



Easter Events Set Across Region
PAGE 3

Records Set at Regier Invitational
PAGE 11



COLUSA COUNTY

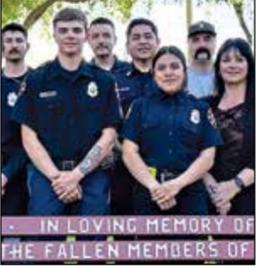
Pioneer Review

Single Copy \$1.00

VOLUME 19 • ISSUE 13 Serving Colusa and all of Colusa County Since 2008 MARCH 27, 2026

SEE INSIDE

FIREFIIGHTERS DEDICATE MEMORIAL BENCH



IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE FALLEN MEMBERS OF
PAGE 2

ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL ALS TOURNAMENT RETURNS



PAGE 5

SOFTBALL ROUNDUP



PAGE 10

A Century of Answering the Call

Maxwell Fire Protection District Celebrates Centennial



Members of the Maxwell Fire Protection District gather for a group photo in front of a historic fire engine during the department's 100th anniversary celebration March 21.

Story and photos by Susan Meeker

MAXWELL, CA (MPG) - The tones still drop the same way they always have in Maxwell, sudden, sharp, and impossible to ignore, signaling a call that has defined this small Colusa County town for 100 years.

Someone leaves dinner half-finished. A ranch gate swings open. A pager sounds. And somewhere, a volunteer firefighter heads out the door.

On March 21, that rhythm paused. Families gathered at the Maxwell Fire Protection District's Oak Street Station for a free community dinner to



Fire Chief Kenny Cohen, right, speaks inside the station during the Maxwell Fire Protection District's centennial event Saturday before introducing Bill Barrett Sr., who served more than five decades.

celebrate 100 years of service in a town where the fire department has never been far from home. Fire Chief Kenneth Cohen looked out at the

crowd, generations of firefighters and families, and pointed to a legacy that has never really left.

"Bill Barrett's father was actually one of the founding members of the department," Cohen said. "In 100 years, there's always been a Barrett involved with this station."

That continuity has defined Maxwell. The department's earliest records trace back to 1926, when residents first met to organize fire protection for the town. Within a year, a formal roster of charter members appeared: Pete Riordan, Bill Yarbrough, Eugene Pence, Chris

Continued on page 9

Williams Rejects Arbuckle Request to Cut Wastewater Rate

By Susan Meeker

WILLIAMS, CA (MPG) - The Williams City Council on March 18 declined a request from the Arbuckle Public Utility District to reduce the fee charged to process wastewater hauled into the city, opting to maintain the current rate despite acknowledging the district's ongoing crisis.

District officials asked the city to lower the rate from 5 cents to 3 cents per gallon as Arbuckle struggles with aging infrastructure, recent wastewater spills and mounting hauling costs.

Although sympathetic to Arbuckle's situation, Williams officials said the city could not absorb the reduced rate while covering the cost of operating its own system.

"It's difficult to say that," Mayor Kate Dunlap said. "As a city, we want to be good neighbors to the residents around us and the surrounding communities."

Arbuckle Public Utility District General Manager Gary Felkins told the council the district's wastewater system is under significant strain, with aging infrastructure and ongoing operational challenges driving up costs and limiting capacity.

Felkins said the district's sewer ponds, some dating back to the 1950s, are no longer keeping up with demand, forcing emergency hauling and leaving the agency dependent on uncertain state funding.

"Last year we hauled almost 29 million gallons... it cost us \$2.5 million," Felkins said.

As the Pioneer Review previously reported, Arbuckle's wastewater system has faced repeated spills since March 31, 2023, including a June 2025 incident that reached an adjacent orchard. State regulators issued a cleanup and abatement order requiring dredging, levee repairs and updated response plans.

To prevent further spills, the district began hauling wastewater to other facilities, first to Orland at higher cost, then to Williams, reducing expenses due to a quicker turnaround but not eliminating the financial strain.

"There's no way we can tell people to stop using the sewer," Felkins said.

Felkins said district officials are looking to the state to help fund long-term plans that call for replacing the existing system with a modern wastewater treatment facility capable of producing reuse water for

Continued on page 5

Hickel Honored with Park Bench

By Lloyd Green Jr.

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - For more than 70 years, Alma Hickel has shaped the lives of families across Colusa through quiet service, steady leadership and a lifelong commitment to her community.

Family, friends and community members gathered Monday, May 9, at Sankey Elmwood Park to honor Alma Hickel, recognizing more than seven decades of service to Colusa, her church and generations of local families.

At 99, Hickel's life reflects a long record of volunteer work, leadership and care for others. Her service began in 1953 when she joined the Catholic Ladies Relief Society of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, where she supported charitable efforts and helped advance the group's mission of faith, hope and charity. Over the years, she became a lifetime member and served in several leadership roles, including three terms as president, along with time as recording secretary and

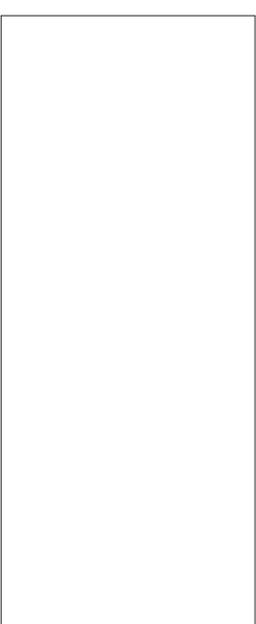


Alma Hickel, center, is surrounded by family on a newly dedicated bench at Sankey Elmwood Park in Colusa on May 9, recognizing her more than 70 years of service to the community. Photo courtesy of the Catholic Ladies Relief Society

board member. "Alma has dedicated her life to this community, our church and hundreds of children and their families," the Catholic Ladies Relief Society said in prepared remarks. "She has always been willing to assist wherever there is a need and has shown God's love in the lives she has touched." Her service extended beyond the church. In 1966, Hickel helped

Continued on page 6

PRSRD STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID CARMICHAEL, CA PERMIT NO. 350 OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER SINGLE COPY \$1.00 7 06970 38049 3



Firefighters Dedicate Memorial Bench



Members of the Colusa Firefighters Association and Colusa Rotary Club gather March 11 at A.B. Davison Park for a bench dedication honoring fallen firefighters. A trident maple tree was planted as part of the Rotary's Trees for Tomorrow program. Photo by Lloyd Green Jr.

By Lloyd Green Jr.

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - The Colusa Firefighters Association dedicated a memorial bench Wednesday, March 11, at A.B. Davison Park to honor fallen members of the Colusa Fire Department.

Firefighters gathered at the park alongside members of the Colusa Rotary Club, who marked the occasion by planting a trident maple tree through their Trees for Tomorrow program.

The bench sits across from the city's splash pad, a location selected to serve both as a place of reflection and a practical resting spot for families. Parents

can sit while children play nearby.

Colusa firefighter Emmanuel Soto said the association had worked on the project for an extended period and expressed appreciation that it is now in place for the community.

As part of the event, the firefighter's association donated \$100 to support the Rotary's tree planting program. The Trees for Tomorrow initiative focuses on expanding the local tree canopy and improving public spaces. To learn more, visit cityofcolusa.com/trees

The bench now stands as a permanent marker recognizing those who served in the department while also adding to the park's amenities. ★

Council Rejects Fire Truck Purchase

By Lloyd Green Jr.

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - The Colusa City Council declined to advance a proposed aerial ladder fire truck on March 17 after no council member stepped forward to second the motion, halting the purchase and leaving the city without a plan to replace aging front-line fire equipment.

The proposal, presented by Fire Chief Logan Conley, sought approval to secure a Sourcewell contract for a ladder truck estimated between \$1.5 million and \$1.6 million, with a two- to three-year delivery timeline. The truck would serve as both an aerial unit and a first-out engine for structure fires.

After an hourlong discussion, a motion by Councilmember Greg Ponciano died without a second, ending consideration of the purchase despite warnings from fire officials about equipment reliability and response capability.

The council did not propose or vote on an alternative plan to replace the department's primary engine.

The Colusa Fire Department is operating frontline engines that are up to 24 years old, with its newest engine now 13 years old. The department does not operate an aerial ladder truck. National Fire Protection Association standards recommend apparatus exceeding 10 years of service be moved to reserve status and replaced as first-out units.

"If we do not purchase a piece of equipment to replace that first-out engine, it's going to create an unreliable response for the city," Conley said. "We still have a responsibility to provide equipment that we can respond safely with."

Despite those concerns, council discussion focused largely on financial risk.

The proposed funding plan relied on a combination of strike team revenue and impact fees. Conley said the department currently has about \$443,000 in strike team funds, with additional reimbursements pending, and that no payment would be required until the truck is delivered.

"This is the third year that we'll be having a deficit budget," said Colusa City Mayor Denise Conrado. "Each year gets a little bigger."

Concerns also centered on the volatility

of strike team funding.

"It's a huge concern," said Councilmember Daniel Vaca. "We don't have control of that money coming in. It's hard to swallow that size of a purchase when our revenues keep decreasing year in and year out."

Vaca warned the city could face cuts if revenues fall short.

"At that point, we'd have to start looking at cuts," he said. "Now we're talking about potentially losing employees."

The discussion also turned to whether lower-cost options had been explored.

"Have we looked at buying a used truck?" said Councilmember Dave Markss.

"Have we ever done that on the police side?" said Councilmember Ponciano, directing the question toward police leadership.

No direction was given to pursue used equipment.

Conley said the ladder truck was selected as a long-term solution, noting that a new Type 1 engine alone would cost more than \$1 million without providing aerial capability.

Supporters of the proposal pointed to the department's history of using strike team revenue to fund equipment.

"What the fire department is asking is to use strike team revenue in the exact way it's meant to be used," Ponciano said.

The department currently relies on mutual aid from neighboring agencies for ladder support, which is not always available.

"We have had no ladder truck in our county," Conley said.

The issue comes as the department prepares for an Insurance Services Office audit in April. The ISO rating evaluates fire protection capabilities and can influence insurance costs for residents and businesses.

Despite public support for the purchase, the council declined to move forward and did not set a timeline to revisit the proposal.

The decision leaves the department operating with its current fleet and without a defined path to replace its primary front-line engine.

"What I'm looking for is direction," Conley said. "We still have to be able to respond to our citizens." ★

Wurm Takes First in Stockton



Dustin Wurm of the Colusa Ducks skeet team poses after taking first place in the young adult division with a score of 97 out of 100 at a competition Sunday in Stockton. Photo courtesy of Bruce Hardwick

Proudly LOCAL

AlSCO-Geyer

ACE Hardware

STORE HOURS
Mon-Sat: 7am to 6pm • Sunday: 8am to 4pm

Stihl Product & Services • Lumber • Plumbing Supplies
Propane Fill • Bissell Carpet Cleaner
Lock & Key Services • Rental Equipment
Paint Matching • Gifts & More!

600 5th Street • Arbuckle
(530) 476-3003

Chevron

Davies Oil Co. Inc.

150 13th Street, Colusa

- Truck and Trailer Deliveries
- Truck Bulk Fuel Deliveries
- 24 Hour Cardlock Fuels and DEF
- Bulk DEF Deliveries

Complete line of Chevron Lubricants
Delo Motor Oils and Hydraulic Oils

(530) 458-2881

member of

Reading Oil Inc.

PACIFIC PRIDE

COMPLETE LINE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
 EXIDE BATTERIES
 BULK LUBRICANTS • BULK DEF

24 HOUR GAS & DIESEL CARDLOCK
 1535 LURLINE AVE. COLUSA
 3941 HWY 99 MAXWELL

(530) 458-4727

SUPERIOR TIRE SERVICE

Firestone

MICHELIN **COOPERTIRES**

24 HOUR FARM TIRE SERVICE

Complete Service

- Brakes ■ Alignments ■ Front End Work
- 21 Point Quick Lube Service

458-7741
247 BRIDGE STREET ■ COLUSA

Easter Events Set Across Region



Members of the Colusa Lions Club prepare hundreds of hand-dyed eggs ahead of the organization's 70th annual Easter Egg Hunt, set for Saturday, April 4 at 9 a.m. at the Colusa Fairgrounds. The event remains one of the few in the region that still uses real eggs. Photo courtesy of the Colusa Lions Club

By Lloyd Green Jr.

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - A long-standing Colusa tradition will mark a milestone this spring as Colusa County communities prepare for Easter events, followed by a full schedule of activities across the wider region.

The Colusa Lions Club will celebrate 70 years of its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4 at the Colusa Fairgrounds, 1303 10th St. The hunt begins at 9 a.m. and is open to children from toddler age through third grade.

The event dates back to 1956, when the Lions first organized the hunt. Organizers say the format has remained largely unchanged, with members dyeing real eggs and hiding them early in the morning, along with a selection

of golden eggs. Families gather each year as children search the grounds while the Easter Bunny greets participants.

The anniversary highlights the longevity of a community event that has served multiple generations of local families.

Also in Colusa, the Colusa Assembly of God will host its eighth annual community Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 4 at 1747 State Highway 20. The free event runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and includes games, a petting zoo, photo booth, craft tables and multiple egg hunts by age group. Organizers report more than 6,000 eggs and dozens of raffle prizes, including a grand prize drawing.

At 9 a.m. sharp, the Arbuckle Golf Club plans to host its annual Easter egg hunt at 5918 Hillgate

Rd. The event is open to the public and includes free entry and multiple age groups, including preschool and under, kindergarten through second grade and third through fourth grade. The Easter Bunny will be in attendance.

Across the region, Easter events will begin Saturday, March 28, with several activities in the Yuba-Sutter area.

The third annual Sutter Youth Organization Egg Hunt will take place at the SYO Hall, 7740 Butte House Road in Sutter. Doors open at 9 a.m., with the hunt beginning at 9:30 a.m. The event includes donuts, face painting, crafts and photos with the Easter Bunny.

In Yuba City, the Yuba City Senior Center will host Breakfast with the Easter Bunny from 9 to 11 a.m. at 777 Ainsley Ave. The

event includes breakfast and free photos. No RSVP is required.

Additional events that day include EggVenture Into Easter at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 3101 Colusa Highway in Yuba City, and the Spring Egg-Stravaganza from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 429 10th St. in Marysville. Both events are free and include egg hunts, games and family activities.

An Easter Egg Hunt will follow at 1 p.m. at the Sutter County Sheriff's Posse Arena, 56 Second St. in Yuba City, with separate hunts for age groups and a designated area for special needs participants.

On Sunday, March 29, the Yuba-Sutter Marketplace will host a spring festival from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1215 Colusa Ave. in Yuba

City. The event will feature multiple egg hunts, a petting zoo and visits with the Easter Bunny.

Several events are scheduled for Saturday, April 4 across the region.

In Gridley, the Gridley Lions Club will host its Easter Egg Hunt at 11 a.m. The event is open to children ages 0 to 9, with a designated area for special needs participants. Attendees are encouraged to bring a canned food item to support local food closets. The Easter Bunny will also be on site.

The Yuba Foothills Agricultural Communities Association will host its annual Easter egg hunt from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Alcouffe Center, 9185 Marysville Road in Oregon House. Hunts will be organized by age group. ★

Regional Meat Processing Facility Tour Set for March 30

By Lloyd Green

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - Organizers have announced another public tour of the developing USDA and California Department of Food and Agriculture certified meat processing facility at the Colusa Industrial Park.

The guided tour will take place Monday, March 30, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and will give producers, community members and interested residents a closer look at the project as construction continues.

The facility, located at Colusa Industrial Properties in Colusa, is being developed by Colusa Industrial Properties Corporation and is designed to process cattle, swine, sheep and goats. Once completed, the plant is expected to help address the limited availability of inspected meat processing facilities serving Northern California.

During an earlier tour of the project, organizers explained the growing need for regional processing capacity.

"The demand for this type of facility is real, and it has been growing for years," said Jacob Kley of Colusa Industrial Properties. "We've seen older USDA facilities closing across the state, and there's a clear bottleneck for small and mid-sized producers trying to access inspected processing."



During a recent tour attended by producers, Yuba-Sutter fair representatives and agricultural professionals, organizers outlined plans for inspections and operations. Initial processing is expected to begin under CDFA inspection, with USDA inspection to follow once federal approvals are finalized. Photo by Lloyd Green

The project has expanded from its original concept as partners worked to meet regulatory standards and respond to industry demand.

Community Development Services has helped coordinate outreach for the project and is working with producers and community members throughout the region.

"The goal is not just to build a facility, but to make sure it serves the people who need it most," said Andy Lucas of Community Development Services. "That includes small producers and communities that have not always been part of traditional economic development efforts."

Organizers say tours are intended to provide transparency about the project and gather feedback from potential users.

"We want to hear from producers about their needs," Lucas said. "That feedback helps guide how the facility operates and how it grows."

The first phase of construction is approximately 80 percent complete with anticipated completion in June 2026. Phase one includes a 3,600 square foot slaughter facility and a 1,000 square foot cold storage space.

Grant funding through the California Jobs First program and the We Prosper Together collaborative is helping support construction and community engagement efforts tied to the project.

Those interested in attending the March 30 tour are encouraged to register in advance.

To RSVP, visit <https://tinyurl.com/schedule-tour-meat-facility>

For more information contact Colusa Industrial Properties at 530-458-2118 or visit cipcorp.com. ★

CARVALHO'S

Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION



Factory Authorized Dealer

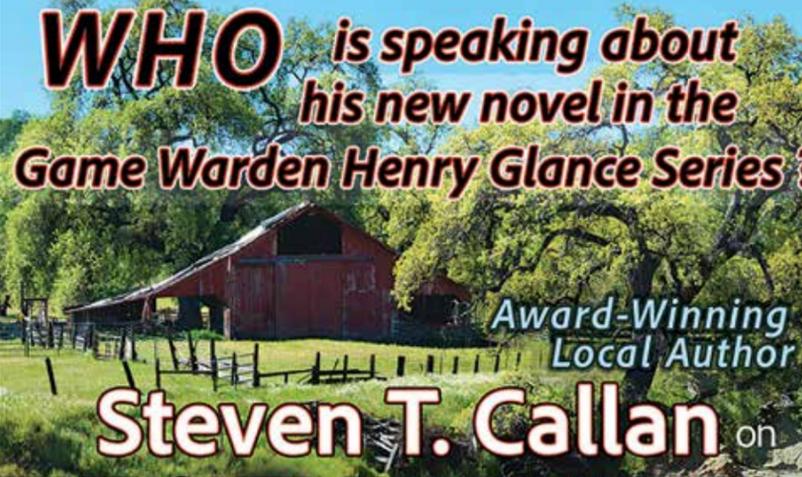
ALL MAKES & MODELS
SALES • SERVICE
INSTALLATION

WHATEVER IT TAKES!

Ask About Special Financing
**with approved credit*

David Carvalho Lic #: 959513
Cell: 530-301-8910 • Bus: 530-438-2999
Español (530) 301-0831
carvalhosheatandair@frontier.com • carvalhosheatandair.com

WHO is speaking about his new novel in the Game Warden Henry Glance Series?



Award-Winning Local Author

Steven T. Callan

on

THE OUTLAW FROM NEWVILLE

at The Colusi County Historical Society

Presentation and luncheon on Saturday, April 18, 2026
NOON-2PM at the Glenn Success Square Conference Center
131 East Walker St, Orland members \$20, nonmembers \$22, includes lunch

Register Online at Colusi.com

Food & Farm NEWS

Iran War Strands

California Farm Exports

The U.S.-Israeli war with Iran, now in its third week, is taking a toll on California's high-value agriculture sector. In addition to causing sharp increases in fuel and fertilizer costs, the war has disrupted access to key export markets. Since the war began on Feb. 28, Iran has responded to U.S. attacks by effectively closing the Strait of Hormuz, a crucial shipping route, and paralyzing commercial ports in nearby countries that host U.S. military bases. Robert Verloop, CEO of the California Walnut Board and Commission, said 70,000 tons of walnuts, or about 10% of the billion-dollar sector's yearly production, were either en route to the Middle East or scheduled to be shipped there this month. "That certainly is at risk," Verloop said. Tulare County nut exporter Bikram Hundal said one vessel carrying a shipment of his was diverted to the Netherlands, while another was rerouted to Algeria. "It's going to be a loss," Hundal said.

Could Tea be California's Next Cash Crop?

Aside from water, tea is the most widely consumed beverage in the world. It can be found in almost 80% of U.S. households, according to the Tea Association of the USA Inc. More than 160 million Americans drink tea, yet tea isn't grown domestically. Atef Swelam, director of the University of California Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Fresno County, would like to see California farmers

capitalize on this untapped market. "We import about 120 million pounds of tea into the U.S. annually, spending about \$6 billion," Swelam said. He added that as San Joaquin Valley farmland is retired to comply with California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the niche crop could give growers a way to maximize profit per acre. This week, farmers are invited to the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center to learn about opportunities for growing and marketing the crop.

Tomato Agreement Aims to Manage Parasitic Weed

Beginning this season, processing tomato growers, haulers and harvesters will come under mandatory state compliance agreements designed to contain and manage the parasitic weed broomrape. The California Department of Food and Agriculture introduced the agreements, which spell out equipment sanitation and broomrape risks, just before the 2025 season as part of a soft launch. This season, the agreements will be required to be signed by all parties before tomatoes are moved from a field, said Michelle Dennis, CDFA Integrated Pest Control Branch chief. The reason for the tough stance is the potential economic impact the weed poses to the state's processing tomato industry, said Brad Hanson, a University of California Cooperative Extension weed specialist. "It means you can go from a pretty small problem to a pretty big problem in short order," he said. ★

Community Calendar

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

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

Saturday, March 28

Maxwell Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt - 7:30 to 10 a.m., Maxwell Elementary School, 146 North St., Maxwell. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice and coffee. Cost is \$7 per person, children 2 and under free. The Easter egg hunt begins at 10 a.m. with multiple age groups and Golden Egg prizes. Candy donations, excluding chocolate, may be dropped off at the Maxwell Elementary School office.

Colusa Community Wide Yard Sale - 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., citywide and Colusa County Fairgrounds. Residents may host sales at their homes. Fairgrounds spaces available for \$25. To have an address placed on the yard sale map contact Sue at (530) 415-1633 or Julian at (530) 458-7446. Fairgrounds reservations: araceli@colusacountyfair.com or call (530) 458-2641.

Maternal Health Fair and Community Baby Shower - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., CCOE Education Village, 499 Margurite St., Williams. Free event for expectant parents and families with children under age 2, featuring community resources, health and wellness information, baby supplies and door prizes. Information: First 5 Colusa at 530-458-5555.

Stonyford Museum Tea Party - Noon, 249 Market St., Stonyford. Tea, quiches and scones, raffle and best attire contest. \$25 per person. Information: 530-570-5591.

Sacramento River Comedy Night - 5:30 p.m., Colusa County Fairgrounds. Tri tip and chicken dinner, raffle, live auction and comedy show headlined by Kevin Jordan. \$40 per person or \$400 per table of eight. Reservations: (530) 330-0551.

Wednesday, April 1

Caring Youth Count Awards - 4 to 6 p.m., CCOE Education Village multipurpose room, 499 Margurite St., Williams. Honors youth ages 5 to 18 for Strength of Character, Community Service and Heroic Resilience.

Saturday, April 4

Arbuckle Golf Club Easter Egg Hunt - 9 a.m., 5918 Hillgate Road, Arbuckle. Annual egg hunt for children with separate age groups including preschool and under, kindergarten through second grade, and third and fourth grade.

Kindred Quilt-Along - 10 a.m. to noon, Colusa County Arts Council, Colusa. Free community art event where participants create fabric squares inspired by *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler. No experience required and all supplies provided. Those unable to attend can pick up a fabric square to complete at home and return it by April 7 to be included in the community quilt, which will be displayed publicly.

Sunday, April 5

Easter Egg Hunt - 10:45 to 11:15 a.m., Trinity United Methodist Church, 511 Oak St., Marysville. Children are invited to take part in an egg hunt following Easter Sunday service. Open to all families regardless of background or church affiliation. Coffee and sweets will be available.

Tuesday, April 7

Coffee with Council - 9:30 a.m., Caffeinated, 528 Market St., Colusa. Community members are invited to meet with Mayor Denise Conrado and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Markss to share ideas, ask questions and discuss city issues over coffee.

Friday, April 10

Jim Armstrong Memorial Swinging for a Cure Golf Tournament - 10 a.m. shotgun start, Arbuckle Golf Club, 5918 Hillgate Rd. Four person scramble benefiting ALS research. Cost is \$125 per player and includes dinner. Information: Andi Armstrong, (530) 682 1614

Saturday, April 18

Ruck the Buttes - Registration 7:30 a.m., start 8 a.m., SYO Park, 7780 Butte House Road, Sutter. This 15-mile, military-inspired ruck is hosted by Garage Fitness & Nutrition. Participants are required to carry weighted packs, with guidelines of 10 pounds for women and 20 pounds for men. Entry is \$35 and includes a T-shirt and post-race snacks. Registration available at laurensrucker.com/ruckthebuttes26.

Stagehands Clean Up Day - 9 a.m., weather permitting. Volunteers are invited to help clean and organize the community theater space. For more information, email thestagehands@yahoo.com.

Striped Bass Derby - Colusa. Two-day fishing derby hosted by the Nor-Cal Guides and Sportsmen's Association, with participants able to compete one or both days from boat or shore. Daily payouts and prizes include a \$2,000 grand champion bonus, along with awards for top finishes and largest fish. Weigh-ins are held from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Colusa Public Boat Ramp. Entry includes raffle

tickets and a barbecue lunch. Registration: <https://ncgasa.org>

Non-profit Group Meetings

Current as of publication, please verify schedule with the organization, send updates to lloyd.green@mpg8.com

Colusa County Arts Council meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., 151 Fifth St., in Colusa. Meetings are open to the public.

Colusa County Gun Owners meets the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at El Jaliscense Mexican Grill, 305 Fifth St., Arbuckle.

Colusa County Republicans meet the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Colusa Assembly of God, 1747 Highway 20, Colusa. More info: colusacountygop@gmail.com.

Colusa County Veterans meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Colusa VFW Hall, 108 E. Main St., Colusa. For hall rental, call (530) 701-9413.

Colusa Masonic Association meets the first Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the lodge, 311 Fifth St., Colusa.

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.

Garden Club of Colusa County meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church, 642 Fifth St., Colusa.

Maxwell Legion Auxiliary meets the first Monday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Maxwell Legion Hall, 250 Oak St., Maxwell.

Pacific Flyway Quilters meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Colusa Masonic Hall, 311 Fifth St., Colusa.

Ukulele Club - The Ukulele Club meets Mondays, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Colusa County Arts Council, 151 5th St. Players of all levels are invited. For info, colusaukuleleclub@gmail.com

Meeting Minders

Current as of publication, please verify schedule with the organization, send updates to lloyd.green@mpg8.com

Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the APRD office, 309 Fifth St., Arbuckle. Agendas available at arbuckleparksandrecreation.org.

Arbuckle Public Utility District meets the second Thursday of the month at 4 p.m. at the APUD office, 104 Fifth St., Arbuckle. Agendas available at arbuckle-pud.org.

Cortina Community Services District meets the fourth Monday of every other month at 6 p.m. at the Arbuckle Golf Course, 5918 Hillgate Rd. Agendas available at cortinacsd.specialdistrict.org

Pierce Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees meets the third Thursday of each month, unless otherwise posted, at 5:30 p.m. in the PHS Multipurpose Room, 960 Wildwood Road, Arbuckle. Agendas available at pierce.k12.ca.us.

Colusa City Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 425 Webster St., Colusa. Agendas available at cityofcolusa.com.

Colusa Planning Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 425 Webster St., Colusa. Agendas available at cityofcolusa.com.

Colusa Heritage Preservation Commission meets the second Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. at City Hall, 425 Webster St., Colusa. Agendas available at cityofcolusa.com.

Colusa Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission meets bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September and November on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 425 Webster St., Colusa. Agendas available at cityofcolusa.com.

Colusa Citizens Oversight Committee meets quarterly in January, April, July and October on the first Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. at City Hall, 425 Webster St., Colusa. Agendas are available at cityofcolusa.com.

Colusa Unified School District meets the third Monday of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the CUSD Conference Room, 745 Tenth St., Colusa. Agendas available at colusa.k12.ca.us.

Maxwell Unified School District meets March 11, April 15, May 13 and June 23 at 8:30 a.m., and June 24, July 8 if needed, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 18 and Dec. 14 at 5 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the District Office, 515 Oak St., Maxwell. Agendas available at maxwell-lusd.net.

Maxwell Public Utility District meets the second Tuesday of the month at 8 a.m.

Continued on page 5

COLUSA LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

YOUR PROFESSIONAL DOCUMENT & NOTARIAL PROVIDERS

Nancy Newlin

530/458-5400

Fax: 530/458-5544

Toll Free: 866/506-7456

nnewlin2019@colusalegal.com

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

First Christian Church

725 Jay St., Colusa, CA

Worship Time
Sunday at 5 PM

Pastor Samuel Krouse
M.Div., D.Min

FirstChristianChurchofColusa.org
Facebook: 1st C, Colusa

Trinity United Methodist Church

United Methodist

511 Oak Street, Colusa
(530) 458-4509

Worship Time
10 AM on Sunday

Pastor Molly Knappen
www.colusaumc.org

Charity Baptist Church

2150 Wescott Rd., Colusa

Sunday

10 AM: Connections Groups
11 AM: Worship Service
5 PM: Evening Service

Wednesday

6 PM: Bible Study and Prayer

Servicios en Español

10 AM: Domingo • 6:30 PM Jueves
www.cbcColusa.com

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

345 Oak Street, Colusa, Ca • 530-458-4170

Tuesday: 7:30 AM - English Mass

Wednesday: 6:00 PM Spanish Mass

Thursday: 9:00 AM - English School Mass

6:00 PM - Spanish Mass

Friday: 7:30 AM - English Mass

*Only on 1st Friday of the month

there will be a 6:00 PM Spanish Mass

Colusa Assembly of God

1747 HWY 20, Colusa, CA
(530) 458-2585

Sunday Morning Activities

9 AM - Christian Education Hour

10 AM - Coffee & Fellowship

10:30 AM - Morning Worship Service

Tuesday 6 PM - Band of Brothers

Wednesday 6 PM - Out of This World

Children's Ministry

1st and 3rd Thursdays -

Young Adult Bible Study

Williams Neighborhood Church

606 12th Street, Williams

Worship Sundays at 10:30 AM

(530) 273-8043

www.WNC.Church

Online: Youtube WNC Church

Facebook: Williams Neighborhood Church

Community Calendar

Continued from page 4

at the MPUD office, 54 N. San Francisco St., Maxwell. Agendas available at maxwellpud.myruralwater.com.

Maxwell Parks and Recreation District meets the second Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Maxwell Parks and Recreation Building, 64 W. Oak St., Maxwell. Agendas are available at maxwellparkandrec.com.

Williams City Council meets the third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 810 E St., Williams. Agendas available at cityofwilliams.org.

Williams Parks and Recreation Commission meets as needed on the first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 810 E St., Williams. Agendas available at cityofwilliams.org.

Williams Planning Commission meets the fourth Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 810 E St., Williams. Agendas available at cityofwilliams.org.

Williams Unified School District Board of Trustees meets the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the WUSD Board Room, 260 11th St., Williams. Agendas are available at williamsusd.net.

Colusa County Board of Supervisors meets twice monthly at 9 a.m. in the Historic Colusa County Courthouse, 547 Market St., Colusa. Remaining 2026 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.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.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.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.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. ★

Williams Rejects Arbuckle Request to Cut Wastewater Rate

Continued from page 1

irrigation if sufficient land can be acquired. Without the state's assistance, Felkins said Arbuckle residents could see rates increase from \$28 to \$300.

Even as they recognized the hardship, the Williams City Council voted unanimously to deny the request and keep the

city's intake rate in place, noting that Williams is already preparing to raise rates on its own residents.

The decision leaves Arbuckle continuing to outsource wastewater processing as it pursues grant funding and rate adjustments for long-term infrastructure improvements. ★

Beauchamp Supports Mental Health Diversion Bill

By Lloyd Green Jr.

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - Colusa County District Attorney Matthew R. Beauchamp announced support for Assembly Bill 46 (Nguyen), legislation that would give courts greater discretion to consider public safety when deciding whether a defendant should receive mental health diversion. Authored by Assemblymember Stephanie Nguyen, AB 46 would restore judicial discretion and give prosecutors a voice within the state's Mental Health Diversion (MHD) program.

Under current law, individuals charged with serious and violent offenses, including attempted premeditated murder, domestic violence and child abuse, are eligible for MHD. Judges are required to find these defendants eligible for MHD if they are diagnosed with any DSM-5 disorder, including anxiety, insomnia and eating disorders. Unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the disorder was not a motivating, causal or contributing factor in the charged offense, MHD must be granted.

Upon acceptance into the program, defendants are released back into the community with minimal supervision and a high likelihood of recidivism, according to Beauchamp. Defendants who complete the program can have their case dismissed, leaving victims

with no protection or assurance they will be free from further victimization.

Assembly Bill 46 would allow courts to consider whether a proposed treatment plan is clinically appropriate to address the mental health disorder underlying the offense and whether a defendant poses a substantial and undue risk to the physical safety of another person if treated in the community.

Mental health diversion programs are intended to help individuals receive treatment while reducing their involvement in the criminal justice system. However, recent court decisions interpreting California's diversion statute have limited a judge's ability to deny diversion in some cases, even as incidents across the state have raised concerns about public safety.

"Diversion programs can play an important role in helping individuals receive the mental health treatment they need," Beauchamp said. "But judges must also have the ability to fully evaluate whether the proposed treatment plan will address the behavior that led to the crime and whether releasing someone into a diversion program could pose a risk to others. AB 46 restores that balance by ensuring courts can consider both the adequacy of a proposed treatment plan and the risk a defendant may pose to others when determining whether mental health diversion is appropriate." ★

Armstrong Memorial ALS Tournament Returns

Story and photo by Susan Meeker

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - Families across Colusa County, including the Armstrong, Peters, Sanders, Vann and Jewitt families, share a devastating connection with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as ALS, a reality highlighted during the Colusa Rotary Club's meeting earlier this month at Rocco's Bar & Grill.

Andi Armstrong spoke about the disease and the families it has touched. She is the wife of the late Jim Armstrong, a Williams firefighter who died of ALS in 2022. Rotary invited her to share how the disease continues to affect local families and why ongoing support for research and patient services remains critical.

"Every 90 minutes, someone is diagnosed with ALS, and every 90 minutes, somebody dies from it," Armstrong said.

She said some families in the Williams area have lost a brother and sister, followed by members of the next generation, pointing to the need for continued funding and progress in treatment.

ALS, often called Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive neurological condition with no known way to stop its advance. Most cases are sporadic, though some are inherited, and diagnosis typically comes between



Rotary Club President Jim Sherman welcomes "Swinging for a Cure" organizer Andi Armstrong on March 10, when she spoke to members about ALS research and community support.

ages 40 and 65.

"With ALS you lose your muscles, your speech and eventually the ability to breathe on your own," Armstrong said.

Jim Armstrong was diagnosed at age 65 and died less than two years later. As the disease progressed, he lost mobility and his ability to speak, ultimately succumbing to respiratory failure.

Since his death, his wife of 34 years has continued organizing the annual Jim Armstrong Memorial Golf Tournament to raise money for ALS research and patient support.

Known as the "Swinging for a Cure" tournament, the event is scheduled for April

10 with a 10 a.m. shotgun start at Arbuckle Golf Club.

Armstrong said the tournament has raised more than \$68,000 over the past three years, supporting programs at UC San Francisco and UC Davis, along with the ALS Association and Team Gleason. The nine hole course fills with about 20 teams each year, and she is seeking sponsors and raffle donations to support the event.

The tournament has become a community fixture, drawing steady support from golfers, sponsors and families affected by the disease.

For information, contact Andi Armstrong at 530-682 1614. ★



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

Colusa County Pioneer Review is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@mpg.com.

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.

Colusa County 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.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



THIS AD IS SPONSORED BY THE PIONEER REVIEW

THE BOOKWORM

440 MARKET STREET • COLUSA • (530) 458-1128

Offering a wide selection of used adult, teen and children's books, cookbooks, reference, self-help books, biographies and travel books, with prices ranging from \$0.50 to \$1.00!

WE ARE OPEN
 Wednesday 11AM to 3PM
 Thursday 11AM to 5PM
 Friday 11 AM to 3PM

NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 10AM TO 2PM

Cosmetics
 Gift Items
 Office Supplies
 Copies & Faxes

FOUCH & SON PHARMACY

692 E. STREET • WILLIAMS

Candies
 Health & Beauty
 Greeting Cards
 Balloon Bouquets

530.473.5350
 OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY • 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
 CLOSED: SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

WE DELIVER
 Your medications or any essential medical products. ASK FOR DETAILS!

MARK AVENUE CHOCOLATES

Est. 1869

DAVISON

DRUG & STATIONARY

- Prescriptions
- Books
- Photo Processing
- Health & Beauty Aids
- Children's Clothing
- Hospital
- Fax & Copy Services
- Party Supplies
- Medical Supplies Sales & Rentals
- Office Supplies
- Candles
- Photo Frames
- Craft & Art Supplies
- Photo Albums
- Greeting Cards
- Gifts & Candies

WE DELIVER
 Your medications or any essential medical products. ASK FOR DETAILS

(530) 458-2188
 640 MARKET STREET - COLUSA
HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 AM TO 6 PM
 CLOSED SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Local Classifieds

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

Auto & Truck Repair

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

We Support Our Military

Health/Wellness

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

Classified Advertising

916 773-1111

GOT LOCAL NEWS?
Call (916) 773-1111

Services

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

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

916-773-1111

Are You a Pro?

Get the word out!

Advertise in the Classifieds
Call 916-773-1111

Digging Deeper into Grace

By Tom Tripp

Our hearts are bombarded with news of the tragedies of war and deaths and hunger and hardships. We look around at the conflicts and suspicions dividing our nation, and we ache inside.

What can be done? What hope is there? In his book, *Healing the Heart of Democracy*, Parker Palmer suggests a reason for hope: "What happens next in you and the world around you depends on how your heart breaks. If it breaks apart into a thousand pieces, the result may be anger, depression, and disengagement. If it breaks open into greater capacity to hold the complexities and contradictions of human experience, the result may be new life."

I pray for our hearts not to break apart amidst the agonies that beset us, but to break open into greater capacities to feel with one

another and to care for one another.

Henri Nouwen points to another basis for hope even in these dark times: "When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who have chosen to share our pain and touch our wounds."

If you are hurting, look for the people who will share your pain. If you see someone else struggling, seek to be the person who will stand beside them. In doing so, you may earn the privilege of living forever in that person's heart as one who means the most to him or her.

Helen Keller offers a third foundation for hope: "Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it."

When you look around at what is happening, look not only at the tragedies. Look also at what some people are doing to overcome suffering. Take hope from their actions and seek to copy the example they set. ★

Hickel Honored with Park Bench

Continued from page 1

establish the Colusa Westside 4-H Club and served as its key leader for 10 years. She organized meetings, recruited project leaders and guided youth through community service and competitions. The club grew to 83 members and 22 adult leaders and earned recognition at the county, regional and state levels.

"One person does not accomplish this by themselves. It is working with others for a common good that gives many rewards as you volunteer," the organization said, quoting Hickel during the ceremony.

Hickel also spent 35 years operating a day care from her home, caring for hundreds of children. She focused on early learning and social development and helped prepare children for school. She retired from her day care in 1995, but many of the families she served have remained connected to her.

"Alma made sure the children learned, had fun and knew they were special and loved," the Catholic Ladies Relief Society said.

Many of the children in her care spent time at Sankey Elmwood Park, adding meaning to the site chosen to recognize her.

Friends and family said her commitment to service carried into her home, where she and her husband, Jim, raised five children.

In 2005, Hickel was named Woman of the Year by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women and received a special award from the Bishop's Office. She was also recognized by Assemblyman John Garamendi for her community service.

"Alma continues to show compassion and love for her community," the organization said.

The tribute took form in a bench installed at the corner of Third and Webster Streets, offering a place for reflection tied to her years of service. The Catholic Ladies Relief Society led the effort, with support from the Knights of Columbus of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

"Alma is so deserving after all she has done for our community," said Maryann LaGrande, president of the Catholic Ladies Relief Society.

LaGrande also thanked the City of Colusa and City Manager Jesse Cain for assisting with installation. ★

In the Nest



By Kathy Craig Harteis

of luck was our decision not to stay a second day in Pocatello. Horrendous winds struck there after we left. My granddaughter's business got hit pretty hard and sustained considerable damage.

Before we got home, our friend Scott Trotter cleared the driveway and the walkway for us. It made it a lot easier unloading. We always appreciate the time he takes to look out for us.

He even rescued our trampoline that blew over the back fence in a high wind here.

Today we jumped into unpacking and regrouping. We have a lot going on in coming weeks so we have to stay on top of it.

We do love being back in our ND home, but will admit we're happy

it will start warming up this week. We got a little spoiled by the lack of ice on the ground in California.

Sadly we lost another friend and neighbor while we were gone. Joel Erickson was one of those guys we loved. A long-time friend and a great neighbor. I will miss him.

Appreciate the people you have among you for as long as you have them.

Life is good today.

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

A native of Grimes, CA, Kathy Craig Harteis is a former local journalist 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. ★



Single Again

Make the rest of your life the best of your life!

Are You Single Again?

SingleAgain.com is a website dedicated to helping people put their lives back together again after divorce, separation or the loss of their spouse.

CHECK IT OUT!

More Than a Good Book: Why Book Clubs Are Worth Your Time

By Stacey Zwald Costello, County Librarian

Book clubs sometimes get boxed into a stereotype: celebrity endorsements, glasses of wine, polite nodding. But in reality, they are something far more meaningful. A book club is a doorway into connection, curiosity and community.

If you have ever considered joining one, here are five great reasons to give it a try:

1. It gives you a reason to actually read - Life gets busy and even the best intentions can get pushed aside. A book club offers just enough structure to keep reading on your radar. That upcoming meeting becomes a gentle nudge to turn the page.

2. It connects you with others - Book clubs bring together people from all walks of life. Conversations grow naturally and, over time, so do relationships. It is one of the simplest ways to build community around a shared interest.

3. It opens your perspective - A book does not end on the last page. Discussing it with others can completely reshape how you see a story. Different viewpoints, interpretations and reactions often reveal layers you may not have noticed on your own.

4. It expands your reading horizons - We all have our favorite genres, but book clubs encourage you to step outside them. You might discover a new author, a new style or even a new favorite book you would not have chosen yourself.

5. It supports lifelong learning and well-being - Research, including studies published in the "British Medical Journal," suggests that social connection and mental engagement can contribute to overall health and longevity. A book club offers both, wrapped into one enjoyable experience.

The Friends of the Library host a welcoming monthly book club open to all community members. Whether you are an avid reader or just getting started, you are invited to join the conversation. Generally, the book club meetings are held at the Tap Room in Colusa. The April meeting will be held in a private home. If you are interested in attending, email the Friends for details at friends@thecolusalibrary@gmail.com.

Next meeting: April 13, 6-7 p.m. Book selection: "A World of Curiosities" by Louise Penny.

Come for the book, stay for the conversation. ★

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.



Hector Manuel Pacheco Rios, 44, of Citrus Heights, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol on March 19 on Interstate 5 southbound at Harrington on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more. Bail was set at \$2,000.

Kacy Jebraun Corpensing, of New London, North Carolina, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol at 11:28 p.m. on March 19 on State Route 20 west of Moon Bend Road on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol. Bail was set at \$2,000.

Joseph Vincent Adelman, of Cottonwood, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol at 12:40 a.m. on March 20 on Interstate 5 northbound north of Maxwell Road on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more. Bail was set at \$2,000.

Kevin Michael Canlett, 54, of Weaverville, was arrested by the Williams Police Department at 10:27 a.m. on March 21 at 301 Vann St. in Williams on suspicion of disorderly conduct related to alcohol. He was detained and released.

Steven William Perry, 31, of Maxwell, was arrested by the Colusa Police Department at 5:33 p.m. on March 21 at 343 N. San Francisco St. in Maxwell on suspicion of violating a domestic violence court order. Bail was set at \$5,000.

Nick Allen Raze, 65, of Corinth, Mississippi, was arrested by the Williams Police Department at 12:18 p.m. on March 22 at Granzellas, 451 Sixth St. in Williams on suspicion of disorderly conduct related to alcohol. He was detained and released.

William Alexander Uribe, 33, of Grimes, was arrested by the Colusa County Sheriff's Office at 1:13 p.m. on March 22 at Second and Balsdon streets in Colusa on suspicion of possession of unlawful paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance and probation violation. Bail was set at \$5,000.

Josue Cervantes Mendoza, 35, of Colusa, was arrested by the Colusa Police Department at 2:58 a.m. on March 22 at Cynthia Drive and Highway 20 in Colusa on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more. Bail was set at \$2,000.

Wendi Caballero, 19, of Colusa, was arrested by the Williams Police Department at 3:28 a.m. on March 22 at 1015 North St. in Williams on suspicion of inflicting corporal injury on a spouse or dating partner and felony vandalism. Bail was set at \$60,000.

Antonio Jauregui-Velazquez, 39, of Colusa, was arrested by the Colusa Police Department at 12:34 a.m. on March 22 at Fremont and Fourth streets in Colusa on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more and felony child abuse. Bail included \$50,000 on the child abuse charge.

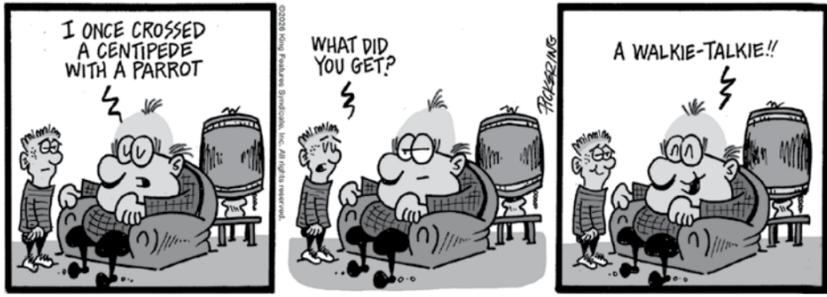
Abraham Leos, 32, of Williams, was arrested by the Williams Police Department at 9:03 p.m. on March 23 at 1015 Nicolaus Drive in Williams on suspicion of attempted burglary, resisting or obstructing a peace officer, being under the influence of a controlled substance, unlawful entry into an occupied dwelling, driving under the influence of alcohol and hit and run causing property damage. Bail included \$5,000 on the burglary charge and \$5,000 on the DUI charge.

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

MPG

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS

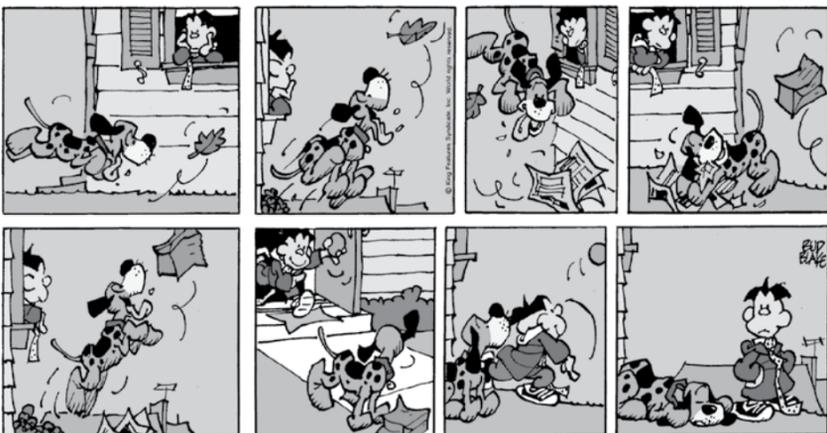


BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Meter is moved. 2. Tag on dress in window is missing. 3. Finger is moved. 4. Foot is thinner. 5. Awning is not as wide. 6. Man is thinner.

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

GRIN THE BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

S	L	A	P	S		A	D	S		A	K	I	N
P	E	R	I	L		P	A	W		T	R	I	N
U	V	U	L	A		S	K	I		R	E	C	T
R	O	M	A	N	C	E		F	R	E	A	K	O
			U	G	H		A	T	O	P			
D	O	M		Y	A	W	L		B	A	N	I	S
E	P	I	C		O	H	M	S		N	O	V	A
M	I	C	A		S	A	S	H	A		L	I	L
U	N	A	G	I		T	B	A	R		L	E	V
R	E	S	E	N	D		O	D	D	S		S	E
			C	O	A	X		O	N	E			
R	O	L	L	I	N	G		D	R	I	V	E	R
O	N	S	E	T		R	N	A		T	E	P	E
S	U	A	V	E		E	O	N		C	R	O	N
A	S	T	I			E	W	E		H	Y	S	O

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • 21st CENTURY SONGS

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Smacks
 - Marketing pop-ups
 - Kindred
 - Jeopardy
 - Dog foot
 - Threofold
 - Throat dangler
 - Mogul rider
 - Right-hand page
 - "Lady Gaga: "You and me could write a bad..."
 - "Missy Elliott: "Get Ur..."
 - Exclamation of disgust
 - At the apex
 - Pérignon of champagne fame
 - Two-masted vessel
 - Cast out
 - Larger-than-life
 - Electrical resistance units
 - Star bursts
 - Silicate mineral
 - Alexander, for short
 - ... of the valley
 - Sushi option
 - Alpine lift
 - Impose a tax
 - Forward and email, e.g.
 - Made in Vegas
 - Siren's domain
 - Cajole
 - "Drake: "I need a dance..."
 - "Adele: "We could've had it all in the deep..."
 - "Olivia Rodrigo: "I got my..."
 - Earliest stage of sickness
 - Ribonucleic acid, acr.
 - Tipi, alt. sp.
 - Drugstore shampoo brand
 - Many, many moons
 - Witchy woman
 - Spumante
 - Ovine mom
 - Chinese green tea
- DOWN**
- Horse prod
 - Left, Latin prefix
 - ... lily
 - Pilaff or plov
 - Colloquially
 - Location of altar
 - Prescott of Dallas Cowboys
 - Swiftie's idol
 - Geometric calculation
 - ... the Can
 - "Ariana Grande: "Cause I'm so ... you"
 - Glowing gas
 - Trephination tool
 - "Maroon 5: "The ... that controlled my mind"
 - Actor Lowe
 - Sheriff of Nottingham's collection container
 - Raise doubts
 - Supper
 - #40 Across, pl.
 - "Pink: "So ... ? I'm still a rock star"
 - Long-lasting Steelers coach
 - Brown and such
 - Topical remedy
 - "Outkast: "...!"

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19						20			21	22				
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39			
40						41			42		43			
44						45			46		47			
48						49			50		51		52	
						53			54		55		56	
57	58	59	60						61			62	63	64
65									66	67		68		
69									70			71		
72									73			74		

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

Classified Advertising

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

MPG

916.773.1111

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

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

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

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.

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

MPG

LEGAL ADVERTISING

Legal Advertising
530-743-6643

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

430 Market St. • Suite G
Colusa, CA 95932

**WILLIAMS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING
PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A DEVELOPER
FEE STUDY AND THE INCREASE OF THE
STATUTORY SCHOOL FEE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Board of the Williams Unified School District will hold a hearing and consider input from the public on the proposed adoption of a Developer Fee Justification Study for the District and an increase in the statutory school facility fee ("Level I Fee") on new residential and commercial/industrial developments as approved by the State Allocation Board on January 28, 2026. The adoption of the Study and the increase of the Level I Fee are necessary to fund the construction of needed school facilities to accommodate students due to development.

Members of the public are invited to comment in writing, on or before Thursday, April 16, 2026 or appear in person at the hearing at 6:00pm on April 16, 2026 at the following location:

WUSD Board Room, 260 11th Street, Williams, CA 95987

Materials regarding the Study and the Level I Fee are on file and are available for public review at the District Office located at 260 11th Street, Williams, CA.

Dated: March 27, 2026 and April 3, 2026
03/27/2026, 04/03/2026 · CCPR

**COLUSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Colusa County Board of Supervisors will conduct a Public Hearing on **April 7th at 9:30 a.m.** in the Board of Supervisors Chambers located at 546 Jay Street, Suite 108, Colusa, CA to consider issuance of an assembly license pursuant to Colusa County Code 26 to Viive Events, LLC, for a family oriented lantern festival proposed to be performed a third time in the Spring of 2026, at the East Park Reservoir.

All documentation is available for review in accordance with Agenda scheduling deadlines at the Office of the Clerk of the Board. If you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, or would like to submit comments you may do so to the following: Clerk to the Board of Supervisors, 547 Market Street, Suite 102, Colusa, CA (530)458-0508 or by email at board-clerk@countyofcolusaca.gov. All persons are invited to attend and be heard.

Dated: March 12, 2026.

By: ORIGINAL SIGNED
Patricia Rodriguez, Deputy Clerk 03/27/2026 · 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 session will be held in the Cottage Café Conference Rooms C1001-C1003, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825:

April 14, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
April 15, 2026 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To register and for more information, please contact Jake Branum, Repayment Specialist, CGB Regional Office, at jbranum@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. 03/27/2026 · CCPR

**NOTICE INVITING CONTRACTORS
FOR COLUSA COUNTY INFORMAL
BIDDERS LIST (CUPCCAA)**

Notice is hereby given that Colusa County is inviting all licensed contractors to submit their company information for inclusion on the County's Informal Bidders List for public works projects in accordance with the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA), Public Contract Code section 22000 et seq.

This is a new program for Colusa County. The County's initial Informal Bidders List will become effective May 7, 2026, pending approval of the implementing ordinance by the Board of Supervisors.

Contractors included on the list may be notified of informal bidding opportunities for public works projects estimated to cost \$220,000 or less.

Contractors must possess a valid California contractor's license and must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) in accordance with Labor Code section 1725.5.

Contractors may obtain the application and additional information at www.countyofcolusaca.gov.

Completed applications are to be submitted to purchasing@countyofcolusaca.gov. Contractors may submit applications at any time during the year.

Dated: March 17, 2026

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Patricia Rodriguez, Deputy
03/27/2026, 04/03/2026, 04/10/2026, 04/17/2026 · CCPR

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO. 2026-0000024**

Date filed: March 5, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:
SF Metalworks

Business Address:
1167 PARKER STREET, COLUSA, CA 95932

Name of Registrant(s):
**FRONT ROW BUILDERS, INC.
1167 PARKER 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: 01/10/2019.

Ronald J. Moore, CFO
2886149

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
03/13/2026, 03/20/2026, 03/27/2026, 04/03/2026 · CCPR

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Colusa County is requesting bids (RFB) from qualified vendors for Bottled Water Services at various County building locations, as more specifically detailed in the Project Specifications of this RFB. Bids must be received at the County Board Clerk's Office, 547 Market St., Suite 102 Colusa, California 95932 no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 6, 2026.

The bid must be made on the bid forms furnished by the County. The RFB documents are available on the County website at www.countyofcolusaca.gov in the Bids section.

Each bid shall be enclosed and submitted in a sealed envelope, bearing the project name, the bidder's name and expiration date.

The County of Colusa reserves the right to reject any bids.

Date: March 12, 2026

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Patricia Rodriguez, Deputy 03/20/2026, 03/27/2026 · CCPR

**Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records
Request Copies of Records by June 30, 2026**

**Attention Parents/Guardians, Former Students,
Eligible (Adult) Students,**

This notification is to inform parents/guardians and former students of the Colusa County Office of Education-SELPA's intent to destroy the Special Education records of students who are no longer receiving Special Education services for at least 5 years beyond the age of twenty-one (21). These records will be destroyed in accordance with state law unless the parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student notifies the school district otherwise.

Special Education records which have been collected by Colusa County Office of Education-SELPA related to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of Special Education in the district, must be maintained under state and federal laws for a period of five years after the Special Education Services have ended for the student. Special education services end when the student no longer is eligible for services, graduates high school, completes his or her Educational Adult Transition Program at age 21, or moves from the district.

After five (5) years, the records are no longer useful to the SELPA/district, but they may be useful to the parent/guardian or former student in applying for Social Security benefits, rehabilitation services, college entrance, etc. The parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student may request a copy of the records in writing or in person at the following address:

**Colusa County Office of Education-SELPA
Attention: Kelley Hickel
499 Margurite Street, Suite A Williams, Ca 95987**

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS NOTICE PROVIDES STUDENTS
AND THEIR PARENTS WITH NOTICE THAT THE SELPA
MAY DESTROY RECORDS UNDER THE FOLLOWING
CIRCUMSTANCES AND TIMELINES:**

- Records that include a student's name, address, grades, attendance records, dates attended, grade level completed, and year completed may be destroyed once 5 years have passed since the student's 21st birthday.

- Special Education records, SST records and health records may be destroyed once 5 years have passed from the date a student has graduated or reached graduation age (if exiting the district before graduation) as long as there is no outstanding request to inspect and review records and the records are no longer deemed useful to the SELPA/District.

- Notice of destruction of these records is provided annually via this publication. Educational records of a student are no longer needed by the District to provide educational services at the end of one year following a student's graduation from the District. A parent/guardian may submit a written request for the destruction of all educational records at that time.

- Destruction will proceed where parents or eligible students have not requested copies by June 30, 2026. The records may be destroyed as per the paragraphs above. Parents and/or students who are eighteen years of age have the right to request a copy of their record before destruction.

Parents/eligible adult students are reminded that copies of the records might be needed for the acquisition of Social Security benefits or for other purposes. 03/27/2026, 04/03/2026 · CCPR

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO. 2026-0000023**

Date filed: March 4, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:
R.T.G TRANSPORT LLC

Business Address:
762 11TH STREET, WILLIAMS, CA 95987

Mailing Address:
PO BOX 954, WILLIAMS, CA 95987

Name of Registrant(s):
**R.T.G TRANSPORT LLC
762 11TH STREET, WILLIAMS, CA 95987**

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: 01/25/2021.

RTG Trnsport, LLC,
Roman Toittoledo Gonzalez, Manager
State CA AI: 202251918807

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
03/13/2026, 03/20/2026, 03/27/2026, 04/03/2026 · CCPR

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO. 2026-0000032**

Date filed: March 19, 2026

The following persons are doing business as:
C & J FARMING PARTNERSHIP

Business Address:
6880 GREENBAY ROAD, ARBUCKLE, CA 95912

Name of Registrant(s):
**FOWLER, CHASE R.
PO BOX 631, ARBUCKLE, CA 95912
RUNNING J. RANCHES, INC.
6880 GREENBAY ROAD, ARBUCKLE, CA 95912**

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: 03/19/2026.

James Watson
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
03/27/2026, 04/03/2026, 04/10/2026, 04/17/2026 · CCPR



LEGAL ADS FOR COLUSA COUNTY?
We Can Do That!
MPG 530-743-6643
All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing Group

FOLLOW US
for Local News and much more!
The Colusa County Pioneer Review
Facebook: @GHMPG8

A Century of Answering the Call

Continued from page 1

Lausten, Jack Atkins, Bill Williams, L.L. Barrett and others whose names still echo through Maxwell today.

Leadership shifted quickly in those early years. Atkins served as the first chief from 1927 to 1930, followed by Chas Ward and a succession of others as the department found its footing. By 1933, L.L. Barrett had taken the helm, beginning a six-year tenure that helped stabilize the young department.

Even then, the work stretched beyond fire suppression. In 1932, commissioners allotted \$20 for first aid equipment, and Joe Riordan joined the department's first aid team, an early sign of the medical role that would eventually define Maxwell Fire's modern identity.

Service was not just tradition, it was inheritance. E.E. Barrett joined in 1933, and in 1942, 12 year old Jack Barrett Sr. helped fill the wartime void, beginning a six decade run of his own.

By the 1950s, the department had a permanent home. The firehouse was built in 1955 at a cost of \$55,000, the same decade that saw the purchase of a new International 1250 pumper and the rise of Marion Brown, who became chief in 1951 and whose name now marks the station where the centennial celebration was held.

Former Fire Chief Dave Wells spent nearly two decades leading Maxwell Fire at the turn of the 21st century as the department's role was steadily shifting. During his tenure, calls for medical aid increased, and the department expanded its emergency response well beyond fires to meet the needs of a growing and aging rural population.

Wells, also part of a multi-generation firefighting family in Maxwell, retired in 2015 and handed the reins to Cohen, who



Volunteers with the Maxwell Fire Protection District prepare and serve food Saturday during the department's 100th anniversary celebration, joined by family members and a younger generation of participants.

had already served more than 10 years with the department. Under Cohen, Maxwell Fire remains the only department in Colusa County equipped with a basic transport ambulance, meaning the same volunteers who respond are often the ones transporting patients to the hospital.

Today, Maxwell Fire continues to operate with a small core, a handful of career firefighters supported by about 20 volunteers, a model rooted in both necessity and tradition. Structure fires are rare, sometimes less than one a year, Cohen said. More often, the calls are quieter and more urgent: a fall, a stroke, a crash on a rural road. The early charter members set that expectation and passed that responsibility down through generations.

Bill Barrett Sr., 90, spent more than five decades with the department. He stood among former

firefighters and neighbors who returned to mark the milestone on Saturday and remembered those no longer alive.

"It's good to see the old timers come back," Barrett said, remembering that service is not just duty but legacy.

For some, that legacy is not something they learned, it is something they live.

Kayleigh Chambers, 19, said she has felt that pride for as long as she can remember, riding through town in parades and tossing candy from her father Kurt Chambers' assigned fire truck, seeing the community reflect that pride right back. Her grandfather, Ron Chambers, also serves.

"Firefighting is a family tradition," she said. "I also have an uncle who is a firefighter."

Her younger sister, Dakota Chambers, 15, is already planning her path, looking toward a

future in the fire service after she graduates.

"My dad and grandpa have been firefighters for a very long time," Dakota Chambers said. "They work really hard in their jobs and keep Maxwell safe."

Others may choose different directions, but the connection remains. Peyton Barrett, a Maxwell eighth grader, recalls sirens, her father Brian or grandfather Jack going off on "fire stuff," and other small moments that reflect how closely the department is woven into everyday life.

That connection has helped sustain the volunteer model even as departments across the country struggle to recruit. A decade ago, Maxwell faced the same concern, an aging roster and fewer young people stepping forward.

Today, participation has improved, with the millennial

generation beginning to take its place, Cohen said, especially as new opportunities in firefighting emerge. When the Sites Reservoir project is built about 10 miles west of town, the department will need to maintain a staff of career firefighters.

"We're pretty optimistic with the lake going in and efforts to expand the fire department to 24-hour staffing, getting more paid personnel on," Cohen said. "Right now, our main focus is the lake."

The department also continues to respond to wildland fires as part of the state system, often arriving first before larger agencies take command. More often, firefighters respond to moments when help must come from close to home.

That is what 100 years has built: a Maxwell Fire Department that shows up for itself. The tones drop, and someone goes. ★

Carter Receives Crystal Clear Award



Bruce Houdesheldt, left, director of water quality for the Northern California Water Association, presents the Crystal Clear Award to Denise Carter during the NCWA annual meeting at Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. Carter was recognized for her contributions to water, agriculture and regional public service. Photo courtesy of NCWA

By Lloyd Green Jr.

GRASS VALEY, CA (MPG) - Denise Carter was honored with the Crystal Clear Award during the Northern California Water Association's annual meeting held at Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.

The award recognizes individuals who have made lasting contributions to water stewardship, agriculture and regional collaboration. Bruce Houdesheldt, director of water quality for the Northern California Water Association, presented the award during the event.

Carter, a farmer and longtime advocate for agriculture and water policy in the Sacramento Valley, has been involved in numerous leadership roles throughout the region. She previously served on the Colusa County Board of Supervisors after being appointed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in November 2008 and later won election to the seat three times.

In addition to her public service, Carter has been active in agricultural organizations and community efforts. She has served as a director and second vice president of her local Farm Bureau and as president of the North Valley Chapter of California Certified Organic Farmers. She also completed the Agricultural Leadership Program, Class 38, and has worked with the Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program since its inception.

As part of her work with regional water

programs, Carter testified before the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board about stewardship practices used by Sacramento Valley farmers. Her testimony highlighted soil health focused management practices aimed at building resilient soils, supporting productive crops and protecting water quality.

Carter is also involved in day-to-day agricultural operations at Benden Farms, where a range of crops are grown including conventional and organic prunes, walnuts, sunflower seeds, dry beans, wheat, alfalfa and rice.

Assemblymember James Gallagher praised Carter's service following the meeting.

"Speaking of amazing women in agriculture, it was great to be at the NCWA annual meeting to see Denise Carter honored for her many contributions to our region," Gallagher said. "I served with Denise when she was a county supervisor. From water and agriculture to flood control and improving services for our citizens, Denise has moved the ball and secured wins for our people. She is truly deserving of this recognition. Job well done."

NCWA officials said Carter was recognized for her support of the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition and for helping advance leadership and planning efforts through the Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program. ★

Birmingham Named Family Water Alliance President

By MPG Staff

COLUSA, CA (MPG) - The Family Water Alliance has named longtime water policy leader Tom Birmingham as its incoming president, the organization announced.

Birmingham, former general manager of Westlands Water District, will lead the group's work supporting family farms and water stewardship across Northern California and Southern Oregon.

"We are pleased to welcome Tom Birmingham as our incoming president," said Joh Lauwerijssen, current president of the Family Water Alliance. "Tom's experience in water operations, policy coordination and community engagement makes him a strong leader to guide FWA during a critical period for agricultural communities and local water resources."

Birmingham led Westlands Water District for more than two decades and is widely known for his work on water policy, planning and infrastructure development. He currently serves as director of water policy for the Hallmark Group CPM, a Sacramento consulting firm.

In his new role, Birmingham will work to strengthen partnerships among farmers, local agencies and regional water managers. The organization said he will also focus on programs that promote responsible water use and long-term economic stability for



Tom Birmingham, former general manager of Westlands Water District, has been named the incoming president of the Family Water Alliance. The organization advocates for family farms and sustainable water management across California and Southern Oregon. Photo courtesy of Tom Birmingham's LinkedIn page

agricultural families.

"I am honored to be appointed as president of the Family Water Alliance and to work alongside local growers and community leaders who are deeply committed to responsible water management and family agriculture," Birmingham said.

Birmingham said his perspective on water policy developed early in life while growing up in rural Northern California.

"I am a native of Siskiyou County and my appreciation for sound water resource management was born of my observations of how the availability of water, and often the lack of water, affected rural communities," Birmingham said. "My goal is to listen to our members, build on FWA's strong foundation

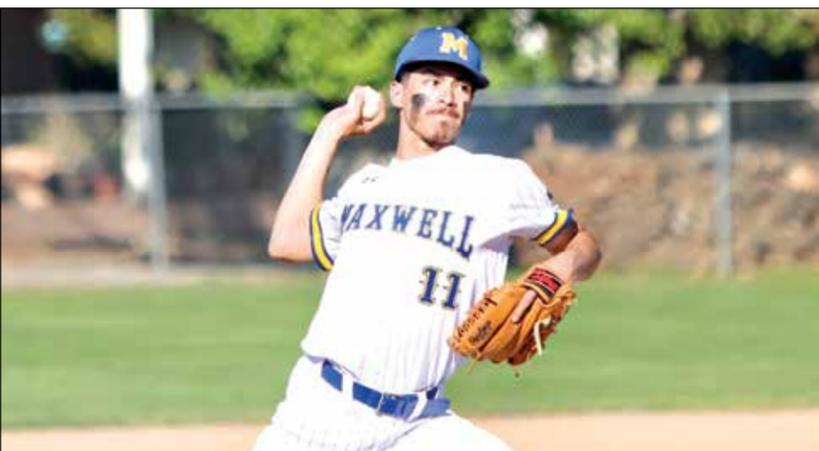
and help develop practical solutions that support both productive farms and resilient water systems."

The Family Water Alliance is a community-based organization that represents family farms and rural residents throughout California and Southern Oregon. The group advocates for policies and projects aimed at supporting sustainable water management, local agricultural economies and the long-term viability of family operated farms.

Among its initiatives is the Sacramento Valley Fish Screen Program, which works with farmers and water districts to protect fish while maintaining agricultural water supplies.

More information about the organization is available at familywateralliance.com. ★

Baseball Roundup



Maxwell's Levi Velasquez struck out nine in the Panthers 11-3 win over Pierce on March 16.



The Panthers' Yahir Alcaraz smacked two doubles and drove in three as part of a 3 for 4 day in a game against Pierce on March 16.



Pierce's Mikey Acevedo delivers a pitch in a game against Maxwell on March 16.



Left: Bears' centerfielder Damien Ambriz is greeted by his teammates after making an inning ending catch in Pierce's March 16 game in Maxwell.

Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea

Maxwell 11 – Pierce 3 (3/16)
Maxwell 6 – Redding Christian 5 (10 inn) (3/19)

Coming off a second place finish at their home tournament that left a bitter taste in their mouths, the Panthers bounced back to win two games last week.

Against visiting Pierce, Maxwell put crooked numbers up in the first two innings then ended the contest with five more in the final frame.

Levi Velasquez got the nod on the

mound and went five innings, yielding just two hits and striking out nine before giving way to Luke Pearson, who closed out the game.

At the plate, Yahir Alcaraz finished 3 for 4 with a pair of doubles and three RBI, while Pearson and Colt Montgomery knocked in two runs apiece.

On the road in Palo Cedro, the Panthers needed extras before finally prevailing in the tenth inning.

Vincent Orozco swung a hot bat going 4 for 6 as did Alex Krug who was 3 for 3, while Montgomery picked up a pair of hits.

Wyatt Roach went the first four on the

hill, while Orozco put in five innings in relief. Together the duo yielded seven hits and fanned a combined six batters.

Maxwell (7-3) closed out the preseason this week with a doubleheader against Mt. Shasta on Friday.

Pierce 3 – Maxwell 11 (3/16)
Pierce 12 – Live Oak 9 (3/17)

Following its loss to the Panthers, the Bears brought their eight-game slide to an end with a victory in Live Oak.

In Maxwell, a double off the bat of Mikey Acevedo and a hit by Nathan Gomez were the only knocks of the game for Pierce.

However, against the Lions, the Bears got some timely hitting as Acevedo tripled and drove in three, Thomas Murphy doubled and drove in a pair of runs, while Alex Ramirez finished 2 for 4.

Freshman Fabian Paiz shouldered the

load on the mound, putting in six and two-thirds innings of work in which he struck out seven and surrendered four unearned runs, while Colin Dye came in and retired the only batter he faced to end the game.

Pierce (1-8, 0-1) completed its Sacramento Valley League series with East Nicolaus in Trowbridge on March 27.

Colusa 0 – Paradise 12 (3/18)
Colusa 8 – South Fork 7 (3/19)
Colusa 1 – Fort Bragg 11 (3/20)

After being no hit by visiting Paradise, the RedHawks made their way to Fort Bragg's Bill Pavoni Tournament where they went 1-2.

Statistics from the win over South Fork and the loss to Fort Bragg were not made available.

Colusa also fell in a second game on March 20, but no other information was provided. ★

Softball Roundup

Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea

Pierce 8 – Maxwell 5 (3/16)
Pierce 1 – Live Oak 16 (3/17)

The Bears avenged a loss they suffered to the Panthers on March 12 to start last week, but didn't have an answer for the Lions in Live Oak the following day.

In Maxwell, Pierce broke the game open in the second inning after scoring five runs and contained the Panthers for the remainder of the game, outhitting the hosts 16 to eight.

LucaBella Nolan led the way at the plate finishing 3 for 4 with a double and three RBI, while Citlali Acevedo, Kendall Mulqueeney, Nayeli Lievanos and Rylie Delapierre garnered two hits apiece.

In the circle, Teagan Murphy picked up the win tossing a two hit, five strikeout complete game.

Things were much tougher the following day in Live Oak however, as Caley Dye accounted for the Bears' lone hit.

Pierce (3-7, 0-1) travels to Trowbridge on March 27 to take on a powerhouse East Nicolaus squad.

Maxwell 5 – Pierce 8 (3/16)
Maxwell 29 – Redding Christian 7 (3/19)

After suffering a setback to Pierce to start last week, the Panthers bounced back on the road in a big way with a drubbing of Redding Christian.

Despite putting four runs on the board in the first inning against the Bears, Maxwell struggled at the plate the rest of the way.

Jayden Justeson went 2 for 4 with an RBI and Jada Lazarus tripled and drove in a run to lead the Panthers.

Such was not the case three days later when the Panthers took out their frustration against Redding Christian pitchers as they pounded out 23 hits as a team.

Emma Miller had herself a day in Palo Cedro going a perfect 4 for 4 with a home run, nine RBI and four runs scored.

Bianca Minutti was 3 for 3 with a double and three RBI, while Ruby Herrera finished 3 for 4 with a double and an RBI.

Miller and Sophia Lopez combined for the win in the circle.

Maxwell (3-6-1) was in Biggs this week for the Wolverine's Tournament which runs March 26-28.

Colusa 7 – Gridley 9 (3/16)
Colusa 2 – West Valley 7 (3/17)

After a tough loss to Gridley at home, the RedHawks dropped a game on the road to West Valley.

Against Gridley, four errors did in Colusa as they saw the Bulldogs rally for three runs in the top of the seventh.

Braelyn Santana went 2 for 4 with a triple and an RBI, Marlie Berry had a three run triple and Natalee Stegall also tripled in the loss.

In Cottonwood, Elli Quintana

finished 2 for 3 with a double, while Santana and Caeden Agnew each picked up two hits in three trips to the plate.

Looking to end its three-game slide, the RedHawks (5-6) hosted Durham in their Sacramento Valley League opener on March 25, then traveled on March 27 to complete the series with the Trojans.

Princeton 14 – Williams 0 (3/17)
Princeton 9 – Williams 1
Princeton 1 – Chester 14 (3/18)
Princeton 2 – Chester 24

It was feast or famine for the Eagles last week as they swept a doubleheader in Williams before returning home to drop a twin bill to Chester the following day.

Statistics from the games were not available by the Pioneer Review print deadline.

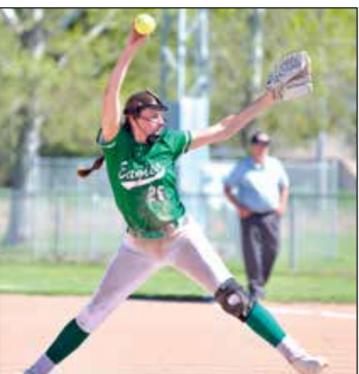
Princeton (2-3) returns to action on Apr. 1 at home against Tulelake to open Evergreen League play. ★



The Eagles' Jenna Silva rounds third and scores Princeton's lone run against Chester in a game on March 18.



Maxwell's Ruby Herrera went 3 for 4 with a double and an RBI in the Panthers' blowout win over Redding Christian.



Above: Pierce's LucaBella Nolan laces a double in the Bears' 8-5 victory over Maxwell on March 16.

Left: Princeton's Sissy Winn delivers a pitch in the Eagles' game against Chester on March 18.

Thank You to Colusa County Sports Sponsors

The Morning Star Packing Company of Williams

Also Sponsored By Vote No on CGA Prop. 218 Fees!

• The Sun Valley Rice Company, LLC • Selovers • California Family Foods of Arbuckle

We appreciate all those who have shown their support for our regional sports coverage. Your donations help to cover the costs of producing our weekly sports pages.

All-Section Soccer Teams Announced



Pierce's Adrian Duarte was a First Team 2026 All-Northern Section Boys Soccer selection.



Williams' defender Jonathan Garcia was named to the 2026 All-Northern Section Boys Second Soccer Team in his first season with the Yellowjackets.



Colusa's Lizbet Ayala earned a spot on the 2026 girls soccer All-Northern Section Second Team.

Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea

COLUSA COUNTY, CA (MPG) – SINCE THE FIRST ALL - Northern Section Football Team was selected to recognize the North State's top players back in 1991, other sports have been gradually included over the years.

This year soccer enters into the mix as the majority of teams now play winter schedules instead of some fielding teams in the fall.

Included among the inaugural boys and girls All-Northern Section squads are three athletes from Colusa County.

Earning a spot on the boy's first team was Pierce senior Adrian Duarte, who led Pierce to the Sacramento Valley League title and was the league's co-Defensive MVP.

Representing Williams on the boy's second team was freshman Jonathan Garcia, the SVL's other co-Defensive MVP.

On the girl's side, Colusa senior Lizbet Ayala was a second team selection after scoring 19 goals and making 12 assists for a total of 50 total points in her final season for the RedHawks.

In a nod to Colusa's past history, the first NSCIF Coach of the Year Award for girls soccer was named in honor of the Redskins', now the RedHawks', longtime former coach Rick Colson.

Taking the helm in 1996, Colson built a dynasty, leading his teams to section championships in 1997, 1998, 2001, 2006 and 2007 before stepping down.

Listed below are the complete list of the boys and girls All-Section Teams:

BOYS SOCCER

First Team

- F - Jose Zavala, Chico
- F - Cesar Leal, Hamilton
- MF - Kole Mata, Foothill
- MF - Gavin Copeland, Shasta
- MF - Giovani Garcia, Gridley
- MF - Ben Consoli, Pleasant Valley
- FB - Omar Palafox, Gridley
- FB - Angel Hernandez, Chico
- FB - Blaine Davis, Pleasant Valley
- FB - Adrian Duarte, Pierce
- GK - Landon Renz, Shasta
- AA - Allesandro Monsalve, Winters

Second Team

- F - Osbaldo Flores, Corning
- F - Israel Garcia, Anderson
- MF - Ryan Farrell, Chico
- MF - Asher Williamson, University Prep
- MF - Nicholas Jaime, Orland
- MF - Alejandro Murillo, Winters
- FB - Jonathan Garcia, Williams
- FB - Caleb Geyer, Redding Christian
- FB - Dominick Krick, West Valley
- FB - Jorge Caracheo, Live Oak
- GK - Uriel Berrum, Anderson
- AA - Santiago Gonzalez, Gridley
- MVP - Allesandro Monsalve, Winters
- Mike Vought Coach of the Year Award: Alex Monsalve, Winters

GIRLS SOCCER

First Team

- F - Anika Namihias, Shasta
- F - Brooke Webb, West Valley
- MF - Madelyn Barteau, Pleasant Valley
- MF - Lily Miller, Foothill
- MF - Logan Carruth, West Valley
- MF - Camila Del Rio, Live Oak
- FB - Adelyna Medrano, Las Plumas
- FB - Camila Martinez, Winters
- FB - Avery Foxworthy, Shasta
- FB - Lillie Rainwater, Red Bluff
- GK - Nevaeh Hernandez, Foothill
- AA - Aylin Molina, Winters

Second Team

- F - Lizbet Ayala, Colusa
- F - Luciana Sufuentes, Chico
- F - Katie Thomas, University Prep
- MF - Sienna Weaver, Pleasant Valley
- MF - Camille Parodi, Shasta Charter Academy
- MF - Ryann Ripley, Corning
- MF - Kylie Jaramillo, West Valley
- FB - Amber Rigby, Pleasant Valley
- FB - Abbey Guichard, Pleasant Valley
- FB - Brisa Avila, Live Oak
- GK - Leila Younger, Las Plumas
- AA - Reagan Hurst, Winters
- MVP: Brooke Webb, West Valley
- Rick Colson Coach of the Year Award: Alex Gaxiola, Shasta ★

Records Set at Regier Invitational

Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea

CHICO, CA (MPG) - Pleasant Valley High School's Asgard Yard served as the backdrop for 24 track and field teams competing at the Vern Regier Invitational hosted by the Colusa RedHawks last Friday afternoon.

Regier, a longtime teacher, administrator and coach in the Colusa Unified School District in addition to being a decorated USA Track and Field Masters athlete, passed away in 2020 at the age of 92, but the passion he displayed for the sport lives on at the annual meet.

In the varsity girls' division, Williams' Daisy Ruiz had a record-breaking day, winning the 100-meter hurdles in a personal best time of 16.55 to eclipse the school record of 16.6, which had been held by Margie Manor since 1987.

Colusa, which was third in the overall standings behind West Valley and Orland, made a strong showing in the sprints with Kendall Marengo taking first in the 200 after crossing the line in a time of 26.73 and was second in the 100 with a 13.05, the fastest of her career thus far.

Itzel Cruz won the 400 meters finishing in 1:03.19 and was third in the 200 with a 27.22, while at distance, Eloise Guerrero claimed third in the 3200 with a personal best effort of 14:06.47.

For Pierce, Lyla Maldonado (1:05.57) took third in the 400-meter race.

Meanwhile on the boys' side, the Bears secured second place in the team competition with eight top three finishes.

Nate McIntosh was third in the 100 and 200 with respective marks of 11.66 and 23.70, then anchored the 4 x 100 relay team that also included Noah Sucevich, Kashius Nanley and Jonathan Vasquez Hernandez, which finished second in a team record time of 44.44.

Pierce's JR Figueroa was second in both the 110- and 300-meter hurdles with subsequent times of 16.57 and 42.86-PB, while in the discus, Joel Haro also took second with a personal best toss of 134.3.

As for the Yellowjackets, Phillip Santillan (11:17.72) ran his fastest career time in the 3200 and Rafael Moreno ran a personal best of 44.21 to take fourth in the 300-meter hurdles and in the process broke a school record set by Pedro Boites back in 2008.

Colusa's Emi Guzman was the lone RedHawk guy to make the podium, running a personal best 53.39 en route to a second-place finish in the 400 meters.

All local teams are back in action on Friday with Pierce and Williams making their way to Cottonwood for West Valley's Eagle Classic Relays, while Colusa and Maxwell head to Butte College for the Durham Invitational. ★



Williams' Daisy Ruiz won the 100-meter hurdles at the Regier Invitational last week and in the process set a new school record.



Colusa's Kendall Marengo takes the handoff from Itzel Cruz in the 4x100 relay at the Regier Invitational. Both Marengo and Cruz won individual races at the event held on March 20.



Maxwell's Connor Pearson throws the shot put at the Vern Reiger Invitational held at Pleasant Valley High School in Chico on March 20.



Right: Pierce's Nate Macintosh runs with the baton in the 4x100 relay at the Regier Invitational on March 20 in Chico. The Bears' quartet set a team record in the race and finished second.

Thank You to Colusa County Sports Sponsors

The Morning Star Packing Company of Williams

Also Sponsored By Vote No on CGA Prop. 218 Fees!

- The Sun Valley Rice Company, LLC
- Selovers
- California Family Foods of Arbuckle

We appreciate all those who have shown their support for our regional sports coverage. Your donations help to cover the costs of producing our weekly sports pages.

State Treasurer Honored with Champion of Agriculture Award

California Farm Bureau News Release

CALIFORNIA (MPG) - In recognition of her long record of advocacy for California farmers, ranchers and rural communities, California State Treasurer Fiona Ma has been honored with the Champion of Agriculture Award.

The California Farm Bureau presented the award March 18 at the organization's annual legislative action day. The award recognizes dedicated service to agriculture and honors individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to protecting and advancing the needs of California farmers and ranchers.

Nicknamed "The Urban Cowgirl," Ma is a founder of the San Francisco Farm Bureau and serves as its adviser. As the 34th state treasurer and throughout her career in public service, Ma has backed policies that support the Golden State's diverse farming communities.

"Treasurer Ma has shown a long commitment to California agriculture," said Shannon Douglass, president of the California Farm Bureau, which represents more than 23,000



Treasurer Fiona Ma, center, receives the Champion of Agriculture Award from California Farm Bureau COO Dan Durham, left, California Farm Bureau President Shannon Douglass, First Vice President Shaun Crook and Second Vice President Ron Peterson. Photo courtesy California Farm Bureau

farmers and ranchers statewide. "Her work on behalf of farmers and ranchers across the state is exactly what this award celebrates."

A member of the state Assembly from 2006-2012, Ma

authored and supported legislation beneficial to agriculture, including the Eat Local Buy California Grown Act, which prioritizes California-Grown products in state institutional purchasing and expanding

market access for small, local and underserved farmers.

She also crafted legislation to create the California Blueberry Commission to help promote California-grown blueberries. In addition, Ma has worked to

secure funding for agricultural programs and infrastructure. In her commitment to understanding California's agricultural landscape, she has participated in numerous farm tours, visiting agricultural operations across the state.

"I'm honored to receive the Champion of Agriculture Award," Ma said. "My appreciation for California agriculture began in 2009 when I helped protect the Cow Palace from being sold – an experience that opened my eyes to the vital role our farmers and ranchers play in producing more than 400 agricultural products and feeding our state and nation."

"California Farm Bureau is proud to honor Treasurer Ma with the Champion of Agriculture Award and for her commitment to California farmers, ranchers and rural communities," Douglass said.

California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches as part of a nationwide network representing more than 5 million Farm Bureau members. Learn more at www.cfbf.com or follow @cafarmbureau on Instagram, LinkedIn, X or Facebook. ★

California Flagged for "Weak Oversight" in Federal Fraud Crackdown

Assembly Republican Whip Macedo Cites Hospice Investigation Showing System "Wide Open" Under Newsom

Assembly Republicans News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - California was flagged for "insufficient safeguards and weak oversight" March 16 in a federal fraud crackdown announced by President Donald Trump.

The White House said states like California have failed to maintain basic safeguards, including verifying eligibility and enforcing oversight standards, creating conditions for

large-scale fraud.

Assembly Republican Whip Alexandra M. Macedo (R-Tulare) said that lines up with what she has already seen on the ground.

"California did not end up on this list by accident," Macedo said. "Seven years into Gavin Newsom's governorship, the consequences of years of negligence are catching up, and the people in the most vulnerable moments of

their lives are the ones being harmed."

"When fraudulent actors bill for 'ghost



patients' or enroll healthy individuals without their consent, they deplete the very funds

intended to provide high-quality care by the legitimate hospice providers for those truly in their final days," Macedo added.

In January, Macedo visited a Los Angeles property linked to 197 hospice licenses, all registered to the same address. Many of the phone numbers were disconnected, and there was no sign any legitimate hospice business was operating there.

A state audit warned that

weak oversight was allowing large-scale fraud, including cases where licenses were approved despite red flags, and complaints have continued to mount.

"Programs meant to help vulnerable people in their time of need are being exploited. The Newsom Administration owns that failure 100%."

The task force, led by Vice President JD Vance, will focus on fraud in federally funded programs, including health care, housing and food assistance. ★

César Chávez Day to be Renamed Farmworker Day

Assemblywoman Alexandra M. Macedo News Release

CALIFORNIA (MPG) - In light of the horrific news reports of César Chávez's sexual assaults of minors and women, Assemblywoman Alexandra M. Macedo (R-Tulare) introduced legislation to rename the March 31 California State holiday to Farmworker Day.

"Farmworkers are essential to our everyday lives – from the food we eat to the economy we enjoy," said Assemblywoman Macedo. "The fight for dignity in the fields was never about one person – it is about the millions of workers who sweat, toil and aspire for a better life."

California is the largest state producer and exporter of agricultural products, including animal products, fruit and nuts. Over a third of the country's vegetables and nearly three-quarters of the country's fruits and nuts are grown in California. With 69,900 farms and ranches, California agriculture is a \$49 billion dollar industry that generates at least \$100 billion in related economic activity, according to the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.



California is the largest state producer and exporter of agricultural products, including animal products, fruit and nuts. Over a third of the country's vegetables and nearly three-quarters of the country's fruits and nuts are grown in California. Photo courtesy of Freepik

California's agricultural industry depends on farmworkers. Farmworkers ensure food safety and freshness by harvesting within tight windows. Their work supports hundreds of thousands of jobs and contributes to the state's economy.

Without their hard work and dedication, perishable food would remain in the

field – leading to severe shortages and higher food prices for consumers.

Assemblywoman Macedo is amending her current legislation, Assembly Bill 2407, to rename César Chávez's Day to Farmworker Day.

"It is about the movement, not one individual," said Assemblywoman Macedo. ★

California Comment on Latest Small Business Optimism Index

Main Street entrepreneurs thanked for helping keep the 20% Small Business Deduction alive

National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - From John Kabateck, state director for the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) in California, on findings from the monthly NFIB Small Business Optimism Index, which fell 0.5 points in February to 98.8 but remained slightly above the 52-year average of 98. The Uncertainty Index decreased three points from January to 88.

"With tax season upon us, I want to take this opportunity to once again thank every California small business owner who spoke up for keeping the 20% Small Business Tax Deduction alive and preventing it from expiring at the end of last year. I think of small business owners like Beth Booth from San Diego County, who is now chair of our leadership council, for traveling to Washington, D.C. to make a compelling case for preserving a valuable tool for small business solvency. It's members like her and many others who provide optimism when it's needed most."

In conjunction with the February report, NFIB also released a new episode of the NFIB Research Center's "Small Business by the Numbers" podcast. Listen to the latest episode here.

"Although optimism declined slightly, small businesses report feeling more certain in February as they look toward the coming months. High sales and increased profits made February a more positive month for many owners, but competition from large businesses is putting stress on Main Street firms as

they navigate the current economic climate," said NFIB Chief Economist Bill Dunkelberg.

Highlights from the Latest NFIB Small Business Optimism Index include the following.

Seasonally adjusted, a net 34% reported raising compensation, up 2 points from January and the highest level since March 2025.

The frequency of reports of positive profit trends rose 7 points from January to a net negative 14% (seasonally adjusted). The last time earnings trends were this high was in December 2021.

The net percent of owners raising average selling prices fell 2 points from January to a net 24% (seasonally adjusted). This marked the third consecutive month that actual price increases slowed, though the changes remain well above the historical average.

When asked to evaluate the overall health of their business, 12% rated it as excellent (down 2 points), 55% as good (up 1 point), 26% as fair (down 1 point) and 5% as poor (up 1 point).

Keep up with the latest California small business news at www.nfib.com. Follow us on X @NFIB_CA and on Facebook @NFIB.CA.

For over 80 years, NFIB has been advocating on behalf of America's small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. NFIB is a nonprofit, nonpartisan and member-driven association. Since our founding in 1943, NFIB has been exclusively dedicated to small and independent businesses and remains so today. For more information, please visit nfib.com. ★