



# Lifting Fellow Businesswomen

PAGE 3



SUSAN MOTLEY Owner/Broker

Call me on New Listing at 800 Avon Court near Northwest Park!



Cell 707.695.1809 • Office 707.678.0218

100 North Adams St. • Dixon • www.MOTLEYREALTY.com

E-mail: susanmotley@sbcglobal.net • DRE #01236245

# Dixon Independent Voice

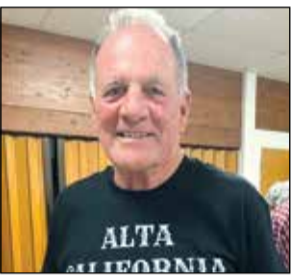
VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 9

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

MARCH 1, 2024

## SEE INSIDE

### SPEAKER COMES FROM THE BERRYESSA FAMILY



PAGE 3

### BEATHEN IS DIXON'S WOMAN OF THE MONTH



PAGE 8

### SOOTHING SOUNDS EVOKE RELAXATION



PAGE 8

## "I Want to be a Fireman"



A Dixon Firefighter adjusts his harness while practicing safety exercises. Photos Courtesy of Dixon Fire Department

By Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - In one of the most notable U.S. states for wild blazes, Dixon Fire Chief Todd McNeal said California has a limited pool of firefighters.

Attracting candidates and first responders is critical in building a strong fire department, which is why the city of Dixon is creating a city-sponsored firefighter academy for paramedic recruitments.

"We are competing with surrounding agencies for a limited pool of candidates," McNeal said. "This is a new tool to help recruit firefighter candidates who are already licensed paramedics but need to attend the fire academy."

With the overall hiring



Dixon Fire Department staff share education and awareness on fire safety at a 2023 Halloween event in Dixon.

difficulties in fire service throughout California, McNeal said, it is important to utilize all

opportunities to find qualified candidates.

"We currently have multiple recruitments open for the position of firefighter/paramedic," McNeal said.

The fire chief said the dual position of firefighter and paramedic provides a higher level of emergency medical services to patients on scene, which is up to 65 percent of the fire department's total volume calls.

"This program will help us recruit more paramedics and provide a higher level of care when responding to an incident," McNeal said.

The Dixon Fire Department provides vital emergency response services locally and to surrounding unincorporated areas, according to Dixon

Continued on page 4

## Calling for May Fair Entries

By MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - 'Unforgettable' is the theme for the 147th Dixon May Fair that will be May 9-12. The official guidebook has been released with April 12 as the deadline for entries for everything from home-made jelly to floral designs and from photography to metal sculpting. There are also categories for about 20 different flowers, plus themed gardens.

Youth have their own extensive competitions including desserts, crafts, needlecraft, and hobbies to name a few. Students also have special categories for mechanical drafting, photography, and metal work. There are a total of 67 pages with hundreds of categories with most having ribbons or monetary awards.

Many more youth entries will be in the livestock division. Grange members, FFA, and 4-H youth and/or parents of independent juniors must pick up tags for their entered animals between March 12 and March 18 on weekdays only from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. at 655 South First Street.

All youth who intend to exhibit market livestock at the 2024 Dixon May Fair must have their animal pre-tagged in order to compete during the Fair. Entry into the market goats, market lambs and market swine classes will be accepted online only at <https://dixonmayfair.com/enter-your-stuff/> but ending March 8.

For eligibility requirements, complete rules and regulations, regarding the livestock exhibits, read the Exhibit Guidebook.

There are three easy steps for entering any of the categories with the first being simply deciding what one would like to enter and filing out the entry form. This document can also be accessed online. After completing it, return the signed entry form with the entry fee to the Dixon May Fair office by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 12, or mail it. You can also enter online at [www.dixonmayfair.com](http://www.dixonmayfair.com). For additional help, call the fairgrounds office at (707) 678-5529. ★

## FEMA Funds Help Replace Fire Hose

By Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - A controlled and steady stream of water is critical in extinguishing flames as quickly as possible, making hose suppression systems vital.

That is why Dixon City Council members passed a resolution at its Feb. 20 meeting to secure Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program funds to replace old suppression and supply hoses for all the fleet's fire engines.

The tab is approximately \$120,000, with FEMA funding 90 percent of the bill at \$108,000.

Mayor Steve Bird said Dixon Fire Department Chief Todd McNeal works with the City Council to bring forward programs that will improve public safety for the city.

"One of the 2023-2024 goals of this council is to ensure that city services keep pace with community growth; one way of doing



Dixon Fire Department hoses as seen here are being replaced with a \$108,000 FEMA grant. Photo courtesy of the Dixon Fire Department.

this is to develop strategies to help with public safety recruitment and retention," Bird said.

The Dixon Fire Department's suppression

and supply hoses have different ages, according to McNeal.

"A majority of them are nearing the end of their lifespan or are no longer

passing annual testing," McNeal said.

According to the fire chief, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends that the agency having jurisdiction create a replacement schedule that keeps the inventory capable of annually passing the association's standards.

"This purchase will significantly improve the effectiveness of our firefighting capabilities and allow the aerial apparatus to flow at the NFPA-recommended gallons per minute with larger diameter supply hose," McNeal said. "These hoses are important in fire suppression as they deliver water from the truck or hydrant to the fire."

McNeal said that the city has received several grants from federal and state agencies and private charitable organizations over the last five years.

FEMA reports that the Assistance to Firefighters Grant since 2001 has

Continued on page 3



Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

PRSRD STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID CARMICHAEL, CA PERMIT NO. 350 OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER



# Life's too SHORT



## So Cold (!) Scholarship Season

By Debra Dingman

We've only been in our small home office less than an hour and I've complained about my feet being little icebergs while he is shedding his flannel shirt.

This is how he complains about our little space heater on high: "Are you cold?" Another man might have said, "Turn that darn thing down!" but my husband is so polite.

I did turn it down to 'low.' Next, I'm trying to straddle my feet on top of the little vents.

"If I was retired right now, what would I be doing?" I asked. This is a cold, wet, wintery day and I have no friends to call. They all live out of town or they're working, I tell him.

"You can't retire," he said out of the glue. "You can't sit around and just watch the moss grow," said hubby while I text a friend about hot chocolate at Solano Baking Company

"You don't always have to save the world," he said. (You know people often marry their opposites, right?) I don't

need to save the world but after you've done the laundry, swept the floors, emptied the dishwasher, got all the laundry sorted and started, organized your closets, and sent out grandchildren's birthday cards, you just don't want to stay inside any longer...unless I was warm. I feel the need to be in my small little Prius with the heat on high.

My feet have been frozen for weeks now. Yes, I've taken extra iron supplements. Yes, I'm wearing two pairs of socks inside boots. I started to think about getting old. Maybe this is the new normal for me—I am having a birthday next week. I don't remember being so cold for so long before although hubby says yes, I have.

On another note, it is scholarship season. It is time when students are invited to apply for scholarships from local clubs and organizations plus from people in our community who are providing a memorial for a family member who has passed.

If you know of a high school student looking at graduation whether it

be Dixon High School or Maine Prairie, and they are planning to go to a junior college, a trade school, or a 4-year institution, please encourage them to ask at their school office for scholarship applications.

I've learned from experience that a student may not have the highest GPA but he or she has the best plan--and that is who most grant givers want their funds to go to. We have listed some scholarships in our newspaper and there are some listed on social media—not all are listed through the DHS counseling office. Young people most likely handle computer information better than anyone and can do some simple searching at Solano Community College or Woodland Community College, for example. There is no reason EVER that someone should go into debt for the rest of their lives to get educated. More on this later...

Just know that there are many scholarships offered and if a student has their eyes set on a goal, there is help for him or her to get there! ★

# Dixon News Briefs



Girl Scouts from Troop 1367 (above) are selling cookies outside of Safeway on weekends while some of the younger Scouts from Troop 149 (below) were having fun selling cookies outside of Dixon Walmart. Photos by Nicolas Brown



MPG Staff

### City Meetings

The City Council meeting is set for Tuesday, March 5, at 7 p.m. at 600 East A Street. The Planning Commission meeting will be the Tuesday after which is March 12, same time, same place. One can also participate in the meetings via Zoom or watch the meetings online in real time or afterwards via [cityofdixon.us](http://cityofdixon.us), click on government, and then on agendas.

### Celebrate Dixon

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is proud to present "Celebrate Dixon" where we will honor the 61st Annual Citizen of the Year, the 28th Annual Business of the Year, the Ambassador of the Year, and the Veteran of the Year. A new category for the awards this year is the category of Nonprofit of the Year, and the 1st Annual award will also be given out.

The event takes place on Saturday, March 9, from 5 to 11 pm at the Olde Vets Hall at 231 N. First Street. Social Hour begins at 5 pm, and dinner will be served at 6 pm.

Following the delicious dinner of tri-tip, chicken, potatoes and salads, the awards will be presented to deserving Dixon citizens who have made a significant impact on the quality of life in Dixon.

In addition, there will also be raffle prizes and a silent auction to help offset the costs of the event.

Tickets are \$75 per person and are available at the Chamber of Commerce office at 220 North Jefferson Street. Tickets must be purchased in advance. No tickets will be sold at the door.

For more information, call (707) 678-2650 or email [info@dixonchamber.org](mailto:info@dixonchamber.org).

### Veterans Dinner

Breaded pork chops with mashed potatoes and gravy, plus vegetables and a roll will be the dinner for tonight at the

Veterans Memorial Hall starting at 5:30 p.m. Cost will be \$12 per person. Mark your calendar for Friday, March 8, for the next Fish Fry which includes hush puppies, fries, and coleslaw. The hall is located at 1305 North First Street and dress is casual. No reservations are necessary, and one does not have to be a veteran.

### Free Produce

On Friday, March 1, the Community Medical Center at 131 West A Street in Downtown Dixon is the site for a free produce give-away offered by Solano County, Yocha Dehe, Solano County Family Health Services, and the Solano Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano. Time is 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring two Saturday bags. One person per family.

### Lambtown Class Proposals Due

Education is an integral part of Lambtown Festival, and they are soliciting proposals for workshops for our 2024 event in Dixon. Attendees are eager to learn from professional teachers about fiber prep, spinning, dyeing, felting, weaving, knitting and crochet, and other fiber arts. They will offer full-day workshops October 3-5, with half-day and short-session workshops October 5-6. Please submit your proposals before the March 15 deadline. If you have any questions, please email [workshops@lambtown.org](mailto:workshops@lambtown.org).

### Art Uncorked

Soroptimists International of Dixon invites you to enjoy art inspired by our local artisans at an evening that will include wine and appetizers on Friday, April 5, 5 to 8 p.m. at 1670 North Lincoln Street in Dixon. All proceeds will benefit women and children in the community. Tickets are \$45 and are available through Kristina Wiley at (916) 799-3315 or Jamie Melville (707) 316-9353. ★



Thank you to all of our customers for trusting Dixon Tire Pros over the years!

We are very proud to be named the 2022 Dixon Business of the Year!

*Thank You!*

**DIXON TIRE PROS**  
& AUTO REPAIR  
(707) 678-1669  
205 Stratford Avenue, Dixon

**OH NO!**  
Is that really happening?

Read the public notices in our newspaper or on our website to learn more about:

- Government meetings, bids & contracts
- Foreclosures
- Unclaimed property
- School Board issues
- Elections/Polling places, initiative petitions
- Tax assessments/proposals

**LOCAL ARREST RECORDS**

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

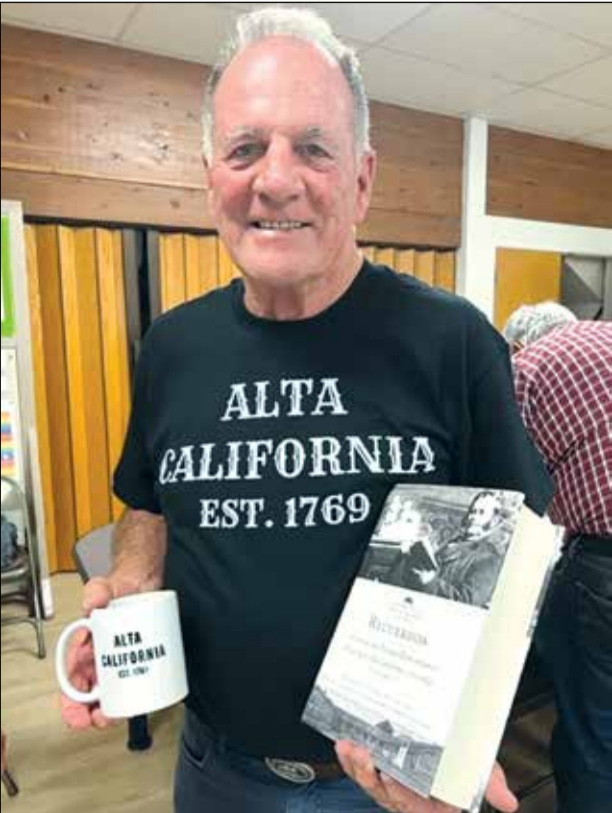
Find out what's happening in your local area at...

**INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM**

**ARREST LOGS UPDATED DAILY**

# Guest Speaker Comes from the Berryessa Family, 1777

# Lifting Fellow Businesswomen



Author and descendant of the Berryessa family, Kendall Langan with his book at a Dixon Historical Society presentation.

**Part 1 Story by Dixon Historical Society, photo by Kim Schroeder-Evans**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Last year, the Dixon Historical Society was honored to host guest speaker, Kendall Langan, descendent of the Berryessa Family and relative to both the Peña and the Vallejo families. The Berryessa Family (originally spelled Berrellezza) arrived in Alta California (California) in 1777. They were a prominent Land Grant family from the Basque region of San Sebastian, Spain, whose property included part of Putah Creek. Many of Langan's ancestors were managers of various way stations in the area. During his presentation, Langan explained that it became costly and time-consuming for the land-grant families to provide proof of land ownership. Rather than by linear divisions, land was determined by "that rock over there to that stream over there."

Although the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848 had assured that Mexican era land claims would be honored, Congress passed the California Land Act, which created a board that would review all land titles from the Spanish and Mexican eras to determine if they were valid. These families were land rich and cash poor and had to pay their legal fees by giving away parcels of their land to their attorneys. Californio land was further lost due to fraud. A sharp decline in cattle prices, combined with floods and later droughts, also forced many of the over-extended rancheros (Californios) to sell their properties. They often quickly subdivided the land and sold it to new American settlers, who began farming smaller individual plots, similar in size to the plots of land farmed in New England and Europe. American townships were established, and

the culture and life of the Californios slowly became a distant memory. Langan also gave tribute to the California native peoples who were treated poorly when they were enslaved, killed, and robbed of their homeland by broken land treaties.

The essence of Langan's talk was to relay the sophistication of the Californios (land-grant families) through the translated personal remembrances of General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, of whom he is a distant relative. The Spanish arrived at the coastal regions of Alta California as early as the mid-1500s. The first Californios were the children of the early Spanish military expeditions, who established the Presidios and the California Mission System during the Spanish California Era from 1769-1821.

According to Langan, "they were a civilized and educated people of which cultural refinement was paramount." Alta California, as opposed to Baja California, included the upper territory of what is today "California." Those who came from New Spain (Mexico), and who made their way up to Alta California, spoke only Spanish and were Mexican citizens. Some of the California land-grant families of our area include Vallejo, Vaca, Peña, Armijo, Solano, Berryessa, and Wolfskill who became a Mexican citizen by becoming Catholic, marrying into a Mexican family, and by learning Spanish. Even though the Mexican California era lasted from 1821-1846, the descendants of these families are still here to this day.

*Part 2 will be in next week's edition.* ★



A large group of businesswomen turned out to be inspired by Tamuri Richardson, President of the Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce.



Tamuri Richardson.

**Story and photos by Debra Dingman**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - "We are not fighting for the freedom of the negro alone but for the freedom of the human spirit," said Ella Baker, African American civil rights and human rights activist who worked alongside most noted civil rights leaders of the 20th century.

All over the south, Ella made speeches about freedom, voting, and rights. Words straight from her heart to the hearts of her audience. Then she'd ask what do you hope to accomplish? Her motto was 'Lift as you climb.'

Tamuri Richardson, President, Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce, shares similar convictions. She doesn't like the idea of calling women in business a "sisterhood" as she doesn't know how another woman might have grown up or what values another woman might have but she does know what women in business should be doing for each other.

"Show respect for each other, have genuine adoration for each other and treat each other the way you want to be treated," she told a large group of women entrepreneurs and women professionals at a Chamber-sponsored presentation in downtown Dixon.

There was a wide variety of professions and careers represented such as insurance sales, engineering, safety consulting for women in construction, mental health clinician, paralegal service provider, Realtor, school speech therapist, District Attorney, journalist, licensed cosmetologist, wine bar owner, psychology student, and several small business owners. They were there to be inspired.

Richardson, who holds degrees in Business Administration and Management as well as Communications, is President of the Solano Black Chamber of Commerce which grew to 906 members under her direction.

"Four hundred of them don't look like me," she said. "My mission is to not be a black Chamber. We should not need cultural Chambers. We should be advocating for all businesses for all people, not your people or her people. Cute and cuddly don't get it. I'm here to advocate for your business."

Richardson said she learned to stand up for herself and how to express herself because she grew up with seven brothers. Her down-to-earth and straightforward style of presenting was as inspiring as her message. It is no surprise she has spoken in other countries and is an author, mental health advocate, and coach.

"Leadership is never about me. It's about lifting others; about empowering others. We all have different needs," she said. She also encouraged women to share their knowledge, even collaborate, to help other businesswomen. "Entrepreneurship can be difficult and with others, you can open up and widen your horizon. There are opportunities. Say something if you see somewhere to improve. Don't presume it will work itself out. Sometimes you see things other people don't see."

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce presents quarterly seminars for Women in Business such as this one. They also offer a Business Networking Group meeting every third Thursday. To contact Richardson, call (707) 673-2148, or contact the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, 220 North Jefferson, or call (707) 678-2650 ★

# FEMA Funds Help Replace Fire Hose

*Continued from page 1*  
assisted firefighters and first responders in "obtaining critically-needed resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards." Some of the larger completed critical projects that have been grant-funded include an exhaust

capturing system replaced at the fire station to reduce carcinogen exposure to the firefighters, according to McNeal.

"There was also a replacement of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) used by firefighters when entering a toxic and hazardous environment, and upgraded radio communication

equipment across the entire fleet," McNeal said.

Bird said it is vital that Dixon's public safety services have the resources necessary to respond to emergencies safely and efficiently, ensuring the safety of residents.

"It is important to work closely with state and federal agencies to

ensure that we are meeting all required standards and adhering to the industry standards and requirements," McNeal said.

Working with local, state, and federal level partners allows for a more cohesive approach to emergency management, more efficient response, and increased safety for responders

and the public, according to the fire chief.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to apply for the Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant program and strongly support continued funding of this vital program in the future," McNeal said. ★



*"Your family bike shop since 1976"*




**FULL SERVICE BIKE SHOP**

**Professional Affordable Repairs**

**FAST SERVICE!**

Monday - Friday 9:30 - 6:00 PM • Saturday 9:30 - 3:00 PM

**539 N. Adams St., Dixon • 707.678.4330**

[fiskscyclery.com](http://fiskscyclery.com)

## California Water Service



Call us for FREE

Water Conservation Information

201 S. First St. • Dixon

707.678.5928

# "I Want to be a Fireman"

Continued from page 1  
Mayor Steve Bird.

"Not only do they respond to fires in our primary response area, they also support the Solano County Automatic/Mutual Aid System and provide resources to the state and federal agencies during large-scale disasters," Bird said.

That is why in the dual position, candidates must be in the know, according to the fire chief.

"It is crucial for our firefighters and paramedics to stay updated on the latest procedures, technology, and programs related to public safety for several reasons," McNeal said.

The main reason is advancements in technology and procedures can improve the effectiveness and efficiency of emergency response efforts, the fire chief.

"By staying informed and training in the latest tools and techniques, firefighters and paramedics can better protect the community in critical situations and better respond to protect life property and the environment," McNeal said.

With protection comes education. Bird said that the Dixon Professional Firefighters Association is active in the community, creating a culture of awareness.

"They participate in special events throughout the area, help nonprofit groups and provide important public education about fire safety," Bird said.

Meeting all the requirements of the dual position is a must, according to the chief. The program requires enrollment in a California State Fire Marshall approved Fire Fighter 1 Academy, which includes testing, interviews and physical mandates.

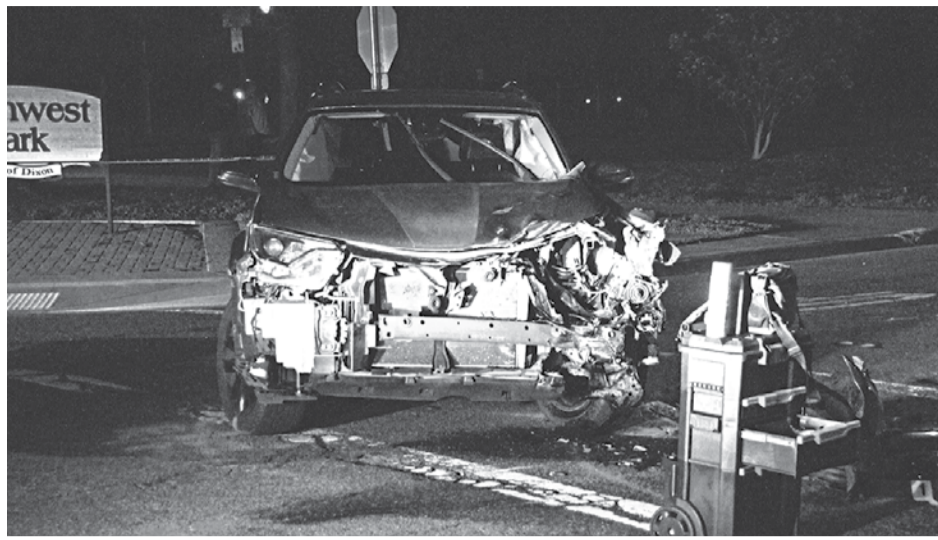
When considering creating the academy, McNeal said, Dixon officials evaluated the city's needs and then looked at similar programs that other fire departments had, including the city of Benicia.

The program's original concept was modeled after the city of Dixon's Police Recruit program.

"The overall goal of this program is to provide yet another recruitment tool available to the Dixon Fire Department in these times of recruitment challenges," McNeal said. "We look forward to rolling out this new program and creating an opportunity for new firefighter/paramedics to join our department."

To find out more about the Dixon Fire Department recruitment program, visit <https://www.cityofdixon.us/departments/Fire>. ★

# Car vs. Motorcycle at Park Intersection



DIXON, CA (MPG) - On February 24 at 7:27 p.m., Dixon Police Department officers were dispatched to a report of a traffic collision involving a motorcycle and a vehicle in the 700 block of West H Street. Officers responded to the scene and found the motorcycle driver sustained significant injuries. He was transported to a local hospital and is receiving treatment for his injuries. Photos by Nicolas Brown

 WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

Persons listed in this log from the Dixon Police Department are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Only activities deemed significant by the Police Dept. are included.



## DIXON POLICE LOG

### Wednesday, February 21, 2024

- 0430 Hours - Vandalism to a business in the 2300 Block of North First Street.
- 0736 - Theft report taken in the 200 block of East D Street.
- 1014 - Attempted auto theft reported in the 1300 block of Austin Drive.
- 1236 - Restraining order violation reported in the 200 block of Sanborne Lane.
- 1419 - Information report taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

### Tuesday, February 20

- 1815 Hours - Norma Cuyun (49) of Dixon was arrested in the 100 block of East Mayes for possession of a stolen vehicle.
- 2150 Hours - Threats report in the 100 block of Heritage Lane.
- 2159 Hours - Brandon Brown (37) of Vacaville arrested for DUI in the 2800 block of West A Street.
- 0948 - Found property report taken in the area of Prairie Way and Cottonwood Path.
- 1105 - Information report taken in the 800 block of Elm Drive.
- 1236 - Stolen vehicle report taken in the 1200 block of Linford Lane.

### Monday, February 19

- 0907 - Traffic stop near Milk Farm Road and Currey Road resulted in the service of a restraining order to the driver.
- 0958 - Information report taken in the 1100 block of Davidson Court.
- 1144 - Report of a hit and run accident in the 2500 block of North 1st Street.
- 1355 - Attempted burglary reported in the 400 block of East H Street.
- 1536 - Attempted vehicle theft reported in the 700 block of West D Street North.
- 1628 - Theft report taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

### Sunday, February 18

- 1334 - Stolen vehicle reported in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive.
- 1729 - Report of vandalism to a vehicle in the 600 block of West D Street South.

### Saturday, February 17

- 1930 Hours - Vehicle burglary investigation in the 100 block of Dorset Drive.
- 1958 Hours - Vehicle accident at 500 block of South First Street.
- 2343 Hours - License plate seized for evidence.
- 0045 Hours - Domestic Violence investigation in the 1500 block of Blossom Lane.
- 0930 - Missing Person report 600 block West F Street.
- 1225 - Trespassing 200 block East B Street. Adrienne Lizarraga (34) of Dixon was found inside a vacant residence. She was arrested for burglary and booked into the Solano County Jail.
- 1451 - Hit and Run collision 1000 block North First Street.

### Friday, February 16

- 1830 Hours - Traffic Stop in the area of North Lincoln Street and Regency led to the arrest of Joshua Rojas (39) of Dixon for possession of drug paraphernalia, driving on a suspended license, and possession of false tabs.
- 2000 Hours - Physical fight involving a discharge of a firearm in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive. During an investigation, Juan Juarez Ramirez (34) of Dixon was arrested for felony battery, possession of an illegal rifle, and possession of a stolen firearm. Wiliam Juarez Ramirez (30) of Dixon was also arrested for possession of a non-serialized firearm, assault with a deadly weapon, and discharge of a firearm.
- 0630 - Stolen Vehicle report 300 block West Broadway Street. The Sheriff's Office located the vehicle wrecked in the county.
- 0645 - Vehicle Burglary report 1500 block Valley Glen Drive.
- 0935 - Hit and Run collision report. 1000 block Wesleyan Court.
- 0940 - Domestic Violence reported 100 block Heritage Lane.
- 1020 - Battery report at Dixon PD. 1455 Industrial Accident reported 1000 block Vaughn Road.

### Thursday, February 15

- 2120 Hours - Abigail Wallis (67) of Dixon was contacted in the area of West B Street and North Adams Street and later arrested for DUI.
- 0000 Hours - Vandalism to a vehicle in the 700 block of Alwin Drive.
- 0048 Hours - Vehicle burglary in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.
- 0922 - Suspicious Circumstances report 500 block College Way.
- 0922 - Verbal argument 1200 block Stratford Ave.
- 1232 - Stolen Vehicle report 400 block East H Street.
- 1400 - Confidential report 400 block East A Street.
- 1537 - Pedestrian Stop 200 block Stratford Ave resulted in the arrest Michael Keaton (60) of Dixon for an outstanding bench warrant. He was transported to the Solano County Jail and booked into their custody

### Wednesday, February 14

- 2045 Hours - Male cited for driving on a suspended license.
- 2100 Hours - Threats report in the 300 block of Rennert Way.
- 2230 Hours - Violation of a court order report in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.
- 0530 Hours - House fire investigation in the 200 block of Heritage Lane.
- 0630 - Vehicle Burglary Report 1300 block Commercial Way.
- 0800 - Death report 900 block Silver Ridge Place.
- 1140 - Agency Assist at Dixon PD.
- 1448 - Traffic Stop 100 block North Adams Street resulted in the cite and release of Eric Brock (38) of Dixon for an outstanding warrant.
- 1708 - Fraud report at Dixon PD.

## Be a part of something important Local Writers Wanted

We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.

 Call us today at 916-773-1111

# LOCAL NEWS

HAS NEVER BEEN SO IMPORTANT!  
SUBSCRIBE NOW!



ONLY  
**\$42\***  
PER YEAR

RECEIVE DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE  
EVERY WEEK AT YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS!

### YES! START MY SUBSCRIPTION NOW!

FULL NAME

STREET

CITY

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

MAIL YOUR PAYMENT TO GET STARTED IMMEDIATELY:



Office address:


P.O. Box 1106, Dixon, CA 95620

Dixon Independent Voice is published weekly on Friday.

\*Subscription rate valid only within Solano County



**DON'T WAIT! CALL NOW! 916-773-1111**



FOR THE LOVE OF  
**BOOKS**  
By Amy Shane  
BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy\_fortheloveofbooks



# Riley Reviews

“UPGRADED” FINDS HUMOR IN A CHARADE;  
CRIME STORIES ON PEACOCK TV

**A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley**

**“UPGRADED” Rated R**

An original movie on Amazon Prime, “Upgraded” is billed as a romantic comedy, and yet, thematically it also has much in common with “The Devil Wears Prada” as parallels exist where young assistants labor for diabolical bosses.

Beyond Meryl Streep’s despot fashion editor Miranda Priestly’s treatment of Anne Hathaway’s beleaguered assistant, Melanie Griffith’s struggling secretary taking advantage of her boss in 1988’s “Working Girl” would appear to offer thematic inspiration as well.

“Upgraded” benefits enormously from the very likable central character of Ana Santos (Camila Mendes), an auction house assistant with a master’s degree in art history who dreams of opening up an art gallery.

Meanwhile, Ana is up to her neck in credit card debt and is bunking at her sister Vivian’s (Aimee Carrero) cramped studio apartment that is shared with Vivian’s fiancé Ronnie (Andrew Schulz), a stereotypical Brooklynite who wishes Ana would go back to Florida.

Anxious to climb the corporate ladder at the upscale Erwin auction house, Ana must contend with autocratic boss Claire (Marisa Tomei) who treats underlings with unbelievably callous disdain.

Even worse for Ana is the condescension from Claire’s malicious personal assistants, Suzette (Rachel Matthews) and Renee (Fola Evans-Akingbola), both of whom have the haughty attitude of runway models.

Stepping up to save her boss from embarrassment at an auction, Ana is invited to join Claire and the assistants on a spontaneous business trip to London. With no thanks to her employer, Ana scores a first-class upgrade.

While hanging out in the airline’s private lounge, Ana encounters a handsome Brit traveler, Will (Archie Renaux), and in meet-cute fashion they flirt during the flight after ending up as seatmates.

During the course of the flight, Ana gives the impression that she holds an executive position at the auction house, which obviously leads to complications. It’s bad enough she’s relegated to staying at a seedy hotel.

Ana’s fortunes rise when she meets Will’s actress mother Catherine (Lena Olin), who is planning to have her collection of exquisite art put up for auction and wants Ana to handle the details.

“Upgraded” finds its humor in the challenges for Ana as the lowly assistant gamely tries to keep up a very tenuous charade. A few twists and turns add to the charm of this film.

**TRUE CRIME STORIES ON PEACOCK**

During the pandemic lockdown, Australian author Liane Moriarty listened to true-crime podcasts which inspired her latest best-selling novel “Apples Never

Fall,” leading to an adaptation for a limited series to premiere in March on Peacock.

The native of Sydney, Australia found her New York Times best sellers “Big Little Lies” and “Nine Perfect Strangers” adapted into successful series for HBO and Hulu, respectively.

“Apples Never Fall” centers on the seemingly picture-perfect Delaney family. Former tennis coaches Stan (Sam Neill) and Joy (Annette Bening) have sold their successful tennis academy and are ready to start what should be the golden years of their lives.

While they look forward to spending time with their four adult children (Jake Lacy, Alison Brie, Conor Merrigan-Turner and Essie Randles), everything changes when a wounded young woman knocks on Joy and Stan’s door, bringing the excitement they have been missing.

According to the novel, the four grown children, who all endured paternal discipline of being coached to professional tennis glory, have settled into lives far removed from sports, where they found either their own successes or failures.

Tension aside from an apparent dysfunctional household, when Joy suddenly disappears, the children are forced to re-examine their parents’ so-called perfect marriage as their family’s darkest secrets begin to surface.

Naturally, in such cases of disappearance, suspicion falls upon the spouse. An interesting statistic out of Australia, is that on average, one woman a week is murdered by her current or former partner. How things turn out in “Apples Never Fall” will be left to be revealed in the series.

True crime manifests itself in the Peacock documentary “Pathological: The Lies of Joran van der Sloot,” a story told through rare interviews with victims’ family members, eyewitnesses and experts on the criminal mind.

The documentary reveals new insights into how Joran van der Sloot’s lifelong pattern of violence and pathological lying leads to the deaths of two young women that attracted pervasive media attention.

Few killers have ever murdered again after they became famous for another killing, but on the fifth anniversary of Natalee Holloway’s disappearance, Joran murders 21-year-old Stephany Flores in Peru.

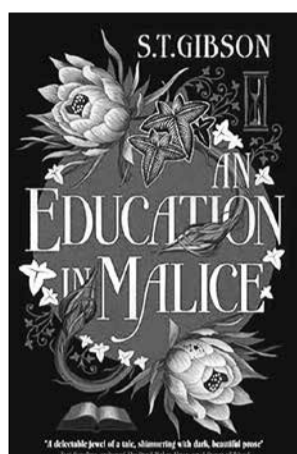
Hauntingly, Joran’s trip to Peru is financed by money he extorted from Natalee Holloway’s mother, Beth, after falsely promising to reveal where to locate Natalee’s body for a price.

In 2023, 18 years after Natalee’s vanishing, Beth Holloway finally gets her day in court with Joran, who admits for the first time that he murdered her daughter.

The Dutch native’s admission brings some long-sought comfort to Natalee’s family, but Joran’s history of deceit and manipulation leads some to question the details in his latest story. The documentary looks to unpack some of the details.★

# An Education in Malice

by S.T. Gibson



◆ Publisher: Redhook  
◆ Intended Audience: Adult  
◆ Release Date: Feb. 13, 2024

fate has a habit of intervening, and Laura and Carmilla, while wildly different, create a desire so intense there is no power that will be able to dull it.

Now thrust into the middle of a bloodthirsty lust for power and dominance, it is up to Laura and Carmilla to decide just how far they are willing to go, and sacrifice, for a chance at knowledge and love.

A bloodthirsty explosion of secrets, lies, lust, and longing, *An Education in Malice* will fill a readers’ desire for a dark academic vampire novel, that will

leave them desperate for more. S.T. Gibson knows how to deliver dark vampires in the most delicate and lustful way possible, leaving readers longing for whatever intoxicating tale she weaves next.

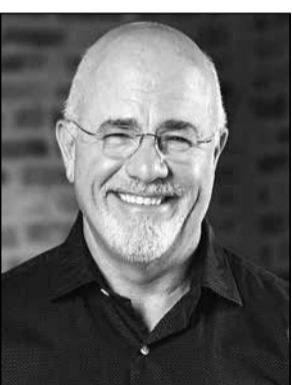
Gibson seamlessly takes readers from the vampire stories they grew up with and delivers them a dark, academic, collegiate setting with just enough intimacy to make this shelved in whole different section. Told in two perspectives, readers will be able to dive straight into the mind of quiet, innocent Laura, who also has a wild side that wants to be unleashed, and the stunningly beautiful and stuck-up Carmilla, who secretly wants to be loved. Both with their own unique story, both with their own views of the morally grey, femme fatale Professor De Lafontaine and her motives.

Wildly, fun, imaginative, and a secretive delight, *An Education in Malice* delivers all the twists and turns readers come to expect from S.T. Gibson, along with the dark temptation of a vampire’s fang. ★

There was something about Carmilla that instantly drew everyone to her, and Laura was no exception. Even as a new student at Saint Perpetua’s College, Laura knew Carmilla’s commanding presence was no match to go against. But when their poetry professor, De Lafontaine, thrusts them into a rivalry for attention, Laura realizes there’s more to her game than just a battle for teacher affection.

Carmilla has always been the top poetry student and the best at everything she does. However, what she values more than anything else was the individual attention her professor affords her, and the dark secrets they kept hidden within the shadows.

As the semester continues, so did Laura and Carmilla’s rivalry, as well as De Lafontaine’s intense, commanding presence over Carmilla, a presence Laura would like all for herself. But the closer she gets to Carmilla and Professor De Lafontaine’s fold, the darker she realizes the secrets, lies, and hunger really are. However, dark



# Dave Ramsey Says

new business, in addition to the time you spend at your current job. In my mind, you’d have a better chance of making it work if you bought an existing business with a manager already in place. That way, at least you wouldn’t have to be so entrepreneurial and constantly involved in things like adjusting the business model, checking prices and dealing with customers.

Honestly? This idea isn’t a lot like real estate at all. Real estate will run itself—for the most part—once you find a tenant. Also, the number of hours you’d have to put into selling real estate on the side is nothing like the time you’d spend getting a new business off the ground.

Here’s the deal, Victor. The secret ingredient to your small business success is you. You are the ideas, the passion and the energy. The problem with your plan is that you are only a small part of the equation. Franchises and chains try to train this kind of stuff into people with pep talks and other forms of motivation, but when something’s your

baby, it’s really your baby. You’re going to do your best, days, nights and weekends, to grow it properly. You’re going to worry over it constantly, and treat it almost like it’s your very own child.

I love your entrepreneurial spirit, but I’m sorry, Victor. I just don’t like this plan. It sounds like your idea is to swing by once in a while, eyeball things and crunch a few numbers. And if that’s the case, I wouldn’t waste my time or money if I were you. You’d probably benefit your community more by just giving what you’d invest in the venture to a good charity.

– Dave

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

# If You’re Not Going All In, Stay Out

Dear Dave,

I have an idea for a small business I think would be a huge success in my area. How do you feel about me keeping my current day job, and hiring a full-time manager for the business to handle the day-to-day operations, while I do the accounting and oversee things? If it doesn’t break even or better, I can always close it. In my mind, I equate my plan to being like selling real estate on the side, while keeping my regular, full-time job. What are your thoughts?

– Victor

Dear Victor,


To be honest, I don’t think there’s a high likelihood of success using this model. Unless, of course, you’re willing to devote 40 to 50 hours a week to this

# LOCAL ARREST RECORDS

Find out what’s happening in your local area

Arrest Logs updated daily

INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM



**Dixon Independent Voice**  
Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

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




The *Dixon Independent Voice* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the *Dixon Independent Voice* are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the *Dixon Independent Voice* is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to:  
*Dixon Independent Voice*  
P.O. Box 1106, Dixon, CA 95620

Subscription rate is \$42 per year within Dixon and Solano County. \$62 per year (Mail only).

Main Office Address: 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite #5, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The *Dixon Independent Voice* is published weekly on Friday.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.

Publisher,  
**Paul V. Scholl**

*Dixon Independent Voice* is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: [Publisher@mpg8.com](mailto:Publisher@mpg8.com).

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

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS



RETIRED COUPLE HAS \$1MIL TO LEND ON CA. REAL ESTATE\*

V.I.P. TRUST DEED COMPANY

Buys T.D.s and Buys/Lends on Partial Interests

OVER 40 YEARS OF FAST FUNDING

Principal **(818) 248-0000** Broker

[WWW.VIPLoan.com](http://WWW.VIPLoan.com) \*Sufficient equity required - no consumer loans

Real Estate License #01041073 CA Department of Real Estate, NMLS #339217

Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional discount loans

# Be a part of something important Local Writers Wanted

We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.



Call us today at 916-773-1111

# FOLLOW US for Local News and much more!

Dixon Independent Voice

Facebook: @DIVMPG8

# Local Classifieds

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

### Announcement

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-439-5645 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move. (Cal-SCAN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

**NEW AUTHORS WANTED!** Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 1-855-667-0380 (Cal-SCAN)

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing- Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-877-538-9554 or visit dorranceinfo.com/Call (Cal-SCAN)

**DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS.** Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation - Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453. (Cal-SCAN)

### Autos Wanted

**GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??** Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-877-529-0495. (Cal-SCAN)

Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rápida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-844-244-5441 (24/7) (Cal-SCAN)

Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-491-2884 today! (Cal-SCAN)

### Cable Plans

**DIRECTV Sports Pack 3 Months on Us!** Watch pro and college sports LIVE. Plus over 40 regional and specialty networks included. NFL, College Football, MLB, NBA, NHL, Golf and more. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-641-5762. (Cal-SCAN)



### Cellular Plans

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-SCAN)

### Financial

Over \$10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 1-888-231-4274. (Cal-SCAN)

### For Sale

'V-8 (Cadillac Engine) in 1995 Oldsmobile Aurora. 64,000 original miles. Must take whole car. Transmission is no good. \$500 or best offer. Call 530-742-9144 and leave message. (TFN)

'84 Corvette, 88,000 miles, engine is extremely strong, 4 speed tranny, get's up and goes. Interior needs work. Primered. First \$2,500 drives it away. 530-742-9144 leave message. (TFN)

Visit: [mpg8.com](http://mpg8.com) for current and back issues

### Health/Wellness

**JOIN FOR FREE - NO KITS OR QUOTES & FREE WEBSITE.** CTFO (Changing The Future Outcome) Has the best CBD oil available. Products for health, beauty, weight or hair loss and even for your pets. Check out these products: [canderson.myctfo.com](http://canderson.myctfo.com) (Cal-SCAN)

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-888-892-5598 (Cal-SCAN)

### Home Remodel

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24) Call 1-833-985-4766 (Cal-SCAN)

### Insurance/Health

**SAVE BIG ON HOME INSURANCE!** Compare 20 A-rated insurance companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central) (Cal-SCAN)

### Internet

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-480-0769 (Cal-SCAN)

### Landscaping/Maintenance

**RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, HANDYMAN, MANY FIELDS:** Irrigation (manual or automatic) installation or repair; cement, mow strips, masonry (walls & columns), retaining walls; fence installation (wood, vinyl, chain-link, iron); plumbing; mowing, edging, clean-up, hauling; pruning (all kinds of fruit or shade trees); tree removal, rock, bark or sod. Call Andy 530-701-8098. (TFN)

**LEGAL ADS FOR SOLANO COUNTY?**  
916-773-1111

**RETIRED COUPLE**  
HAS \$1MIL TO LEND ON CA. REAL ESTATE\*  
**V.I.P. TRUST DEED COMPANY**  
Buys T.D.s and Buys/Lends on Partial Interests  
**OVER 40 YEARS OF FAST FUNDING**  
Principal **(818) 248-0000** Broker  
[WWW.VIPLoan.COM](http://WWW.VIPLoan.COM) \*Sufficient equity required - no consumer loans  
Real Estate License #01041073 CA Department of Real Estate, NMLS #339217  
Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional discount loans

### Miscellaneous

**DID YOU KNOW** Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email [cecilia@cnpa.com](mailto:cecilia@cnpa.com) (Cal-SCAN)

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPA's Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or [cecilia@cnpa.com](mailto:cecilia@cnpa.com)

### Real Estate

**RETIRED COUPLE \$\$\$\$** for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company [www.viploan.com](http://www.viploan.com) Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

### Advertising Works!

**Need Help?**  
Hire a Pro!

# www.IndependentVoice.com

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

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • ICONIC FASHION MOMENTS

### CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Aggressive remark
  - Pampering spot
  - Wharton degree
  - Light bulb, in comic book
  - Burn to a crisp
  - Size option
  - Cameron of "There's Something About Mary"
  - Fabled racer
  - Take care of debt (2 words)
  - \*He wore a white leisure suit on the dance floor
  - It can be pleasant or unpleasant
  - Buenos \_\_\_\_\_
  - Dove's sound
  - \*She wore a white dress above a subway grate
  - Get house ready for living
  - Rap sheet acr.
  - Famous fictional canine
  - Brussels org.
  - Not Astroturf
  - Take the gold
  - Certain cigarette
  - Speed of object divided by speed of sound
  - Lord's subordinate
  - Ann Patchett's novel "\_\_\_\_\_ Canto"
  - Made by Bayer
  - Friskily
  - Long period of time
  - Repeat, in music
  - Cough syrup balsam
  - \*She wore a meat dress
  - What cobbler does
  - Good's foe?
  - Muddy road grooves
  - Waltz, in France
  - White House "sub"
  - Red light action
  - Layer
  - Marching insect
  - Sports award
- DOWN**
- Ebay click
  - Miners' passage
  - \*Kim Kardashian exposed it on the cover of Paper in 2014
  - \*Harper's \_\_\_\_\_, famous fashion magazine, launched in 1867
  - Fossil fuel rock deposit
  - Fractions
  - Atlas stat
  - Egg salad ingredient
  - View from high-speed train?
  - High mountain
  - Uncontrollable movement disorder
  - Animal trail
  - \*Singer who sported a cone bra
  - Viola da Gamba, pl.
  - Pool tool
  - Molten rock
  - Southern cuisine pods
  - Civil rights org.
  - Jimmy Buffet: "You got \_\_\_\_\_ to the left..."
  - Many iambs
  - Iron/carbon alloy
  - \*Gleefully of little black dress and sunglasses fame
  - Tchaikovsky's fowl

**CROSSWORD**

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

**Switch & Get \$25**

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

**Consumer Cellular**

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

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

**Classified Advertising**

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

**MPG**

916.773.1111

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

**SUDOKU**

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

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

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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

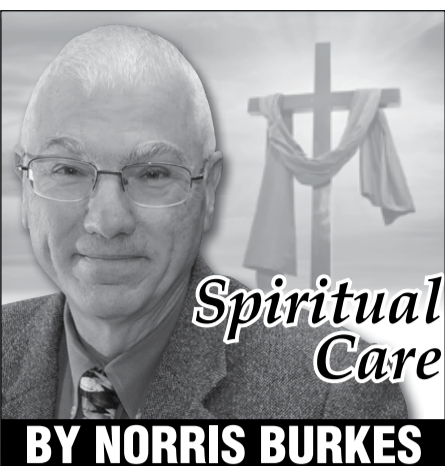
**LEGAL ADS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY?**

**We Can Do That!**

Call to place your legal advertising **916-773-1111**

All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing **MPG**

# No Laughing Matter



Folks occasionally ask me how they too might become a hospital chaplain.

Some seem to hope I'll say they need only attend five Monday nights of training in a local church, and they can start making the big bucks.

The five-week program works for many volunteer positions, but for a chaplain career, college and graduate school is required. "But wait, there's more," I tell them.

Before they can bring home a chaplain paycheck, they must be accepted into something called Clinical Pastoral Education. CPE is a one-year internship program at a teaching hospital where wanna-be chaplains work forty-hour weeks.

I began CPE in the fall of 1990 at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. The training involved multiple chaplain requests from the emergency room to visit with the victims of violence, accidents, and illnesses.

Many of the calls related to something medical folk called "risk-related behaviors." The most common high-risk behaviors include violence, alcoholism, tobacco use disorder, risky sexual behaviors and eating disorders.

While some patients avoided return visits by making lifestyle changes, others made numerous returns. Such patients were often called "Frequent Fliers."

One of our "Fliers" arrived one hot summer afternoon strapped to a gurney and screaming "Oh, God, it hurts! You gotta get me something for the pain."

Orderlies wheeled the woman into a treatment room where a nurse peppered her with triage questions. Just outside the room, a few staff members erupted into full-blown guffaws and horselaughs.

"Hey," I called to a particularly tall, balding nurse, "Why are you guys laughing at

that lady? That isn't cool. I think she heard you."

The nurse laughed some more, taking my upbraiding in better stride than I'd expected. "Were you here last week?" he asked.

"No. I was on vacation."

"Then you wouldn't understand," he said, shaking his head at his "uniformed" chaplain.

"This lady was here last week with such convincing pain that we put her on an intravenous morphine drip," he said.

"Still not funny," I said.

He continued his account by telling me how the woman had excused herself for a brief smoke and failed to return to the ER.

"Campus police found her hitchhiking in her hospital gown on the boulevard out front. She had an IV needle in one arm while holding the morphine bag with the other," he said.

"Why would she ...?" My puzzled voice faded to barely audible from inside my naive cocoon.

"She wanted to sell our morphine, Chaplain," he said, reversing the upbraid.

I studied the mop-streaked floor between his feet as I felt the currents of emotions swirling about us.

I had to admit that I saw the humor in the case but laughing at the woman's condition felt like a sellout to the gallows humor emergency-room workers often used to insulate themselves.

Jesus once encountered a woman with real pain, unlike our patient. She had an incurable blood disorder that drained her of energy, money and dignity. Her search for a physician's cure only made her situation worse. By the time she came seeking Jesus, she was looking only for a human touch, a caring touch.

I learned a lot that year, but this event, more than most, taught me that while not every patient sought healing, Jesus demonstrated that everyone deserves a caring touch.

As I approached the hospital gurney and offered our patient a prayer, I did my best to also bring her the human touch she deserved. A few minutes later, a caring doctor referred our patient quality psychiatric care in a rehab facility.

Unfortunately, not everyone will accept a caring touch. This time, she laughed at us.

A few moments later, she left our ER against medical advice, without drugs or a hospital gown — only a prayerful touch from her hospital chaplain. ★

People avoid certain things for a variety of reasons. Fear is a significant cause of avoidance. It could be fear of failure, fear of criticism, or fear of hurt. Difficulty is another reason people avoid something. It's much more appealing to take the path of least resistance than to struggle. Lack of time is also used to justify avoidance. An easy way out is to say you're too busy.

Regardless of the reason, whenever you avoid something, you deprive yourself of an opportunity to grow and become stronger. When you develop a behavior pattern of constant avoidance, you forfeit an active role in your life in exchange for a passive one.

Suppose you want to improve your physical condition. You will have to exercise, which is a lot of work. It's certainly easy to avoid exercise by sitting on the couch watching TV. You can tell yourself you'll start tomorrow. Or you can use the excuse of not having enough time.

The bottom line is that you will not get in shape until you start working out. Exercise is effective because it forces your muscles to be active. By avoiding it, you gain nothing. The longer you avoid it, the longer it will take you to get in shape.

Avoidance may come into play when you want to go back to school. There are many job opportunities available only to those with a college degree. If you are interested in pursuing such a career path, but don't have the necessary schooling, it is incumbent for you to obtain the required credentials.

It's normal to be tired at the end of a day of work. The most appealing option is to go home and relax. It takes a lot of time to go to class and then put in many hours studying. That's why many people avoid continuing their education.

You won't benefit from an education unless you do whatever it takes to get one. Although many successful people have a limited formal education, education is never a limitation. An education is an example of something people avoid although it would make them stronger.

A person may avoid personal responsibility by maintaining a dependence on

others. One can become deluded into a false sense of security believing someone else will take care of them. The someone else can be an employer, the government, a parent, a spouse, a friend, or any other person.

When you presume someone else is responsible for your well being, you can never be at fault for anything that goes wrong. It's then easy to assign blame for your predicament. However, those who look into the mirror and take personal responsibility for their situation, have much more strength to solve problems and overcome adversity.

People who assume personal responsibility don't blame others, rather they seek to discover the cause of a problem and fix it. Personal responsibility can be scary, but the benefits are substantial. Those who take personal responsibility have direct control over the quality of their lives.

Surprisingly, there are people who will avoid persistence by giving up at the first sign of adversity. They erroneously assume they have failed and are therefore justified in abandoning their quest. Future failures can then be avoided by not attempting anything new.

When you don't avoid persistence, you pick yourself up whenever you stumble and keep going. In so doing, you have the strength to overcome obstacles and ultimately succeed.

Next time you are tempted to avoid something, first consider what you may be losing through your avoidance. You will become much stronger and have a more rewarding journey by embracing challenges rather than evading them.

Life doesn't stand still and neither should you. Welcome the ifs as an opportunity to live the way you want to.

**NOW AVAILABLE:** "Dare to Live Without Limits," the book. Visit [www.BryanGolden.com](http://www.BryanGolden.com) or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at [bryan@columnist.com](mailto:bryan@columnist.com) or write him c/o this paper. ©2024 Bryan Golden ★

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
 Dixon's Independent Voice Adjudicated For and By the County of Solano  
 Legal Advertising Hotline 916-483-2299 Adjudication No. FCS030046—November 24, 2008  
 Legal Advertising P.O. Box 14, Carmichael, CA 95609

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000074**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Make A Smile, 1955 W. Texas Street #2A, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Tavallaei D.M.D. Corporation, 400 Plaza Drive Suite 120-311, Folsom, CA 95630.

Date filed in Solano County: January 16, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 1, 2017.

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 15, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)  
 Publish: Feb 9, 16, 23, March 1, 2024  
 MAKE 3-1-24

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000075**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Smile Time Dental, 1955 W. Texas Street #2B, Fairfield, CA 94533.

S. Jang DDS Incorporation, 400 Plaza Drive Suite 120-361, Folsom, CA 95630.

Date filed in Solano County: January 16, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 1, 2017.

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set

forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 15, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)  
 Publish: Feb 9, 16, 23, March 1, 2024  
 SMILE 3-1-24

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000207**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Navigatere, Morgan Lane Group, Navigate Real Estate, Rivetti Real Estate, Navigate Property Management, Navigate RE, 4167 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, CA 94534.

Navigate RE Co, 4167 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, CA 94534.

Date filed in Solano County: February 5, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 4, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)  
 Publish: Feb 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2024  
 NAVIGAT 3-8-24

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLONO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU24-00616**

Lan Quach and Karl Tran filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Clifford Ngoi Tran to Clifford Dang

Khoi Tran  
**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. March 20, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department 3, Room 3, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533

Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer  
 Dated: February 1, 2024  
 Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024  
 TRAN 3-15-24

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLONO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU24-00651**

Hilberto Delgado filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Hilberto Delgado to Gilbert Delgado  
**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. May 6, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533

Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer  
 Dated: February 21, 2024  
 Publish: March 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2024  
 DELGADO 3-22-24



## NOTICE OF STUDY SESSIONS CAMPUS/DIXON 257 PROJECT

The City of Dixon City Council and Planning Commission will hold separate study sessions open to the public to discuss the following project:

**PROJECT:** **The Campus/Dixon 257 Project - Vacant 260-Acre Site in Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan Area.** The study session will review a proposed project that would consist of a phased, approximately 260-acre mixed-use development that includes the following:

- An approximately 48-acre research and development site with up to 650,000 square feet of research and development uses, known as the Dixon Opportunity Center (DOC), to be located at the east end of the site along Pedrick Road.
- 2.5 acres of commercial uses are proposed in the southeast corner of the DOC.
- Approximately 144 acres of low, medium, and high-density residential uses with up to 1,041 units. The high-density residential site would be located contiguous to the DOC. The medium-density and low-density residential uses would be located in the southern portion of the site.
- The project would also include roads, open space and parks, and an approximately 25-acre detention basin.

The project application proposes an amendment to the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan (NEQSP); Rezoning of the project site from Professional & Admin Office (PAO-PUD), Neighborhood Commercial (CN-PUD), and Light Industrial (ML-PUD) to Campus Mixed Use Planned Development (CAMU-PD) to be consistent with the General Plan 2040; a Large-Lot Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map; Design Guidelines; and a Development Agreement.

The project site is located generally east of I-80, west of Pedrick Road, and north of Vaughn Road within the City's NEQSP, and comprises nearly forty percent (40%) of the NEQSP's total 643+/- acres. The site is bounded by Pedrick Road and Solano County unincorporated agricultural lands to the east, industrial designated lands to the north and south, and lands designated as regional commercial and industrial to the west. The project site was previously known as "Dixon Downs." The Dixon City Council conducted a similar study session on this same project at a special meeting on February 6, 2024 at 5:00pm.

Consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), a Notice of Preparation (NOP) was released on August 30, 2023, for a 30-day review period ending September 29, 2023, informing responsible agencies, other public agencies, and interested parties of the City's intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Following the NOP review period, the City has commenced the preparation of a Draft EIR, which is anticipated to be completed and released for a 45-day public review period in Spring 2024. The City will provide notice of the 45-day public review period to inform the public of the availability of the Draft EIR and how to submit comments.

**STUDY SESSION DATES & LOCATION:** **PLANNING COMMISSION STUDY SESSION: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** This will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

**MORE INFORMATION:** You can view the project plans and other studies and application materials on the project page at [www.cityofdixon.us/environmentalreviewdocuments](http://www.cityofdixon.us/environmentalreviewdocuments) under the heading of "Dixon 257/The Campus." You may also contact **Brian Millar**, Project Planner, by phone at (530) 902-9218 or by email at [bmillar@cityofdixon.us](mailto:bmillar@cityofdixon.us). You may also come to City Hall, 600 East A St., Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The staff report and agenda documents for the study session will be made available at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN:** The study session scheduled for the project is only intended for Planning Commissioners and members of the public to learn more about the project details; no decisions will be made at the study session. All interested parties are invited to attend the public study session and are welcome to express opinions on the project.

Hearings to consider approval of the project are not yet scheduled. At future dates, the project will be presented to the Planning Commission and then to the City Council at duly-noticed public hearings following completion of a Draft EIR. The Planning Commission will make recommendations on the project to the City Council, who will then consider the proposal at a public hearing before taking action on the project.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Prior to 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to [PlanningCommission@cityofdixon.us](mailto:PlanningCommission@cityofdixon.us) or [citycouncil@cityofdixon.us](mailto:citycouncil@cityofdixon.us), or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, 600 East A St., Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the study session. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the Planning Commission and will become part of the official record, but will not be read aloud at the meeting.

You may also attend the public meeting at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may: 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand," or 2) via teleconference press "9."

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

# Beathem is Dixon's February Young Woman of the Month



Left to right, DeeDee Talbot, Braddison Beathem and Dixon Soroptimist President Brenda Walker. Soroptimist courtesy photo

By Dixon Soroptimist International

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Braddison Beathem is SI Dixon Young Woman of the Month. She was nominated by Mr. Ledesma, teacher at Dixon High School.

"It was an easy choice to choose Braddison. She is a humble leader in her class who surrounds herself with like-minded friends," he said.

Braddison is the daughter of Bill Beathem and DeeDee Talbot. She has grown up in the country closer to Davis than Dixon. Going to Davis schools was good, but they did not offer agriculture classes that Braddison was very interested in. When Braddison was entering her sophomore year, she transferred to Dixon High School.

Right away, Braddison

found her place in Future Farmers of America (FFA), serving as chapter treasurer. Growing up involved in agriculture, she knew that was where she wanted to focus her high school career. Both of her parents were in FFA, and her mom achieved the highest honor in FFA, earning the American FFA Degree. This year, Braddison is serving her last year as the Dixon FFA Chapter President along with the Solano-Alameda section president.

In past years she has raised market animals including a goat named Bruno, hog named Bagel, and lamb named Stewie. This year she is raising a market steer named Mojo and a heifer named Maggie.

One of Braddison's greatest accomplishments that she is proud of is earning the California

State FFA Degree. She has great admiration for her mom, DeeDee, and is on her way to earning the American degree.

Some of her favorite things to do are raising animals, riding horses, and swimming. She has grown up riding and showing horses. At 8 years old her grandpa saw her talent and sent her to a riding school to learn jumping. It was soon her favorite thing to do causing Braddison to spend hours at the barn with her pony, Snowy. She then sold Snowy and bought her first jumping horse, Sam. To this day, she considers Sam one of her best friends. While working with her horses, she has discovered equine therapy and has worked with others from Mendocino to Woodland to improve the lives of their horses through therapy.

During Braddison's junior year, she decided to play DHS water polo. While she loved water polo, she decided she would be on the DHS swim team her senior year. She is excited to see where the season takes her.

Braddison has committed to Northern Arizona University for dental hygiene and eventually oral surgery. She will attend college with two of her best friends, Maddie and Morgan. After listening to Braddison, it is very clear she will succeed in her future.

We wish you the best in the next steps of your life. You are an amazing young woman! ★

# Soothing Sounds Evoke Relaxation



Lois Pengilly, left, creates soothing hums from various size bowls that will help people relax at the Sound Bath experience for the Dixon Women's Improvement Club. Lois is pictured here with friend Angela Meisenheimer. Courtesy photo

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - You've heard of mud baths and salt baths, and now there are sound baths, except with the latter, you're not actually getting into a tub. Metaphorically speaking, however, you are surrounding yourself with a low, relaxing hum created by a healing practitioner rubbing edges of various sized bowls.

These meditations are touted to help relieve insomnia, decrease depression, relieve anxiety and stress, and more, according to Lois Pengilly, Sound Bath Healing Practitioner of Dixon. That's why the Dixon Women's Improvement Club is repeating this unique fundraiser on Sunday, March 3, from 3 to 5 p.m.

"We are so grateful to Lois, Karstin Stranger of Busy Bee Yoga and Angela Meisenheimer for making this very special fundraiser possible," said Teri Brown

of DWIC who spearheads the community grants program for the club.

The experience will happen at Busy Bee Yoga, 1115 Stratford Ave. F, across from the Safeway Shopping Plaza. Space is limited and tickets are a \$30 donation made payable to DWIC. Call Brown at (916) 601-3371 to purchase one. Funds raised go toward scholarships and community grants.

The Dixon Women's Improvement Club was established in 1899. The founders were women from families that had settled in the Dixon area following the Gold Rush of 1849 and were interested in beautifying and improving the town of Dixon. The club is open to anyone who is interested in joining, and guests are welcome. From September through May, the club meets the third Wednesday of the month, usually from 1 to 3 p.m., at the Fellowship Hall at the Dixon United Methodist Church. ★

# Major Takedown of Vast Organized Retail Crime Operation

CHP News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The CHP, California Department of Justice, and allied federal agencies announced the takedown of a vast organized retail theft operation spanning 21 counties and involving \$8 million worth of stolen beauty products.

The ringleader of an extensive organized retail crime operation spanning 21 counties, involving an estimated \$8 million in stolen beauty products, was arrested and charges were filed. The announcement signals the culmination of several months of collaborative investigatory efforts in the CHP's ongoing fight against retail crime.

The investigation was conducted by the California Department of Justice (DOJ), CHP, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Postal Inspection Service along with Ulta's Loss Prevention Organized Retail Crime team and Sephora representatives. It is alleged that the ringleader of the scheme paid more than seven people to steal from Ulta Beauty stores, as well as other retail outlets. The ringleader would then sell the stolen cosmetic items on her Amazon storefront.

CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee said, "The success of this investigation is due to the collaboration between several of our Organized Retail Crime Task Force teams throughout the state, the CHP's Computer Crimes Investigation Unit, the DOJ, our federal partners, and retailers. Through

increased collaborative efforts, retailers and law enforcement have become more efficient and effective in our fight against organized retail crime."

Recognizing the complexity and scale of the operation, in August 2023, federal investigators requested the CHP's Organized Retail Crime Task Force (ORCTF) join their ongoing investigation. In December, simultaneous search warrants were executed by ORCTF investigators in Southern California and the suspects were taken into custody.

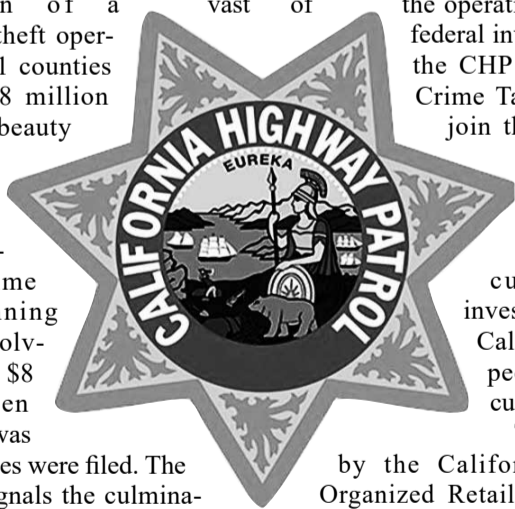
The charges, brought by the California DOJ, include Organized Retail Theft, Conspiracy, Receipt of Stolen Property, and multiple counts of Grand Theft.

The thefts occurred in Alameda, Placer, Kern, Contra Costa, Orange, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, San Diego, Sacramento, San Mateo, Solano, Riverside, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Napa, Marin, Tulare, San Bernardino, Sonoma, Ventura, and Yolo counties.

Since the inception of the ORCTF in 2019, the CHP has been involved in more than 2,300 investigations leading to the arrest of more than 2,200 suspects and the recovery of over 761,000 stolen goods valued at \$41.7 million.

If you witness one of these crimes occurring, do not attempt to intervene — call 9-1-1. Members of the public and retailers can also report retail crime tips directly through the CHP's website.

The CHP's mission is to provide the highest level of safety, service, and security. ★



# Enrollment Opens for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Program



California Farm Bureau, began enrollment last week for a new program called Expanding Our Roots: Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Mentorship Program. Photo courtesy Emily Studer Pixabay

California Farm Bureau News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The California Bountiful Foundation, the 501(c)3 science, research, and education nonprofit organization of the California Farm Bureau, began enrollment last week for a new program called Expanding Our Roots: Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Mentorship Program.

The program has a website where beginning farmers and ranchers with one to 10 years of farming and ranching experience in California may enroll for free in the mentorship program.

Farmers and ranchers interested in serving as mentors may also sign up via the webpage. Mentors are financially compensated for providing six hours of mentoring services to beginning farmers and ranchers.

The program will allow 200 beginning farmers to be paired up with mentor farmers and ranchers with more than 10 years of experience. Half of the program participants must be specialty crop growers. Under program funding requirements, priority consideration will be given to socially disadvantaged farmers and military veterans in farming and ranching.

Mentoring will focus on a range of topics, including market access, climate stresses, navigating the regulatory system,

production management and business aspects of farming in California.

The program will also provide educational workshops that offer insights on regulations for farming and ranching in California. Additionally, participants will learn about financial incentives, including grant opportunities that can help them fund conservation management practices and climate-smart agriculture. They will be exposed to resources from the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources and UC Cooperative Extension.

Grant funding for this project was made possible through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

"This program is designed to bring our agricultural community even closer together as a family through mentoring opportunities," said Dr. Amrith Gunasekara, science and research director for the California Bountiful Foundation. "Mentoring the new generation of farmers and ranchers by experienced farmers and ranchers will ensure agriculture and food security is sustained into the future."

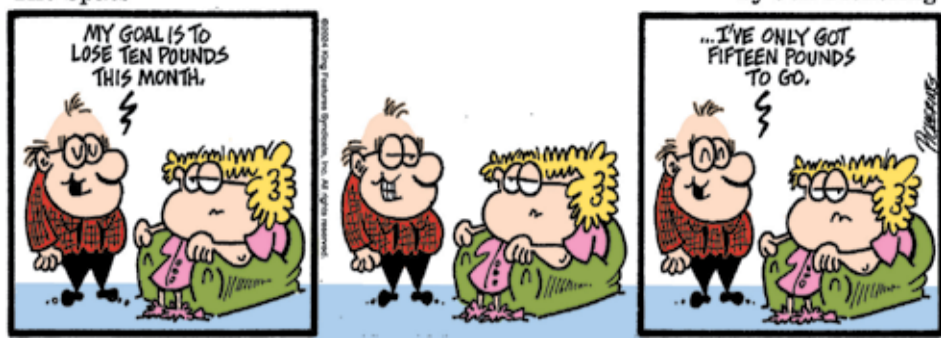
The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of more than 26,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.8 million Farm Bureau members. ★

**WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS** 



# COMICS & PUZZLES

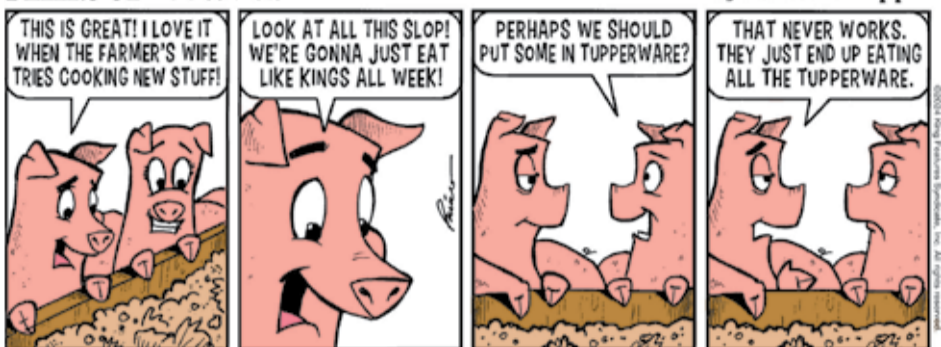
The Spats



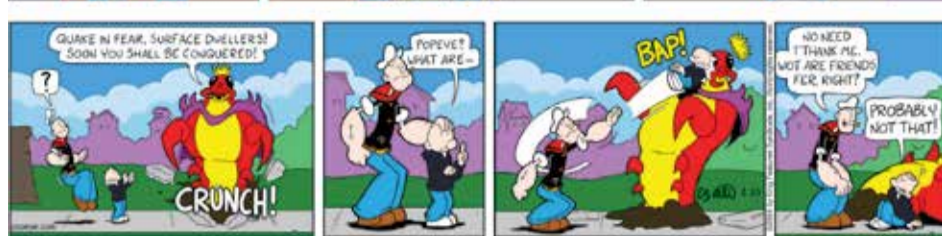
by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



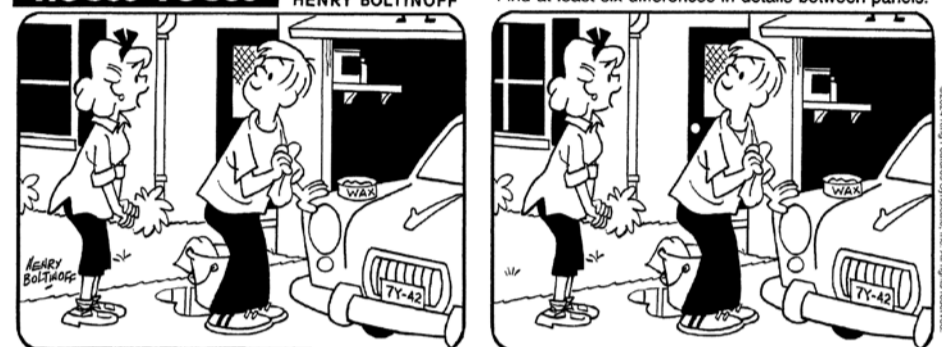
by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



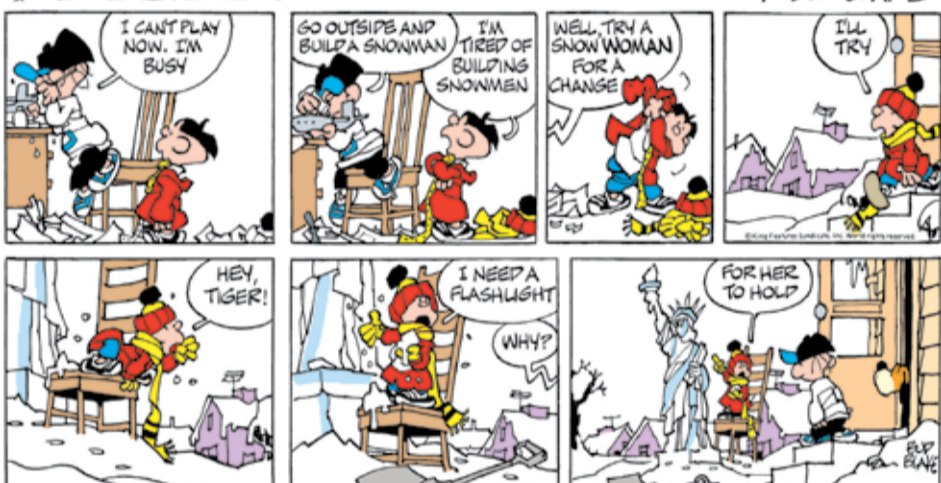
Differences: 1. Bumper is different. 2. Shell is lower. 3. Window is added. 4. Wax is moved. 5. Neckline is different. 6. Doorknob is added.

Out on a Limb

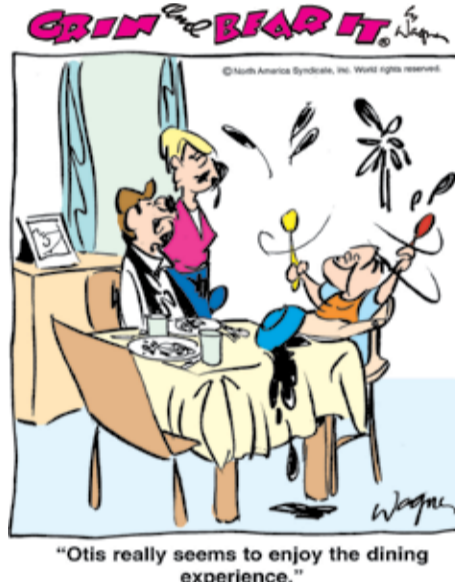


by Gary Kopervas

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE



GRIN AND BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

### CLEANING

#### S & Y Cleaning Services

Weekly • Bi-Weekly • Monthly • One Time Weekends • Move-Ins • Move-Outs

Lots of References on Request  
Gift Certificates Available

**(707) 689-6532**

FREE ESTIMATES

### PROPANE

**We live where you live**  
We understand your propane service needs.

WE ARE  
**Pro-Gas**

**ALLIED PROPANE**

**(707) 678-8500**

1700 N. First Street | Dixon

RobL@alliedprogas.com

### CONSTRUCTION

#### ALBERTAZZI CONSTRUCTION INC

GENERAL CONTRACTING - CA LIC. #560820

Custom Renovations / Structural Work

**(916) 257-5400 - Dixon since 1989**

### CONSTRUCTION

EST. 1978  
**BESSEGHINI CONSTRUCTION**

Bobcat Services **707-685-4166** Metal Buildings

### PREGNANCY

#### Pregnant? Worried? We Can Help!

All services are free & completely Confidential.  
Info on Pregnancy, Adoption & Abstinence  
Post-Abortion, Miscarriage & Stillbirth Counseling

**707-449-8991**

Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center

138 S. Orchard St. Vacaville

### FLOORING

Please call for a free in-home estimate!  
**HOUSE OF FLOORS**  
QUALITY WITH FRIENDLY SERVICE

1690 N. Lincoln Street • Dixon, CA 95620

**(707) 676-5385**

houseoffloors@att.net • www.houseoffloors.org

Do You Need **MPG**  
Your Legal Ads  
Published?

We can help.

Call us now to place your legal advertising!

**916-773-1111**

All legal ads published by Messenger Publishing Group.

You're Invited To  
**CORNERSTONE**

*Loving God, Loving Others,  
Sewing Our World*

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

Worship and Children's Ministry at 10:30 am  
Men's/Women's/Youth Wednesday's 6:30 pm

**Food Pantry on Fridays 11am - 12pm**

185 W. Cherry St. • Dixon • 707-678-5234

[www.cornerstoneindixon.com](http://www.cornerstoneindixon.com)

# Almond Blossoms Signal Spring

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The 109th annual Almond Festival was this past weekend and like the Dixon May Fair, brings together generations of family and friends to enjoy the rich agricultural history of northern California. It is also the only 6-town event known in the state.

Almonds are a very valuable crop, with California being the only place in North America that grows commercially. It is a \$2 billion industry with over 6,000 growers working an estimated 530,000 acres. It is the largest tree crop in California, according to the Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce.

We started toward Esparto after early church in Dixon and we were so glad we did that as we didn't have traffic going or coming thanks to the timing.

We got a great parking place right near the entrance of the huge FFA Breakfast where one could order the traditional pancakes, eggs, and two succulent sausages or you could order a custom omelet. The tables were donned in blue and yellow covers and FFA students wandered around to help serve coffee or juice and clean up when you were done. All proceeds benefited the Future Farmers of America at Esparto High School.

Walking through the few blocks of downtown, there were classic cars of every make and model lining the streets on both sides and in every lot available—so were the motorcycles that started pouring in about 11.

I had just enough time to peruse the many booths in the downtown park where I discovered one booth making necklaces and bracelets with people's names by bending wires into scrolling cursive letters. They offered it in silver or gold for \$30 and \$5 additional if you wanted a small birthstone



The road less travelled brought acres of beautiful almond blossoms in the Capay Valley.

year I tried a walnut bar that was so moist and flavorful I wish it could have lasted for days. I also got to meet the Almond Festival Queen and her court.

The items for auction included a fishing trip and a wine tasting tour and knowing one did not have to be present to win, was a draw for all and helped fund the event.

It was so fun to recognize some Dixonites while out in the brilliant sun: Bill and Susan Motley had also made the trek. It's funny how when you know Dixonites, you can spot them from afar and we had happy smiles and visits about where to go and what to check out.

We stopped to take pictures of the luscious green rolling hills on the way back and caught the buzzing sound of honeybees flitting from blossom to blossom.

The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation is the tribe that operates



Art, auction, barbecue, and oven-baked pizza were part of the stop in Rumsey.



Esparto featured a car show for kings with blocks of unique and colorful creations on four wheels like this green one—even a souped-up fire truck.

attached. I just happened to have two daughters with birthdays very soon and there were the perfect gifts for them. For the 20 minutes it took the man to make, we admired more cars then headed out for our next stops: Capay, Brooks, Guinda, and finally Rumsey.

The drive through the

countryside was peaceful with bright green hills and lines of barely pink almond blossoms.

In Capay, the Road Trip Bar and Grill offered live music all day and the motorcyclists knew it. There were hundreds with more on their way, but it seemed the restaurant was ready for the extravaganza.

We drove through Brooks only because the Deka Hills was all about olives, and we are not so onto Guinda and its popular Fire Station with grilled oysters. We were anxious to get to Rumsey where we enjoyed the barbecue a couple years ago plus the craft and bake sales in the tiny church where we bought goodies. This

Cache Creek Casino Resort and its nationally acclaimed golf course that looks over the gorgeous almond tree orchards and majestic mountains. I'm thinking next year this would be a place to spend the night so we could soak in all of nature's beauty without rush...or sounds of roaring motorcycles. ★

**LOCAL NEWS**  
**HAS NEVER BEEN SO IMPORTANT!**  
**SUBSCRIBE NOW!**

**ONLY \$42\***  
**PER YEAR**

**RECEIVE DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE EVERY WEEK AT YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS!**

**YES! START MY SUBSCRIPTION NOW!**

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL YOUR PAYMENT TO GET STARTED IMMEDIATELY:**



Office address:  
 P.O. Box 1106, Dixon, CA 95620  
 Dixon Independent Voice is published weekly on Friday.  
 \*Subscription rate valid only within Solano County



**DON'T WAIT! CALL NOW! 916-773-1111**

**Single Again**

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

**Are You Single Again?**

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

Finding yourself single after years of being in a relationship can add a different kind of unknown stress to your daily life.

We provide articles and information from many sources to help you put all the pieces together so you can live a healthy and loving new life. When you first visit the website, be sure to make us one of your favorites. We publish many articles to help you along your new journey.



- Dating & Relationships
- Counseling & Advice
- Money & Finances
- Health
- Fashion & Beauty
- Consumer News
- Food & Recipes
- Travel
- Lifestyle
- Parenting



**Visit SingleAgain.com today, get back out there and have some fun!**

**SingleAgain** [SingleAgain.com](http://SingleAgain.com)