

SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND

NEWS BULLETIN

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, District 3



June 2025

Volume 5, Issue 6

IN THIS ISSUE:

- **UNITY FAIR**
- **SACRAMENTO COUNTY 2025/2026 BUDGET**
- **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD**
- **KIWANIS ART FIESTA**
- **NATUREFEST 2025**
- **SCENES FROM SAILOR BAR EXHIBIT AT THE TUDOR**
- **SAN JUAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S 2025 STARS HALL OF FAME & AWARDS: NOMINATION S OPEN**
- **RANCHO CORDOVA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2025 BUSINESS EXPO**
- **KIWANIS CLUB OF CARMICHAEL**

UNITY FAIR

On Saturday, May 17, nearly 1,500 people came together at Howe Avenue Park for the first annual Unity Fair, and what an incredible day it was! The event brought together residents from all walks of life for a one-of-a-kind experience centered around culture, connection, and community pride.

As the Sacramento County Supervisor for District 3, I was honored to help lead this collaborative effort alongside an incredible team of partners, including the [Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District](#), the [Sacramento County Office of Economic Development](#), and the [Refugee Enrichment and Development Association \(REDA\)](#). Our goal was to create a welcoming and inclusive space especially for Afghan families who are new to Sacramento, where people could come together, learn from each other, and celebrate the vibrant diversity that makes our community so unique.

The event offered something for everyone. Attendees enjoyed a full day of cultural music, delicious food, and a vendor marketplace showcasing Afghan artisans and entrepreneurs. A dedicated play area with inflatables and family-friendly activities kept kids engaged and smiling all day long.

In addition to the festivities, the fair featured a strong lineup of both cultural and Sacramento County resources, from resettlement support and healthcare access to education and local law enforcement engagement. These services were a vital part of the event, helping connect families to tools and information that support long-term stability and success.

What stood out most was the way people came together, across cultures, generations, and backgrounds, to celebrate not only diversity, but community itself. It was a powerful

COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS OPPORTUNITY

- **JOIN THE SUMMER
READING CHALLENGE**
- **SUMMER WATER
SAFETY**
- **FOSTERS NEEDED TO
SAVE LIVES**
- **GOAT GRAZING**
- **ICYMI - ELECTION
ADMINISTRATION
WORKSHOP**
- **WHAT ARE YOUR KIDS
DOING THIS SUMMER?**

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reminder of what makes Sacramento such a special place to call home.

I hope that the impact of the Unity Fair will continue. The connections formed, the conversations started, and the shared experiences had those are the outcomes that truly last.

I extend my sincere thanks to our event partners, volunteers, cultural advisors, and generous sponsors, including our Sacramento County Departments, Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District, and REDA for helping bring this event to life.

The Unity Fair was a celebration of who we are, and what we can accomplish when we come together.



SACRAMENTO COUNTY 2025/2026 BUDGET

The Sacramento County Budget hearings will begin Wednesday, June 4, at 9:30 a.m. in Board Chambers at the Sacramento County Administration building, located at 700 H Street in Sacramento.

The [Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2025-26](#) was released and is available for review. The hearings will continue beginning at 9:30 a.m. through June 5 and 6, if necessary.

The public is invited to attend the hearings and be heard on any item in the budget, [either publicly or through written comments](#). Budget hearings will also be telecast live on [Metro Cable 14](#) and the [County's website](#).

Spending Plan

This year's \$8.9 billion spending plan is a decrease of 2.8% compared to the [FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget](#). Of the total \$8.9 billion budgeted:

- \$3.4 billion is in Enterprise and Special Revenue Fund appropriations (utility rates, fees and other dedicated revenue)
- \$4 billion is in General Fund appropriations (funded with \$1 billion in discretionary resources, \$1.6 billion in reimbursements from restricted funds, and the remaining \$1.4 billion in Federal, State and fee revenue dedicated to specific purposes)
- \$1.6 billion in Restricted Funds (amounts transferred to the General Fund to reimburse eligible expenditures in General Fund departments)

Budget Process/Challenges

In February/March of each year, County departments, as well as elected officials' offices (Assessor, Board of Supervisors, District Attorney and Sheriff), submit General Fund budget requests to the Office of the County Executive (OCE). The OCE sets a target for budgets, based on revenue projection estimates for the coming fiscal year.

This year's target was to submit a budget to keep the same discretionary resources flat, or at status quo.

In those budget requests departments and offices identify their funding needs to continue ongoing programs, request funding for new programs, and/or identify reductions when necessary. If departments needed increased discretionary funding to maintain existing service levels, they were asked to submit reduction scenarios, in priority order, along with their growth requests.

In April and May, department/elected offices budgets are refined and adjusted by OCE staff and reviewed in in-person meetings with department heads and staff. After those meetings, OCE staff finalized the FY 25-26 recommended budget and briefed each member of the Board of Supervisors to provide an overview of significant reductions, growth and other budget issues.

General Fund Available Balance

The General Fund beginning available balance (which represents unspent funding from FY 2024-25) is estimated at \$71 million. This represents a 37% reduction compared to the FY 2024-25 available fund balance of \$112 million, where \$80 million was used to fund ongoing expenditures. This structural imbalance contributed to the need to make expenditure reductions in this year's budget.

Every County department was asked to submit budgets with no increase in discretionary funding.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

I consistently encourage the public to speak out to let me and the entire Board of Supervisors know your thoughts and feelings on budget and policy matters. As residents, business owners, and taxpayers, I rely on your input about priorities for Sacramento County.

The unincorporated communities, which make up almost 95% of the communities I represent, are faced with chronic issues such as homelessness, crumbling roadway infrastructure, vacant commercial corridors and crime that affect the quality of life in our neighborhoods. I implore you to take an active role in matters being decided by the Board of Supervisors and advocate to all five Board members about issues of concern to you.

Board meetings are held live in the Sacramento County Administration building and are broadcasted on [Metro Cable 14](#) and the [County's website](#).

There are several ways to participate in Board meetings. The public can send an email to BoardClerk@saccounty.gov, mail a comment to 700 H Street, Suite 2450, Sacramento, CA 95814, or make an in-person comment.

If you are unable to watch live, a recording of each meeting will be uploaded to the [County's YouTube account](#) and on the [Board of Supervisors meetings page](#).

SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN KIWANIS ART FIESTA

Help the **Sacramento Suburban Kiwanis Foundation** celebrate their [67th Kiwanis Art Fiesta on June 7-8, 2025](#). This fiesta is sure to bring together a variety of art featured by local and regional artists and art lovers. Jewelry, painting, photography, pottery, metal work, woodwork, glass, and fine textiles are just some of the media you'll find on display. The details of this weekend's events are below:

- Location: Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA
- June 7, 2025 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- June 8, 2025 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Free Admission and Parking

For more information about this event, email sactosuburbankiwanis@gmail.com.



NATUREFEST 2025 ON JUNE 8

Join for a fun-filled day celebrating nature, wildlife, and conservation. **NatureFest 2025** is an exciting, family-friendly celebration of the great outdoors. Explore

interactive STEAM activities, enjoy live animal shows, and discover educational exhibits. With delicious food trucks, hands-on nature experiences, and activities for all ages, this is an event you won't want to miss! Come connect with nature, learn something new, and make lasting memories.

Date: Sunday, June 8, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Effie Yeaw Nature Center, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael, CA 95608

For parking information, to sign up as a volunteer and for ticket pricing, please visit the [Effie Yeaw Nature Center website](#).



SCENES FROM SAILOR BAR EXHIBIT AT THE TUDOR

The Friends of Sailor Bar, The Partners of the Village Co-working Tudor House and S.S. Solis are pleased to invite you to experience a wonderful event featuring the work of talented local artists and photographers who love Sailor Bar.

You will have a rare opportunity to purchase a variety of photography, artwork and meet the artists. Enjoy refreshments, friends and creativity. RSVP to ProtectSailorBar@yahoo.com

Date: Sunday, June 8, 2025

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Fair Oaks Village Co-working Tudor House

10120 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks, CA 95628

SCENES FROM SAILOR BAR ART EXHIBIT AT THE TUDOR

The Friends of Sailor Bar, The Partners of the Village Co-working Tudor House and S.S. Solis are pleased to invite you to experience a wonderful event featuring the work of talented local artists and photographers who love Sailor Bar.



Sarah Solis-Mattson is a professor of Studio Arts at the American River College. Sarah (S.S. Solis) has over 20 years'

experience as an art curator. Her work is part of many private and public collections throughout the United States.

You will have a rare opportunity to purchase a variety of photography, artwork and meet the artists. Enjoy refreshments, friends and creativity. RSVP to ProtectSailorBar@yahoo.com



Michele Dodge is a wildlife photographer and animal rescuer. The American River Parkway is among her favorite spots to

photograph the animals. Michele's ability to share her love of these beautiful creatures is truly a gift in her photography. You can see a preview of Michele on Facebook

Date: June 8, 2025

Time: 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Place: Fair Oaks Village Co-working Tudor House
10120 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Cost: Free!

Additional Exhibition Dates:
July 5/July 19/August 8th*

**5-7 p.m.*



Sharell and Rob Katibah are world travelers who especially love coming home to photograph

the wildlife and people at Sailor Bar.

SAN JUAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S 2025 STARS HALL OF FAME & AWARDS: NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Creating connections, inspiring collaboration, and cultivating community: the mission of the San Juan Education Foundation is to harness the combined power of philanthropy and partnership to propel student achievement and enrich the lives of educators. Founded in 1991, they provide support through [the PROPEL Grant](#) Program and a broad [scholarship portfolio](#).

The San Juan Education Foundation is now accepting nominations for the **2025 STARS Hall of Fame and Special Recognition Awards**, honoring the people who make the San Juan Unified School District shine.

These annual awards celebrate the remarkable alumni, educators, and community partners who exemplify **innovation, leadership, and excellence**—and who represent the very best of San Juan Unified.

They invite our entire community to help recognize outstanding individuals in one of three categories:

- **STARS Hall of Fame:** Distinguished San Juan Unified alumni who have made a lasting impact in their professions and communities.
- **Legacy STAR Award** (*new in 2025*): Former San Juan Unified educators—classified or certificated—whose lifetime of service has shaped generations of students.
- **Bryan McKrell Shining STAR Award:** Individuals or organizations whose exceptional contributions have elevated the mission of the Foundation or District.

Honorees will be celebrated at the San Juan Education Foundation's annual gala "An Evening with the STARS" on October 10, 2025.

Nominate someone who inspires you—help shine a spotlight on those who make our community exceptional.

Submit your nomination by June 22 and learn more at the [San Juan Education Foundation website](#)

RANCHO CORDOVA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2025 BUSINESS EXPO

Join the [Rancho Cordova Area Chamber of Commerce](#) for this year's Business Expo - your opportunity to connect with hundreds of attendees, showcase your products and services, and grow your business visibility in the community.

This year, the Chamber has returned to its roots with a **business-to-business focus**, removing the job fair component to create a more targeted opportunity for vendors to connect, showcase, and grow.

Highlights for vendors include:

- Exposure to up to 400 attendees from both the business and residential community
- Networking with 70+ other local vendors
- A listing on our Business Expo landing page
- Robust marketing including social media, billboards, print, and radio partners
- Access to a vendor-only mixer the evening before the event

Every vendor receives promotion through email and social media channels. Prizes, giveaways, and a popular event passport will help drive engagement and booth visits making this Expo a must-attend event for businesses across the region.

[Register as a vendor today!](#)



BUSINESS EXPO

Host a Booth at the Expo!

WHERE YOU GROW YOUR BUSINESS

VENDOR INFO

Are you a local business looking to connect with the community? Showcase your products or services, hand out samples or giveaways, and promote your brand.

Scan for Vendor Registration

IMPORTANT INFO

Thursday, June 26th
10:00 am - 2 pm

Rancho Cordova City Hall
2729 Prospect Park Drive

Wednesday, June 25th
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Optional Vendor Drop Off

And! Vendor Mixer
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Community Sponsor  Event Sponsors  Supporting Sponsors  

KIWANIS CLUB OF CARMICHAEL COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS OPPORTUNITY

The **Kiwanis Club of Carmichael Foundation** is pleased to offer a **Community Impact Grant program** totaling \$15,000 for 2025. Grant awards may be considered in amounts of \$2,500, \$5,000, or \$7,500, not to exceed \$15,000 in total grants. Community fundraising events—such as the Club's annual Crab Feed, Taste of Carmichael, Big Day of Giving, and pancake breakfasts at Easter and 4th of July—make this program possible.



These special grants are available to nonprofits, schools, and charitable organizations serving the needs of the greater Carmichael area within Sacramento County.

Applications are due by July 31, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Awards will be announced by the end of September 2025. For more information, please visit the [Kiwanis Club of Carmichael website.](#)

Community Impact Grants



2025

DESIGNED TO PROVIDE
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT TO WORTHY
CAUSES AND PROJECTS IN THE
COMMUNITY.

The Kiwanis Club of Carmichael Foundation is pleased to offer a Community Impact Grant program totaling \$15,000 for 2025. Grant awards may be considered in amounts of \$2,500, \$5,000, or \$7,500, not to exceed \$15,000 in total grants. Community fundraising events—such as the Club's annual Crab Feed, Taste of Carmichael, Big Day of Giving, and our pancake breakfasts at Easter and 4th of July—make this program possible. These special grants are available to nonprofits, schools, and charitable organizations serving the needs of the greater Carmichael area within Sacramento County.

Funding Focus Areas

- Programs and services for children and youth
- Education and career readiness initiatives
- Working adult and senior support programs
- Recreational and family-focused activities
- School/classroom enrichment
- Health and wellness projects
- Environmental education and safety efforts
- Facility or equipment improvements
- Any program aligned with the Kiwanis mission



Application Timeline

- Opens: May 15, 2025
- Deadline: July 31, 2025 at 5:00 PM
- Awards Announced: By the end of September 2025

**COMMUNITY IMPACT
GRANTS**
**Presented by Kiwanis Club
of Carmichael Foundation**



Application Summary

The online application is designed to be simple yet thorough. Applicants will provide basic contact and organizational details, a description of the proposed project, the amount of funding requested, and a clear explanation of the project's goals, need, and anticipated impact. Applicants must describe how the project supports the Kiwanis mission, estimate the number of people served, and provide a budget. Supporting documents such as staff lists, letters of support, and budget uploads are encouraged. Each applicant will also name a contact person for follow-up and provide a digital signature to confirm the application's accuracy and completeness.

Key Evaluation Criteria

Priority will be given to applications that:

- Demonstrate sustainability and lasting impact
- Clearly define measurable outcomes
- Serve a significant number of people in the greater Carmichael area
- Can be completed within 12 months of receiving funds

How to Apply

Submit your application online at: <https://forms.gle/H8JnN85ZaN4DZ17k7>

OR use the QR code below with your phone

Applications must be submitted electronically by

5:00 PM on July 31, 2025.



Need Help?

For questions or assistance, email:

KimpactGrant@gmail.com

Include your name, applying organization, phone number, and preferred times for a call. A club member will follow up via text to arrange a time.

JOIN THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Join the Sacramento Public Library's Summer Reading Challenge from June 1 - August 15. Read freely this summer! Join our Summer Reading Challenge and read anything you want – books, ebooks, graphic novels, magazines, audiobooks – it all counts. Log your reading and complete activities to earn badges and prizes.

[Get Started!](#)

How It Works

1. [Sign up](#) or [log into](#) Beanstack. *You can sign up multiple readers in your household.*

2. **Join** our Summer Reading challenge in Beanstack starting May 15.
3. Read what you love and [log your reading](#).
4. **Complete activities** to earn badges.
5. **Earn prizes** for reading.

Download the [Beanstack app](#) on your mobile device to track your Summer Reading activity. You can also complete the challenge offline, just stop by any of our [locations](#) and ask for a reading log.



SUMMER WATER SAFETY

Summer is here, and the river is calling your name. **Visiting Sacramento County public waterways, rivers, and lakes is an excellent way to cool off and enjoy the outdoors but remember TO BE SAFE.**

Each year, 6,000 people drown in the United States. Of that total, about 5,000 would have survived if they had worn a life jacket. More than 3,000 people who drown each year had been using alcohol or drugs at the time.

Whether swimming, fishing, boating, floating or just wading, you should always wear a life vest. It's the law for kids under 13. Learn more about the [Kids Don't Float program](#).

You can borrow a life vest at any station along Sacramento's public waterways or at a local fire station.

Life vest borrowing stations on the American River Parkway

- Discovery Park (2 sites) (kids and adults)
- Ancil Hoffman Park (kids only)
- Howe Avenue river access (kids only)
- Paradise Beach (kids only)
- Watt Avenue river access (kids only)
- River Bend Park (kids only)
- Sunrise river access (kids only)
- Life vest borrowing station in the City of Sacramento Sand Cove (kids only)

Life vests are also available at [Sacramento area fire stations](#). Each Fire station offers 8 to 12 life vests in kid sizes to loan out.

FOSTERS NEEDED TO SAVE LIVES

Please help us save lives by becoming a foster care provider for the Animal Care shelter!

Foster care providers generally care for their foster pets while they recover from a medical procedure, or until their foster pet is adopted. If you fall in love with your foster pet, you can adopt them!

Foster care providers are critical to our efforts to save lives by providing temporary care outside of the shelter to animals such as those being too young for adoption, needing to recover from an illness or injury, for behavior modification, or just because they need a break from the stresses of shelter life.

To make fostering experience a positive one for both you and the animal, we match animals in need to the foster provider's home environment, personal abilities, and comfort level in working with various medical conditions or behaviors.

- [View fostering FAQ's](#)
- [Meet and contact our Foster Coordinators](#)

Help foster kittens by donating bottles, heating pads, formula, and food from our [Amazon Wishlist](#).

To save time, fill out our [foster care program agreement](#) in advance, print it out, and bring it with you or fill out in person at our shelter. When you foster, we will provide all

necessary supplies and veterinary care. Please email foster@saccounty.gov for more information.

To Get Started: Foster Orientation

Please complete our **Foster Orientation** presentation via Prezi:

When opening the link, you'll be asked to provide your first/last name and email. This allows us to verify your completion of the orientation. Once finished, our team will follow up with next steps, including signing our foster agreement and matching you with a pet in need!



GOAT GRAZING

If you've seen goats and sheep munching away along local trails or open fields, they're not lost — they're on duty. These "four-legged firefighters" are part of Sacramento County Regional Parks' comprehensive 2025 Fire Fuel Reduction Action Plan, aimed at lowering wildfire risk while protecting the natural beauty and wildlife habitats of our park system.

This year's plan includes targeted grazing using sheep and goats, along with firebreak creation, hand-crew ladder fuel removal, and support for homeowners living near park boundaries. Together, these efforts form a multi-layered approach to keeping our parks and nearby neighborhoods safer through the dry season.

Why Goats and Sheep?

Thousands of acres of natural land make up Sacramento County's parks — and in many of these areas, traditional fire prevention methods aren't enough. Grazing animals are ideal for reducing grasses, weeds, and brush across uneven terrain that's hard for crews or machines to access. This environmentally friendly method also helps reduce ladder fuels (vegetation that can carry fire from the ground

into tree canopies) and invasive species like yellow star-thistle.

Grazing operations are expected to continue through **the end of June**, with the possibility of additional grazing later in the summer in select areas.

Other Fire Prevention Strategies Include:

- **Firebreaks:** Crews create firebreaks using mowing, soil discing, and herbicides around open fields, fence lines, and behind neighborhoods. This work is expected to wrap up by the end of June.
- **Ladder Fuel Hand-Crews:** In hard-to-reach areas, trained hand-crews remove vegetation to prevent upward fire spread.
- **Encroachment Permits:** Homeowners who live adjacent to Regional Parks can request **free annual permits** to create up to 50 feet of defensible space behind their properties. Requests can be sent to: parksinfo@SacCounty.gov
- **Education and Enforcement:** Rangers continue to monitor and educate the public about fire safety, including enforcing regulations around open flames and smoking in park areas.

A Few Tips for Park Visitors:

- **Do not enter or disturb grazing areas.** Animals are protected by herding dogs and monitored by handlers.
- **Keep pets away** from the livestock and herding dogs.
- **Do not feed or approach** the animals — they're working!
- **Avoid discarding plant material** near grazing zones, as some plants may be toxic to the livestock.

[For more information on Sacramento County's 2025 Fire Fuel Reduction Action Plan, visit the Regional Parks website.](#)



ICYMI—ELECTION ADMINISTRATION WORKSHOP

Last month, the [Department of Voter Registration and Elections, Registrar of Voters](#) presented a workshop to the Board of Supervisors.

The Department administers local, state, and federal elections in Sacramento County while complying with changing laws and regulations. Each election, the Board Members and their staff receive numerous questions, and it

is beneficial for the Board and my constituents to hear first-hand from the Registrar.

The Department is committed to accuracy and transparency and is proactively maintaining the most up-to-date voter registration information, while upholding rigorous standards of election security and integrity.

[Check out the Workshop!](#)

WHAT ARE YOUR KIDS DOING THIS SUMMER?

The **Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District (MORPD)** is hard at work, adding programs to benefit you and your family. MORPD has a variety of summer camps for children as young as 5 years old and even a summer preschool. Registration is now open. [Please check out this link to learn more about the programs and register online.](#)

For more information about the Park District or available activities, please visit the [Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District website.](#)



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