What is Fentanyl?
Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in California and the United States. And yes it is within the confines of Glenn, Butte, Tehama, Shasta, and Colusa counties. It has made a significant impact on local communities and, unfortunately, the negative impact is increasing as more and more people and youth experiment with illegal drugs.

Fentanyl-laced drugs are extremely dangerous. It is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl without the use of fentanyl test strips because fentanyl cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted. Test strips are inexpensive, typically give results within 5 minutes, and can be the difference between life or death. Even if the test is negative, caution should be taken as test strips might not detect other fentanyl-like drugs.

Before 2020 Fentanyl was almost unheard of, that is not the picture now, Fentanyl use has exploded and there is a trail of victims throughout the north state. The same way marijuana has been enhanced to provide much more significant highs in a variety of formats, the increase in Fentanyl uses also have broadened its presence on the area drug scene. The incidents of Fentanyl overdoses increase over 26 percent since 2020. Over 150 people die every day from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like Fentanyl. In 2022 there was a record number of deaths related to drugs, with some 109,680 people losing their lives.

Several years ago, when physicians and the medical community in general began their attempt to wean the population off opioid pain medications because of their addictive tendencies, the use of methamphetamine and fentanyl began to increase. That increase is now considered to be of epidemic proportions, and not just in big cities, but rural areas of this country are also on the hit list.

Fentanyl is fifty times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine, and in so many cases FATAL.

How do you recognize the signs of a fentanyl overdose:
- Small, constricted “pinpoint pupils”
- Falling asleep or losing consciousness
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Cold and/or clammy skin
- Discolored skin (especially in lips and nails)

Narcam (Naloxone) is an opioid antagonist that can immediately reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. With a fentanyl overdose, two or more doses of naloxone may need to be administered. Narcam is a life-saving medication that can reverse an opioid overdose, including overdose from heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medications. You can get Naloxone at local pharmacies. Where can you get naloxone? at a local pharmacy or through local community programs—find one near you at: https://nopn.org/california, or even through the mail for people with limited access—nextdistro.org/naloxone.

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Congrats Lake Elementary Grads

The Lake Elementary School Class of 2027 pose in front of the school sign bordering County Road 9. The 20 classmates were set to begin their journeys into the land of high school and set their future dreams in motion. For many of the students they had spent their primary and middle school education within the halls of Lake School. Colby Gasper and Cayden Wright echoed the sentiments of hundreds of Lake School staff, students, and their families who over the years have enjoyed the culinary creations of Mrs. Bobbi Fissori who will be retiring from the breakfast, snacks, and lunch brigade she has coordinated for many, many years.

Monica De La Rosa and Madison Espinosa paid tribute to Superintendent/Principal Nikol Baker, who after eleven years at the helm of Lake School has accepted a new position as Assistant Superintendent of Special Programs at Glenn County Office of Education. Lake School Board of Trustees and Nikol Baker did the honor of presenting students with their diplomas.

Keeping with tradition, Lake School graduation ceremony included a snippet on what the class called “A day in the life of our Class of 2027” shared by some of their classmates future careers would be. Pictured from left to right, classmates Dylan Stenquist, Madyson Ray Wiseman and Cayden Jarrett Wright.

Free Haircuts and Backpacks

The STAR Center and TAY will be providing free haircuts and backpacks for Glenn County youth on Monday, August 7th at the CK Price Gymnasium, located at 1212 Marin Street in Orland. The event will be held from 10am to 2pm. The free haircuts are for Glenn County youth on Monday, August 7th at the CK Price Gymnasium, located at 1212 Marin Street in Orland. The event will be held from 10am to 2pm. The free haircuts are for Glenn County youth. All youth must be accompanied by an adult, please arrive with clean dry hair. The GCOE STAR Center will be providing free haircuts and backpacks to youth in kindergarten through 12th grade. All youth must be accompanied by an adult, please arrive with clean dry hair.

Plaza Students Move to High School

The Plaza School Eighth grade graduates could not have picked a better author to quote for their class motto than Ashleigh Brilliant, an English born, now Santa Barbara 90-year-old pot-shot humorist and cartoonist to display on the front of their graduation program.

“We thing nothing we do changes the past – everything we do changes the future.”

Consequently, as the dark clouds of a good-sized thunderstorm approached the school campus, the decision was made to hurry and move everything inside the cafeteria. And scurry they did, moving programs out of the rain’s reach, chairs, and anything else that might facilitate the annual ceremony was jam-packed into the interior and filled the room to beyond capacity; it did change the future somewhat, but the ceremony went on. No worries the north wind was not howling at 40 mph, and the evening activity was relatively cool compared to other years dehydrating the audience at 100 degrees.

“Pomp and Circumstance” welcomed the graduates as they aligned themselves into cramped quarters, the two mistresses of ceremonies, Haley Ordaz and Emily Punzo conducted their assigned duties without a flaw. The graduates were still able to honor their parents and grandparents with Plaza’s traditional presentation of flowers to their guests. Faithful Plaza retiree Judy Fowler was on hand to present the annual Jesse Stokes Award and veteran board member Connie King made the presentation of the graduates to the audience after receiving their diplomas.

Stuff the Bus for Back to School

Each year in Glenn County over 350 children are considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The Glenn County Office of Education’s “Project Help” program through the STAR Center (Striving Together, Achieving Results) provides backpacks and school supplies for the children in need in our area. Please consider purchasing a few extra of back-to-school supplies for the annual Stuff the Bus. School Supplies needed: binders, dividers, notebooks, ruled paper, journals. Folders, organizers, crayons, markers, pens, pencils, rulers, highlighters. Scissors, Calculators, erasers, glue sticks, planners, and White Out. Hygiene products needed include socks, underwear, shoes, jackets, toothbrushes. Toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, brushes, combs. Hair ties, tampons/pads, razors, shaving cream, body soap, dental floss, clothes, sweatshirts, and PE clothes.

The event will be held Thursday, through Saturday, July 27th, 28th and 29th from 10am to 2pm in the parking lot at Willows’ Walmart. For more information contact J.T. Grundy at the Glenn County Office of Education at (530) 934-6575, ext. 3176.
Elk Creek High School Salutatorian Helena Burrows addressed the audience citing some of her memories of the journey they have been travelling for the last 12 years. Of Ethan she will always remember how he could fall asleep and how he always made her laugh. Kyra was always there to give her advice, Lyneea will get her AA degree; she is the brains of the class. Armye is my BFF and she is leaving to go to college in Nevada. Helena said she was not sure how to describe her high school experience but as the worst part of being the Salutatorian is she hates public speaking, but she is headed for Butte College.

Anyone and Lyneea made the yearbook presentation and dedicated it to Erin Calahan who will be retiring this year. Calahan served as assistant to at least a half a dozen Superintendents over her career. She played many roles, the school nurse, schedule maker, driver, teacher, party planner, and we will miss you. To Mr. Flynn, you were like a second dad, and we are grateful we got to have you as a teacher, we appreciate all you do.

Anyone in the role as Valedictorian, reminded her classmates that they were always the class that was running to do things as first-year students, and then came Covid. Some of us, by the blink of an eye, we all should have listened, and I will admit it Mom, you were right. Tomorrow there is no more high school. We should have listened. She thanked classmate Helena for being her best friend and always standing by her, and her family which she felt apart of, adding, they might be glad to get rid of me! Tomorrow begins a new chapter in all their lives, who would have thought in our first year and now we are on our way to college.

Former Glenn County Sheriff Rich Warren served as the guest speaker for the ceremony, he cautioned the students that he also knew how time has a way of flying by; it seems like he just got started and now he is retired. Warren said, you have just completed your high school journey, some of you have college plans, some of you are uncertain, do not rush, just know your new journey is beginning. He related his own experience of graduating and wanting to get as far away from the Maxwell community as possible, going to a school with eighty-eight students, he landed in college classroom with 2,200 other students, and it was a revelation. He soon learned a big city was not for him, giving up on becoming an electrical engineer, he really did not know what he wanted to do. In 1988 he finally found his passion, getting his bachelor’s degree in law enforcement. The experience made him who he is today, did he have regrets, yes, did he make changes, yes. He cautioned, it was not a race to find out what makes you happy, you need to first find something that you can be passionate about. Closing he said, Success is not the key to happiness, happiness is the key to success.

We are the Champions!!

Indian Valley 8th Grade Grads

Congratulations to the 8th Grade Class!

Indian Valley Middle School is nestled in the foothills west of Stony Gorge Reservoir, in the shadow of Mayfield. Their graduating ceremony was held out on the lush green lawn on the shaded grounds of the school yard. The half a dozen eighth grade students waited patiently for the ceremony to begin. For Jamison Boone, Serenity Mahone, Laylah Mitchell, Mya Philips, Kaidence Reagan, and Macen Swearinger the wait was over, as they walked to their seats to Queen’s “We are the Champions” playing over the sound system. Laylah Mitchell did the honors of welcoming the audience and leading them in reciting the Pledge Allegiance.

The guest speaker for the event was Daniel Reagan, local pastor and coach, and father of one of the graduates Kaidence Reagan, Reagan said he was in the Class of 1999, telling the students they never lived in a world without internet, STEM education, and Titanic movies. These were all relics of gone by days of fool’s gold. These were all relics of gone by days of fool’s gold. He was one of eighty-eight students, he landed in college classroom with 2,200 other students, and it was a revelation. He soon learned a big city was not for him, giving up on becoming an electrical engineer, he really did not know what he wanted to do. In 1988 he finally found his passion, getting his bachelor’s degree in law enforcement. The experience made him who he is today, did he have regrets, yes, did he make changes, yes. He cautioned, it was not a race to find out what makes you happy, you need to first find something that you can be passionate about. Closing he said, Success is not the key to happiness, happiness is the key to success.
One could not have asked for better weather, a cool morning the north valley greeted families and well-wishes to Walden Academy Charter School's Eighth Grade promotion ceremony. The east side of the campus was beautifully decorated and plenty of seating for the guests. Pedro Bobadilla, Dean of Students welcomed and introduced local dignitaries to the audience. The students expressed their sentiments on the time they had spent at Walden, many of the students had been enrolled throughout their primary and middle school education at the academy. Keeping with tradition the graduates were presented with bouquets which they gifted to their family members. Walden’s Eighth grade teacher Mr. Bose closed the ceremony congratulating the students for their achievements, wishing them well and encouraged each of them to continue their education to success. Bose reminded the students they could soar and succeed; it was up to them how high; they would now be entering into the world of high school.

Congratulations Walden Graduates

One proud father, Pedro Bobadilla, Walden Academy Dean of Students presented his son Tavian with a special award during the graduation ceremony. In addition to excelling academically at Walden, Tavian broke three records during the annual GCOE Track Meet in the long jump, and the 100 and 200 meter races, held at the end of the school year.

The Walden Academy Class of 2027 graduates were Brayden Arendt, Kasey Blair, Tavian Bobadilla, Cade Dugo, Regina Gonzalez, Lucia Guzman, Robert Guzman, Bennett Hoffman, Elijah Levesque, Elijah Sengmany, and Kimberly Torres.

The Wm Finch Charter High School graduation ceremony was held on the evening of May 24th, with families and friends gathered to wish the new graduates best wishes as they begin a new chapter of their lives. Principal Dan La Bar welcomed the audience leading the crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Glenn County Superintendent of Schools Ryan Bentz congratulated the graduates, bidding them farewell, much success, and encouraging them to pursue their dreams of both technical and higher education.

The Keynote speaker for the event was Glenn County Office of Education Career Technical Education Director Linda Riggle. She addressed the students, congratulating them on their diligence in completing their independent studies through Wm Finch Charter School earning their high school diplomas. Principal Dan La Bar presented Assemblyman James Gallagher’s Achievement Awards to Erna Torres and Luis Amezcua for their outstanding work over the past year. Presenting the students with their diplomas were Glenn County Office of Education Board President Judy Holzapfel and Principal La Bar, congratulating each of the students for their achievement in earning their high school diplomas.

Congratulations WM Finch High School Grads

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It was the real deal for Willows Community High Graduates as they entered the grassy area north of Willows Unified District Office, walking to the tr “Pomp and Circumstance.”

Randy Calderon led the Pledge of Allegiance to open the ceremony. Willows unified Superintendent Emmett Koerperich welcomed the students and the audience, he congratulated the students stating how proud he was of them for completing their journey. Adding, you have met your requirements, now you can go out and create a new path, wishing them the best for their journey. "The top of this mortar board just about sums up the entire reason Willows Community High School exists, it is an opportunity for students to blaze their own paths, be independent without being tied to traditional classroom setting. This student decorated her mortar board, ‘More i made it’.

Pictured are the graduates attending the ceremony on June 6th were Corbin Arnold, Robert Daniels, Likiana Ouz, Jacoby Esquivel, Emil Johnson, Juan Lopez Ruiz, Jacob Bailey-Foerster, Victoria Powell, Kai Gordon, Mariah Thomas, Aijah Ellen, Jennifer Reguizca, Elif Vergas, Daniel Villanual Rodriguez, Jaiden Gomez, Angel Lopez Sanchez, Monica Martin, Abygail Vazquez, Casey Jurdana, Keira Sarnoski, Hunter McCorin, and Marilyn Ornelas.

Graduating at an earlier date and unable to attend the ceremony were, Jocelyn Ascensión Medina, Logan Nahinu, Lindsay Palos Brambila, Giovanni Villareal-Rodríguez, Jaiden Gomez, Ángel López Sánchez, Monica Martin, Abygail Vásquez, Casey Jurdana, Keira Sarnoski, Hunter McCuin, and Megan Jorgensen.

Congratulations to Alisha Summer Hanson-Bradshaw, Randy Dakota Calderon, Jose Luis Cortes, Janessa Cortez, Nathan James Martin, Chris Renee Wing Padda, Leyla Maria Carreras Rosas, and Victoria Alicia Sanchez.

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Congratulations to Alisha Summer Hanson-Bradshaw, Randy Dakota Calderon, Jose Luis Cortes, Janessa Cortez, Nathan James Martin, Chris Renee Wing Padda, Leyla Maria Carreras Rosas, and Victoria Alicia Sanchez. Capay Joint Union Elementary School Graduates

Capay School, Home of the Colts presented their graduation ceremony on June 8th in the quad area on one of the cooler evenings of the month. Families and friends gathered to celebrate a dozen years of primary and middle school learning, before the eighth graders make their way to area high schools. In keeping with tradition students entered in their Capay green graduation robes to the cheers and applause.

Capay students Dayana Leal and Camilla Vargas sang the “Star Spangled Banner acapella.” Capay Superintendent/Principal Jim Scribner welcomed the audience, this would be his last graduation at the rural school, after 17 years at the helm Scribner is taking over the reins of Fairview Elementary when the new school year begins this fall.

Graduates Rhett Milne, Jerret King, and Genevieve Ahumada shared memories of their classmates to the enjoyment of the audience. Citing their predictions of how the future endeavors of their grade school classmates would look like in the next 20 years. Co-Valedictorians Sadie Porter and Anayanci Carrillo shared the podium to acknowledge their years at Capay School and their appreciation of the effort to become productive individuals. Corbin Arnold led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Orland Unified Board members Becky Brummet and Jeff Aguilar did the honors of presenting the graduates with their certificates of completion.

North Valley High School

North Valley High School graduated at total of 29 students for the 22-23 school year. Despite the inclement weather the ceremony was held as scheduled, and fortunately ended just before the rain invaded the area adjacent to their classroom.

Principal Casey Johnson welcomed students and their families gathered to celebrate their accomplishments and thanking the graduates for their efforts to complete their high school education earning their diplomas. Johnson expressed he was proud of the students for their hard work and diligence to succeed. He encouraged the students to continue their education in whatever field they chose, urging them to put forth the effort to become productive individuals. Corbin Arnold led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Orland Unified Board members Becky Brummet and Jeff Aguilar did the honors of presenting the graduates with their certificates of completion.

Congratulations to Alisha Summer Hanson-Bradshaw, Randy Dakota Calderon, Jose Luis Cortes, Janessa Cortez, Nathan James Martin, Chris Renee Wing Padda, Leyla Maria Carreras Rosas, and Victoria Alicia Sanchez.

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The WIS Cardinals entered Honker Stadium amongst the cheers and well wishes of their families and friends. Graduates of the Cardinal class were Tanner Abold, Julian Alcaraz, Arturo Alonso-Zuniga, Misael Ambriz, Bianca Amaro, Anthony Amaro, Michael Ceccon, Dante Ibrahim, Kevin Jimenez, Caleb Miller, and Athanasios Vranich. The WIS Cardinals stood proudly in Honker Stadium in their red and white gowns, ready to face a new adventure beginning high school – and primary and middle school were finally behind them as they were now preparing to enter the next phase of their lives.

Kate Amaro. She encouraged her classmates to continue their dreams, they would do great things in life. Amaro was the recipient of several awards including the Willows Kiwanis, California Women in Ag, YLI, Future Farmers of America, and Cheerleader. She was a member of the WHS Alumni Band and a few members of the WHS Alumni Band under the direction of the new Music Director, Vincent Hjerpe rang out with “Pomp and Circumstance” as 130 plus graduates entered Honker Stadium, and they also play the “Star Spangled Banner,” as the capacity crowd cheered on the graduates. Associated Student Body President Karli Lanzi led the crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. In her first year at the helm of “Honor High,” Principal Julie Carriere welcomed the audience. Carriere congratulated the students for their perseverance and dedication to completing their high school requirements, putting them one step closer to a new path and new challenges after a dozen years at Willows Unified. The tradition of moving their tassels from one side to the other, was accompanied by a host of confetti bombs and cheers of families and friends in the stands.

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Dreams Can Come True

It was “Small Town, Big Dreams” for the Willows Intermediate School’s Class of 2027 as they were promoted into high school on June 8th. The WIS Cardinals stood proudly in Honker Stadium in their red and white gowns, ready to face a new adventure beginning high school in a little over two months from the night they worked so hard to achieve. Classmate Omar Jimenez echoed the feelings of their classmates, focusing on the theme of Small Towns and Big Dreams. For the 99 graduates this was their big day, and primary and middle school were finally behind them as they were now preparing to enter the hallowed halls of high school.
One hundred and sixty plus Orland High School students received their diplomas in the football stadium overflowing with well wishes. At the beginning of the ceremony, fellow senior Angela Schykerynec sang the National Anthem. She complimented the gathering saying everyone was a “formation of leadership, vitality, and perseverance, no matter how insignificant one felt. Everyone played a part in the world. He likened it to a form of security, like a guarantee that we will all make a difference.”

The CK Price Middle School 2023 class was present in their classrooms and capacity crowd focused on interpreting the meaning of destiny, noting that it was an aspect of life that could not be controlled. Mason Greeley, the class valedictorian, addressed the audience and the school board. He likened it to a form of security, like a guarantee that we will all make a difference.

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Orland’s Golden Girls
The Class of 1949 was well represented at the Golden Grads celebration held earlier this year. Pictured from left to right Gloria Gundry, Roxie Spence, and Lorraine Piazza, each of them resides in Orland and they enjoyed spending the afternoon reminiscing with fellow Orland alumni. The Golden Grads luncheon is held every two years, and yes these ladies did graduate from Orland High School 74 years ago.

Lex Promotes Five Students at Willows High
Students in Molly Lex’s WHS class celebrated two days prior to the actual graduation ceremony on June 9th. They celebrated with a practice run on what they were going to do on that special Friday night. Classroom aides and teachers came to visit and help wish the students good luck on their big day. When Friday came around, the group walked into Honker Stadium with the rest of the high school grads to receive their diplomas to the cheers of well-wishers. When the new school year begins, they will be enrolled in the Adult Transition class, north of Orland High School until they reach the age of 22.

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Willows Hydro Jets Score at Otter Tournament
Recent Walden Academy graduate and member of the Willows Hydro Jets Swim Team, Tristan Bobadilla is pictured in the breaststroke competition held on July 8th and 9th at the Orland Otters annual Tournament. Bobadilla placed second in the heat, and teammate Nicholas Flowerdew placed first. Teams from all over the north valley participated in the swim meet, from as far away as Weaverville and Scotts Valley.

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Glenn Adult School Graduates, We Congratulate You
Although former tenacious educator Lisa Morgan has retired she knows how to keep a promise. Years ago, in dealing with a troubled young man, encouraging him he could make something of himself. Over the course of many years, Morgan made a promise to Marco Trenado, if you ever graduate I will be there to congratulate you. Given the circumstances, very few ever thought that would ever happen.

Fast forward to the Glenn Adult Graduation ceremony, who finally earned their high school diploma, Marco Antonio Trenado, and much to his surprise, Morgan was there to congratulate her former student and keep her promise after all those years. That’s dedication and determination on both sides, the Kleenex boxes were emptied, and faith in mankind stepped up a notch.

Keeping a Promise to one Glenn Adult Graduate Brings Tears to Everyone
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Lisa Morgan hugs former student Marco Trenado at his graduation, a promise she made to him years ago.

Picked from left to right Adam Dyck, Eric Nietzke, Mariana Ayala Romero, & Jose Ramon Flores-Torres, (not pictured Gustavo Raygoza).

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Lisa Morgan hugs former student Marco Trenado at his graduation, a promise she made to him years ago.
The Princeton High School Class of 2023 finished up their academic journey, surviving the effects of nearly two years of Covid-19 lock downs and lock-ins during the final two years of their high school education. Many of the students have been classmates since their kindergarten and pre-school years. Many of them are Princeton area natives, well acquainted with a rural school lifestyle. The evening of May 31st marked the beginning of new journeys for graduates.

Andrea Cervantes summed up her senior year the best. “To say the least, this past school year contained many ups and downs for me. With each mistake and failure, I learned a new lesson but the biggest one of all was that what is meant for you will be for you. Applying to college was one of the most pivotal moments in my life and going into it with the mindset that I would be okay, regardless of where I ended up made all the difference in the world. Winston Churchill once said that “Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm,” and that was exactly what I did. As disappointed as some of my college rejections were, I didn’t let that drag me down. I knew that if I let my failures overrule my accomplishments I would never truly be proud of myself. In the end, I got what I had been striving towards. On March 39th, I received an email from UC Berkeley, the first word I read was “congratulations!” I had been accepted to one of the best universities in the country. I want to encourage not just my fellow graduates and underclassmen but everyone here to live your life at ease and believe that what is meant for you will be for you.”

Classmate Alex Medina-Gomez summed up the evening quoting television star Mike Holmes’ famous saying, “I’m looking forward to the future, and feeling grateful for the past.”

Congratulations Princeton 8th Grade Graduates: Julius Deniz, Shalisha Garcia-Martinez, Jordan Morrow, Yazmina Gonzalez-Barajas, Santiago Ramirez-Miramontes, and Javier Velázquez.
Almost Two Patriot

Olivia Hill and her patriotic Unicorn won first place in the decorated bike contest at the annual Orland Historical & Cultural Society 4th of July. Olivia is the daughter of Dani and Tulsa Hill, and granddaughter of Angie and Bruce Crook. Olivia’s five-year-old brother Gunner also competed in the contest. You can wish Olivia a Happy Birthday on July 24th when she officially turns two years old.

It’s a Surprise

Orland Alumni Leon Ponci is pictured with two of his grandsons, Mason and Jace, the trio had been working on the community organization sign, pulling the weeds and raking up the debris. The smallest park in Orland was constructed in honor of the late Chuck Cutshall Sr.; friends and family members installed a plaque in his honor. It was dedicated a couple of decades ago for Cutshall’s devotion to the Orland Kiwanis organization. Fast forward a few decades and Leon Ponci was responsible for manufacturing the framework for the community’s many charitable groups. The Ponci’s spent the morning sprucing it up for a new addition to be added later on down the road. For now it’s a surprise and well deserved, but you will have to wait and see when it is in place.

Ducky Derby Winner

And the winner... is Abby Grijalva in the annual Orland Rotary Ducky Derby contest. Abby is pictured with incoming Rotary President Ruby Neumann and her $500 winning ticket. Abby is the daughter of GCOE’s Child Care Resource Supervisor Sarah Grijalva and her husband Raymond. Rumors were circulating that a trip to Disneyland might see some of the proceeds of Abby’s winning.

Behavioral Health Scholarships Announced

Golden State Social Opportunities Program (GSSOP) 2023-24

The purpose of the Golden State Social Opportunities Program (GSSOP) is to increase the number of highly trained behavioral health professionals providing direct patient care in California-based nonprofit organizations. Those awarded the Golden State Social Opportunities scholarship may receive up to $25,000 per year for a total of up to $50,000. If awarded, recipients agree to a twenty-four (24) month service obligation practicing in an eligible healthcare profession, providing a minimum of 32 hours per week of direct patient care in a community-based organization.

GSSOP applicants must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited graduate program that prepares them to become one of the following professions: Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Licensed Clinical Psychology (PhD or PsyD), and Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor. Applications can be found at the HCAI Funding Portal: https://funding.hcai.ca.gov/
Medical GAP Success One!

The Class of 2023 Medical Assistants are Kathryn Brumbaugh, Piaurara Camarena, Chianara Carrizal, Paulina Flores, Daiana Granados, Esmenrita Gomez, Maria Hernandez, Aníbal Jara, César Jara, Daniel Martinez, Laura Martinez, Lívano Mendez, Adriana Mejia, Mayel Gutierrez, Jennifer Ramirez, Blanca Ramirez, Cinthia Sanabria, Ingrid Tejeda, Yael Tejeda, Alan Torre, Maria Torres, Jesus Valencia, Anzolina Villarreal, and Kitzia Villalobos.

Medical Assistant Graduates

"Not all Angels have wings, some have stethoscopes." - Author unknown

The Class of 2023 in the Glenn Adult Medical Assistant Program held their commencement exercise in Memorial Hall in Orland. Principal Elena Jones welcomed the capacity crowd to the ceremony, noting their support of the graduates was much appreciated. Jones expressed her admiration for the students, saying how they had made a huge impact on the health care community. She said each time she asked the instructor how some of the students were doing, she received “they’re rock stars,” comment. Once again it proves what a great group you are, and I am proud of each one of you.

Career Technical Education Coordinator Linda Riggle was honored to be chosen as the keynote speaker for the occasion. She said when she was first asked to be the guest speaker, she declined, thinking she didn’t teach medical students. Then she related that over the years she had spoken to many of these students, and their families; thinking about that made her realize what a great opportunity it would be. Riggle reminded the students how their nature to care for others would be rewarding and how calm and comfort they offered would get them through each day. Always remember you are stepping into a great career, and I thank you for your efforts.

Kaitlyn Brumbaugh reminded her classmates, we came into this class as complete strangers and we are walking away as friends, we can rely on each other. We need to stay committed, sympathetic and compassionate to others, and I appreciate each one of you.

Butte College New Accelerated Track RN Spring of 2024

Classes for this new program will occur in Spring, Summer, and Fall of each calendar year. *Lecture/Theory courses will be online and *Lab/Clinical will be at Butte College and various clinical sites in Chico, and may be scheduled for day or evening hours, on weekdays and Saturdays.

Applicants will be selected for this new Accelerated RN program using a point-based system. Applications for this new program will be available August 1, 2023 - please check back then for the application. Students will be notified of acceptance on October 1, 2023.

Our programs offer three steps on the career ladder for nursing: Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), Licensed Vocational Nurse to Associate Degree Registered Nurse (LVN-RN), and Associate Degree Registered Nurse (RN). Each of the programs is approved by the State of California Department of Consumer Affairs and prepares students for the examination required in California for licensure as an LVN or an ADN (RN). Please be aware there are physical abilities and behaviors necessary for successful completion of all Nursing Programs.

All About Nursing Workshops:

Once a month during the Fall and Spring semesters the Nursing Department offers a one-hour All About Nursing workshop in the Center for Academic Success (Learning Resource Center building) on the main campus. In the workshop we address program content, admission requirements, the application process, and advance planning for all three nursing programs. Whether you are just exploring possible careers or finishing your prerequisites, this is a great place to get all of your questions about our programs answered!

The All About Nursing workshops are scheduled for the following dates and times:

- Tuesday - February 14 11am - 12pm (LRC)
- Monday - March 20 1pm - 2pm (LRC)
- Tuesday - April 18 10am - 11am (LRC)
- Monday - May 8 1pm - 2pm (LRC)

It is recommended that you arrive a few minutes early--parking may not be readily available. If you are not currently a Butte student, please advise the workshop monitor at the door when you arrive. Butte College Main Campus is located at 3536 Butte Campus Drive, Oroville or call 530/895-2511.
Lake and Plaza Schools Receive Distinguished School Award

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond reported earlier this year that more than 350 elementary schools have been selected for the prestigious 2023 California Distinguished Schools Program. Congratulations are in order for two Glenn County schools selected this year, Lake Elementary and Plaza School.

The award program is celebrating its return this year after the COVID-19 pandemic suspended reporting of state and local student data. Since its inception in 1985, the California Distinguished Schools Award remains one of the important ways to celebrate exceptional schools, districts, teachers, and classified employees for their innovation, talent, and success in supporting students.

The exceptional elementary schools recognized this year are illustrative of the hard work, dedication, and resilience shown by educators and schools across the state after communities struggled for multiple years with urgent effects to physical and mental health and unprecedented challenges to delivering education. To select California Distinguished Schools, the California Department of Education (CDE) uses multiple measures to identify eligible schools based on their performance on the state indicators as specified on the California School Dashboard (Dashboard).

Specifically, schools were selected by analyzing data reported through the 2022 Dashboard, including assessment results, chronic absenteeism, suspension rates, and socioeconomic data. Information regarding theDashboard is provided on the CDE California School Dashboard and System of Support web page.

Thurmond was honored to announce and said, “California Distinguished Schools represent examples of not just excellent teaching, learning, and collaboration, but also highly successful, data-driven school efforts ranging from professional development for educators to mental health and social-emotional wellness strategies to address the needs of students and families.”

The California Distinguished Schools program recognizes schools for their excellent work in one of two categories: closing the achievement gap and achieving exceptional student performance. Elementary schools and middle and high schools are recognized in alternate years; therefore, awardees hold the title for two years.

Student Attendance Matters!

Missing a day of school now and then may not seem like a big deal but…

When a Student Misses Two Days a Month:
They will miss 20 days in a school year.
They will miss 30 hours of math in a school year.
They will miss 60 hours of reading and writing in a school year.
They will miss over one year by the time they graduate from high school.

When a Student Misses Four Days a Month:
They will miss 40 days in a school year.
They will miss 60 hours of math over the school year.
They will miss 120 hours of reading and writing in a school year.
They will miss over two years of school by graduation time.

HELP... Donations Needed

Donations are needed to help the West Hills Shooting and Training Facility in Glenn County. When completed, West Hills will offer ranges for rifles, pistols, shotguns and archery. Any donation you make helps with shooting benches, range shelters, berms and roads, fencing materials, targets, trap house machines, or a specific donation is always welcome. Checks may be made payable to West Hills Shooting and Training Facility and sent to: 6486 County Road 21, Orland, CA 95963. Please email WestHillsSTF@gmail.com to donate via Venmo or PayPal. All of your donations are tax deductible as WHSTF is a 501 (c) 3.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

JOIN US In Celebrating America’s Night Out Against Crime!

The National Night Out Campaign is an Annual Event designed to promote crime prevention programs, police-community partnerships and strengthen neighborhood spirits.

Library Park
August 1, 2023
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Discover what local Agencies and Services can offer you!

Please R.S.V.P.
Organizations and non-profits – information/ giveaways only. Food booths (pre-approved only) - $250.00 max. You must provide your own tables and chairs. Set up time is 6-8:30 pm.
Contact orland2013@gmail.com for more information!

Downtown Market

Enjoy dinner, shop for local cheeses, beef, vegetables, fruit, baked goods & more! Kids Activities & Special Events - See you there!

Tuesdays
5 PM - 7 PM
Starts July 11, 2023

100 Block of North Butte St.
Willows, CA

More information at www.glenncountyycrt.org

To learn more about the Downtown Market, whether you are a potential vendor, customer, want to volunteer or become a sponsor, please visit www.glenncountyycrt.org/DowntownMarket or call the Glenn County Housing, Conservation, and Recreation Department at 530-735-6309 or 916-750-1200.

B Section 4
GLENN GAZETTE
JULY 2023
The Hamilton High Class of 2023 Congratulations! The sixty plus members of the Hamilton ’23 class are Christian Ramirez, Guadalupe Jazmine Ayala, Alondra Arnold-Barranco, Juan Ayala-Moreno, Yegid Buenrostro, Zamuel Carmona-Polino, Cristal Chávez, Emiliano España-Puente, Isabel Quiroz, Jocelynn Duenas, along with Board members Wendell Lower and Genaro Reyes, and Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Powell did the Presentations. Mayor John Mirocha recognized the graduating students and expressed his pride in their accomplishments.

Academic Excellence, Athlete Student of the Year, and the Teacher’s Award. Teacher Lynn Larson presented the Gerald Tipping Scholarship. Gelsey Quiriz, Joceylnn Duenas, along with Board members Wendell Lower and Genaro Reyes, and Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Powell did the honors of presenting the graduates with their diplomas. A total of 44 grade students at Hamilton Elementary School participated in the promotion ceremony, advancing from middle school to high school; a fourth of the students graduating are members of the California Junior Scholastic Federation. Students graduating with the Class of 2023 at Hamilton High School graduates of the Ella Barkley, the Alternative High School on the Hamilton main campus. Students in the 10th through 12th grade attending Ella Barkley are better suited for alternative style education that accommodates their different learning styles. The 2023 graduates of Ella’s are Marylu Avinares, Carmelina Ayala Marcallo, Paola Barrientes, Esperanza Galindo Espinoza, Brian Collins, Javier Diaz, Elizabeth Gonzalez Benitez, Isidro Mancilla, Paulina Ojeda Garcia, Elizabeth Reyes, Cheyenne Rios, Carla Ruiz-Olivares, and Carmelina De Jesus Vazquez.

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Back to School
The first day of the 2023–2024 school year for the following school districts have been established:

Capay School........................................................................... Thursday, August 17th
Hamiton Unified School District............................... Tuesday, August 15th
Lake School........................................................................... Thursday, August 10th
Orland Unified School District............................... Monday, August 14th
Princeton Joint Unified School............................... Thursday, August 10th
Willows Unified School District............................... Thursday, August 10th
Plaza Elementary........................................................... Monday, August 21st
Wm Finch Charter School........................................... Thursday, August 10th
Stony Creek Elementary........................................... Wednesday, August 16th
Walden Academy.......................................................... Wednesday, August 23rd
Butte College Fall Semester..................................... Wednesday, August 23rd

What is the Boys & Girls Club of the North Valley?

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE NORTH VALLEY
3950 Chico Road
(530) 219-0623
Local Kids • Great Future

Vision: All young people need: a safe place where they can learn and grow; caring adults who provide positive guidance; a wide variety of enriching life experiences; hope for a positive future; and opportunities to reach their dreams.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the North Valley provide a safe and positive environment that fosters the healthy development of youth for ages six to eighteen in the critical after-school hours. For the past 20 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the North Valley have been at the forefront of youth development in after school and teen services at nine club sites throughout Butte and Glenn Counties.

Years & Clubs: Boys & Girls Clubs are designed solely for youth. They are physical places where youth feel they belong and are encouraged to develop a sense of ownership and pride. Boys & Girls Clubs employ professional youth development staff who provide long-term mentoring, and offer positive guidance to members and their families. Boys & Girls Clubs are affordable and accessible so that all children are welcome, and no child is ever turned away.

Programs and activities offered at the Boys & Girls Clubs are designed to meet the needs of boys and girls of all ages and interests in three core program areas, academic success, healthy lifestyles, good character, and citizenship. Youngsters are encouraged to participate in the club to build friendship, get help with homework and participate in a wide variety of fun and enriching activities like cooking classes, computer programming, dance, music, art, and recreation.

The cost of an annual membership is only $30 and young people who are not able to afford are not turned away. They are entitled to apply for a scholarship. The true cost of annual services to youth is approximately $1,500 per member. However, through the generosity of community donors and funders, no child is ever turned away for economic reasons and we do not give up on our kids.

The Boys & Girls Club has a unique combination of characteristics, programs and services that complement other youth and family service organizations that is open to all girls and boys, at a low or no cost.

To preregister your student in the 2023-2024 after school program, please complete the application. Parents will be contacted when their student can join the program. English version: https://forms.gle/3scw3XWGQCBfmao15

New District Superintendents Coming Aboard
Lake School recently announced the selection of Shane Humphreys as their new Superintendent. Humphreys will fill the void left as former Superintendent Nikol Baker has accepted a new position with the Glenn County Office of Education. Humphreys comes to his new position at Lake from the Vista Preparatory Academy in Red Bluff. Another of the county’s rural schools, Capay will see for- mer Williams Unified School District Principal Tyler Rutledge take over the reins of Superintendent/Principal position at Capay after the completion of the school year. Prior to working within Williams Unified, Rutledge served as principal at Biggs High School. With its new principal, the Capay school district will be searching for a new assistant principal by August 1st.

Willows SPARK/ASAP After School Program
REGISTRATION SIGN-UPS BEGIN
The After School Program in Willows is also known as SPARK. SPARK stands for Support in Academics and Recreation for Kids. SPARK is designed to provide a safe, engaging, and fun environment for students, and to motivate and inspire learning outside the regular school day. At the middle school, the program is called ASAP, which stands for After School Activities Program.

The first session ends on June 30th. The second session begins on July 3rd and ends August 11th. The hours will be from 8:30 am - 2:30 pm; there will also be an after-school program that will end at 5:30 pm. This session will be more like a regular school day to prepare the students for the start of school in the fall. You may sign your student(s) up for one or both sessions. Call Capay School for more information (530) 865-1222 or if you have questions. Use this link to sign up! https://forms.gle/3scw3XWGQCBfmao15

National Maternal Mental Health Hotline
Call or text: 1-833-943-5746 (1-833-9-HEIL4PROMOMS)
24/7, Free, Confidential Hotline for Pregnant and New Moms in English and Spanish.

Capay School Summer Programs
Capay will be offering two summer programs for all K-8 students. The first session ends on June 30th. The second session begins on July 3rd and ends August 11th. The hours will be from 8:30 am - 2:30 pm; there will also be an after-school program that will end at 5:30 pm. This session will be more like a regular school day to prepare the students for the start of school in the fall. You may sign your student(s) up for one or both sessions. Call Capay School for more information (530) 865-1222 or if you have questions. Use this link to sign up! https://forms.gle/3scw3XWGQCBfmao15

The third annual End of Summer Car Show will be held on Sat- urday, September 9th from 11 am to 5 pm, in Lely Park in Orland. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Greg Martinez Scholarship Fund. Vehicles can be entered in or take-out and the police will be present to address the many challenges faced by young people. However, we provide long-term mentoring, and offer positive guidance to members and their families. Boys & Girls Clubs are affordable and accessible so that all children are welcome, and no child is ever turned away.

Farmers Church
The Jacinto Grange monthly Farmer’s Luncheon is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 11 am to 1 pm at the Grange Hall. This event is dinner- in or take-out and the public is welcome to attend. Menu includes fried fish and hush puppies, pork sandwich, potato or macaroni salad, dessert and a beverage, cost is $15. Jacinto Grange is located at 7254 County Road 48 in the Butte Valley Community. Please call (530) 857-6636 to order ahead or for more information.

3rd annual End of the Summer Car Show
The Jacinto Grange monthly Farmer’s Luncheon is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 11 am to 1 pm at the Grange Hall. This event is dinner- in or take-out and the public is welcome to attend. Menu includes fried fish and hush puppies, pork sandwich, potato or macaroni salad, dessert and a beverage, cost is $15. Jacinto Grange is located at 7254 County Road 48 in the Butte Valley Community. Please call (530) 857-6636 to order ahead or for more information.
ORLAND AND WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Doc Ely Memorial
Orland Alumni Janet Blevins Wackerman presented the Dr. Fred and Rose Elk Memorial Scholarships for $1,000 each to Lucia Salinas and Alison Pinedo. Dr. Ely and his wife Rose were very active in the Orland community for many years, and their children all attended school in Orland.

Bea and Bill Memorial
The annual William and Beatrice Schroer Memorial Scholarship this year was awarded to Amy Smidley for her academic excellence at Orland High School. Orland Alumni Janet Blevins Wackerman made the presentation on behalf of the Schroer family.

CWA Awards Scholarships
Three top seniors at Willows High School were recognized at the annual Willows High School Awards Night. Pictured are Kate Amaro, Karli Laniot and Lauren Wellner were presented with a huge check from Julie Carriere representing the California Women in Agriculture.

Increase in Electronic Skimming Thefts
Glenn County has seen an increase in electronic theft of CalFresh and CalWORKs benefits stolen through electronic skimming devices. Victims may be eligible to have some or all of these benefits replaced. If your CalFresh benefit is electronically stolen through skimming, you may get up to a maximum of your last benefit amount replaced.

Your EBT card must be in your possession at all times. You must request a replacement of your skimmed benefits within 10 days from the date of loss. Benefits can only be replaced two times in a six-month period. You no longer need to complete a police report for skimmed benefits. You will need to contact your worker to report the electronic theft, at which time you will need to complete an EBT 2259 form, and you will be issued a new EBT card.

If your CalWORKs benefit is electronically stolen through skimming, you may get all your stolen benefits replaced. Your EBT card must be always in your possession. You must request a replacement of your skimmed benefits within 90 days from the date of loss. You no longer need to complete a police report for skimmed benefits. Contact your worker to report the electronic theft, they will have you complete an EBT 2259 form, and you will be issued a new EBT card.

If you report the loss within a timely manner and receipt of the EBT 2259 form, the county has 10 days to replace your benefits. It is advisable to keep your PIN number private, do not share it with others. With the increase in the number of electronic thefts it is recommended to change your PIN number often. For additional information or questions contact Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency (530) 934-6514.

HHSA Presents Mindful Adventures
Looking to learn during the summer break? Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency in conjunction with Aaron and Lindy from the TAY Center and discover local nature spots for short hikes, mindfulness activities and connecting with the land. Ages 13 through 20 are welcome to participate every Tuesday through August 8th from 2 to 5pm. Come and enjoy, wear sunscreen and hiking shoes, bring water bottles, snacks and a friend.

Activities include deep breathing, visualization, nature treasure hunts, nature art and journaling. Some of the locations you will visit are Bidwell Park, Black Butte Lake, Butte Creek Preserve and Pine Creek Reserve. Transportation is provided. For more information please text (530) 815-1504.

Find your Voice
at the Willows Public Library
Read to earn prizes! June 1st-August 18th

Wednesday, June 6th, 3 PM
National Wildlife Refuge

Thursday, June 15th, 1 PM
Wild Things Animal Show

Tuesday, June 20th, 11 AM
Animal Visit w/ Farm Bureau

Wednesday, June 22nd, 1:30 PM
Storytime with Ashley

Thursday, July 11th, 12 PM
Cooking Demo & activity

Wednesday, July 12th, 11 AM
Healthy Teeth & Bilingual Story

Tuesday, July 18th, 11 AM
Story w/ NFO

Thursday, July 20th, 5:30 PM
Autobian Society

Wednesday, July 26th, 11 AM
Story w/ CHP & Chopper

Tuesday, August 1st, 3 PM
Ice Cream Social w/ Farm Bureau

KIXE-OBS

Wednesday, August 2nd, 11 AM
Storytime with Clifford

Email: csliether@glencnoco.edu
EDITOR: Christine Stifter
PUBLISHER: Ryan Bentz
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Brenda Jenkins

Glenn County Office of Education is an equal opportunity provider & employer.
Fowler – Plaza Elementary School District

Judy Fowler, Orland native, Orland High School alumnus and Chico State University graduate grew up with the idea of teaching. Raised in the foothill community of Hamilton City, graduating from Hamilton High, working her way through Chico State University as a paraprofessional, M.S., California Education Leadership, and Ph.D. in Education, Judy began her teaching career at Plaza School, and continued for the next 38 years. Even though Fowler has been retired since 2010, she is a legend at Plaza School, bearing the name of “teacher in charge,” one of those teachers who students remember fondly for their compassion, kindness, and the joy of meeting new students each year. To this day, Fowler continues to support Plaza students volunteering and on occasion being a substitute teacher.

Betty Mercado – Hamilton Unified School District

Betty Mercado has spent the past 11 years as the first Executive Assistant Superintendent of Special Programs at Hamilton Unified School District. She began her career in education with GCOE Independent Study students that eventually developed into William Finch Charter School, with GCOE Independent Study students that even today exist with many of his past players went on to become doctors, lawyers, CPA’s, technology professionals, and sparked the development of many winning seasons, that still exist today with many of his past players went on to become doctors, lawyers, CPA’s, technology professionals.

Naomi Hernandez – Hamilton Elementary School District

Naomi Hernandez served the Hamilton Elementary School for over 30 years as a Teacher Assistant, ESL Instructor, Pre-School teacher and Librarian. Throughout her career, Naomi went above and beyond in the lives of the children she served. She provided the support many students need to attain self-confidence, encouraging them to be successful and self-advocate regardless of their background. During her career she formed a special connection with students and staff members, her kindness and compassion remembered long after they finished their elementary education.

Karen Petersen – Stony Creek Joint Unified School District

Karen Petersen has spent the past 11 years as the first Superintendent/Principal in Lake County history, culminating with the Board of Trustees selecting her as the first Superintendent/Principal in the history of Lake County. She was hired to oversee the transition from elementary school to a middle school environment. It was crucial to the success of her students, and Sarah was proud of it.

Sarah Molina – Orland Unified School District

Sarah Molina is thankful to the Orland Unified School District who made it possible for her to do the one thing she always wanted to do … teaching. Sarah and Mark Molina first met at Orland High, and then continued their education at Chico State University. Sarah received her bachelor’s degree in secondary education, with a focus in secondary English. After graduating, Sarah taught at Orland High for 6 years, before moving to the Capay Elementary School District, where she spent the next 15 years. During her time at Capay, Sarah taught English, history, and AP U.S. History. Over the years, Sarah has had the opportunity to work with students from diverse backgrounds, and has seen the impact that education can have on a student’s future.

Linda Hansen – Princeton Jr. Sr. High School

Linda Hansen was hired as a Princeton Jr./Sr. High alumni, was hired five years after graduation to work as School Secretary at Princeton Elementary School. She held that position for 34 years working diligently to serve the students, parents, and staff members before retiring. She expressed her appreciation, citing the rewards and satisfaction of fulfilling her duties were over the course of her career. In retirement, Linda enjoys spending time with her family and granddaughters, traveling, and working in her garden. She is very grateful to live and work in the amazing, tight-knit community of Princeton.

Gertrude Fiscus – Capay Elementary School District

Gertrude was a Pennsylvania native, she attended schools in Athens, Pennsylvania, and Woodland, attending a total of five high schools before she graduated from Hamilton High School. Gertrude spent 26 years as the Capay Elementary School Secretary before her retirement. She was active in the Capay community assisting in many projects to raise funds, for Capay 4-H, Hamilton City Little League, Capay Fire Department and Capay Rancho Women’s Club. Never tiring of volunteering, Gertrude was also active with Capay PTO, Capay Junior League and Capay Friends Community Church.

Tracey J. Quarme – Glenn County Office of Education

Coming from a family of educators, Tracey Quarme was destined to pursue his own career along the path of education. His accomplishments are many and diverse, having served on church councils, elected to the Orland City Council, and the Glenn County Board of Supervisors, he gathered support to achieve his goal of becoming the County Superintendent of Schools, a position he held for 12 years before retiring last January. To his credit he established charter schools within the county and a county-owned school newspaper. He was instrumental in creating the SMART Team, Pipeline 2 Success, restoration of SARB, building and developing Success Square, Studio 129, and little Bridges Pre-school. He created Foster Family nights, distance learning for all students during the pandemic, a variety of programs and services for staff, students, and parents throughout the county of Glenn.

Imelda Diaz – Glenn County Office of Education

Imelda Chavez Diaz came to the United States at a young age with her parents and eight brothers and sisters, it did not take long to realize she would need to work diligently to succeed and achieve her goals. After a stint in the one-room school in Artois, she was enrolled at WIS, and graduated four years later from Willows High. She attributed much of her success to several great educators, thanking Kathy Soeth, Ray and Dorothy Rinehart, Tom Cronk and Kathy Potts for helping her along the way. After working as an aide at Princeton Joint Unified she began her career with GCDEE 36 years ago. Working with the Regular Education Department, she eventually developed into William Finch Charter School, and then landing as an Administrative Assistant to the County Superintendent for the next 12 years. Although Imelda appreciates her job, her greatest pride is spending time with her five grandchildren.