



### Dixon Girls Softball Holds Senior Night

PAGE 4

### Helping the Helping Hands

PAGE 3



# Dixon Independent Voice

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**SEE INSIDE**  
**MYTHOLOGY MEETS ROCK AND ROLL**



PAGE 4

**FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS**  
By Amy Shane



PAGE 8

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**



PAGE 2



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## Beloved Band Teacher Coulson Retires

After 32 years, 'Time for Something New'



Band Director Adrian Coulson, left, is retiring after 32 years at Dixon High School. This photo was taken at the last performance under his direction. Photo by Debra Dingman

**By Debra Dingman**  
**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - As far as music students are concerned, Mr. Coulson is one of the most beloved teachers at Dixon High School and probably has been for 30 years. That is a solid high note for him to officially retire, which he did this past week after several "final" concerts; one that included students all the way back to his first year of teaching.

*First Stop: Dixon High*  
Originally from Sunnyvale, Coulson went to high school, then graduated from Cal State Hayward when a music



For his last song Band Director Adrian Coulson re-wrote the lyrics for a Billy Joel song. Photo by Debra Dingman

position opened up in Dixon. "When I interviewed, I felt like Dixon was a long way out but, I got offered the job. It was August 1993 and Mr. Tognetti was Principal. "When I took

it, I thought I'd stay five years because that's what you're supposed to do and I wanted to leave things better than I found them and then go back to the Bay Area because Dixon was pretty small," Coulson explained.

"Steve Russo was in the district five years before I got here, and his program was established so I got all of his students. We got better every year," he said expressing admiration for Russo who retired a couple years ago after a long career at CA Jacobs teaching band. "He and I had a good relationship. He liked

*Continued on page 7*

## Valley Clean Energy Receives Award for AgFIT Pilot Program

Valley Clean Energy News Release

**DAVIS, CA (MPG)** - As part of California Community Choice Association's (CalCCA) annual conference May 17-19 in San Diego, CA, Valley Clean Energy (VCE) was honored as runner-up in the Reliability category of the annual Community Impact Awards in recognition of its AgFIT Pilot Program.

Launched in 2022, VCE's AgFIT, or Agricultural Flexible Irrigation Technology pilot, supports local growers in decreasing energy usage and costs. In partnership with Polaris Energy Services and TeMix, the program provides incentives for irrigation automation and leverages software to help agricultural customers manage energy costs while providing maximum flexibility. The system gives agricultural customers visibility into energy prices a week ahead to help schedule irrigation for when energy costs (and other demands on the grid) are lowest.

"Valley Clean Energy is honored to be recognized for our work in Yolo County. Serving a large agricultural sector, it is important that we develop programs and solutions to fit the needs of our customers," said Tom Stallard, VCE's Board Chair and Woodland City Council Member. "In just a short time, the program has helped growers shift about 40% of their energy use away from summer evening critical peak hours. We plan to expand enrollment in the program and hope to see even more impact and customer savings."

The CalCCA Annual Conference featured workshops and sessions with keynote speakers from statewide agencies, and highlighted the growing CCA movement within California. During the inaugural awards ceremony, CCA programs were recognized for their outstanding and innovative projects across three categories: Equity, Reliability, and Decarbonization.

"There was an incredible energy among CCA staff, board and CCA support - we are a truly collaborative group with a passion for helping sister agencies succeed. Our team was humbled to have been named a runner-up in the Reliability category for the Impact Awards," said

*Continued on page 5*

## Huge Transformation for the Mews

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - It would be hard not to notice the steady work being done on the huge apartment complex on the corner of H Street and Pitt School Road. There have been work trucks, ladders, painters, and more appliance trucks as men have slowly transformed an old apartment complex into one of contemporary design.

The Mews is not named after a horse as some might think as they drive by the sign facing Pitt School Road. It's actually a British term for a row of houses or apartments that have been converted from stables or built to look like stables.

If you have followed the transformation, you can see how that name applies with the new style. They do look like small cottages placed on top of a barn due to the small, fenced patios. The company was purchased by Ridge Capital Investors, LLC, out of San Francisco about four years ago and in November 2021, they began the work of fully renovating the



A painter puts the finishing touches on one of the 95 apartments at The Mews on the corner of Pitt School Road and H Street.

entire complex. The former Walnut Ranch Apartments were built in 1981 and was the largest complex in Dixon at the time with 95 apartments. The reputation of the place has done a bit of up and down and back up again depending on management, but this is the first major renovation ever that also includes the interiors and the grounds. Even the

laundry room got digitized. The principals of the company have over 80 years of combined investment and asset management experience in all facets of the property life cycle, from development to major repositioning and adaptive re-use, according to their website. "They are family-owned and have a great company motto which they

embody, promote from within, and they give back to the community," said Jillian Stanwood, full-time Community Director. "That's why I work for them."

The company is spending approximately \$20,000 per unit which includes inside apartment transformation with all new stainless-steel appliances,

*Continued on page 3*



# Life's too SHORT



## Coupons are a Win-Win-Win!

By Debra Dingman

When we first started this newspaper, I had two ad sales people: Steve Strong, a college student whose father was a local chiropractor and Judith Shatto, a local mom busy with several teens. We quickly cornered the market, even going up against a long-time paper, and I know it was because we had proof of our readership. I also sold ads and I'll never forget a couple of experiences that showed those results.

Once was when I went into Dawson's who had placed an ad with us where I encouraged him to do a coupon ad. (You know: buy one, get one half off or get a free soda or coffee with a meal purchase or 15 percent off your total bill, etc.) I came in to ask how things were going and he opened the cash register and happily showed me a wad of coupons!

Another time I wrote in my column about bee pollen and how it worked like a miracle on my allergies. Back then, John Smiley was in charge of Long's Pharmacy and called me to say the next time I wanted to write something like that, to give him a heads up. He had sold out right after the paper was published.

These kinds of stories happen all the time for me. Most recently, we did a story on Luis Camarena who opened a water shop, Pure Water H2O, in the Safeway Shopping Plaza. When I checked back with him after the story was published, he said, "Now I know which newspaper Dixonites read!"

So, I'm telling you all this so you will know that coupons are a win-win-win for Dixon! First, they help businesses get customers. Second, they help the customer save money. Please note the new coupons and advertisers in our newspaper because, thirdly, those ads help support us getting the news to you!

We ran an ad for \$5 off when you purchase \$30 in groceries at Grocery Outlet and with the weather turning up warm, I knew I could easily stock up on my favorite LaCroix seltzer water, frozen fruit bars for the grandchildren (Okay, and maybe for Nana and Papa too,) and certainly on cheese sticks – my favorite protein snack. I have discovered cheese is one of the best regular bargains! Remember that this locally-owned store has an emphasis on natural, organic foods. It's a healthy person's grocery store paradise in there but plan on time to shop. There is a lot to see.

Another coupon in the graduation edition (last week's) was from The Discount Store next to CVS. If you haven't explored this bargain place, you'll have fun perusing the aisles that are now cleaned and organized. I noticed they had a variety of fans and I like the hum of one when I sleep in the summertime, but they seem to have a bit of everything and lots of items from Target stores and Amazon returns, to mention a few big retail names. Also, furniture and plenty of hardware, too.

Check these businesses out but remember to take your coupons, too! ★

# Dixon News Briefs



Pictured left to right: Brynne Dominguez, Katelynn Barr, Karlee Molina, Laynie Clark, Kylie Rhodes, Grace Gabby. Not pictured: Arriana Okhomina, Reilly Crain, Aydan Simpliciano. Photo by Amy Pretti

### MPG Staff

### Soroptimist Awards Scholars

The Soroptimist International of Dixon awarded ten scholarships to outstanding students of Dixon High School Class of 2023 this past week. These students had excellent grades as well as participation in sports, clubs, and community outreach.

SI Dixon Scholarship Recipients are Lilianna Ortiz, Karlee Molina, Grace Gabby, Katelynn Barr, Brynne Dominguez, and Kylie Rhodes.

'Touch from Above' recipients in Memory of Sally Adams are Laynie Clark and Arriana Okhomina. In addition, 'Touch from Above' recipients are Reilly Crain and Aydan Simpliciano. Dixon Soroptimist congratulates them and wishes them the best of luck in their future educational endeavors.

### Graduations!

John Knight Middle School does something a little different than a traditional graduation. They call it an 8th-grade Awards Ceremony and it is for any student who achieves at least a 2.0 GPS or higher or achieves significant academic growth throughout the year. It was held on the JKMD Football Field this past Tuesday.

Maine Prairie High School held their graduation ceremony this past Wednesday at the Community Theater at Dixon High School. There were 38 graduates!

This Saturday, June 3, Dixon High School graduation ceremonies will take place beginning at 9 a.m. on Finney Field (football field.) If it is a sunny day, wear sunblock or bring an umbrella for shade as it is usually a one to two hour experience with lots of pictures afterwards. There are 176 graduates.

On Thursday, June 8, the students from Sacred Heart of the Valley (Catholic school) will have their last day of school. On Friday, June 9, there will be a Baccalaureate Mass at 8 a.m. at St. Peter's Catholic Church bright and early at 8

a.m. There will be a choir upstairs and an awards ceremony as well.

The student's graduation ceremony will be held Saturday, June 10 at 9:30 a.m. at the Old Vet's Hall for their Chesterston Academy High School graduates.

June 8, is also when Neighborhood Christian School will be graduating its Preschool and Kindergarten classes 5:30 p.m. at 955 East A St. at Revive Church, the former Dixon Community Church site.

### Food Vendors

The Dixon Action Team is looking for food vendors for the upcoming Grillin' & Chillin' Rib and Chili Cook-off on Saturday, July 15, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in downtown Dixon. For more information, go to [www.DixonRibCookOff.com](http://www.DixonRibCookOff.com).

### Transportation Commission

The City of Dixon is currently accepting applications for the following vacancies on City Commissions: Three (3) vacancies on the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC). This group is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to traffic, transportation, and parking issues. Commissioners serve four-year terms, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

All vacancies are four-year terms expiring on June 30, 2027. The TAC meets at 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of even-numbered months. City residency is required. A stipend of \$75 per meeting attended is paid to each Commissioner. Interested Dixon residents may obtain an application at City Hall, 600 East A Street, by calling 678-7000, or by visiting the City's website. The deadline for filing applications is 5 p.m., Friday, June 2. Contact: Lupe Ruiz, Administrative City Clerk at 707-678-7000 Ext. 1116, for more information.

### Veterans Dinner

The American Legion Post 208 Veterans Dinner on Friday, June 2, 6 – 8 p.m. features pork. Donation of \$10 helps support the Veterans building at 1305 North First St. ★

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The DFS Food Pantry needed paper bags for our distribution of supplemental groceries. As we often do, we reached out to Joe Bruch, owner of Grocery Outlet. The next day he showed up with not only the bags, but also 20 Grocery Outlet gift cards. The gift cards are a very important component of our menu of foods we give to struggling families.

We provide 2 large bags full of non-perishables and the gift cards enable parents to purchase fresh dairy, meat and other products that we do not provide. Anyone can help us in this way by purchasing gift cards where people can get groceries in Dixon. Several local businesses and organizations are doing this as a significant way to partner with Dixon Family Services in serving our community.

For more information about how to help, or to learn how to receive food from the DFS Pantry, call (707) 678-0442. Leave a message and we will call you back during business hours.

Signed,  
Cookie Powell  
Dixon Family Services



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# Helping the Helping Hands



Left to right: Dixon Women's Improvement Club Outgoing President Carol Marshall, Dixon Youth Basketball President Misty Dalton, Many Soles for Mini Souls Founder Pam Franklin, Anderson Elementary 4th Grade Teacher, Lindsay Snyder, Robotics Teacher Michael Vlach, TEAM Governing Board Member Miranda Sheldon. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Five organizations have received hundreds of dollars thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club. Those organizations aim at improving Dixon and the people who live here. The awards were handed out at the annual DWIC luncheon held recently and representatives from each of the organizations were honored for their mission.

Community Grants Chair Teri Brown told members that initially there were to be two \$1000 and three \$500 community grants but, there were so many applications this year, the committee decided to give out one \$1000 and five \$500 community grants. She thanked members of the committee for all their hard work which included Jewel Fink, Barbara Long, Trisha Seastrom, and Ramona Todd.

These were the recipients:  
Anderson Elementary 4th Grade Teacher Lindsay Snyder told the members that the \$500 grant helped provide each 4th grade student who attended the Anderson 4th grade field trip to Marshall Historic State Park in Coloma a week earlier to pay for their activities fees such as panning for gold and creating a pouch for their gold. The families of many of those students could not afford the activities fee and it was important that every student be able to participate, she explained.

Bids for Kids Vice President Devon Camara-Soucy explained to the women that Bids for Kids helps provide monetary support to help purchase animals from students at the Dixon May Fair and Solano County

Fair. "Not all students have buyers for their animals," she explained.

Dixon High School Robotics Teacher (\$500) - Michael Vlach was awarded a \$500 grant and assured DWIC members that he would be helping to restart the robotics program (closed during Covid) at Dixon High School. The grant would help with purchasing robotic components.

Dixon Youth Basketball President Misty Dalton spoke to the group about how the DWIC community grant would serve the many youth who participate in the youth basketball program of Dixon through the purchase of facilities rental and player's jerseys, and more.

TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) Dixon (\$500) - Miranda Sheldon who is a Governing Board Member of TEAM Dixon shared with the audience that the special needs children benefit from the programs the organization offers such as swim night at the Dixon pool, but more importantly, that the student "buddies" for the children also benefit in a different way: "They learn that life is about caring and sharing," she said.

Many Soles for Mini Souls (\$1K) - Pam Franklin, Founder spoke about how she started this program and how important a good pair of shoes were for a student's self-esteem. Children at all three of our elementary schools, Anderson, Gretchen Higgins, and Tremont have benefited from receiving new shoes and with this community grant she is hoping to provide shoes to John Knight Middle School and Dixon High School students. ★

# Huge Transformation for the Mews

Continued from page 1

granite countertops, new lighting, and new dish basins.

The cost to renovate the pool was \$155,000 and they added a water feature as well. There is also a new deck and barbecue pit with a dining area planned to be finished by mid-July.

Ultimately, there will be fencing placed all around the facility and it will be a gated community.

"Out of the 95 units, we are halfway through with 42 of them done and six in progress," said Stanwood. They plan to be done in July with interior updates and finish by the end of the year with exterior upgrades which even included the fences for each unit and converting space to update the club house with a kitchen.

"I get a lot of compliments from residents," Stanwood said. But the app for the laundry room may be most appreciated, she added.

"It offers to tell you the timing of the machines so one knows when they are available but also will tell you how much time is left on your laundry," she said.

The Mews at Dixon Farms is promoted online via numerous apartment searches and touts its "immediate access to I-80, close to schools, grocery, shopping plaza, downtown eating and entertainment, short commute to major attractions; Sacramento, Vacaville Outlet Mall, and San Francisco."

It is overseen by FPI management, and has a culture grounded in HEART (Humility, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, and Teamwork) extending to 21 states and growing since 1968. ★



Anthony Garcia and Chris Smith, part of the maintenance crew at The Mews apartments, get ready to continue renovations inside one of the units.



A man walks by the construction area for a new barbecue area at the large apartment complex on Pitt School Road and H Street.



The new owners of the former Walnut Ranch Apartments are investing hundreds of thousands into renovating the complex.

# Enter in the New US Chamber of Commerce Small Business Awards Program

Capitol Corridor SCORE News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the launch of a new awards program for small businesses: America's Top Small Business! Accepting applications now!

Formerly known as the Dream Big Awards, America's Top Small Business (ATSB) aims to recognize small businesses doing big things in their industries and communities through innovation, job creation and a commitment to being an integral part of a thriving business ecosystem.

We'll be choosing Top Small Businesses across America (10 in each of seven regions). The highest scoring business in each region will be named one of America's Top Small Businesses and one finalist will win America's Top Small Business of the Year Award - a \$25,000 cash prize!

All applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on Friday, July 7, 2023.

Find out everything you need to know about the ATSB program, including who is eligible to apply, how winners are chosen, important dates and deadlines, and more on our FAQ page. ★



The Dixon District Chamber of Commerce would like to ...

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The Dixon Chamber of Commerce says a huge Thank You to our sponsors, our participants, our volunteers, the City of Dixon, and all those who made the 146th Annual May Fair Parade on May 13 such a success!

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For information on how the Dixon Chamber can help your business be more successful, call 707-678-2650 or email [info@dixonchamber.org](mailto:info@dixonchamber.org).

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# Girls Softball Holds Senior Night



Brynne Dominguez carries Alexia Gomez at their Senior Night Softball team celebration. Photo courtesy Wendi Hendershot

**MPG Staff**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The Lady Rams celebrated Senior Night last week recognizing two seniors who are graduating: Alexia Gomez and Brynne Dominguez. Those two were the only returning players from the year before so they were the only Seniors for their final season in Dixon High School Softball. The team held strong since seven of last year's returning players came in as Juniors. Those seven are Aemonn Rosenberger, Lexi Mendes, Camryn Elliot, Felesha LePenske, Ashley Garcia, Caitlyn Hendershot, and Audrey Graham.

"When the Juniors were Freshman, it was the first time in school softball history that they won the GEL (Golden Empire League) Championship. They won again last year as well as winning the first-ever Sac-Joaquin Section Championship for the

school and playing in the first-ever NorCal State Championship for DHS, in any sport I believe," said Wendy Hendershot, mother of Caitlyn.

This year, they are Co-Champions of the GEL League with Pioneer High School out of Woodland. In an upcoming game, they are hoping to win their 2nd Section Championship at Cosumnes River College.

"Alexia, Aemonn, Camryn, Felesha, Caitlyn and Audrey all played together when they were 8 years old, winning the 2014 Winter Ball Down and Dirty Tournament in the Gold Bracket as the Dixon Dynamites," she reported. "They only lost one game that whole season. DHS Head Coach Matt Boykin's two daughters were Assistant Coaches and DHS Asst Coach Eric Graham was their head coach back then." See more on NorCal Girls Softball Association. ★

# Mythology Meets Rock and Roll at The Woodland Opera House

**Woodland Opera House News Release**



worth of monsters on his trail. When Zeus's master lightning bolt is stolen and Percy becomes the prime suspect, he has to find and return the bolt to prove his innocence and prevent a war of the gods. From the best-selling book and with an original rock score, this show is fast paced and an exciting adventure for all! PG – language and battle scenes.

The Lightning Thief, The Percy Jackson Musical is a Young Adult Performers production with a cast between the ages of 14 and 24 years old. The show is Directed and Choreographed by Erik Catalan, and Music Direction by Jia-Min Rosendale.

Performances are set for Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. All seating is reserved, ticket

prices are \$20 for Adults, \$18 Seniors (62+), and \$10 for Children 17 and under. Balcony pricing is Adults at \$12 and Children at \$7. Flex pass specials and group rates are available.

Purchase tickets online at [www.WoodlandOperaHouse.org](http://www.WoodlandOperaHouse.org) and at the Box Office (530) 666-9617. Located at 340 Second Street, Box Office hours are: Tuesday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Opera House is located in historic downtown Woodland, just 15 miles northwest of Sacramento. Many wonderful shops and a variety of restaurants are within walking distance of the theatre. ★

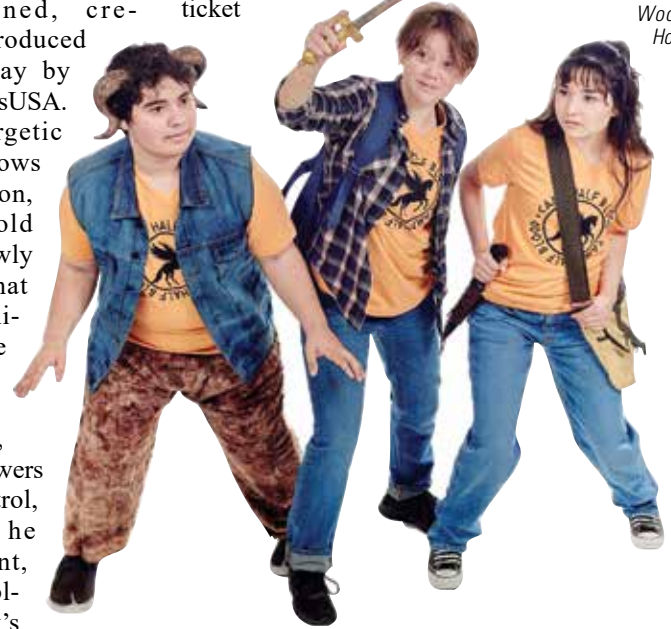
Top photo: Sammy Rosendale as Percy Jackson.

Bottom photo: Trio, (left to right) is Django Nachmanoff as Grover, Sammy Rosendale as Percy, and Severin Moreno as Annabeth. Photos courtesy of Woodland Opera House

**WOODLAND, CA (MPG)** - Tom and Meg Stallard present a Young Adult Performers production, The Lightning Thief, The Percy Jackson Musical at the Woodland Opera House, June 16-25.

Based on the book by Joe Tracz, Music and Lyrics by Rob Rokicki. Adapted from the book "The Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan. Originally commissioned, created, and produced off Broadway by TheaterWorksUSA.

This energetic musical follows Percy Jackson, a 12-year-old boy who newly discovers that he is a demigod. As the half-blood son of a Greek god, Percy has powers he can't control, a destiny he doesn't want, and a mythology textbook's



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**Daniel Penny Wasn't A Vigilante**

Pretty much everything you need to know about the Daniel Penny case you can learn from the "Death Wish" movies.

Or so you might conclude if you took seriously the left's analysis of the tragic incident in a New York City subway car last month that led to Penny, a former Marine, getting charged with second-degree manslaughter.

The upshot of this commentary is that conservatives favor "vigilantism" and support it, of course, because it's a bulwark of white supremacy.

"The Republican Embrace of Vigilantism Is No Accident," according to New York Times columnist Jamelle Bouie.

Greg Sargent and Paul Waldman rapped Ron DeSantis in The Washington Post for his support of Penny: "DeSantis's celebration of vigilantism is a new low in MAGA extremism."

"Daniel Penny shows how much the right loves white vigilante violence," averred the headline on a piece at the Public Notice Substack.

Jon Marshall, an associate professor at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, was quoted in another Washington Post piece, "What we're seeing now for Daniel Penny after he killed Jordan Neely is that he fits within a long, ugly history of some media and politicians glorifying

vigilante violence."

There are many problems with this line of argumentation, beginning with the fact that Daniel Penny wasn't a vigilante.

Merriam-Webster defines a vigilante as "a member of a volunteer committee organized to suppress and punish crime summarily (as when the processes of law are viewed as inadequate)."

There can be loner vigilantes, of course. If, say, someone Penny cared about was harmed by a mentally ill homeless man, and he started riding the subways looking for mentally ill homeless men like Neely to take vengeance on, that'd be vigilantism.

This is a version of the scenario that set the Charles Bronson character Paul Kersey on his path of blowing away New York City's muggers and lowlifes in the series of movies.

By contrast, conservatives are, as a general matter, viewing Penny as a defender of himself and, most importantly, those around him—not an avenging angel administering the justice that Alvin Bragg refuses to.

Indications are that Penny (and his fellow passengers) sincerely believed Jordan Neely, suffering from untreated mental illness, was a threat to people on the train. There's still much we need to know about the particulars of the case, but the impulse to protect others is deeply admirable and rare.

Most people intuit this, and presumably even more so if they have ever been in the confined space of a subway car, with the cops nowhere to be found and everyone else looking at their shoes, with someone acting aggressively or

irrationally.

What progressives are doing is taking praise for someone who stepped up in a difficult circumstance and twisting it into something perverse, dangerous and racist.

The fevered theorizing is quite impressive, even by today's standards. According to the Public Notice piece: "Conservatives are desperate to preserve the privilege of white violence, which is why the defenses of Penny sound so rabid and so unhinged. For conservatives, a world in which white men are held accountable for racist murder is a world without law, without order."

Despite the effort to enlist Daniel Penny in the Klan, there's no indication that he was motivated by racial animus and no reason to believe that he would have acted differently if confronted with a mentally ill person of another race acting menacingly.

Of course, if Penny had reacted the same way countering a perceived threat from a white man, the tragic event would be a blip; it's the catnip of a purported racial incident and the opportunity to put Penny, with no justification, in the company of long-ago racists acting extralegally to intimidate and kill Black people that makes the case irresistible for progressives.

Penny's appointed role is to be an archetype, the "white vigilante," with no room for nuance or complication — or even an accurate definition of vigilantism.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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**Dave Ramsey Says**

**My Retirement Savings is Eroding Away!**

Dear Dave,

I'm 61, and I hope to be able to retire soon, but I'm watching my retirement savings completely eroding away day after day. The only place I'm not losing money is \$180,000 I have sitting in the bank earning almost zero interest. What should I do?

—Jesse

Dear Jesse,

Come on, man. "Completely eroding away day after day?" That's a little dramatic. One of the things you have to understand, and coming to grips with it has helped me since I began doing research on things like this 30 years ago, is we all have a drama queen living in our brain that exaggerates things—especially when it comes to

investing. So, take a deep breath and calm down. Everything's going to be okay.

Studies have shown us it takes \$3 of gain in an investment to emotionally offset \$1 of loss. Our brains record negative things at a much greater rate than they do positive things, and it takes a lot of emotion to recover from that. Your investments may be down a little. If you've got \$1 million in there, it may be worth \$900,000 right now. Next year, it's liable to bounce up to \$1.1 million. In other words, your entire retirement savings is not "eroding away."

Have you ever heard people say they lost all their money in the stock market? Well, that's mathematically impossible, unless you put all your money into one company, and that company completely closed and was worth zero. Remember Enron? What most people really mean when they say that is they lost a

bunch of money because they freaked out and went into hyper-drama mode, then pulled all their money out while the market was down.

Jesse, did you know that in the last 20 years, every down year in the stock market was followed by two years of record gains? Facts and mathematics are your two best friends when it comes to telling your inner drama queen, "Shut up, we're going to continue to invest!"

—Dave

*Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of "The Ramsey Show," heard by more than 18 million listeners. He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning," "Today," Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, He also serves as CEO of Ramsey Solutions.* ★



**Dairies in Tulare, Kings Counties Resuming Operations After Flooding**

Dairy operators in Tulare and Kings counties say they are thankful to return to the normal rhythms of feeding, milking and calving after historic flooding in March burst levees and forced dairies to rapidly evacuate their cows. Tulare County is California's leading milk and milk products producer. Kings County ranks fourth. Thousands of cattle were evacuated during the storms. While most have returned to dairy ranches, they are being closely watched by veterinarians for stress, which can open doors for disease. No cattle illness spikes have been noted to date.

**U.S. Supreme Court Rejects Challenges to California Animal Housing Law**

The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld California's Proposition 12. Now out-of-state producers of pork, eggs and veal have decisions to make: Change their operations to comply with the law's animal housing requirements or stop selling their products in California. The Golden State enjoys a 13% share of the U.S. consumer pork market, making it economically infeasible for many pork producers to exit the California market. Because of the interconnected nature of the U.S. pork industry, all or most hog farmers would be forced to comply with the state's requirements.

**Salinas Valley Lettuce Farmers Hope for Better Year After Floods, Crop Virus**

Things are even more challenging for lettuce growers in the Salinas Valley after this year's storms. Farmers in 2022 had suffered an estimated \$150 million in crop losses as impatiens necrotic spot virus — a destructive plant disease spread by thrips — moved from field to field. Then this year, vast flooding from atmospheric storms damaged multiple crops, with lettuce growers suffering an additional \$54.4 million in losses, according to recent figures released by the Monterey County agricultural commissioner. Still, lettuce growers say they are hoping for a successful crop this year.

**Monterey County Winds Soothe Winegrapes, Frustrate Tourists**

Coastal winds in Monterey County create some challenging contradictions for a wine region trying to build its brand and attract more tourism. Some winegrape producers say they fear winds that push the fog and help cool vineyard leaves can also discourage winery construction and dissuade tourists who may not want to sip fine wine varietals in gusty settings. Still, the upstate coastal wine region is winning acclaim for its pinot noir and "premium, coastal, cool-weather chardonnay." The wine sector produces \$1.4 billion in economic activity for the county and provides 10,491 jobs ★

**Valley Clean Energy Receives Award for AgFIT Pilot Program**

*Continued from page 1*

Rebeca Boyles, Director of Customer Care and Marketing at VCE.

CalCCA has 25 CCA members and six affiliates serving over 11 million customers and 200+ cities and counties throughout California. As a collection of public agencies, CalCCA represents its members in the legislature and at state regulatory agencies to support the long-term sustainability of their members and advocate with a collective voice, education, and technical and regulatory guidance.

The continued growth of Community Choice Aggregators throughout California gives communities and customers the opportunity to choose their energy source and create a positive lasting impact.

Valley Clean Energy - or VCE - is the official electricity provider for residential and commercial customers in the cities of Woodland, Winters, and Davis, and unincorporated Yolo County. We're a not-for-profit public agency, which means that

we're working 100% for our customers. VCE offers a choice in electricity suppliers for the first time ever. It also keeps program control and revenues right here at home, where we can create jobs and build local clean energy installations—as many other programs just like ours have already done. We'll reinvest dollars to boost our local economy while taking control of our clean energy future. More information is available at <https://valley-cleanenergy.org/>.

Launched in 2016, the California Community Choice Association (CalCCA) represents California's community choice electricity providers before the state legislature and at regulatory agencies. There are 25 operational CCA programs in California serving more than 11 million customers—about one-quarter of the state's population—in 200+ cities and counties throughout the state. For more information about CalCCA, visit [www.cal-cca.org](http://www.cal-cca.org). ★

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# Grand Jurors' Association Adds Twelve New Trainers to Its Cadre

## California Grand Jurors' Association News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Each Year the California Grand Jurors' Association (CGJA) looks for potential trainers from among the jurors it trains in order to further its core mission of taking on the education of civil grand juries throughout the State. This year 12 new trainers joined the association's faculty, bringing the total to 31. Consisting exclusively of volunteers, the training staff, experienced trainers, and new trainers gathered recently in Sacramento to learn techniques and strategies, review training

materials and build camaraderie. Beginning in late June the trainers will fan out across the State in teams of three or four and begin the challenging work of sharing their experience and knowledge to make each county, and our entire state, better – one report at a time.

California is the only state in the Union whose Constitution mandates that a grand jury be sworn in each year. Each civil grand jury's task is to act as a watchdog of local government with a requirement to write at least one report on one aspect of county government.

CGJA coordinates with

counties throughout the state to meet with and share best practices for their jurors to be the most effective in making positive changes to all aspects of local government. Every area of grand jury service is reviewed in each two-day seminar provided by the volunteer trainers; everything from strategies jurors may use to determine the topics to investigate to conducting interviews to producing effective reports.

Each year over 1,000 jurors are provided with CGJA's training – a credit to county governments and CGJA. More than 100,000 Californians have been civil grand jurors and each year,

California's civil grand juries across 58 counties issue nearly 500 reports.

Counties are currently in the annual juror selection process, often aided by local chapters of CGJA, some of whom work closely with the Superior Court's presiding judge to assist with recruitment, orientation, and vetting the applicants.

To learn more about California's one-of-a-kind civil grand jury system, CGJA's 4th edition of "California Civil Grand Jurors: History, Law and How they Operate" is available as a free download at <https://cgja.org/californias-civil-grand-juries-0>

For more information, go to <https://www.cgja.org>. To apply to serve as a grand juror, check out the website of the Superior Court in your county.

The California Grand Jurors' Association is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization 501(c)3 dedicated to promoting, preserving and supporting the civil watchdog function of California grand juries. Each year, CGJA provides training to grand juries to help them more effectively fulfill their state constitutional authority to, among other things, investigate and report on the conduct of local government as an arm of the Superior Court. ★

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<p><b>Announcement</b></p> <p>Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing, Trusted by Authors since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for your Free Author's Guide 1-877-538-9554 or visit <a href="http://dorranceinfo.com/Call">http://dorranceinfo.com/Call</a> (Cal-SCAN)</p> <p>Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote -Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-439-5645 (Cal-SCAN)</p> <p>Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior &amp; Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)</p> <p><b>NEW AUTHORS WANTED!</b> Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! 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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Mother Earth, to Ancient Greeks
  - Barrel, unit
  - Foot the bill
  - Quiet time
  - Nemo's forgetful friend
  - Horace's poem
  - One thing on a list
  - Ophthalmologist's check-up, e.g.
  - Range of hills in England, pl.
  - \*Ticket booth (2 words)
  - \*"Odyssey," e.g.
  - Biased perspective
  - Azog or Bolg in Tolkien's *Moria*
  - \*Siskel or Ebert
  - To the degree
  - Brick and mortar carrier
  - Governing authority
  - Key component of a loan
  - Highly skilled
  - E in CE or BCE
  - \_\_\_\_\_ a high note"
  - End of the line
  - Like certain yellowish hair color
  - Compass bearing
  - Ambled
  - Warhol or Samberg, formally
  - Churchill's sign
  - Anna Wintour's magazine
  - \*"Heat of the Moment" band
  - \*"Like some seats
  - More slippery
  - Initial bet in poker
  - Popular dunking cookie
  - "Little \_\_\_\_\_ fact"
  - Simon and Gurfunkel, e.g.
  - \*"Sentimental movie, or \_\_\_\_\_jerker
  - Literary "even"
  - \*Shooting location
  - ESPN award
- DOWN**
- Not intellectually deep
  - \_\_\_\_\_pilot
  - Holly family
  - \*Kate Hudson's "\_\_\_\_\_ Famous" (2000)
  - Put someone in a bind (2 words)
  - Modified leaf
  - Tick-born disease
  - Ralph Lauren's inspiration
  - Puts two and two together
  - \*"Owner of a Lonely Heart" band
  - Vandalize
  - Pitchers
  - \*"Tub contents
  - Behave like a coquette
  - Comes before first Mississippi
  - Bracelet add-on
  - Barrel racing meet
  - Think tank output, pl.
  - \*Widescreen cinematography abbreviation
  - Dimmer, e.g.
  - Do penance
  - Re-establish

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 Norcal Contract Solutions LLC, 2915 N Texas Street #230, Fairfield, CA 94533.  
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new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration May 10, 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: May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 2023  
 NORCAL 6-9-23



# Senator Dodd's Cal State Harassment Bill Clears Senate

Office of Sen. Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The California Senate approved a bill on May 25, 2023, from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would increase accountability and oversight in the resolution of sexual harassment and violence cases on California State University campuses.

"As a grandparent and CSU graduate, I am committed to making sure students will feel safe and respected on our campuses," Sen. Dodd said. "We must hold administrators accountable and bring necessary transparency to make sure cases aren't swept under the rug. This bill ensures we put the culture and processes in place to make that happen."

Sen. Dodd's Senate Bill 808 was introduced in response to numerous cases of sexual harassment and violence occurring in the California State University system in recent years.

Under provisions of the bill, campus investigations would be subject to additional oversight. Also, the outcome of any settlements would be posted on college

websites and reported to the Legislature. Senator Dodd plans to build on the reforms proposed in the bill based on any recommendations from the pending State Auditor report, expected this spring.

SB 808 is co-sponsored by the California Faculty Association and CSU Employees Union and has support from Solano County government. The bill was approved by the full Senate with unanimous support.

"Legislation like SB 808 is needed because there is systemic abuse and harassment happening at campuses across the CSU system," said John Vasquez, chair of the Solano County Board of Supervisors. "As the home county of a state university, the well-being of students at the California State University Maritime Academy is important to the board of supervisors. SB 808 provides greater transparency and protections for students."

Senator Bill Dodd represents the 3rd Senate District, which includes all or portions of Napa, Solano, Yolo, Sonoma, Contra Costa, and Sacramento ★

# Beloved Band Teacher Coulson Retires

Continued from page 1

the theater and communicating with other people. Most people complained about their [school job] situations but I had nothing to complain about. That's how it worked so the original plan of leaving didn't make sense," he explained. He and his wife, Leigh Bills, purchased their Dixon home.

*Tragedy Strikes*

"In 2004, Miles, was born in the spring so at the end of the school year, we experienced a lot of uncertainty. On September 5, he had a heart transplant. Crystal Wilson organized a fundraiser and so did John Waterman who owned the coffee place. A lot of people rallied around us and brought us food in our crisis," completely endearing the couple to the small town.

A former student, Lelani Green, who was just 17 and who had just graduated, was a huge help.

"While my wife was with Miles in Palo Alto in the hospital Lelani took care of Matthew who had just turned 2 years old. She was never late and was his nanny until I was done working. Teachers donated sick days," he said growing quiet. "The community rallied very much. I get emotional talking about it because it was an emotional experience."

Superintendent of Schools Brian Dolan was the principal at Dixon High when Miles was born and remembered those times.

"Mr. Russo rotated between CA Jacobs and DHS to cover Adrian," Dolan said telling a concert audience how the whole school persevered. "The quality of a program and the quality of the teacher really shows when that instructor steps away. Replaceable does not mean forgettable." He described with humor how Coulson was sarcastic, sardonic, wry, and pretty darn funny.

*Retirement*

"I'm still young. I don't have a particular plan, but I'd like to still be involved in the

band," Coulson said. Recently, the marching band played a song he arranged – another one of his vast musical skills. He likes taking another composition and adapting it to a marching band.

"I'd like to do more arranging like that and adjudicating (judging) other competitions. There was never time to do that but that's a way to stay involved," he added. He also plans on playing saxophone more. It was his main instrument.

"When you're in [a music program,] there's jazz – and you're expected to play the flute and clarinet. I played trumpet in school, and I know how to play the guitar because I liked the Beatles," he said. He also plays the piano, and he thinks he might try trombone in the future.

"Some people complain about today's kids, but I don't feel that way at all. I think how great they are. I will miss them," he said sounding sentimental. "It's going to be hard. It's difficult to let go of something you've taken care and cared about for so long."

"I wanted to retire while I still love it. I don't want to be a burned-out teacher. I have just as much energy as I've ever had, and I'm really busy but it's time for somebody else to have a turn," he said. "It can be exhausting caring about something."

His last concerts were this past week.

*Accolades*

"He is retiring after 32 years of amazing service. He has done so much as a teacher, musician, and I am not sure there is any educator that gives so much to kids and understands their needs as much as he does," said DHS Principal Stephanie Marquez.

"Who is not going to miss Coulson?" asked Dolan. "The bond is closer than any other teacher. Band touches every element of life on campus with travelling around for games and competitions. They represent us," he said. ★

# Senator Dodd's Bill to Lift Barriers for Wheelchair Users Clears Senate

Office of Sen. Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The California Senate approved legislation on May 30, 2023, from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would grant wheelchair users the right to have their own equipment repaired, eliminating manufacturer delays that could leave them immobilized while reducing costs to one of California's most vulnerable populations.

"My bill enhances quality of life for people with mobility issues," Sen. Dodd said. "It allows power wheelchair users to get their wheelchairs fixed in an efficient and timely manner when things go wrong. And it prevents manufacturers from imposing onerous repair restrictions, ensuring those who rely on wheelchairs are back up and running as soon as possible."

The \$70 billion power wheelchair industry has historically profited by limiting what it spends on technicians and repairs, frustrating wheelchair users as they try to maintain their equipment. Last year, Colorado became the first state in the nation to address the issue, adopting a right-to-repair law that granted

wheelchair owners and independent shops access to parts, manufacturer software, specialized tools and other items needed to ensure timely and affordable wheelchair repair. Manufacturers could be cited for failing to comply.

Sen. Dodd's Senate Bill 271 would ensure the same right to repair for California wheelchair users. SB 271, which is supported by advocates including Sacramento disability rights activist and wheelchair user Russell Rawlings, was approved by the Senate Tuesday with bipartisan support.

"If you have a power chair and are using it daily, it needs regular maintenance," Rawlings said. "But the industry as it stands has very little interest in making repairs. There can be months if not longer of wait time. This bill seeks to change that by making it easier for owners and smaller shops to fill the repair need. Also, power chairs are increasingly controlled by software that is currently restricted to a small number of vendors. Owners having access to these tools would enable more freedom and ability to control their driving experiences." ★

# Solano County Genealogical Society Announces June Speaker



Mark McLaren. Photo courtesy of Solano County Genealogical Society

**Solano County Genealogical Society News Release**

**VACAVILLE, CA (MPG)**

- The Solano County Genealogical Society will host a free virtual Speaker Series presentation Saturday, June 3, entitled "Overview of the Major DNA Testing Company Tools". The event begins at 11 a.m. and the featured speaker is Mark McLaren.

Thinking of exploring your heritage through DNA testing and trying to decide which company to choose? Perhaps you've tested with one company

and wonder if another company might give you different result. McLaren will provide an overview of the four major DNA testing companies: Ancestry, MyHeritage, FamilyTreeDNA and 23andMe, focussing on the tools each of these companies offers and comparing their strengths and weaknesses. He will also cover general best practices for managing DNA kits and provide tips for analyzing DNA matches. The format of the talk will be a combination of PowerPoint slides and demonstrations of each company's website.

McLaren has taught an "introduction to genetic genealogy" class for many genealogical societies in the Bay Area, including San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society, California Genealogical Society, Mt Diablo Genealogical Society, and Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. He established and leads

a DNA Special Interest Group and is an administrator for three projects at FamilyTree DNA, including the McLaren surname project. Finally, he manages or supports over 35 individual DNA kits for family, friends, and clients.

Originally from the Philadelphia area, his interest in genealogy began in the early 2000s and has expanded over the years. His current areas of focus are genetic genealogy and Scottish research. He is a Fellow in the Society of Scottish Antiquities and a member of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, as well as several Scottish Clan societies.

To attend, send an email to scgs@scgsca.org no later than 4 p.m. Friday, June 2, and request an invitation.

More information on society activities can be found on the society's webpage at scgsca.org and on its Facebook page. ★

# Thompson Releases Statement on Bipartisan Budget Agreement

Office of Rep. Mike Thompson

**WASHINGTON, DC (MPG)** - On May 30, 2023, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) released the following statement on the Bipartisan Budget Agreement.

"The Bipartisan Budget Agreement will help prevent a default on our debt while rejecting extreme demands from the Republicans. This agreement protects veterans, seniors, and the historic successes of the last Congress," said Thompson.

"Extreme members of the Republican majority took us to the brink of an economic disaster, needlessly worried veterans and seniors, and embarrassed the United States in the eyes of our allies and adversaries. House Democrats will again provide leadership and work to pass this bill and get it to President Biden's desk."

"There are parts of this agreement that I don't like, but we must pass this bill as soon as possible to avoid a default and keep our economy strong." ★

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## Summer Fantasies that Emerge From the Shadows

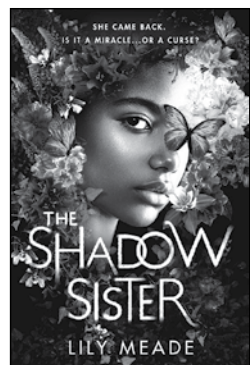


**A Shadow Crown - The Halfling Saga**  
by Melissa Blair, Union Square

From the book that took BookTok by storm comes the final installment and continuing story of politics, a stolen Kingdom, and wicked Kings in The Halfling Saga's A Shadow Crown.

For Keera, her life is torn between the light and the shadows. To her Kingdom, she is the Kings' most trusted asset. Titled the King's Blade, Keera is the most talented and trusted assassin and spy, willing to do the Kings bidding at a moment's notice. But now, Keera also secretly works in the shadows alongside Prince Killian and the Fae who has set her heart ablaze, Riven. Together, they secretly plan to take the tyrant King's crown and the Kingdom along with it, but with a daring mission, everything is at stake. While everyone lives in harmony within the secret city of the trees, Keera's past has found her, and now everyone believes she is a traitor. Now, faced with proving her innocence as well as being forced to face her heart, Keera will learn that battles of the heart and the Kingdom can take more than she ever imagined.

Melissa Blair delivers a story readers have been searching for. Filled with political intrigue, Kingdoms, allies, traitors, and matters of the heart, *A Shadow Crown* will keep readers on the edge of their seats. With magical storytelling, character building, and well-described scenes, this duology tops this summer's reading list.



**The Shadow Sister**  
by Lily Meade, Sourcebooks Fire

Everything falls apart when Casey's sister goes missing, not just because she fears that no one will even look for her but the fact that she is still upset with Sutton. Sutton, the picture-perfect teen, had everyone fooled, manipulative and cunning Sutton always got her way even stealing Casey's heirloom bracelet.

Then Sutton reappears, and while she should be overjoyed to have her return, Casey knows something is not quite right. While no one seems to be aware, Casey notices things she can't ignore. First, her sister doesn't remember anything from when she was gone; she doesn't remember their horrible fight, and even their dog doesn't treat her like the old Sutton. Then there is the fact that she just stares at the goldfish for hours!

Casey also questions why no one has asked about the other girls that have gone missing. Now Casey feels it is up to her to discover what really happened, who Sutton really is, where she went, and what happened to the other girls.

Lily Meade crashes into the summer with her debut book, *The Shadow Sister*. With a refreshing take on sisters that don't get along and the internal struggle when one goes missing. This story is a breathtaking ride as readers are thrust into a story that keeps them questioning, doubting, and wondering what truly happened. ★



## Riley Reviews

“FAST X” DELIVERS THE HIGH-OCTANE ACTION EXPECTED BY FANS

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

“FAST X” Rated PG-13

The “Fast and Furious” franchise has been a global sensation for more than two decades, and has shown no signs of abating, because in Hollywood there's no such truism as too much of a good thing.

In case you have lost count of the number of installments of this high-octane saga, the Roman numeral in “Fast X” should be the clue that this is a milestone anniversary for the fan base to celebrate.

Does “X” mark the spot for a conclusion to the adventures of wheelman Dom Toretto (Vin Diesel) and his extended family that is now threatened by a lethal adversary emerging from the shadows of the past?

The answer to that question may be found in the closing credits which seem almost interminable. Or the sign may point to the anticipated box office success of this chapter, which nobody wants to leave behind.

As a refresher on the series, 2001's “The Fast and The Furious” was a regional story about the sub-culture of street racers in Los Angeles who dabbled in crime on the side, and since then the franchise has morphed into international intrigue.

The global plots have allowed the transition from muscle-car racing to ever more preposterous plots of scheming in exotic foreign locales, and here it is a rather extensive chase through the streets of Rome to stop a runaway bomb from destroying the city center.

But first, there is a flashback to 2011's “Fast Five,” in which Dom and his crew took out nefarious Brazilian drug kingpin Hernan Reyes (Joaquim del Almeida) and decimated his empire on a bridge in Rio de Janeiro.

What the racing enthusiasts didn't know was that Reyes's son, Dante (the hulky Jason Momoa), witnessed it all and has spent the last 12 years festering in a revenge plot to make Dom pay the ultimate price.

For the Roman sequence, Dom and his loyal compatriots, Letty (Michelle Rodriguez), and the bickering and bantering duo of Roman (Tyrese Gibson) and Tej (Chris “Ludacris” Bridges), end up getting played by Dante, the puppet master masterminding their wild ride.

When the action subsides only briefly, Dom takes the occasions to talk solemnly about the importance of family, which takes on new meaning as he enlists his formerly estranged brother Jakob (John Cena) to protect his young son Brian (Lio Abel Perry).

Of course, Dom has also been protective of Letty, who in her own right is a fierce and fiery warrior, a talent on full display in a tough battle with Cipher (Charlize Theron), until they realize having a common enemy.

Kurt Russell is missed as Mr. Nobody, the secretive Agency honcho, but his daughter Tess (Brie Larson) is a helpful rogue agent, because Mr. Nobody's replacement, Aimes (Alan Ritchson) does not have the backs of Dom's crew.

Dom's sister Mia (Jordana Brewster) plays the familiar role of den mother. Jason Statham's Deckard Shaw crosses paths with the group when they encounter a common enemy. Blink and you might miss Helen Mirren's Queenie and Scott Eastwood's ambitious government agent Little Nobody.

“Fast X” is arguably designed mostly, if not exclusively, for its rabid fan base, with nostalgia creeping in through the flashbacks to the fifth chapter, in which the late Paul Walker is still part of the Toretto universe.

If you happen to drift into a showing of this tenth chapter, a scorecard would be needed to keep track of all the characters, both old and new. How did Rita Moreno get into the act, as the grandmother of the Toretto siblings no less?

Frankly, even if you've kept up with many, if not all, of the films, the proceedings have become so convoluted with an excess of high-speed chases, detonations, and death-defying stunts that a sense of bewilderment may set in.

While Vin Diesel and company don't disappoint as time has allowed them to slip so comfortably confident into their characters, a flamboyant Jason Momoa is so amusingly unhinged as the vengeful villain that he practically steals every scene when he revels in his merciless taunts.

Action junkies of all stripes, even if only vaguely familiar with this franchise, may get a kick out of Dom dropping out of the back of plane in his muscle car, and then there's the excitement of drag racing in Rio. For some, this never gets old.

The bloated plot spreads the heroes across the diverse locations of Los Angeles, London, Rome, Portugal, and Brazil. Antarctica is in the picture, but for reasons not entirely clear. In any event, the excess is in keeping with how things have to move fast.

“Fast X” has a lot in common with superhero films, such as those in the Marvel universe, in that the hardcore fans will not be deterred by even the slightest doubt expressed by any critics, choosing to undoubtedly enjoy the chaos and mayhem. ★

## 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.



### Tuesday, May 23

0915 - Hours- Adrienne Lizarraga (33) of Dixon was contacted in the 400 block of North Jefferson St and arrested for resisting a peace officer, trespassing and a probation violation.

1400 - Hours- Information report taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

1830 - Report of a verbal argument involving a gun in the 600 block of Meadowlark Lane. Paul Pryce (35) of Dixon was contacted and arrested for child endangerment and assault with a deadly weapon. He was taken to county jail.

### Monday, May 22

1030 - Hours- Death Investigation in the 1000 block of Sunset Dr.

1509 - Hours- Incident Report in the 100 block of East C St.

1538 - Hours- Information Report in the 600 block of Devonshire Dr.

1848 - Flock hit near Porter Road and South Almond Street resulted in the arrest of Justin Perdue (38) of Woodland for possession of a stolen motorcycle, evading arrest, and a probation violation. He was taken to county jail.

2100 - Non injury traffic accident in the 300 block of West A Street.

### Saturday, May 20

1430 - Hours- Domestic Violence investigation in the 200 block of West A Street.

1740 - Hours- Welfare check in the 300 block of West Walnut St.

2202 - Patricia Steltz (58) from Dixon was arrested in the 200 block of West A St for an outstanding no-cite arrest warrant. Steltz was booked at Solano County Jail without further incident.

2257 - Dixon PD assisted Vacaville PD in locating and detaining Richard Wade (32) from Vacaville on Hwy 70 for multiple domestic violence-related charges.

0411 - Carlos ZarzaCardenas (23) from Dixon crashed his vehicle against a parked vehicle in the 500 block of W A St, causing major damage to both vehicles. Cardenas was determined to be driving under the influence. He was arrested and later cited and released at Dixon PD.

### Friday, May 19

0807 - Hit and Run Collision in the 200 block of W. Chestnut St.

1224 - Theft from a vehicle report was taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Av.

1300 - Child abuse report was taken in the 400 block of East C St.

1942 - Information report in the 200 block of Schooner Ridge.

2045 - Miguel Magallon (23) crashed his vehicle against a parked vehicle in the 400 block of McKenzie Dr. Magallon was found to be driving under the influence and placed under arrest. Magallon was cited at Dixon PD and released to a sober adult without further incident

0157 - Death investigation in the 500 block of Spruce St

### Thursday, May 18

1338 - Battery report was taken in the 2000 block of Plaza Ct.

1349 - Traffic Collision report taken at the intersection of East Dorset Dr. at North 1st St.

1921 - Information report in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Dr.

### Wednesday, May 17

0644 - Hours Vehicle burglary investigation in the 1800 block of Rehmann Drive.

0809 - Hours Vehicle burglary investigation in the 1100 block of Jacobs Drive.

0937 - Hours Suspicious incident in the 200 block of Sanborn Lane.

1127 - Hours Found property report Pitt School Road and Hillview Drive.

1200 - Hours Domestic Violence investigation in the 300 block of Archer Place.

1230 - Hours Vehicle burglary in the 1100 block of Hopkins Drive.

1545 - Hours Vandalism in the 1500 block of Marendra Drive.

1611 - Hours Vehicle burglary in the 600 block West B Street.

2024 - Report of a drowning in the 100 block of Heritage Lane.

2119 - Assault with a deadly weapon reported in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

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# COMICS & PUZZLES

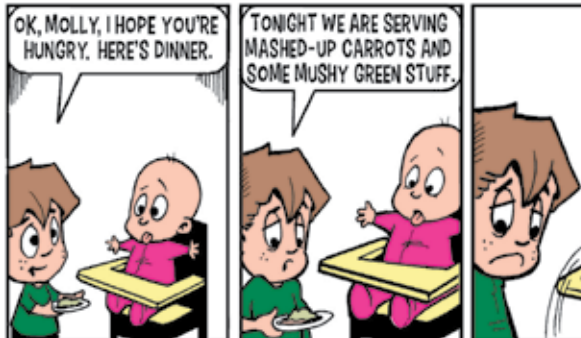
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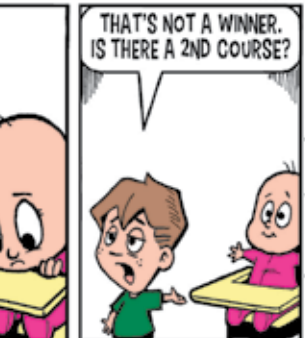
by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

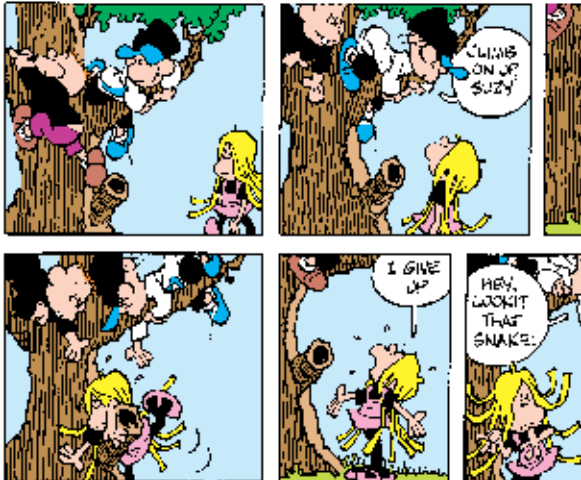


HOCUS-FOCUS

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