



## Hunger Spike Coming

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“ IT IS INFINITELY BETTER TO HAVE A FEW GOOD MEN THAN MANY INDIFFERENT ONES. ”

Letter to James Mchenry | Friday, August 10, 1798



# HONOR PRESIDENTS DAY



# Dixon Independent Voice

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# Many Soles for Mini Souls



Above: Fifth grader Ivana, 3rd grader Aaliyah, 2nd grader Rudy, 3rd grader Anthony, and Kindergartner Sophia received brand new shoes this past week from the new Dixon organization, 'Many Soles for Mini Souls.' Right: Pam Franklin, creator of a non-profit that helps children get needed shoes gets a hug from Rudy, a 2nd grader at Gretchen Higgins Elementary School.

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - "You didn't have to waste your money on me," said the little guy after examining a new pair of tennis shoes given to him by Pam Franklin, Director of Many Soles for Mini Souls. She quickly countered, "I didn't waste my money at all. You are worth it, and I want to make sure that you know you matter."

After she helped him put the shoes on to ensure they were a good fit, she stood back, and he bounced off his seat and wrapped his arms around her. Franklin struggled for composure as she held him. The support staff at Gretchen Higgins

and the organization's liaison had no dry eyes.

Pam Franklin moved to Dixon in 2018 to be closer to family but didn't feel new to town as her grandmother lived here when Pam was growing up and she often visited. She holds fond memories of those times and thought to herself when she moved here, "What am I going to do in Dixon?" She attributes the caring connection of Family Christian Church Pastor Barry Carroll and his wife, Betty, for her quick adjustment to the small town.

"Then comes the story that led me to the mother who led me to ...who led me to... who led me to..." she explained. It started with someone

who gave her some beautiful sweaters and told her to share them with someone special. That led to a meeting of a woman whose son befriended her grandson and who eventually she took to and from school a few times.

"I got the clue his tattered shoes were hurting him, so my grandson and I went to Walmart with only \$11 and prayers," she said. There were some shoes, the correct size, for that amount.

"I heard God whisper, 'There's many more' and soon I was able to buy many shoes and even coats for needy children," she said. "I sent a

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## History Talks Continue

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Historical Society welcomes guest speakers Cecelia Peña and Armando Pérez on Sunday, Feb. 19, in the Dixon United Methodist Church to share their family histories and paths to the Peña Adobe in Vacaville. This presentation is Part 2 of a series looking at the history of the interactions among Americas' First Peoples, the early Spanish and Mexican Colonists, and the looming Manifest Destiny of the Anglos from Prehistory to 1841.

The families of Juan Felipe Peña, and Juan Manuel Vaca came to the Laguna Valley from New Mexico in 1841 during California's Mexican era. The Peña Adobe, built in 1842, on a 10-league land grant, is the oldest restored structure in Solano County.

Cecelia and Armando, two of the Peña Adobe Historical Society docent storytellers, team up to share their history as part of the Peña Adobe Historical Society's educational outreach.

Peña, a retired businesswoman, is a fifth generation Peña, an officer of the Peña Adobe Historical Society, and officer of the Descendants Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association. Cecelia has written a book for 4th graders, A Visit to the Peña Adobe.

Armando Pérez, Chiricahua Apache and Tarahumara, is a retired Respiratory Care Practitioner. He was a youth football coach for many years. Armando shares his extensive Native American experiences and knowledge about native cultures.

The Dixon Historical Society welcomes the community to join us for this very special and unique opportunity. The presentation will take place from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Refreshments and the Membership Meeting will follow the presentation and the address is 209 North Jefferson. The community is invited to join the membership.

To learn more or to get involved, please visit or contact: [www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org) or [dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com) or visit the museum at 125 West A St., in downtown.

New museum hours are Fridays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Starting this month, they will also be open on the 4th Thursday evening from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. and the 4th Sunday of the month from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. ★

# FFA Tours Colusa Farm Show

Story and photo by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Ah, the aroma of gasoline, oil, and fresh dirt was better than popcorn, corn dogs or kettle corn to farm and ranch workers at the annual 3-day Colusa Farm Show where they showed up in droves to learn the latest and the greatest in the agricultural industry.

But, all the students there on FFA Day still hunted down the smell of home-made pies by 4-H clubs, Blue Diamond almonds, and the free samples of pistachios. The 58-year-old fair with 250 vendors is attended by farmers, ranchers, and ag workers from all over the world.

Arriving by bus loads on a warm, sunny day, FFA students explored huge tractors that would navigate miles of crops, chop the tops of dozens of trees, and corral millions of walnuts, reducing harvest costs



Welder Alan Lindgren shares with FFA students Owen Willis and Eben Jones details about metals at the Colusa Farm Show during FFA Day.

and time to keep California ranking first in the United States for agricultural cash receipts.

Dixon's FFA Advisor Marcus Tanaka, attended as well with seven Dixon High Schools students.

"Most of them were surprised at the magnitude

and scope of the types of machinery that we saw. I don't think they realized the many machines for all the different applications," Tanaka said. "What was really cool was we got to see a machine that was designed and built by one of my former students

when I taught at Woodland High. He's an engineer for an orchard machinery company. It's the first of its kind where it shakes the tree and harvests all in one stop with walnuts never touching the ground. He was there and I introduced

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## Our Aging Farmers



Who needed the nap more? This farmer found a chair for resting while his dog slept at the Colusa Farm Show on a perfectly sunny day last week. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

Leathery old work boots with thick soles and sweatshirts were the dress of the Colusa Farm Show last week but what I really noticed was the aging farmers there. Yes, I know it was a weekday and younger workers might be working at the farm but seriously, practically everyone in Ag goes to this 3-day farm show because you learn so much and see things you would not have thought of to make your business more efficient and more profitable.

I'm genuinely concerned about aging farmers – the average age in California is 59, according to the 2017 census of Agriculture. It is slightly higher than the national figure but also, we lost 10,000 farms since 1997 according to May 2021 figures.

The farm show is a great place to learn how to make farming easier and more productive. Since I have trouble pulling on my own boots these days, I can imagine our local farmers need more help than most of us realize and we need more youth stepping up to replace them.

Last year, I wrote about the drones that fly over a piece of land and using special scanning devices report back to computers and a graph can be printed out of what the soil

is made of. This would help a farmer know what enzymes/properties he needs to add for optimal growth for a certain crop.

This year was no exception to new devices or services. I stopped at one booth that had hardware and I asked Branch Manager Paul McClip of Motion about what a particular tool was used for. They are an American distributor of industrial parts and industrial technology solutions headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama. Out of curiosity, I asked about how many different parts he estimated they carry, and he answered with an intake of breath. "Billions!"

If you look at some of the tractors the size of a big rig at the event, you could see why that is absolutely possible. There were blades that looked like they could slice through a small building. One unique mobile looked like a caterpillar. Someone drives through the crops in this, and it eliminates the need for a separate tractor and a pull-behind sprayer as it is all in one. That would save time and thousands of dollars but wow, if something went wrong, there were a zillion nuts, bolts, and hoses to figure out.

I was also interested in water-saving and what farmers were doing to extend what little we were getting last year but unfortunately lunchtime hit and my tummy was calling. Besides, I had a hot date with my hubby and 28-year-old son for lunch and wanted to quiz them on farming.

I can see why it is a 3-day event. If you want to truly explore and discover what could serve your farming /ranch further, they probably had it there. So, I'm hopeful to call attention to our great FFA /Ag program at Dixon High School as we need more farmers. When I mentioned how many wrinkled and white-haired men I saw to my son, he said the good thing is farmers never stop working...until they die.

I wish Dixon embraced our Ag history more than our new housing developments because farmers and ranchers are amazing, and Dixon is surrounded by them. ★

# Dixon News Briefs



The Dixon Police got a sweet treat and decorated hearts thanking them for their service from the members of the Dixon Kiwanis Club this last week. Hand-made Valentine's were distributed to them as well as the Fire Department, Dixon Postal Clerks, and Solano Life House residents. Photo by Jim Ward

MPG Staff

### Business Closes

Kate & Phoenix, an elite downtown women's clothing showroom/boutique that was by appointment only is officially closing. Morgan Kelly Plascencia has operated the first "in the country" showroom but is moving on to try new ventures. The space is going to be filled with a hair salon; more on that soon.

### Excel to Elite

In a social media post, Dale Kitt said he was proud to announce that he and Loren Dougherty purchased Excel Fitness in Dixon. "We're excited to bring some new and innovative upgrades to the gym. We will be rebranding and changing the name to Elite Fitness," he said.

### Veterans Dinner

The Veterans Dinner Friday, Feb. 17, at 6 p.m. will be steak, baked potato, vegetable, and a dinner for \$17. Bar opens at 4 p.m. for those who want to really relax before dinner. No reservations or membership required at 1305 North First Street and monies help maintain the facility.

### Cat Show

The "Call of the Wild" will feature felines strutting their stuff at the Woodland Cat Show at the Yolo County Fairgrounds, 1250 Gum Ave. in Woodland all day Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 18-19. See cfa.org/blog/events/call-of-the-wild/ for more info. If you can't make it there, mark your calendar for December 16-17 when the Poppy State Cat Club will be hosting one at our local Dixon May Fair.

### City Meeting

The next Dixon City Council meeting is on Tuesday, February 21 at 7 p.m. inside the Council Chambers at City Hall, 600 East A Street in Dixon. There are opportunities to know what is going on in your community without leaving your home or if you are out of town, too. Meetings are available via the Zoom online meeting

option. See that info on the agenda that is typically out the Thursday before the meetings on the cityofdixon.us website.

### Senior Bits

The Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center will be closed on Monday, Feb. 20, for President's Day but open on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. for Bunco. If you're looking for some fun, it costs only \$1 per person but you need to sign up at the Center. Also, a field trip to Cache Creek Casino Resort is planned for Friday, March 3 so get your reservations in if you enjoy the slots or views of Capay Valley. It's an all-day trip (9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) and cost is \$20 per person but please call to sign up at (707) 678-7022 during hours 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or go to 201 South Fifth Street.

### Good People

Dixon Family Services, the 40-year-old community service organization located in downtown Dixon, is working to rebuild their Board of Directors. Board President Sarah Villec and Executive Director Cookie Powell need help with the fiscal part of the organization and people who are good at advocating for the organization. Call (707) 678-0442 if interested.

### Parent/Student Writers

There are so many sports teams at Dixon High! Winter games for Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Girls Soccer, and Boys Soccer are all going on now. If you can write about the games for our readers, we'd like to hear from you. Call (707) 678-8917 or email debra@independentvoice.com.

### Chamber Mixer

The Solano Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Dixon Chamber are joining to hold the February 22 Mixer at Pedro's Cocina, 1425 Market Lane in Dixon at 5:30 p.m. The event is free to attend but please RSVP to the Solano Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (707) 999-2966 or Dixon's Chamber at (707) 678-2650. ★

## 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.



### Friday, February 10

0912 - Officers served a misdemeanor warrant in the 500 block of East D Street, wherein Hugo Ambricio Garcia (30) of Dixon was arrested for a local, citable misdemeanor warrant for failing to attend court. He was arrested and transported to DPD, where he was fingerprinted, cited, and released with a new court date.

### Thursday, February 9

0647 - Confidential report 2500 block Plaza Court.

0930 - Collision report South 1st St at Parkway Blvd. 1735 Fraud at Dixon PD.

1720 - Catalytic converter theft 1000 block Vaughn Road.

2106 - Hit & Run Collision report was taken in the 500 block College Way. The responsible person was located and cited. Due to the responsible person being a juvenile, their name will not be released.

### Wednesday, February 8

0840 - Vehicle collision West Cherry Street at Gold Street.

0955 - Information Report at 500 block of College Way. 1230 Vandalism Report at 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.

1240 - Information Report at 500 block of College Way.

1500 - Shoplifting in progress at Walmart. Steven Coulson (37) and Andrea Merrifield (30), both of Sacramento, were arrested for shoplifting and conspiracy. Merrifield was also charged with false ID to officers. They were both booked into the Solano County Jail.

1748 - Battery at 200 block East Mayes Street.

0240 Hours - Report of a robbery at a business in the 1100 Block of North First Street. Determined to be unfounded.

### Tuesday, February 7

0809 - Stolen catalytic converter report taken in the 200 block of Sanborn Lane.

0845 - Grand theft reported in the 100 block of Dorset Drive.

1543 - Stolen license plates reported in the 1100 block of West H Street.

1602 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 200 block of West H Street.

### Monday, February 6

0027 Hours - Stolen vehicle located in the area of Evans Road and Mariposa Drive. Jorge Ramirez age 28 of Sacramento was later arrested for possession of stolen property, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of burglary tools.

1355 - Information report taken in the PD lobby.

1537 - Fraud report taken in the 700 block of West F Street.

### Sunday, February 5

1000 - Traffic hazard discovered in the 800 block of Justin Way.

1018 - Stolen vehicle reported in the 1100 block of Afton Way.

1525 - Confidential report taken in the 1300 block of Ingrid Drive

1537 - Trespassing reported in the 700 block of North Adams Street.

1628 - Death investigation on the 800 block of Stratford Avenue.

1630 - Vandalism reported in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive.

### Saturday, February 4

0917 - Report of vandalism to a vehicle in the 200 block of Bowen Lane.

1039 - Report of theft of vehicle wheels and tires in the 1300 block of North First Street.

1508 - Report of a non-injury traffic collision in the area of North 1st Street and East Dorset Drive.

1513 - Assist with a medical call in the 1100 block of Purdue Court.

1949 - Informational report was taken at the intersection of Pitt School Rd at Fairbanks Ct.

2101 - Confidential report was taken in the 100 block of South 3rd St.

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# Quarterly City Treasurer's Report



By Jim Ward

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - I attended the Quarterly Investment Meeting update for the period through Dec. 22, 2022, 2-2:45 p.m. We welcomed our newest City Council member, Dist. 3 Rep Kevin Johnson to the group.

In 2022 bonds, mostly federal bonds, and stocks we had a negative 5% return for 2022.

Californians have seen the price of food up nearly 11%. Plus, cars, gas, and everyday items have soared dramatically. Add with that the lack of affordable childcare which would allow parents to return to work.

I believe elected officials can do our small parts, such as in building fees that should follow the

goals of inflation reduction. That's a good place to start as well as expediting permits. I believe we can do our part here to offset mortgage rates in Dixon!

Time is money and if those cost savings can offset mortgage rates, then policy makers can help meet the need for more housing. Unfortunately, during these times, homebuyers are collateral damage in the Fed's war on inflation! Electric Vehicles still represent a small fraction of the auto market, but that's changing quickly as sales increased by 65% in 2022. I have asked our investment company to look into that investment field, specifically energy.

Overall, I'm happy to say we had positive performance returns on our City's Investment Quarterly update. Our portfolio is very diversified. We currently have approximately \$25 million in investments in high credit quality.

Although the U.S. economy's inflation is high,

there are signs that it is moving lower. With a 3.5% unemployment rate, however, the labor force participation is down.

The Feds are still expecting a moderate downturn in the economy in 2023. The stock markets are overall calm and not seeing a lot of movement. The volatility is not as high as it's been during 2023, but the Feds are expecting two more rate hikes. This and other factors are keeping our food prices and inflation on the high side.

In recent weeks, federal officials have noted that inflation cooled somewhat and made another step down to a quarter point as of last Wednesday – after four straight quarter point hikes – which gave way to December's quarter point move.

On a good and positive note on inflation relief: Super Bowl favorites like guacamole and chicken wings will cost less this year than last.

Our next Quarterly Investment update will be on April 19 at 2 p.m. ★

# Many Soles for Mini Souls

Continued from page 1

letter to thank the woman who gave me the sweaters for her donation because I was able to provide many soles for mini souls and when I wrote that, I knew that would be the name of my organization."

It stayed a dream until COVID came along and after putting a governing board together, she used her COVID relief check to apply for the official non-profit status.

"It's for the little ones. They need to know they matter," she said. Franklin works with the school district to identify children who could use her help. Those are "unduplicated count of pupils" who (1) are English learners, (2) meet income or categorical eligibility requirements for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program, or (3) are foster youth. "Unduplicated count" means that each pupil is counted only once even if the pupil meets more than one of these criteria.

Students receive the shoes in the school office or designated place and the children get to try them on then and there and can take (or wear) them home. Seventeen students from three schools, Anderson Elementary as well as Tremont Elementary were served that day.

Another child that was handed a pretty gift bag with brand new shoes lives with her grandmother. She appears shy and talks so softly one can barely hear her.

"Her shoes were clear and two sizes too big and she said they were her mother's and that she didn't own a pair. When she put those on, she lit up the room," said Franklin. "This is what I get to do—it's getting to see God's love and promises and visions and dreams come true."

You can go to their website, many-soulsforminisouls.com or reach the organization at many-soulsforminisouls@gmail.com. ★

# Come Eat and Dance at 19th Rotary Crab Feed

Rotary Press Release

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - This is your last chance to buy tickets to the 19th Annual Crab Feed hosted by the Rotary Club of Dixon. We are almost sold out and no food tickets are sold at the door. It's on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at the Dixon May Fair, Madden Hall, located at 655 South First Street, Dixon.

The cost is \$70 per person and all seats are reserved. A ticket includes fresh Dungeness crab, pasta, salad and bread. The event starts at 6 p.m. with a no-host bar and dinner at 7 p.m. Along with great food, you will have opportunities to bid on silent auction prizes, win raffle baskets and

more. Then after dinner, dance to the fabulous "Time Bandits". Tickets are available online at <https://2023-dixon-rotary-crab-feed.eventbrite.com>.

For any questions or difficulty purchasing tickets, please call Janice at (916) 240-0147.

**NOTE:** For dancing only after 9 p.m. is \$20 payable at the door. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward high school scholarships for students going to a four-year college, 2-year college, and trade school. Proceeds also go toward local veteran programs, school programs, local food pantries, community projects and grants, eradicating polio worldwide, and much more. ★

# Dodd, AG Bonta and Skinner Propose Ban on Hidden 'Junk Fees'

Office of Sen. Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Responding to the proliferation of hidden charges on purchases, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, partnered with Attorney General Rob Bonta and Sen. Nancy Skinner, D-Berkeley, to introduce legislation today that would outlaw what President Joe Biden has called "junk fees," ensuring consumers are not exposed to deceptive business practices that add unfair costs.

"Californians are sick and tired of dishonest fees being tacked on to seemingly everything," Sen. Dodd said. "It's an underhanded trick to boost corporate profits at the expense of those who can least afford it. Working with Attorney General Bonta and Senator Skinner, we're going to put an end to these unfair practices that President Biden has so righteously shined a bright light on. It is time we put the consumer first and create a level playing field for those businesses who are good actors and advertise the real price upfront."

"Transparency and full disclosure in pricing are crucial for fair competition and consumer protection," said Attorney General Bonta. "Unfortunately, from car rental and hotel fees to concert ticket service charges, these hidden costs have been normalized in the purchasing process. Today's legislation seeks to hold businesses accountable for their deceptive and misleading practices at the expense of the financial security of millions of Californians. My office will continue to work tirelessly to ensure an equal level playing field and demand transparency across the board for the protection of California consumers."

In his State of the Union address, President Biden called out junk fees

applied to an array of transactions involving banks, ticket vendors, airlines and online sellers. By one estimate, 85% of Americans have paid hidden fees totaling \$28 billion per year. California, which has fifth largest economy in the world and the nation's largest population, pays an outsized share. The president proposed federal action by numerous federal agencies to address issues within their subject matter and regulatory authority.

At the state level, Sens. Dodd and Nancy Skinner, D-Oakland, in partnership with state Attorney General Rob Bonta, introduced Senate Bill 478, which would expand on the White House proposal and put the Golden State at the forefront of banning these secretive fees, regardless of industry sector. The bill would expressly prohibit the pervasive and deceptive practice of advertising a certain price and then adding on mandatory charges that are controlled by the business. Companies that fail to comply with the new rules could be subject to steep financial penalties.

"Californians are fed up with being bombarded by junk fees that, more and more, are making it unaffordable to attend a concert, go to a sporting event, take a vacation, or stay at a hotel," said Sen. Nancy Skinner. "I'm proud to join with Attorney General Bonta and Senator Dodd in heeding President Biden's call to end the scourge of hidden junk fees. SB 478 will bring transparency to the true cost of goods and services in our state so that Californians know upfront exactly how much they're being asked to pay."

The proposal, which was introduced today, has already garnered support from consumer advocates and groups. It is eligible to be heard in committee for its first vote next month. ★

# Turkey Caption Contest #2



One of our Dixon flocks were seen checking out Rosalia and Associates Insurance Services at 510 North Adams Street. "We provide the highest degree of personalized services, combined with the best insurance pricing available. We are a one-stop-shop for saving time and money," the company rep said. Send your caption entry to [debra@independentvoice.com](mailto:debra@independentvoice.com) along with your name and phone. The winner will receive a gift certificate for two glasses of wine at Bud's Pub & Grill, 100 S. First St. Photo by Rebecca Robinson

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# Sacramento Area Selected for U.S. Navy Band Tour



Senior Chief Musician Christopher Sala, from Wilbraham, Mass., performs with the United States Navy Band at Ashland High School in Ashland, Ohio. The U.S. Navy Band performed in five states as part of a national tour, connecting communities with their Navy. U.S. Navy photo by Senior Chief Musician Adam Grimm

## US Navy Band News Release

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG)** - America's Navy is coming to Sacramento, California, one of 15 cities across six states to host performances by the United States Navy Band during its 2023 national tour – one of the signature outreach programs of the U.S. Navy.

The U.S. Navy Concert Band is the premier wind ensemble of the U.S. Navy. As the original ensemble of the Navy Band, the Concert Band has been performing public concerts and participating in high-profile events for 98 years. The band performs a wide array of marches, patriotic selections, orchestral transcriptions and modern wind ensemble repertoire.

One of the U.S. Navy Band's core responsibilities involves touring the country. All of the band's primary performing units embark each year on concert tours throughout specified regions of the country, allowing the band to reach out to audiences in areas of the country that do not have opportunities to see the Navy's premier musical ensembles on a regular basis. The concerts are family-friendly events, meant to be entertaining to veterans, families, individuals and those interested in joining the Navy.

"For many years, Navy bands have been where it matters, when it matters, just like the rest of our Navy. Today, we have Sailors performing around the world, improving relations with our allies abroad as well as telling the Navy story here at home," said

Capt. Kenneth Collins, U.S. Navy Band commanding officer.

The United States Navy Concert Band is scheduled to perform in the Sacramento area:

March 18, 7 p.m., Cordova High School Gymnasium, 2239 Chase Dr. Rancho Cordova, California

March 19, 3 p.m., Whitney High School Gymnasium, 701 Wildcat Blvd., Rocklin, California.

While all tour performances are free and open to the public, some concerts may require advanced ticket reservations. For the most up-to-date ticketing information, visit the band's website at [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil)

The U.S. Navy Band is the flagship musical organization of the Navy and one of 11 Navy bands located around the world; The U.S. Navy Band is based at the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, D.C.; The Navy Band has been touring the country since 1925; There are six performing ensembles in the Navy Band: the Concert Band, Ceremonial Band, Sea Chanters chorus, Commodores jazz ensemble, Country Current country/bluegrass ensemble and the Cruisers popular music group; Ensembles from the Navy Band tour nationally 12-15 weeks each year. Sailors in the Navy Band are full-time professional musicians; Almost all of the Sailors in the Navy Band have undergraduate degrees in music, and most have graduate degrees. ★

# Caltrans, OTS Unveil New Student Named Work Zone Safety Mascot

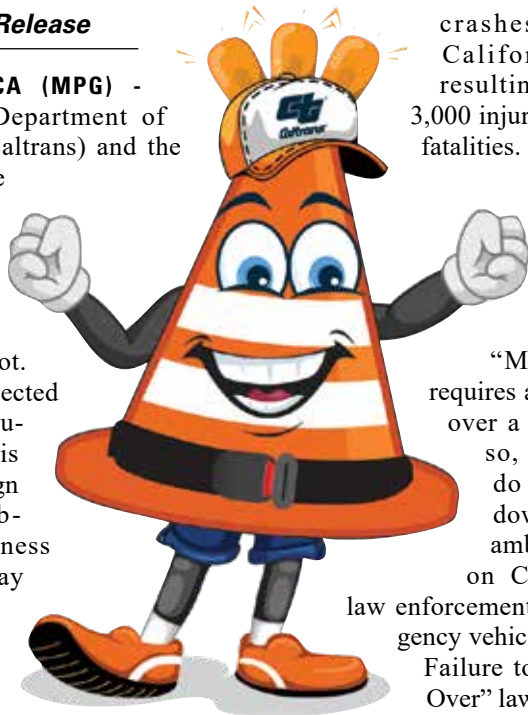
## Caltrans News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) unveiled on February 6, 2023, Safety Sam as their new safety cone mascot. The name was selected in a statewide student contest and is part of the campaign to expand public safety awareness to protect highway workers throughout the state.

Huntington Christian School (Huntington Beach) student Miller Ruiz's winning name was selected from nearly 2,000 entries submitted by K-12 students across the state. In recognition of his winning suggestion, Miller will receive a laptop, a \$500 gift card, a \$500 gift card for their teacher's classroom, T-shirts, and a visit from Safety Sam. The mascot will educate Californians on the importance of moving over a lane or slowing down when they see his orange friends and highway workers.

"Caltrans makes safety priority number one, and safety cones are critical to let drivers know when and where highway workers are on the road," said Caltrans Director Tony Tavares. "Including young people in our safety awareness campaigns helps us raise the awareness of both the next generation and current drivers, and we're excited to make Safety Sam the face of the important work being done to keep our highway workers and the traveling public safe."

"Educating the public on safe driving behaviors is key to helping save lives on our roadways," said OTS Director Barbara Rooney. "Safety Sam engages the public in a fun and interactive way while serving as an important reminder to be attentive when approaching work zones." In 2020, nearly 7,000 work-zone



crashes occurred on California roadways, resulting in more than 3,000 injuries and nearly 100 fatalities. Nationally, drivers and passengers account for 85% of people killed in work zones.


California's "Move Over" law requires all drivers to move over a lane if safe to do so, or if unable to do so safely, slow down when they see amber flashing lights on Caltrans vehicles, law enforcement, and other emergency vehicles and tow trucks. Failure to obey the "Move Over" law can result in fines up to \$1,000, plus points on your driving record.

The statewide contest ran from Nov. 21, 2022, through Jan. 20, 2023. Safety Sam will be used by Caltrans Districts for community outreach and engagement efforts. The mascot's image will also be used in materials aiming to inform the public about the importance of the "Move Over" law and work zone safety.

With safety as its top priority, Caltrans is using the Safe System approach to achieve its goal of reducing to zero the number of fatalities and serious injuries on state highways by 2050. This approach builds on its ongoing work to improve safety throughout its network and on all transportation projects the department funds or oversees, which includes "complete street" features that provide safe and accessible options for people walking, biking and taking transit.

All contest prizes provided courtesy of iHeart Media. For more information on Caltrans and OTS initiatives, visit [BeWorkZoneAlert.com](http://BeWorkZoneAlert.com) and [GoSafelyCA.org](http://GoSafelyCA.org). ★

Above: New Caltrans mascot Safety Sam will help promote statewide traffic safety, public education and awareness campaigns. Image courtesy of Caltrans



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

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## Trump's Futile Attack on DeSantis

Donald Trump hasn't been impressing anyone with his political acuity lately, but at least he is fully aware of one of his own vulnerabilities.

His early attacks on the COVID-19 record of Ron DeSantis show that he knows the Florida governor has outflanked him on the populist right -- indeed, outflanked him in general -- regarding one of the most central issues of the last couple of years.

In typical style, Trump isn't tiptoeing around the issue, but driving right at the governor in an attempt to take away one of his foremost strengths.

The "free state of Florida"? No, despite what you might recall, it was really the "shut down Sunshine state."

"Florida was actually closed, for a great, long period of time," Trump told reporters during his first campaign swing. "Remember, he closed the beaches and everything else? They're trying to rewrite history."

This is brazen even by Trump's standards. It will take all of his powers as a political sloganeer, marketeer and wrecking-ball to counter the DeSantis brand on the coronavirus, which has the advantage of being grounded in reality.

For Republicans, the DeSantis approach of getting out of shutdowns as soon as possible and resisting

mandates and restrictions has been vindicated and has appeal to nearly all factions.

For populists, he resisted the elites and self-appointed experts. For limited-government conservatives, he (although this is complicated) lightened the heavy hand of government. For everyone right of center, he forged his own path in the face of conventional wisdom and got attacked for it in the media and the left -- demonstrating the paramount GOP virtues of having courage and the right enemies.

DeSantis would have much to brag about in his record in Florida absent COVID-19, but it is his response to the pandemic that sets him apart and makes him, for the moment, a near-legend for many Republicans.

Trump is correct that DeSantis issued shutdown orders like nearly everyone else at the outset of the pandemic. In March 2020, the governor issued statewide restrictions and then more far-reaching measures in Palm Beach and Broward counties. Beaches, as Trump said, were shut down.

The trouble Trump has is that DeSantis was initially acting in keeping with the guidance of the federal government that Trump led.

Despite some grouching, Trump had at his right hip during the entire pandemic the man that has come to represent for Republicans all that was wrong with the pandemic response -- Dr. Anthony Fauci.

It tends to be forgotten, but Georgia went first in reopening in late April 2020 and Trump hit Brian Kemp for it.

At his coronavirus briefing, Trump said, "I told the governor of Georgia, Brian Kemp, that I disagree

strongly with his decision to open certain facilities."

When DeSantis, too, moved to reopen, Fauci attacked the state for moving too quickly.

By May 2020, Florida had a clearly distinguishable approach to the pandemic. DeSantis was already skeptical of shutdowns and focused on protecting the most vulnerable rather than population-wide measures. Crucially, the state was absolutely insistent that schools return to in-person instruction.

Over time, DeSantis shifted from simply lifting restrictions to using the power of his office and the state to block further COVID-19 restrictions by localities, school boards and private businesses. He kept localities from obstructing businesses from opening or fining people for violating mask ordinances. He forbid vaccine passports. He prevented schools from forcing parents to mask their children.

DeSantis' response to the coronavirus isn't going to be decisive in a prospective 2024 primary battle with Trump. It is, however, what has put him in the game. It also is a large part of the reason that Republicans feel vested in and defensive of the governor, making it harder for Trump to mock and belittle him -- not that he isn't going to try.

Trump accuses DeSantis of disloyalty and, if developing an issue that is going to be almost impossible for Trump to counteract counts, he's guilty as charged.

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

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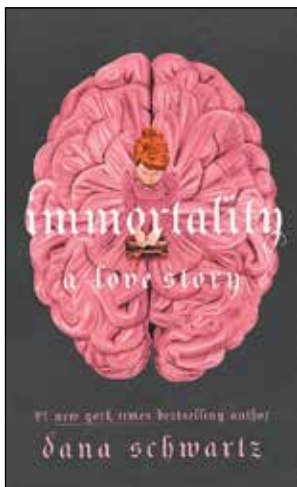
# Immortality: A Love Story

by Dana Schwartz

Even with last year's events looming over her, Hazel Sinnett has kept her mind focused on work while trying to forget the man who captured her heart. Without knowing if Jack was dead or alive, Hazel could only hope he drank the tincture and spared his life. Now, all her focus pours into writing her book – a household manual to treat ailments and treating those who come to her door. But when saving a life throws her in jail, all Hazel has time to do is think.

Then a message arrives, turning her hand of fate, and Hazel is finally set free and into the service of the royal family. Thankful for the escape and the chance to practice medicine, Hazel jumps at the opportunity to try and solve the mysterious illness of Princess Charlotte.

However, the life of royalty seems to be just as flawed as the imprisoned life she left behind, only hidden behind a glamour of money and power alongside those that to overthrow it. With all the medical luxuries at her fingertips, Hazel settles into her new life at court while catching



◆ Publisher: Wednesday Books  
◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult  
◆ Rating: ★★★★★  
◆ Release Date: Feb. 28, 2023

the eye of a new suitor, even though there are more stakes at play with the life of Princess Charlotte. Now Hazel struggles to balance a past she can't forget with the possibility of a new future until everything comes crashing down, shattering like a fine piece of crystal.

The monarchy, her future, her past, and the lives around her suddenly balance on the edge of a scalpel that only she holds, begging Hazel to finally determine the price of love, ambition, and immortality.

Laden with medical advancements, detailed surgical practices,

and a multitude of ailments, Immortality: A Love Story displays the allure of an intricately researched story interlaced with

a story of love, determination, and heart.

As swift and clean as a scalpel, Dana Schwartz pierces the heart of her readers, continuing Hazel's story with introducing more medical advancements, a royal family, and even the secretive and illusive group- Companions to the Death. Readers will root for Hazel as she continues to fight for acceptance as a woman surgeon, while marveling at her fierce determination. With all the vigor readers have come to be expected from Dana Schwartz, Hazels' story returns with the same fury and fire as she had in the first book.

This beautiful and stunning gothic tale blends forbidden romance and heartache with a gripping mystery that keeps readers flying through the pages until the late night hours. With surprise twists that continue throughout the story and a subplot that gives a nod to the cover, this series will win over the hearts of anyone who reads it. ★

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# FFA Tours Colusa Farm Show

Continued from page 1  
him to the students. He got his degree from Cal Poly. It made that connection between education and career," he added.

Agriculture Education is a hands-on learning approach within Career Technical Education elective credit-bearing courses. Students must be enrolled in Ag to be enrolled in the National FFA organization. It was established in 1928

in Kansas City, Missouri, by a group of young farmers with a mission to prepare future generations for the challenges of feeding a growing population.

Al Lindgren, formerly of Dixon, flew in from Tennessee for the week to demonstrate welding techniques. Lindgren started welding when he was a 7-year-old with the help of his welder father in Napa. Lindgren was in the large MJB Welding

Supplies booth and chatted with several students that day including two FFA students from Morgan Hill.

"I joined FFA because of my brothers and sisters and I saw how it changed their lives," said Eben Jones, 16, from Live Oak FFA. He is in Leadership serving as a Chapter Officer. "I'm actually a 3rd generation FFA'er as my grandmother joined when girls were first approved to

join." (1969) Jones has raised animals, including a Supreme Champion rabbit but is also "big in the welding program." He was wearing an FFA sweatshirt and was with his buddy, Owen Willis, also from that same FFA chapter, taking lessons from Lindgren.

"I'm taking welding and woodshop," said Willis. Both are in their third year of FFA. Besides welding, some other Ag

courses offered are Agricultural Biology, Soil Chemistry, Floral Design, Vet Science, Food Sciences, and Horticulture.

"Out of the seven, four students hung out with me, and I was able to walk them around and show them what all the [different] equipment is used for," said Tanaka. "That's what they learn from most because it's like a walking tour. They were impressed." ★

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- Some primatologists' study object, for short
- \*Shoe, not a titular character in Henry James' novel
- What spirits and cult-prits have in common
- Falstaffian in body
- Jack Kerouac's Paradise
- \*Shoe, not lazy person
- Concealing plant, in a painting (2 words)
- Not leg
- \_\_\_\_\_ help
- Poet Pound
- \*Sound of Wellington boots
- U.N. labor issues org.
- Twig of a willow tree
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- Type of purse
- \*"Platoon" setting, for short
- Canadian province
- Overly preoccupied with something
- Motion of assent
- Louisiana swamp
- Like list of chores
- \*Animated movie about a dancing penguin (2 words)
- "All About Eve" star
- Biblical birthright seller
- Generic dog name
- Are not
- What snob puts on
- Cogito, \_\_\_\_\_ sum
- Mountain, in Germany
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- Movie tape

**DOWN**

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- Noble title
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- Amortization root
- \*0.3048 meters
- Web mag
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## Dave Ramsey Says

### How Big is the Burden?

Dear Dave,

My parents are both in their seventies. They have been healthy and active all their lives, but in spite of them both having good jobs they neglected to plan and save for retirement. Is it my responsibility now to provide them with financial help in their old age?

— Reagan

Dear Reagan,

It sounds like you might be a little irritated that your parents haven't been responsible with their money. The way you described the circumstances, it's understandable—to a point. But in my mind, there's a bigger question when it comes to helping your folks. How big is the burden?

Let me ask you a few things. Do you have the money to help? Now,

can you provide this help without your own family suffering or going without? If both answers are yes, I think your question may be a little more about your own aggravation with your folks than any ethical or moral obligation.

A few years ago I spoke with a guy who was in really good shape financially. He made over \$1 million a year, and he had plenty set aside in savings and retirement accounts. His father was in poor health and had never handled his money wisely. The son asked me if he should help out his dad by giving him some money every month.

In my mind, there's no question the right answer was yes. And that's what I told him. If you're making millions, but don't want to help out your sick dad, there's something wrong with you. There's something missing inside you that money just won't fix. However, if you and your family are barely getting by—let's say you bring home \$3,000 a month—you're not morally required to

help a parent who was irresponsible with money their entire life.

I'm not sure what your situation is, Reagan, but I hope you'll look at things with a little grace and reason. It's a tough situation to be in, because it sounds like your heart is being pulled in different directions. My advice, above all else, is to pray about it. And, if you have a spouse, talk to them about everything, and make sure the two of you are in agreement on what should be done before moving forward.

God bless you, friend.

— Dave

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



## Riley Reviews

### TRUE CRIME IS THE REAL DEAL ON ID TV; MYSTERY ON PBS

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

#### DEATH IS THE THEME ON INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY

Investigation Discovery, known in shorthand as ID TV, is the leading crime and justice network on television, which delivers the definitive non-fiction programming. Just ask Detective Joe Kenda (ID TV fans know who he is).

The new series "Death by Fame" touches on the starry-eyed hopefuls whose fairytale dreams devolve into horrific nightmares. The six-part series goes behind the scenes to uncover the sinister side of fame and reveal the true stories behind the murder of promising stars.

In the first episode "Celebrity Sexpert" ID TV recounts the heartbreaking death of Drew Carey's ex-fiancee and renowned Hollywood family and sex therapist, Dr. Amie Harwick, who was found murdered the day after Valentine's Day.

Police are left to investigate who might be capable of such a deadly act. According to news reports, another ex-boyfriend has been ordered to stand trial for murder of Harwick, allegedly throwing her from the third-floor balcony of her West Hollywood residence.

Additional episodes explore the cold-blooded murder of "The Voice" sensation and rising star, Christina Grimmie, whose YouTube channel attracted a stalker with sinister motives, and the story of Macedonian model Adea Shabani who arrives in Los Angeles with dreams and then goes missing.

Figuring into an episode of "Death by Fame" he may not want, actor Lloyd Avery II has overnight success after starring in "Boyz n the Hood" and then goes on the run in a bizarre portrayal of life imitating art.

ID TV bares all with "The Playboy Murders," revealing tragedies that span decades of the once-iconic brand. A dark side lurks behind the adult men's magazine that faded away from its print version to apparently being available only online.

This new anthology series recounts murders and mysteries that intersect with the world of Playboy. The six-part series is hosted and executive produced by former Playboy Bunny Holly Madison.

In the premiere episode "Bunny Meets Bachelor," a tabloid media frenzy occurs after a Playboy party hostess and model is found dead and dismembered in a dumpster.

The mutilated body of 28-year-old Jasmine Fiore was found stuffed in a suitcase, and her fingers and teeth were missing in an attempt to hide her identity. Serial numbers on her breast implants confirmed her identity.

At the time of her murder, Jasmine and her husband Ryan Jenkins, a VH1 reality contestant, were living apart, and he took off for the Canadian border since he was the prime suspect.

Additional stories include Stacy Arthur,

the middle-American mom who spent hours on Playboy's premium 1-900 number, attracting one fan's fatal obsession who stalked and murdered her husband in a parking lot.

Not every episode centers on a woman being a victim of a horrible crime. Former Playboy bunny Carole Gold was sentenced to life in prison for the first-degree murder and conspiracy in the death of her husband Charles, a gunslinging Wild West show performer.

The cotton-tailed bunny hired a hitman to eliminate her spouse, with the motive being to collect on a life insurance policy. Not every murder is motivated by jealousy, rage or obsession in "The Playboy Murders."

#### CRIME DRAMA SERIES ON PBS MASTERPIECE PRIME VIDEO

PBS Masterpiece Prime Video Channel continues the legacy of Masterpiece for exceptional British drama by expanding to include award-winning TV series and movies from around the world.

Streaming during the month of February will be three seasons of "The Tunnel," based on the original Swedish series "The Bridge." The series centers on the investigations and relationships between two detectives.

British detective Karl Roebuck (Stephen Dillane) and French detective Elise Wassermann (Clemence Poesy) are forced to work together when crimes involving both countries are committed.

Season One follows Karl and Elise as they investigate a dismembered body on the border of both countries in the Channel Tunnel. The second season has them reunited to probe a case where a French couple have been abducted from the Eurotunnel.

The third season is set in a mid-Brexit Europe where the English and French teams come together once more in the emotionally charged finale when a stolen fishing boat is found adrift and on fire in the English Channel.

Started as what the New York Times called a "chic TV boutique with a foreign accent," Masterpiece's "Walter Presents" showcases award-winning foreign language drama as a service named after its curator, Walter Iuzzolino, a passionate drama fan.

"Walter Presents: Acquitted" achieved the biggest launch ever in Norway when it premiered in 2015. The series follows Aksel Borgen (Nicolai Cleve Broch), a successful businessman who is asked back to his hometown in rural Norway.

Borgen has spent the last 20 years in Asia, and now he's returned to save the town's main company from bankruptcy. However, Borgen, who left after being acquitted of the murder of his high school girlfriend, is haunted by his past.

The three seasons of the crime drama "The Tunnel" include 24 episodes in English and French. "Walter Presents: Acquitted" is a ten-episode series in Norwegian with English subtitles. ★

# Heeney's History

## Beloved Old Bell

#### Commentary by Ed Heeney

Before tractors became prominent power on farms, there were horses. Every farm tried to have at least one fancy team to show off in the field and even on the road. It was not unusual to have an older, gentler horse, though, usually a mare, to hitch up when the kids were doing some farming or when a riding horse was needed.

On our farm we had a "high trotting" horse, called Suzanne. She was a good worker, but no one wished to ride her; too foxy.

Old Bell, on the other hand, was docile and calm and gentle. She would work as a single plow horse pulling a plow, a cultivator, a small wagon or anything that would fit between two rows of plants.

There were four kids in our family and Old Bell could handle all four on her back. She did, however, have one quirk. She would not cross a bridge with anyone on her back. So, when a bridge came up, we all had to dismount. It was pretty easy to get off but a bit more difficult getting back on. Usually, we had a 5-gallon paint bucket to re-mount.

One day after lunch, all four kids mounted Old Bell and headed for the neighbors about one mile down the road. We were doing well until the bridge came into view. Old Bell just would not cross that obstacle, but just wheeled around and headed back to the barn. We all slid off her back as she ambled toward the pasture shade tree and while she went, you could faintly hear in horse language, "You are on your own --- I am through." ★



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#### Procedures to Protect Suckerfish Frustrate Klamath Farmers Lacking Water

After three years of drought and little to no water allocated to Klamath Basin farmers and ranchers, new temporary operating procedures for the Klamath Water Project are prioritizing protected fish over needs of agriculture. The directive for meeting Endangered Species Act requirements for suckerfish is increasing frustrations for irrigators. Despite recent rainfalls that boosted accumulated water to 100% of normal, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation said the Klamath Basin remains in a "severe to extreme drought status."

#### Tulare County Gears Up for Crowds at Acclaimed World Ag Expo

California's largest agricultural gathering comes to Tulare County on Feb. 14-16 when the 2023 World Ag Expo opens at the International Agri-Center. The annual event is expected to draw 100,000 attendees from California, other states and more than 30 countries, organizers say. The expo will feature more than 1,200 exhibitors and 2.6 million square feet of show space. The event highlights agricultural innovations. Among new ones this year is a robotic system that conducts surveillance of bee colonies to protect tree-nut growers from colony collapse.

#### Demand for Cut Flowers is no Longer just a Seasonal Passage

Fresh cut flowers have seldom been so coveted. Floral sales are soaring as Valentine's Day approaches, and it's more than just the season that is driving the trend. The cut-flower sector has seen a renaissance due to the pandemic, as many floral customers have come to see home bouquets as a regular part of self-care. Valentine's Day typically trails only Mother's Day in volume of flowers sold and is often the highest revenue event of the year.

#### California Cling-peach Sector 'in Best Overall Position' in Years

Customer demand for California's cling peaches is exceeding current farm production. That was the overview offered recently at the annual meeting of the California Canning Peach Association in Sacramento. "Our industry is in the best overall position that it has been in for many years," association president and CEO Rich Hudgins told the gathering. However, speakers advised growers to be cautious on decisions to plant more acreage. They said planting and over-contracting mistakes in 2016 and 2017 created several years of oversupply. ★





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**Request for Proposals**

**Request for Proposals to Provide Construction Services for the 27-Inch Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase 1 – Project No. #315-109**

February 13, 2023  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the City of Dixon that sealed bids will be received online via Blueprint Express on Friday, March 17, 2023 until 3:00 p.m. at which time all bids will be publicly opened online and read by the City Clerk.  
 Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85011601196?pwd=S3dFbXUMHJQa2NtCF11T0xqZmNOQT09>  
 Meeting ID: 850 1160 1196 Passcode: 269825  
 All bids will be considered for award by the City of Dixon City Council on their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2023. For the following project:

**27-INCH SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION, PHASE 1 PROJECT NO. 315-109**

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Various locations along existing 27-inch main sanitary sewer main alignment; starting from Hall Park to South 1<sup>st</sup> Street down (Highway 113) to Midway Road and across private property to the Dixon Waster Treatment Facility (WWTF), in the City of Dixon, Solano County.

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The work includes pressure testing and grouting of joints for the north reach of the existing 27-inch sanitary sewer main, segmented CIPP liner point repairs along the existing 27-inch main, rehabilitation of various existing manholes, construction of new manholes, construction of slide gate structures in existing manholes. The Engineer's Estimate for this project is \$1,800,480.00.

All work is to be done in accordance with said Plans and Specifications. A copy of the Plans and Specifications, including the Contract Documents, may be obtained by logging on [www.blueprintexpress.com/dixon](http://www.blueprintexpress.com/dixon) or by calling BPXpress Reprographics at (707) 745-3293. All bidders must purchase a complete bid set from BPXpress Reprographics in order to be considered responsive and to receive addenda notifications.

All bidders must submit bids online through the bid portal at BPXpress in order to be considered responsive.

All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to William Garcia, P.E., via electronic mail at [wgarcia@cityofdixon.us](mailto:wgarcia@cityofdixon.us).

Dixon Independent Voice 2-17, 2-24-2023

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000068  
 The following persons are doing business as: Parallax Dragonz, 5079 Staghorn Drive, Vallejo, CA 94591.  
 Henry Boncato, 5079 Staghorn Drive, Vallejo, CA 94591. Date Filed in Solano County: January 13, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 1/1/2023

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 January 12, 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: Jan 27, Feb 3, 10 & 17, 2023  
 PARALLAX 2-17-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000102  
 The following persons are doing business as: Pleasants Valley Fire Safe Council – Vacaville, 3876 Putah Ridge Trail, Winters, CA 95694.  
 Pleasants Valley Fire Safe Council – Vacaville, 3876 Putah Ridge Trail, Winters, CA 95694. Date Filed in Solano County: January 19, 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 January 18, 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: Jan 27, Feb 3, 10 & 17, 2023  
 PLEASANTS 2-17-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000128  
 The following persons are doing business as: Dixon Smog, 790 N Adams Street, Suite A, Dixon, CA 95620.  
 Dixon Smog, LLC, 790 N Adams Street, Suite A, Dixon, CA 95620. Date Filed in Solano County: January 23, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 22, 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 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023  
 DIXON 2-24-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000127  
 The following persons are doing business as: Dixon Suspension, 790 N Adams Street, Suite B, Dixon, CA 95620.  
 Dixon Suspension & Smog, LLC, 790 N Adams Street, Suite A, Dixon, CA 95620. Date Filed in Solano County: January 23, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

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

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 January 30, 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 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 2023  
 TOURIST 3-3-23

Dixon Suspension & Smog, LLC, 790 N Adams Street, Suite A, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: January 23, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 22, 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 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023  
 DIXON 2-24-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000200  
 The following persons are doing business as: Tourist To Local, 285 W Broadway Street, Dixon, CA 95620.  
 Juliana Wynkoop, 285 W Broadway Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Date Filed in Solano County: January 31, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 1/1/2023

This Business is conducted by: 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 January 30, 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 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 2023  
 TOURIST 3-3-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000150  
 The following persons are doing business as: Tasty Bites Pizzeria, 526 Tuolumne Street, Vallejo, CA 94590.  
 Pep Guys, Inc., 526 Tuolumne Street, Vallejo, CA 94590. Date Filed in Solano County: January 25, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 1/25/2023

This Business is conducted by: 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 January 24, 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.)  
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 Publish: Feb 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023  
 NGAN 2-24-23

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE #FCS059445  
 Mark Dale Watson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Mark Dale Watson to Farid Mark Dale Watson.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. March 10, 2023, 9:30 a.m. Department 22, Room III, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533  
 Judge of the Superior Court: Alesia Jones  
 Dated: January 26, 2023  
 Publish: Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023  
 MARK 2-24-23

**SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE**

Notice is hereby given that the Dixon City Council adopted Ordinance No. 23-001, adding Chapter 18.32 Development Agreements, to Title 18, Zoning, of the Dixon Municipal Code, Establishing Procedures and Requirements for Development Agreements.

The Ordinance codifies the City's procedures and requirements for consideration of development agreements, as allowed under Government Code section 65864 et seq, and provides clarity and certainty in the planning process by establishing procedures for review and approval of a development agreement. The City will formalize the process that it already follows related to development agreements, ensuring that land use development applicants and the public are informed of the process.

This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Dixon City Council held on the 17th day of January 2023, and adopted at a regular meeting of the Dixon City Council held on the 7th day of February 2023, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bogue, Ernest, Johnson, Hendershot, Bird  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: None  
 ABSTAIN: None

A copy of the full text of the adopted ordinance is available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620 or at [www.cityofdixon.us](http://www.cityofdixon.us).

Kristin M. Janisch  
 Elected City Clerk

Dixon Independent Voice 2-17-2023

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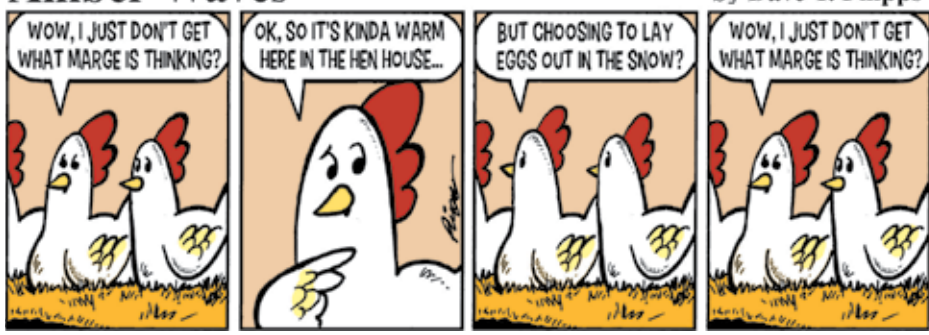
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# WEEKLY COMICS

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



## R.E.D.

by Mike Marland



## GRIN AND BEAR IT

## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Serving Our World

**THIS WEEK'S SERMON**  
"Staying Strong  
Through the Hard Times"  
Selected Scriptures

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

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# Hunger Spike Coming

*Impending loss of pandemic CalFresh support*

By **Jeanne Kuang,**  
CALMatters.org

Food banks across California are bracing for a feared spike in hunger amid inflated prices after a pandemic-era boost in food aid ends in April.

March is the last month CalFresh recipients will get the additional benefits, as the federal government cuts off the “emergency allotments” that have kept food stamp allowances higher than usual for nearly three years now.

The average household on CalFresh will lose about \$200 a month, said Becky Silva, government relations director at the California Association of Food Banks. A single-person household, for instance, could drop from \$281 a month in food aid to as low as \$23 in April.

U.S. Department of Agriculture documents show that since November, the pandemic boosts have amounted to more than \$500 million a month in additional food stamps coming into low-income Californians’ budgets.

“There’s no way to overstate how devastating this is going to be,” Silva said. “Families are going to see a dramatic and sudden drop in their food benefits at a time when food price inflation and the cost of living in California especially is through the roof.”

Food stamps are funded by the federal government, which determines benefit amounts annually based on the nationwide cost of living as well as recipients’ household size and income.

In March 2020, Congress allowed the USDA to give states funding to boost all recipients’ aid to the maximum allowable benefits for their household size, or



There’s no way to overstate how devastating this is going to be. Photo courtesy of GeorgianBayBoudoir Dreamstime.com

add \$95 on top for those already receiving the maximum. The recent Congressional spending bill passed in December cuts that off this spring in exchange for funding for extra food aid for school children during the summer months.

More than 2.9 million California households receive food assistance through CalFresh, a number that has risen steadily throughout the pandemic.

The state social services department attributes the increase partially to a more flexible application process during the pandemic, while advocates like Silva also suggest the boost in aid made going through an application more worthwhile for eligible residents.

The loss of emergency allotments will be felt particularly hard by older and disabled people, many of whom have already seen their food aid eligibility reduced after a historic inflationary bump in Social Security checks in January. In addition to wages, Social Security, unemployment benefits and disability payments

all count as income for the person receiving food aid.

Tom McSpedden, a 69-year-old Citrus Heights resident with Type II diabetes, saw a nearly \$60 decrease in his normal CalFresh allowance last month after getting a \$109 increase in his monthly Social Security checks.

But he continued to get the pandemic CalFresh boosts, which kept the total food stamps on his benefits card at \$281 that month – the maximum allowable aid for a single-person household.

In April, McSpedden’s monthly CalFresh benefits will drop to roughly \$50.

Nearly half of McSpedden’s monthly \$1,368 Social Security check goes toward renting a room; the rest is meticulously budgeted for his phone, car insurance, gas, the portion of insulin and medications that Medicare doesn’t cover and bankruptcy payments.

“I don’t have the \$230 left over each month to compensate” for the drop in aid, he said. “I’m just not going to be able to afford food. It’s that simple.”

There isn’t any plan to

immediately backfill the loss.

The food banks association and other anti-poverty organizations have proposed that the state spend more than \$2 billion providing a “ramp-down” of the extra benefits for five months after the federal boosts end.

But it’s unclear whether the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom’s administration would agree on new spending as they seek to close a \$23 billion budget deficit.

Advocates are also calling for the state to add its own funds to the regular food stamps program, to boost the minimum food aid grant from \$23 to \$50 with corresponding inflationary increases. Other ideas include expanding special CalFresh programs that provide extra dollars for those purchasing California-grown produce, or for certain Central Valley households who lack clean drinking water in their homes.

Those proposals are “nowhere near approaching the \$500 million a month that will be absent from people’s budgets, dinner tables and California

retailers as well,” said Jared Call, senior advocate at the food policy organization Nourish California. “But our approach is, no tool in the toolbox should be unused.”

The California Department of Social Services says it’s warning households of the upcoming decline in aid and directing CalFresh recipients to food banks, which have received additional funding from both the state and federal governments in recent years.

The state’s network of food banks continues to serve on average 1.5 times the number of clients as before the pandemic, Silva said.

The Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services, which provides food in the county McSpedden lives, averaged 150,000 clients a month before the pandemic, said community resource manager Lorena Carranza. In recent months, that number has been about 275,000.

But food distributions can’t replace the flexibility of food stamps that many residents rely on.

With a special diet to manage his diabetes, McSpedden said food distribution boxes usually only contain a few items he can eat. He’s loath to take a full box when others could use it, he said.

McSpedden worked for nearly three decades as a long-haul trucker until about 15 years ago, when a series of heart attacks ended that career and landed him in a hospital stay that wiped out his savings and retirement accounts.

“I’ve been in predicaments before,” he said. “But this thing here with the extra food stamps, I have no idea. I’m looking into a tunnel with no light at the other end.” ★

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