertise and reinforcing its commitment to public transit by establishing the Deputy Director for Transit and Rail Programs. This executive role is dedicated to overseeing transit and rail programs and accelerating the delivery of projects that make public transportation more efficient and accessible.

The Division of Mass Transportation, in partnership with the Division of Rail, will work closely with partners to integrate transit into California's transportation system and support initiatives that make public transportation more convenient and more sustainable. It will do so in partnership with the new California Transit Advisory Committee (CALTAC), which will advise Caltrans on transit-related matters.

California Transit Advisory Committee will consist of 20 member agencies and organizations from a diverse group of transit stakeholders, such as transit agencies, state universities, disadvantaged communities and transit experts.

California Transit Advisory Committee will meet regularly to ensure that policy stays current and reflects the most innovative state of the practice. As such, California Transit Advisory Committee will position Caltrans to develop a world-class, equitable transit system.

The new executive leadership, organizational structure and coordinated transit policy will work hand-in-glove to achieve a world-class transit and rail network and cultivate a thriving and connected California.

Learn more about the Director's Policy on Transit at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-planning/division-of-transportation-planning/office-of-transit-planning/directors-policy-on-transit>.

New Home Sales in Greater Sacramento Region Climb 79%

North State Building Industry Association
News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - New home sales in the greater Sacramento area got off to a fast start in January, soaring 79 percent higher than December's totals, the North State Building Industry Association reported recently.

A total of 605 new home sales were reported by Building Industry Association members across the eight-county region, compared to just 338 sales in December. Traditionally, December is the slowest month for new home sales in the region while January, February and March are often the strongest.

The monthly total was up 1 percent from

last January's 598 and tied August 2024 for the highest monthly sales volume since May 2024, when



Traditionally, December is the slowest month for new home sales in the region while January, February and March are often the strongest. Photo courtesy Freepik

666 homes sold.

Building Industry Association President and CEO Tim Murphy said several factors likely contributed to

the surge in sales.

"Mortgage rates are holding steady in the low 6% range and attractive builder incentives remain available," Murphy said. "Prospective buyers may simply be tired of sitting on the fence and are ready to take advantage of those incentives, along with the wide range of locations and floorplans currently available."

Once again, Roseville and Rancho Cordova led the region in sales, with 133 and 124 respectively. Elk Grove was third with 54, followed by Sacramento (51) and Lincoln (45). The remainder of the top 10 were Natomas (41), Plumas Lake (36), and in a three-way tie for eighth place, El Dorado Hills, Folsom and Galt with 19 each.

There were 189 active communities at the end of the month in the region, which includes Amador, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba counties.