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# Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 18

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

MAY 5, 2023

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**THIS IS SO NEEDED!**



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## Commissioners Hear Hotel Plans



The Dixon Hospitality LLC proposed hotel would be built on 2.5 acres and be both a Hampton Inn, along with an extended stay Home 2 Suites by Hilton, making a total of 150 rooms available for visitors. Image courtesy of Dixon Hospitality LLC

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - A public hearing for Planned Development Rezoning, a Design Review, and a Conditional Use Permit was held for the proposed development of a 4-story hotel to be built at the end of Dorset Court and directly across from Cattlemens Steakhouse. It was proposed by Dixon Hospitality LLC and was recommended to the Commissioners by Raffi Boloyan, Dixon's Community Development Director.

The dual-brand hotel would include a traditional short stay Hampton Inn, along with an extended stay Home 2 Suites by Hilton. It will be four stories tall, have 150 rooms, 150 parking spaces and would be 83,000 sq. ft. in



The dual-brand hotel would include a traditional short stay Hampton Inn, along with an extended stay Home 2 Suites by Hilton. Image courtesy of Dixon Hospitality LLC

size, according to the proposed site plan. The largest portion of the building would face Cattlemens and would be the entry point, taking up about 2.5 acres.

"It's a modern look and I believe it's a very attractive building from all four elevations which is something you don't always find," explained Boloyan. "They had to pay attention to all four sides, not just one or two." The modern design

does fit in with the most recent developments like Panda, Starbucks as well as the incoming Popeyes and the Quick Quack Car Wash.

A future restaurant with a drive-thru has been envisioned to be located on a separate lot at the end of the existing Dorset Court cul-de-sac and located in front of the hotel.

Staff recommendations were relating to signage,

lighting, downspouts, bollards, mechanical enclosures, maintenance of the property, and landscaping.

"The most notable is the proposed fencing along I-80 that meets the Caltrans standards because there has been a desire to upgrade fencing along that side," Boloyan said. A 6-foot rod-iron fence instead of chain-link fencing has been recommended.

"We hope you support the resolution as presented," he said. He recommended the Commissioners adopt the resolution recommending the City Council to conditionally approve the PD Design Review, the Conditional Use Permit and Merger application subject to staffs' recommended conditions of

*Continued on page 3*

## May Fair Opens New Sensory Station



The new Sensory Station is a room at the May Fair that offers a calm, quiet and safe place for guests that feel over-stimulated or overwhelmed at the fair. Image courtesy of KE Spencer

KE Spencer  
Press Release

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - With many children experiencing anxiety, it's nice to know there will be somewhere at the Dixon May Fair, May 11 through 14, to escape with them to calm them down. Even adults may need this peaceful place. The new Sensory Station is a room at the May Fair that offers a calm, quiet and safe place for guests that feel over-stimulated or overwhelmed at the fair. The space is for anyone because anxiety has no age limit.

The Sensory Station is the idea of Fair CEO Patricia Conklin who visited the New Mexico State Fair last year and saw their room and how it can enhance and improve the fair visit so all can attend.

"This will be a calm and safe place away from all the excitement of our Fair," she explained. In the room you will find a quiet place with a sensory wheel, books, soothing lights, sound and more.

To enhance your experience the fair has colorful 'Wait Cards' in both Spanish and English. These cards assist when waiting in line. One card says "I am waiting for my turn to ride the train." Another says, "I am waiting my turn to get food." There are other cards as well and cards that depict two hands counting to ten. There is also a visual schedule which is a tool to help plan your fair visit with picture, this too is in Spanish and English. They can be held by family or individuals while waiting... and the cards are available online to print in advance at <https://dixonmayfair.com/sensory-station/>

If you have any questions about the Sensory Station or volunteering at the Sensory Station, please email [office@dixonmayfair.com](mailto:office@dixonmayfair.com). The May Fair is located at 655 South First St. (Highway 113) in Dixon. ★

## Where is Your Family From?

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Do you really know where you're from? As people walked through the Silveyville Cemetery tour last month, our guide, Denise McBride, went into detail about the beginnings of Dixon and some of the notable founders as well as the everyday residents of our tiny community.

Like Karl Bishop who only lived in Dixon for nine years before passing in 1898 but he did have three children and had the only tombstone in the cemetery to be made of wood.

Another gravesite was for Jane Parker Hood Dickson, 1813 to 1906. She married at age 16 to Thomas Dickson in Pennsylvania in 1830, then moved to Illinois, then to Iowa. They left Iowa in April 1853 with six children, three wagons, 12 heads of oxen, some horses, and a few cows. Daughter Evaline was born July 12 while the family travelled to Wyoming territory.

In Jane's Bible there is



Above: Dixon Historical Society volunteer Denise McBride, left, teaches people how to find their ancestors and recently conducted the Silveyville Cemetery walk sharing the amazing stories of ten Dixon families. Below: Dickson tombstone at Silveyville Cemetery.

an entry that reads, "July 13: Water and feed scarce for the cattle." The Dickson family called Silveyville their home until the railroad was built in Dixon. The generous family donated land for the train station here.

You never know what you're going to find or what kinds of details you will learn when you start



searching for your ancestors but if there is anyone who can help with that, it is McBride, volunteer extraordinaire for the Dixon Historical Society, who will host the next FamilySearch at the museum. It will take place on Wednesday, June 14, 3 to 5 p.m. Mark your calendars for an amazing

*Continued on page 6*







# Life's too SHORT

## Reading the Fine Print

By Debra Dingman

Bouncing a check has got to be incredibly rare with all the new online ways to pay like using Venmo. However, there are a lot of people who still use checks and don't do online banking. Those are the folks who really need to read the recent notice from First Northern Bank on how to avoid overdraft and non-sufficient fund returned item fees. The change in terms on their Overdraft Program has also changed.

If I hadn't already learned that the important stuff is in small print and several pages in, I would have not taken the time to read past the cover letter through the additional seven pages. What I thought was most important was the fact that an account holder can get charged \$32 for the failed transaction but also be charged \$32 every time that person/party with the check attempts to collect on the check. I called FNB twice to verify that I understood this correctly.

When I owned my children's clothing and toy store in Davis and Dixon, during the first years, most people used checks or credit cards to pay. Only about five times over the course of ten years, did I get a bounced check. Most of them involved simply re-submitting the check a day or two later and the poor customer would incur hefty fees with no charge to my company. But there was at least one nasty one who seemed to think she didn't need to pay for a \$60 purchase. I had to take that to the bank at least half a dozen times over the course of two weeks. It was a royal pain.

If I have understood this information correctly, every time a bounced check is re-submitted for processing (whether it goes through or not,) there will be a \$32

fee charged to both the account holder and to the check writer. The FNB notice does say that there is a "maximum daily cap" of \$192 which equals six overdraft fees and/or NSF Returned Item Fees per day.

This could mean an expensive problem to a person who forgot to deposit his/her paycheck.

When I was a newlywed, I found little blue pieces of paper in our dryer. I couldn't figure out what it was until we wound up getting a bounced check notice and we discovered my husband's missing military payroll check. It took four weeks to get it replaced and that was when we were young and dependent on every dime!

Not all companies use payroll services that provide automatic payroll deposits for their employees, but if there was ever a case for taking advantage of these kinds of services, this is one of them. Some mature people I know do not want to give out their checking account number to anyone and still want to hand deliver their check to the bank. But, maybe it's time to reconsider. I sometimes have trouble remembering my middle name and I seem to misplace my phone constantly.

Plus, prices have gone up and wages have climbed. Banks have to make money, too. I strongly suggest no matter how much you want to deposit your own paycheck yourself, that could now become a potential liability. The best plan is to make sure you make your deposits timely, and also that you have plenty of money in your savings account to cover for emergencies. You can sign up for overdraft protection.

More information or questions can be answered by calling (707) 678-7742 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or on Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ★

# Dixon News Briefs



The Bank of Stockton project, which was approved in early 2022 is now being built out at the corner of North First Street and Vaughn across from Grocery Outlet and next to Tractor Supply. There will also be two separate retail buildings, which would host retail, food or drive-thrus (no tenants or specific uses identified early 2022 for those buildings,) according to Raffi Boloyan, City of Dixon Community Development Director. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

### Spring Concert May Fair

Time is running out for you to purchase your discounted May Fair tickets to the Grand Stand Shows. The deadline is Friday, May 12 for the Bulls & Broncs Show. Cost is \$30 for all ages. (If purchased by May 11, fair admission is included.)

Deadline is Saturday, May 13 for the Truck & Tractor Pull. Cost is \$30 for all ages. (If purchased by May 12, fair admission is included.)

Deadline is Sunday, May 14 for the Demolition Derby. Cost is \$30 for all ages. (If purchased by May 13, fair admission is included.)

After the deadline as specified above, the ticket price will NOT include fair admission. Grandstand tickets are subject to availability and may be sold out and unavailable.

Grandstand Show Hours are 7 p.m. for both the Bulls & Broncs as well as the Truck and Tractor Pull but the Demolition Derby on Sunday starts seating at 4 p.m. with the show starting at 5:30 p.m. Parking will be \$5.

### Shredding Event

Atkinson Self Storage is offering a shredding event on Saturday, June 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will be after Tax Day so this is an opportunity to get rid of unnecessary files that you've stored for years. Payment preferred is cash, but cards will also be accepted. Cost is still being determined. It is located at 1800 North First St.

### Community Grants

Dixon Women's Improvement Club is pleased to be able to offer grants this year for community efforts. Organizations have the opportunity to apply for an award up to \$1,000. Funds awarded must be used to support the Dixon community. To apply, please complete and mail the DWIC 2023 Community Grant Application (available at library or by calling) and a letter describing your organization, why you feel you should receive the award, and details for the project for which you are requesting funding. Deadline to submit the information is Friday, April 29, 2023 (postmark.) Contact person is Teri Brown at (916) 601-3371.

### City Planning

Next Tuesday, May 9, will be the City Planning Commission meeting at City Hall. The meeting in person is at 600 East A St. but participants may also use Zoom or watch via the Granicus service, both

access information is available at cityofdixon.us under the word Government, then click on City Council, then click on Agendas. Meetings start at 7 p.m. after any closed sessions.

### UNO at the Museum

Want to get out and meet some new folks while having fun playing games? Here's your chance! Join DHS Denise McBride at Uno, the multi-player card game where the objective is simply to be the first to have no cards left in your hand. It will be played at this month's Museum Coffee Hour. The museum is a cool place to be in the warmer weather. It will be on Wednesday, May 17 from 3 to 5 p.m.

### Pork Dinner

The Veterans Dinner this Friday is Pork with barbecue beans, salad and a dinner roll. It is \$10 per plate and take out is available. All helps the veterans facility stay open for their veterans plus the dinners are fun and informal. No membership is required but casual wear and plenty of smiles are recommended.

### Bereavement Leave

Effective January 1, 2023 all private employers with 5 or more employees are required to provide bereavement leave for their employees for up to five days after the death of a family member.

All employees (full-time or part-time) are eligible for bereavement leave, provided they have worked for the employer for at least 30 days prior to the death of an eligible family member, which is defined as a spouse, parent, grandparent, child, sibling, grandchild, parent-in-law, and domestic partner.

Sign up for no-cost expert business advising with HR Specialist Rhonda Bennett at Solano Small Business Development via email: info@solanonapasbdc.org.

### Cinco de Mayo

A Pop Up event will be on Saturday, May 6 at Super La Favorita Meat Market with local vendors, a car show, and a variety of delicious foods, items and a raffle for the whole family! Come join the fun from 2 to 8 p.m. at 925 North Adams St.

### Student Transport

Readi-Ride will begin accepting reservations for summer school rides on May 8. Call (707) 678-5020 to reserve your child's ride. Due to the length of summer school, there is not a subscription service. They recommend purchasing a book of ride coupons. Summer school is offered at Dixon Montessori Charter School and Tremont Elementary. ★

# Ramtown Sports Roundup



Dixon High School's Lady Rams Baseball Team will play against Mesa Verde this coming Monday, May 8, on the home diamonds at 4:30 p.m. with Coach Matt Boykin. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

### Parents Play

Parents in Dixon Girls Softball are invited to participate where parents make the team and children coach. "This is a great family experience so invite your friends and family to participate and maybe make up your own team," said Jennifer Roman. "Umpires are volunteering so all proceeds go right back to the League." Last day to sign up is May 15 and teams will be created and notified. They are responsible for coming up with their team name and color. The tournament will be held on Sunday, May 21, at Hall Park starting at 11 a.m. It is a \$20 donation per player. Go to DixonGirlsSoftball.com or see their Facebook page. They can also Venmo Dixon Softball and put their name/adult scrimmage in the memo.

### DHS Track

Congratulations to Dixon High School Girls Track who came in First in the GEL! (Golden Empire League) Girls All League Track and Field are Azayla Puch, Adelyn Maseda, Vanessa Pelayo, Kierra Jasper, and Alyssa Ihdai. Boys All League Track and Field are Nathan Bloom, Jesse Selville, and Jack Tourtillott.

### Edgar Pulido

DHS Athlete of the Week is Edgar Pulido, a senior but in his first year of tennis, who has already proven to be one of the top single players on the team. He is a team captain and helped organize team activities and even recruited athletes, according to Athletic Director Brett Peterson's social media post. Pulido is a 4.5 GPA student who is interested in a medical field career, possibly becoming a Pediatrician. He has also played soccer and basketball, reported Peterson.

"Edgar's been a steady, constant influence on the tennis team pushing others and himself to be great and I'm proud of him to be the student-athlete he's become this year. I appreciate his dedication," he added.

### Baseball, Swimming

This Friday, May 5, DHS Varsity Boys Section Trials will start at noon at Pat Granucci Aquatic Swim Center in Dixon. Then, at 4:15 p.m., Boys Varsity Baseball will play against Mira Loma High School, 400 Edison Avenue in Sacramento. Section Finals for both Boys and Girls Varsity Swimming will be held at noon in Dixon at the Pat Granucci Aquatic Center.

Congratulations to these students who made All-League Swim: Faith Dunn, Raymon Carrillo, Rowan Connolly, Kevin Astle, and Sean Ward.

Student Athletes who have signed up to play sports at their respective 2-year or 4-year colleges are being invited to a College Commitment Celebration, a luncheon, on May 10 at the high school. Contact Peterson for more information at (707) 693-6330, ext. 7107. ★





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

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- DJ3 Electric**
- Elite Fitness Dixon**
- Envoy Mortgage**
- Jack & Kathy Caldwell**
- McKinsey Law Office**
- Motley Realty - Elias Moreno**

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

**Connect • Communicate • Collaborate**



# Commissioners Hear Hotel Plans



City of Dixon Associate Planner Scott Greeley presents the Dual Brand Hotel project to City Council Tuesday night. They approved 5-0. Photo by Debra Dingman

Hernandez-Covello asked about why they chose the position of the building. It was explained that with the dual-brand hotel, amenities are shared by both hotels and require them to be centrally located. That required the entry to be in the mid-point of the building for the overall site. The positioning also allowed for the signage to face the front of the freeway.

In public comment, Michael Ceremello had a problem with mixed-use applications but was more concerned about whether or not the fire department had been able to review the plans since in the past Dixon fire apparatus would not cover anything past three stories. Boloyan reported that they had and said that the department had no issues of serving this facility because the access was 360 degrees around the sides.

All five of the commissioners present agreed the project will be of benefit to the community and made a recommendation for the project to the City Council, but results of that meeting were not known at press time. ★

Continued from page 1 approval found in the Draft Resolution.

Commissioner Randy Davis was concerned about the amount of traffic in that court and asked about studies that would show there is plenty of flow opportunity for traffic.

"It just seems like a small way to get in and out," he said. Boloyan said the City's Engineering Department had checked the width of the road and the 'measurement of service,' as well as what is acceptable and this project was rated as "E" which is

acceptable to the City.

Applicants representing Dixon Hospitality LLC, Land Use Specialist Jacob Brown and Land Use Architect Jacob Anderson provided further information, including more on indoor design, staffing, and employees. There will be 35 employees covering three shifts and will have staff 24 hours per day.

"Overall, we believe this will be an excellent addition to the city of Dixon providing a perfect option for visitors to stay and enjoy what the rest of Dixon has to offer," said Brown.

Commissioner Loraine

# Soroptimist Honors Mariah Castillo



Dixon High Teacher Mr. Rob Olson with student Mariah Castillo and Soroptimists Kara Robinson and Brenda Walker. Soroptimist courtesy photo

By Amy Pretti of Dixon Soroptimist

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Mariah Castillo is a senior at Dixon High School. She was nominated Young Woman of the Month by her teacher, Mr. Olson from the Social Science Department. Mr. Olson described Mariah as a strong, smart, and humble student. He admires her sense of self and dedication to linguistics.

She is the daughter of Kara Robinson. She has an older sister, Destiny, a younger sister, Elliana, and a younger brother, Zaydin. Mariah has grown up in Dixon and her family is full of long time Dixon residents.

Her family is a strong support system who she learns and leans on. Mariah is proud of

the young woman she is today and is proud of her accomplishments in language. She has taken Spanish all four years of high school and now is a fluent Spanish speaker.

Mariah works at Baskin Robbins and enjoys the customer interaction. She is also very creative when she is not working. She loves to crochet, read, journal, and paint.

After graduating from Dixon High School, Mariah plans to attend San Francisco State University as an English major with a focus in linguistics. Upon completion of college, she would like to teach English as a Foreign Language.

We can't wait to see where your passion of language takes you Mariah! Congratulations, we wish you the best in your future! ★

# New Bands and Old Favorites to Perform at Dixon May Fair

KE Spencer News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Leber Stage at the Dixon May Fair, May 11-14, will host some new groups this year. Songs of the Eagles are always a favorite and Thursday night will feature the tribute band One of These Nights. With five number one singles and four number one

albums, The Eagles were among the most successful recording artists of the 1970's. At the end of the 20th Century, two of those albums, "Eagles: Their Greatest Hits (1971-1975)" and "Hotel California," ranked among the ten best-selling albums ever.

Friday night there is excitement brewing for The Outlaw Mariachi

Band. The Band claims to have found the best mariachi rockers from throughout the nation in their humorous bio that "would help them fulfill their destiny to save society by bringing everyone together with humor and rockin' tunes . . . and they became The Outlaw Mariachi."

For the first time the Fair will

present a tribute to the band Boston. Longtime will perform on Saturday evening. Their high-energy performances capture all the layered guitar harmonies and the powerful vocals that are iconic to the Boston sound. Boston has sold more than 75 million records worldwide – including 31 million albums in the United States – making them one of

the best-selling artists in the world.

There are some bands that always draw a crowd and fill the dance area and those are the bands who are invited back, according to CEO Patricia Conklin. Back by popular demand are Crossman Connection, Robby James & the Streets of Bakersfield, The Latin Touch, The Rhythm Method Trio. ★



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**In the Grandstands**  
**Friday: Pro Broncs & Bulls \$30** all ages  
**Saturday: Truck & Tractor Pulls \$30** all ages  
**Sunday: Demolition Derby \$30** all ages  
(Includes Fair admission when you buy in advance)

**Carnival Pay-one-Price Wristband**  
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**KUIC Thrifty Thursday:**  
All Day \$5.00 Open at 4 p.m.  
(only available at Fair gates)

**Friday Kid's Day: Open at Noon**  
Kids 12 and under Free admission all day

**Family Entertainment**  
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Jack Spareribs Pirate Show • Livestock Shows

**Live Bands Daily on Leber Stage**  
**Thursday: One of these Nights – Songs of the Eagles**  
**Friday: Crossman Connection, Outlaw Mariachi**  
**Saturday: Robbie James & the Streets of Bakersfield, Long Time – Tribute to the Band Boston**  
**Sunday: The Latin Touch, Rhythm Method Trio, Los Dinnos, Banda La 8va Marabella**

**DixonMayFair.com**

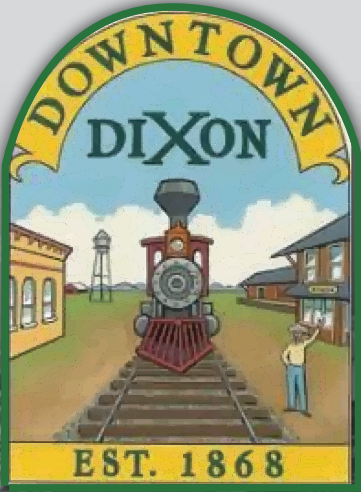
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# Discover Downtown Dixon - Shop, Dine, Explore!

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

- Every Wednesday! - Family Bingo Night, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Dawson's Bar & Grill - Hosted by Almond Tree Mortgage. FREE PRIZES!
- May 13 - Dixon May Fair Parade 10 a.m. and the Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast at Ye Olde Vet's Hall, 7 - 10 a.m.
- June 24 - Railroad Days! Explore Dixon's historic past at the Dixon History Museum and throughout downtown.

Call (707) 678-8400 for more information.

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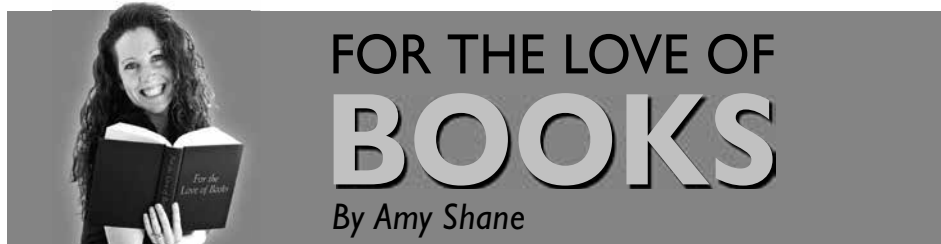
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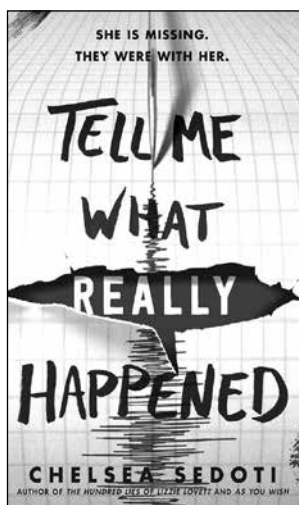


## Tell Me What Really Happened by Chelsea Sedoti

Five teens went into the woods camping, but only four came out. Salvation Creek has its own stories and legends, and they were usually about people who have gone missing, but neither Nolan, John, Maylee, Abigail, or Petra cared. They were out for a fun weekend camping, making smores, and getting away from their parents, confident that nothing bad would happen.

Then Maylee disappears in the dead of night, and suddenly, it's a scramble to find her. After hours of searching, the dark start to play their tricks; Petra, John, Nolan and John succumb to their fear and seek help. Now, the four remaining friends are all under suspicion. Who is telling the truth, who has something to hide, and what really happened in the woods?

Now, as each of them sit in the police interrogation room it's time for their stories to unfold. But it quickly becomes apparent that each of them has their secrets and someone is not telling the truth. Nolan, haunted by his childhood trauma, knows that Bigfoot is real and



◆ Publisher: Sourcebooks Fire  
◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult  
◆ Release Date: April 4, 2023

even has eyewitness accounts, and tonight he is about to see him again. John, Maylee's boyfriend, and the only one in the group to ask for a lawyer, is still recovered from the accident that changed his life. Is he the one hiding something? Abigail has her own history with Maylee, one she can't forget and the only reason she joined the trip, but no one knows their past or the secrets they shared. Petra is the only one that believes Maylee is still alive and will stop at nothing to find her. All four friends have their secrets, but is one of them a killer?

Tell Me What Really

Happened will have readers guessing after every page. A mystery told in four different voices, all with individual accounts of what really happened. Chelsea Sedoti has the ability to keep her readers hooked until the very last page as the truth becomes harder to decipher with four different versions of the night. Yet the truth gets even murkier when secrets and hidden agendas start to surface. Could this be the work of a stalker in the woods, the act of Bigfoot, and why did Maylee set up this last-minute camping trip? The truth is out there, but it will take all four stories to get there.

Tell Me What Really Happened opens the door to a situation of truth versus reality, fear versus the mind, and the desire to be seen against the impact of social media. While each of these five teenagers believes they are in control of their own story, they will each have to battle their monsters in order for the truth to surface. A fast-paced story that is as entertaining as it is profound. The perfect mystery to take on any trip or stash away for summer reading. ★

# Teacher Pension Fund Betrays Its Mission



Commentary by Ted Gaines

If you think that CalSTRS, the behemoth pension system that supports California's retired teachers, is focused on pensions, you are wrong. The largest teacher-focused pension system in the country is abandoning its core fiduciary role to chase left-wing political goals. Its mission creep will hurt teachers, taxpayers, and students alike.

In April, CalSTRS issued an extraordinary press release stating their priorities for the companies they invest in, including corporate greenhouse gas disclosures. CalSTRS is interested in achieving a "net zero" emissions portfolio. Of course, CalSTRS is also interested in corporate diversity, and states: "CalSTRS will vote against an entire board of directors that does not include at least one woman and against a board's nominating and governance committee if at least 30% of its board members are not women. Furthermore, CalSTRS will vote against the nominating and governance committees of Russell 3000 companies that do not disclose their

board members' diversity characteristics."

CalSTRS' Board has morphed into Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez with a \$300-billion billy club to swing at businesses that aren't sufficiently Progressive.

If you were scouring the news for a few words about supporting corporate boards trying to grow profits, entering or creating new markets, utilizing innovation, expanding geographically, then CalSTRS is not the investment entity for you.

Who has time for the actual business of business when you can be leading a social revolution?

CalSTRS might want to check out the work of Bjorn Lomborg, who shows that the climate catastrophists claims about global warming deaths, costs, hurricanes, polar bears, forest fires, etc. are routinely contorted to further the policy agenda of the anti-fossil fuel crowd.

They might want to ask teachers if they themselves are willing to pay out of their own pockets for these political goals.

They might want to ask parents if they are willing to take dollars out of their children's classrooms to diversify corporate boards.

Because the problem with CalSTRS lifting its leftist political banner above all others is that the organization has an actual role, which is fiduciary. Its job isn't to be in the political vanguard but to caretake and grow its investments to meet its payout obligations.

CalSTRS pension payments are funded by payments from the state, from teachers and school districts. If investment gains fall short, contributions need to increase.

The system was already facing a serious insolvency threat in 2040, which is a blink of an eye for a pension system. In 2014, the legislature crafted a plan to stave off the problem and mandated increased contributions from all parties.

California has seen an explosion of education spending in the past decade. Parents hope and assume that their taxpayer dollars go towards classroom enrichment, student activities, training that increases student performance, and so on. Some of it surely has.

But when investments fall short, school spending will go to backfilling pension obligations. That has also been the case. What good is that increased school spending if it doesn't benefit students?

Women and minorities should, of course, be welcome on every corporate board without a discriminatory roadblock. But their presence should indicate merit, not government fiat or race-and-gender box checking. Diversity itself should not be the goal for corporate governance.

Every single California government activity should not be Progressive activism. CalSTRS should honor the teachers, parents, taxpayers and students who are all affected by its decisions and stick to its fiduciary job. ★



### Joe Biden Prepares His Next Basement Campaign

Joe Biden is going to run for reelection.

One question this raises: How is anyone going to tell?

The basement presidency is about to embark on another basement campaign.

Biden's political genius turns out to be not provoking strong negative emotions because no one particularly thinks of him as being in charge or as having anything interesting to say.

President Biden and the people around him are, in effect, conducting a large-scale, ongoing political science experiment: Is it possible to run a left-wing government – with tactics often frankly at odds with our constitutional system – and avoid a massive backlash by having a appears ineffectual and out of touch?

If Bernie Sanders, the ill-kempt, self-avowed socialist, or Elizabeth Warren, the off-putting, dyed-in-the-wool progressive former academic, presided over exactly the same administration with exactly the same policies, they'd have ignited a political firestorm by now.

The cry from the center-right and independents would be, "To the barricades!" The cry provoked by Joe Biden is more, "Meh."

By being around forever, Biden has achieved the

status of a known quantity. His rhetoric is generally moderate-sounding, and he never says anything memorable. No matter how radical and lawless the acts of his administration, it's hard to associate those qualities with an elderly man who tells stories of his bygone cooperation with Republicans and often rambles to little effect.

People should be threatened by this administration, but – with a few exceptions such as his visually apocalyptic "Dark Brandon" speech prior to the midterms – they don't feel threatened by Biden himself. Or they fear his incompetence more than anything else.

Biden's age is an asset in taking the edge off his left-wing governance, yet the effects of it are obvious for everyone to see. At 80, he makes the elder statesmen of yore seem youthful by comparison. Golda Meir became prime minister of Israel at 70. Ronald Reagan was elected president at 69. The long-serving French legend Charles de Gaulle retired permanently at 79.

If the reaction to Joe Biden isn't a vociferous rejection, it is still an emphatic, "No, thanks." According to the new NBC News poll, more than half of Democrats and 70% Americans don't want him to run for reelection. His age, of course, is the leading reason; it doesn't take a gerontologist to realize that an 80-year-old man and the most demanding job on the planet aren't a natural match.

The White House clearly understands this as well. President Biden is carefully stage managed, and sometimes awkwardly reminded of his cues by people with him at events.

His interactions with the press are limited, and this isn't a media that is out to get him but is incredibly sympathetic and accommodating.

Biden broke with tradition by not holding a press conference while on his trip to Ireland. He's done 54 interviews so far in his first two years, according to The New York Times, the fewest since Ronald Reagan. He has averaged 10 news conferences a year, whereas Calvin Coolidge – you know, "Silent Cal" – did about 90 annually during his first two years in office.

The standard isn't very high, though, when you are a default candidate. That's how Biden won against Donald Trump in 2020; it's how he avoided a midterm drubbing in 2022; and it's how he hopes to win again against Trump, should he be the nominee, in 2024.

Biden has built on the old adage, "Never interfere with an enemy when he's destroying himself." His version is basically, "Never bother going out in public when your enemy is destroying himself."

The lesson of the last couple of years is that Biden doesn't have to be scintillating, impressive, or inspiring. Heck, he doesn't even have to be popular. He simply has to be there. To paraphrase Woody Allen, 90% of getting elected for Joe Biden is just showing up.

His campaign could be barely evident and still succeed.

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

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# Where is Your Family From?

Continued from page 1  
learning experience on where to find your ancestors.

"Please join us to learn how to navigate FamilySearch and discuss what participants from past sessions have discovered," she said. Thanks to her husband's gift of Ancestry.com, she "fell in love" with searching the past and enjoys helping strangers get connected to their roots. She worked first on her own family for a reunion and learned Johnson is the oldest Johnson descendant on her side before Frances Sievers—another well-known name in Dixon.

McBride has discovered enough details of ten well-known families in Dixon that the Silveyville Cemetery walk was attended by about 40 people both from Dixon and outside of Dixon.

"We thought it would be interesting and good to learn about Dixon's history," said one couple who recently moved to Dixon. "We wanted to live in a small town and Elk Grove got too big." McBride shared snippets discovered from legal documents like how much land someone bought at what price and everyone on the tour listened intently.

One of those ten was Gretchen Elizabeth Higgins. If that name sounds familiar, it is because Gretchen Higgins Elementary School is named after her. Higgins was an active woman in the community after losing her lover in the war. She never married — neither did her sister — but the two were a lively pair and created a Dixon Pet Parade in 1956. McBride learns a lot from Dixon Tribune archives available at

the Dixon Public Library but grew up with Silveyville Cemetery Director Jennifer Huff. The two worked together to put a professional brochure of the ten gravesites and are working on a permanent walking tour for those interested in Dixon's history.

Another cemetery walk is planned but no date has been set although attending this introduction to the FamilySearch is a perfect start for new sleuths to find their own legacy, she advised.

"This free genealogy resource is easy enough for everyone to use," she added. Please reserve your spot for the Uno game by calling (707) 693-3044 or by emailing: dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. The Dixon History Museum is located at 125 West A St. in downtown Dixon. ★

# Newsom Backtrack on Walgreens

## Assembly Republican News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - In a turn of events that will surprise nobody, Governor Newsom's been forced to backtrack on his Walgreens ban, and even invited the company to reapply for a contract that was supposedly canceled.

Explaining the sudden turnaround, Newsom spokesman Anthony York insisted, "Tweeting is not policy."

Sounds like the governor's been taking his own advice from 2016, when he



Governor Gavin Newsom says. Photo courtesy of Assembly Republican Caucus

claimed "the American people always support 'strong and wrong'" leaders.

So that begs the question - can Californians trust anything Newsom tweets?

Can they trust anything he says? ★

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### CLUES

- ACROSS**  
1. Rodeo garb  
6. Roman numeral 7  
9. Spring occurrence  
13. Like Corgi  
14. Get a sum  
15. Garlic mayo  
16. Poet's concern  
17. Mail-back request, acr.  
18. Handrail post  
19. "Lionel Jefferson's mom"  
21. "Keith and Laurie Partridge's mom"  
23. Watson's, Crick's and Franklin's concern, acr.  
24. Big-ticket  
25. #38 Down follower  
28. Potter's oven  
30. Get by  
35. Wyatt Earp's card game  
37. Wooden pegs  
39. Measuring tool with a bubble  
40. Copycat  
41. All-season  
43. Like certain people's glasses  
44. The Great Muppet  
46. 1 year older than frosh  
47. Treat without respect  
48. "Samantha Stephens' mom"  
50. Four Corners state  
52. Unidentified Jane  
53. Summit location  
55. Like tuna tartare  
57. "Rory Gilmore's mom"  
61. "Hilary and Carlton Banks' mom"  
64. Motionless  
65. Actress Thompson  
67. Island off Manhattan  
69. Skeleton, archaic  
70. Lt.'s subordinate  
71. Yemeni's neighbor  
72. Marines' toy recipients  
73. Banned insecticide, acr.  
74. Nostrils
- DOWN**  
1. Basin, without vowels  
2. Last piece of a loaf  
3. Lowest female singing voice  
4. Evis's blue shoes  
5. Harrison Ford or Jason Segel in "Shrinking"  
6. Bud holder  
7. \*Rhoda Morgenstern's mom  
8. "That is" in Latin  
9. Wedding cake layer  
10. Famous Allen Ginsberg poem  
11. Away from wind  
12. Skilled in deception  
15. G. Orwell's "Farm"  
20. Valentine, e.g.  
22. Bottom line?  
24. Inner circle  
25. Old enough (2 words)  
26. Neutered rooster  
27. Influencer's creation  
29. "Meg, Chris and Stewie Griffin's mom"  
31. Egghead  
32. "like the plague"  
33. Canvas primer

**CROSSWORD**

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# DIXON POLICE LOG

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



## Sunday, April 30

- 1653 - Court order violation in the 800 block of Newgate Way
- 1752 - Shoplifting reported in the 2000 block of North 1st Street.

## Saturday, April 29

- 0749 - Officers responded to the 2800 block of West A Street for a report of a subject asleep in the driver's seat of a vehicle in the parking lot. As a result of their investigation, Officers arrested John Navarro (38) of Eldorado County for driving under the influence of a controlled substance, and for possession of narcotics.
- 0851 - Information report in the 200 block East Dorset Dr. 1004 Officers responded to the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive in response to a 911 hang-up call. As a result, Officers arrested Alexis Leon (22) of Dixon for violating the terms of a peaceful contact restraining order. He was transported to the Solano County Jail where he was booked without incident.
- 1245 - A non-injury hit and run was reported in the area of Atkinson Ct and North 1st St.
- 1738 - Theft report was taken in the 2000 block of North 1st St. 1804 Assist outside agency report was taken.
- 2123 - Sexual assault report was taken at 830 North Adams St

## Friday, April 28

- 1032 - A vandalism and vehicle tampering report was taken in the 400 block of North 1st Street.
- 1154 - A non-injury traffic collision was reported in the 200 block of South 2nd Street.
- 1352 - Theft from an unlocked vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive.
- 1521 - Officers responded to a report of a vehicle into a building in the area of E. Dorset Dr. and North 1st Street. The vehicle struck and destroyed the primary PG&E gas supply to 105 East Dorset Drive. The building was evacuated until the gas was turned off. Officers determined that the collision was a result of a medical emergency. PG&E responded to fix the damage, and the driver was transported to a local hospital.

## Thursday, April 27

- 0814 - Officers responded to a verbal argument in the 600 block of McKenzie Drive. They determined that no crime had been committed. A domestic violence restraining order was serve.
- 0816 - A non-injury traffic collision occurred in the area of West A Street an North Jackson St.

## Wednesday, April 26

- 0825 - Officers responded to the area of East Broadway and South Second Street for a report of a suspicious person possibly asleep behind the wheel of a vehicle. Officers arrived and contacted the subject. As a result of their investigation, Officers arrested Raymond Wisnikowski (61) of Dixon for being in possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. He was transported and booked into the Solano County Jail without incident.
- 0858 - A vandalism was reported in the 2600 block of Plaza Court.
- 2040 - Criminal threats report was taken in the 400 block of Ellesmere Dr.
- 2054 - Theft report was taken in the 400 block of North Adams St. 2131 CWS report was taken in the 1300 block of North Lincoln St.

- 0203 - Courtesy report was taken in the 2000 block of Commerce Wy

## Tuesday, April 25

- 1228 - Found bike report taken in the 100 block of West Cherry Street.
- 1656 - Death investigation in the 600 block of Syracuse Lane.

## Monday, April 24

- 1346 - Confidential report from CPS at the PD.
- 1518 - Late report of a hit and run in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

## Sunday, April 23

- 0913 - Found bike report taken in the 1400 block of Austin Drive.
- 1108 - Restraining order violation reported in the 100 block of West Cherry Street.
- 1309 - Question about a restraining order in the 400 block of Lynd Way.
- 1820 - Pedestrian stop in the area of West H Street and Bounds Drive. Omar Ramirez (32) of Dixon was found to be under the influence and unable to care for his own safety. He was transported to the Solano County Jail.

## Saturday, April 22

- 2023 - Officers assisted A.B.C. Agents with compliance checks in town from 1300-1600 hours CSOs conducted a Drug - Take-back in the DPD Lobby.

## Friday, April 21

- 0532 - An information report was taken in the 500 block of Priddy Drive
- 1018 - Officers conducted a proactive enforcement stop in the area of North Adams Street and West H Street for a minor traffic violation. As a result, they found that the driver (Tiffany Lopez - 19 of Dixon) had a citable misdemeanor warrant for her arrest for failing to appear in court on a previous violation. She was cited and released on the scene.
- 1757 - Informational report was taken in the 1100 block of Legion Ct.
- 0224 - Stolen vehicle recovery report was taken at the intersection of North Washington at Newgate Wy.

## Thursday, April 20

- 2106 - Theft report was taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Dr. A juvenile was contacted and cited and released to an adult.
- 2356 - Possession of narcotics and drug paraphernalia arrest report was taken in the 1400 block of Ary Ln. Officers contacted Sarah Yablon (30) of Dixon. Yablon was arrested and transported to the Dixon Police Department where she was cited and released.

## Wednesday, April 19

- 0710 Suspicious person reported in the 400 block of West Chestnut Street along the railroad tracks. Timothy Acosta (34) of Yuba City was arrested for an outstanding warrant and violating a court order. He was taken to county jail.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Over the years, from time to time, we get calls from church groups or service organizations that are looking for a community service project. With the nice weather here now, we decided to make a list of current needed projects, and we encourage those who might be interested to contact us. Please call or email to schedule a meeting to discuss your intentions and our expectations.

Our current wish list includes the following projects:

Fence in Front and on South Side - 200 feet, 3.5 feet high and 3 gates; Surveillance Cameras - On all sides of building - purchase and installation; New Signage - Back side of the building, and in front of our rollup door; Remove Dumpster Enclosure - Demolish and remove materials; Landscape Refresh - all sides of the building; Paint Building Exterior - replace dry rot, remove damaged trim, power wash, new paint; Drainage Work in Back of Building - bad slope.

These are the most pressing and necessary jobs at this time. Of course, after 25 years since the building was remodeled with grant money to the Dixon Family Services organization, there are some areas that need help inside the building as well, but all in all, the interior is doing pretty well and it is our hope to accomplish all of the above outdoor projects, before starting on indoor projects.

Those who want to support any project and do not have experience or ability to volunteer, can do so with monetary donations. Most of these projects are going to require we purchase some materials and some of them will require that we pay professionals for labor. Please let me know if anyone can help by calling 707-678-0442 for more information. Thank you for your interest in helping DFS.

Signed,  
Cookie Powell, Executive Director  
cookie@dixonfamilyservices.org

# Committee Passes Sen. Dodd's City Council Pay Cap Bill

## Office of Senator Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On April 19, 2023, legislation advanced from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would boost participation and diversity on California city councils by allowing the first council pay cap increases in nearly four decades, bringing salaries more in line with the cost of living.

"Our communities rely on city council members who serve long hours and make critical decisions," Sen. Dodd said. "It's a major commitment that's especially hard on working people and those from diverse or disadvantaged backgrounds who must balance jobs and family obligations. My proposal will improve diverse representation and increase access to elected office for all Californians by making it less of a financial challenge to serve."

Currently, in general law cities, city councils may vote to receive a limited salary, not to exceed caps based on population size provided in state law. However, the maximum amounts set by state law have not been increased since 1984, despite inflation of more than 300% during that time. Because of the disparity, people from diverse communities are discouraged to run for office. Others with full-time jobs have been forced to resign their posts before their terms expire because they can't devote time to council service and supporting their families. A majority of cities

in California are under 35,000 in population and presently capped at \$300 per month with minimal allowances for adjustment.

Sen. Dodd's proposal, Senate Bill 329, would address the inequity by allowing councils to adjust their maximum pay to reflect inflation as measured by the California Consumer Price Index. Any increases would require a majority vote of the city councils.

SB 329 is supported by the California branch of the NAACP and the League of California Cities, among other groups. It passed the Senate Governance and Finance committee with unanimous support.

"Diversity and inclusion make for better policy-making at all levels of government," said Carolyn Coleman, executive director and CEO of League of California Cities. "Cal Cities is proud to sponsor this important legislation that lessens barriers for those interested in governing at the local level. This overdue reform is another tool communities can choose to use that can help ensure our city councils are reflective of the residents who live, work and play in their communities."

Senator Bill Dodd represents the 3rd Senate District, which includes all or portions of Napa, Yolo, Sonoma, Solano, Sacramento and Contra Costa counties. More information on Senator Bill Dodd can be found at [www.senate.ca.gov/dodd](http://www.senate.ca.gov/dodd). ★

# Chairman Thompson Applauds Biden Expanding Background Checks

## Office of Representative Mike Thompson

**ST. HELENA, CA (MPG)** - Recently, Chair of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) released the following statement after President Joe Biden announced an Executive Order with the goal of increasing the number of background checks conducted before firearm sales.

"The executive order that President Biden announced today moves us closer to universal background checks and will help save lives," said Thompson. "No other gun violence prevention strategy is more important than keeping firearms out of the hands of dangerous individuals like felons and domestic abusers, which is why I introduced the Bipartisan Background Checks Act. In addition, President Biden directed relevant agencies to accelerate the implementation of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act which will help save lives and provide our communities with the resources they need to help reduce gun violence."

Chairman Thompson recently reintroduced the Bipartisan Background Checks Act with Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-01). The majority of the American public has supported laws requiring background checks on

all firearm purchases, with polling data consistently showing that more than 90 percent of both gun owners and non-gun owners support this provision, including 72 percent of members of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Chairman Thompson has introduced background check legislation every Congress since the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary shooting which killed 20 children and six adult staff members. The Bipartisan Background Checks Act was first introduced in the 116th Congress by Rep. Thompson and was passed in the House by a vote of 240-190, and again passed in the 117th Congress and passed the House by a vote of 227-203. The bill languished in the Senate due to the filibuster.

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act is the most consequential gun violence prevention legislation signed into law in decades which Rep. Thompson helped to pass. The Executive Order will also keep more guns out of dangerous hands by increasing the effective use of "red flag" laws, strengthen efforts to hold the gun industry accountable, and accelerate law enforcement efforts to identify and apprehend shooters. President Biden is also calling on the Federal Trade Commission to issue a public report analyzing how gun manufacturers market firearms to minors. ★

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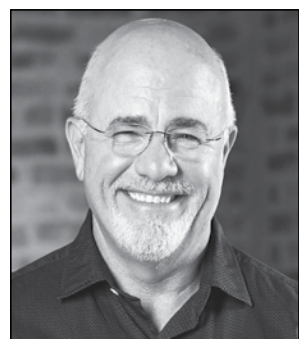
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The following persons are doing business as: Twin Oaks Realty, 231 First Street, Benicia, CA 94510.  
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Publish: April 11, 21, 28, May 5, 2023  
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CALAB 5-26-23







## Dave Ramsey Says

a purchase a few months down the road. If you invest it, you might make a little more, but you're taking more risk too. If I'm you, I'm parking the cash.

Here's the deal: The money you'll have to purchase another property won't come from a return on the investment. It'll come from you putting money in the account. The investment isn't the secret sauce in this scenario — you are. If you invested the money and made 10% rather than 4% over two months, let's say, that amounts to about a 3% difference. That's nothing in your case. You're not within a couple thousand dollars of doing a deal at the moment. Your deal is a \$150,000 deal. Your return on investment isn't going to make this happen, or keep it from happening. See what I'm saying?

Just keep doing what

you've been doing and park the money. That's what I'd do. People who are math nerds, like us, always look for things to fix an investment. But sometimes the thing that fixes the investment is you. You are the one doing the investing. You are the one putting money in the account. So, in this case, don't try to fix it. Just pile up money and go do it.

Great question, Brett!

— Dave

*Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling 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.* ★

### Just Pile Up Money, And Go Do It

Dear Dave,

I plan to buy another investment property with cash in the next year or two. Currently, I have \$83,000 sitting in a high-yield savings account at 4% interest. My goal is to save another \$50,000 to \$70,000 in the upcoming months. Right now, 4% is good, but I want to make sure I'm maximizing my returns. Should I be doing something else with the money?

— Brett

Dear Brett,

I like the way you're doing things. Right now, you're simply parking the money short term for



## Riley Reviews

### "RENFIELD" CAMPY VAMPIRE FOLLIES; NEW DRAMA SERIES ON CW

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

#### "RENFIELD" Rated R

Missing from the poster art and the trailers, the tag line for "Renfield" is apparently "Evil doesn't span eternity without a little help." The "evil," of course, as you may guess from the titular character's association, refers to Count Dracula.

The help comes from the tortured aide of history's most narcissistic boss, the bloodsucking vampire we all know and love from a plethora of films and novels.

Trapped in an eternal hell is the hapless Renfield (Nicholas Hoult), who is forced to procure his master's prey. He's ready to break free if only he can escape the Stockholm Syndrome.

Life has become so intolerable for Renfield that he joined a support group that deals with toxic relationships. Ready to see if there's life outside the shadow of the Prince of Darkness, Renfield only needs to figure out how to end his co-dependency.

Nicholas Cage's Dracula is so maniacally egotistical and self-absorbed that he never misses a chance to debase and humiliate his indentured servant Renfield to do his every bidding.

Bram Stoker's legendary vampire has been adapted so many times in cinematic productions that one can't possibly keep track. Who is the best Dracula? Would it be Gary Oldman, Frank Langella or Christopher Lee? They seem to be second fiddle to Bela Legosi.

Let's get to the point that Nicholas Cage is playing the nefarious vampire for campy fun. Sort of like what Leslie Nielsen delivered in Mel Brooks' "Dracula: Dead and Loving It."

The most unlikely Dracula was probably George Hamilton's spoof of the vampire in "Love at First Bite." Not that he didn't have some fun with the character, but how could a guy with an aversion to sunlight have a Malibu surfer's tan?

In "Renfield," Count Dracula wears enough pancake makeup that exposure to the sun would melt his face. And if ever there was someone outside of Great Britain with a need for a good dental plan, he's the one.

Dracula is not alone in tormenting poor Renfield. The Lobo New Orleans crime family, run by matriarch Bellafrancesca (Shoreh Aghdashloo), is at war with Renfield when he chooses to align with New Orleans police officer Rebecca (Awkwafina).

Corruption runs so rampant in New Orleans that the Lobo family has free reign, partly as the result of a police force so crooked that Rebecca is apparently the only honest cop in town. But Teddy Lobo (Ben Schwartz) is so dim-witted that his enforcer role is a joke.

While Renfield ends up wearing pastel-colored sweaters, he does find a way to become assertive and bold, to say nothing of his superhuman strength when a supply of bugs to consume is at hand.

With a serious crush on Officer Rebecca, Renfield takes on the Lobo henchmen with a graphic vengeance that results in bloody mayhem of shattered heads and severed limbs.

Turn the clock back more than thirty years, and recall that Nicolas Cage played an immortal predator in the horror comedy "Vampire's Kiss." It only seemed natural for him to take on the role of the most prominent vampire of them all.

No slight is meant to Nicholas Hoult's Renfield to note that having more of Nicolas Cage's range of emotions from absurd arrogance to real menace would have enhanced the campiness of "Renfield."

How come vampires always end up living in New Orleans? Maybe we owe that to Anne Rice's prolific novels. Whatever the case, the Crescent City is an appropriate venue for the genre.

#### CW NETWORK LAUNCHING NEW DRAMA SERIES

Supernatural crime thriller "The Rising" is the story of Neve Kelly (Clara Rugaard), who discovers that she is dead. Understandably, she's scared and confused by this new non-existence, but moreover, when she realizes she's been murdered, she's furious.

Determined to find her killer and get justice, Neve takes advantage of her new supernatural abilities to go where the police cannot and investigate her own death.

In doing so, she uncovers deeply buried secrets and is forced to re-examine everything about her life and the people she cared about. "The Rising" is a story about love, justice, and the cost of pursuing the truth in a world that wants to keep it hidden.

The Australian surfer drama "Barons" is set in a time of sexual liberation, social disruption, protest, and war. The eight-part series captures a unique moment of upheaval and opportunity as a new surfing counterculture collides with the realities of enterprise.

Two best friends, inspired by their love for the Australian beach, create what will become iconic rival surf brands. Little do they know that their success will tear them and their worlds apart.

When their businesses go mainstream, the young rebels and their friends find themselves pulled deep into a world of corporate politics, jealousy, homophobia, and racial tension.

"Barons" finds that the selling of their surfer dreams to the world has created bitter, lasting rivalries. ★



#### Two Yolo County Ranches Share Insights on Cattle Raising

Two ranching operations in Yolo County have found ways to carve their own niche, allowing each to help maintain the region's rich agricultural tradition. Yolo Land and Cattle Co. and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation opened their doors this month to a group of state legislative and committee staffers, offering a glimpse of how they manage their land, livestock and natural resources. Yocha Dehe raises cattle as part of a diverse farming operation that includes more than a dozen crops. Yolo Land and Cattle raises grass-fed Angus cattle, with some Angus-Hereford crosses.

#### Farmers to Get Full Supplies from State Water Project and Central Valley Project

After a series of winter storms boosted California's reservoirs and snowpack, state and federal officials are pledging full water deliveries for farmers from two key water projects. The California Department of Water Resources said it expects to deliver 100% of requested water supplies from the State Water Project. That is up from a 75% allocation announced in March. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced that agricultural and water service contractors will receive 100% of requested supplies from the Central Valley Project, up from 80% announced in March.

#### UC Davis Develops Five New Strawberry Varieties to Combat Fungal Disease

Plant breeders at the University of California, Davis, are releasing five new strawberry varieties developed to resist the soilborne disease Fusarium wilt. Researchers said this marks the first release from the UC Davis Strawberry Breeding Program where all cultivars have Fusarium wilt resistance. They also said the new varieties have high yields and improved fruit quality. In California, 1.8 billion pounds of strawberries are harvested each year.

#### State to Provide \$69 Million in Funding to Help with Farm Soil and Irrigation Projects

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has announced a pilot program to provide \$69 million in block grant funding for agricultural projects that improve soil health and farm irrigation systems. Some \$40 million will be provided through the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program, which incentivizes agricultural operations to invest in water-saving irrigation systems. Another \$29 million will be made available through the state's Healthy Soils Program, which aids conservation management practices to improve soil health and reduce greenhouse gases. ★

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# COMICS & PUZZLES

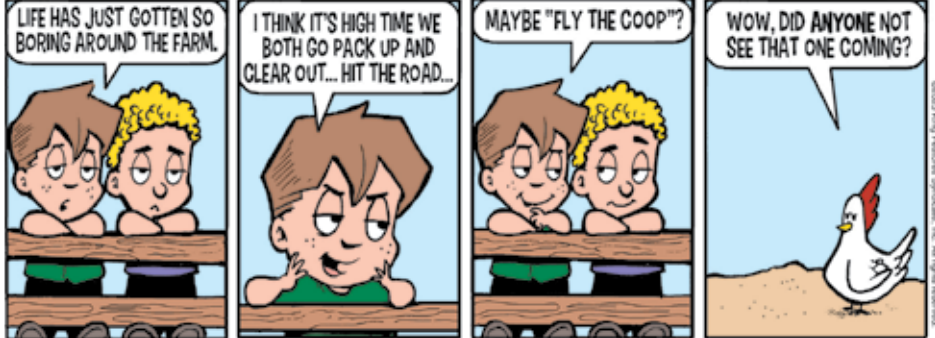
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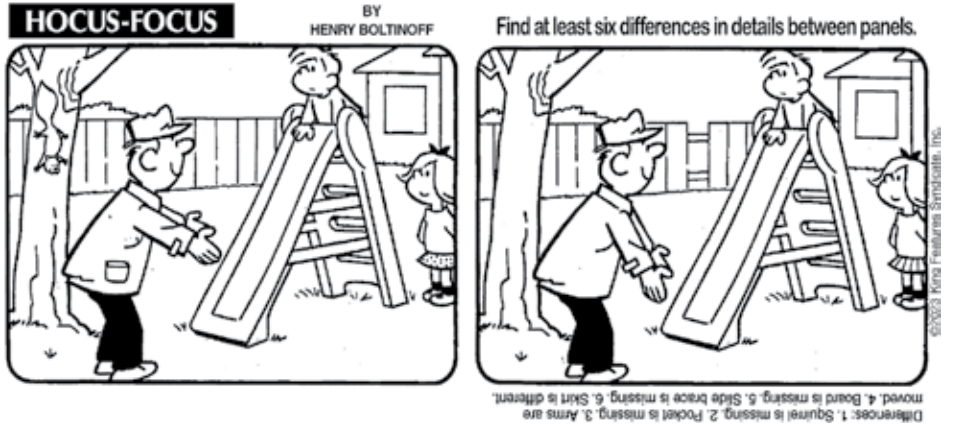
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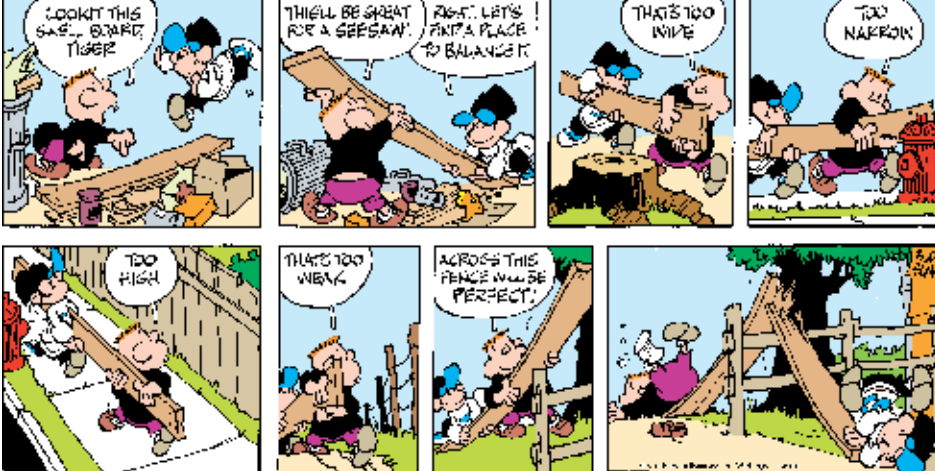
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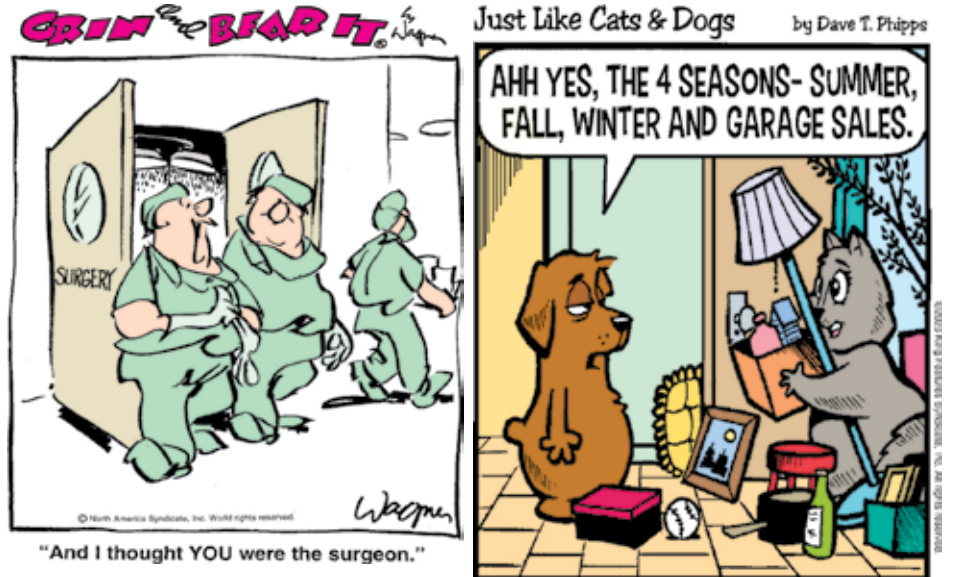
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# Cold River Flows Require Caution During Spring Snowmelt



"We encourage everyone recreating in or near water to be situationally aware and have a plan to quickly and safely escape in case of changing water flows and cold temperatures." Photo courtesy of Loren Markle Dreamstime.com

## PG&E News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - With the near-record California snowfall, water flows will be significantly higher in rivers and streams as the spring snowmelt accelerates. Outdoor recreationists should remain aware and cautious of as higher flows mean dangerously cold, swiftly moving water.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) urges those who venture near or into water to take extra precautions, especially around hydroelectric facilities and dams, where flow conditions can change rapidly. As trout-fishing seasons generally opening in April, anglers are especially encouraged to take precautions.

"The abundant snowfall is good for California but will result in much higher flows and potential flooding when warmer weather arrives," said Jan Nimick, PG&E vice president of Power Generation. "We encourage everyone recreating in or near water to be situationally aware and have a plan to quickly and safely escape in case of changing water flows and cold temperatures."

Most California rivers are fed by snowmelt, making them cold even in summer. Simple actions can save lives, such as recognizing if the water is too cold or swift, knowing your limits, wearing a life jacket or simply by not entering the water when conditions seem unsafe.

Below are some water safety tips:

### Know the Risks

Prevention is the best way to save a person from drowning. By the time a person is struggling in the water, a rescue is extremely unlikely and places the rescuer at risk; Sudden immersion in cold water can stimulate the "gasp reflex," causing an involuntary inhalation of air or water. It can even trigger cardiac arrest, temporary paralysis, hypothermia and drowning. When faced with swift water, even the strongest swimmers can be easily overwhelmed; Cold water entering the ear canal can cause vertigo and disorientation. This can confuse swimmers, potentially causing them to venture deeper into the water; Cold water also reduces body heat 25 to 30 times faster than air does at the same temperature and causes impairment that can be fatal.

### Learn About Self-Rescue Techniques

If you do fall into the water, here are some survival tips:

Don't panic. Try to control your breathing; don't gasp. A sudden, unexpected fall into cold water causes an involuntary gasp (or torso) reflex. It takes less than one-half cup of water in a person's lungs to drown. If you remain calm, you have a greater chance of self-rescue;

If you have a boat, stay with it. It will help you stay afloat and will be seen more easily by rescuers. If it's capsized and a portion of the craft is above water, try to climb on top;

Stay afloat with the help of a life jacket, regain control of your breathing and keep your head above water in view of rescuers;

If possible, remove heavy shoes. Look for ways to increase buoyancy such as by holding onto seat cushions or an ice chest;

If you're in the water with others, huddle together facing each other to help everyone stay afloat and keep warm;

If you do fall into a river without a life jacket, keep your feet pointed downstream and turn onto your back;

If you fall into the water with waders on, roll onto the shore. Wear a belt with waders.

### Know Your Limits

Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool. People tire more quickly and can get into trouble;

Many unseen obstacles can be lurking below the water's surface. This is especially the case during spring and early summer snowmelt. Rising water can make these obstacles even more treacherous. Guided trips for inexperienced paddlers are recommended.

Wear a Coast Guard-Approved Life Jacket

Conditions change quickly in open water and even the best swimmers can misjudge the water and their skills when boating or swimming.

### Adult Supervision

Actively supervise children in and around open bodies of water, giving them your undivided attention. Do not assume that someone is watching them. Appoint a designated "water watcher," taking turns with other adults. Use the buddy system and never swim alone. ★

# Californians Spring into Action to Remove Litter, Beautify Neighborhoods

## Caltrans News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Thousands of Californians took part in more than 600 "Spring into Action" Clean California Community Days events throughout the state during an 11-day period to clean up roadways, local streets and public spaces.

The series of events from March 17-27 were part of the Clean California initiative, Governor Gavin Newsom's \$1.2 billion, multi-year cleanup effort led by Caltrans to remove trash, create thousands of jobs and engage communities to transform public spaces.

"Clean California is empowering communities and restoring pride in our shared spaces up and down the state, and I thank the thousands of Californians who banded together for the Community Days events to beautify and transform their neighborhoods," said Governor Newsom. "By making a difference at the local level, we are helping create a cleaner, more beautiful California for all."

Clean California Community Days included:

Hundreds of local events including: 58 tree planting/gardening events with 363 trees planted; 265 community trash collection events; 202 public community cleanups; 39 educational and entertainment events; and six temporary public art installations;

1.64 million pounds of trash collected during the 11-day period – five times the weight of the Statue of Liberty;

More than 10,500 volunteers participated in



Volunteers pick up trash along the beach at a Clean California Community Days event in the City of Ventura on March 25. Photo courtesy of Caltrans

community beautification efforts.

"The overwhelming response and participation from Californians throughout the state to transform community spaces demonstrates the power of Clean California," said Caltrans Director Tony Tavares. "With the support of Governor Newsom and the commitment of our communities, we are reducing litter and making lasting positive change."

"Californians are looking for ways to engage in their communities to green and beautify neighborhoods, and Clean California is a powerful way for them to take action," said California Chief Service Officer Josh Fryday.

Clean California will continue to engage communities and raise awareness on the negative impact litter has on natural resources, waterways, public safety and public health, driving a cultural shift of shared responsibility and instilling community pride for the cleanliness of our roadways and public spaces. The recently launched

"Zero Litter is the Goal" campaign focuses on volunteerism, community activation and grassroots partnerships to maintain the positive momentum of Clean California Community Days.

To encourage local-level engagement, Caltrans is also developing a program in which communities throughout the state can earn a special Clean California designation by meeting criteria centered around preventing and cleaning up litter, promoting recycling, and greening or beautifying neighborhoods.

To support communities with tools and resources, Caltrans will be providing downloadable public education materials on topics such as litter prevention, volunteer recruitment, and K-12 materials. Additionally, members of the community are encouraged to continue to organize their own cleanup events and can get started by visiting CleanCA.com.

Since launching Clean California in July 2021, Caltrans and local partners have removed 1.45 million cubic yards of litter from state highways – the equivalent of more than 24,400 tons or enough trash to fill the Rose Bowl over 3½ times. Caltrans has hired more than 850 team members as part of Clean California. Clean California grants have funded 231 projects to revitalize and beautify underserved communities, some of which are already complete and now sources of community pride. In February, Governor Newsom announced a new round of \$100 million in grants for local beautification projects. ★

# "This Is So Needed!"

## Non-profit HomeShare American River Celebrates Dozens of Happy Housemates



Two years in, HomeShare American River is proven as a powerful, versatile tool to unlock rental income and affordable housing. Left to right: Lynn Nelson, Rev. Virgil Nelson, Sofia de Melo, Justin Ellerby, Tara Benavides, Steve Davis. Photo courtesy of HomeShare American River.

## HomeShare American River News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - In July 2021, inter-faith non-profit Placer People of Faith Together (ppoft.org) launched a powerful, versatile tool to unlock both rental income and naturally-affordable housing throughout the Greater Sacramento live-work area. More than 50 such non-profit supported homesharing programs have been valuably serving their communities throughout the US, some for as long as 50 years. But there was no such service in our region until PPOFT decided to start HomeShare American River.

Almost two years later, non-profit housemate-matching and -support service HomeShare American River (HSAR) has matched up dozens of happy housemates across the region into safe, fair, valuable, and durable arrangements. HSAR makes matches in homes (whether owned or rented) located within an hour's drive of Roseville, including Nevada City, Placerville,

Lodi, Dixon, Yuba City, and Marysville. HSAR provides help for potential "Hosts" and "Guests" throughout the entire arrangement: screening, matchmaking (including facilitating exchanges of household services for lowered rent), and active support/trouble-



HomeShare AMERICAN RIVER

shooting. And while Hosts set the rents they charge, HSAR doesn't charge them or their Guests anything for its service, including the background checks. Instead, HSAR is entirely funded by the Agency on Aging/Area 4 and a generous private donor, meaning that HSAR is beholden to neither Host nor Guest... just to its social mission to serve both of them equally for as long as they live together.

Since launching, HSAR has made 24 matches from Nevada City to Elk Grove. Matched Hosts and Guests vary widely in age (22-84), rents paid (\$550-900, including utilities), income, and walks of life, but all have the most important thing in common: they make "great neighbors down the hall" to each other. And that also means HSAR has effectively created many new units of housing, without hammering a single nail!

As Executive Director and Co-Founder Justin Ellerby says, "Two things tell me that this service can make a dent in a lot of big problems. One: The gratitude and relief I hear from our happily-matched clients. Two: Almost everyone I tell about this service reacts with almost the exact same words: 'This is SO needed!'"

Potential Hosts and Guests can learn more about HSAR at homeshareamericanriver.org/apply or by calling (916) 360-0074. Partners and supporters will find much more information at homeshareamericanriver.org/collaborate. ★

(PAID CONTENT)

**WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS** 

**MPG**

**OH NO!**  
Is that really happening?

Read the public notices in our newspaper or on our website to learn more about:

- Government meetings, bids & contracts
- Foreclosures
- Unclaimed property
- School Board issues
- Elections/Polling places, initiative petitions
- Tax assessments/proposals

