

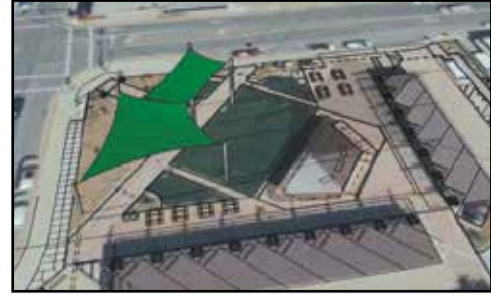


**The A's are Coming to Town**

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# Dixon Independent Voice

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

APRIL 12, 2024

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## A Huge Boost for DPD Expansion



Holding the large check from Congressman Thompson are (L-R) are Dist. 2 Council Rep Thom Bogue, Police Chief Robert Thompson, Congressman Mike Thompson, Mayor Steve Bird, Dist. 1 Council Rep Jim Ernest, and City Treasurer Jim Ward. Courtesy photo

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Congressman Mike Thompson (CA-04) was responsible for getting the Dixon Police Department a huge boost to the planning and building of a second floor to our Police Station via a \$500,000 check. He presented it to the City of Dixon Council and Police Department staff on April 3.

Rep. Thompson secured this funding in the government funding bill that was signed into law on March 9, of this year. At the Dixon Police Department, he was joined by Dixon Police Chief Robert Thompson, Mayor Steve Bird, City Councilman Thom Bogue, Councilman Jim Ernest, and City Treasurer Jim Ward.

"Our Dixon law enforcement put their lives on the line every day to keep our community safe," said the Congressman. "As Dixon grows, our Police Department needs more space to accommodate more staff

and provide our law enforcement the space they need to effectively do their jobs. I am grateful Dixon leaders brought this project to my attention so that we could partner to bring this much-needed funding to our community and keep our neighborhoods safe."

The Dixon Police Department 2nd Story Expansion project will secure a second story to the existing building and will add approximately 3,650 square feet of space.

"Our profound gratitude goes to Congressman Thompson for securing a critical block grant, enabling the expansion of our police station to meet the needs of our growing city," said the Police Chief. "This significant contribution not only underscores his commitment to public safety but also fortifies the foundation of our community's well-being."

The expansion will provide enough space to accommodate up

to approximately 20 staff. With the growth that the City of Dixon is currently experiencing, City officials support the necessity to expand the Police force and provide the members of the Police Department with an efficient and productive department in which to complete their work.

"This funding will [also] extend the useful life of the building. The project is currently in design and will begin this year," said Mayor Bird.

"I'm so happy with the relationship we're building with Congressman Thompson's office," said Dist. 1 Council Rep Jim Ernest. "He's paying attention to Dixon. The fact that he came out himself and looked at the police department and asked how we were going to build it, means a lot."

This project is one of three projects Rep. Mike Thompson secured in Solano County for a total of \$2,309,752 and \$16,375,174 total for projects in California's Fourth District. ★

## California Launches Youth Suicide Prevention Campaign

MPG Staff

**SACRAMENTO REGION (MPG)** - Suicide was the second leading cause of death among youth ages 10 to 25 years in California between 2018 and 2022, with youth ages 10 to 18 experiencing a more than 20% increase in suicide rates from 2019 to 2020 according to the California Department of Public Health.

"Young Californians are facing a mental health crisis like never before," said California Department of Public Health Director and State Public Health Officer, Dr. Tomás J. Aragón. "While this crisis has been growing for years, the pandemic put a spotlight on the issue, especially those in marginalized and underserved communities. This ('Never a Bother' campaign directly addresses this crisis with education, tools and resources informed and co-created by diverse young people across the state."

The California Department of Public Health stresses that suicide prevention can only be effective when everyone is part of the solution. That includes learning how to support yourself, a friend or a youth in your care before, during and after a crisis; telling a friend or youth in your care that they are never a bother; and encouraging them to reach out for help when needed.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recently launched the "Never a Bother" campaign, a youth suicide-prevention public awareness and outreach campaign for youth, young adults, parents, caregivers and allies.

The campaign to address youth suicide incorporates input from more than 400 Californian youth, and 34 youth-serving community-based organizations and tribal entities with oversight by the state Department of Public Health's Office of Suicide Prevention.

California is investing \$4.7 billion so every California up to 25 years old has increased access to mental health and substance use supports. The Never a Bother youth suicide-prevention campaign is a major component of this investment in California's youth, according to the public health department.

While suicide is a risk within every population, according to the "Never a Bother" campaign, certain factors can overlap

Continued on page 3

## Proposed Sales Tax Community Survey Underway

By Angela Underwood

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - It's all in the way you ask.

That is why Dixon is bringing on two consultants to conduct community surveys to help formulate questions for the November ballot over a local one-cent sales tax.

In March, Vice-Mayor Kevin Johnson admitted Dixon's last measure failed because officials did not inform the public properly before the vote. However, that will not happen again, according to Johnson and the Dixon City Council, which passed a resolution on April 2 authorizing funds to hire two consultants to help them formulate more specific ballot questions.

Public information officer Madeline Graf said Dixon regularly conducts surveys to understand its community members' needs and preferences. "The purpose of these

specific surveys is to determine which services are of greatest concern to citizens and to what level the public is willing to fund them," Graf said. "The revenues could be used for a variety of services, such as fire, police, public facilities like roads and parks, and to continue the levels of service people of Dixon have come to expect."

City attorney Doug White said it is best practice to have two consultants: one who has historical knowledge and experience in community engagement in Dixon and another who can approach the project with a fresh perspective.

"I think it will give us the ability to better understand our community, reaffirm our beliefs and make sure we are not just getting the person who is doing it biased to come across," White said.

According to White, hiring the consultants

costs about \$60,000. A new consultant could raise that number slightly because they are not familiar with the demographics. Councilmember Thom Hogue did not want to bid for any advisor, saying that in the past, other advisors were not accurate in gathering all their information.

"I don't know why we keep spending money on consultants to do that since we can actually do a survey to see what people's ideas are," Bogue said. "We would probably have the questions more aligned with our community."

While acknowledging that a prior survey might not have been accurate, White said consultants approach the matter scientifically and get "better demographic representation than we would ever be able to have done on our own initiative."

Bogue brought up Dixon's last two tax

proposals getting "shot down."

"I just don't want to go down that road again, considering the times we are in," Bogue said.

While he "would love to do it internally," Vice-Mayor Johnson said, the council needs to proceed with professionals who can help the public understand why they are proposing.

"We need a third party that is not in the muck of our city," Johnson said.

According to the vice mayor, what's most important is the formulation of the questions, saying the previous survey conducted for the last failed ballot measure had unclear questions.

"They were not specific enough and you really had to extract some secret information from the way the questions were formed," Johnson said. "I would like the council to be more participatory in the formation of the questions." ★



# Life's too SHORT



## We Need Teachers and Coaches Here

By Debra Dingman

When I was writing about the new school superintendent as well as the resignations of the Dixon High principal and vice principal, I wondered just how many positions were open in our district. I know since COVID-19 our public school numbers have not returned to their original “glory” so you’d think we’d have plenty of teachers to cover the students still here, but apparently not.

There are currently 54 jobs available in the Dixon Unified School District with a chunk of those for coaches (more on that in a minute.) This number included two principals, an assistant principal and about 15 teachers. There is a middle school art teacher, a couple of 5th-grade teachers, a 3rd-grade teacher, a couple math teachers needed and one science teacher. There are also two 2nd-grade bilingual teachers needed.

There are three elementary schools, one middle school, one high school and one alternative high school. Is this a lot of vacancies for a district our size, or average? I tried searching and calling DUSD, but, obviously, this will take more time.

According to one online site, we have 3,000 students in grade K-12 with a student teacher ratio of 24 to 1. As a substitute teacher, those would have been fair odds when you could demand great behavior, but since our society has gotten a bit more lax on manners and social etiquette, parent volunteers are an absolute must. I’m not saying this to be flippant or judgmental, but, really, you have to be in there to really know I speak the truth.

But teaching is a wonderful calling and I give all praise to those who choose it.

Salaries range from about \$43K to \$95K a year depending on one’s degrees. Dixon is still a bit small with a population of 20,000, so if one lived here, these are great salaries.

I always like to remind 20-somethings that the school district is a good place to start if you have any interest in children and helping them develop into great adults. And, with a semester or two at the junior college, there are positions that could be filled in the preschools. In fact, I noticed the salary range is the same for regular teachers in regular classrooms.

Those spots require an Early Childhood Education credential which is only 12 semester units or three courses. One would also need 50 days of work experience, but you can get paid while actually getting those days in — kind of like a paid internship. Once inside DUSD, there are always new opportunities to grow.

The nice thing about teaching posts is they change each year — always a new batch of eager-to-learn faces (mostly).

If you are interested in finding a new activity in your life and really want to help youth, there are also 16 coaching positions open right now that have “season” stipends from two to four thousand dollars if I understand that correctly.

John Knight Middle School needs a wrestling coach and a volleyball coach for 7th-grade girls. Sounds like a lot of fun to me. If you enjoy the sport — or any sport — please check it out. Sports teach students far more than athletic skills.

The site where you can get all the details is Edjoin.org. It is the site that lists the information of the various positions and there are several others besides the ones I mentioned.★

## City Seeks Parks and Rec Commissioners, Student Reps

By MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The City of Dixon is currently accepting applications for the following vacancies on a City Commission in addition to two student representatives.

Four (4) vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Parks and Recreation Commission is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to recreation and park facilities. Commissioners serve two-year terms, with a maximum of three consecutive terms. All vacancies are for two-year terms expiring on June 30, 2026. The Parks and Recreations Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. City residency is required. A stipend of \$75.00 per meeting attended is paid to each Commissioner.

The City is also currently accepting applications for one (1) Student Representative, and one (1) Alternate Student Representative on the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Student Representative must be in his or her senior year of high school, and the Alternate Student Representative must be in his or her junior year of high school. The Commission is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to recreation programs and parks facilities.

The Student Representative is expected to attend all Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. The Alternate Student Representative will fill in for the Student Representative when the Student Representative is unable to attend Commission meetings. It is expected that the Alternate Student Representative will apply to become the Student Representative the following school year. The term to be served is July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025.

The Commission meets in the Dixon City Council Chambers at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. City residency is required. Interested students may obtain an application by contacting Stephanie Marquez at the Dixon High School.

The deadline for filing applications is 5 p.m., Monday, May 6, 2024. If no applications are submitted by the deadline, the City will accept applications until the vacancy is filled. See the City of Dixon’s website at [www.cityofdixon.us](http://www.cityofdixon.us) to view past Commission meetings and agenda packages.

Interested Dixon residents may obtain an application at City Hall, 600 East A Street, by calling 678-7000, or by visiting the City’s website at [www.cityofdixon.us](http://www.cityofdixon.us). The deadline for filing applications is 5 p.m., Monday, May 6, 2024.★

## Dixon News Briefs



Pacific, Gas, and Electric was out working to replace equipment last week and caused power outages throughout town. Some residents were out of power for as many as eight hours. Residents should receive notices of a scheduled outage if their area will be affected. Photo by Nicolas Brown

MPG Staff

### National Small Business Week

The Small Business Development Center and the Workforce Development Board will be hosting numerous events this month in recognition of National Small Business Week April 29 – May 3. Please join them for an evening of networking and inspiration as they celebrate the resilience and success of the Solano and Napa business community.

**There are three free Virtual Trainings:**  
**Marketing Strategy:** Where to Spend Your Marketing Dollars – April 29, 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Is your marketing strategy working for you? This session will help you put all your marketing options on the table and focus on the tools that work best for your business.

**Mastering the Entrepreneurial Mindset** – April 30, 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Learn practical techniques to manage time, tasks and priorities, plus essential tools to help your business thrive.

**A.I. For Small Business** – May 1, 12 noon to 1 p.m.

This workshop covers simple ways you can use AI in your business flow.

**How to Grow Your Business Network** – May 3, 12 to 1 pm

Explore networking opportunities available to small businesses and how to best utilize them.

Learn more about these and other training and events with the Solano-Napa SBDC at <https://www.solanonasbdc.org/events/>.

**Solano County Business Summit** - A half-day, onsite and in-person free event will happen for all Solano County businesses on Thursday, April 18. It’s to be held at Travis Credit Union in Vacaville, from 8:30 to noon.

### Fundraising Dinner

Horseplay Therapeutic Riding Center is hosting a fundraiser on Monday, April 29, at Bud’s Pub & Grill, 100 South First Street from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$45 (does not include gratuity.) Prime Rib, Chicken and mushrooms, Tri-tip, fresh salmon, Specialty Pasta, or chicken strips with fries are on the menu along with a non-alcoholic beverage. For tickets, call (707) 447-8733.

### City Meeting

The next City Meeting will be the City

Council on Tuesday, April 16, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 600 East A Street. It can also be watched on video at [cityofdixon.us](http://cityofdixon.us), then click on the government tab, then click on council, then on agendas. One should be able to access back meeting videos as well.

### Heritage Commons Big Sale

A ‘Hump Day Rummage Sale’ will be held at the Heritage Commons Senior Apartments 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 the sale will be located in the community area and pool patio.

### DFS 40th Anniversary

Dixon Family Services (DFS) is celebrating their 40th year in business and service to the community with needed human services programs. The public is invited to celebrate at an Open House at the Dixon Family Services building, 155 North Second Street, 4:30 to 6 p.m. There will be light refreshments, a Dixon Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting, and optional tours of the building. At 5:15, they would like all guests to join them in a group photo. We also plan to make a brief presentation about DFS. For questions or more information, please email [cookie@dixonfamilyservices.org](mailto:cookie@dixonfamilyservices.org).

### Meatloaf Dinner

On Friday, April 12, the Veterans Memorial Hall will serve meatloaf, baked potato, vegetables, and roll for only \$12. The bar will be open and as always, visiting is free. They are located at 1305 N. First Street.

### Assemblywoman at City Hall

Lori D. Wilson, Assemblywoman for District 11, will be at Dixon City Hall, 600 East A Street, on Friday, April 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you would like to meet with her, please email [Trisha.Simpson@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Trisha.Simpson@asm.ca.gov).

### YLI Salad Luncheon

The Young Ladies Institute with St. Peter’s Parish will hold their annual salad luncheon on Friday, April 19 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at St. Peter’s Parish Hall, 105 South Second Street. Tickets are \$15 per person and are for all you can eat. There will be plenty of raffle baskets as well.★

# LOCAL ARREST RECORDS

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

**INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM**

**ARREST LOGS UPDATED DAILY**

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Dixon Independent Voice has an immediate opening for an administrative assistant in our office in Dixon.

This position includes customer service, processing payments, following up with subscribers and advertisers, researching local activities and news for creating news releases.

Candidates must have strong communication skills, be able to type a minimum of 45 wpm, good internet skills, social media skills, strong writing skills, and be familiar with Office 365.

General work hours are between 9 and 4, Monday through Friday. Previous office experience required. This is a part-time semi-flexible hourly position.

Check out our company at [www.MPG8.com](http://www.MPG8.com).

Please send your resume and cover letter to [Publisher@MPG8.com](mailto:Publisher@MPG8.com).





# City Officials Put Pardi Plaza Shade Structure on Hold

By Angela Underwood

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Pardi Plaza will not have a shade structure as proposed this summer.

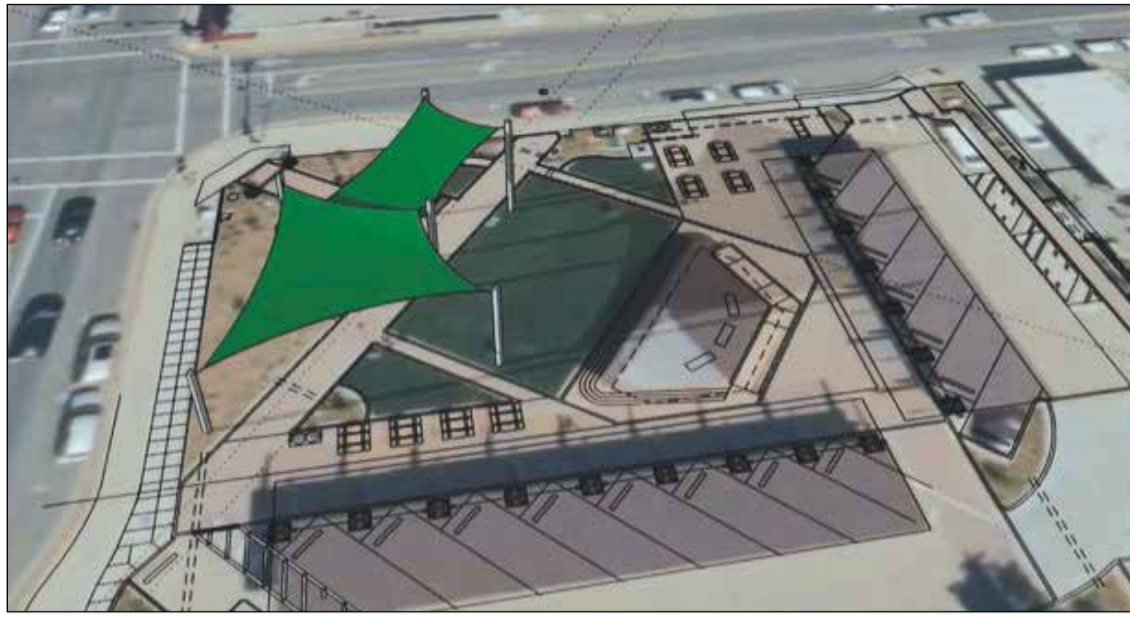
Mayor Steve Bird and the Dixon City Council unanimously rejected a resolution on April 2 for over \$185,000 for a new shade structure at the plaza, officials citing money as a factor.

Director of Public Works Louren Kotow presented officials with a brief history of Pardi Plaza in 2023. After many successful events, Kotow said community feedback requested a semi-permanent shade option "due to performers having a lot of glare from the sun during our high points in the season."

In August 2023, officials were presented with a three- and four-point shade structure with six columns and three sails at a cost of around \$210,000, and in November, they were given a framed option, including four columns and four sails at a cost of around \$142,000.

At that point, the council authorized a project budget for the Pardi Market Plaza shade structure at \$300,000 with USA Shades. Kotow said officials worked with the vendor to conduct shade studies.

"The site is unique because of its lack of symmetry and orientation," Kotow said. "It does not face the sun directly; the sun comes from the side."



Dixon City officials rejected a shade structure proposal presented to them at the April 2 meeting, citing high costs as the biggest factor. Photo courtesy of the City of Dixon



Dixon Public Works Director Louren Kotow, who presented Mayor Steve Bird and Dixon City Council with detailed renderings of a proposed shade structure. Photo by Angela Underwood

After weekly site visits with USA Shades Representative

Erik Anslinger, Kotow said they found a solution for the area of concentration directly in front of the stage.

"We developed several different options for the relationship between the sun and stage and it became apparent that we had to really step back and rethink our approach to this," Anslinger said.

A joined sail structure is the answer, according to Anslinger.

"As you can see, it's kind of on the outside edge of the park, not directly right in front of the stage," Anslinger explained in the renderings presented.

Councilmember Jim Ernst said if councilmembers did not



USA Shades Representative Erik Anslinger, who has been working with city officials on Pardi Plaza's proposed shade structure. Photo by Angela Underwood

approve the shade structure, it would limit the use of Pardi

Plaza in the summer.

"I want a vibrant downtown; I want people going down there because they like it, meeting each other and talking to each other, spending money and generating taxes," Ernst said.

However, the budget does not allow for it, according to Ernst, who refused to support the resolution along with Councilmember Don Hendershot. Hendershot said he, too, would not vote yes until officials got a financial update on the city's finances.

Vice Mayor Keven Johnson agreed, saying the proposed costs were too high.

"There are other extenuating circumstances and things that we need," Johnson said.

Like other officials, Johnson suggested planting trees to help shade Pardi Plaza. Mayor Steve Bird said he is not opposed to planting trees for shade.

"The biggest issue right now is timing, and maybe there are some other things that take priority over this expenditure," Mayor Bird said. "It seemed like a good idea many months ago, but the outlook wasn't as bleak."

Councilmember Ernst suggested addressing the Pardi Plaza shade structure next year. Kotow said officials could bring the plans back to the table in November if they want to construct it for the summer of 2025.

"We can research other options," Kotow said. ★

## Who Done It Mystery Fun Coming Soon



Detectives Rufus and Langton in "Murder Mystery at the Dixon Manor". (L-R Lewis Wentworth and John MacKenzie.) Photo by Abel Cornejo

By MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Get ready to step into the intriguing world of crime and suspense with Dixon Community Theater's latest production, "Murder Mystery at the Dixon Manor." Set against the backdrop of a Victorian Manor nestled alongside Northern California's historic railroad tracks in 1937, this immersive theatrical experience promises thrills, chills, and plenty of surprises.

"Murder Mystery at the Dixon Manor" isn't your typical theatrical experience; it's a journey into the heart of a captivating murder investigation. Picture Agatha Christie's intricate plotting meeting Raymond Chandler's gritty detective style, all set amidst a film noir ambiance. With witty dialogue, dark secrets, and unexpected twists, this production promises to keep audiences on the edge of their seats. But what truly sets it apart is the interactive final scene, where the audience becomes part of the action, joining in the interrogation of suspects to uncover the truth behind the dastardly deed.

Dixon Community Theater's mission is to create opportunities for community participation and to enrich, educate and entertain. Their productions serve as a testament to the incredible talent within the local community, providing actors,

directors, and crew members a platform to showcase their skills. As mentioned on their website, Dixon Community Theatre is united by a shared passion for the arts and a dedication to enriching the local community through cultural experiences.

The cast includes the talents of John Mackenzie, Lewis Wentworth, Russell Woods, Kelly Pideon James, Angel Gatchel, Brian P.B. Sizemore, Sachi Denison-Woods, Janice Ferrero, Robert Williams, Dave Atkinson, Bridget O'Flaherty, Cheryl Sommers. It is directed by Abel Cornejo.

Admission includes a complimentary High Tea reception starting one hour to show time.

There will be no cash sales at the door and tickets will be sold only online at [www.dixoncommunitytheater.com](http://www.dixoncommunitytheater.com). Seating will be very limited, and all tickets must be purchased in advance. General Admission is \$25.

The location will be 360 North First Street in downtown Dixon. Dates will be Saturday, April 20 through Sunday, April 28. Dates are Saturday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 21 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, April 27 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, April 28 at 2 p.m.

For more information, contact via email: [dixoncommunitytheater@gmail.com](mailto:dixoncommunitytheater@gmail.com). ★

## First Northern Bank Hires Seasoned Banker as Chief Credit Officer

First Northern Bank News Release

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - First Northern Bank (OTCQX: FNRN), the region's #1 local small business lender, proudly announces the appointment of Brett Hamilton as its new Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer. Retiring Chief Credit Officer, Joe Danelson, will serve as Executive Vice President until April 5, 2024, to ensure a smooth transition and continuity of operations.

With more than 25 years of experience in the banking industry, Hamilton brings a vast background and expertise in credit risk strategies, portfolio management, and regulatory relations. As the Chief Credit Officer, he will oversee the quality and



Brett Hamilton is to be the new executive vice president and chief credit officer at First Northern Bank. Photo courtesy of First Northern Bank

diversity of the credit portfolio, and have responsibility for ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements, and optimizing risk management practices at the Bank.

"Brett's leadership and financial acumen should be instrumental in guiding our credit culture and supporting our Strategic Plan

and helping us achieve our annual performance metrics," said Jeremiah Smith, President and CEO of First Northern Bank. "His extensive experience combined with the Bank's already established sound lending practices should position Brett as a key driver of the Bank's continued growth throughout the region and surrounding communities we proudly serve."

Hamilton most recently served as the Senior Vice President and Senior Credit Administrator at Tri-Counties Bank where he led a team of credit analysts, commercial underwriters, and regional credit administrators. Previously, he worked for more than 16 years on a variety of credit and risk teams at Rabobank. He attended California State University, Fresno. ★

## California Launches New Youth Suicide Prevention Campaign

Learn how to help yourself or a friend.  
**NeveraBother.org**

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Continued from page 1

with others to increase this risk, due to heightened levels of adversity, negative social conditions, and/or decreases in protective factors. Those factors include youth who are American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latinx and African-American/Black; live in rural communities; experience mental health challenges; and/or are impacted by the foster care system.

The "Never a Bother" campaign resonates with youth, according to the Department of Public Health, as it validates their feelings of not wanting to be

a burden to others. It speaks to their need to know that they are never a bother, that no problem is too small and that it is important to check in with one another before, during and after a crisis.

According to the "Never a Bother" campaign: "If you are experiencing thoughts of suicide, you are not alone. Call or text 988 to reach the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Trained professionals can reconnect you with your reasons to keep going and show you ways to cope with difficult days.

Support and coping resources are at [NeveraBother.org](http://NeveraBother.org). ★

**WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS**

**MPG**  
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## MEMORIAL

## DOROTHY ELLEN GLOCKLER ELDRIDGE • 10/9/1927 – 2/20/2024

Dorothy Ellen Glockler, born Oct. 9, 1927 in Woodland, CA to Edward Montgomery and Rose Oleta Luttgues Glockler. Dorothy grew up in Davis CA, graduated from Davis High School in 1946 and attended an Accounting school, earning an accounting degree and went to work for UC Davis.

On May 8, 1949 she married Walter Joseph Eldridge in Davis and lived in Melo Park. Walter and Dorothy celebrated 42 years of marriage.

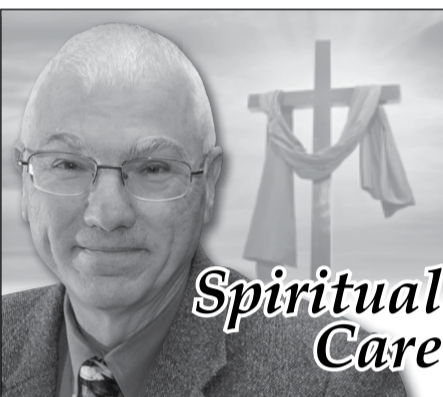
Walter and Dorothy lived in Melo Park from 1949 - 1955 where they were blessed with their first three children. Walter and Dorothy moved to Dixon, continuing the family with the addition of Herbert, James. Later in life she was a proud member of the YLI (Young Ladies Institute) while her children were young. Once the children were older traveling became a passion she and Walter shared, seeing all the states except Alaska.

Dorothy lived a beautiful

life and leaves behind; daughter Cheryl (Bob) Seehorn, sons Robert, Herbert (Delynda). Grandchildren Mary (Mike) Gordy, Lynnette (Neveda)Smith, David, John (Mariah), and Mark. Great Grandchildren: Lily Smith, Carson Smith, Ellie Gordy, Austin Smith, and Luke Eldridge.

She was preceded in death by son William, husband Walter, son James, and Grandson Walter. Dorothy passed away at her home at the age of 96, in her peaceful sleep.

## Don't Gamble with Faith



BY NORRIS BURKES

hoping to come up with a win.

Still others rely on some lucky combination that their grandfather passed along to them. "My granddaddy prayed for my grandmother inside that church, and she was healed, so I guess it's a winner."

Yet, still others rely on the big-spin approach and take the one they land on. Others see faith like picking the right card out of a newly shuffled deck.

And some play faith the way they play a bluffing poker hand, refusing to let anyone see the cards of doubt they hold.

The problem with these approaches is they produce a routine of losing, much like those who return each night to the same casino only to lose again.

The faith choice made with these methods usually ends up discarded, much like a Lotto ticket on a gas-station driveway.

Faith has little to do with winning or losing. Faith is too important to treat with the same glibness we use to choose our winning numbers. Perhaps it's more about investing in who we are, not about gambling on what we never had.

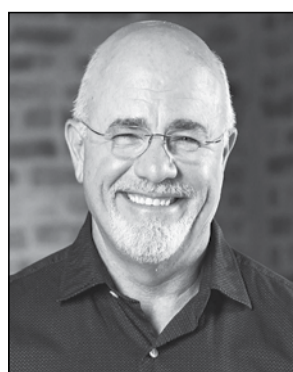
Maybe faith comes about when we invest in the search. We find it inspired by the conversations, the discussions, the questions, and the debates that we have with others. In fact, I believe God prefers honest "searchers" or "questioners," even when they challenge him directly, even when they are unflattering.

Jesus suggested faith might well be something compared to a mustard seed. A mustard seed is the tiniest of seeds, yet in ratio, it grows into one of the biggest plants. Faith starts from the smallest beginnings in the hearts of people and produces not a personal profit, but a powerful and personal transformation.

Well, all this talk about winning the lottery made me wonder what might happen if I actually bought a ticket. I mean, if I ever bought just one, what might happen?

I may never know.

But if you do happen to win with my divine numbers, please remember my favorite charity – Chispa Project. I think it's fair to say that any gift can be an investment in faith. ★



You're Playing with Fire

## Dave Ramsey Says

you're playing with fire if you take him up on the offer.

I assume your father-in-law is doing pretty well financially, since he can afford to make this offer. But the downside is just too risky. If I were him, I might offer to pay off the mortgage as a gift to my daughter and son-in-law. But a loan? No way. There are no strings attached to a gift that comes from the heart.

Don't get me wrong, Seth. I'm not bad-mouthing your father-in-law. What he's making is a very generous offer, and it's an incredibly nice thing to do. But in my mind, a very important consideration is being left out of the equation, and it's a spiritual issue. The borrower is always slave to the lender. Always. And sadly enough, nowhere is that more true than within a family.

Accepting this offer could bring instant discomfort into the relationship for you and your wife. This money situation is likely to hang over things like a dark cloud. Thanksgiving, Christmas and other special occa-

sions will feel different—and kind of weird—when you're suddenly celebrating with your mortgage lender instead of just good, old dad.

Even if you come from a reasonable, stable family, and it sounds to me like your in-laws are very good-hearted folks, this debt will always be in the back of your mind. But if you're involved with a dysfunctional or controlling family, that tension is going to be right there—constantly.

I'd thank your father-in-law for his generosity and for the offer. But in my mind, it's just not worth the risk.

– Dave

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

Dear Dave,

My wife and I owe about \$40,000 on our mortgage. My father-in-law, who is a very nice and generous man, said he wants to pay off the house for us, then let us pay him back over time. We've borrowed much smaller amounts of money from him in the past, and we were always able to repay it with no issues and no pressure. How do you feel about us taking him up on his offer?

– Seth

Dear Seth,

I understand you and your wife have been fortunate in these kinds of situations over the years. And I know your father-in-law would probably be a lot easier to work with than a mortgage company when it comes to the size and frequency of payments. But I still think

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



## DIXON POLICE LOG

## Monday, March 18, 2024

1814 - An informational report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

0411 - An informational report was taken in the 1300 block of Bello Dr.

0631 - Vehicle tow in the area of Utah Ct and Folsom Fair Cir.

0932 - Information report taken at DPD.

1137 - Information report taken in the 800 block of Elm Dr.

1314 - Information report taken in the 400 block of East A Street regarding a physical altercation between juveniles on school campus.

1534 - A report of online extortion was taken in the 500 block of Alma Ct.

## Sunday, March 17

1855 - 20002 V.C., report was in the 1000 block of North 1st St.

1920 - A domestic violence arrest report was taken in the 1200 block of Watson Ranch Wy. Officers contacted (S) Mayra Moreno-Segura (31) of Dixon. Moreno-Segura was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

2104 - An informational report was taken in the 1400 block of Madera Dr.

1334 - Solano SO conducted a traffic stop in the area of Redwood Parkway and Admiral Callaghan Lane. The driver, Cammeron Elliott (34), out of Hayward, was wanted in several burglary cases in Dixon. Elliott was arrested by Solano SO and transported to the Solano County Jail. Elliott was booked into jail for the following Dixon PD charges: Burglary (459 PC), Grand Theft (487A PC), Burglary (469 PC), Organized Retail Theft (490.4 A 1 PC)

1622 - Two-vehicle non-injury traffic collision in the 2400 block of North 1st Street.

## Saturday, March 16

0040 Hours - Male placed on mental health hold

## Friday, March 15

1845 - Estes Robbery, conspiracy, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of suspected narcotics arrest report was taken in the 200 block of East Dorset. Officers contacted (S) Amber Lybarger (49) of Yuba City and (S) James Vieux (54) of Apple Valley. They both were taken to the Solano County Jail and released.

1920 - Theft report of a bicycle taken in the 1400 block of Ary Ln.

2021 - A domestic Violence report was taken at in the 1200 block of Watson Ranch Wy.

2349 - A vehicle burglary report was taken in the 100 block of Dorset Dr.

0009 - A vehicle burglary report was taken in the 2500 block of Plaza Ct.

0440 - A confidential report was taken in the 700 block of Harvest Wy.

## Thursday, March 14

2207 - Possession of stolen property, possession of drug paraphernalia, a felon in possession of a stun gun, possession of suspected narcotics, and an Unlicensed driver arrest report was taken at the intersection of Stratford Av. at Pitt School Rd. Officers contacted (S) Jente Ashford (44) of N. Highlands and Kailiann Williams (23) of N Highlands. Ashford was in violation of possession of stolen property, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Williams was in violation of a felon being in possession of a stun gun and possession of suspected narcotics. Both subjects were arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

2354 - D.U.I arrest report was taken at the intersection of Mac Donald Ct. at Pitt School Rd. Officers contacted (S) Jesus Henriquez-Flores (40) of Dixon. Henriquez-Flores was arrested and later cited and released to a sober adult.

2357 - D.U.I arrest report was taken in the 1400 block of Ingrid Dr. Officers contacted (S) Jose Conejo-Gallegos (25) of N Highlands. Conejo-Gallegos was arrested and later cited and released to a sober adult.

1010 - Verbal argument 800 block Elm Drive. Lori Rosenberger (54) of Dixon was arrested for a violation of a court order and booked into the Solano County Jail.

1148 - Fraud report at Dixon PD.

1724 - Welfare check Market Lane at Pitt School Road.

## Wednesday, March 13

2333 - Informational report was taken in the 400 block of La Esperanza Dr.

0730 - Domestic Battery report 100 block Heritage Lane.

1020 - Confidential report 500 block College Way.

1438 - Code Compliance 800 block Elm Drive for abandoned/expired vehicles.

1606 - Domestic Battery report 1000 block North First Street. The suspect was arrested and booked into the Solano County Jail for 243(e)(1) PC

## Tuesday, March 12

0908 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 1300 block of Commercial Way.

1153 - Identity theft report taken in the PD lobby.

1224 - Restraining order service in the 800 block of Elm Drive.

1400 - School resource officer report taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

## Wednesday, March 11

1851 - Fraud report was taken in the 1000 block of Newgate Wy.

1407 - Abandoned vehicle report in the 1500 block of Ditmar Drive.

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# The Getaway

by Emma Lord



- ◆ Publisher: Wednesday Books
- ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
- ◆ Release Date: Jan. 23, 2024

of friends at their side, Riley and Tom finally get the chance to accomplish their childhood goals and dreams, but there's one thing not on the list they need to face: each other.

As new friends, new adventures, and new challenges take over their summer, one thing still stands right in front of them: Riley's new and awkward feelings. Now scared of losing the one friendship she can't live without or the chance at true love, Riley has a lot to figure out. With a few unexpected twists and a handful of sweet snacks, Riley and Tom are

undoubtedly set out for a summer to remember.

*The Getaway List* will take readers on an uplifting and sweet adventure just in time for this year's graduates. Emily Lord delivers a heartwarming read full of friendship and charming childhood adventures. With characters that readers will instantly fall for and cheer for, this book has all the makings of the perfect spring break or summer read. Riley and Tom make the best friendship mash-up with just the right amount of romantic yearning. Readers will be reading as fast as they can to see if the Upcoming kiss ever takes place. Notable side characters also fill the pages, making this rom-com adventure an even more enjoyable ride.

This story blends in topics of self-discovery, supportive friendships, parent relationships, and friends to lovers in the most uplifting and heartwarming manner, making every experience and adventure well thought out and meaningful. A definite book to add to any reading list, and hopefully will inspire many more getaway lists. ★



# Riley Reviews

“GODZILLA X KONG” DELIVERS EXPECTED THRILLS; TCM FESTIVAL UPDATE

## A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

### “GODZILLA X KONG: THE NEW EMPIRE” RATED PG-13

Only three years ago, the Monsterverse’s “Godzilla vs. Kong” pitted the monster ape against the gigantic lizard in a spectacular battle where the fate of humanity hung in the balance.

Even though Kong, along with the orphaned girl Jia, from the Iwi tribe, took a hazardous journey to find his true home, an enraged Godzilla on the warpath across the world was itching for an epic clash between the two titans.

Getting these two fearsome creatures together is like the ultimate cage match. Much like the audience at a UFC fight, fans of the Monsterverse are hoping for a spectacle of a bruising battle.

In what is considered the fifth installment of the ongoing monster saga, “Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire” takes a different path when the almighty Kong and the terrifying Godzilla need to team up against a colossal threat hidden within the deep recess of Earth.

While Godzilla resides on the surface world, taking a rest inside Rome’s Colosseum, Kong dwells in Hollow Earth, nursing a bad toothache for which the wild adventurer and veterinarian Trapper (Dan Stevens) is intrepid enough to perform oral surgery.

Rebecca Hall’s scientist Ilene Andrews, working for the Monarch group, and her adopted daughter Jia (Kaylee Hottle), are once again in the Kong camp, along with podcaster Bernie (Brian Tyree Henry) for some comic relief.

The villain that brings Kong and Godzilla together is Skar King, the cruel ruler of enslaved simians, who with his sidekick Shimo poses a real threat to Kong until Godzilla shows up and the two join forces, and Mothra makes a cameo appearance.

Unlike the Japanese film “Godzilla Minus One” that won an Academy Award, “Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire” has no pretensions to anything other than being a critic-proof entertainment. The less said the better about this film because the legions of fans won’t care, nor should they.

### TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL UPDATE

The 15th TCM Classic Film Festival is now just around the corner, and the schedule is as firmly settled as might be possible. Time slots marked “TBA” usually turn out to be for popular films that sold out, and that’s why all the TBAs show up on the final day.

The thrill of the festival includes getting reacquainted with old favorites, sometimes newLY restored, or discovering hidden gems. The latter might be the case with 1966’s “Gambit,” a comic caper with exotic locales.

Con artist Michael Caine spots Eurasian nightclub dancer Shirley MacLaine and notes her resemblance to a price-less Chinese hust owned by the world’s richest man (Herbert Lom). MacLaine looking like a stereotypical Chinese girl would at least be cultural appropriation in today’s world.

It’s best to look at cinema, much like history, in the context of the times. Anna May Wong, the first Chinese American film star, would have been perfect for the part, but she was no longer around.

Fortunately, Michael Caine, a nonagenarian, is still with us, and it’s interesting to note that “Gambit” was originally written for Gary Grant, but MacLaine wanted Caine as the leading man, so the script was rewritten to make the British gentleman thief a Cockney upstart.

One of the most memorable cinematic lines is delivered by Clint Eastwood pointing a .44 Magnum at a bank robber and saying, “You’ve got to ask yourself one question: ‘Do I feel lucky?’ Well, do ya punk?”

In “Dirty Harry,” Eastwood’s steely-eyed Harry Callahan, a San Francisco police detective on the trail of a serial killer (Andy Robinson, going full creepy), was perfect, even though the script had been written for an older actor and scheduled with Frank Sinatra, who dropped out.

Watching “Dirty Harry” on the big screen will cement the image of Clint Eastwood making the transition from star to icon. If only Don Siegel, who directed this and four other Eastwood films, were with us to tell stories about his friend.

A special event with the hand-and-foot-print ceremony that occurs on Friday, April 19th in front of TCL Chinese Theatre IMAX (still fondly called Grauman’s Chinese by many) will honor Jodie Foster for her illustrious career as actress and filmmaker.

Foster began her career at age three, appearing as “The Coppertone Girl” in television commercials. Of course, she went on to bigger and better things as a regular on several television series, including “My Three Sons” and “Mayberry RFD.”

Widespread attention of the actress came with her powerful portrayal of streetwise Iris in Martin Scorsese’s “Taxi Driver” (1976), wherein Robert De Niro’s disturbed cabbie focused his attentions on rescuing Foster’s 12-year-old hooker.

As a rape survivor in “The Accused” and Special Agent Clarice Starling in the thriller “The Silence of the Lambs,” Foster’s stunning performances earned her two Academy Awards for Best Actress.

Fortunately for film buffs, after the ceremony Foster will be the special guest for the screening of “Silence of the Lambs,” the only horror film according to TCM to be named Best Picture. Others would say the film fits the crime thriller category, but why quibble? ★

## WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

Our Sacramento Kings find themselves in the middle of a Western Conference quagmire, and at this moment, as the Kings prepare to face off with the Oklahoma City Thunder, it’s anyone’s guess as to who will be in 7th and 8th place when things wrap up in a week.

Sacramento began their road trip with a disappointing loss to the Knicks, a team that they should have defeated. After a close three-and-a-half quarters, the Kings disappeared in the last two minutes of the game, and a competitive game with two minutes remaining turned into an 11-point loss.

To the Kings’ credit, they bounced back the very next night and narrowly missed defeating the vaunted Boston Celtics. An up-and-down game, the Celtics took control in the 4th quarter, and with less than two minutes remaining had a seven-point lead.

Showing the stuff that has made them the beloved team they are, led by lightning-quick De’Aaron Fox, the Kings threw a blanket over the Celtics, and drained shot after shot down the stretch. With 15 seconds left and the Kings holding a one-point lead, the Celtics missed the go-ahead shot and Keegan Murray snagged the rebound.

With only seconds remaining, the Celtics stripped the ball and hit a floater in the lane to go up by one point. Now, with only seven seconds in the game, the Kings called a timeout and advanced the ball into the forecourt.

Drama is an understatement, as would-be hero De’Aaron Fox drove into the paint and leaped high for one of his patented eight-foot jump shots to win the game. The ball came off the rim and Keegan Murray collected the rebound while shooting the putback in one motion. The shot narrowly missed, and who of all people was there for the potential winning tip, was none other than Colby Jones. Not who you expected in a pivotal game with under a minute to play, but there he was nonetheless. Colby tipped the ball and was karate chopped across the face, falling to the hardwood. The ball slid off the rim, while every official on the court collectively swallowed their whistles.

Yes, the team with the best record in the NBA stole a game from the Sacramento Kings, that without a doubt should have been decided with no time on the clock from the charity stripe. But once again, the zebras looked the other way, and instead of allowing the game to be played with integrity, it was simply awarded to the home team.

In the industry I have worked in for over 45 years, I have to complete continuing education every year, and the same can be said for real estate agents, cosmetologists, and accountants. If I don’t pass the continuing education classes, the state simply doesn’t renew my license. In other words, I’m out of a job.

Wow, can you imagine that? Actually oversee the abilities of referees during the offseason, to assess if they have the required skills to officiate at the highest level in the sport of basketball. Oh, would I love to see that.

I hope everyone can get on the same page, and raise their voices for giving our gladiators the officiating they deserve.

Meanwhile, the Kings have 48 tries to lick their wounds and try to upset a team that has already put 53 wins in the win column. The Thunder are a tough team, and the Kings are tasked with defeating them on their home court. Can they do it, and keep alive the hope of avoiding the dreaded Play-in? I, for one, believe in this group, and my prognostication of 48 wins this season remains alive.

Anyone out there want to join me in my optimism?

Domantas Sabonis continues to amaze with a consistency that no Kings player has ever demonstrated. His double-double streak is a nail-biting watch every game, all the while still leading the NBA in triple-doubles!

Yes, it’s a magical season for the big man, so enjoy this while you can. No one plays tougher, takes more punishment, and plays with more effervescent joy that has a ubiquitous quality that every player on the team has embraced!

Love this team! Send your thoughts to [vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com](mailto:vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com).

Go Kings! ★

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8. Action word
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13. Departed
14. Locomotive hair
15. As opposed to St. in a city, pl.
16. French cordial
17. Type of lily, pl.
18. \*Voyageurs National Park location
20. Like Andersen's duckling
21. Poacher's ware
22. Unit of pressure
23. \*Volcanoes National Park location
26. Dionysus' female followers
30. U.N. labor agency
31. Camels' relatives
34. Pelvic bones
35. Smears
37. \_\_\_ of the land"
38. Gertrude Stein's reception room
39. Sicilian rumbler
40. Strong influence
42. To sum
43. Blushes
45. \*Utah national park
47. What blanket and landing have in common
48. State before birth
50. Eastern European
52. \*Yosemite's famous monolith (2 words)
56. Cockamamie
57. Effect of pain?
58. First weekly news magazine in U.S.
59. South African currency, pl.
60. Tolstoy's Karenina
61. The 15th of March
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3 8 7 9 6 5 4 2 1
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a National Park?
36. \*The Lakota called it "Mako Sica"
38. Razor sharpener
40. \*Old Faithful \_\_\_ lodging spot in Yellowstone
41. Poolside hut
44. Roof overhang
46. Rotten Tomatoes contributor
48. Latin American plain
49. Getting an A
50. Finger-produced sound
51. Muffin Man's Drury \_\_\_
52. "Goodness gracious!"
53. Ocean motion
54. Word of agreement
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# Committee Approves Sen. Dodd's Roadside Wildfire Safety Bill



**Bill Dodd**  
*Office of Senator Bill Dodd News Release*

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)**  
- On April 3, legislation

advanced from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would help safeguard Californians from wildfires and protect the environment by streamlining the process for clearing combustible brush and trees alongside roads.

“Roadside ignitions are a significant source of wildfires when a spark from a passing vehicle, or cigarette comes into contact with dry brush and grass,” Sen. Dodd said. “Vegetation management

along roads is highly effective at limiting the spread of these ignitions and also decreases the potential for an existing wildfire to spread across a road.”

Under current state law, brush clearing for fire-prevention purposes is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act if it is conducted within 30 feet of a structure. That distance can be extended to 100 feet of a structure if extra-hazardous fire conditions exist.

Sen. Dodd’s new proposal, Senate Bill 1159, would require the Natural Resources Agency to consider granting a CEQA exemption to roadside vegetation management projects undertaken solely for wildfire risk reduction. Expediting these projects would reduce the possibility of roadside fires and improve evacuation routes, among other benefits. Also, eliminating red tape would decrease costs to treat roadside areas

that currently present a financial burden to small agencies and under-resourced communities.

SB 1159 cleared the Senate Environmental Quality committee on April 3 with unanimous support.

“Wildfire is a peril that threatens both lives and homes throughout,” said Dave Winnacker, chief of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and member of the California Fire Chiefs Association. “Few areas

are more critical than roadsides near populated areas. Commonsense legislation that streamlines the approval process to maintain these areas will allow more of our limited wildfire risk-reduction resources to be used for fuel mitigation work while reducing the time required for planning and approvals. We appreciate Sen. Dodd’s continued leadership in this area and look forward to this legislation being enacted.” ★

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS**

**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

Ayuko Harris, 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

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

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 April 1, 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: April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2024  
VALDOVINOS 5-3-24

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

**TRUSTEE**

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 Mortgagor, 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. 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. 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 Alailima, Director Published 3/29, 4/5, 4/12/2024 Dixon Independent Voice 4-12-24

**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. 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. 2024-000489**  
The following persons are doing business as: Mi Favorita Wholesales, 1601 Enterprise Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533.  
Alejandro Hurtado, 303 Hoyt Court, Suisun City, CA 94585.  
Date filed in Solano County: March 22, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: May 16, 2008  
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 21, 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: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024  
FAVORITA 4-26-24

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000494**  
The following persons are doing business as: Preferred Vending, 545 E. Creekside Circle, Dixon, CA 95620.  
Southview Advisors, LLC, 545 E. Creekside Circle, Dixon, CA 95620.  
Date filed in Solano County: March 22, 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 March 21, 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: April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2024  
PREFERRED 5-3-24

**DIXON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**BID # 24-0002**

**Transportation for Special Education and Migrant Ed**

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Dixon Unified School District ("District") of Solano County, California will receive up to, but not later than 3:00 p.m. on April 30th, 2024 (the "Bid Deadline"), sealed bids for the award of a contract or contracts for **BUS TRANSPORTATION AND/OR VEHICLE/VAN SERVICES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND MIGRANT ED**. The bid packet is available on the District's website dixonusd.org.

Each bid shall be submitted on the Bid Form. Respondents to this request for bids should mail or deliver three (3) copies of their submittals, as further described herein, to:

**Ashley Hague, Accounting Manager**  
Dixon Unified School District 180 South 1st St  
Suite 6  
Dixon, CA 95620  
Ashley.hague@dixonusd.org

Each bid shall conform and be responsive to this invitation, the Information and Conditions, and all other documents comprising the Contract Documents.

The contract will be awarded to responsive, responsible bidders meeting the criteria set forth in the bid documents, as determined by the District. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept or reject any one or more items of a bid or to waive any irregularities or informalities in the bids or in the bidding, and to award the bid to multiple firms on a non-exclusive basis.

No bidder may withdraw its bid for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for the opening of bids.

All inquiries and communications should be accessed through Ashley Hague at [Ashley.hague@dixonusd.org](mailto:Ashley.hague@dixonusd.org)

Dixon Independent Voice 4-5 and 4-12-2024

**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





# California Spends More on Schools with The Neediest Kids

## Here's How It's Succeeded and Failed

By Carolyn Jones,  
CALMatters.org

A decade after California revolutionized the way it funds schools, nearly everyone agrees the initiative has done what it was meant to do: improved math and reading scores and brought more resources to students who struggle the most.

And nearly everyone also agrees that the Local Control Funding Formula, as it's known, could use a tune-up. Black and Latino students' test scores have improved but still lag behind their white and Asian peers, and schools in affluent areas still spend far more per student than schools in poorer neighborhoods.

But overall, researchers and superintendents say, the system introduced under Gov. Jerry Brown has remade California's schools for the better.

"Gov. Brown had a good idea," said Adam Clark, superintendent of Mt. Diablo Unified in Concord. "(The funding formula) has given school districts the tools and resources to really address the needs of students. And it gives parents and the community a voice."

Jaime Green, superintendent of Trinity Alps Unified in Trinity County, put it more succinctly: "Without LCFF, our district would not be open."

Under the Local Control Funding Formula, the state gives school districts a base amount of money calculated by attendance, but funnels extra funds for low-income students, English learners and foster youth. Districts have freedom to spend the money on whatever programs they think will help their students, with guidance and accountability through a public local planning process.

Prior to the funding formula, California schools were financed through local property taxes, a system that had been in place for 40 years. Districts with lower tax revenues got extra money from the state, up to a certain limit, and the state doled out dozens of grants for specific programs.

Districts like Trinity Unified, located in California's poorest county, barely stayed afloat under that system because the extra money was not enough to cover expenses, especially considering the large number of students living in poverty.

The overall amount of spending was low due in part to Proposition 13, the 1978 ballot initiative that capped property taxes and resulted in deep cuts to state spending. By the mid-2000s, California was near the bottom of states nationally in school spending, student test scores and nearly every other educational measurement. Linda Darling Hammond, president of the State Board of Education, described it as "a broken system."

### Simplifying and Decentralizing School Funding

Brown, who was elected to his second stint as governor in 2010, said he got the inspiration to overhaul school funding from Mike Kirst, who served as president of the State Board of Education during both of Brown's stints as governor. Kirst and his colleagues had proposed the idea of a weighted formula a few years earlier, but it was shelved when the economy crashed in 2008.

Gathering support from legislators, teachers unions, parent groups and school boards, Brown, Kirst and their allies helped get the funding formula enacted in 2013.

The simplicity, along with shifting power away from the state, appealed to Brown.

"I liked the idea of reducing complexity, of giving money where it was most needed," Brown said in December at a conference on the impact of the funding formula. "You need goals, you need standards, but you have to let local people do their thing."

It coincided with a trio of other



The Wellness Center at College Park High School is a place where students can find a quiet and relaxing environment without leaving school. Pleasant Hill, March 15, 2024. Photo by Manuel Orbeago

big changes in California education: passage of Proposition 30, a sales tax which raised about \$6 billion annually for schools; introduction of the Common Core reading and math curriculum; and the Smarter Balanced standardized testing system.

Within a few years, the improvements were obvious in California classrooms. By 2019, before the pandemic, reading and math scores in all grades had improved, graduation rates rose, suspensions and expulsions fell, and more students met college admission requirements for the state's public universities. A report by the Learning Policy

### Overall School Spending is Still Unequal

Another problem is the overall amount of school spending generally, some said. Even though low-income schools now have much more money than they did a decade ago, it's not enough to address the needs of students facing complex challenges. And schools in affluent areas still spend far more per student, thanks to parent donations and local bonds and taxes.

Jack O'Connell, who was State Superintendent of Public Instruction prior to the Local Control Funding Formula, agreed. While he considers the

who meet more than one of the formula categories should be counted twice, not once. Schools should receive extra money for English learners who are also low-income, for example.

### Basing School Funding on Enrollment, Not Attendance

In Trinity Alps Unified, in the mountains of Trinity County in Northern California, the funding formula has made a world of difference — not just for students but for the entire community, said superintendent Green. Prior to the funding formula, the district received less than \$12,000 per student from all sources; now it's closer to \$20,000.

violate Proposition 209, the affirmative action ban that prevents the state from linking money to students' race or ethnicity.

Gov. Gavin Newsom last year introduced a tweak to the funding formula that directs extra funding to specific schools based on high rates of student turnover, low-income students or students whose parents didn't graduate from high school. The equity multiplier, as it's known, is intended to reach students who have the highest needs.

### 'Deep inequities' in California

But that's not enough, said Natalie Wheatfall-Lum, director of TK-12 education policy at Ed Trust-West, an education research and advocacy organization. California should repeal or scale back Proposition 209.

"We still have deep inequities across the board," Wheatfall-Lum said. "But by fixing LCFF we have a huge opportunity to support racial equity. ... The stakes are very high. How we fund schools is the foundation of our education system."

Ed Trust-West also recommends that the state hold districts accountable for the academic performance of specific student groups, such as Black and Latino students, and pay more attention to the progress of English learners, whose test scores have barely budged since the funding formula was introduced.

But money isn't always the answer, Brown noted at a conference in December. Bumps in school funding, while helpful, can't be expected to solve problems as deeply embedded as poverty, racism and inequality, he said. Factors beyond school play a huge role in students' outcomes.

### 'More Than Money' to Help High-Needs Students

At College Park High in Pleasant Hill, the district used funding formula money to open a wellness center two years ago. Furnished with couches, comfy chairs, student-created artwork and private enclaves for one-on-one meetings with counselors, the wellness center is a popular place for students to relax and socialize. In addition to mental health services like peer counseling and therapy dogs, the center offers yoga, meditation, games and a quiet place to do homework. A social worker is always present.

Stephanie Perez, a senior at College Park, said the wellness center has been a lifesaver — literally. It's given her a reason to stay in school and motivation to stay healthy.

"If this place wasn't here, I'd be out drinking, smoking, ditching school, getting bad habits," Perez said. "They really care about you, listen to you, give you a shoulder to cry on. I come here to ease my mind." ★



College Park High School students can visit the Wellness Center during school hours and after school to take a break and reset before returning to their activities in Pleasant Hill on March 15, 2024. Photo by Manuel Orbeago for CalMatters

Institute found that an increase of \$1,000 in per-pupil spending over three consecutive years resulted in a full grade level improvement in math and reading.

California now ranks near the national average in school spending, as well as in math and reading scores. Although scores fell in the wake of the pandemic, they didn't fall as far as they did in other states and are slowly beginning to creep upward.

But challenges persist. One common gripe among superintendents is the annual plan required to chart goals and priorities. The Local Control Accountability Plan is a key part of the funding formula's accountability and parent involvement components, but it can be a headache, superintendents said. It entails community meetings, surveys, data analysis and detailed explanations of spending for the public, county and state to review.

The plans are often so dense with jargon that even though they're posted online, reviewed at school board meetings and shared with parents, few people wade through them — thereby not providing the accountability they're intended to.

funding formula a landmark in California education, he thinks the state needs to increase the base amount of money it gives schools. Currently, that amount ranges from \$11,000 to \$12,300 per student, which poses a challenge for middle-class districts without large numbers of low-income students or wealthy parents willing to donate thousands.

"There's no question things are better off now," O'Connell said. "But increasing the base grant might be the best way to help all students."

Kirst said he was confident the funding formula would work, but he's surprised at its political staying power and how entrenched it's become in the education landscape.

He'd like to see the formula adjusted to take into account regional costs of living, so districts in expensive areas get more money. And he'd like to see the poverty measurement change. Currently it's based on how many students meet the federal standards for a free or reduced price meals. But with so many districts now offering free lunch to all students, he said, the state should consider using other criteria.

He also thinks that students

That money goes a long way in Trinity County, funding everything from art classes to after-school programs to special education.

"We feel very blessed to have this formula," Green said. "LCFF allows us to stay open and serve our children at a high level."

An improvement Green and other superintendents would like to see is funding based on enrollment, not attendance. Currently, the state disperses money to districts based on average daily attendance. But chronic absenteeism soared during the pandemic, resulting in lower revenues. While enrollment is also declining in many areas, absenteeism is the bigger challenge, Green said.

Going forward, some advocates are calling on the state to tie extra funding directly to students' race. The impact of systemic racism, they say, is too profound to ignore. They argue that Black and Latino students often fall through the cracks, especially if they attend affluent schools, or if they attend low-income schools in affluent districts. The state has shied away from such a policy for fear it would



# COMICS & PUZZLES

### The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



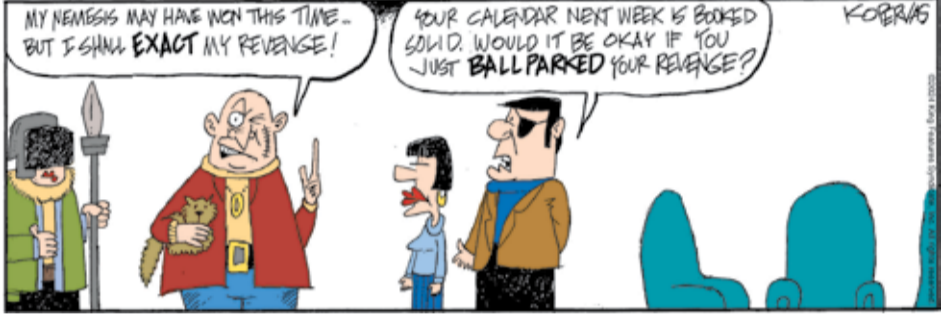
### Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

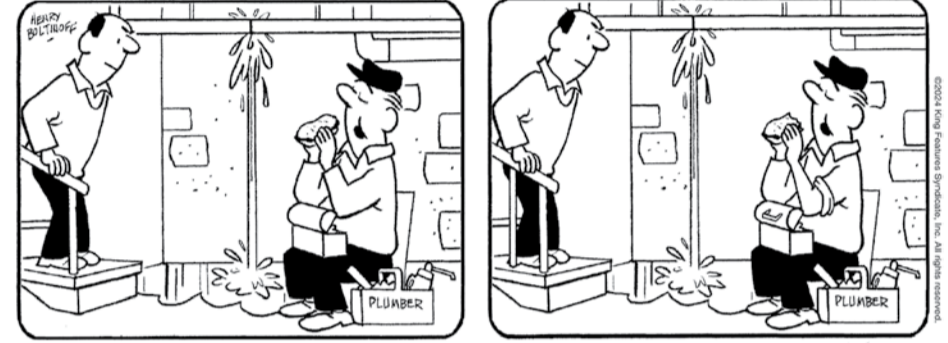


### Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

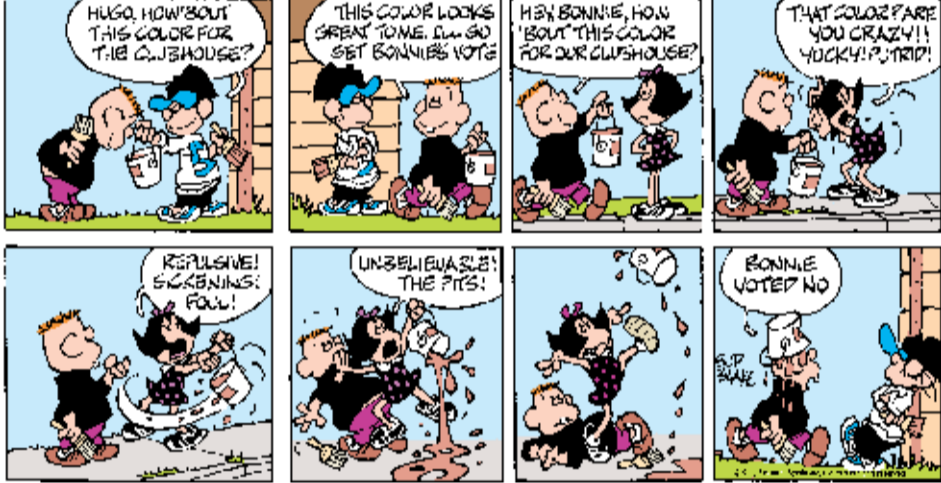
### HOCUS-FOCUS



BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

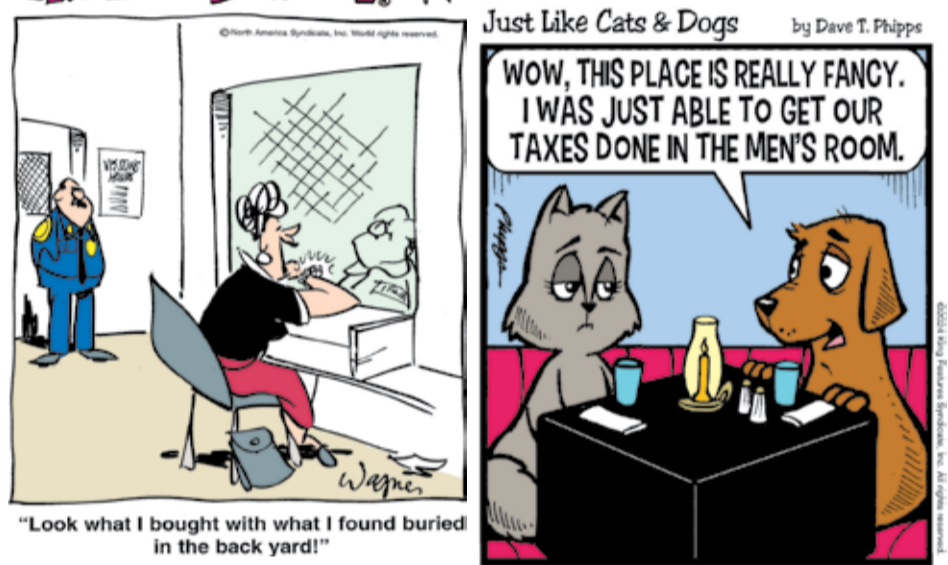
Find at least six differences in details between panels.

### TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

### GRIN and BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

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# The A's are Coming to Town

By Angela Underwood

**WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The Oakland Athletics have changed their dugout location and it's at 400 Ballpark Drive, West Sacramento.

Known as the A's, the Major League Baseball team will call Sutter Health Park home for the next three seasons in West Sacramento before moving into a new stadium on the Las Vegas Strip in 2028. The A's are moving, following failed negotiations with the City of Oakland about a new lease for the coliseum there.

"The A's look forward to making Sutter Health Park their home for the next three years through the move to Las Vegas," an Oakland Athletics spokesperson told the West Sacramento News Ledger on April 5.

The home of the West Sacramento River Cats will become the interim venue for the A's, beginning with the 2025 Major League Baseball season. Mayor and Chair of the Financing Authority Martha Guerrero shared her excitement over the partnership.

"We're delighted to welcome the Oakland A's and Major League Baseball to West Sacramento," said Mayor Guerrero. "This is a great honor, and we're looking forward to hosting visiting MLB teams and fans from throughout the region at our beautiful ballpark along the Sacramento River."

As a former affiliate of the A's, "there are many shared connections with the River Cats, its players and the wonderful fan base in West Sacramento," according to the Oakland Athletics spokesperson, who added, "The A's extend their appreciation to the Kings and the City of West Sacramento for hosting the A's."

West Sacramento City



Here is the Sutter Health Park entrance, which will welcome thousands of Oakland A's fans now that the Major League Baseball team will call West Sacramento home temporarily. Photo courtesy of West Sacramento

Manager Aaron Laurel said West Sacramento is ready for the professional baseball team, noting that Sutter Health Park's location offers stunning views of Tower Bridge and downtown Sacramento.

"As the City of West Sacramento prepares to welcome the A's, excitement is building among residents and businesses alike," Laurel said.

According to Laurel, the beer garden Drake's BARN and the French-inspired wine

bar Franquette across the street from the stadium are two businesses that will benefit from the A's new location.

"There are also several other restaurants along West Sacramento's Third Street corridor within walking distance of the ballpark," Laurel said. "Together, with our neighbors across the river in Sacramento, there will be no shortage of amenities available to A's fans and those from visiting teams."

Yolo County Supervisor

Oscar Villegas, who governs the Sutter Health Park region and serves with Mayor Guerrero on the Financing Authority board, said he is proud to support the temporary relocation of "this fantastic franchise" to West Sacramento.

"Hosting the Athletics in Yolo County represents a significant opportunity for economic growth and community enrichment," Villegas said. "I am confident that this will foster a profound sense

of community among our residents."

Residents now have two mascots to be proud of, with A's mascot, Stomper, joining Dinger and Sacramento River Cat's mascot. The A's have captured nine World Series titles, including four since moving to Oakland in 1968.

"We're prepared to accommodate the A's and the River Cats to ensure a seamless transition for both teams and their fans," Laurel said. ★

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