



**Forecast:
A Beautiful
Easter!**

PAGE 3

**He is
Risen!**
Celebrate Easter



**Dixon
Independent Voice**

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

MARCH 29, 2024

**SEE
INSIDE**

**POLICE REPORTS
GOOD NEWS**



PAGE 10

**SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING
FAIR WINNERS**



PAGE 3

**NAVY SAILOR
SERVES AND
PROTECTS**



PAGE 3



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New Superintendent Selected



New Superintendent Brett Barley, his wife Tracy, and their two sons are welcomed at last week's Dixon Unified School Board meeting. Pictured with the Barley family are student representative Kirsten Donovan, Jewel Fink and Julian Cuevas on the left with Regina Espinoza, John Gabby, and David Bowen on the right. Photo by Debra Dingman

**Dixon Unified School District
Press Release**

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Brett Barley was formally appointed as the new Dixon Unified School District superintendent at the March 21 school board meeting and is anticipated to begin his new assignment on July 1.

He was chosen for his strong acumen in district finance, budgeting and business management, coupled with his strategic planning, community engagement, track record of student achievement gains and equity driven leadership, according to the school district.

Barley is currently superintendent of the California Montessori Project, a system of public schools serving

approximately 3,000 students across the greater Sacramento region. For the last five years, he has managed a \$40 million annual budget and has overseen the growth of student achievement scores on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress.

He was also the superintendent at Wonderful College Prep Academy in Delano, overseeing a school system with a mission to graduate students going on to college, including the ability to graduate from high school with a free associate degree.

Barley began his career as a fourth-grade teacher in Alum Rock Union School District in San Jose at a school serving a high percentage of students qualifying for the free and

reduced lunch program and identifying as English language learners.

In addition to administrative and classroom experience, Barley has a background in both education policy and public advocacy. As a deputy state superintendent for the Nevada Department of Education, Barley managed the largest division overseeing federal and state programs whose primary focus was on improving outcomes for all students.

There, Barley managed the Offices of Student and School Support; Standards and Instructional Support; Early Learning and Development; Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options; Assessment Data and Accountability

Continued on page 3

**City Officials
Meet Over
Water Rate
Increase**

By Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - With looming water rate increases, the Dixon City Council held a special financial water workshop before its regularly scheduled March 19 meeting.

Andrew MacDonald, a city engineer consultant, said the March 18 Rate Advisory Committee (RAC) had a "wonderful community workshop" before introducing IB Water Rate Study Consultant Habib Isaac, who focused on a financial plan summary, rate drivers, current financial position, reserve policies and proposed financial plans.

Isaac said consultants are moving along "pretty well" with city staff and the advisory committee on getting direction for the cost of service and rate design. They slowed down, Isaac said, to identify the pressures on rates by comparing historical water usage to the present, along with an inflationary climate and capital spending.

Rewind to 2013, the last time that Dixon had a rate increase and when water demand was reduced as the city's customer base increased. According to Isaac, the mandatory statewide water conservation to no more than 600 million gallons after that made citizens more water-efficient.

"So you have 2013 rates but you don't have the usage related to that," Isaac said. "With no unit rate increase in that time, it has caused one component that puts pressure on rates."

Resident John Schrader, who attended the Rate Advisory Committee meeting, said the public needs to better understand the looming rise concept.

"We are not talking about the water bill going up; it is the water rates that are going up, not the sewer, which is the largest percentage of your overall water rate, and a lot of people are saying, 'My water bill is going to double,'" Schrader said. "I think we need to clarify that it is not the entire bill; it is just this one section."

Isaac explained that along with new connections and less usage, Mother Nature also contributes to the current rates.

"The fiscal year 2023 was a very wet winter and it appears this winter is also becoming very wet, and when that occurs, we want to see where you are at with uses to date," Isaac said, adding overestimating growth could mean not generating needed revenue.

Next, Isaac showed that

Continued on page 8

Horsing Around Helps Fundraise

By MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Horseplay's annual fundraiser takes place on Monday, April 29, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Bud's Pub & Grill, 100 S. First Street in Dixon.

This is Horseplay's major fundraising event of the year, featuring a full dinner (choice of prime rib, chicken, pasta, tri tip, salmon, chicken strips with fries) with salad, roasted potatoes, bread, and a non-alcoholic beverage. There will be a variety of raffle prizes, including gift baskets, gift certificates and many other items. Dinners are also available to take out.

Funds raised will help support the care of Horseplay's wonderful therapy horses. Horseplay is a volunteer based, non-profit organization that provides special-needs children and adult riders who reside in Solano, Napa, and Yolo counties an opportunity to improve their quality of life by interacting physically, intellectually, and emotionally while riding horses in controlled, therapeutic sessions. The costs exceed



Kathy Kliewer leads Chester the horse with rider Rachel Holland who is being coached by Cat Rusk Del Rio. Photo by Debra Cleveland

what is charged to the rider for the session. The rest of the costs are raised with donations and fundraising efforts. Horseplay needs your support to keep it financially strong.

Tickets are \$45 per person (does not include

tip.) For those who are unable to attend but want to support this fundraising effort, checks can be sent to Horseplay Therapeutic Riding Center, P.O. Box 506, Vacaville, CA 95696.

Tickets are also available at the Horseplay barn

located at Whispering Winds Ranch in Dixon or by calling Kathy Kliewer at (916) 767-5078.

For more information about the Horseplay program, call (707) 447-8733, or visit horseplayriding.org. ★



Life's too SHORT

Lucky Changes

By Debra Dingman

Every now and then (if not regularly,) a person needs a really good experience at a nail salon, so I wanted to share with you the salon that I have been going to for several years has changed hands and is now owned and managed by one of their very popular cosmetologists who we call "T."

For the past several years, T has created the most beautiful nail designs for my friends and acquaintances. Because I work with newspapers, I prefer no color or fancy designs because the ink often gets on my hands from handling the weekly papers and I'm constantly washing. An affordable, simple manicure with buffing helped make my nails strong and pedicures keep feet pretty during sandal weather.

During the years of visits, I enjoyed getting to know T who was ambitious and wanted to own his own salon sooner than later. Well, the time came, and he never even had to change addresses.

Tuan Ngo's shop is now called Lucky Hair and Nail Salon and he's building it out to be a full-service salon that includes men and women's haircuts. In fact, that was the first thing I noticed when I walked in. Well, no, actually the first thing I noticed was the kind person's voice when I called to make an appointment. He asked when I would like to come in. When I came in, is when I noticed the large mirror and pivoting salon chair right up front.

There was a new couple scurrying around organizing and cleaning and had me set up in a chair with the built-in massage going right away. When my feet went into the basin filled with very warm water, the hectic week went behind me.

The woman asked if I wanted my nails done at the same time and I said that is the way I prefer. I rarely have two hours to be in a salon. Then the process began but some things were new. The man massaging my legs went slow and erased any muscle soreness. I immediately noted he

had acupressure massage skills as I had been trained in that many years ago when I was birth coaching. Between the legs and the arms massages, I felt like putty when they were done.

In the past, there were a couple times I felt like I was 'beat up' because I'm sensitive and have varicose veins now--and the technicians were ambivalent to old ladies. Not this time. With their new staff—who has worked many years in a different salon with T, and who were very happy to be working with him again, I felt listened to and experienced a luxury. And I was done in just over an hour like I had hoped.

Let me encourage you to give them a try. Note: this is not a service just for women. I have seen men in this spacious salon quite a few times and some have regular appointments. What a great way for a couple to relax together, too!

Check out their new ad in our Business Directory. They are located at 1450 Ary Lane, Suite C, just down from Starbucks. Phone is (707) 678-7665. ★

Dixon News Briefs



The City of Dixon has begun a series of small presentations to the Dixon community to talk about water issues and impending water rate hikes necessary to replace old and broken equipment. Here, Water Operations Supervisor speaks to the Dixon Women's Improvement Club while Public Information Officer Madeline Graf looks on. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

Good Friday Fish

The American Legion Post 208 will offer a Fish Dinner on Friday, March 29. There will be fish, hush puppies, fries, and cold slaw for \$12 per dinner. The Veteran's Memorial Hall is at 1305 North First Street.

Water Rate Workshops

There will be two water rate workshops offered by the City of Dixon in April. One will be on April 8 at 7 p.m. and the second will be April 25 at 7 p.m. (if needed.) They will be held at the Senior/Multi-Use Center at 201 South Fifth Street in Dixon from 6 to 8 p.m. Learn more about the water system process and provide input.

Dixon Community Theater

All are invited to attend our monthly general meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at the Dixon Public Library, 230 North First Street, 5 – 6 p.m. on April 3, May 1, and June 5. Dixon Community Theater isn't just about putting on great shows; we're a vibrant hub of creativity, talent, and community spirit. Our productions showcase the incredible talent within our local community, providing a platform for actors, directors, and crew members to shine. But beyond the spotlight, we're a family, united by our love for the arts and our commitment to enriching our community through cultural experiences. Contact: abevents@live.com or see website: dixoncommunitytheater.com.

Open Mic Night

The Dixon Moose Lodge #1120 and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce are collaborating on the Dixon Open Mic Night. It will be on the 2nd Wednesday of the month with sign-ups at 5:30 p.m. The show starts at 6 and ends at 10 p.m. The Lodge is at 180 West B Street, across from First Northern Bank. Non-Moose Members are welcome. Call (707) 678-2650 for more information.

Food Pantry Golf Tournament

Play Golf? On Saturday, May 4, there

is a benefit for the Dixon Food Pantry at Cornerstone Church. It will be at Cypress Lakes Golf Course, 5601 Meridian Road in Vacaville. Cost is \$100 per person (4-man scramble.) Shotgun starts at 8:30 a.m. Lunch and prizes to follow. For registration, hole sponsorships, or questions, contact Corrine Boicelli at (707) 301-9937 or email ccoicelli@aol.com.

Soroptimists 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.

Downtown Dixon Association Meeting

The monthly Downtown Dixon Business Association Meeting will be on Thursday, April 4, at 8:30 a.m. Members and new merchants are welcome to attend. It will be at the new Farmstead at Dixon Senior Living Facility, 350 Gateway Drive. They will be discussing The Dixon May Fair Parade, what to expect, and how to best promote your business.

Grants for Non-Profits

There is a new county grant program for local non-profit organizations. Solano County organizations that provide reemployment and training related services may be eligible for this money that would fund technological and administrative infrastructure improvements. For more information, contact the Workforce Development Board of Solano County. Info is available at solanoemployment.org.

Heritage Commons Big Sale

Mark your calendar for the Heritage Commons Senior's Sale on Wednesday, April 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The complex is located at 191 Heritage Lane. Parking is on the street only and sale is in the community area and pool patio. ★



MEMORIAL

HOWARD KENNETH SWAILS • 2/24/1959 – 3/15/2024

Howard passed away on March 15, 2024, from diabetes and kidney failure. He was 65 years old.

He was born in San Jose, California on February 24, 1959. His family moved to Dixon in 1962.

Howard attended school in the Dixon School District until he joined the Army in 1976. He wrestled and played football while he was at Dixon High School.

While Howard was in the service he was awarded several commendations. Some of those were for marksmanship with his rifle and hand grenades. His job in the military was a diesel mechanic and was his life time career. He would help anyone that had a problem with their vehicle, or needed help with anything.

Howard met the love of his life, Suzanna Toupous, before



going into the military and they were married in 1976.

Howard was preceded in death by his wife Suzanna. He is survived by his son, Howard II, and his daughters, Amanda and Kristin, and his 5 grandchildren. He is also survived by his mother, Edna Swails, sisters, Dolores(Alaska), Bonnie, and Carla(Idaho) and his brother Jerry(Dixon). He has

several Aunts, Uncles, and Cousins, nieces and nephews that love him and will miss him very much.

Howard enjoyed teasing people and he loved making them laugh. He was always joking around. Howard always had a smile on his face and his twinkling blue eyes let people that he knew him well, know that he was messing with them. Mom always said that she could tell when Howard was lying because his eyes would sparkle.

Howard's two loves were his family and his dogs.

Services for Howard will be held at: Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, 5810 Midway Rd., Dixon, California. 95620, April 9, 2024 1:30pm

The family will be greeting everyone, following the services, at the Veterans Hall in Dixon at 2pm. Everyone is invited.

The Dixon District Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome the following new members

<p>Chairman's Circle - Diamond Level</p> <p>Bank of Stockton</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>Busy Bee Studios</p> <p>Dixon Community Theater</p> <p>Dixon Moose Lodge #1120</p> <p>Dixon Smiles</p> <p>Erin Johnson - Solar Sales</p>	<p>Kimberly Moses, Realtor</p> <p>Momster Treats</p> <p>Pop Pop's Handyman Services</p> <p>Premium Turf Outlet</p> <p>Rafferty Investigations</p> <p>Sci-Tek Staffing</p> <p>Shields Plumbing</p> <p>True You Boutique LLC</p> <p>VIP Mexican Cuisine</p>
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For information on how the Dixon Chamber can help your business be more successful, call 707-678-2650 or email info@dixonchamber.org.
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New Superintendent Selected

Office of Education Awards Science and Engineering Fair Winners

Continued from page 1
Management; and Special Education. In policy roles in California, Barley was a liaison between the business community, local school districts, county offices of education, school boards and local, state and federally elected officials. His work included supporting the development and passage of key California education legislation, district parcel taxes and bond measures. Throughout Barley's career, he has demonstrated excellence and leadership both in the classroom and in the community. The caliber of experience he brings with him is a game changer for our district, our city and for the collective experiences of our students, teachers and classified staff," said Dixon

Unified School District Board President Julian Cuevas. Said Barley "Dixon Unified possesses all of the ingredients necessary to become one of California's premier school districts. Dixon's passionate and talented educators, dedicated staff, engaged families, and supportive community members are ready to help our students achieve their amazing potential. I am both humbled and excited by the opportunity to work with the Dixon community to make Dixon Unified a destination district for families and educators across our region." Barley has a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of San Diego and a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications. ★



The Senior Overall Winner Maya Chakraverty of Benicia High smiles after her win. Photo by SCOE staff

Solano County Office of Education News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) hosted the 2024 Solano County Science and Engineering Fair on March 14, 2024. The fair was an excellent opportunity for elementary, middle, and high school students to investigate challenges, gather and evaluate evidence, and develop knowledgeable conclusions.

"Science and engineering fairs provide invaluable opportunities for students to showcase their creativity, problem-solving skills, and ideas. These events not only foster a love for science and engineering but also encourage critical thinking and real-world problem solving in the next generation of innovators," said Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

The 2024 Solano County Science and Engineering Fair hosted 90 students from eight schools. Two students earned the top spots in this year's competition and are eligible to enter the California Science and Engineering Fair on April 16, 2024. The overall junior division winner was Andrea Davenport from Green Valley Middle School in Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District



Students smile as they learn about science. Photo by SCOE staff



Students conduct different experiments. Photo by SCOE staff

with her project "Exploring Aerodynamics with Vehicle Shapes and Airflow". The overall senior division winner was Maya Chakraverty from Benicia High School in Benicia Unified School District with her project "Effects of Ultrasonic Animal Repellers on Brassica Rapa Peroxidase". Certificates, medals, and prizes were awarded to both winners.

SCOE's annual science and engineering fair aims to inspire more students to consider a career in science, engineering, or a related field. In addition to the science and engineering projects that were submitted by students, this year's fair hosted engineering challenges and hands-on STEAM-related exhibits for all visitors to McCormack Hall at the Solano County Fairgrounds in Vallejo.

SCOE extends gratitude to the student participants, volunteers, vendors, and sponsors that make this event an ongoing success. ★

Forecast: A Beautiful Easter!



The Bell Choir plays a sweet chorus of sounds for Dixon United Methodist Church at last year's Easter service. It was led by Director Hannah Miller. MPG File Photo

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Beautiful sunshine is forecast for Easter weekend according to the California Weather Channel, giving Dixonites abundant opportunities to worship and celebrate spring.

Good Friday begins a weekend full of church services in our town of Dixon. Bring your own chairs--and maybe an umbrella--for the annual Good Friday Church Service coordinated by a group of ministers from the local churches, this Friday evening, March 29, at 7 p.m. at the Pardi Plaza stage in downtown Dixon. In the event of rain, the service will be held at Calvary Chapel, 150 North First Street. All are welcome.

Various Dixon Pastors will offer Bible verses, music, songs, and messages for this Christian holiday commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. It is observed during Holy Week as part of the Paschal Triduum on the Friday preceding Easter Sunday.

Faiths across the world celebrate Easter, the day Jesus was resurrected after three days dead where his body was laid in a tomb after his crucifixion. When he rose from the dead, Christians believe he proved his promise of conquering death and provided witness for eternal life for believers.

Sunday Services
Many families continue the tradition of attending church on Easter morning. Here is a list of services in Dixon. And, remember if you cannot make it out for health or other reasons, many churches offer their messages online via Facebook or YouTube.

St. Peter's Catholic Church's Father Hector Montoya will offer Good Friday services in English at 5 p.m. and Spanish at 7 p.m. An Easter Vigil will be on Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Easter Sunday, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in English and 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. in Spanish. St. Peter's is located at 105 South Second Street.

Pastor Paul Sheldon of **Grace Fellowship**

Church will give the Easter sermon on Sunday at 10:15 am. The church address is 535 West H Street, phone is (707) 678-5700, and the website is www.gracefellow.com for more information.

Cornerstone Baptist Church led by Pastor Mike Bates will offer an Easter sermon at 10:30 a.m. and there will be an Easter Egg Hunt following for the children. The church is located at 185 West Cherry Street. Phone is (707) 678-5234.

'He Carried My Cross' will be a special live drama performed at 10 a.m. for Freedom Church, 470 East H Street.

A special children's Easter egg hunt, jump houses, cotton candy, and games will be part of the Easter services after the message by Pastor Joe Mejia.

The Dixon Church of Christ at 1115 Stratford Ave., Suite C, will be worshipping at Pardi Plaza for Good Friday with the other churches and will hold worship on Sunday morning led by Ryan Riemer at 11 a.m.

Living Hope Church members will be celebrating Good Friday downtown at Pardi Plaza and there will be two Easter services on Sunday morning at 9 and 10:30 a.m. plus they will live stream the 10:30 am service with Pastor Jeff Myers. The church is located at 410 Gateway Plaza.

Calvary Chapel's. A resurrection message will begin at 10 a.m. The church is in downtown Dixon at 140 North First Street and offers childcare during services.

Revive Church will have Easter services at 10 a.m. and leaders plan to hide 500 eggs for an Easter egg hunt afterwards. The church is at 955 East A Street.

Dixon United Methodist Church will have a Good Friday service at 7 p.m. and will also have two Easter morning services: one will be at 8:30 a.m. and the other at 10 a.m. Both will be led by Pastor Henry Pablo III at 209 North Jefferson.

Every effort was made to reach all Dixon churches. ★

May Fair Entry Forms Due April 12



A Dixon May Fair visitor admires the displays entered in the art competition and learns who was awarded the various ribbons.

Story and photo by Karen Spencer

DIXON, CA (MPG) - "147 Years of Making Memories" will be celebrated at this year's 'Unforgettable' Dixon May Fair and it's time to sign up to participate in the annual competitions at the Fair, May 9-12. The Fair is looking for your crafting, knitting, baking, and flower arrangements, along with all the traditional quilts, preserves, art and more. Details for hundreds of classes are outlined in the 2024 Exhibitor Guidebook for all the ways the community can enter their projects.

For 147 years, the Dixon May Fair has been celebrating the community by showcasing the skills and talents of the region. Your projects, produce, pigs and pies are all showcased in the fun of the annual Fair.

Anyone who resides in the State of California can enter their homegrown and homemade exhibits in most categories of the Dixon May Fair's competition, which

might earn them a prized blue ribbon or a little cash. (Market animals are restricted to Solano County.)

Entering the fair is easy and can be done online at www.dixonmayfair.com. The Guidebook can be viewed online, and entry forms downloaded at www.dixonmayfair.com. (Click on Fair Information, then Entries.) Complete and sign your entry form and return it to the Fair office with any fees due. While most entry forms are due April 12, the actual exhibits are not due until closer to the Fair as outlined in the Guidebook.

Dixon May Fair starts Thursday May 9 and continues through Sunday May 12 with Special Day discounts for children and seniors. For information on how to participate, visit DixonMayFair.com and follow their Facebook page for up-to-date information.

The Fair is located at 655 South First Street. For more information, call (707) 678-5529. ★

Navy Sailor Serves and Protects

Navy Office of Community Outreach News Release

YOKOSUKA, JAPAN (MPG) - Chief Retail Specialist Jeremy Jester, from Fairfield, California, sorts mail in the post office of the U.S. Navy's only forward-deployed aircraft carrier, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). Ronald Reagan, the flagship of Carrier Strike Group 5, provides a combat-ready force that protects and defends the United States, and supports alliances, partnerships and collective maritime interests in the Indo-Pacific region. ★



Chief Retail Specialist Jeremy Jester sorts mail on USS Ronald Reagan. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Kaleb Birch

Thompson Announces 2024 Congressional Art Competition

Office of Rep. Mike Thompson News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On March 18, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) announced the 2024 Congressional Art Competition for all high school students in California's Fourth Congressional District.

"The Congressional Art Competition is one of my favorite programs of the year because it highlights the excellent artistic talents of students from across our district," said Thompson. "I look forward to seeing all of the incredible submissions this year and I encourage all high school students to submit their artwork before the deadline."

The winning artwork from our district will be displayed in the United States Capitol for one year alongside the winning pieces of artwork from other Congressional Districts. In addition, the grand prize winner from our district will be flown with a guest to Washington, D.C. to attend an awards ceremony. The day of the ceremony will be announced soon.

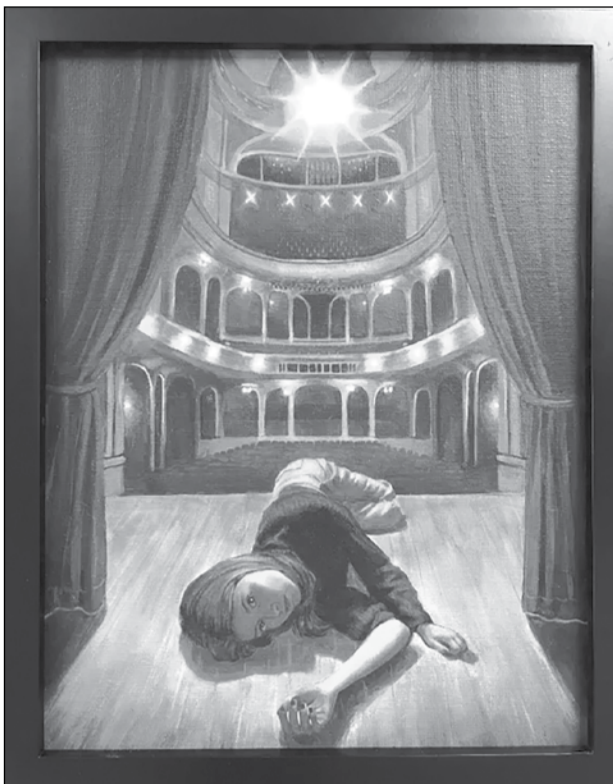
Yolo County's Katherine Dowling of Davis Senior High School won last year's competition for her piece "Theater" which is composed of acrylic paint on a canvas board." Katherine's work is currently displayed in the U.S. Capitol.

Artwork must be submitted by April 15th to one of Rep. Thompson's district offices:

2721 Napa Valley Corporate Drive, Napa, CA 94558

2300 County Center Drive, Suite A100, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

622 Main Street, Suite



Courtesy photo of last year's winner by Katherine Dowling of Davis Senior High School.

106, Woodland, CA 95695
The submitted artwork will be judged by a panel of local artists and art experts with the winner announced after the deadline.

The guidelines for the Congressional Art Competition include the following:

Artwork must be two-dimensional.

Each piece can be no larger than 26" x 26" x 4" (26 inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep), including the frame.

Framed artwork cannot weigh more than 15 pounds.

Acceptable mediums for artwork are as follows:

Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.

Drawings: colored pencil, pencil, ink, marker, pastels, charcoal (It is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be fixed.)

Collages (must be two-dimensional)

Prints: lithographs,

silkscreen, block prints
Mixed Media (use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.)

Computer generated art
Photographs

Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. Copyright laws. Any entry that has been copied from an existing photo or image (including a painting, graphic, or advertisement), that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules and will not be accepted.

The winning piece must be available to be mailed to Washington, D.C. in the original medium (that is, not a scanned reproduction of a painting or drawing).

Students and teachers interested in the Congressional Art Competition may contact any of my district offices for further guidance and instruction. ★

Suisun City Awarded by American Beverage Foundation

Suisun City Council News Release

SUISUN CITY, CA (MPG) - The US Conference of Mayors (USCM) and the American Beverage Foundation for a Healthy America (ABFHA) announced the winners of the 2024 Childhood Obesity Prevention and Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards. In the Small City category (populations below 75,000), Suisun City was awarded 2nd place, for a grant award of \$50,000. Suisun City's project introduces a City-wide youth fitness initiative called 'Suisun City Fit,' which addresses childhood obesity concerns through dynamic youth runs in City parks and six-week fitness and education classes for youth leading up to each run.

The program aims to develop an affinity for exercise amongst Suisun City youth - ranging from elementary school age through ninth grade - while teaching youth how to live healthier lifestyles in a fun, sustainable way. According to reports gathered from Solano County Public Health and the UCLA Center for

Health Policy Research, Solano County youth have a significantly higher rate of physically inactivity than the state average, and Suisun City has the highest rate of childhood obesity in Solano County.

Mayor Alma Hernandez stated "This grant empowers us to amplify our efforts, nurturing not just healthier habits, but a brighter and more resilient future for the youth in Suisun City. Together, we are building a foundation of wellness, instilling a love for exercise, and fostering a community where every child can thrive."

The intent of the award program is to support projects that engage community members and promote behavior change in childhood obesity and/or environmental health and sustainability. The nationwide competition awarded a total of \$745,000 to nine cities across three population categories: Small City (populations less than 75,000); Medium City (population 75,000-250,000) and Large City (population more than 250,000). The complete list of award recipients and projects can be found at www.usmayors.org. ★

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission will hold a hybrid **PUBLIC HEARING** to consider the following project:

PROJECT: **645 North 1st Street (Top Notch Smoke Shop)** - Request for a Conditional Use Permit (UP24-01) to operate a smoke shop that would sell tobacco related products. No cannabis sales or lounge of this use. Pursuant to Dixon Municipal Code Section 18.12.030B, a tobacco store is a conditionally permitted use in the Service Commercial zoning district. The use would occur in the front portion of the building, in one half of the existing building. The other half of the building will be utilized as storage for the Top Notch Smoke Shop as well as a separate suite, separated by a wall that will be tied to a future business; APN: 0113-082-070; Zoning District: Service Commercial (CS); Mohammad Imran, owner, Brittany Alexander, applicant; File No: PA24-04, UP24-01.

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. It has been determined that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and no environmental review will be completed. This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption from the provisions of the CEQA Guidelines under 14 CRR Section 15301, [Class 1; e.g., Existing Facilities]. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm.** This meeting 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: Contact **Scott Greeley, Associate Planner** at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115 or sgreeley@cityofdixon.us. You can 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. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposed application. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the Planning Commission prior to making any decision on the application.

The meeting will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding masking and social distancing in City Council chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to PlanningCommission@cityofdixon.us or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, Planning Commission, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. 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 hearing 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.

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

Appeals of decisions by the Planning Commission to the City Council shall be made in person at Dixon City Hall by completing the appeal application and submitting the required fee, within 10 calendar days of a decision (Dixon Municipal Code Sections 17.01.050 or 18.40).

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 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 3-29-2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission will hold a hybrid **PUBLIC HEARING** to consider the following project:

PROJECT: **420 Gateway Drive, Suites B and C (Joystick Gaming Lounge and Cereal Cafe)** - Request for a Conditional Use Permit (UP24-02) to operate a video game lounge and cereal bar within two existing suites in an existing commercial building. In addition to cereal, the applicants intend to serve a host of snack foods, including pizzas, nachos, hot dogs, soft serve ice cream, coffees, candies, and fountain drinks. The business will have a host of current computer console, virtual reality, and video games on site, as well as television sets for television series premiers and shows. The business will also include retail sales of video games and include special events for birthdays and more. Pursuant to Dixon Municipal Code Section 18.11.030B, this type of business is a conditionally permitted use in the Highway Commercial zoning district. In addition, the City is currently processing a separate comprehensive update to the Zoning Ordinance and if approved as proposed, this type of use will be a permitted use in the Regional Commercial zoning district, which this property is expected to be rezoned to; APN: 0113-610-030; Zoning District: Highway Commercial - Neighborhood Commercial - Planned Development (CH-CN-PD); Mash Petroleum, owner, Jamie Myers and Laura Owens, applicant; File No: PA24-06, UP24-02

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. It has been determined that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and no environmental review will be completed. This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption from the provisions of the CEQA Guidelines under 14 CRR Section 15301, [Class 1; e.g., Existing Facilities]. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm.** This meeting 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: Contact **Scott Greeley, Associate Planner** at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115 or sgreeley@cityofdixon.us. You can 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. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

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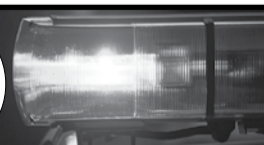
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Dixon Independent Voice 3-29-2024

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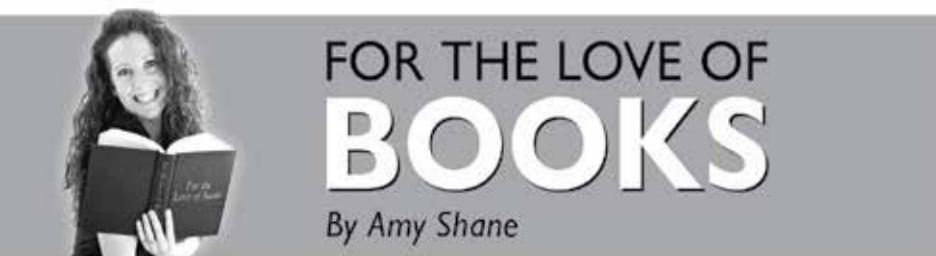
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BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy_fortheloveofbooks

Books to Celebrate Family and Spring

Easter is the perfect time to celebrate family and Spring. Uncover the magic of Spring in these beautiful books, then step outside and enjoy the beauty that Spring awaits. From Counting to exploring nature's bountiful eggs and skittery jittery bugs to the beauty of a flower, these books have a little something for everyone.



Ten Little Rabbits
by Maurice Sendak;
Harper Collins

Where the Author of Where the Wild Things Are comes the counting adventure Ten Little Rabbits. This picture book with pen-and-ink illustrations will make counting to 10 a fun and engaging adventure. With only numbers and no words, this book is simple for young readers to count along all the way to ten and back again.

Egg: Nature's Perfect Package
by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page; Clarion

This beautifully illustrated book will take readers from egg to creature. In an interactive book of discovery, readers will learn about all the different types of eggs and what comes from them. From little eggs to big eggs, packaging, and protection, every part of an egg's journey is explored. From egg layers to those who carry their eggs to how the baby gets out, this hands-on book is

packed with information and can even inspire a family nature egg hunt of their own.

Tomorrow's Lily
by Chris Raschka,
Greenwillow

A beautiful celebration of life and those we bloom for. A pretty lily blooms for a short time, but each day she blooms for someone new: the baby, the cat, and even friends. However, a lily doesn't last forever, but the memory of it can. This is a brightly illustrated book of love and remembrance and a gentle reminder to celebrate the joy of those around us.

Bugs A Skittery, Jittery History
by Miriam Forster,
picture by Gordy Wright; Abrams

Insects are everywhere and have been on Earth for a very long time. This book is perfect for the young budding scientist and children wanting to know everything about bugs. Follow the timeline of these skittery jittery creatures from

520 million years ago, all the way to today. Learn about bug classifications and how scientists identify and sort them.

Then, it's time to explore and read about creepy crawly bugs such as harvestmen, millipedes, and centipedes. Then it's off to the sky with dragonflies, butterflies, and other winged insects. Learn about nature's janitors and follow the path of spiders, ants, and even larvae. This book then dives even more profoundly, exploring legs, breathing, wings, mouths, eyes, and more. Take off and explore the bugs of the day, such as walking sticks, spiders' bees, and butterflies. Then, turn off the lights for the bugs of night, such as crickets, moths, and more.

No matter what the question is, this book has an answer. This giant board book extravaganza is the perfect book to open the door to learning and appreciating all the bugs around us. ★



Riley Reviews

"THOUGHT LEADERS" ON PBS;
TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL UPDATE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"MOYNIHAN" AND "INCOMPARABLE MR. BUCKLEY" ON AMERICAN MASTERS

Not likely to escape any sentient being's notice is that 2024 is a presidential election year, and PBS' "American Masters" continues its quest to examine influencers and disruptors of American political thought with "Thought Leaders," its strand of programming focused on changemakers.

The "Thought Leaders" series returns with two new documentaries on Daniel Patrick Moynihan and William F. Buckley, Jr., two political titans who helped shape the current landscape of American democracy.

Narrated by Academy Award nominee Jeffrey Wright, "Moynihan" is the first-ever feature-length documentary to follow the life of former U.S. Senator and diplomat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

An interesting connection, of sorts, between Moynihan and William F. Buckley, Jr., is that Moynihan, who had already served in the Nixon administration and then as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, was elected to the Senate in 1976 as a Democrat, beating Buckley's brother James, the incumbent.

James L. Buckley had the distinction of being elected to the Senate representing the state of New York, running as the nominee of the Conservative Party of New York State, beating appointed Republican incumbent Charles Goodell and Democratic congressman Richard Ottinger.

An interesting fact about the 1970 election was that Charles Goodell had been appointed to the Senate by Governor Nelson Rockefeller to fill the vacancy created by the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Senator Goodell's son today is NFL commissioner Roger Goodell.

Moynihan had a distinguished career of serving as an Assistant Secretary of Labor under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, devoting much of his time to the War on Poverty.

In a bi-partisan spirit, Moynihan served as an Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy in Richard Nixon's first term, and after leaving the administration, he later accepted an appointment to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations by President Gerald Ford in 1975.

Moynihan authored the controversial report, "The Negro Family: The Case for National Action," commonly known as "The Moynihan Report," a document intended for Lyndon B. Johnson and his appointees that outlined Moynihan's perspective on the forces that impact Black families in America.

"Moynihan" includes interviews with President Biden; New York Senator Charles Schumer; Eleanor Holmes Norton, the delegate to U.S. House of Representative from the District of Columbia; the late Henry Kissinger; and controversial author Ta-Nehisi Coates.

"The Incomparable Mr. Buckley" follows the personal and political journey of conservative writer, strategist,

candidate and provocateur William F. Buckley, Jr., one of the architects of the modern conservative movement.

Born in 1925, Buckley joined the U.S. Army during World War II and was stationed in the United States. After the war, he studied at Yale University, and after graduation penned "God and Man at Yale," a book critical of his alma mater.

A short stint with the Central Intelligence Agency had Buckley, fluent in Spanish, stationed in Mexico City, where his boss was E. Howard Hunt, later known for his role as a central figure in the Watergate scandal of the Nixon administration.

A prolific author of books that could fill a library, Buckley did not focus on politics and history alone. He penned at least a dozen novels in a series that featured the exploits of fictitious CIA officer Blackford Oakes.

Aside from being a nationally syndicated columnist, Buckley may be best known as the founder and editor of "National Review" and host of the public affairs program "Firing Line" for over thirty years.

Rising to prominence as a public intellectual of the conservative movement, Buckley influenced a generation of politicians, including Senator Barry Goldwater's presidential run in 1964 and the campaigns of Ronald Reagan.

More than just a political influencer, Buckley helped launch the conservative "Young Americans for Freedom" political activist group, which became involved in his brother's run for the Senate.

Most notably, Buckley tossed his hat into the political ring with a quixotic run for Mayor of New York City in 1965 as the candidate of the Conservative Party. When asked what he would do if he won, Buckley replied, "Demand a recount."

"The Incomparable Mr. Buckley" includes interviews with his only son, Christopher Buckley; Richard Brookhiser, senior editor of "National Review;" Jeff Greenfield, journalist and "Firing Line" moderator; Sam Tanenhaus, former editor of "The New York Times Book Review;" and Jay Nordlinger, Buckley's biographer.

"Moynihan" premieres on Friday, March 29th, and "The Incomparable Mr. Buckley" on Friday, April 5th.

TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL UPDATE

TCM announces that the festival's closing night screening of "Spaceballs" will be presented by writer and director Mel Brooks, a genius in the comedy genre if there was ever one.

Famed director Steven Spielberg will have a Q&A with UCLA Film School's Howard Suber ahead of the director's cut screening of Spielberg's "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," a classic science fiction adventure.

Filmmaker Nancy Meyers ("Private Benjamin" and "Father of the Bride") will introduce the world premiere restoration of one of her favorite movies, Alfred Hitchcock's "North By Northwest," completed by Warner Brothers and The Film Foundation. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The Kentucky Derby is right around the corner, but for the Sacramento Kings this is their version of coming down the home stretch. The recent 2-1 road trip is reason for celebration, and the recent nail-biting win over the Orlando Magic should have every fan applauding.

It's hard to imagine any game that our multi-talented 6th man Malik Monk goes 0-11 from the field, and still the Kings pull out a victory. Still, that's what happened, and once again this frenetic squad continues to amaze.

What Domantas Sabonis is doing nightly is awe-inspiring, and I for one believe he will eventually set a new NBA record for consecutive double doubles. Imagine leading the league in rebounds for a second consecutive season, as well as leading the league in triple doubles.

Thirteen games to go, and for any naysayers as it relates to matching or exceeding last years 48 wins, I say shame on you. Dream the dream, and get behind these guys.

I love the way they play together, and when someone hits the hardwood, it's a mad dash to see who is going to help him up first!

The smiles these guys bring nightly are genuine, and if you need any more inspiration, I'd recommend watching the movie Hoosiers one more time. I can feel the magic in this team, and I'm beyond excited to see what the last 13 games will look like.

Every team in the NBA passed on Keon Ellis, and it took the Sacramento Kings to see promise in him. Rising from the depths of the G league, this unlikely prospect is having his own version of a coming out party.

The recent injury to popular Kevin Huerter has given Keon a temporary starting spot, and it appears he would like to make a case for it being permanent. Keon had a career-high 19 points in the gritty win over the Magic, and his defense has been consistent the entire season. Fast feet, quick hands, and stamina give Keon an edge that he takes advantage of every night, and like teammates Domantas Sabonis and De'Aaron Fox, he brings his lunch pail to work every night.

This team is full of unselfish players that not only talk the talk, but walk the walk. Every year 30 teams begin the season with dreams of a championship, and it takes a

grueling 82 games before the playoffs begin. This year the Kings have a real shot at either the 5th or 6th spot, which would avoid the uncertainty of a one game playoff in the new format called the play-in for teams in the 7th thru 10th positions.

Over and over again this season, the Kings have beaten teams that are headed for the playoffs, and currently have a 50% winning percentage over teams they've faced with a winning record.

The Kings face a tough 76er squad Monday night, and then play back-to-back games against the Dallas Mavericks Tuesday and Friday nights.

Dallas has an identical record to the Kings, so this mini home stand looms large in determining who will make the top 6 and avoid the dreaded play-in.

Why am I so optimistic? For one, the Kings have finally found some rhythm from the free-throw line, and although their overall percentage for the season is still abysmal, their recent performances are showing great improvement. Couple that with Keon Ellis's sudden offensive outburst, the yeoman like performances nightly from Sabonis and Fox, and the overall team defense that has suddenly hit their stride: hold onto your seats!

Coach Brown has suddenly been able to win some challenges, and that could not have come at a better time.





Sadly, NBA officiating, in my humble opinion, may be at an all-time low, and without a doubt, the league will need to address much needed changes in the off-season.

With heralded 7th man Trey Lyles sidelined with a knee sprain, it's critical that bench players Alex Len and Davion Mitchell continue to shine. Both players have a big upside, and the extended minutes they are likely to see will undoubtedly pay dividends when the playoffs arrive.

I continue to say that matching or exceeding the 48 wins from last season is not beyond this team's capability, so as fans let's give them all the encouragement we can.

Buckle up, but by all means get excited. This is what basketball is all about, and we have a real team to root for! Give me your thoughts at vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com. Enjoy the home stretch! ★

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CLUES

- CROSSWORD**
- Type of help center
 - Fake tooth
 - What geysers do
 - Lagoon wall
 - Acronym, in brief
 - Syrup producer
 - Papal court
 - It often comes with Aloha!
 - External
 - "Richard III: 'A horse! A horse! My for a horse!'"
 - "Romeo and Juliet: 'Parting is such sweet'"
 - Animal's nose
 - Fail to mention
 - Capone's family
 - "Hamlet: 'O, this is the poison of grief'"
 - Soap froth
 - Iris holder
 - "He ____, She Said"
 - __ Apso
 - Cheap form of payment?
 - Bert's roommate
 - Not in favor
 - Hipbone-related
 - The Destroyer, in Hinduism
 - Thomas the Engine's warning
 - "Heart of Darkness" author
 - Brewer's kiln
 - Beer choice
 - Not a verb
 - Comic cry
 - "The Tempest: 'We are such stuff as are made on'"
 - "As You Like It: 'All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely'"
 - Primatologist's concern, for short
 - "This land is your land?"
 - "Macbeth: 'Our master's murder'd!'"
 - Scoundrel
 - Hi __ monitor
 - Wombs
 - "A Visit from St. Nicholas" beginning
 - Teacher's favorite
 - Got ready for a close up

DOWN

- Nordstrom's outlet
- Purse for the red carpet
- Cape on Tierra del Fuego
- Set straight
- Like a knife
- Comes before a storm?
- The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
- Spectrum maker
- Wild ox of India
- Plotting (2 words)
- Multitude
- Having Everything Revealed, singer and songwriter
- "Hamlet: 'When we have shuffled off this coil'"
- Corpulent
- Tin Woodman's "medicine"
- "Two cents"?
- "Twelfth Night: 'If ____ be the food of love, play on'"
- Convex molding
- Nigeria's western neighbor
- Listening devices
- "Hamlet: 'To be, or not to be: ____ is the question'"
- Capital of Vietnam
- Bar by estoppel
- Indian restaurant condiment
- Petri dish filler
- Prima donna
- Artist's tripod
- High tea sandwich
- P rignon's honorific
- Destroy a document (2 words)
- Seize a throne
- City in Japan
- Type of sailing vessel
- Capital of Latvia
- Outback birds
- "Blast from the ____"
- "The ____ of Tammy Faye," movie
- Uncommon
- Went down slippery slope
- Cathode-ray tube
- "Merchant of Venice: 'But love is blind, and lovers cannot ____'"

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024000346
The following persons are doing business as: Tasty Every Hour Chinese Restaurant, 630 Orange Drive Suite F, Vacaville, CA 95687.

YLS Trio LLC, 830 Orange Drive Suite F, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: February 28, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. 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 27, 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: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024

TASTY 3-29-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000404
The following persons are doing business as: Busy Bee Studios, 1115 Stratford Avenue Suite F, Dixon, CA 95620.

Katrina Marsh, 1115 Stratford Avenue Suite F, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: March 6, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: September 4, 2023

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. 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 March 5, 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: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024

BUSY 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000452
The following persons are doing business as: Sprout & Savor Nutrition, 1150 Weyand Way, Dixon, CA 95620.

Lauren Michelle Krohn Hemje, 1150 Weyand Way, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: March 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. 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 March 17, 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: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024

SPROUT 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001837
The following persons are doing business as: Air Mechanic, 1505 Sword Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: November 27, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. 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 November 26, 2028. 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: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024

AIR 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000478
The following persons are doing business as: Chef Garrison's Academy, 91 Town Square Place, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Victoria Garrison, 2010-A Harbison Drive #654, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: March 21, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. 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 March 20, 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: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024

CHEF 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000485
The following persons are doing business as: Mindful Movements & Healing Arts, 634 Webster Street Suite A, Fairfield, CA 95433.

Lisa C.Y. Flynn, 183 Landmark Lane, Lodi, CA 95242.
Date filed in Solano County: March 21, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. 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 March 20, 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: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024

MINDFUL 4-19-24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

CASE #CU24-01144
Gogis Diaz-Valdez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Gogis Diaz-Valdez to Gogis Valdez.

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. April 17, 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: March 1, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
VALDEZ 4-12-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DOLORES HARRIET DERMAKE CASE NO. PR24-00134

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Dolores Harriet Dermake.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Hollie F. Ben-Yosef, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting John DePiazza be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: April 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 10 Room 305; Superior Court of California, County of Solano, 600 Union Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Michael G. Abrate, 655 University Avenue, Suite 230, Sacramento, CA 95825; 916-550-2688

Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 2024
DERMAKE 4-5-24

TRUSTEE

T.S. No. 23-66927 APN: 0113-071-040
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/27/2016. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale.

Trustor: **RAMON PEREZ AND DEBRA PEREZ, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS** duly Appointed Trustee: ZBS Law, LLP Deed of Trust recorded 10/28/2016, as Instrument No. 201600096337, The subject Deed of Trust was modified by Loan Modification Agreement recorded as Instrument 201900056447 and recorded on 08/21/2019 and recorded as Instrument 202300013157 and recorded on 03/31/2023., of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California, Date of Sale: **4/17/2024** at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: Vallejo City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: **\$277,778.88**Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt owed. Street Address or other common designation of real property: **422 WEST F STREET DIXON, CALIFORNIA 95620**Described as follows: As more fully described in said Deed of Trust A.P.N #: **0113-071-040**The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 976-3916 or visit this internet website www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 23-66927. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled

sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 976-3916, or visit this internet website tracker.auction.com/sb1079, using the file number assigned to this case 23-66927 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Dated: **3/15/2024 ZBS Law, LLP, as Trustee 30 Corporate Park, Suite 450**rvine, CA **92606**For Non-Automated Sale Information, call: (714) **848-7920**For Sale Information: (855) **976-3916** www.auction.com **Michael Busby, Trustee Sale Officer**This office is enforcing a security interest of your creditor. To the extent that your obligation has been discharged by a bankruptcy court or is subject to an automatic stay of bankruptcy, this notice is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a demand for payment or any attempt to collect such obligation. EPP 39684 Pub Dates 03/22, 03/29, 04/05/2024 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 4-5-24

T.S. No.: 20-24760 A.P.N.: 0115-108-010
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/29/2015. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Beneficiary MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor: JOHN M RADULOVICH AND NICOLE M RADULOVICH, HUSBAND AND WIFE Duly Appointed Trustee: Carrington Foreclosure Services, LLC Recorded 4/30/2015 as Instrument No. 201500036310 in book , page Loan Modification recorded on 2/8/2019 as Instrument No. 201900007447 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California. Described as follows: AS FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST *Date of Sale: 4/17/2024 *Sale is being postponed to 5/1/24 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: Vallejo City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$310,761.83 (Estimated) Street Address or other common designation of real property: 700 WALNUT PARK AVE DIXON, CA 95620 A.P.N.: 0115-108-010 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return

of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holder's rights against the real property only. THIS NOTICE IS SENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING A DEBT. THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDER AND OWNER OF THE NOTE. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED BY OR PROVIDED TO THIS FIRM OR THE CREDITOR WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (800) 280-2832 or visit this Internet Web site www.auction.com and Tracker. www.auction.com/sb1079, using the file number assigned to this case 20-24760. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales conducted after January 1, 2021: NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (800) 280-2832, or visit this internet website www.auction.com and Tracker. www.auction.com/sb1079, using the file number assigned to this case 20-24760 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 03/15/2024 Carrington Foreclosure Services, LLC 1600 South Douglass Road, Suite 140 Anaheim, CA 92806 Automated Sale Information: (800) 280-2832 or www.auction.com for NON-SALE information: 888-313-1969 Tai Alalima, Director Published 3/29, 4/5, 4/12/2024 Dixon Independent Voice 4-12-24

MPG

NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A DEVELOPER FEE STUDY AND THE INCREASE OF THE STATUTORY SCHOOL FEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Board of the Dixon Unified School District will hold a hearing and consider input from the public on the proposed adoption of a Developer Fee Justification Study for the District and an increase in the statutory school facility fee ("Level I Fee") on new residential and commercial/industrial developments as approved by the State Allocation Board on January 24, 2024. The adoption of the Study and the increase of the Level I Fee are necessary to fund the construction of needed school facilities to accommodate students due to development.

Members of the public are invited to comment in writing, on or before **12:00 p.m.** on **April 18, 2024**, or appear in person at the hearing at **6:00 p.m.** on **April 18, 2024**, at the following location:

**Dixon City Hall
600 East A Street
Dixon, CA 95620**

Materials regarding the Study and the Level I Fee are on file and are available for public review at the District Office located at 180 South 1st Street, Suite 6; Dixon, CA 95620, or online at the District's website www.dixonusd.org

Dixon Independent Voice 3-29 and 4-5-2024

Court Seeks Applicants for the Civil Grand Jury

Solano County Superior Court News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Alesia Jones, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Solano County, announces the Court is seeking volunteers to serve as jurors on the 2024-2025 Civil Grand Jury. Residents who have lived in the county for one year, are a United States citizen and are 18 years of age or older, may apply for service.

The grand jury is an historic institution and serves an important role in our society. It is sometimes referred to as the "watch-dog" of the community. It functions as an arm of the judicial branch of government and operates under the authority of the Solano Superior Court.

The grand jury investigates and reports

on the operations, accounts, and records of local government and has the power to investigate citizen complaints about local government. Empowered by the judicial branch, the grand jury is a fact-finding body that develops meaningful solutions to a wide range of governmental issues, thereby facilitating positive change in the community.

Although this is primarily a civic responsibility, grand jurors are paid a \$20 per diem and are paid mileage reimbursement for each authorized meeting. Persons interested in applying may contact Cheryl Clower at the Office of the Grand Jury at (707) 435-2575 or visit the Court's website at www.solano.courts.ca.gov and obtain an application online. The application deadline for submission is May 31, 2024. ★



The Gospel, According to The Goonies

Commentary by Jeff Myers

I'm a proud child and teenager of the 80's and in my biased opinion the 80's were the greatest decade. Almost everything about it was better. Even my 16-year-old daughter will tell you that the 80's produced the best music. The movies were epic, too. It was the Spielberg era and one of the best representatives of this is The Goonies. It has everything. Epic adventure, kids on bikes, a treasure map, inventive gadgets, pirates, a first kiss, Josh Brolin before he was Thanos, bumbling bad guys, Sean Astin before he was Samwise, impossible odds, underdogs and even a 'monster' with a heart of gold.

I rewatched The Goonies the other day (for the 200th time) and one moment at the end of the movie jumped out to me. In the scene everyone's favorite clumsy kid, Chunk, tells the lovable, mistreated, deformed strong-man, Sloth, that "From now on you're going to live with me, Sloth...because I love you." The touching scene made me think of Jesus' own words to his disciples.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." — John 14:1-3 (NIV)

Jesus is preparing his followers for his

departure and passing on the responsibility of continuing his world-changing mission without him. His message to them is no matter what hardships you face, despite how you might be mistreated or even hated, regardless of what sacrifices you have to make...know this...I haven't forgotten you! In fact, I'll be preparing a place for us to all be together again.

We live in difficult times. And even though I believe California is the most beautiful place in the world, let's be honest, it can be a difficult place to live. Add in all your work, family and financial drama and who even wants to get out of bed?! So let me piggy-back off of Jesus' sentiments above and encourage you. No matter how discouraged you may get, don't lose heart. Don't give up!

You have some good days and some bad days ahead of you. Seasons of blessing and seasons of difficulty. At the end of the day our lives are a mixed bag of wins and losses, but if we allow ourselves to hang on to good family and good friends, we have the support we need to get through anything. Lock arms with your brothers and sisters in the battle, stay faithful and remember God's plan to "make all things new" isn't finished yet. You got this because God's got this. In the words of some misfit kids in a great movie, "Goonies never say die!"

Jeff Myers is Lead Pastor of Living Hope Church in Dixon, CA ★

City Officials Meet Over Water Rate Increase

Continued from page 1

historical inflation has skyrocketed since 2013, specifically with the Construction Price Index (CPI), which includes labor and material cost increases. From 2013 to 2023, the labor Construction Price Index rose by 42% and capital costs rose by 50%.

After being presented with numbers, Councilmember Jim Ernst said past mistakes were made.

"In the last 10 years, these guys over here at Cal Water spent \$20 million on their system and we didn't spend a cent; we put Band-Aids on our system and now we are going to try and fix it at 50% higher costs of construction," Ernst said, adding, "Sometimes, it's best to just admit that and move on, and I think that is where we are."

The city completed a strategic assessment plan in 2018, which used Isacc to compare Dixon's current standing. Isacc showed that financial projection rates changed from around \$27.4 million to \$29.5 million in today's dollars.

Laying out the critical capital improvement plan for Fiscal Year 2025-2029, Isacc detailed numerous projects, including upgrades and security implementation. The maintenance of wells and tanks is the most critical, Isacc said, with the city possibly losing water, due to cracked main lines and improper readings.

Isacc showed officials how Dixon is running on an operating deficit of \$417,000 that will grow to \$2 million by 2029, which is why reserves are so important, according to Isacc. Extra money in the

coffers mitigates inherent risk, Issac said, which stabilizes rates, covers debt, ensures capital repair and replacements.

Regarding reserves, Isacc said, the minimum Dixon should have is \$2.9 million, with a target of \$5.5 million in reserves.

"It is very important to have strong reserves, so you are in a financial position to move forward with your capital plan and not worry about waiting for funding," Isacc said; adding that reserves also help secure grants, loans and low-interest rates.

Officials were given four capital funding options to choose from: critical (no debt), critical, critical and near-term, and near-term with rescheduling and reconstruction (R&R).

While officials had hoped to narrow down the options at the meeting, Councilmember Hendershot said he needed more time.

Councilmember Kevin Johnson said, "While the repeal of the rates was a very difficult situation and we are exposed tremendously," he is positive that the council gained the experience and knowledge needed from the engineering department's analysis of the water system.

"This group of people did not have the knowledge of the system we now have and I have complete confidence in their breakdown of critical versus near-term, verses R&R," Johnson said.

Officials will meet again on May 7 for another rate workshop, on June 3 for a public workshop, and on July 16 for a public hearing. ★

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Dixon Police Department Reports Good News

Story and photo by Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - A one-percent decrease in overall crime and a quicker response time to the scene assure the Dixon Police Department officers are doing their job well.

Police Chief Robert Thompson presented the Dixon Police Department Annual 2023 Report to the mayor and council members on March 19. The report details a comprehensive snapshot of the department's community outreach efforts, crime statistics, productivity, and transparency.

Chief Thompson detailed the breakdown of the law enforcement team and how the organization is set up to deliver community service, including specialty departments like canine and school resources officers.

"The backbone of the police department, and any police department, which is its field operation or patrol function that is the solid obligation and primary responsibility is that when someone calls the police, someone shows up," Chief Johnson said.

And that response time is quicker than last year, according to Christina Garcia, police services analyst, showing officer-initiated calls for service include traffic enforcement stops, follow-up investigations, suspicious vehicle and person checks, citizen assists, and safety and welfare checks.

Of the 1,844 cases for crime and incident reports in 2023, the average response time was 5:22.

"This is actually a decrease in time of 26 seconds from last year," Garcia said, noting the City of Dixon Police Department retrieves their data from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) before reporting it to the Department of Justice.



Criminal Analyst Cristina Garcia and Dixon Police Chief Robert Thompson present the Dixon City Council the 2023 Annual Report.

NIBRS offers a more granular analysis of crime types and variations, including criminal offenses ranging from animal cruelty, aggravated assault, burglary, fraud, kidnapping, larceny, motor vehicle theft, sex offenses, and weapons violations.

Garcia said citywide crime decreased by 1% compared to 2022, with contributing factors including lower property damage and burglary. However, retail theft, stolen bicycles and motor vehicle parts, and drug use increased. When it comes to motor vehicle stops, officers must report why they pulled a citizen over, according to Garcia.

"The number one reason for any stops occurring within here in the city is because it's due to a traffic violation, and it's very minimal that they get stopped for being a suspect," Garcia said.

The annual report cites California's 2015 Racial and

Identity Profile Act while noting in 2021, there was an average of 155 stops a month with the



perceived white race of being the highest at 42%. Following is the Hispanic community at 40% and Black/African American at 11%.

Garcia said officers must also report the perceived gender of the person.

"On average, we have 99 males versus 56 females that are

stopped every month," Garcia said.

The analysis also showed more driving under the influence and probation violation arrests. The cumulative arrests increased the overall rate by 7% compared to 2022, with a 6% percent change in adults and 25% in juveniles.

Since the last time the chief presented a report, he said the police department took the initiative to create a transparency portal, where the public is given a lot of information not required by law to report, including the frequency of crime duration and incident types.

Chief Thompson said that in his nearly seven-year tenure with the department, "crime rates have remained incredibly consistent" in the year-to-year analysis, but "more importantly, the city has experienced significant expansion and population in those seven years, and we have not seen an

increase in violent crime."

According to the chief, this year's annual report comes sooner than later, who said the department did a "much better job," submitting now rather than in summer and posting it on the department website for public view.

"The website is much more accurate, not quite real-time, but certainly more than annually updated with information, and we encourage the community to go with that," Chief Thompson said. There is a big button that says transparency portal, and it will take you to all those documents."

While the serious data brought good news for Dixon residents, in jest, Chief Johnson noted what is "overwhelmingly disconcerting to him" about the report is the picture on it showing him with brown hair as he stood at the podium with peppered grey. ★

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