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Dixon Independent Voice

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JULY 21, 2023

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Now You See It, Now you Don't



Holding a large coloring book, Perry Yan invited a boy to help perform magic by giving him a magic wand.

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - It could have been a comedy show just as much as it was a magic show by Perry Yan at the Dixon Public Library last week. Children squeezed their cheeks and got big eyes watching Yan quickly transform a piece of rope into three smaller pieces and then seconds later returned them to one piece.

He then tried to convince the children that a CD holder was magical and that he could make the silver discs disappear, but the children weren't buying it because of the way Yan wouldn't turn the holder over. When Yan turned to put the CD holder



A little girl places a glass of water on a ring the magician holds. He will spin it and even turn it upside down and won't spill a drop.

on his podium, however, there they were: stuck to his back. Even adults were laughing.

Parents giggled at their children's surprise but had their own good laugh when he brought out his "iPad." After shuffling through a bag, he pulled out an eye mask and put it over his eyes.

Yan entertained nearly 100 children and adults on the library patio and enticed the children into an important lesson with a guessing game of 'what was in the box.' The rattle sounded like rocks, but it could have been marbles... he said they had to wait to find out what was inside.

Next came banana after banana just magically appearing out of one small colorful bag. Every time, Yan would scream with shock sending all into

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Wine Stroll Tickets Available



"This is a great opportunity to showcase the diverse businesses and services we have to offer in downtown Dixon." There will also be live music and new artists who will display their work. Image by Jill Wellington from Pixabay

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Sip a variety of delicious wines, enjoy some interesting artwork, and visit with good friends and neighbors at this year's Downtown Dixon Business Association's Wine and Art Stroll coming on Saturday, August 19, 4 to 8 p.m. Tickets are officially on sale now.

"I'm so excited that we have officially opened ticket sales," said DDBA President Jill Orr who is working with a team of volunteers.

"We have several new merchants and wineries who are anxious to host this fun event," said Orr. "This is a great opportunity to showcase the diverse businesses and services we have to offer in downtown Dixon." There will also be live music and new artists who will display their work.

The DDBA sports about 25 businesses in the downtown core area and has a mission of enhancing the business environment while promoting the revitalization of downtown as the cultural center of the community. Orr says the event has grown into a favorite for locals and visitors alike. It is also a great way to expose the local vineyards to our residents, she said.

People can save money by buying tickets in advance for \$30 online by scanning the QR Code on the DDBA Facebook site or on the posters around town including the post office. The price includes a commemorative wine glass and tasting map. The day of the event, cost is \$35, and admission will be at two locations: one at Kevin Johnson RE/MAX Gold office, 220 North Jefferson, another the location of the Dixon Chamber of Commerce and also at the new Pardi Plaza in the center of town, corner of First and A Streets. Participants have to be at least 21 years of age and this event is not recommended for children.

For more information, call the Downtown Dixon Business Association at (707) 678-8400 or ask any of the many downtown merchants. The new website is downtownDixonCA.com. ★

School Supplies Giveaway Set

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Since 2016, Sara Johnson has been collecting school supplies for children, but started out in a clean-out sort of way.

"I was cleaning out my house and had all these extra supplies like notebooks, pencils, and pens and decided I might as well give them away and the thought snowballed from there," said Johnson who isn't known to sit idly. She made beautiful home décor and crafts for numerous years and opened The Creative Space a year ago offering a rental venue. That location has seen private parties such as baby and bridal showers, classes, workshops, and even vendor fairs. This would not be surprising but the fact that Johnson also works full-time and whose husband also works full-time and runs a different business downtown is pretty amazing.



Families lined up to get free school supplies at last year's give-away at The Creative Space. Photo by Sarah Johnson

The couple are active in their church and annually collect supplies for needy school children. She estimated the cost of about \$50 for each backpack and supplies.

"We are looking to bless a ton of local kids again this year," she said about the event that will take place on Saturday, July 15

from 9 a.m. to noon at her business, 160 West A St., in downtown. "Our goal this year is 300 backpacks." Dixon schools start back on Wednesday, August 9.

Last year, they had 219 children participate which might have pushed some organizers over the edge of sanity but getting rid of the sign up in advance

requirement was a major stress reducer.

"I made it available for anybody," she explained. "It is not for me and my heart to worry about who is eligible or needy. You never know a person's situation. They may be in a desperate financial situation, and I'm blessed with

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Life's too SHORT

Summer Break for Many

By Debra Dingman

Ice Cream! Some days, you just really need a McDonald's soft serve or a Good Spoon or Baskin Robbins ice cream cone and on a recent Sunday afternoon, that was my lot. I drove home leisurely down Pitt School Road and noticed all the youth and people outside enjoying the sunshine. What was interesting was the various modes of transportation they used. I think I saw them all.

Before I started taking notes, I had seen a male jogger and then I noticed a young woman in roller skates. You don't see those around too often anymore but they were beautifully white so I'm sure she was breaking them in and having fun doing so.

There was someone on a pair of Rollerblades along with a girl on a bicycle coming around the corner. There was a young man on a motorized scooter on one side of the street and three male youths travelling together on the other side with one on a skateboard, one on a regular scooter, and one running to catch up with them. There were also two young women power walking in exercise clothes.

I told my hubby about this when I got home, and I asked him if he had any idea why that might have made someone feel happy to see all that. Yes, it was about people enjoying the fresh air and more about young people not stuck to their phones or computers. It was inspiring!

I went by Northwest Park and saw the volleyball players are back. I wrote about them last year. These are not

necessarily Dixonites. They spread the word via social media, and I've been told most of them come from Davis. Made me wonder about park-use prices there...still, I'm happy to see so many younger people getting out and getting their exercise as it is a really fun game!

Thanks again, Linda! A warm thank you is extended not only from myself but from many community members to Linda Barrett Thomas for her contribution of time, energy, and American flags. Every year, Linda is responsible for making Dixon look (and feel) patriotic with the placement of those flags throughout town.

On the back of the card from Linda, it says that we can re-gift the flag to the American Legion when we are done with it. Please take them to the Veterans Memorial Hall for Post 208 at 1305 North First St. Monday through Friday from 4 to 8 p.m.

School start dates seem to come earlier and earlier each year so I'm letting you know this year, it is Wednesday, August 10. If you need to register new students, you can pick up a packet at the school sites (John Knight Middle School as well as Dixon High School) beginning the week of July 24. The school calendar is now available at DixonUSD.org or on their Facebook site: Dixon Unified School District.

Class Reunion Season

I was excited to learn the Dixon High School Class of 2013 is going to hold a 10-year Class Reunion. It will be at Ruhstallers on Saturday, September 30, 5 – 8 p.m. For more information, message Madison Dwelley-Pigozzo via her Facebook. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Angelea Ranzenbach of Grocery Outlet is promoting the July 'Give \$5, Get \$5' program to help raise money for the local food pantries. For every customer who donates \$5, Owners Joe and Christa Bruch, give them a coupon worth \$5 off their next purchase. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

Farmers Market Moves

The Downtown Dixon Business Association's next Farmers Market will be Thursday, July 27, but is being relocated to its former location at the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park next to the library. That park will provide much shade for both vendors and shoppers.

City Council

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be on the regular city meeting schedule for the 4th Tuesday of the month which will be July 25. It starts at 7 p.m. and the agendas for all of the city meetings are usually available on the Thursday before the meeting on the cityofdixon.us website.

Chamber Mixer

Mark your business calendars for Wednesday, July 26, for a Chamber Mixer at Lemuria Nursery, 7820 Serpa Lane, off West Dixon Avenue (Also known as West A St.) It is free and open to the public so come see the wide variety of plants and enjoy some food and beverage while making new connections and maybe winning a raffle prize.

Movies in the Park

The City of Dixon along with local businesses will be sponsoring one last Movie in the Park at the Pardi Plaza on one more night: Wednesday, July 26. The movie will be Monsters, Inc. Be sure to thank those sponsors, which are The Johnson Group RE/MAX Team, White Brenner, and Dixon Financial & Insurance Services! The movie will start at sunset at about 8:45 p.m.

Library Hosts Movie

The Solano County Library is presenting the movie 'Mirror, Mirror' inside the library on Friday, July 28 at 5:15 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided so all you need is picnic blankets and pillows. The movie is rated PG and stars Julia Roberts and Lily Collins. The movie is about an evil queen who steals control of a kingdom, and an exiled princess enlists the help of seven resourceful rebels to win back her birthright.

Next Concert

The City of Dixon and the Dixon District Chamber of Commerce present another 'Concert in the Plaza' on Thursday, August 3, featuring the band Hey Jude. The Pardi Plaza is on the corner of North First and A Streets in downtown Dixon. There are

some picnic tables but bring your own chairs or a blanket just in case.

School Festival

It's never too early to get excited about the start of a new school year, right? Dixon Unified School District wants you to save the date of Saturday, August 5 for their school year kickoff. The Back to School Festival from 9 a.m. to noon will be held in the Pardi Plaza downtown. There will be free backpacks, school supplies, educational resources, arts, crafts, music, and more.

Book Bag Sale

While you're downtown that day, the Friendly Bookworm Bookstore Bag Sale is also set for Saturday, August 5 at 230 North First St., next door to the library. You can fill a bag with books (except children's books) for only \$5 cash or check only. All proceeds support the programs at the Dixon Public Library.

School Supply Give-Away

Dixon children are invited to the Grace Kids 3rd Annual Float Back to School event on August 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Grace Fellowship Church in Dixon, 535 West H Street. There will be free ice cream floats, games, water play, and bounce house fun. They are hoping to fill and give away 200 backpacks this year.

"We are looking for donations for school supplies and any community services," said Susan Van Tuyl of the Grace Fellowship Children's Ministry Team. For more information, call (707) 678-5700 or go online to dixongracefellowship@gmail.com

School Start Date

Dixon schools will start this year on Wednesday, August 9. If you need to register new students, you can pick up a packet at the school sites (John Knight Middle School as well as Dixon High School) beginning the week of July 24. The school calendar is now available at DixonUSD.org or on their Facebook site: Dixon Unified School District.

Football Workday

On Sunday, July 23 from 8 a.m. to noon, help is needed for a Dixon High School facility workday. They'll be tackling all kinds of clean up and rehab projects on the playing field surface, snack bar, announcer's booth, etc. to prepare for the upcoming football season. Feel free to bring shovels, weed whackers, wheelbarrows and any other basic tools you have. Donuts, drinks, and lunch will be provided for all volunteers (as well as the opportunity to take home an old jersey)! Bring the whole family! ★



BINGO NIGHT at DAWSON'S IS BACK!

2nd & 4th Wednesday Night 6:30pm July and August
July 26th • August 9th • August 23rd

Dawson's is located at 105 N 1st Street, Dixon, CA
A great place for Food & Drinks with Friends

Thank you to Greg and Jill Orr for allowing Almond Tree Mortgage to host Bingo Night.

Espinoza Chosen for School Board



Regina Espinoza will be sworn in at the next DUSD School Board Meeting as the replacement for Melissa Maseda's position. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Regina Espinoza was selected from five candidates who applied for the Dixon Unified School District Board to replace two-term Trustee Melissa Maseda. Maseda resigned last month to relocate her family to Idaho. Maseda began her representation when she was appointed to replace a Trustee and went on to win two elections after that, serving altogether nearly eight years. Being appointed definitely gives a person a head start to an election process which, for Dixon, will be the year 2026. But last Thursday's

special meeting was all about interviews and officially appointing a new representative. The five qualified applicants were Robin Beck, Nicole Bennett, Tami Callen, David Donovan, and Espinoza.

"The Governing Board has the responsibility and honor to make an impact on my community and our hometown's youth. That is my goal as well," Espinoza said in her personal statement. She was raised in Dixon and moved back 20 years ago after Graduate school with her husband and they are the parents of two school-age boys.

She is extremely busy in their schools, sports, and activities including serving on the Dixon Charter Montessori School Governing Boards for five years and Dixon Soccer Club.

"That afforded me opportunities for intimately learning about policy and advocacy within the education system," she said.

She also served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for six years, serving as Chair for four of those years.

"Youth in our community

deserve to feel the same pride in their hometown schools and know that they can flourish here," she said and added that she hopes the children have opportunities in their schools that will help them realize their career path and give them the tools to make their long-term plans a reality.

"Serving on the DUSD Board is a step in accomplishing that goal," she closed.

She is to be sworn in and begin as an official Trustee, beginning at the next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting on July 20. She will join President of the Board David Bowen and three Trustees Julian Cuevas, Jewel Fink, and John Gabby.

The Dixon Unified School District Governance Team is comprised of five locally elected public officials entrusted with governing the community's public schools and is led by Superintendent Brain Dolan. His responsibility is to support Board operations and decision-making. Board Meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays at City Hall, 600 East A ST. at 6 p.m. For more information, go to: dixonusd.org. ★

Now You See It, Now you Don't

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more fits of laughter.

"It's a banana purse!" yelled one girl in the audience. Another child, Josiah, stepped up to assist the San Francisco magician with his "powerful magic wand" and coloring book but every time Yan turned to pick up the coloring book, Josiah's wand would collapse. He had the children do some pretending and little arms shot up and hands wiggled in the air with invisible color crayons and the once plain drawings filled with lines and lines of colorful scribbles. There was much dismay in the audience.

In a more impressive act, a little girl in the mix, Evelyn, was chosen to help balance a glass of water on a circle of wood. Although he spun the circle in various ways including upside down, the water never spilled.

"Sometimes I make mistakes," he told the audience, "So if I throw it and the water comes flying out in the audience, don't worry...I have more water," he said garnering more grownup laughter.

There were lots of card tricks until the audience had a fill of spades, diamonds, clubs, and hearts around their seats and in their laps.

Yan explained that he was from China[town] in San Francisco and he had a special story to share, and the accompanying soundtrack went to a simple Chinese tune. He drew out from his magic sack what looked like a bamboo placemat and unrolled it. He explained he was going to use a "tamasudare" to tell it.

Over the next several minutes, the crowd grew



Perry Yan engaged with the children in the audience at the public library's magic show. Here, he gives a cup of water to a boy to show it is truly a glass of water.

quiet as he manipulated the sticks into various shapes: a fishing pole, boat, bridge, house, and gate while he told of two men, one from Japan and one from China, each loving to fish. The two talked over tea until the sun came up. All the while, Yan created the shape of those things with his hinged sticks.

"What brought the two together?" he asked the audience. "The love of fishing," he answered while creating a 3-foot outline of a fish up in the air.

At the end of the show, he turned to the magic box he had referred to throughout the gathering. There were chunks of black rocks and he told how over time, coal turns into diamonds. With a little more magic, they became beautiful sparkling cubes.

"Eventually patience will be rewarded," he said.

One child started a string of requests when he first asked for Yan to "autograph" his playing card. Another was from Gina William's Davis preschool.

"Your shows are so much better here," she said with enthusiasm.

Yan started doing magic tricks when he was 15 after one of his classmates showed him a trick but wouldn't tell him how it was done.

"I went home and searched and came across this magician, David Blaine, on a TV show," he said about how his passion was ignited. Then, he discovered a magic shop in San Francisco where he was growing up. "I would go there and hang out there when I was free and talked to magicians," he added.

Now he does magic shows and balloon art full time in California. Learn more at pymagic.com or call (415) 601-2249. ★

Rib Cook Off Winners Announced



Winners of last Saturday's Grillin' & Chillin' Rib Cookoff were: First place went to Jake Barngraff of Beard's BBQ; Second place went to Michael Brocco of Brocco's BBQ; and Third place (rookie) winner was Nicolas Calderhead, of 1015 BBQ. Although it was scorching heat, most people would say that Grillin' & Chillin' was a success due to the estimated thousands that walked downtown streets oblivious to the 105 degrees. On a social media post, the Dixon Action Team thanked everyone who came out to check out the car and truck show, the rib cook off, and everyone who shopped the vendor fair and supported local businesses. "This event would not be possible if it weren't for our sponsors and the amazing team of people and volunteers that worked tirelessly to bring everything to life. We appreciate each and every single person who made our event so amazing, and we can't wait to do it again this next year," they posted. Photo courtesy of DAT

School Supplies Giveaway Set

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a really good job. It was put on my heart to give."

Johnson told of a time her mother was a single parent who needed to rely on assistance.

There are others who feel the same and happily help – a lot of help from her husband and her children but also her church [Living Hope.]

"Last year, my church cut the service short so they could come and help," she added. Local businesses such as Solano Baking Company and Dutch Brothers have also helped with gift cards.

Items sought: pencils, pens, highlighters,

markers, notebooks, colored pencils, note-cards, scissors, paper (wide & college ruled), graph paper, glue sticks, composition notebooks, crayons, and white board markers. Also, any hygiene items such as deodorant, toothpaste, floss, etc.

Drop off locations are: The Barn & Pantry, 151 West A St.; The Collector's Corner, 115 East A St.; Nino's Cut & Shave, 120 N. Jackson St.; and Atkinson Storage, 1800 North First St.

For those who don't have time to shop, she reports anyone wishing to donate to the nonprofit can contact her through <https://www.thecreativespacedixon.com/> donation. ★

CONCERTS IN THE PLAZA

The Dixon District Chamber of Commerce would like to say

THANK YOU!

To those who have helped us bring music to Pardi Plaza!

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Presented By The City Of Dixon And The Dixon Chamber Of Commerce.
For more information on how you can sponsor the Concerts call 707-678-2650 or email info@dixonchamber.org

California Voters Support Parental Rights by Overwhelming Margins

Christian Newswire News Release

CHINO HILLS, CA (MPG) - In May 2023, Real Impact completed a Rasmussen Poll targeting California voters to uncover the true perspective of parents regarding public school districts' secretive habits. Educators keeping information regarding children's gender transitions from parents have exposed the reality of deception in public schools across California. Parents are beginning to realize that public schools will assume the role as parent, especially in districts where parents have been trusting or uninvolved.

According to the recent poll is a drastic revelation: 82% of respondents disagree with this statement: "A person loses their parental rights when a child enters public school." Parents are meant to work in tandem with the school district. "Public schools are certainly not meant to be a secret society for our youth to confide in and Californians agree," said Karen England, President of Capitol Resource Institute. "There is no reason teachers and administrators should hold higher authority over children's well-being or mental health. In fact, Californians do not believe educators should hold ANY authority over their children."

This leads to the next set of questions where 88% of respondents support schools notifying parents if their child has a change in mental condition, like showing symptoms of depression or suicidal thoughts. 69% of surveyors support schools notifying parents if their child identifies or requests to be identified or treated as a gender that doesn't align with their biological sex. And likewise, another question exposed that 68% of participants oppose teachers and school administrators keeping information about a child's gender identity secret from the parents. That is a huge majority. These questions

directly juxtapose educators attempting to vilify parents who have already come forward about the school district keeping gender transition secrets for their children. These polling numbers make it clear that most California parents strongly wish to be directly involved with their children's mental health and well-being during and after school hours.

Parents across California have been made aware of the lack of communication coming from educators and administrators in public school. According to this poll, a whopping 84% of surveyors support a local law that required parents to be notified of any major change in a child's physical, mental, or emotional health or academic performance. Parents have lost confidence in the safety of their children in the public-school setting and are looking to local policy changes to protect their rights as parents. The poll also finds that 64% of respondents disagree with this statement: "There is no such thing as someone else's child. Our nation's children are all our children."

"Parents are not willing to forgo parental rights over their children in any capacity," said England. "Our children do not belong to the nation. They belong to the parents and no educator or administrators should ever come before those rights."

That is why CRI has partnered with Real Impact and other pro-parental right organizations in California to affect change at the local level. The California Coalition for Parental Rights are all working together and launching a policy that will ensure schools notify a parent if their child is seeking to transition their gender while at school. Schools should not be in the business of keeping secrets from their parents.

Source: Capitol Resource Institute (CRI) ★



Golf and God

Commentary by Jeff Myers

I started playing golf in high school. I was a basketball player but during my junior year we were required to pick a spring sport after basketball season ended. Several of us picked golf only because there would be no running. We were awful, but I fell in love with the game. I have continued to play occasionally through the years, but this year I'm playing at least weekly and really enjoying it! In the last several weeks I've played a couple of beautiful courses that are up north in the middle of the redwoods. Long, narrow scenic fairways flanked on either side by rows of majestic 200-foot-tall trees.

Other courses are more forgiving with smaller trees and wide open spaces between holes. You can drive the ball poorly and still salvage a decent score. But these courses required accurate, straight shots. Anything less and I was banging balls off of trees or, worse, completely losing them in the undergrowth. (Salmon Run Golf Course and Northwood Golf Course owe me about \$40 worth of balls!)

If you're unfamiliar with golf, "mulligan" is the term for getting a do-over. I usually play one mulligan per 9 holes, but it's nice if there's no one behind you and you can hit some extra practice shots. It's also one of the things I love about following Jesus Christ...he's totally ok with mulligans! As Jesus gets ready to close out his Sermon on the Mount, he drops this bit of wisdom on us.

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

Matthew 7:13-14

I know a lot of people have taught that Jesus is referring to the wide path to Hell and the narrow path to Heaven, but that's not what he says and I don't think it's what he meant. In the previous verses Jesus tells the crowd to stop judging each other and, instead, start treating each other the way we'd like to be treated. Jesus is teaching us that by continuing to choose revenge or judgment, we are sprinting toward our destruction RIGHT NOW. But when we exercise forgiveness and generosity, we'll find the path to life RIGHT NOW. Following Jesus is not only about finding a better life in the "sweet by and by," it's learning how to rediscover a slice of Heaven before your funeral!

But just like those narrow fairways, that path to life can be hard to hit. It doesn't come natural to us and might take some practice. But with a lot of help from God, we can be confident in finding it. Do you feel like you keep missing it? No worries! Like a generous, patient golf partner, Jesus gives us unlimited mulligans! So choose love and find the good life today.

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

"Top States for Business" Report Gives California an "F"

California Business Roundtable News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - In CNBC's annual "Top States for Business" ranking, California's ranking reflects the reality of our economy, which is led by our tech industry and venture capital dollars but bogged down by our ongoing cost of living crisis, high taxes, and unfriendly business policies.

"California's competitiveness, our ability to attract and retain businesses, as well as to provide employees with an affordable quality of life, continue to show clear warning signs thanks to our ongoing cost-of-living crisis," said Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable. "This ranking is an annual reminder of the state's precarious future and economic solvency. Just like the state budget, our business climate relies almost exclusively on the highly volatile Bay Area's tech region to grow or attract business."

According to the survey, California received an "F" in cost of living and business friendliness which directly reflect the impact of the policies that are being passed by state and local government. In addition, the state economy received

a "D+" and our cost of doing business scored a "D." The only categories in which California excelled were access to capital and technology and innovation, where we scored an "A+" for each.

"Our overall rankings should come as no surprise to the governor and Legislature, who continue to push higher taxes, fees, and expensive regulations onto businesses," Lapsley continued.

In just the past 30 days, the governor and Legislature have ensured businesses will pay one of the highest tax increases in state history by refusing to provide state funding to pay off the state-created Unemployment Insurance Fund debt (*learn more here*) and increased labor and litigation costs by proposing to refund the Industrial Welfare Commission in the state budget (*learn more here*).

"The governor and Legislature's policies continue to give clear signals that California is not a friendly place to expand or grow jobs. Technology and innovation, combined with access to capital, have disguised many of the major impacts that our policies are having on all other sectors in our economy. This report clearly reflects the harm these policies are having on businesses and working families," Lapsley concluded. ★



WHAT'S BUZZING AT THE
YOLO COUNTY FAIR

AUG. 16-20, 2023

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California Contains a Deadly Citrus Threat, but Urges Vigilance

Spread by the invasive Asian citrus psyllid, Huanglongbing, or citrus greening disease, arrived in Florida in 2005 and has since devastated that state's citrus production. But in California, where the psyllid was first detected in 2008 and the first Huanglongbing – or HLB –infection was found in a residential tree in 2012, no commercial citrus grove has been infected. Officials credit an intensive psyllid detection and eradication program, industry-wide awareness and mitigation tools, as well as the Golden State's climate, for warding off the spread of the disease.

Rivas Brings Rural Agricultural Roots to Leadership of California State Assembly

A lawmaker from a rural farming district now leads the California State Assembly. At his swearing-in, Speaker Robert Rivas described growing up in farmworker housing and going on to live "the California dream." Rivas' grandfather immigrated to California's Central Coast from Mexico and began working as a grape picker for Almaden Vineyards. Donald Wirz of the San Benito County Farm Bureau, who knew Rivas from the high school track team, said his "appointment gives me hope that agriculture and the state Legislature will have a positive relationship."

Trade Deal with India May Boost California Nut Exports

India has agreed to drop additional duties on American almonds, walnuts, apples, chickpeas and lentils. India's repeal of the retaliatory tariffs in a deal with the U.S. last month would provide American exporters improved access to a key market, industry analysts say. India remains a top export destination for California agricultural products, including tree nuts, cotton, dairy and processing tomatoes, with total export value reaching nearly \$1 billion in 2020, according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Researchers Helping California Date Growers with Water Efficiency

California's nearly \$90 million date industry produces more than half of the nation's dates, with most of the fruit grown in the arid Coachella Valley. Now University of California researchers are developing methodology to help growers establish guidelines for efficient water management in growing dates in the desert region, including identifying how much irrigation is needed depending on location, soil type and date cultivars. The effort has gained urgency as California date farmers work to conserve water to protect Colorado River supplies. ★



Let's Shift the Focus

Dave Ramsey Says

shouldn't be looking at this from a what-can-I-do-to-make-this-manageable perspective. You don't want to give this Sallie Mae nightmare a haircut, then tell her to sit in the corner all nice and pretty. You want her to leave! Now, there's nothing inherently wrong with refinancing to get a lower interest rate, or lower payments, if you do it the right way. But in most cases that translates into keeping the debt around forever. You need a better plan.

work, instead of trying to keep these loans around like they're pets. What can you do—for a short period of time—that's legal, moral and will make you the most money the fastest?

On the day job side of things, you may want to consider looking for a position with a different company, Austin. You're way underpaid if you're in data analytics and making just \$40,000 a year.

Good luck!

– Dave

**Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling 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 the company Ramsey Solutions. ★*

Dear Dave,

I graduated from college six years ago with a business degree. Currently, I'm in data analytics making about \$40,000 a year and have \$155,000 in student loan debt. Do you have any recommendations as far as refinancing my student loans and getting the interest rates and monthly payments down?

– Austin

Dear Austin,

I'm not trying to be mean here, but what in the world are you doing in data analytics that pays so poorly? Most of the folks I know in that area make a ton more. And you're going to need to start making a whole lot more to pay off \$155,000 in student loans.

For starters, you

Instead, let's shift the main goal from that to paying this thing off as fast as possible. That means big, hairy chunks of payments on the principal. And that'll probably mean picking up an extra job or two, because right now you've got what I call a shovel-to-hole ratio problem. The hole you're in is a big one—a \$155,000 one. And you're working with a \$40,000 shovel. You need a bigger shovel, and a lot of extra

Something Is Clearly Off with California's Homelessness Spending

Commentary
By Jerry Jackson and Wayne Winegarden, CALMatters.org

California put aside \$7.2 billion to address homelessness in the 2021-22 state budget. Last year, there were an estimated 172,000 homeless statewide, which equates to spending nearly \$42,000 per homeless person.

Spending of this magnitude – which only accounts for state money – is sufficient if it were applied effectively. The worsening crisis indicates that something is off with how the state spends its resources.

This perspective is important in light of a comprehensive homeless survey by UC San Francisco. Many of its findings are enlightening, but too many of its suggestions call for more spending.

It strains credulity to believe that spending \$42,000 per person is insufficient, but if bumped up to \$45,000, all will be OK. California does not have the worst-in-the-nation homelessness crisis because it spends too little.

Continued calls for more government subsidies supporting the state's ineffective housing-first approach will waste money while failing to alleviate the emergency.

The survey confirms some things we already know, such as most of the homeless in California (78%) are unsheltered. It also provides essential information to help sustainably address homelessness, such as the pivotal role housing unaffordability plays in driving the problem.

Solutions require policymakers to leverage all we have learned to adopt a more innovative structure for addressing the

grim conditions.

The UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative does recommend some innovative policies, such as establishing homeless courts as also advocated by Gov. Gavin Newsom. While neither a perfect nor sweeping solution, a court system ordering treatment programs for the homeless could make a difference.

If the effort has the necessary scope and force, it can help move homeless people suffering from mental illness and addiction into a setting of care rather than the current invisible asylum of "the street, the jail, and the emergency room."

Other suggestions merely throw money at the current ineffective government-run programs, a poor strategy bound to fail. Instead, California should fund well-run and fully accountable private sector groups that help homeless people gain control, address any issues and then become self-sufficient. The "California Way" bias has blinded lawmakers from successful initiatives in other states and tailoring them to West Coast needs. Partnerships and nonprofits in Virginia, Tennessee and elsewhere have shown that they can sustainably address homelessness through novel methods, flexibility and personalization.

Another flaw is the government's focus on "controlling the cost of housing" rather than removing disincentives driving the housing shortage. As rising inflation reminds us, you don't lower the cost of anything by throwing money at people. We need to incentivize more housing supply by lowering costs and construction time through deregulation and avoiding harmful policies

like rent control that worsen housing unaffordability.

The richest target for deregulation is also the state's most firmly entrenched law: the California Environmental Quality Act. While well-intended when enacted in 1970, it has become a destructive force derailing "the possibility of homeownership" among the "hardworking members of Latino, Black and other minority communities," says Jennifer Hernandez, an environmental and land-use lawyer who has documented CEQA's long list of litigation abuses.

Both Newsom and before him Gov. Jerry Brown have publicly supported CEQA reform, which is a start. A better plan would be a legislative initiative to repeal and replace.

Concerns that dismantling CEQA would invite environmental mayhem are overblown. Fresh legislation relying on the volumes of knowledge gained in protecting the environment since CEQA became law, and including provisions that would prevent it from becoming another tool for abuse should not be beyond the abilities of lawmakers.

Spending \$42,000 a year per homeless person is wheel-spinning on a grand scale. It shows a lack of reflection and a poverty of ideas. The progressive policy framework has made no progress on homelessness. It shouldn't be too much to ask lawmakers to rethink their premises.

Kerry Jackson is a fellow with the Center for California Reform at the Pacific Research Institute. Wayne Winegarden is a senior fellow in business and economics at the Pacific Research Institute. ★

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Governor Signs Bill to Strengthen Domestic Violence Restraining Orders

Office of Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Governor Gavin Newsom recently signed into law Assembly Bill (AB) 467, a bipartisan measure authored by Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel (D - Encino) that will strengthen the ability of judges to grant and modify domestic violence protective orders.

“At a time in which violence against women and domestic abuse have increased to record levels around the world, it is

crucial that we ensure domestic violence restraining orders are offering the fullest possible protection,” said Assemblymember Gabriel. “This legislation will clarify a judge’s authority over these orders, and extend the amount of time a court can modify the orders to ensure that we are providing ample protection to victims of domestic abuse.”

Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen, sponsor of the bill, hailed the new law as crucial to make sure that victims of crime can petition

the court to change the terms of restraining orders during the 10-year lifetime of those orders. In some instances, victims will need more protections from the court, and in others fewer. District Attorney Rosen said, “Giving judges the ability to modify their own court orders will help victims of domestic violence manage the protections to keep them safe. We are so grateful to Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel for championing this important new law.”

Ambiguity in current law has

left some courts confused as to when and for how long they have authority over domestic violence restraining orders and when they can modify provisions related to contact between the restrained person and the protected person, which can either be a “peaceful contact order” (PCO) or a no contact order (NCO). Victims often seek to modify the order from PCO to NCO or vice versa.

Some courts have determined that if the defendant is no longer serving a sentence and is not on probation, they do not

have the jurisdiction to modify the order, even if both the victim and defendant request it. This confusion in current law is detrimental to both victims and defendants. AB 467 gives sentencing courts the authority to modify the terms of a peaceful contact order or no contact order and make modifications to the order throughout the duration of the domestic violence protective order.

Jesse Gabriel proudly represents the San Fernando Valley in the California State Legislature. ★

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CLUES

ACROSS

- More down in the dumps
- Will Ferrell's 2003 Christmas character
- Century Gothic, e.g.
- Twisted cotton thread
- Greek "t"
- Biblical mount
- Dessert sandwiches
- Barley brittle
- Pungent edible bulb
- "Shared ride"
- "Yellow Brick Road" traveller
- Member of the Benevolent Order
- Sword handle
- The little one "stops to tie his shoe"
- AI "fodder"
- "Gas station option"
- Thailand money
- Phone cam images
- Fill with happy spirit
- Bora
- Vexed
- Uncontrolled swerve
- Middle Eastern V.I.P.s
- Genesis twin
- "The Odyssey," e.g.
- Hooray!
- Speaking platform
- Campfire residue
- What sailors are to captain
- Lawyers' org.
- "Jack of "On the Road" fame
- "Refreshment break"
- Live sign for radio, 2 words
- Shakespearean "fuss"
- Bar order, with "the"
- Ownership document
- Mitt Romney's title, abbr.
- Christmas Eve visitor
- Keats' works, e.g.
- "Major road, abbr.
- "Certain number of cylinders"

DOWN

- Cold War's Warsaw Pact, e.g.
- Turkish money
- One on drugs
- Run off to Vegas?
- Sold on eBay, usually
- Short for "and elsewhere"
- Hammurabi's code, e.g.
- Plural of fundus
- Porto _____ Italy
- Got this!
- Sodium hydroxide
- Like Tim of "A Christmas Carol"
- Foray
- Giraffe's striped-legged cousin
- Like one of the Testaments
- Fine-toothed metal cutter
- "Famous road from Beatles crossing"
- Actress Watts
- Minute parasite
- "Spare one"
- "If all _____ fails"
- Sarpa _____, coral reef fish
- Tiny purses
- Olden day phlebotomy instrument
- Waterproof canvas
- Clothing line
- UAE's most populous city
- Close the fastener, e.g.
- Epoch
- Between 90 and 180 degrees
- E-wallet's content
- Very, in music
- Japanese zither
- Author Bagnold
- Goes with interest
- Great masters' medium, pl.
- *Hoofed "express" traveler
- "The Summer I Turned Pretty" actress Lola
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Is the EDD Pulling a Pandemic Scam?



Originally, the EDD had estimated it would take only seven years to pay the debt and end the ever-growing surcharge on businesses. MPG file photo

By Thomas Buckley,
California Globe

Despite already owing the federal government billions, and despite state businesses already paying a surcharge to cover that debt, the Employment Development Department (EDD) will be borrowing even more federal money to cover costs for the foreseeable future.

In other words, the additional tax money supposedly being paid to cover the debt caused by the pandemic and the related fraud is not actually doing that and will not do so for some time. Instead, the moment those extra dollars are used to pay down the debt they will be borrowed back by the EDD.

That means the current EDD unemployment insurance (UI) trust fund debt of \$17.6 billion dollars will grow to about \$20.3 billion by the end of 2024, despite the extra \$1.2 billion dollars in extra taxes, according to the agency's May UI Fund Forecast released today.

And that's because the EDD expects to pay out about \$2.6 billion in benefits and overhead that it will get in the next two years.

The EDD's forecast could mean that California employers will end up paying an extra \$1,500 or so total per employee over the next decade or so. The rate increases each year – this year it's \$21 and it will increase by \$21 per year (plus additional increases starting in a few years) until it hits \$420 per year per employee, which it will almost certainly do.

Originally, the EDD had estimated it would take only seven years to pay the debt and end the ever-growing surcharge on businesses; based on the latest

forecast, any reasonable assessment would now push that window out to at least 10, possibly up to 15 years (*N.B – I don't know why I just thought of high speed rail...*)

As the debt will grow over the next few years, the money meant to pay it down will not do so until the surcharge income rises high enough to actually exceed the borrowing. That debt, by the way, can exist for as long as the EDD wants to keep borrowing.

Seriously. Imagine a credit card without a limit or payment schedule that you can “pay down” when you feel like it with extra money from other people and still keep getting credit line increases whatever you want.

Or taxing Peter to pay Paul and then getting Paul to give you the money back to pay Patrick.

According to the federal regulations governing the program (the feds will backstop any state fund without question to make sure unemployment benefits get paid) this circular taxation is legal, though it is highly doubtful that when it was created that it was envisioned that any state would collect money to pay its debt and then purposefully grow its debt to pay its bills.

It should be noted that even without the pandemic-related \$20 or so billion in debt, the EDD would still have to borrow money for at least the next two years.

For its part, the EDD chose not to comment on the ethical and/or unapproved back-door tax implications of its plan but it did note that the state's current UI taxing system is out-of-date.

“California's UI financing system has not changed since 1984. Employers pay for

unemployment benefits to former employees through contributions made to the state's UI Trust Fund on behalf of every employee. California's taxable wage ceiling of \$7,000 and maximum tax rate of 5.4 percent are the lowest allowed under federal law. Senate Bill 600 [Chapter 1146, Statutes of 1989] and Senate Bill 40 [Chapter 409, Statutes of 2001] increased benefit amounts, but did not address the financing structure to increase revenue,” said the agency. “The unprecedented number of workers who collected benefits in the recent pandemic, along with those who collected during the Great Recession, impacted the ability of an outdated financing system to generate enough revenue needed to pay benefits.”

Starting in 2024, the disability insurance program – operated separately by the EDD and currently solvent – will remove its “taxable wage ceiling,” in part to pay for things like expanded paid family leave. Whether or not the legislature and governor will move to change the UI wage ceiling – at least in part as a response to the debt issue – is as yet unclear. It is also not known if such a move would increase the surcharge being paid (let alone the regular tax.)

The Governor's Office did not reply to a request for comment, including on why California was one of the very few states to not use its “left over” pandemic relief funds to pay off the debt in its entirety last year when it had a massive budget surplus and whether or not this debt “payment/not repayment” shell game was entered into purposefully to relieve some of the current budgetary pressures (or at least not cause any more.)

Jon Coupal, head of the

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, said the scheme is “more evidence of the abject fiscal irresponsibility of California's state government.”

While the extra UI charges are called a “surcharge” and are theoretically temporary, they are “from the perspective of the businesses an additional tax” – a tax that did not have to go through the typical legislative process.

In other words – no vote, no discussion, no input – just an imposed tax.

“The California Chamber of Commerce is very disappointed with and greatly concerned the UI insolvency will cause an on-going tax increase,” said Chamber policy expert Rob Moutrie. “California businesses need tax relief, not an increase.”

The technologically archaic and consistently inept EDD was not just overwhelmed by the pandemic but made the situation worse by not having any anti-fraud security measures in place. In fact, it took months for then-California Labor Secretary Julie Su to address the issue and by that time tens of billions had already been looted. Security experts estimate that if Su – who was fully aware of the problem, according to a state auditor's report – had acted when she became aware of the problem the EDD would have exactly zero federal debt.

For perspective, the EDD, under Su, lost about \$40 billion to fraud and other improper payments while the federal pandemic debt created was about half that number.

Despite her disastrous tenure as California's labor secretary, Su is currently being considered to become the federal Secretary of Labor. Her Senate confirmation process has, however, seemed to

hit a snag as not every Democrat will commit to voting for her, in part because of this exact issue.

“It's an incompetence tax: a price private citizens are being forced to pay for their government's failures,” said Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin) who has led the charge against Su on the House side of the Capitol. “The predicament that small businesses in California now find themselves in—facing additional taxation to make up for the government's negligence—is another example of why Julie Su's nomination to be our nation's next labor secretary is so ill-considered.”

StandAgainstSu, a national group working to derail her nomination, said the current debt situation is exactly why Su should not be the new Labor Secretary.

“Julie Su's nomination for Secretary of Labor is a slap in the face to the millions of hard-working Californians who will be forced to spend years paying off her forty-billion-dollar mistake,” said a Stand AgainstSu spokesperson. “No Senator who respects American workers could ever reward Su's failure with a vote in her favor.”

A vote on Su's four-month-old nomination quest will not even be scheduled until at least late next... if at all.

Oh, and as of midnight last night, California owed \$17,634,404,674.57 in principal and \$223,357,689.50 in interest. In June alone, it has borrowed \$492,235,804.09 – that equals \$203 per second, up from \$139 per second in May.

California has also increased its share of the national total remaining outstanding in pandemic unemployment debt to 72% from 70% (New York has almost all of the rest) about two weeks ago.

National leader indeed. ★

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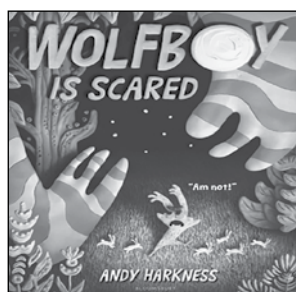
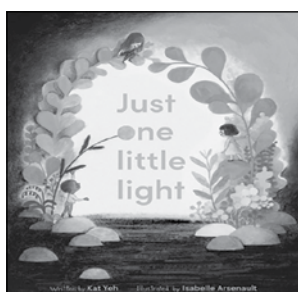
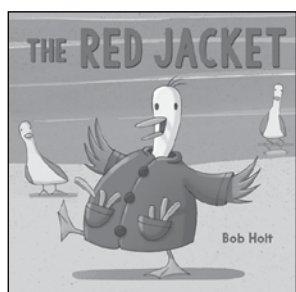
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| <p>TOYOTA FAMILY VALUE TUESDAYS</p> <p>\$2.00</p> <p>HOT DOGS AND ICE CREAM</p> | <p>WET NOSE WEDNESDAYS</p> <p>DOGS GET IN FUR FREE</p> | <p>THIRSTY THURSDAYS</p> <p>DRINK SPECIALS DURING THE GAME</p> | <p>SMUD ORANGE FRIDAYS</p> <p>LIVE MUSIC BEFORE THE GAME</p> <p>FIREWORKS FOR ALL FANS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GAME</p> | <p>SUTTER HEALTH PARK FIREWORKS SATURDAYS</p> <p>FIREWORKS FOR ALL FANS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GAME</p> | <p>SUNDAY FUNDAY</p> <p>PLAYER AUTOGRAPHS BEFORE THE GAME AND KIDS GET TO RUN THE BASES AFTER THE GAME</p> |



Celebrating Emotions in This Summer's Children's Books

The Red Jacket
by Bob Holt, Harper

One day a sad seagull named Bob was gifted a red jacket. Not because Bob was cold or because he had two. The Bird gave it to Bob because he didn't need it anymore. Bob felt swanky and stylish when he put on the red jacket. Bob's new confidence helped him talk to all his beach friends and even invited them to tea. But then, a giant wave came and washed away Bob's jacket. Will Bob's confidence wash away with it?



In a story of friendship and helping one another, one shy seagull will learn the value of confidence, all thanks to a stranger a. Bob Holt lends a beautiful story with power and meaning, all tied up in wonderful and humorous illustrations. Readers will instantly fall for Bob, waiting for his next adventure.

Wolf Boy Is Scared
by Andy Harkness, Bloomsbury

Tangle-Knot
by Loretta Ellsworth and Annabel Tempest, Page Street Kids

Just One Little Light
by Kat Yeh and Isabelle Arsenault, Balzer + Bray

After a fun night playing with his rabbit friends, Wolfboy realizes it's almost time for the moon to set, meaning they must get home fast. With a quick dash through the lair of the Grumble Monster, they might make it in time. Wolfboy wasn't even scared, but he suggested that the rabbits run in front of him. Suddenly Wolfboy sees moldy toes, monster claws, and glowing monster eyes. How Will Wolf Boy and his friends make it home?

Fia's hair is a tangled mess, but she likes it that way. Her hair is like a tornado twisting, twirling, and swirling into snarls and knots, but she loves it. Then one day, a bird makes a nest in Fia's hair of tangled knots, and she loves it even more. She is the center of her class's show and tell, and everyone begins to stare, but she loves the birds in her hair. Then one day, the baby birds fly away, and Fia is left alone and ready for a change. Will Fia ever be able to comb through her tangled knots?

Even in the darkest dark, you still have a light.

Andy Harkness brings his bold, colorful sculpture art into the beauty of storytelling with heart and emotions. In a story about facing fears, *Wolfboy Is Scared* helps readers learn

Tangle-Knot is a fun, whimsical story of one little girl, her independence, and a mother who lets her daughter shine in her own light. ★

Just one little light is a beautiful exploration of finding the tiniest glimmer of light, even in the darkest times. This book is a reminder to stop, breathe, and find one little light because that's all it takes for things to begin. Kat Yeh and Isabelle Arsenault deliver a glimmer of hope, a glimmer of light, and a glimmer of beginning, even when your



Riley Reviews

“MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE” MORE THAN DELIVERS ACTION SPECTACLE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE DEAD RECKONING PART ONE” RATED PG-13

Tom Cruise has spent nearly half his life cranking out the “Mission: Impossible” franchise to great, everlasting success that continues, considering the title of the new entry is “Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One.” Sadly, we must wait another year for resolution.

At the age of sixty-one, the actor retains his youthful looks and a stamina that seems incredible given that he apparently does a lot of his own stunts, much to the trepidation of studio executives and the production team.

Case in point with the seventh entry in the franchise, on the first day of filming, Cruise drove a motorbike off a mountain. Specifically, he drove a custom-made Honda CRF 250 off a purpose-built ramp on the side of a Norwegian mountain, a high rock face 4,000 feet above sea level.

Then he plunged that distance into the ravine below before opening his parachute barely 500 feet from the ground. When he landed, director Christopher McQuarrie and the small crew of co-stars who had assembled to watch the sequence on video, breathed a collective sigh of relief.

The even crazier part is that Tom Cruise picked himself up and did it all again another seven times, just to make sure the footage was perfect. I am wondering about the cost of insurance premiums to cover this daredevil actor.

Stunts could get more extreme for “Part Two,” as the director confirmed the bike jump was “far and away the most dangerous thing we had ever attempted. The only thing that scared me more than that stunt was what we had planned for “Part Two.”

That “Mission: Impossible” fans will be left hanging at the end of “Part One” is not really a bad thing except for having to wait for the release date of “Part Two” in June 2024. Anticipation will lead to speculation, and interest is not likely to fade.

Once again, Cruise’s Ethan Hunt and his colleagues, Benji Dunn (Simon Pegg), the tech wiz who’s now more involved in field operations, and Luther Stickell (Ving Rhames), a veteran of the entire series, risk their lives in another unsanctioned mission.

The opening of the film involves a Russian submarine under attack that houses an Artificial Intelligence threat for world domination known as The Entity. As the sub sinks to the ocean floor, The Entity becomes an object of desire for all sorts of villains.

The Impossible Missions Force is once again, with Ethan as the lead, engaged in another

mission-if-you-choose-to-accept-it situation where the retrieval of two interlocking keys will shut down the dangerous The Entity that bad guys desperately seek.

With Ethan, Luther and Benji as the core of the IMF, old friends, allies, and even occasional enemies resurface. Familiar faces include the return of Henry Czerny as the CIA director and former IMF leader Eugene Kittridge, who often seems to have ulterior motives.

Returning like a guardian angel in a desert scene is Rebecca Ferguson’s rogue MI6 agent Ilsa Faust, whose sniper skills save Ethan from an ambush. Like so many other spies, Ilsa can be something of an enigma.

On the villain side of the ledger, Vanessa Kirby is back as the unscrupulous arms dealer White Widow, assisted by her henchman Zola (Frederick Schmidt), and then there’s ruthless newcomer assassin Paris (Pom Klementieff) serving as Gabriel’s deadly accomplice.

A welcome addition is Hayley Atwell’s Grace, a pickpocket that Ethan runs into at the Dubai airport. She’s after the key for its monetary worth, and then becomes something of paradox as an ally of convenience to Ethan.

Topping all the villains as a deadly adversary to Ethan and this team is a terrorist named Gabriel (Esai Morales) with a connection to The Entity. As the chief villain, Gabriel is not your commonplace bad guy; he’s slick and menacing, even if a bit eccentric.

There are so many great action scenes in this movie that are jaw-dropping that it may be hard to choose a favorite beyond the bike jump. A car chase through Rome is quite thrilling, but there are even better spectacles.

A speeding train through the Austrian alps finds Gabriel and Ethan in manual combat on the roof, where the thrills are far more convincing that what occurred in the most recent “Indiana Jones” movie.

Released at the end of May last year, “Top Gun: Maverick” was the blockbuster film of the summer. “Mission: Impossible” should be the same this year, and the trifecta may come to fruition with “Part Two” next summer.

What else is there to say than Tom Cruise is on a roll, and “Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One” probably has no competitor on the horizon during the balance of summer. “Barbie,” for instance, is no threat to anyone other than Ken.

Make haste to see this movie on the big screen, because the action sequences are so stunning that any misgivings about the nebulous artificial intelligence that is The Entity is not even worthy of a thought. In brief, “Mission: Impossible” is a grand action spectacle. ★

DIXON POLICE LOG

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.



Sunday, July 16
0905 Hours - Stolen vehicle report in the 600 block of South First St.
1414 Hours - Vehicle accident investigation in the area of North 1st and East Dorset.
1530 Hours - Female placed on mental health hold.
1634 Hours - Information report taken in the 500 block of Schooner Ridge.
1800 Report of a verbal argument in the 500 block of West C Street resulted in the citizens arrest of Ismael Estrada (47) of Dixon for vandalism. He was transported to the county jail.

Saturday, July 15
0010 - Officers conducted a pedestrian stop near the intersection of North Washington Street and Sierra Drive. Humberto Herrera-Rangel (47) out of Dixon was contacted. Herrera-Rangel provided officers with a false name and was found to be in possession of methamphetamine. Herrera-Rangel was placed under arrest and transported to the Dixon Police Department where he was released with a citation.

Friday, July 14
1523 - Traffic stop 1100 block North First Street resulted in the cite and release of the driver for a misdemeanor offense.
1545 - Stolen Vehicle LPR hit in the area of North first and I-80. The vehicle was located and recovered in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.
2008 - Officers conducted a suspicious vehicle check in the area of North First Street and Auction Lane. Bary Litton (60) out of Sacramento was contacted. Litton was found to be in possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Litton was placed under arrest and transported to the Dixon Police Department. Litton was issued a citation and released.
0038 - Vehicle towed near the intersection of Commercial Way and Stratford Avenue for being parked in excess of 72-hours.

Thursday, July 13
1201 - Traffic stop on North First Street at Auction Lane resulted in the arrest of Ayanna Bastain (40) of San Francisco for an outstanding warrant. She was cited and released at the scene.
1308 - Fraud report at the PD.
1423 - Trespassing in the 700 block North Lincoln Street. Adrienne Lizarraga (33) of Dixon was arrested for trespassing and Violation of Probation. Lizarraga was booked into the Solano County Jail.
1650 - Hit and Run report 400 block Stratford Ave.

Wednesday, July 12
0717 Hours - Stolen vehicle report in the 1600 block of Sequoia Way.
1138 Hours - Ammo turned in for destruction.
1440 Hours - Confidential report taken in the PD lobby.

Tuesday, July 11
1050 Hours - Vandalism report to a business in the 100 block of South First St.
1600 Hours - Identity theft report taken in the PD lobby.
2326 - Confidential report taken in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.

Monday, July 10
0650 Hours - Vandalism report to two vehicles in the 200 block of East C Street.
1400 Hours - Courtesy Report for La Verne Police Department.
18191050 Hours - Adrienne Lizarraga (33) of Dixon was arrested for trespassing in the 700 block of North Lincoln Street. Vandalism reported in the 200 block of North 3rd Street.
2000 - Restraining order violation reported in the 1300 block of Cornell Drive.

Monday, July 9
0024 - Information report taken in the 900 block of Merrill Drive for a missing person locate.
1050 - Hours - Adrienne Lizarraga (33) of Dixon was arrested for trespassing in the 700 block of North Lincoln Street.


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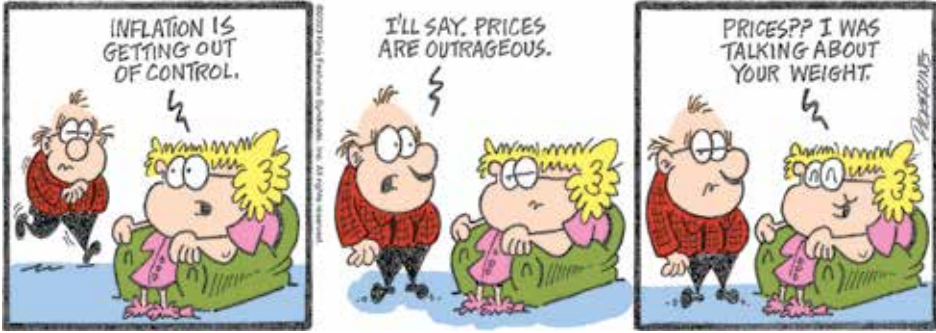




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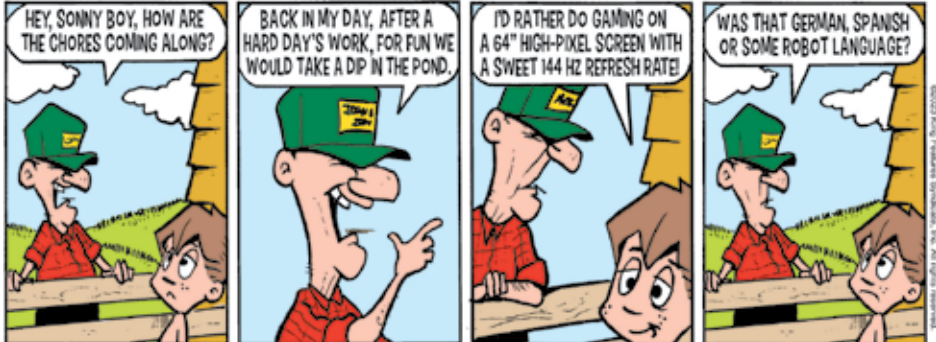
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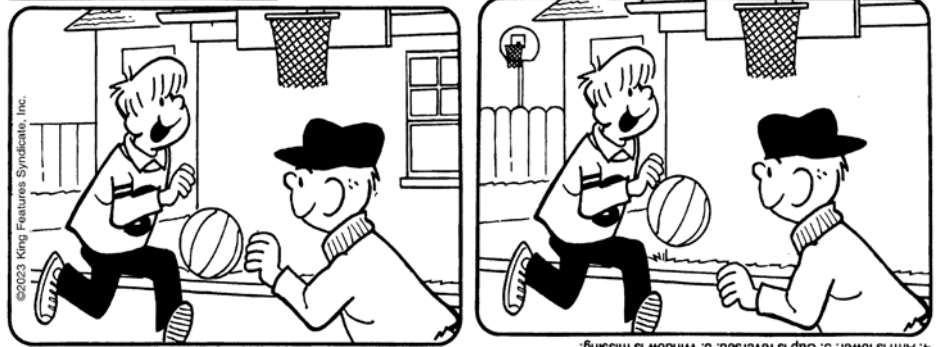


Out on a Limb



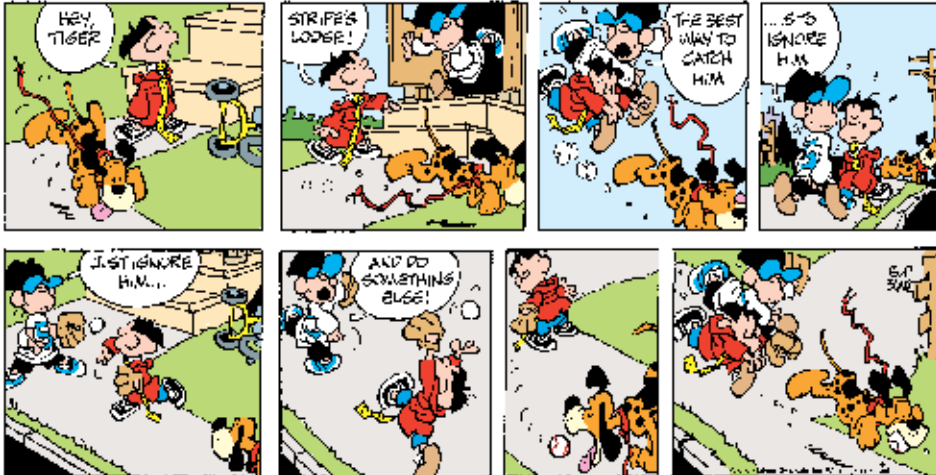
by Gary Kopervas

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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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DBW Accepting Grant Applications to Help Waterways

California Department of Parks and Recreation News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) is now accepting grant applications for the Clean Vessel Act (CVA) Education and Outreach Grant Program. A maximum of \$276,937 federal funding per targeted region is available to organizations for educating coastal and San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary recreational boaters about proper vessel sewage disposal and the use of pumpout facilities and monitoring pumpout and dump stations.

In 1992, Congress passed the CVA to help reduce pollution from vessel sewage discharges into U.S. waters. The grant program serves as an important educational opportunity for all boaters on how to help keep California's waterways clean. Discharging sewage overboard creates environmental and human health problems. To reduce the negative impacts of this harmful action, all recreational boaters are encouraged to use sewage management facilities, including pumpout stations, dump stations, and mobile pumpout services.

The grant program targets California counties including: Alameda, Napa, San Mateo, Sonoma, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Santa Clara, Marin, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Monterey,

San Joaquin, Solano. Proposals that cover a portion of the above regions will be considered if, over time, the agency can expand program(s) to the entire region.

As part of DBW's commitment to provide clean, safe, and enjoyable recreational boating in California, the division serves as the state CVA grant coordinator. DBW will fund two grants (one for each targeted California geographic region) to develop and implement a 12-month CVA Education and Outreach Program. Each regional grant must include education and outreach efforts, and a pumpout/dump station monitoring program. Applications will be evaluated and ranked according to how each application proposal demonstrates comprehensive and proven methods for meeting grant program goals. The deadline to submit applications is by 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023.

Below are some examples of accomplishments from the CVA Education and Outreach Grant Program grantees San Francisco Estuary Partnership and The Bay Foundation from the last two grant cycles:

Created and aired ten episodes of the podcast Docksider to educate the public on clean and safe boating practices;

Participated in three boating events and conducted nine presentations on clean boating and sewage pollution prevention

best management practices, reaching over 700 individual boaters and stakeholders;

Produced a variety of educational videos about sewage management such as "Consider a Marine Composting Toilet" video and the "Marine Sanitation Device & Y-Valve Information for Boaters";

Distributed more than 250 universal deck fitting adapter kits to boaters and marina managers. The adapter kit is a pollution prevention tool that helps boaters to pump out their boat hands-free;

Continued to provide boaters with a sewage pumpout Nav App (more than 19,800 downloads since March 2018) that helps them locate nearby participating, functioning sewage pumpout stations, dump stations and floating restrooms;

Monitored 152 sewage pumpouts and 15 dump stations in 19 counties eight times during the last two grant cycles. Developed the 2021 and 2022 California Clean Vessel Act Pumpout and Dump Station Performance Reports summarizing the monitoring results and efforts. Monitoring provides effective means to encourage better maintenance of and accountability for the pumpouts' condition.

For detailed information on the grant program, the current grant application, requirements, and complete guidelines packet, please visit DBW's website. ★



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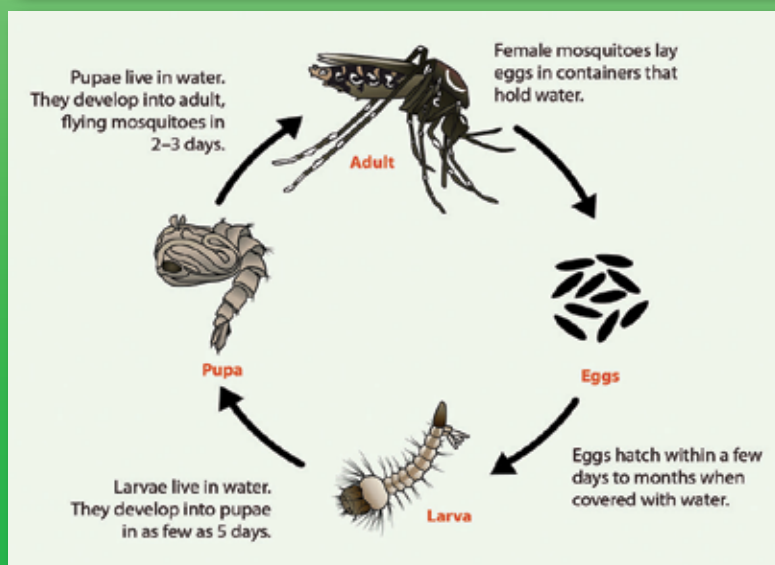
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A number of types of sources found within residential neighborhoods are capable of producing enough adult mosquitoes to bother not only the residents of one home but a number of homes in the area. These mosquitoes are also capable of transmitting West Nile virus! Water left standing for seven to ten days can produce mosquitoes during warmer weather. There are a number of simple precautions that can be taken to prevent this from happening...



HELP US FIGHT THE BITE this season by reporting dead birds to the **West Nile Virus Call Center** at **1-800-WNV-BIRD** or go online to **westnile.ca.gov** to report electronically. Dead birds are an important tool for early virus detection. Birds act as a reservoir for West Nile virus, infecting the mosquitoes that feed on them. Dead birds are often the first indicator that West Nile virus may be present in an area.



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