

# SELMA KINGSBURG ENTERPRISE RECORDER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021 | Online at selmaenterprise.com and kingsburgrecorder.com

## Ask Dr. Kait

Why do veterinarians have a higher suicide rate? **B1**



## High school football

Bears lose one to Dinuba, **A3**

# Fresno County detectives arrest man with 4,000 fentanyl pills

### STAFF REPORTS

Law enforcement has arrested a man transporting thousands of pills laced with fentanyl.

Narcotics detectives with the Special Investigations Task Force (SITF) have booked 25-year-old Victor Corella of Woodland, CA into the Fresno County Jail

for possession of drugs for sale. Around 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, detectives patrolling the area of Interstate 5 and State Route 198 in Coalinga conducted a vehicle stop. During the detective's interaction with the driver, Victor Corella, the K-9 reportedly alerted them to the odor of narcotics.

Detectives discovered Corella reportedly had approximately 4,000 counterfeit Oxycodone Hydrochloride pills in his car. These blue pills, which are frequently seized by law enforcement nowadays, are known to contain a high concentration of Fentanyl. They are stamped with

a capital 'M' and the number 30. Ingesting one potentially has fatal consequences. The Sheriff's Office takes all tips seriously. Those with awareness of any type of illegal drug activity, report it anonymously by calling the Narcotics Hotline at 1-800-660-1086 or Email: drugtip@

fresnosheriff.org You may also contact Crime Stoppers at (559) 498-7867, www.valleycrimestoppers.org. People can remain anonymous.



Corella



PHOTO BY ANNE WERNIKOFF, CALMATTERS

Gov. Gavin Newsom and Jennifer Siebel Newsom pose for photos with union members at IBEW Local 6 in San Francisco hours before the polls closed on Sept. 14, 2021.

# What's at stake for Newsom's biggest recall campaign donors

### LAUREL ROSENHALL Cal Matters

As Gov. Gavin Newsom wraps up a month of high-stakes decisions about what should become law in California, he's also making calls that impact many of the donors who just spent millions of dollars to help him defeat the historic Sept. 14 recall.

Labor unions, real estate moguls, tech titans — interest groups that lobby at the state Capitol often try to sway elections. That's nothing new. But the attempt to remove Newsom presented them with an unusually stark opportunity to try to wield influence: Donors could give the governor unlimited sums of campaign money for an election held the same week Newsom began signing and vetoing bills.

"It turbo-charged something that was already supercharged," said Jessica Levinson, a professor at Loyola Law School and former president of the Los Angeles Ethics Commission. "It is this perfect storm highlighting for us how money works in politics."

Normally, the job of the most powerful decision-maker in Cal-

ifornia only comes before voters every four years. Regular elections in November take place after the governor has concluded signing bills for the year — and the law limits how much money donors can give. But those conventions didn't apply to the recall.

"If you start from donation-land and you drive to decision-land, that road used to be a lot longer. But thanks to the recall it's half a block away," Levinson said.

For some donors, the unusual election was just another way to give to someone they already supported: About 260 donors who contributed to the anti-recall committee also gave Newsom a total of \$1 million this year for his 2022 re-election campaign.

Newsom has until Oct. 10 to finish signing the roughly 800 bills lawmakers sent him this year. His spokesperson Erin Mellon said: "The governor's decisions, always grounded in sound policy and good governance, are made in the best interest of the State of California."

Here's a look at how Newsom's decisions this year intersect with

some key donors who contributed to the \$71 million campaign war chest that helped the governor keep his job.

### Hollywood: \$3.9 million

The entertainment industry lobbied for expanded tax credits last year, but legislation never reached the governor's desk. This year, show biz executives donated at least \$3.9 million to help Newsom fight the recall as their lobbyists scored new industry tax breaks.

That generosity included a \$3 million check in May from Netflix founder Reed Hastings, making him Newsom's biggest individual donor.

In July, Newsom signed legislation as part of the state budget that gives an additional \$330 million in tax credits to film and television productions. The credits have not yet been awarded, but Netflix was the biggest winner in an earlier round, scoring \$43 million for three productions. The new tax breaks, Newsom said when he signed them into law, will "fuel the California Comeback through

thousands of good jobs right here in the Golden State."

The next month, Deadline reported, Hollywood bigwigs hosted a virtual fundraiser to help Newsom fight the recall. Campaign finance records show that in August director Steven Spielberg gave the anti-recall campaign \$25,000, Disney Studios executive Alan Horn and his wife gave \$50,000, and Jeffrey Katzenberg, the veteran film producer who recently founded a tech company, gave \$500,000.

Katzenberg, in a recent New York Times podcast, called the effort to oust Newsom a "nonsensical, idiotic recall" and said governors across the country have faced extraordinary challenges in managing the pandemic. Newsom, he said, has "actually done a decent job, given the circumstances."

### Tech: \$3.8 million

Relationship status between Newsom and the tech industry? It's complicated.

Please see **DONORS**, Page A2

### AROUND THE VALLEY

## Top banks in Hanford metro listed

Wells Fargo & Bank of America are tops in market share among financial institutions here. The annual FDIC market share report is out for the Hanford metro area. The ranking says Wells Fargo leads all other banks in deposits with \$369 million and a 23% market share. They have two branches here.

The No. 2 bank is Bank of America with \$262 million in deposits with one branch and a 16% market share. Both banks have improved their market here in

the past three years. The No. 3 bank, Bank of the West, has lost market share from 2019 when it enjoyed a 14.6% share vs. 10.4% in 2021. Also losing share has been Citibank. The top 10 financial institutions have \$1.6 billion of your money on deposit — up from \$1.2 billion in 2019.

### Pace of homebuilding up from last year

King County jurisdictions have permitted 223 new homes valued at \$67 million through Sept 30. That is up from just 167 last year at this time but down from 2019 when 319 new homes valued at \$75 million got permits as of Oct 1. Figures are from Construction Monitor. In 2018 there were just 206 over the same 9 months.

COVID cases fall here — vaccination rate still lags

The good news is that like all of California, COVID-19 new cases are down by about half from a month ago. The bad news is that Kings residents' vaccination rates still lag most counties in the state with just 42% receiving at least one shot. Tulare is at 50%, Fresno is 59% and San Luis Obispo sits at 63%. If the new cases are going down, hospitalizations are still going up with 64 Kings residents with COVID in hospital beds as of Oct 1. That is compared to 27 Aug. 1.

### Kings River flow not record low

The water year ended September 30 and the Kings River flow over the past year was low, but not the worst ever. There was 395,000 acre-feet of natural flow coming down the Kings River — enough to keep it from the record low reported in the 2014-15 water year, according to a press release from the Kings River Water Association. The lowest flow was in 2014-15 when only 361,000 acre feet came down the mountain. Runoff this past year was just 23.49% of average.

### Corcoran making plans to honor Ray Lerma

Corcoran City Council held a recent meeting to express their desires of having a building named in honor and memory of former City Council member Raymond Lerma.

Please see **BANKS**, Page A2

### SELMA STORIES

# Some of us are still California Dreamin'

## Are we still the Golden State?

We left Selma last week in a fog of smoke and other pollutants, the landscape looking like a black-and-white photograph as we motored north on the 99 past Fowler, Fresno, Madera and Merced.

Somewhere between Modesto and Sacramento a peek of blue appeared in the sky, and by the time we hit Interstate 80 the



KEN ROBISON

smoky haze was lifting.

So here I am in beautiful Nevada County, sitting on the back patio of the wooded estate belonging to some longtime friends we've known since our days at Fresno State.

In the 1960s, we were poor college kids, looking for love and careers. The careers completed and the love still intact,

we are now old retired folks with creaky bodies hoping for a few more seasons in the sun. I'm writing this as that autumn sun slips down through the trees. It was lovely here today, 70s temperature, blue sky, some clouds and a soft breeze.

You might get even call it dreamy.

Which brings me to my topic of the week: Dreams. Specifically, the Great American Dream.

"Catch your dreams before

they slip away." That lyric from the Rolling Stones' "Ruby Tuesday" is appropriate for those of us in the Grandparent generation. We were young when the Stones recorded "Ruby Tuesday."

Many of us managed to catch our dreams — home, family, career, travel, etc. — and now we're content to help our children and grandchildren work on theirs.

Please see **DREAMIN**, Page A2

### CONTACT US

■ SUBSCRIBER SERVICES. (888) 606-0605  
■ INFORMATION.....(559) 582-0471

■ FAX (MAIN).....(559) 896-9160

CLASSIFIEDS B3 LIFESTYLES B1  
COMMUNITY A4 OBITUARIES A2

