



Local Author
and Artist
Announces New
Children's Book
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Dixon Independent Voice

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MARCH 10, 2023

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Dr. Seuss: No Matter How Small



Mrs. Ferreira and her assistant Norma Ramirez pose with their Kindergarten/First grade students bearing Dr. Seuss hats the children made.

Story and photos
by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The children of Anderson Elementary were busy making hats, coloring bow ties, and hearing stories written by Dr. Seuss this past week all in celebration of the famous author's birthday. Across the United States, thousands of libraries, schools and daycare centers were happy to don red and white striped hats – okay even some teachers and staff members as well – to continue the great reading legacy the author began.



Anderson Kindergarten teacher Miss Kelley assists one of her students with a Dr. Seuss hat fitting.

"I've been in education Kids before, and grew up for 15 years, ran Catalyst with in-home daycare in

our house with all kinds of Dr. Seuss books. I've liked Dr. Seuss since I was small," said Anderson Kindergarten teacher Miss Kelley while measuring a young boy's head for his hat. One of her personal favorites and one that the children love is "If I Ran the Zoo." That one is a classic as it was published in 1950. It's written in the usual Anapestic Tetrameter style that made Seuss famous where children can easily feel the rhythm of the short, four lines that rhyme.

"What children get most
Continued on page 3

Library Offers Tiny Art Show, Cookies

Solano County Library
Press Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - This is all about showing your love for Dixon through your art creation. The Dixon Public Library will hold an art reception on Tuesday, March 14, at 6:30 p.m. with some light refreshments for those creative artists willing to submit their work.

To enter your art, first you must pick up the program guidelines and canvas while supplies last from March 1 through March 10.

Turn in your art by March 10 to the Dixon Library and then it will be on display for the rest of the month, March 14 through March 31. From April 1 through 15, artists may pick up their work.

The guidelines are simple: One submission allowed per person and only family friendly submissions will be accepted. The entry must be on 4"x4" canvas board which you can pick up free at the library, while supplies last, or provide your own.

Every entry will receive a \$1 book coupon to be used at the Friends of the Library Bookstore

If you would like to use the library's painting supplies, please come to the library during #DixonRocks on Friday, March 3, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Jennifer Springfield at (866) 572-7587 or email her at jaspringfield@solanocounty.com.

Another event, this one for teens and teens, is a St. Patrick's Day Cookie Decorating Event with Ricky Gjertsen on Tuesday, March 14, from 3 to 4 p.m. after school. Come and enjoy decorating with your favorite toppings to make cookies even tastier. Goodies provided by the Dixon Library.

The library is located at 230 North First St. in downtown Dixon. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Wednesday and Saturday, the hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. They are closed on Sundays and Mondays. ★

Protect Your Catalytic Converter

Dixon PD
News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Ron DuPratt Ford is proud to host a catalytic converter engraving and theft deterrent event on March 18, 2023 from 9 am-3 pm, in partnership with the Dixon Police Department and the Dixon Police Officers' Association. This event is open to the public (first-come, first-served) and is aimed at helping combat catalytic converter theft.

Catalytic converter theft has been on the rise in recent years, and many vehicle owners have fallen victim to this crime. Thieves target catalytic converters because they contain valuable metals like platinum, palladium, and rhodium, which can be sold for a profit. However, catalytic converters can be engraved with unique markings that deter thieves and help police identify stolen property.

At the event, vehicle owners can bring their cars, trucks, and SUVs to Ron DuPratt Ford to have their catalytic converters engraved with a unique



Catalytic converter theft has been on the rise in recent years. Ron DuPratt Ford is holding a catalytic converter engraving and theft deterrent event on March 18, 2023, from 9 am-3 pm. Photo courtesy of Ron DuPratt Ford

identification number and paint. This process takes just a few minutes and is free of charge. Engraving a catalytic converter makes it less attractive to thieves, who are less likely to steal a marked converter. Additionally, the engraving helps law enforcement identify

stolen property and prosecute thieves.

The event is co-sponsored by the Dixon Police Department and the Dixon Police Officers' Association, who will be on hand to answer questions and provide information about catalytic converter theft prevention.

"We're proud to partner with the Dixon Police Officers' Association and Ron DuPratt Ford to help combat catalytic converter theft," said Officer Kenneth Warren, coordinator of the event. "Engraving catalytic converters is a simple and effective way to deter thieves and protect our community. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity and get their catalytic converters engraved."

The catalytic converter engraving and theft deterrent event will be held on March 18, from 9am-3pm, at Ron DuPratt Ford, located at 1320 North First Street in Dixon. For more information, please contact Officer Warren at kwarren@dixonpolice.org or the Dixon POA at admin@dixoncapoa.org. ★





Life's too SHORT

Priceless Quilt

By Debra Dingman

The cardboard box of miscellaneous pieces of fabric had been tucked away in the spare bedroom closet for years. I have gotten it out many times to make a cape for grandchildren or outfits or costumes but the plastic bag on the bottom rarely got reviewed.

After taking a quilting class and having my squares not lined up perfectly, I wanted to throw it away, but my girlfriend refused and insisted I hang it up and display it proudly because, after all, it was my first-ever quilt.

My daughter had a wonderful idea and cut up her favorite high school clothes so I could make her a quilt. I was sad to inform her at that time that I could not do her quilt because it was full of knit fabrics and I couldn't sew knit. I don't remember if it was her or I that sewed part of it together but soon, it went away into the bag into the bottom of the closet.

Well, it finally got done. Not by me, but by Mary Baichtal who was referred to me by Jill Orr. I dug it out because I wanted to give my daughter a priceless gift. Her own daughter, my granddaughter, is now in high school so we've talked a lot about my daughter's school days and especially her Cross-Country experiences. I wanted to give her that finished quilt knowing she would truly appreciate it.

Mary and I met passed the holidays and I got an estimate of her to finish it. Whatever it would take and she was very

reasonable—she'd finish the top quilted pieces, add the back and the binding into an approximate 4 x 6 lap blanket. Later, Mary would ask me about my daughter's favorite color, and I told her it was green.

When Mary brought the finished quilt over, I was so happy. It was beautiful and plush. I took the time to find a couple of photos in my albums of my daughter wearing the clothes the patches were taken from and slipped them in a plastic sleeve into the gift bag. When my daughter pulled that out, I could see she had no idea what the pictures were for and then she pulled out the blanket that I had tied with a big white ribbon. I had purposely folded the patch side in so she could not see it unless she untied the bow.

She looked at those gathered around the 'birthday breakfast' table and jokingly said, "Mom, you got me a blanket?" I told her to open it. I was watching her eyes and I caught it—the moment she laid eyes on the fabrics. She knew what it was and the sparkling eyes and broad smile was perfectly beautiful.

Then, the picture made sense and she shared with the family that one of the patches was the blouse she wore in her junior yearbook picture. Another patch was from a skirt she wore when we were all at Chuck E. Cheese doing alley bowling when all the cousins were teens. Yet another was from a favorite shirt she wore in a picture squeezing her 1½-year-old little brother.

My heart is full. ★

Dixon News Briefs



A room full of Dixonites at the public library were treated to Master percussionist Onye Onyemaechi Saturday as he helped close out Black History Month with special drumming, songs, dance, and stories from Africa. Drums and dance provide an essential spiritual connection he explained. Photo by Jim Ward

MPG Staff

Museum Romance

Book and history lovers meet for a date next week! The Dixon Historical Society Book Club hosts local author Sadye Petersen Reddick who will discuss her book *At the River: An untold history of the Californios revealed through an 1848 romance*. It will be held on Wednesday, March 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Dixon History Museum, 125 East A St. in downtown Dixon. Hot coffee and cookies will be served. RSVP to 707-693-3044 or dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Books can be purchased at the museum or on Amazon.

St. Pat's Dinner

Celebrate Saint Patrick's Day with a corned beef and cabbage dinner with potatoes and carrots at the American Legion Post 208. It is on Friday, March 17 at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 North First Street with the bar opening at 4 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. Entry is \$15.

Recreation Student Rep

There is a need for students interested in serving on the Parks & Recreation Commission. There is a vacancy for Student Representative and also for an Alternate Student Representative. The Student Representative must be in his or her senior year of high school, and the Alternate Student Representative must be in his or her junior year of high school. The Commission is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to recreation programs and parks facilities. The Student Representative is expected to attend all Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. The Alternate Student Representative will fill in for the Student Representative, when the Student Representative is unable to attend Commission meetings.

It is expected that the Alternate Student Representative will apply to become the Student Representative the following school year. The term to be served is July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. The Commission meets in the Dixon City Council Chambers at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. City residency is required.

Interested students may obtain an application by contacting Stephanie Marquez at Dixon High School. The deadline for filing applications is 5 p.m., Friday, May 19.

Social Media Training

The Small Business Development Center is preparing business trainings in March and will soon be launching a new three-part series, Social Media: Zero to Hero. They will also offer a Growth and Recovery capital event in Davis on March 16, that they are co-hosting with the Sacramento Valley SBDC.

Flyers promoting the March trainings and more are online. The capital event, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 16 at the Veterans Memorial Center in Davis, will feature a lender panel with representatives from Marble Bridge Group, Wells Fargo Bank, California Capital FDC, Travis Credit Union, First Northern Bank, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Working Solutions.

All of our business webinars and roundtables are offered at NO-COST to our business owners in Solano and Napa Counties. You can view our full training calendar at solanonapasbdc.org/events.

Fish Fry

The March 10 dinner menu is the monthly Fish Fry and costs \$12 at the door. This casual-style dinner will include delicious, deep-fried cod, French fries, hush puppies and fresh-tossed coleslaw. Address for Veterans Memorial Hall is 1305 North First St. Music by Roger Schaller. ★

California Farm Bureau Reacts to Groundwater Decisions

California Farm Bureau Press Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson responded to the California Department of Water Resources announcement on sustainability plans for the state's groundwater basins.

The agency recommended approval of plans for six California groundwater sub-basins. It declared six other plans to be "inadequate," which will result in a review by the State Water Resources Control Board.

"This action will trigger a process before the water board that will afford local agencies additional opportunities to address identified problems, regain control of their basins and, hopefully, avoid formal probationary status or the imposition of eventual state interim plans," Johansson said.

"Passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the 2014 drought year was a seismic shift in California water," he said. "It was never

going to be easy to transition on a timeline of just 20 years to eliminate an estimated 2.5 million acre-feet of overdraft a year in our most impacted areas of the state. Historic droughts in recent years have also shown us that we can't simply continue as we have been, and that California must also invest in a more resilient, 21st-century water system."

Johansson added, "California Farm Bureau will work with state and local agencies, our county Farm Bureaus and our agricultural groundwater users on workable solutions to sustain healthy aquifers. Our groundwater supplies are critical for California farmers, including vegetable, fruit, nut, and dairy producers who account for much of America's food supply. It is important that California carefully consider solutions that protect both our aquifers and our food production."

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



Special Supply Box

Soroptimist International of Dixon has installed a 'She Box' for women and girls in the community who need a helping hand. The 'She Box' is filled with feminine hygiene products, baby diapers, wipes, and more essentials. The bright blue 'She Box' is located at 140 North Jackson St. and is open 24 hours a day. Community members using the 'She Box' will be anonymous. Photo courtesy of Soroptimist



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Keeping Up with Your Student



Shawntel McCammon, DUSD Coordinator of Outreach, Engagement & Innovation. Courtesy photo

By Shawntel McCammon, DUSD

DIXON, CA (MPG) - DUSD schools are using a new parent engagement tool to connect our school community. You will want to download the free mobile app for Android or iOS or use it from a computer at: www.parentsquare.com

You should have received an invitation email or text to join ParentSquare. Click the link to activate your account. It takes less than a minute. If you have already done so, you are a step ahead – please disregard.

ParentSquare will allow us to do everything from sending out emergency, absence alerts to sharing newsletters, photos and files with families. It also gives parents the opportunity to have

one-on-one conversations with teachers and administration with the direct messaging feature.

Additionally, with ParentSquare you'll be able to: Receive all school and classroom communication via email, text or app; View and download photos; View the school and classroom calendar and RSVP for events; Easily sign up to volunteer and/or bring items.

Included in this post are documents that will help register with Dixon Unified's ParentSquare. Should your information (phone number, e-mail) need to be updated you can do so through the Aeries Parent Portal.

To learn about all of the ways you can use ParentSquare, check out the following videos:

<https://vimeo.com/187431155/338cf3f348>

Parent Video—Getting Started

<https://vimeo.com/186008987/ab5d20a52e>

Parent Video—Parent Square Tour

<https://vimeo.com/307587191/55b5893b30>

Parent Video—Additional App Features

If you would like more information, you can visit the ParentSquare Video Library at <https://vimeo.com/user45051168>

We encourage you to download the free mobile app for Android or iOS and you can also use it from a computer at: www.parentsquare.com

If you have any questions, please email me at shawntel.mccammon@dixonusd.org. ★

Gun Violence Prevention Speaker Hosted



Speaker Amanda Aubel. Courtesy photo

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Concerned with gun violence in America, the Dixon Women's Improvement Club will host Amanda Aubel, a Research Data Analyst at the UC Davis Violence Prevention Research Program to speak at their next meeting, Wednesday, March 15, at 1 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Aubel studies the causes, consequences,

and prevention of violence, particularly violence involving firearms. She helps conduct an ongoing statewide survey of California adults and supports the BulletPoints Project, which teaches healthcare providers how to reduce the risk of firearm injuries among their patients. Ms. Aubel earned her Master of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health.

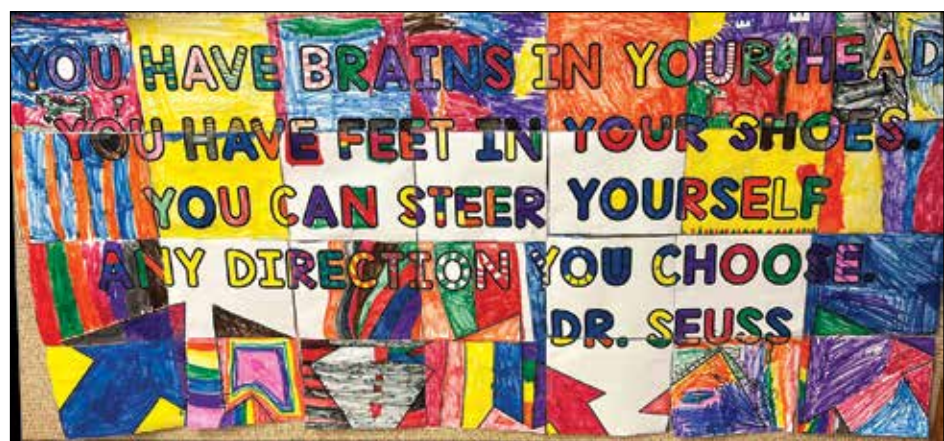
She will be giving a presentation titled "Firearm Violence & Suicide: The Scope of the Problem & Strategies for Prevention," in which she will present the latest data on firearm violence and suicide in the US, in California, and in Solano County and discuss strategies at the individual-, community-, and societal-level for preventing firearm-related injuries

and deaths.

The business meeting will follow the presentation and there will be light refreshments. The hall is located at 209 N. Jefferson St., across from ReMax Gold Real Estate.

The DWIC was established in 1899. The founders were women from families that had settled in the Dixon area following the Gold Rush of 1849 and were interested in beautifying and improving the town of Dixon. The club is open to anyone who is interested in joining and guests are welcome. From September through May, the club meets the third Wednesday of the month usually from 1 to 3 p.m. To become an active member, dues are \$35 annually. Call (707) 301-0795 for more information. ★

Dr. Seuss: No Matter How Small



The quilt the children in Mrs. Lemus' first grade class designed to celebrate Dr. Seuss week.

Continued from page 1

from Dr. Seuss' stories is the kindness," Kelly said. "It is seeing everybody as an equal. Like when Horton hears a who, the message is a person's a person no matter how small."

When students were asked in Mrs. Ferreira's Kindergarten/First grade combo class, what do they like about Dr. Seuss, they quickly offered answers.

"He likes to rhyme," said Aubry.

"He makes up silly words," said Penelope.

First grade teacher Mrs. Lemus had just finished reading her students, "Are You My Mother," which they really enjoyed, she said. A student quickly told us his favorite book was "Go Dog Go." One of the activities during the week was to have the children answer what they would do if Dr. Seuss came to their house.

Many said kind things like give him ice cream, play with him, go for a walk

with him, or watch TV with him but others weren't so thoughtful. One said he'd hit him with a bat. Another said she'd push pins in him and poke him and another said he'd throw his hat outside. The teacher didn't seem concerned.

She showed off a brightly colored 'quilt' made of the children's artwork on white paper. "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose," it read from his book, "Oh the Places You'll Go!"

"It's all about the love for reading and his different adventures," Lemus said. "I love all the adventures these books take them on."

Dr. Seuss is actually Theodore Seuss Geisel and died of cancer in 1991 at his home in San Diego. He is famous for writing and illustrating 60 books. Surprisingly, the man devoted most of his life to writing children's books but had no children of his own. He said he just liked entertaining them. ★



Mrs. Lemus (far left in back) poses with her first grade students who hold their answers to what they would do if Dr. Seuss came to their door. They also made a colorful quilt in his honor.

Solano County Launches Emergency Evacuation Zone Technology

Solano County Sheriff's Office Press Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Office of Emergency Services together with our public safety partners are excited to announce the "Know Your Zone" campaign, a collaborative effort between Zonehaven, and Solano County, including all seven cities, which aims to better prepare residents and businesses for emergencies and evacuations.

To find your zone, residents can enter their address into the interactive map on Zonehaven AWARE at community.zonehaven.com using the search bar in the upper left. This will open a pop-up window, which includes the zone name and information about the zone. Residents and businesses should record the names of all the zones they frequent, such as home, work, school, or homes of loved ones and keep them in a visible place. Use

the "Subscribe to Alerts," button, located under the "Community Links" section, to sign up for emergency notifications through Alert Solano.

Zone names, in addition to the zone boundaries, will be used in emergency notifications, so knowing the name of your zone is critical to staying informed during an emergency. In the event of an emergency, first responders and other public safety officials will use Zonehaven to assist in issuing evacuations. From there, officials will publish evacuation orders and zone statuses to Zonehaven AWARE (community.zonehaven.com) and send emergency notifications via Alert Solano.

Residents can see up to date information about their zone through the Zonehaven AWARE platform. Remember to always follow directions from emergency responders. Follow your local emergency response agencies on social media and be sure to "Know Your Zone." ★

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Eggstravaganza Returns to Sacramento Region

Northern California Hosts 31st Annual Decorated Egg Show and Sale

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - As the saying goes, "What's that got to do with the price of eggs?" Where art is involved, some eggs become almost "priceless".

It has been a few years, thanks to the chaos of Covid, since the Egg Show and Sale has been able to bring this wonderful art form to the region. This year will be its 31st show and sale.

The City of West Sacramento's Community Center will be the site for the phenomenal show this year.

Diana Macias, Show Director said in her release to the press "We are 'eggcited' to bring our free art exhibit to West Sacramento and offer the community the opportunity to see firsthand artwork created from real eggshells by artists traveling from all over the United States, teaching classes, displaying and selling art and the supplies to create our form of art."

Over the years we have worked with you on several community publications to get the word out to as many communities as possible inviting everyone to come out to the show and learn about this spectacular art form.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the Shriners Hospital for Children. Shriners volunteers will be at the event and will be available to provide information regarding their organization.

Egg Artists donate artwork that will be raffled with all proceeds benefiting the Shriners Hospital for Children.

This year will also feature a "learning table" for those who would like to learn how to make an egg art project for a nominal fee, also with the proceeds benefitting the Shriners. ★



Pictured here are some examples of the fantastic artwork to be seen at this year's show. Photos courtesy Diana Macias at www.norcaleggshow.com

Important Event Info

Northern California Eggstravaganza Egg Show & Sale
West Sacramento Community Center
1075 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento CA. 95691

March 23-24, 2023. Seminars.

Pre-registration required:

go to www.norcaleggshow.com

Facebook: Northern California Eggstravaganza

March 25th 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

(Open to the Public - Free admission)

11:00 am to 1:00 pm Learning Table Projects (Nominal Fee)

March 26th 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (Open to the Public)

11:00 am to 1:00 pm Learning Table Projects (Nominal Fee)

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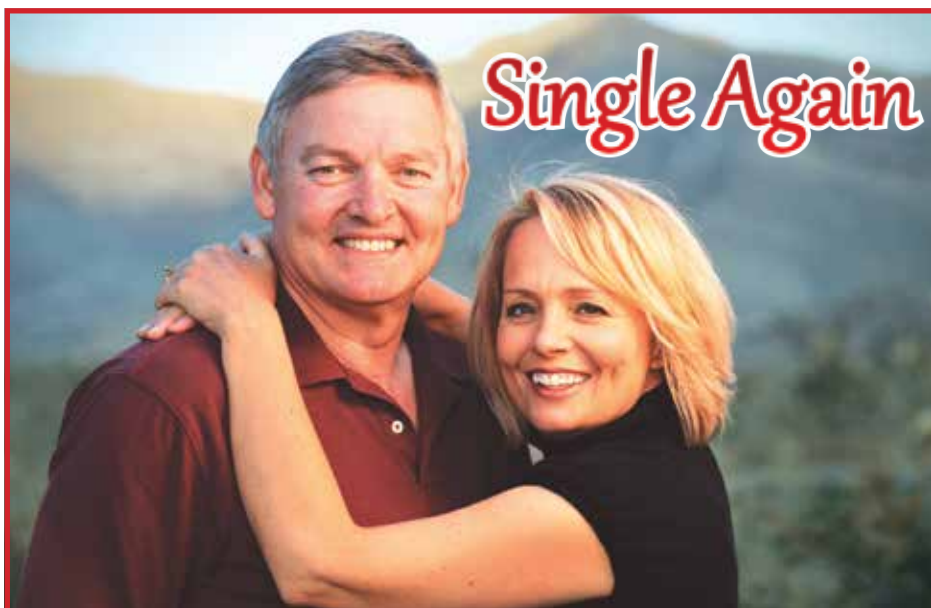
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Local Dixon Author and Artist Announces New Children's Book The Movie Chair

Recently, I had a moment to interview Shari Borkin and learn more about this local author and her new children's book, *The Movie Chair*.

Local author and artist Shari Borkin presents a new children's book full of heart and meaning. *The Movie Chair* is a story about



Local author and artist Shari Borkin presents a new children's book full of heart and meaning.

meditation stories that I wrote for children, visiting "The Story Room", hence, "The Movie Chair" and its sequel: "The Movie Chair Adventures." Were created.

Which is the lesson you want the readers to walk away with most:

SB: By having faith, everything works its self out. Just do your best job even sweeping the floor and the rewards will come.

Do you have a special Movie Chair in your life?

SB: Being an artist, I just enjoy the artworks, architecture, and essence of historic movie theaters.

What has been the best part of your writing journey?

SB: Matching the words with the artworks, just seeing the story come alive visually as I am drawing the images. This makes me happy.

How has your career as an Art Therapist helped you in writing this book?

SB: As an Art Therapist I wanted to create a timeless "Feel Good" story. What we feel and think inside, we create on the outside. The world needs more positive encouragement.

Upcoming events/book Signings:
Saturday March 25th, 12 noon-1:00, "Meet and Greet," Copperfield's Napa, Ca
Saturday/Sunday April 22-23. The LA Times Festival of Books, located on USC campus. Table # 723 Orange section.

The *Movie Chair* is available at: Barnes and Noble, Amazon, Kindle, Nook, iTunes, Ingram

www.christianfaithpublishing.com/books/?book=the-movie-chair ★

an enthusiastic movie chair who loves the weekends when children movies play. All week she suffers through boring romance or action-packed adult movies, longing for the weekend when children would climb into her chair and excitedly watch their films. The movie chair would hide coins for treats and even cover their eyes at the scary parts. But then, one day, the theater upgrades, and the movie chair is cast out. Will the movie chair ever find a way to feel as special as she did in the movie theater?

Through faith and perseverance, one little chair will find her rightful place. Readers will fall for this nostalgic story of a kind hearted movie chair as she sets on a journey to discover where she truly belongs.

Why did you write this story?

SB: As a child, my mother took my brother, myself, and neighborhood kids to the movies a lot, as our form of cinema therapy. My mother had also written a few children's stories but never published them.

I had wanted to get back into my creative spirit again since I was semi-retired art therapist. My creative background consists of: painting, writing, created a series of children's meditation CD's, and produced youtube educational art and cooking videos. After my mother passed, I found a story she tried to write, incorporating a loving movie chair. I decided to reconstruct it and by combing, my guided imagery



Riley Reviews

"COCAINE BEAR" THE SURREAL RIDE OF A SLASHER DARK COMEDY

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"COCAINE BEAR" Rated R

Truth is stranger than fiction, and in the case of drug smuggler Andrew Thornton II, a deep dive into his history would probably be even more fascinating than the "inspired by true events" movie that fictionalizes the story of a black bear ingesting cocaine.

"Cocaine Bear" lifts off from an actual event in 1985 when Thornton, an Army paratrooper-turned-racehorse trainer-turned-narcotics cop-turned DEA agent-turned-lawyer-turned-cocaine smuggler (oh, and alleged CIA operative, too), jumped from a Cessna.

After ditching duffel bags of cocaine that landed in the Chattahoochee National Forest, Thornton, while strapped with packets of cocaine and wearing dress Gucci shoes and cargo pants stuffed with cash and gold coins, attempted to parachute to the ground.

The film opens with actual news stories of Thornton, nicknamed "The Cocaine Cowboy," discovered after plunging to his death by landing in a gravel driveway of a residence in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Thornton was not the only casualty of that flight. Months later, it was discovered that a black bear, weighing about 175 pounds, had been lumbering through the wilderness when it bumped upon a duffel bag that had been ditched.

The bear took some sniffs, and decided to consume the white powder contents of the bag. This turned out to be the only known case of a large mammal succumbing to a deadly overdose.

"Cocaine Bear," taking plenty of liberties with true events, runs with a dark comedy/horror tale by turning the black bear into a 500-pound apex predator that ingests a staggering amount of cocaine and goes on a coke-fueled rampage for more blow and blood.

The ursine behemoth is first introduced through the perspective of Norwegian hikers Olaf (Kristofer Hivju) and Elsa (Hannah Hoekstra), a newly engaged couple taking a break from the stress of wedding planning to vacation in the woods.

Depending on what trailer you may have seen or heard about, it's probably not a spoiler alert to reveal that the bear becomes so enraged that it transforms into a psychotic monster willing to slaughter anyone that gets in its path.

St. Louis drug kingpin Syd (Ray Liotta), whose mobile office is often a fast-food joint, enlists his trusted fixer Daveed (O'Shea Jackson, Jr.) and his headcase son Eddie (Alden Ehrenreich), to retrieve the coke before his Colombian overlords go full "Scarface" mode.

Meanwhile, at the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, detective Bob (Isiah

Whitlock Jr.), struggling to complete a quest of many years to take down Syd's crime family before he retires, heads for the Georgia forest knowing he's got a chance to make good on his mission.

Bob has an obsessive affection for his dog Rosette, a prim, white Maltese who looks more like a contestant for the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show than a regular household pet.

The closest thing to law enforcement at the Chattahoochee National Forest is hapless Ranger Liz (Margo Martindale), who's oblivious to teen punks stealing candy because she's fixated on attracting the attention of animal-rights activist Peter (Jesse Tyler Ferguson).

Worse than engaging in petty theft, the gang of kids are tearing through the woods stabbing and robbing people. The punks think of themselves as agents of chaos. The one who stands out is Stache (Aaron Holliday), who might lead Syd and his crew to a hiding place for the cocaine.

Not to be overlooked is the fact that drug dealer Daveed was jumped by the three punks in the men's room, which they come to regret. Later, surly Eddie strikes up a conversation with Stache about being distraught over losing his wife to cancer.

On this fateful day, precocious 12-year-old Dee Dee (Brooklyn Prince) plays hooky from school with pal Henry (Christian Convery), who's got a big crush on her, so she can paint a picture of a waterfall and use it gain admittance to an art camp.

Dee Dee's mom Sari (Keri Russell), a gutsy, skilled nurse who's divorced, has a fraught relationship with her daughter. Piecing together what has happened, Sari goes chasing for the lost kids, putting her on a collision course with the furry drug addict.

If anything, Sari proves to be the film's primary hero, seeking to protect her daughter and Henry like a mama bear would guard her lost cubs. She's tougher and smarter than anyone would guess by her pink jumpsuit.

One stunning sequence involves the ambulance drivers who think they are making a quick getaway once they hit the road with an injured passenger. Let's just say a coked-up bear has jaw-dropping endurance.

"Cocaine Bear" boils down to living up to its title, causing what to think what the heck is this all about. Given the odd-ball assortment of characters involved and the overall weirdness of the situation they find themselves in, it's a combination dark comedy and slasher film.

The filmmakers were looking to create a surreal rollercoaster ride, making the audience laugh, making them scream, and making the jump. "Cocaine Bear" reaches its goal, if you are willing to take the ride. ★



It's easy to locate people who can enumerate many reasons why failure is certain. Consult them about any ambitious goal you may have, and you will face a barrage of negative opinions and perhaps even ridicule. These predictors of doom and gloom are failure experts. To continue from the last column, here are some more excuses that don't have to apply to you. You can be a success expert.

Things never work for me

Have you ever observed a child trying to prove they can't do something? The child will make a halfhearted attempt that invariably fails. Their reaction will then be, "See, I told you I couldn't do it." Since they tried and failed, the results proved the child's premise.

Adults behave in the same way. Perhaps a person has had a bad experience. They will then purport to predict their destiny: since a failure occurred in the past, nothing will work in the future.

When something doesn't work as planned, it provides lots of knowledge on what to adjust before moving forward. Anyone who is successful has persisted despite numerous experiences with undesirable results.

My timing is never right and I have bad luck

Failure experts are big believers in chance. They feel providence provides successful people with an edge. These experts are convinced they are not destined to succeed. Therefore, there is no point for them to even try. They resign themselves to accepting their lot in life. Their energy is devoted to complaining rather than changing what they don't like.

Although it's always nice to be fortunate, luck occurs when preparation meets opportunity. Lucky people don't wait for opportunity, they create it. Don't wait for your ship to come in, swim out to find it.

I'm not success oriented

There are those who avoid success under the guise that it is evil as well as a bad influence. They will point to so called successful people who are ruthless, underhanded, or take advantage of others. They claim avoiding success allows them to avoid the cause of so much misery.

Success doesn't change people; it simply allows them to advertise who they really are. Truly successful people are kind and considerate and derive their success from being of service to others. A successful person can do more to help others than one who lives far below their potential.

Other people will laugh at me

Fear of ridicule stops failure experts from achieving their goals. They avoid criticism by never sharing their dreams with friends or family. Instead, they suppress any aspirations. They would rather conform to what others consider the norm than risk condemnation. Acceptance is far more important to them than success.

All successful people have been criticized along their journey. Discouragement from those who are closest to you is common. People are jealous if you succeed while they don't. You should share your goals only with people who offer encouragement. Ignore any negative sentiments. Although there is always an abundance of opinions, your life is your responsibility. Don't be deterred by others.

Other people have failed

Examples set by other failures are more relevant to failure experts than success stories. For them, one example of failure is all they need to justify their decision to not even try. Why someone else failed is immaterial. All that matters is that it proves success is not guaranteed.

You want to follow the path of people who succeed. Those who fail, demonstrate what mistakes to avoid but are not a deterrent to success. Seek examples that encourage you, not dissuade you.

If you follow the guidance of failure experts, you will experience the same negative results they achieve. There are always reasons why you can succeed. Find them and concentrate on them.

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CLUES

ACROSS

- Matt Damon/Ben Affleck 1999 movie
- *Top seed
- *Player's target
- Earth Day month
- State V.I.P.
- ____ firma
- Rationalistic theology
- Former name of Tokyo
- Formed a curve
- *One-____ rule
- *Last year's NCAA men's tournament winner
- Lenon's wife
- E-mail command
- Bug spray brand
- *By ____ of" or "by means of"
- Like certain floss
- Life stories, for short
- Gulf War missile
- Dough
- Tiny purse or case
- Mandarin's headquarters
- Like an omelette
- Jaunty rhythms
- Derived from capable
- Party in Maui
- Trouser measurement
- L in SNL
- *Encouragement from coach
- Foretell
- Lt.'s subordinate
- *J in NJCAA
- *Gambling scheme
- Dick Van Dyke's "____ a Happy Face"
- Freudian topic
- Kind of ray
- Silly
- Mudbath site
- Artemis' companion
- Type of salmon
- College entrance exam
- Instagram videos

DOWN

- Bit of baby talk
- Precedes sesame
- Power system
- Botch
- Marcona nut
- Curved molding
- Endorsement
- Call forth
- Not his
- Aquarium show star
- Mine deposits
- Water lily leaf
- One behind the other
- *Like crowd of fans?
- *____ the crowd goes wild!"
- Misstep
- Obelus, pl.
- Oddball's attempt? (2 words)
- *Each player gets 5 before disqualification
- *Org.
- Witty Coward
- Dress up or deck out (2 words)
- Blue-Green scum
- *Easiest shot?
- Location
- Hero shop
- Never say what?
- Abduction of the ____ Women, Roman myth
- Farm call
- Bewitch
- One step to success?
- Close call

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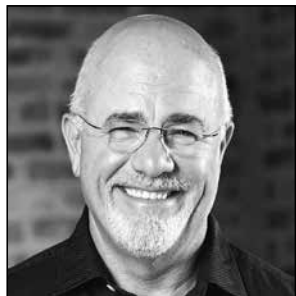
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I Wouldn't Do It That Way

Dear Dave,

I have an uncle who wants to gift some property to one of his sons, myself and my sister. The property is about two-and-a-half acres, and it's probably worth around \$125,000. My wife and I are trying to pay off debt in Baby Step 2 of your plan, and we're not sure how we feel about the situation. What do you think?

- Dave

Dear Dave,

If your uncle asked me

Dave Ramsey Says

if he should do this, my answer would be no. The thing is, you've got three different sets of people with different lives and very different situations. Not only that, but these three potential co-owners probably have differing ideas about the land and what should or shouldn't be done with it. To me, the whole thing sounds like a big family fight just waiting to happen.

If I were in his shoes, I'd just sell the property and split the money equally between the three of you. It'd be a lot easier that way, and you'd avoid the chance of hard feelings between you and your relatives down the road. Don't get me wrong, your uncle sounds like a kind and generous man. He's trying to

be a blessing to all three of you, but it has a very real possibility of causing unintended problems he may not see coming.

That's the way I'd handle it, Dave. A couple of acres of dirt split between three people isn't worth all the squabbles and bad feelings it could cause.

- 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. ★



Farmers in San Joaquin Valley Rush to Recharge Groundwater after Storms

Taking advantage of January's storms and recent cheap seasonal water rates, growers in the San Joaquin Valley are racing to build temporary basins for sinking water into aquifers to boost groundwater to carry them through drier years ahead. "We weren't prepared for this much water, and we can't build them fast enough," said Zack Stuller, whose farm management firm has built 20 temporary basins in the past month. Some growers are even removing trees to build permanent structures to store more water underground.

Tens of Thousands Gather at ag Festival, Check out New Technology

Despite chilly temperatures, tens of thousands of visitors turned out for the Feb. 13-15 World Ag Expo, California's largest and most famous farm show. The event is renowned for its annual announcement of its top 10 new products for agriculture. This year, those products included flying fruit-picking autonomous robots, as well as technology to reduce off-target farm spraying. Other innovations included a mobile app for seeding efficiency and smart-irrigation water delivery systems.

Low Yields for Winegrapes Revealed in Preliminary Grape Crush Report

California winegrape growers last year harvested their smallest crop of any year within the past decade. That's according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Preliminary Grape Crush Report, an annual benchmark for the winegrape and bulk wine sector. The third-consecutive low-harvest year isn't necessarily bad news. Demand for wine has stagnated in recent years, and the smaller-than-average yields have helped keep inventory low and prices high.

House Panels Holds 2023 Farm Bill Session at World Ag Expo

The nation's 2023 Farm Bill took center stage at the World Ag Expo in Tulare last week, as farmers engaged with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and members of the House Agriculture Committee. At a special committee session, farmers and agricultural groups, including the California Farm Bureau, highlighted challenges facing America's largest agricultural economy. Challenges include water shortages, supply-chain disruptions and rising input costs. Last passed in 2018, the farm bill is an omnibus program focusing on agricultural and food programs. ★

Insurance Commissioner Must Act Now to Prevent Crisis

From the Office of Ted Gaines

We've run a family-owned, independent insurance agency for more than 50 years. Those of us in the insurance business know that when customers come to us for insurance what they're looking to buy is security. In the California market today, providing that security has become increasingly difficult and is poised to get much worse without action by our elected Insurance Commissioner.

Independent insurance agents serve consumers by learning their needs and then searching out policies that ensure those needs are met. In a healthy, competitive market, consumers are well served. Today in California, such a market does not exist. Consumers are left with fewer options, and thousands of small businesses like my family's, are finding it increasingly difficult to serve them.

The California Department of Insurance had a moratorium for more than two years and did not review rating plans submitted by insurers grappling with rising inflation and claims costs. In December, the Department began reviewing rating plans and has now approved 11 plans. This is good news and helps keep California's insurance market functioning, but more than 80 rating plans remain in the Department awaiting action. While they wait, insurance companies are operating under pre-pandemic, pre-inflation rate plans, paying out more in claims than the income they are taking in from premiums. Not surprisingly, insurance providers are pulling back from the California market.

As a result, California is on the brink of a coverage crisis that will severely limit consumers' options or even prevent them from obtaining the security they seek.

Allstate paused new auto policy sales through independent insurance agents in California and dropped monthly payment options, requiring consumers to pay at least half their policy premiums up front.

Geico closed 38 local offices and stopped selling new auto policies through call centers. Progressive Insurance pulled back its advertising to limit new policies.

Several carriers removed their companies from the software independent agents use to get new policy quotes.

The situation in the homeowners' insurance market is much the same. Allstate recently told agents to pause offering new policies in California and others will likely follow suit.

This is a clear call to action for newly re-elected Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara. He has the opportunity to act on the backlog of rate plans so more companies will offer more policies in our state. Ultimately, it's this competition among providers that will lead to varied options and better pricing for consumers.

Make no mistake: This is a California-only problem. Other states have approved new rating plans accounting for today's reality of inflation, supply-chain delays and a spike in traffic fatalities and the severity of auto accidents. If this reality persists, insurance carriers will simply stop doing business in the only state in which they lose money on every product they sell.

The Insurance Commissioner has a constitutional responsibility to ensure that California has a healthy, robust and functioning insurance market by reviewing and approving rate plans that adequately reflect the cost of covering claims.

If that duty isn't carried out, there are consequences. We're already starting to experience them, and a full-blown market meltdown is looming. Insurance agencies, many of which are small, family-owned businesses are feeling it now, as it takes longer and much more work to find new coverage for clients, if they can find it at all.

Inaction will lead to cascading economic effects: auto sales will plunge when buyers can't find car insurance, lenders won't issue mortgages to homebuyers who can't insure their property, business loans will dry up. Consumers will be left frustrated and insecure.

We are on the cusp of a crisis. On behalf of consumers and Independent Insurance Agents, I urge the Insurance Commissioner to approve the rate plans needed for new policies. ★

Protect the Laws that Protect U.S. Intellectual Property

Commentary by Amina Zeghar Campbell

An obscure procedural rule issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is now in the crosshairs of a number of tech firms that would like to be rid of it. Unfortunately, the change they seek could wipe out thousands of jobs at small, innovative firms nationwide.

It's called the Fintiv rule, and if you've never heard of it, you're not alone.

Here's the background: in 2011, Congress passed legislation that established the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB), a body within USPTO tasked with reviewing the validity of certain patents. The idea was to give companies a quicker way to challenge patents they claimed were too vague or broad than through a lengthy court battle. Patent challengers could petition the PTAB to conduct what's known as an inter partes review to examine the validity of the patents.

In theory, that was a sensible reform. But in practice, it has been subject to gross abuse.

In a number of cases, tech companies have infringed on the intellectual property of smaller rivals, who have sued in court. Google and Apple are among those that have faced such lawsuits.

In their contestation of these patent infringement suits or to ward them off, tech companies have often sought to open a front outside court specifically, by petitioning the PTAB to review and invalidate their rivals' patents.

Unfortunately, the structure of the PTAB is such that the deck is stacked against smaller firms seeking to defend patents. The best-case outcome is that the PTAB upholds the patents its parent body, the USPTO, has already issued.

Frequently, however, the PTAB has struck down patents, often on technicalities. The

board threw out more than 2,000 patents in its first decade.

To unstack the deck, in 2020, the USPTO adopted the Fintiv rule, named after a financial services tech company, that Apple sought to haul before the PTAB.

Apple wanted an inter partes review of a Fintiv patent even as a federal court was hearing Fintiv's complaint against Apple for infringement. The PTAB denied Apple's request for a parallel review, issuing its eponymous Fintiv rule, which spells out the criteria to be taken into consideration in deciding whether an inter partes review goes forward.

The rule is somewhat complex, but one clear element is that if an infringement case in court is under way and especially if it is far along, a parallel inter partes review of exactly the same issue between the same parties should not go forward at the PTAB.

This makes sense. But those with a vested interest in getting the PTAB to invalidate patents are doing whatever they can to get rid of it.

From an investor's perspective, repeal would be a disaster. Small, young firms are becoming more and more attractive to investors. Even during the pandemic last year, startup firms drew a record \$621 billion in funding globally, with about half of the cash going to U.S. startups. It's the power of new ideas that make these firms valuable.

Without the Fintiv rule, it will be easier for giants to crush their smaller competitors. We'll wind up with less investment in startups, less technological innovation, and fewer jobs.

Amina Zeghar Campbell is a health policy expert living with multiple sclerosis. The Los Angeles resident earned a Masters of Public Health from the Milken Institute School of Public Health, a Masters in Teaching from the University of Southern California, and a Masters of Public Policy from Pepperdine University. This piece originally ran in the Boston Herald. ★



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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Legal Advertising Hotline 916-483-2299 Adjudication No. FCS030046-November 24, 2008
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PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBJECT: Dixon City Council Meeting Sewer Collection System Master Plan

To whom it may concern:

The City Council of the City of Dixon has received a request to consider the adoption of the 2023 Sewer Collection System Master Plan (SCSMP) prepared under the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Stantec.

On July 16, 2019, City Council authorized execution of a PSA with Stantec for engineering services related to the development of a master plan, condition assessment, and CIP update for the City of Dixon's municipal wastewater utility. After a full system assessment, Stantec has provided a final draft of the 2023 SCSMP for City Officials to review and adopt.

Copies of the agenda and staff report for the meeting will be available for review 72 hours prior at City Hall as well as the City of Dixon website. The meeting will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: City Council Chambers
600 East A Street
Dixon, CA 95620

We welcome and appreciate your participation. If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me at (707) 678-7030 ext. 5303 or by email at brodriguez@cityofdixon.us.

Sincerely,

Brandon Rodriguez
Senior Civil Engineer

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000237
The following persons are doing business as: Brees Creations, 1403 Clementine Lane, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Brenda Lopez, 1403 Clementine Lane, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Date filed in Solano County: February 7, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 1/1/23

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 6, 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: Feb 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2023
BREES 3-10-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000281
The following persons are doing business as: JUSTSAYUWANT2GOTRAVEL, 1202 Hickory Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Sonia L. Spears, 1202 Hickory Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Date filed in Solano County: February 14, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 13, 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: Feb 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 2023
JUST 3-17-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000316
The following persons are doing business as: Homewise Capital Advisors, 318 Cernon Street, Vacaville, CA 95688.
Norcal Home Loans, Inc., 318 Cernon Street, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Date filed in Solano County: February 21, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 20, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: March 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023
HOMEWISE 3-24-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000322
The following persons are doing business as: Socceros Soccer, 1460 Goldfield Lane, Dixon, CA 95620.
Carlos Schulze, 1460 Goldfield Lane, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: February 21, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 2/4/2023
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 20, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: March 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023
SOCCER 3-24-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LAURIE ANN AVIST-WOLF AKA LAURIE A. AVIST-WOLF, LAURIE A. HULL
CASE NO. P051865

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Laurie Ann Avist-Wolf, aka Laurie A. Avist-Wolf, Laurie Ann Avist, Laurie A. Avist, Laurie A. Hull, deceased.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Jennifer Morgan, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Jennifer Morgan be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: April 25, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 22; Superior Court of California, County of Solano, 600 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Elton R. Garner, Garner & Associates LLP, 109 N. Marshall Avenue, Willows, CA 95988; 530/934-3324
Publish: Mar 10, 17 & 24, 2023
LAURIE 3-24-23

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL

The Dixon City Council will hold a **hybrid** public hearing to consider the following:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at the City Council Chambers, 600 East A Street, Dixon, California, the City Council of the City of Dixon (the "City") will conduct a public hearing as required by Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), at which it will hear and consider information concerning a proposed plan of financing providing for the issuance by the California Statewide Communities Development Authority of exempt facility bonds for a qualified residential rental project pursuant to Section 142(a)(7) of the Code in one or more series issued from time to time, including bonds issued to refund such exempt facility bonds in one or more series from time to time, and at no time to exceed \$27,000,000 in outstanding aggregate principal amount, to finance or refinance the acquisition, construction and development of a multifamily rental housing project located at the southwest corner of North Parkway and Whispering Way and the northwest corner of Whispering Way and Mourning Dove Drive (APN 0114-011-250), Dixon, California. The facilities are to be owned by Prospera Homestead Partners, L.P. (the "Borrower") or a partnership of which Hampstead Development Partners, Inc. (the "Developer") or a related person to the Developer is the general partner (the "Project"). The staff report for this item will be available at least 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

Those wishing to comment on the proposed financing or refinancing and the nature and location of the Project may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting in person or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

Written comments can also be submitted and must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting, through one of the following methods: 1) emailed to CityCouncil@cityofdixon.us or 2) mailed/dropped off to City of Dixon City Council, Attn: City Clerk, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the City Council and will become part of the official record, but will not be read aloud at the meeting.

CITY CLERK
CITY OF DIXON

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 3-10-2023

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL

The Dixon City Council will hold a hybrid **PUBLIC HEARING** to consider the following project:

PROJECT: General Plan Amendment for 2023-2031 Housing Element and 2023 Natural Environment Element Update

The City is processing amendments to the Dixon General Plan 2040, as follows, and the City Council will review and consider action the following project:

2023-2031 Housing Element Update – A Housing Element is a state required element of a city's General Plan. The Housing Element must be updated every eight (8) years and includes goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs that address the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing in city limits. This project would update the Dixon General Plan 2040's Housing Element for the 6th cycle (2023-2031 planning period) pursuant to State Housing Element Law. The Housing Element must identify how the City will accommodate its share of the regional housing need for all economic segments of the community, commonly referred to as "RHNA" (Regional Housing Needs Allocation). For the 2023-2031 planning period, the City must provide zoning capacity for 416 dwelling units across all income levels. The update proposes to accommodate the RHNA through approved but not yet built projects, vacant sites, and accessory dwelling units.

Suspension of Measure B – Recently adopted State law (SB330 - The Housing Crisis Act - Gov. Code, § 66300) prohibits a city/county from adopting new limits or enforcing existing limits on the number of land-use approvals or permits for new housing units. HCD's review of the City's draft Housing Element identified that the City's existing local growth control initiative, Measure B, may conflict with State law and require suspension or termination. The City will consider suspension of Measure B through the term of this Housing Element cycle.

Natural Environment Element Update – Recent State law requires the Safety Element to be updated at the time a Housing Element is updated. The City is proposing the necessary amendments to the City's Natural Environment Element, which includes the required Safety Element. Changes include a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, as well as new information and updates to goals, policies, and actions regarding natural and human-caused hazards relevant to the City of Dixon.

Copies of the Draft 2023-2031 Dixon Housing Element and 2023 Natural Environment Element can be viewed at www.cityofdixon.us/housingelementupdate.

The Planning Commission reviewed this matter at their meeting February 14, 2023 meeting and continued the matter to their March 14, 2023 meeting. The Commission will provide their recommendation to the City Council on this project.

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed for significant environmental impacts. An Addendum to the to the City of Dixon's General Plan 2040 Environmental Impact Report (certified in May 2021; State Clearinghouse Number 2018112035) was prepared for the project. The Addendum demonstrates that the updates to the Housing Element and Natural Environment Element would not result in new significant environmental impacts not analyzed in the General Plan 2040 Environmental Impact Report.
A copy of the Addendum can be viewed at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/EnvironmentalReviewDocuments>

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm at Dixon City Hall, City Council Chambers, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620. This meeting will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

MORE INFORMATION: Contact Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director at (707) 678-7000 x1114 or rboloyan@cityofdixon.us. A hardcopy of the Draft 2023-2031 Dixon Housing Element and Draft 2023 Dixon Natural Environment Element are currently available for review at: 1) Dixon City Hall (public lobby), 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620, or 2) Dixon Public Library 230 N. 1st St, Dixon, CA 95620. Documents are also available on City's website at www.cityofdixon.us/housingelementupdate under "Project Documents". See Adoption Draft of the Housing Element and Natural Environment Element.

A staff report for this item will be prepared and be available for review 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposed project. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to making any decision on this project.

The meeting will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding masking and social distancing in City Council chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to CityCouncil@cityofdixon.us or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, City Council, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the City Council and will become part of the official record, but will not be read aloud at the meeting.

You may also attend the public hearing at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may: 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand," or 2) via teleconference press *9.

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice March 10, 2023

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NOTICE OF JOINT STUDY SESSION OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon City Council and Planning Commission will hold two (2) hybrid **STUDY SESSIONS** to review and provide feedback on the following project

PROJECT: Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Update - Three Joint Study Sessions of the Planning Commission and City Council were scheduled to allow the public, along with Commission and Council, to review initial drafts of the Zoning Ordinance update by sections.

Session #1 – Already completed and covered Zoning District Regulations (use and development standards) Overlay Zoning Districts, Standards for specific uses, and Use classifications (definitions of uses) and the Draft Zoning Map, which includes changes to reclassify and rezone property.

Session #2 will cover follow up items from Session #1 (Mixed Use standards) plus introduce Draft Citywide Standards, i.e. General Site regulations (accessory structures, building design standards, fences, height limit exceptions, lighting, screening, swimming pools), Affordable Housing/Density Bonus, Landscaping standards, Non Conforming Uses, Structures and Lots, Parking and Loading (Parking requirements, standards and location), Performance Standards and Signs.

Session #3 will cover Administration and Permits, Procedures, Authorities, Zoning Clearance, Design Review, Use Permit, Temporary Use Permit, Modifications, Variance, Amendment, Rezoning and Enforcement.

MEETING DATE & LOCATION: **Session #1 – Tuesday, 1/31/2023, 6:30 p.m. – Already Completed**
Session #2 - Monday, 3/20/2023, 6:30 p.m.
Session #3 - Monday, 4/24/2023, 6:30 p.m.

These meetings will be at Dixon City Council Chambers, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620. These three Study Sessions will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754)

Prior to each of the previously listed meeting dates, Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director and Martha Miller, Planning Consultant, will host drop-in "office hours" at City Hall from 5:00-6:00pm to answer any questions or receive comments.

MORE INFORMATION: Contact Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director at (707) 678-7000 x1114 or rboloyan@cityofdixon.us. Documents for all sessions will be available on line at www.cityofdixon.us/zoningupdate. Materials from Session #1 are available as of January 6, 2023. Materials for Session #2 & 3 will be posted at least 10 calendar days in advance of each meeting. Agendas for each meeting will also be posted on the Agenda page, three days before each meeting, under "Upcoming City Council meeting" dates at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: Comments from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council and Planning Commission. No decisions will be made at these meetings. These sessions are an opportunity for preliminary public, City Council and Planning Commission review and input.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to PlanningCommission@cityofdixon.us or CityCouncil@cityofdixon.us 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, Planning Commission, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the Planning Commission/City Council and will become part of the official record, but will not be read aloud at the meeting.

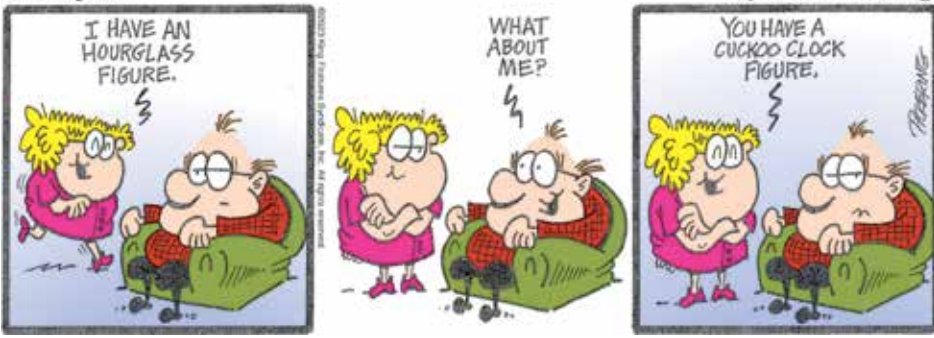
You may also attend the Study Sessions at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand" 2) via teleconference press *9.

Dixon Independent Voice March 10, 2023

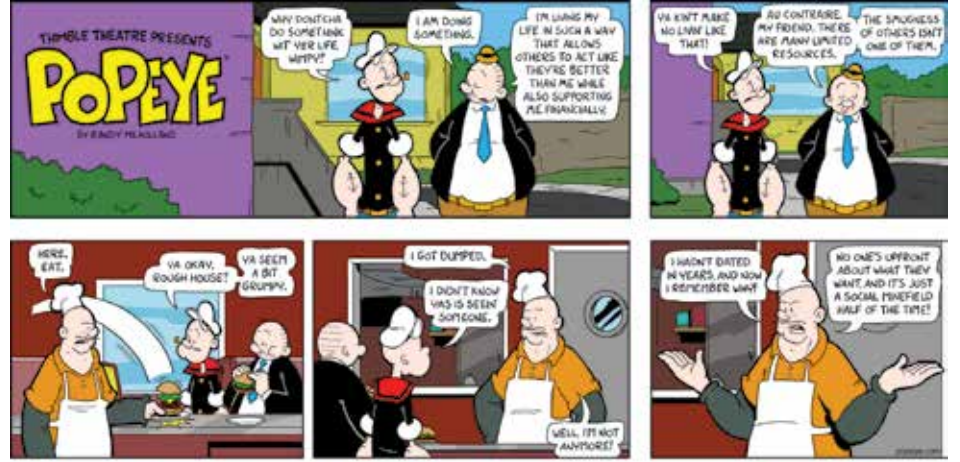
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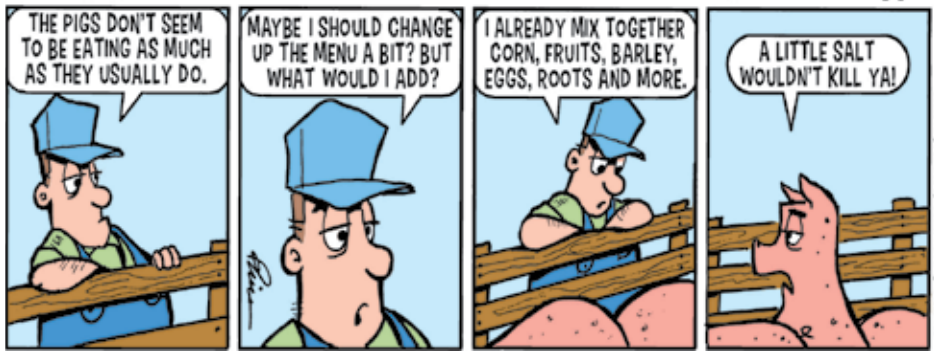
The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



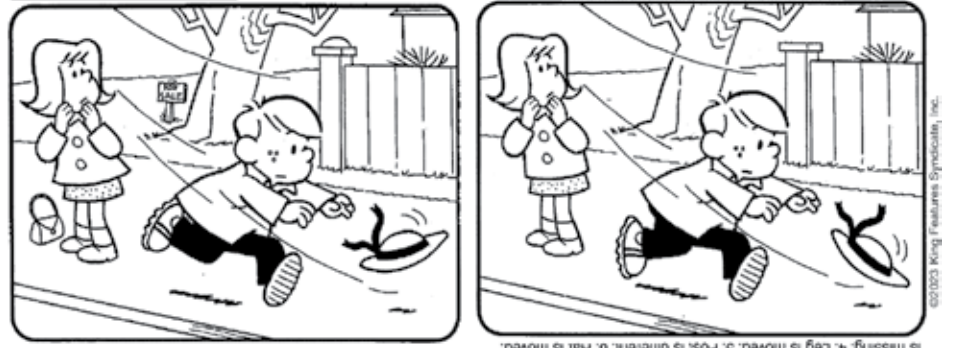
by Dave T. Phipps



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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

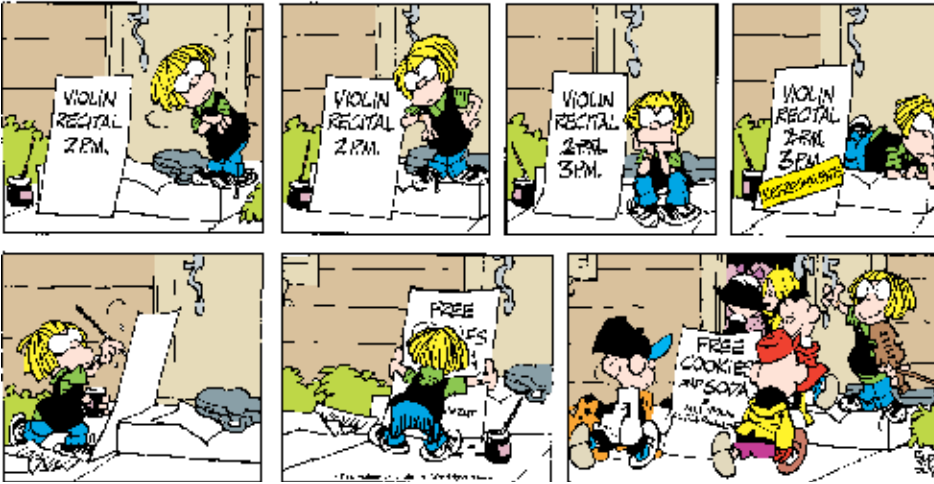


Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

GRIN and BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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THIS WEEK'S SERMON
"Let's Talk"
 Selected Scriptures

SUNDAY SERVICES
 Adult Bible Study 9:00 am, Worship 10:30 am
 Small Groups meet throughout the week.

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Legislation Expands Popular Cocktails-to-Go Bill

From the Office of Senator Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sen. Dodd, D-Napa, announced legislation on February 15, 2023 to expand his previous relief for struggling restaurants and bars by broadening provisions of his 2021 law allowing the sale and delivery of to-go cocktails.

“Allowing flexibility to sell to-go cocktails was a lifeline to restaurants and bars during the pandemic,” Sen. Dodd said. “To keep up the momentum during the recovery, we must expand this successful provision in ways that will make sense and be beneficial to all. My new proposal gives a boost to these small businesses and our local economy, helping to keep doors open and people employed.”

Two years ago, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Sen. Dodd’s Senate Bill 389, which allowed the sale of to-go alcoholic beverages as part of take-out restaurant food orders. It came as restaurants nationwide recovered from hundreds of billions of dollars in losses sustained because

of lockdowns and social distancing requirements to stop the spread of coronavirus.

This year’s bill, SB 495, expands the previous legislation in important ways, removing the meal requirement to increase options for consumers and business owners. It also extends the carry-out cocktail provision to bars, which also have been hard-hit by the pandemic. In addition, it allows for the delivery of to-go cocktails from both types of businesses. Finally, the bill increases oversight of alcohol delivery by Alcohol Beverage Control to prevent underage drinking.

“Sen. Dodd has stepped up once again for California’s restaurant community at a time of when food costs, a labor shortage, mounting debt and supply chain delays are forcing restaurants to reduce operating hours, limit menu offerings or close altogether,” said Matt Sutton, senior vice president of government affairs and public policy for the California Restaurant Association. “For his efforts we are incredibly grateful.” ★

The Ramtown Roundup

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - After a successful turn out with several men and city staff cleaning up and making repairs to the softball area at Hall Park a couple Saturday mornings ago, families of Dixon Girls Softball are ready to have some fun.

Their 2nd annual ‘The ol’ Switcheroo’ Fundraiser Softball Tournament for Dixon Girls Softball will be happening on Saturday, March 18 where five men and five women per team will play the game and the girls will coach. Cost is \$20 per person and it will be at Hall Park in Dixon. The tournament is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“Parents and coaches, have you ever wanted to be on the field actually playing in a game? And players have you ever wanted to coach your parents? Well, now is your time,” read the announcement of the event on social media. Apparently, it is time to get the teams together. Good, fun, and spirited team names and spirit wear are encouraged. To learn more, go to Dixon Girls Softball Facebook site.

In the meantime, mark your calendars for Opening Day Ceremonies and Vendor Event on Saturday, March 11, at Hall Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Celebration of Life for Brian Jensen, the man who organized Dixon Youth Basketball just after the pandemic, will be on Saturday, March 11 from 1:30 to 6 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 North First St. A flag honor will be done promptly at 3 p.m.

Football Registration Dixon Youth Football



Men worked to repair the baseball diamonds around Hall Park recently just in time for spring league games. Photo courtesy of Dixon Girls Softball

and Cheer registration will be Tuesday, March 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Pizza Guys. Board members will be available for questions and registration paperwork will also be available for pickup. Direct any questions to Coach Besseghini at AD@dixonyc.com.

Dixon Youth Football and Cheer is now open for the 2023 season. Football is open from March 1 till July 22 and Cheer is open from March 1 to May 5. In person will be at Pizza Guys on Tuesday, March 14, 5 to 7 p.m.

Co-ed Flag Football for 1st through 8th graders is also starting with all games in Dixon starting April 16 through May 26.

Flag Football Dixon Flag Football is here! This co-ed league is a great introduction to the game of football for 1st through 8th graders, and

a great way to keep skills sharp for returning players. Registration is only \$75 per player. All players will receive a licensed NFL jersey as well as a set of flags to keep. The season will consist of the following: March 26: Skills Combine; April 16, 23, 30, and May 7, 14, 21 will be Sunday afternoon games. Register at dixonyc.com. until March 26.

This group is also looking for Cheer Assistant Coaches and Coaches for the 2023-2024 season. You can apply online at DixonYFC.com or email Hannah at Cheer@dixonyc.com.

Dixon Ninjas are being made at Ramtown Karate, the Dixon Martial Arts School that’s teaching students not only how to defend themselves but high jumps, too. Check out their March 2 video on their Facebook page! ★

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FDNY Firefighter Stephen Siller gave his life while saving others on September 11, 2001



THE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN SUPPORTING OUR NATION’S GREATEST HEROES EVER SINCE AND EDUCATING PEOPLE ABOUT 9/11



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