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Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 27

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

JULY 7, 2023

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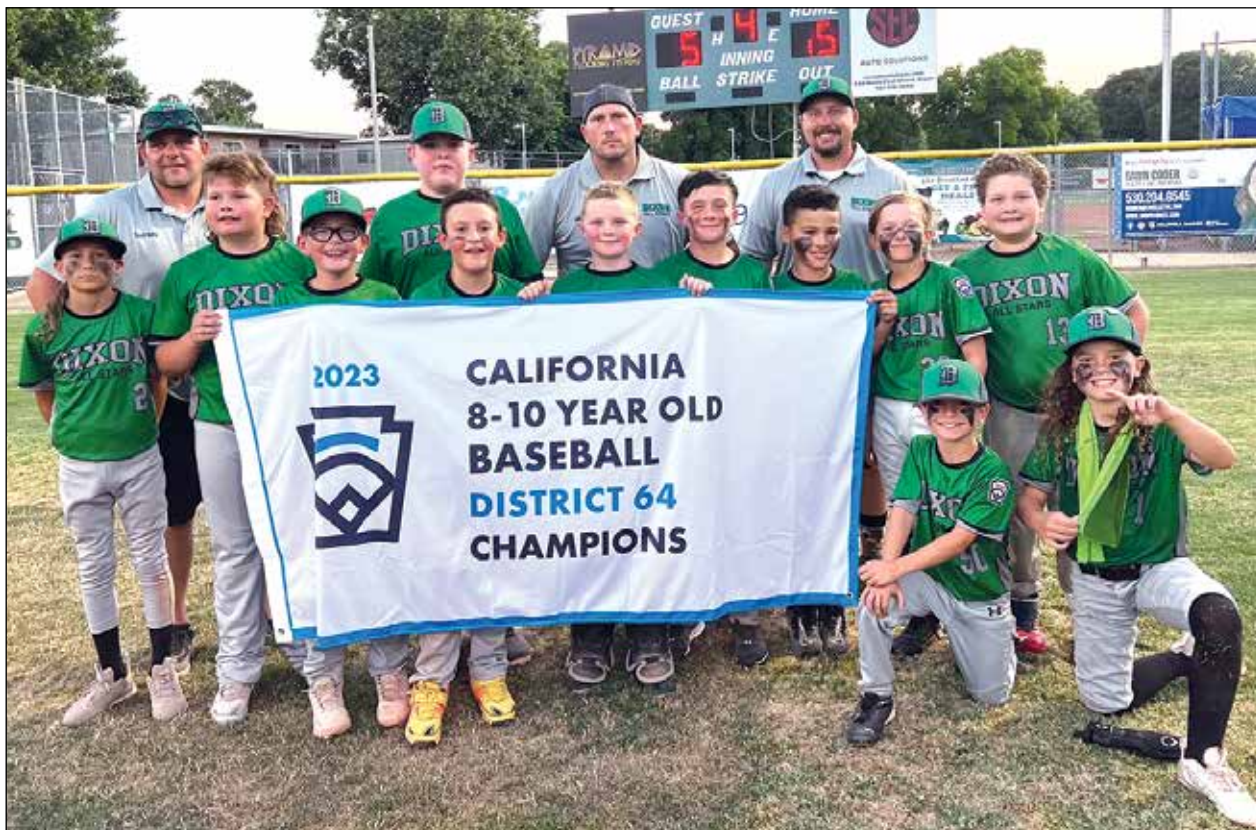
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Conquering The Little League

District 64 Allstars 8-10 Become Champions



The Dixon Little League Dist. 64 Champions are pictured L-R. Back row: Coach Ernesto Ramos, Ben Boekee, Manager Josh Puch, Coach Perry Settlemoir III. Middle row: Xzavier Puch, Nick Nelson, Perry Settlemoir IV, Alan Campuzano, Riley Soares, Carson Ramos, Julian Mendoza, Brayden Prescott, Daniel Guerrero. Bottom Row: Declan Habbeshaw, and Preston Canela. Photo by Sarah Settlemoir

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - As far back as can be found, the 8-10 All Star Team in the Dixon Little league has not been found to be champions – but they are now!

“I’ve looked as far back as I can and back to 2006, there has not been an All-Star team that has made it to the All Star rounds and my son’s team (Dixon’s Little League) has gotten this far,” said Sarah Settlemoir, mother of one of the players who is also wife of one of the coaches. “That’s 17 years!”

The team went into the Championship round undefeated

and included an over the fence grand slam by Ben Boekee and a walk off single by Alan Campuzano.

“They were 3-0 when going into the Championship rounds Friday but took a tough loss to Woodland National, which forced game two,” she reported. Dixon came back with a ton of heart and passion for the game. They battled hard and took the lead early. They ended up winning the game with a 10-run lead in the bottom of the 4th inning.”

They were crowned District 64 age 8-10 All Star Champions. Since they are crowned, they are advanced to the next round that would be the Section Tournament. The dates are July 13

through July 19 in Lafayette, near Concord.

“These boys have been playing ball since March and haven’t let up. Their season continues on with the next level,” she said. The team manager is Josh Puch and the Coaches are Perry Settlemoir III and Ernesto Ramos. Puch admits the team is rare.

“They have no quit in them. They fight for each other. There are no bad attitudes. They pick each other up when they’re down and they all get along – that’s crazy because they are 10-year-old boys,” he said. He’s been coaching Little League since an older son started playing five years ago and is coaching his younger son now. ★

Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Awards \$517,725 for Clean Air Projects

YSAQMD
News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - At the June 14 meeting of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District’s (District) Board of Directors, the Board approved a total of \$517,725 in funding for 12 projects for the 2023 Clean Air Fund (CAF) Grant Program. The projects will be implemented over the next year in Yolo County and the northeastern portion of Solano County.

The annual CAF grant program provides funding to private businesses, non-profit organizations, and public agencies for local projects that will reduce emissions from mobile sources of air pollution within the district. CAF grant funds are intended for the implementation of projects including the use of cleaner technologies, low-emission vehicles, alternative transportation, transit services, and public education.

Funding for the CAF Program is provided from a portion of annual Department of Motor Vehicles registration fees with additional funding for Solano County projects provided by AB 8 property tax proceeds. Since launching the program over 30 years ago, the District has awarded more than \$11 million.

The following projects were awarded funding for the 2023/2024 grant cycle:

**Clean Technologies/
Low-Emission Vehicles**
Driving on Sunshine: Solano EV Charger System (City of Vacaville); Zero-Emission Patrol Motorcycle Purchase (Winters Police Department)

**Alternative
Transportation**
McCormack Road Phase 2 (Solano County); Sidewalk Extension on River Road to Front Street (City of Rio Vista); Eastern Solano County Alternative Transportation Incentive Program (Solano Transportation Authority); City Bike Racks and Signage (City of Winters); Davis Train Station Relocation of Bicycle Lockers to Increase Usage (City of Davis); Electric-Assist Bicycle Lease/Lease-to-Own Program (Yolo Commute); Woodland Bike Loop/Planning and Signage (City of Woodland)

**Public Education/
Information**
Bike City Theatre’s Good Earth Yolo-Solano Regional Tour 2023/2024 (Bike City Theatre Company); Bike Fleet for Woodland Schools

Continued on page 7

New Businesses Grow Dixon

Story and photos
by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Three large parcels in Dixon are currently being churned to build a bank, a gas station, and a new car wash adding to the new growth in Dixon.

The Bank of Stockton, which is being built on the corner of North First St. and Vaughn Road will also have a couple of separate commercial buildings on the parcel with one of those a planned Chipotle Mexican Grill.

“The corner of North First Street and Lincoln and Vaughn is a prime gateway for the City, and we are excited to see the high quality Bank of Stockton development coming into that prime corner,” said Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director for the City of Dixon. “The building provides a high-quality design that anchors that major intersection. We hope this key location will draw 2-3 other tenants for the retail buildings in addition to Chipotle.”



Ground just broke this last week on a Quick Quack Car Wash being built on Stratford Avenue next to Denny’s.

On the opposite side of the street, construction is well underway for a Rotten Robbie convenience store, gas station and car wash where currently they are installing tanks and a foundation plus starting the wall around the site. This is the project of Lewis Land Developers, LLC which also consisted of 100 detached small lot

single-family homes, and a pocket park on the 13.3-acre lot shared with the Rotten Robbie business. However, we are reminded that until ground breaks on those homes, anything could change. That developer has proposed several ideas over the last eight years to the Planning Commission and City Council.

One of two planned Quick Quack Car Washes is being constructed next to Denny’s and across from Safeway on Stratford and North Lincoln.

Both facilities have the same design. The site would be accessible through an alleyway off North Lincoln, and vehicles could exit onto North

Continued on page 2



Life's too SHORT

Understanding Your Grief

By Debra Dingman

We finished our 10-week Grief Class on a Tuesday. Shortly after, I received a call from someone dear to me about yet another death: a miscarriage. I struggled to remember all I had learned from my class.

The class was offered by North Bay Hospital and was guided by Audrey, a kind and gentle counselor, and assisted by Nanci, teaching relaxation, and breathing exercises during the last 15 minutes of the 1 1/2-hour class each week via Zoom.

The last night was about putting the word “and” into our healing. The author of the book, Alan Wolfelt, Ph.D., invited readers to “remember the power of ‘and’ as you live your one precious life from here forward. It may help you to choose to be present, to live with intention and action, to seek joy and transformation.”

“You can grieve AND love...” I remembered. So, I cried, feeling both our broken hearts. And, like we learned in class, one death brings back all of them.

My own miscarriage was the first in our family as I was the first grown child to get pregnant. We had been married for two and a half years and had to change birth control because of fainting spells. It was a surprise to be pregnant but as the news went across our family lines, the excitement and anticipation of becoming a mother grew.

My two older married sisters seemed to have a lightbulb go on in them and the 4-wheeling, crazy camping fun we did then moved back a bit from our entertainment thoughts. Within a couple months of the news, it seemed like our whole family was shifting into a new

phase of life and thinking about babies.

Just as I hit the 11th week of gestation, the signs of miscarriage began. So did the shock, disappointment, and grief. For 10 days my husband and I waited for the completion of the miscarriage but then the doctor decided I needed a procedure because I was weakening. It was my first time ever in a hospital, back then, three or four days at David Grant Medical Center at Travis. It was a terrible time.

Over the next weeks, women shared at our church and in our family about their own miscarriages and I did feel some comfort and began to realize that it was “common” like the doctors said. It is nature’s way of keeping the human race healthy and strong. Miscarriages are 1 in 4 pregnancies. Over my life, I had four more miscarriages.

The agony of those losses, however, was right there with me – along with the pain of losing my oldest brother – at the news of this new loss. But now I did not try to stop myself or my person from crying. I listened. I felt the grief of losing dreams, hopes, and plans the way only a baby can give someone.

Instead of making myself see ‘the bright side,’ we mourned together, and we will keep mourning because I’ve learned through this class that grief is a very unique experience and one that never goes away. We learn to live with it, embrace it, and let it be within us. Our love for another person – no matter how delicately tiny – never dies.

There is a Grief Class scheduled for September 5 - Nov. 7. Interested parties can contact Brenda Boys, Hospice and Bereavement Volunteer Coordinator for NorthBay Health at (707) 646-3517 or email bboyd@NorthBay.org. ★

Dixon News Briefs



The new Dixon Farmers Market will be held again on Thursday, July 13, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Pardi Plaza in downtown Dixon, corner of First and A Streets. The next one is set for Thursday, July 27. For more information, call (707) 678-8400 or go to downtowndixonca.com. Photo courtesy Nicholas Brown

MPG Staff

Downtown Concerts

The City of Dixon and the Dixon District Chamber of Commerce present ‘Concerts in the Plaza’ on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 6 to 8:30 p.m. On July 20, Kindred Spirits will be featured; August 3 is Hey Jude; There are tables but bring your own chairs or a blanket in case they are taken.

Planning Commission

The next City Planning Commission Meeting will be Tuesday, July 11 at 7 p.m. The next City Council meeting will be on the regular schedule for the 3rd Tuesday of the month, which will be July 18. It also 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 cityofixon.us website. Note: the Aug. 1 City Council is cancelled due to National Night Out.

More Swim Lessons

The next session for swim lessons at the Pat Granucci Aquatic Center is July 17 through 27. The classes are for ages 3-17 and are grouped by age and ability. They happen Monday through Thursday and there are eight 30-minute lessons. Call (707) 678-7000 for more information.

Free Lunch

Summer has arrived. School is out. There will be lunch handed out behind the Dixon Public Library at 230 North First St. in the courtyard to anyone under 18 years of age in attendance Monday - Friday starting at 11 a.m. until 12 noon until July 28. Lunch must be eaten on site. There will also be games and activities. Come out and visit!

Mexican Restaurant

Taqueria Panchita, located across from Frosty’s in downtown Dixon, has re-opened. They offer dine in or take out. Call (707) 693-5058.

Half a Hog

The American Legion Post is raffling off a ‘Half A Hog’ thanks to a donation from Dixon Recology. The hog will be cut and wrapped, and funds will go to help support veterans and support the Veterans Memorial Hall.

Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20. The drawing will be on Saturday, September 23. Purchase tickets at the hall on Friday nights.

Pool Rental

Looking for a refreshing way to beat the heat this summer? Rent out the Pat Granucci Aquatic Center for your next event! The pool is available for private rentals for birthdays, family reunions, company picnics, and more. Contact them to book your pool rental and make a splash with your guests! Email kschnitter@city-ofdixon.us or call (707) 343-8162.

Prom for Mom

Coming up on Saturday, July 29, at the Creative Space, 160 West A St. in downtown Dixon will be a Prom for Moms. The time is 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. and details can be found at www.TheCreativeSpaceDixon.com.

Library for Teens

The Dixon Public Library is offering Teen Open Mic Poetry and Song Night on Thursday, July 13, from 3 to 5 p.m. Show off your bold and creative side with poetry, rapping, and singing. Signups are at the event and acts are limited to five minutes. Visit solanolibrary.com or phone 1-866-572-7587. Dixon Public Library is located at 230 North First St. in downtown Dixon.

Home Buying Workshop

Dixonites are invited to attend a home buying workshop by Monica Winn of EPIC Century 21 and member of the Black Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, July 22, 2 to 4 p.m. in Fairfield. Call to reserve your spot at (707) 344-4237.

Dinner

This week’s dinner at the Veterans Memorial Hall at 1305 North First St. will be ham with scalloped potatoes, green beans, and roll. It will start at 6 p.m. You don’t have to be a veteran and you don’t have to dress up. Cost is still only \$10. The no-host bar will be open.

Grillin’ & Chillin’

Northern California’s one and only car show and rib cook off for the past 14 years, Dixon’s Grillin’ & Chillin’, happens again in downtown Dixon on Saturday, July 15, all day starting at 10 a.m. For information, go to dixonribcookoff.com. ★



New Businesses Grow Dixon

Continued from page 1

Lincoln or Commercial Way. The car wash would not be accessible off Stratford or the Denny’s parking lot, as a landscaped curb would be installed to prevent any ingress or egress into the restaurant’s driveway.

The other Quick Quack location is Dorset Court between the Highway 80 Dispensary and a newer Popeyes restaurant.

“The project would also include parking lot and landscaping elements to enhance the visual quality of the project site, including street trees, shrubs, and ground cover,” Associate Planner Scott Greeley wrote in a staff report. The car wash customers would be able to enter the site from and exit onto Dorset Drive.

“Vehicles will, generally, turn right (south) to a three lane drive-thru that can accommodate up to a stacking of 18 cars before reaching the quarterback building where the vehicles are directed to a merged single lane driveway that can either cut access the car wash



Twelve Tesla Charging Stations have been installed in the Safeway Shopping Center and appear ready but have not been released for use yet.

building or otherwise wraps around...and leads to the car wash building by going straight or otherwise turn left to access the canopy areas and from there, exit the site,” Greeley wrote. “The car wash building has the option of accessing two canopy areas that accommodates 17 parking spaces where car vacuums are located for an interior cleaning of the vehicle by the owner.”

Completed but not yet available are the 12 Tesla Charging stations in the Safeway Shopping Center where the parking lot lines Stratford Avenue.

Still on track to be completed this fall is the ‘The Farmstead at Dixon’

assisted living facility at 350 Gateway Drive. Currently, Calson operates seven communities comprising over 640 units of senior living. In addition to Dixon, they have three other projects actively under construction in Los Gatos, Santa Rosa and San Jose, equating to another 368 units. Anyone interested in getting on the interest list for future residents can email Cathy@calsonmanagement.com.

“As the City continues to grow in population, the City will hopefully continue to see the development of high quality commercial, retail and other services to support our city and our residents,” Boloyan said. ★

Dixon Loses Donnie Huffman

By Debra Dingman and Kathy Keatley Garvey

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Donnie Huffman, Founding President of the Friends of the Dixon May Fair, an organization that improved, served, and supported youth at the May Fair since 2000, lost his battle with cancer on June 17 and died at home amidst a loving family. He was 83.

Donnie's service to fairs actually spanned three decades as he served as President and Founder of the Solano County Fair Friends that was established in 1993. He also served as President of the Friends of the Dixon May Fair until 2006. As an agriculturalist with 50 leased acres of almonds, Donnie was active in the Solano County Farm Bureau.

Although his residence was Vacaville where he and his wife, Tootie, raised their two children, Don Jr. and Shelli, they have been beloved in Dixon for their involvement with the May Fair and Dixon agriculture. The couple celebrated their 63rd anniversary in April.

With Donnie in charge, monies from the fair's beverage sales were used for building and ground improvements as well as college scholarships and exhibitor awards such as cherished belt buckles. Among the projects, valued in the millions were paving the midway and building an RV park, the Pig Pavilion, the Wine Pavilion and the Friends' Plaza.

He had a warm demeanor that invited all ages to open up in conversations with him and he was absolutely dedicated to youth including 4-H, FFA, and the Grange, even serving as a 4-H leader in his younger years. Many knew his silly side where he joyfully emceed the annual



Donnie and Tootie Huffman at last year's May Fair recognition ceremony. Photo courtesy of Kathy Keatley Garvey

Dixon May Fair Hog Calling Contest for ten years.

He was also a governor of the Kiwanis Club, District 8, served as president of the Vacaville Chamber of Commerce, and chaired both the Vacaville Fiesta Days Committee and the Vacaville Onion Festival.

He and Tootie began a college scholarship program for both fairs. Since 2000, the Friends of the Dixon May Fair has awarded a total of \$248,750 to Solano County residents majoring in agriculture. In tribute to their work, the program was renamed the Donnie and Tootie Huffman Scholarship Program in 2022. A \$5,000 scholarship to the top applicant bears his name.

It was just a year ago when Donnie was honored as founding president of the Friends of the Dixon May Fair by fair officials and fellow members with the 'Friends Plaza' located in front of the Leber Stage at the fairgrounds. A plaque recognized him and Tootie along with hundreds of local volunteers supporting agriculture programs for the youth in Solano County and was to be installed.

Donnie came from a family of five children born to James Elmer "Pete" and

Minnie Swope Huffman from Missouri. They moved to Solano County when the children were young and settled in Fairfield where Donnie attended Armijo High School then worked in the auto parts industry, purchasing Digerud Auto Parts in 1968 and renaming it to Don's Auto parts until 1995.

He is survived by his wife, children, seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren along with many other extended family members.

In lieu of flowers, Donnie had asked that any memorial contributions be made to a favorite charity or to Friends of the Dixon May Fair, P.O. Box 6208, Vacaville, Calif. 95696.

A memorial service will take place at 11 a.m., Tuesday, July 18 in the Rockville Stone Chapel, Rockville Cemetery, 4219 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, with burial to follow.

A celebration of life - commemorating what would have been his "real" 21st birthday based on his Leap Year birthday - is set for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 29 in Denver Hall, Dixon May Fair, 655 S. First St., Dixon. ★

City to Expand Police Department

Story and photo by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - If you thought creating a second floor on the Dixon Police Department would be a money-saver, know that just the design fee was \$240,000.

At the last City Council Meeting on June 20, Dist. 2 Council Rep Thom Bogue asked the item to be pulled from the Consent Calendar for discussion and had plenty of questions to ask about the amount to Lionakis "to prepare the design plans and associated documents for the Police Station Second Story Expansion Project" for \$240,000, plus another \$64,300 for Cartwright NorCal to assist, plus a city-imposed "Design Contingency" for \$50,000 and another \$10,000 for "project administration time for plan checking and associated tasks."

City Engineer/Director of Utilities Deborah Barr explained it was a major project and along with Chief of Police Robert Thompson, addressed the concerns.

"It wasn't built right in 1989," said the Chief. "It opened in 1990. We have a 30-year-old building so it's more than just putting a floor up." The discussion included new building requirements, the electrical, water, and sewer updates, and HVAC needs for the whole building.

Bogue and the Chief had both looked at the Heating and Air Conditioning unit together and Bogue admitted it needed replacement. Knowing the costs included "much needed repairs and some remodeling," Bogue was satisfied. There was discussion of how many more years the existing



Chief of Police Robert Thompson swears in Ty Reese as a new Dixon Police Officer at the last City Council Meeting and invited Reese's mother to pin on his official badge.

building will hold up with the improvements and how many officers/staff the new facility would accommodate and the Chief said, "14 to 18 officers could be added" and there could be "10 to 15 years additional life on the building."

"That actually makes it easier for me to accept that we're not just slapping on a second floor," Bogue said. At the end of the discussion there was a 5-0 consensus to move the plans forward.

Under unfinished business, the Council authorized an agreement with California Department of Transportation (Cal-Trans) and accepted a \$250,000 grant for a Highway Safety Improvement Program for new pedestrian crossing safety improvements.

The affected areas are: East A and 4th Streets; East B and 4th Streets; East Mayes and 4th Streets and East A and 7th Streets. Those will be striped or lined for crosswalks.

For new business, the Council heard concerns about overnight parking and all-day parking in the Pardi Plaza brought forth by District 3 Council Rep Kevin Johnson on behalf of Downtown Dixon Business Association members Jill Orr and local business/building owner

Rebecca Robinson. "I think it is important to post signs to give teeth for police to be able to do something," said Robinson.

Orr had noted three vehicles had stayed incessantly for days in a row and belonged to nearby residents who were using it as extended garages. She asked for signs that would say no residential parking or no overnight parking. But, that meant an officer would have to know who was a resident and for the other option, there is no officer to spare for marking tires.

"From a practical enforcement position, the only way is to restrict parking from 2 to 6 a.m.," said Chief Thompson. Signs for no parking those hours would be posted. "If they're parked there during those hours, they'd get a \$60 ticket and after three days [if it's still there,] we tow it," he added. The issue will come back at the July 18 meeting and staff will present a plan.

City Council also gave direction for staff to look into some kind of shade structure with at least a 5-year expectancy for the Pardi Plaza. And lastly, Council voted to cancel the August 1 City Council Meeting due to National Night Out. ★

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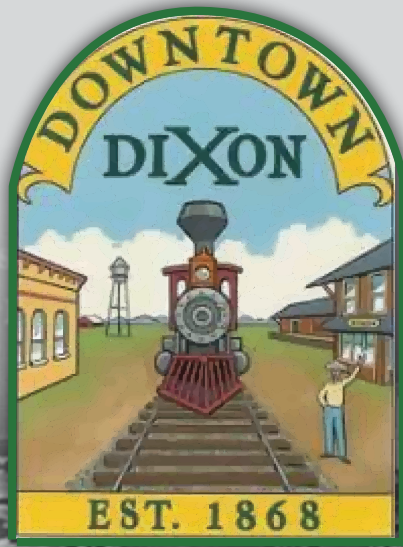


Discover Downtown Dixon - Shop, Dine, Explore!

A healthy community begins with a healthy downtown. They are the heartbeat of our communities and they are also key indicators of larger social and economical trends such as thriving businesses, engaged citizens, cultural events, and jobs.

The Downtown Dixon Business Association Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month inside local businesses.

Keep an eye on this space every month for information about all the fun and engaging events happening in Downtown Dixon.



- Upcoming Events**
- **Concerts in the Plaza**, corner of First and A Streets, every other Thursday, 6 p.m. thanks to the City of Dixon and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce. Next concert is July 6 - More on the Floor.
 - **Farmers market** continues! Next date is Thursday, July 13, 4 - 7 p.m. at the Pardi Plaza in the heart of downtown Dixon. Check the downtowndixonca.com website for current dates.
 - **Grillin' & Chillin'** is Saturday, July 15--Northern California's one and only car show and rib cook off for 12 years running. The free event starts at 10 a.m. and runs all day in Downtown Dixon with Highway 113 rerouted to North and South Adams St. Come join the fun!



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Grand Jury Indicts Richard Klein on Multiple Murders and Other Charges

Solano County DA News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On June 28, 2023, after 4 days of testimony, a Solano County Grand Jury returned an Indictment against Richard Klein for two counts of Murder (Penal Code §187), two counts of being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm (Penal Code §29800), committing Murder while released on his own recognizance, and a special circumstance for committing multiple murders.

The Indictment returned reflects charges that the Defendant committed Murder on April 21, 2022, at a gathering on Manzanita Avenue in Fairfield, California. Then again, on December 15, 2022, while out of custody on murder charges, committed another murder in the city of Suisun.

Previously, the Solano County District Attorney's Office had filed a felony complaint on May 5, 2022, charging Defendant Klein with Murder (Penal Code §187) that occurred on April 21, 2022, in the city of Fairfield. Defendant Klein had also been charged with an enhancement for personally discharging a firearm during the commission of that murder. Defendant Klein had also been charged with being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm.

On that case, the defendant had proceeded to preliminary hearing on October 28, 2022, and was held to answer as charged. On November 14, 2022, Defendant Klein, who was being held with NO BAIL, was arraigned on the Information. During the arraignment, the Court heard the Defendant's

motion to reduce bail. Over the District Attorney's strenuous objection, the defendant was released on pre-trial services.

While out of custody, on December 15, 2022, the Suisun City Police Department responded to a call of shots fired in the area of 1244 Potrero Circle. When officers arrived, they found a male on the ground in front of 1244 Potrero Circle suffering from a gunshot wound. Despite life saving measures, the man unfortunately succumbed to his injuries. The case was investigated by the Suisun City Police Department with the assistance of the Solano County Major Crimes Task Force. The Solano County District Attorney's Office filed a criminal complaint against Klein on December 23, 2022 requesting a no-bail arrest warrant.

Investigators with the Solano County Major Crimes Task Force were able to track Defendant Klein to Rosarita Beach, Mexico. The United States Marshall's Office was asked to assist in apprehending Defendant Klein. On January 11, 2023, the United States Marshall's Office arrested Defendant Klein in Rosarita Beach, Mexico.

Due to the different status of the murder cases, and in an effort to join them for trial, the People presented the evidence to a Grand Jury. Defendant is now scheduled to be arraigned on the Indictment on June 30, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 23 of the Solano County Superior Court. He is currently being held in custody without bail. ★

Bogue Intends California Senate Run for District 3

By Thom Bogue

DIXON, CA (MPG) - As a resident of Solano County for over forty years, and former Mayor, Vice Mayor and current sitting City Council Member for the city of Dixon, I can say I understand first hand the concerns of my constituents and the people who elected me to serve in their best interests.

Additionally, I have served on multiple City, County and Regional Boards, including:

Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board and Planning Commission; Solano County Water Agency Board (SCWA); Yolo/ Solano Air Resource Board; Solano County Transportation Agency (STA)

During my tenure being a three-time elected official, I have strived to be transparent about both my public and personal life, because I believe you deserve to know the person you're voting for. I have worked in agriculture,

finance, Social Services for Solano County, and currently, am a small business owner for the past eighteen years. My wife Janelle and I have been married for twenty-three years and together raised nine children. We understand acutely the challenges in raising a family today, in real time.

Finally, I want to be clear with you, a voter, that while I am running as a Republican, I do not make decisions based on party affiliations; rather, I make decisions based on what I believe serves the common interest of those people who elected me to serve them.

Directly, the ongoing homelessness epidemic, protecting our rights and freedoms (be them freedom of speech to a woman's right to bodily autonomy), and making District 3 livable for working individuals and families are my highest priorities as your elected official.

Please join me in supporting the people of California - Elect Thom Bogue for Senate District 3. ★

Prescribed Fire Liability Claims Fund Pilot Rolls Out

Office of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On June 19, 2023, the State of California will roll out a first-of-its-kind approach to curbing the state's catastrophic wildfire problem by providing new protections for prescribed fire and cultural burning practitioners. The \$20 million allocated for the "Prescribed Fire Liability Claims Fund Pilot" will cover losses in the rare instance that a prescribed or cultural burn escapes control.

California Senator Bill Dodd authored the 2022 bill (Senate Bill 926) that made this fund possible, continuing his many years of leadership on wildfire and prescribed fire-related legislation.

"Prescribed fire is a cost-effective way to minimize the scope and severity of wildfires," said Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa. "It's a tool that has been used for millennia by Native American tribes and one that will continue to play a big role in wildfire prevention. The rollout of this fund is a big step toward keeping California communities safe."

The use of prescribed fire and cultural burning—sometimes collectively called "good" or "beneficial" fire—is a key component of wildfire risk management in California. These projects reduce hazardous fuels, help restore ecological and cultural values, and make our communities safer and our ecosystems more resilient to wildfire. However, lack of liability insurance for practitioners has been a major barrier to increasing the use of prescribed fire, even as firefighters, fire scientists, at-risk communities, and state, federal, and tribal leaders call for more.

"The Prescribed Fire Claims Fund pilot project removes a significant barrier to obtaining insurance for potential damages from a prescribed fire or cultural burn conducted by a certified prescribed fire burn boss or a cultural fire practitioner," said CAL FIRE Director/Chief Joe Tyler. "As we continue to focus on increasing the resiliency of the state's forests, creating a pathway for private burn bosses to have the significant protection this claims fund provides is a critical step toward reaching the goals of the Governor's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan."

The fund will provide up to \$2 million in coverage for prescribed fire projects led by a qualified burn boss or cultural practitioner. The fund is meant to demonstrate that prescribed fire, when carefully planned, resourced, and implemented, is a low-risk land management tool that mitigates the larger, more damaging risks of high-severity wildfires. The fund is the first of its kind nationally and is the result of several years of collaboration by a diversity of partners working with Senator Dodd's Office, including The Nature Conservancy, CAL FIRE, the University of California Cooperative Extension, the California Department of Insurance,

Tribal representatives, and many others.

"Launching this program is a key step in scaling ecologically based forest management to reduce the risk of megafires. We appreciate Senator Dodd's leadership and the expedient work of CAL FIRE and beneficial fire practitioners to develop this fund as the next fire season quickly approaches," said Dan Porter, The Nature Conservancy's Forest Program Director.

The fund will also advance cultural burning, helping Indigenous Californians restore their connection to fire.

"Cultural burning is an essential practice to meet diverse objectives, including biodiversity stewardship, ecological health, and community safety. The availability of this pilot fund provides cultural fire practitioners a safeguard against financial risk in the unlikely event of an escaped burn. This is a significant incentive to support revitalization of burning traditions following the legacy of policies banning such practices," said Don Hankins, Professor of Geography and Planning at CSU Chico and co-founder of the Indigenous Stewardship Network.

This fund is part of a larger vision for restoring beneficial fire across California's fire-adapted ecosystems. Last year, the state released its Strategic Plan for Expanding the Use of Beneficial Fire, which identified this claims fund as a priority. The state has also rolled out a state-certified burn boss program, changed the liability standard for prescribed fire, and made investments in prescribed burn associations, agency staffing, and other related efforts.

"We are using every tool to protect Californians, including using prescribed fire to fight wildfires," said Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara. "The Prescribed Fire Claims fund will be critical to assisting our tribal groups, nonprofits and private landowners who are leading the way. This is an example of government being innovative and leading by example. The data that we get from the claims fund is going to be essential to our on-going education with insurance companies to support insuring this important work."

Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Fire Network Director for the University of California's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, says the recent momentum is unparalleled.

"Californians are desperate to have a better relationship with fire, and only with innovative approaches like this Claims Fund will we be able to unleash the good work that needs to happen," said Quinn-Davidson. "It's a challenging time to be working on fire in California, but also an incredibly inspiring time."

More information about the Pilot Prescribed Fire Claims Fund can be found on the CAL FIRE Website (scroll down), including frequently asked questions and an enrollment form for practitioners. ★

California Farm Bureau Applauds Supreme Court WOTUS Decision

California Farm Bureau News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On May 25, 2023, California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson is applauding the U.S. Supreme Court's decision rejecting the Biden administration's Waters of the United States Rule.

"California Farm Bureau appreciates the Supreme Court's decision," Johansson said. "Our farmers and ranchers have faced years of confusion over what waters are regulated by the federal government. Today's decision brings greater clarity."

The court's ruling in Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency reins in the EPA's authority under the Clean

Water Act to regulate water bodies on private properties.

In a majority opinion, the court wrote that under the Biden administration's rule, landowners "potentially face severe criminal and civil penalties" even for accidentally discharging pollutants into navigable waters.

"Agriculture is intrinsically tied to the earth," Johansson said. "Our farmers and ranchers have a strong interest in effective, efficient and reasonable rules for the protection and management of the nation's water and land resources."

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of nearly 29,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.3 million Farm Bureau members. ★



California Avocado Growers Grapple With Increasing Competition

A cold spring coupled with increased imports and a persistent labor shortage has challenged California avocado growers, as many have kept fruit hanging on trees for months in search of a market opportunity. Terry Splane, vice president of marketing for the California Avocado Commission, said an oversupply drove down the prices offered by retailers and packinghouses. As a result, he said, "growers have been hanging on, trying to keep the fruit on the trees until prices rebound." Pricing has dipped as a result of increased global production.

Wet Winter Leads to Decline in Alfalfa Hay Prices

Thanks to more rain this year, supplies of alfalfa hay and other forages in the state have rebounded, with prices falling after climbing to record-high levels last year. Hay growers say dairy and livestock producers are in no rush to buy much hay right now, as pastures are still flushed with grass for grazing and the price of other feeds has also dropped. Over the past two years, lack of rain, poor crop yields and less hay being grown diminished availability of forage. The hay shortage forced dairy farmers and livestock ranchers to look for supplies far away, driving up hauling costs.

State Agrees to Extension For Sale of Pork That Fails to Comply With Proposition 12

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has agreed to a six-month extension to allow retailers to continue selling pork products that don't comply with animal housing rules of California's Proposition 12. The extension resulted from a lawsuit from grocery and restaurant owners that sought postponement of some provisions of the initiative passed by voters in 2018. On June 16, the Sacramento County Superior Court approved a stipulated agreement to allow noncompliant whole pork meat that is already in the commercial supply chain to be sold through Dec. 31.

Six state subbasins may face probationary hearings on groundwater plans

Local agencies have learned more about next steps for six San Joaquin Valley subbasins facing possible state intervention after their groundwater sustainability plans were deemed inadequate by state officials. At a workshop of the California State Water Resources Control Board last week, members identified a schedule for potential probationary hearings for the six plans, including for the Tulare Lake, Tule, Kaweah, Kern County, Delta-Mendota and Chowchilla subbasins. Local groundwater agencies must implement plans to balance aquifer supplies within 20 years. ★

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Thompson Applauds \$1.8 Billion Broadband Investment from Infrastructure Law

Office of Representative Mike Thompson

ST. HELENA, CA (MPG) - On June 27, 2023, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) released the following statement after it was announced that California is receiving nearly \$1.9 billion for high-speed internet. The funding comes from the Department of Commerce's \$42.45 billion BEAD (Broadband Equity Access and Deployment) Program, part of the Bipartisan

Infrastructure Law, which represents the largest single investment in high-speed internet in history.

"We live in an increasingly modern era, and the availability and affordability of reliable, high-speed internet is important for education, healthcare, public safety and business," said Thompson. "Thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that I voted for, California is set to receive nearly \$1.9 billion for high-speed internet. This is a

transformative investment that will change the way we work and connect with the world."

High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, to participate equally in school learning, health care, and to stay connected. Yet, more than 8.3 million households and small businesses are in places where there is no high-speed internet infrastructure that provides minimally acceptable speeds. And many more American families go without

high-speed internet because of the cost.

In addition to helping connect everyone in America to high-speed internet, this new funding will support good paying jobs deploying fiber and by using materials Made in America. In total, third-party analysis estimate the overall investment will create upwards of 150,000 good-paying jobs laying fiber optic cable and building out networks.

Congressman Mike Thompson

is proud to represent California's 4th Congressional District, which includes all or part of Lake, Napa, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo Counties. He is a senior member of the House Committee on Ways and Means. Rep. Thompson is Chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. He is also Co-Chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus and a member of the fiscally-conservative Blue Dog Coalition. ★

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- CLUES**
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- Deli side
 - **"Breakfast at Tiffany's" animal
 - Songs for one
 - What formica and biochemical have in common
 - Prefix for partly
 - Dark
 - Crew equipment, pl.
 - Steinbeck's "East of _____"
 - Golf shirt
 - **"Marmaduke" animal
 - **"Away & Back" animal
 - Game "field"
 - Slightly insane
 - Casual top
 - Vending machine
 - Rocks, to a bartender
 - Bowling prop
 - Lush
 - Trots and canters
 - Broadcasting medium
 - Inflammatory swelling
 - Highland tongue
 - Sock pattern
 - Bring into play
 - Go back over
 - Theater passages
 - Part of a cheer
 - Lump of anything
 - Mio and Otis, e.g.
 - **Dunston Checks In" animal
 - Wheel on a spur
 - CISC alternative
 - Private theater box
 - Resembling wings
 - MacFarlane or Rogen
 - Go-_____
 - **"Bullseye, Hamm and Lotso Bear, e.g.
 - Lyric poem
 - Immediately, doctor's jargon
- DOWN**
- Air quality concern
 - Fibber
 - Farm measure
 - Sushi condiment
 - Natural moth repellent
 - To change, as in the U.S. Constitution
 - Fork prong
 - **"Harry Potter" animal (2 words)
 - Earthenware pot
 - **"Born Free" animal
 - I in T.G.I.F.
 - Administer diazepam
 - When Cinderella wins
 - Civil wrongs
 - "Some Nights" band
 - **"Life of Pi" animal
 - Close call
 - Bank job
 - Gossamer
 - Cry like #5 Across
 - Liquorice flavored herb
 - Hues
 - Backgammon predecessor
 - **"Babe" animal
 - **"Anchorman" and "The Wizard of Oz" animals
 - Kundera's "Unbearable Lightness of _____"
 - "That feels good!"

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000979
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 Fast Eddies Diesel Engine Performance & Repair, 1645 Fanning Court, Dixon, CA 95620.
 Date filed in Solano County: June 20, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business un-

der the above business name on: May 2, 2018.
 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 June 19, 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: July 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023
EDDIES 7-28-23



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT FOR DELINQUENT WASTEWATER COLLECTION ACCOUNTS AND DIRECTING ASSESSMENTS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT PROPERTY TAX BILL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the City of Dixon ("City") City Council will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on July 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers located at 600 East A Street, Dixon, California 95620 to discuss placing past due City of Dixon accounts on property tax bills. California Health and Safety Code Section 5473 give the City the authority to collect past due wastewater collection accounts by placing an assessment/lien in the amount of the past due balance on the annual property tax rolls. This process makes the past due amount subject to the County's property tax collection methods and late property tax fees.

The resolution to be considered will authorize the Finance Director, or her designee, to request that the Solano County Auditor enter each assessment on the tax roll against the respective property and to collect the assessment at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary municipal and county ad valorem taxes and to further subject the property to the same penalties and the same procedure of sale in case of delinquency as provided for such taxes. Upon receipt of said funds from Solano County, funds will be applied against the delinquent balances.

Notices regarding this process were mailed to all delinquent accounts prior to this hearing.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: are invited to attend the July 18, 2023 public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence of why you feel the billing is in error or why you feel you should be exempted from the lien process. At the above noted time and place, testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the resolution. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Interested individuals will be given an opportunity to speak in favor or opposition to the above proposed action. Written comments are also accepted, prior to the meeting at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Information regarding the meeting is on file and may be viewed by interested individuals at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If a challenge to the above proposed action is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City before the meeting.

Copies of the proposed resolution will be available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk at (707) 678-7000, or stop by the office at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Dixon Independent Voice 7-7, 7-14-2023

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL APPROVING ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR THE DIXON LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 INCLUDING CONFIRMING DIAGRAM AND ASSESSMENTS AND ORDERING LEVY OF ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the City of Dixon ("City") City Council will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on July 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers located at 600 East A Street, Dixon, California 95620 to consider the adoption of a resolution approving the Engineer's Report for the Dixon Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2023-24, including confirming diagram and assessments and ordering levy assessment.

The resolution to be considered by the City Council approves the City Engineer's Report which recommends levying an assessment on each of several lots and parcels of land within the Dixon Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District, each of which will be specially benefited by the maintenance of the improvements at least in the amount of the assessment apportioned against the lots and parcels of land, respectively.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: are invited to attend the July 18, 2023, public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the approval of the resolution. At the above noted time and place, testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the resolution. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

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Copies of the proposed resolution will be available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk at (707) 678-7000, or stop by the office at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Dixon Independent Voice 7-7-2023

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT FOR DELINQUENT REFUSE COLLECTION ACCOUNTS AND DIRECTING ASSESSMENTS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT PROPERTY TAX BILL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the City of Dixon ("City") City Council will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on July 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers located at 600 East A Street, Dixon, California 95620 to discuss placing past due Recology Dixon accounts on property tax bills. Government Code Sections 38790.1 and 25831 and Dixon Municipal Code Section 9.06.110 give the City the authority to collect past due refuse collection accounts by placing an assessment/lien in the amount of the past due balance on the annual property tax rolls. This process makes the past due amount subject to the County's property tax collection methods and late property tax fees.

The resolution to be considered will authorize the Finance Director, or her designee, to request that the Solano County Auditor enter each assessment on the tax roll against the respective property and to collect the assessment at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary municipal and county ad valorem taxes and to further subject the property to the same penalties and the same procedure of sale in case of delinquency as provided for such taxes. Upon receipt of said funds from Solano County, funds will be remitted to Recology Dixon.

Notices regarding this process were mailed to all delinquent accounts prior to this hearing.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: are invited to attend the July 18, 2023 public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence of why you feel the billing is in error or why you feel you should be exempted from the lien process. At the above noted time and place, testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the resolution. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Interested individuals will be given an opportunity to speak in favor or opposition to the above proposed action. Written comments are also accepted, prior to the meeting at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Information regarding the meeting is on file and may be viewed by interested individuals at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If a challenge to the above proposed action is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City before the meeting.

Copies of the proposed resolution will be available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk at (707) 678-7000, or stop by the office at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Dixon Independent Voice 7-7-2023

Honoring Hardworking Abuelito

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Honoring his hard-working grandfather, Cristian Torres opened his apparel design business with a logo he created of his grandfather's ice cream cart and he's ready to show it off.

"My company, El Paletero, is inspired by my Abuelito," Torres explained. "My grandpa used to be the ice cream man in my hometown of Dixon. He used to walk across town in the hot weather and has always been a hard worker his whole life. This brand is about appreciating, respecting, protecting, and supporting your local street vendor."

The El Paletero Shop will present a Dixon pop-up store event on Saturday, July 8, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Denverton Hall at the Dixon May Fair, 655 South First St.

Torres, a 2017 Dixon High School grad who played on the Dixon High School Soccer Team, headed off to Los Angeles after graduation in hopes of playing professional soccer but another



The grandfather of Cristian Torres sold ice cream for many years in Dixon. Courtesy photo

teammate gave him some advice to have a "side gig going." So, he started his own apparel design company and has big plans for the 'small business' day at the fairgrounds where he will be pushing out the brand on hats and shirts. There will also be about 25 other vendors participating including Dixon's popular La Familia Tortilla Shop.

"First, I appreciate everyone who supports this unique endeavor," he said. "The event is about strengthening our community and fostering collaboration and growth," he said. Admission tickets are \$5 and available on Eventbrite. For more information visit www.eventbrite.com/.../dixon-pop-up-shop-event. ★

Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Awards \$517,725 for Clean Air Projects

Continued from page 1

Bike Skills Training Program (The Bike Campaign); 3rd Annual Breathe Bike Rodeo (Breathe California-Sacramento Region)

For more information about the District's CAF Program, other incentive programs, or to register for the mailing list to be notified of the next application period visit [https://](https://www.ysaqmd.org/incentives/)

www.ysaqmd.org/incentives/.

Learn more about the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, register to receive air quality alerts, and Air Aware, the District's quarterly newsletter, visit www.ysaqmd.org. Connect with the District on Facebook or Twitter @YoloSolanoAir or Nextdoor at Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District. ★

How Friction Between Two Major California Laws Impedes Housing Construction



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

When California Gov. Gavin Newsom made an unusual appearance on Fox News, it was inevitable that conservative commentator Sean Hannity would bore in on California's chronic housing shortage and homelessness crisis.

Why, Hannity asked, did California have such problems?

"Because housing costs are too high," Newsom replied. "Our regulatory thickets are too problematic. Localism has been too impactful, meaning people locally are pushing back against new housing starts and construction."

Newsom's synopsis of the issue is quite accurate. The state's housing shortage stems from the over-regulation of development, largely driven by local opposition. It drives up costs to tenants and would-be homebuyers and pushes some into the streets. That cause-and-effect relationship was confirmed in a recent in-depth study of homelessness by a UC San Francisco research team.

Having pinpointed the underlying causes of the crisis, one might think that Newsom would energetically attempt to address them.

Last week, as part of a broader budget agreement, the governor persuaded the Legislature to modify the California Environmental

Quality Act, which is commonly misused to thwart housing developments, but he didn't do it for housing. Rather, he wants to streamline CEQA's effect on public works projects, particularly those involving renewable energy and water supply.

Indirectly, therefore, Newsom told Californians that while he says it should be done, he's not willing to take on the heavy lifting to lessen CEQA misuse on housing. His posture continues predecessor Jerry Brown's position of declaring CEQA reform to be "the Lord's work," but being unwilling to do it.

By happenstance, the Capitol's wrangling over CEQA – albeit while ignoring its effect on housing – coincided with the publication of a very lengthy, deeply researched and well-sourced article on how the 53-year-old law thwarts much-needed housing construction.

Christopher Elmendorf, a law professor at UC Davis who specializes in housing issues, and Timothy Duncheon, a San Francisco attorney, focus on "the slow-motion collision" between two overarching "super-statutes," CEQA and the Housing Accountability Act, or HAA.

They demonstrate through case studies that, while the latter attempts to streamline housing construction, the former is used to slow or even kill housing projects by local interests and labor unions.

They focus on a notoriously torturous case in San Francisco, whose Board of Supervisors used CEQA to block a much-needed apartment project on a vacant downtown parking lot due to special interest pressure, simply by decreeing that they

needed more information before giving the development CEQA clearance. But they also cite other cases in which the contradictory priorities of the two laws collide.

Their conflict, Elmendorf and Duncheon say, ties the courts up in knots as judges must, in effect, choose which law is dominant. Sometimes they opt for CEQA and sometimes the HAA, leaving the overall legal atmosphere unclear.

"The ostensible 'super-ness' of the two statutes creates a predicament for courts and other actors because CEQA and the HAA could not be more different in their basic institutional and normative principles," the authors write.

"CEQA's working premise is that 'new construction' is bad for the environment," they point out. "By contrast, the HAA regards housing construction in urbanized areas as presumptively good for the environment."

Carefully drafted legislation and/or CEQA implementation guidelines issued by Newsom's administration could, Elmendorf and Duncheon say, reconcile the two. They could limit CEQA to cases in which there are genuine environmental issues, rather than allowing it to be misused for motives that having nothing to do with the environment, such as forcing developers to use unionized labor.

Their paper lays out the roadmap for the CEQA reform that's needed to truly address California's housing crisis. It should be required reading in the Capitol.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for more than 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★

A Night on Broadway

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO (MPG) - On Saturday, June 24, a cast of 40 performed "A Night on Broadway" at the Black Box Theater. The Black Box Theater is part of the Community Center, located at 1075 West Capitol Ave., on the 2nd floor. The musical consisted of only 3 or 4 adults, the rest were kids.

This high energy play included little snippets of other musicals like Annie and Matilda, but it also had a tribute to Dr. Seuss and other favorites. The cast had full costumes with several costume changes throughout the play. The performers came from the Sacramento Performing Arts Company, located at 2791 24th St. in Sacramento.

Sacramento Performing Arts Co. is owned and run by "Miss Kim", who has been in the performance business for some 30 years. With her husband at her side, in charge of lights and sound and her choreographer, "Miss Cindy", they work all year long for their annual performance.

"I teach vocals and performance, but they have to try out for the part. I try to get everyone to be able to have a solo at some point, but they have to earn it," said Miss Kim. It cost around \$187 month to be taught at this studio, but Miss Kim does her best to teach them not only vocals, but also sound, costumes, lighting, cues, and the lost list of other portions of performance that they need to know.

"In a small venue like the Black Box Theater, we don't really need the mics, but we still use them because I want the



Ana Chandler in 'Not for the life of me' (Thoroughly Modern Millie.) Photo by Michele Townsend



The spotlight teens in 'Thoroughly Modern Millie' including: Lily Poryles, Lola Cardenas-Campos, Tommy Holleman, Della Smith and Sharmaine Ng. Photo by Michele Townsend

performers to get used to all aspects, so that when they move up and progress, they will already be comfortable with the equipment." The program was a great performance with the small fee of \$21 to get in.

"This time it was extra special," said Miss Kim, "because parents even stepped up and became

part of the program... and that never happens!" For more information about Sacramento Performing Arts Company, visit sacperformingarts.com, or call (916) 541-5473. To check the schedule of the Black Box Theater, visit cityofwestsacramento.org. It's a great way to spend family time. ★



Riley Reviews

"INDIANA JONES" RIDES ONCE AGAIN TO FIGHT TRUE EVIL

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"INDIANA JONES AND THE DIAL OF DESTINY" Rated PG-13

One thing certain about the "Indiana Jones" franchise that now spans forty-two years is that there is a comfortable knowledge that namely one person, Harrison Ford, carries the entire series with memorable assurance.

Contrast Ford's durable presence over this period of time with the fact that from the beginning of Sean Connery's portrayal of James Bond in 1962 another four actors from Roger Moore to Pierce Brosnan would take on the mantle of the famous spy over a forty-year timeframe.

Indiana Jones remains one of the most beloved characters brought to the screen, and it's hard to imagine anyone other than Ford, with his battered brown fedora and leather jacket, having the same staying power in the cultural consciousness.

For "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny," a de-aging process would prove necessary to cast the octogenarian Ford's Indiana Jones into an extended prologue of fighting the Nazis at the tail end of World War II in a quest for the artifact of the Archimedes Dial.

The marvel of digital enhancement does render Ford convincingly age-appropriate in trying to rescue his archeological colleague and friend Basil Shaw (Toby Jones) on a fast-moving train while trying to snatch the Lance of Longinus, a religious relic that turns out to be fake.

The knife that is alleged to have pierced the side of Jesus on the cross may be a counterfeit holy relic, but the Archimedes Dial is a device that purportedly holds the power to locate fissures in time.

Naturally, the Dial is the type of mechanism that could prove disastrous if it falls into the wrong hands, which is why the Nazis are so eager to find the missing piece that would make the device whole.

The prologue proves to be an exciting non-stop twenty-minute sequence of Indy making an escape from a lynching to battling a slew of Nazi villains that culminates with him and Basil in a daring mad dash atop a speeding train.

The action cuts to the film's present day of 1969 with Indy now an old man living in a modest New York apartment who starts yelling at hippies blaring the Beatles' "Magical Mystery Tour" that has disturbed his slumber.

His tenure as professor of archeology at New York's Hunter College comes to an end, and not a moment

too soon as it appears Indy's as bored with teaching as the students in his class show not even the slightest bit of interest in the subject matter.

But one person in the class turns out to be Indy's estranged goddaughter Helena Shaw (Phoebe Waller-Bridge), who he does not immediately recognize, and she's there for purely mercenary reasons.

Indy has been holding on to one-half of the precious Archimedes Dial, but Helena steals it because she's a con artist anxious to sell it on the black market to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, a Nazi nemesis from World War II named Dr. Voller (Mads Mikkelsen), now known as Dr. Schmidt, is working in the U.S. Space Program, but he and his Nazi henchmen are now after Indy and Helena in pursuit of the Dial for nefarious purposes.

Meanwhile, New York City is tossing a ticker-tape parade for the Apollo 11 astronauts who have returned from the moon landing, and the celebration gets interrupted with a chase scene that has Indy stealing a police horse and escaping from the Nazis into the subway system.

From there, the action shifts to Tangiers where Indy stops Helena from selling the Dial at an auction, and they acquire a helpful sidekick in resourceful teenager Teddy (Ethann Bergua-Isidore).

Aside from the frenzied tuk tuk chase through the streets of Tangiers, there's also a great underwater adventure with Indy's pal Renaldo (Antonio Banderas) and a far-fetched journey in time travel.

"Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny" may not capture the magic of "Raiders of the Lost Ark," but then neither did some of the sequels that preceded this fifth and final installment of the franchise.

Nevertheless, it's still fun to see the aging Harrison Ford still wearing the fedora in grand style and cracking the whip with the confidence of his younger self. However, it would have been better not to see an old codger walking around shirtless in his apartment.

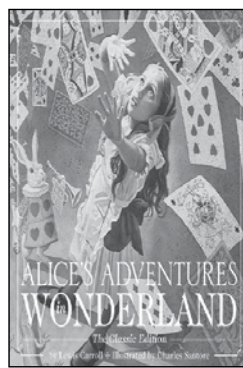
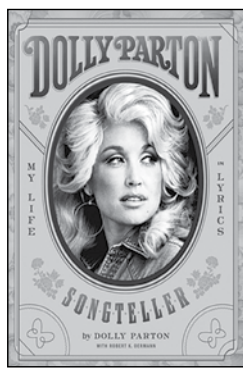
Foiling Dr. Voller's evil Nazi plan to change the course of history is obviously satisfying. When Voller tells an American that "You didn't win the war. Hitler lost it," you know this Nazi is a megalomaniac who sees himself as the next Fuhrer.

Let's face the obvious that the best villains in the "Indiana Jones" movies are Nazis, with Indy slugging it out with them and eventually prevailing.

Thwarting Hitler's goons is box office gold, and should help this final chapter to please the fan base. ★

FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS
By Amy Shane
BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • amy-shane@att.net • amy_fortheloveofbooks

Librarians Check Out This Year's Annual Library Book Convention



While the phrase "Librarians Gone Wild" has been around for years, everyone can agree that they are wild for books. This year librarians from around the country had the chance to come together to listen, learn and talk about this fall's lineup of new releases. From picture books to romance books and all the way to graphic novels, this meeting had it all. While the legendary Judy Blume opened up this year's convention, the overall theme encompassed "boundless horizons that lie ahead for libraries." While, ending on a beautiful note of hope and the beauty of creating change with the youngest presidential inaugural poet, Amanda Gorman, and Caldecott Honor Award Winner, Christian Robinson

With over 25,000 attendees, the Chicago convention center was a fanciful flight of publishers and authors ready to talk and share about their favorite books. Thousands of librarians rushed the convention hall in a mad dash to be the first to grab a book

or line up for some of the most anticipated books of the season. This season's fall lineup's primary focus will be on bringing readers more diverse storylines and characters while sprinkling in a new lineup of thrillers; mysteries to chill off those warm fall evenings.

Special-interest books took the exhibit hall by storm, causing fans to line up hours in advance in hopes to be the first to receive a copy. Wonder Woman's origin story topped the fan count, with hundreds of fans anxiously awaiting the chance to meet the legendary comic book writer Kelly Sue DeConnick. Fans of DC Comics will be in awe of the exquisite *Wonder Woman Historia- The Amazons* from the outstanding talents of Kelly Sue DeConnick and Phil Jimenez (pictured above). This first book in the new series heads back to the very beginning delivering the entire story of the Amazons in awe-inspired, stunning collectors' book.

Dolly Parton Songteller

My Life In Lyrics, written by Dolly Parton and Robert K. Oermann and published by Chronicle Books, wins as the heavy hitter of the convention. Weighing in at over four pounds, this stunning book is a collector and fan's dream. This coffee table-sized book features 379 full-color pages of personal stories, lyrics, photographs, and more. Readers will feel like they have been invited to sit in Dolly's living room with a tall glass of sweet tea as she intimately recounts the memories, the inspiration, and the journey of her awe-inspiring career.

Lastly, follow Alice down the rabbit hole as Applesauce Press and renowned illustrator Charles Santone spin a new look on the classic work *Alice in Wonderland*. This oversized edition features the entire classic story by Lewis Carroll alongside Santone's truly stunning illustrations, including three giant fold-out illustrated pages. This book is the perfect gift for any Alice fan or personal library. ★

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Subscription rate is \$42 per year within Dixon and Solano County. \$62 per year (Mail only).
Main Office Address: 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite #5, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The *Dixon Independent Voice* is published weekly on Friday.
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The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



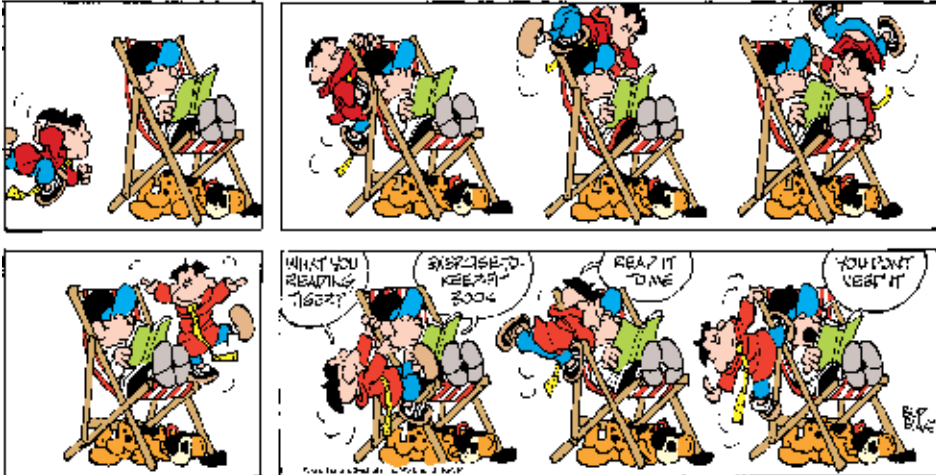
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Out on a Limb

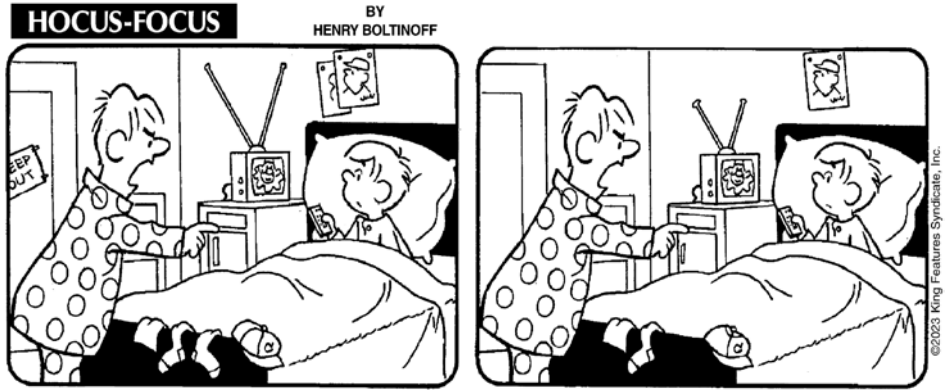


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40 Years for Readi-Ride



Dixon Mayor Steve Bird presents a plaque and announced a proclamation declaring July through August as the 40th anniversary of Dixon Readi-Ride. The city's transportation service started in 1983 to provide citizens with transit service within the Dixon community and is now an integral part of citizen's everyday lives. It provides safe, reliable, and affordable transit. There is now a fleet of eight 20-passenger vans that provide an average of 61,726 rides a year or 246 per day on the average based on 2019 figures. The service helps grant access to all of Dixon, thereby improving independence, and improving the quality of life for residents. Marking their 40th anniversary for Dixon Readi-Ride is Dispatcher Camilla Mayo, Dixon Transit Supervisor Vicki Jacobs, Mayor Steve Bird, and Randy Davis. Photo by Debra Dingman

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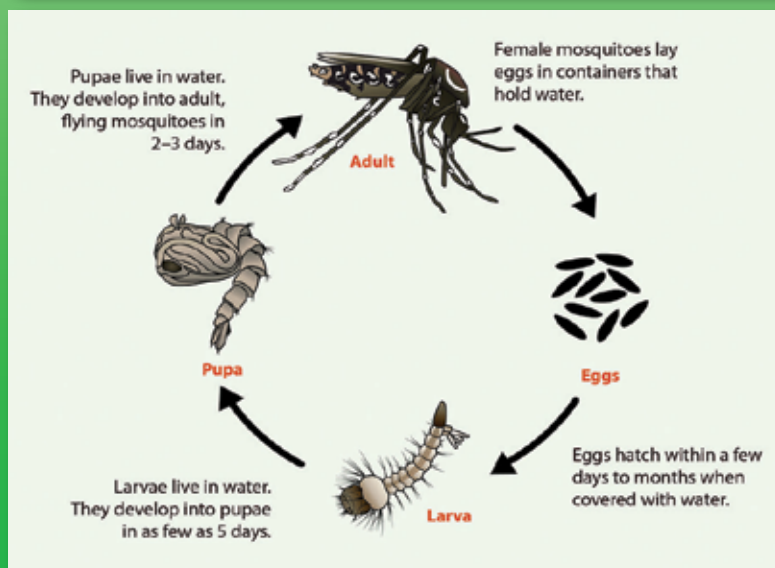
of Becoming Infected with West Nile Virus

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...



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this season by reporting dead birds to the [West Nile Virus Call Center](http://WestNileVirusCallCenter.com) 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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