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# Dixon Independent Voice

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

FEBRUARY 10, 2023

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## Hustle and Heart Set Them Apart



Coach Bill Conn assists Aerial Turner on her swing at last week's coaching session.

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - About 100 girls aged 4 to 14 were spread out between nine softball teams that are busy learning skills for Dixon Girls Baseball League at Hall Park. Not all girls might claim Girls Softball as 'their sport' but all girls will learn teamwork, establish camaraderie, and almost all will gain a sense of confidence in themselves.

### Building Confidence

"If you have confidence, you can do anything you want to do," said Bill Conn, a 63-year-old grandfather who has a granddaughter in the



At a different batting station, Anna Hellinger and her teammates were practicing batting at softball practice.

League. He grew up in Brooklyn and played ball on the same team for eight years before joining the Navy and playing on the fly deck of the ship. He also played after that. "I loved it and we had a great team."

When he learned his granddaughter's team needed help, it was easy for him to sign up.

Listening to him coaching Ariel Turner, 12, she's going to gain that confidence. When she missed a few pitches and seemed

to be defeated, he demonstrated how to stand and bend the knees a little to help keep the power in her swing and eye on the ball.

"Girls like that need confidence and we will work on that. When you get that up, you see a difference right away," he said. Turner is the first born in a family of four children and said her Dad wants all the children to be in sports but she admitted she would prefer to be in cheerleading. She was gently reminded that this was just the beginning practice and that learning skill takes time and practice.

Miree Turner, Ariel's younger sister, has been

*Continued on page 3*

## Disabled Person Parking Permits Must Be Renewed

DMV News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Department of Motor Vehicles highlighted new laws that started in 2023 and one of those require drivers 70 and older to renew their license in person at a DMV office.

In October 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom temporarily waived the California law requiring senior drivers to renew their licenses at a DMV field office and signed AB 174 in September 2021 to allow online or by mail renewals through the end of 2022.

The DMV is sending notices to Californians who have had their permanent Disabled Person Parking Placard for at least six years and asking them to confirm that they are still in need of one.

The DMV will not renew placards for people who do not respond. This renewal requirement is one provision of prior legislation, SB 611, enacted in 2017 to curb fraud and abuse of Disabled Person Parking Placards.

Drivers are now required to change into another available lane, when possible, to pass cyclists, building on the current requirement for drivers to give cyclists at least three feet of space when passing. The law also permits Class 3 e-bike riders to use approved bicycle paths and trails, bikeways, and bicycle lanes. In addition, starting on January 1, 2024, the law allows cyclists to cross an intersection when a walk sign is on.

This law exempts vehicles registered to veterans displaying specialized license plates from paying tolls on roads, bridges, highways, vehicular crossings, or other toll facilities. The exemption applies only to vehicles with license plates that are issued to a disabled veteran, Pearl Harbor survivor, prisoner of war, or to veterans who have received distinctions such as the Purple Heart or the Congressional Medal of Honor.

California state courts will stop sending notices to the DMV for license suspensions for failure to appear starting on January 1, 2023, while requiring the DMV to stop suspending licenses for failing to appear starting on January 1, 2027, to allow time to make computer programming changes. ★

## Racist Post Shames Dixon

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - "Racism and hate have no place here," were the words on one of several posters held up by John Knight Middle School students last Friday just hours before a press conference at the Dixon Unified School District in response to a racist social media post made by a student.

It's rare that camera crews from a half dozen television stations show up in Dixon at all, but it would have been wonderful had they been here to cover a celebration of Black History Month on Wednesday. Unfortunately, they never had the chance as that day about noon, an Instagram post began to spread faster than a virus showing a collage of at least 23 students described as black or biracial and included JKMS's first black principal, Kamilah



A woman speaks about her child being pictured in a racist post and earlier when a teacher ignored him when he reported being called a racist name in class.

O'Connor. Its caption read, "Happy black history month (sic) to all of the m\*\*\*eys."

A parent came into the District Office about 4 p.m. showing the post and an

investigation immediately ensued.

"The post took a lot of coordination and was atypical of middle schoolers," said Dixon Unified School Superintendent

Brian Dolan who issued a notice to all by 6:15 p.m. about a press conference at 8 p.m. after attempts to contact all the victims had been made and there had

*Continued on page 4*







## Some Things Are Not Okay. Ever.

By Debra Dingman

There are certain things in our society that I believe we can all agree upon, like it is never okay to drive drunk. It is never okay to hit a woman. It is never okay to post on any social media site degrading things about another person no matter what you think or how you feel. When I heard a Sacramento reporter ask Brian Dolan, our Dixon Unified School Superintendent after seeing the comments on Facebook's Dixon 411 site, if the district was 'over-reacting?' I loved his response. "Not a chance."

We can poo-poo things that boys will be boys or kids will be kids but by the time a child has reached middle school, these societal expectations must already be ingrained.

What bothered me most about Dolan taking "full responsibility" for the behavior of one or a few miscreants is that really, folks, it ISN'T his full responsibility or the teachers. I've been in those classrooms and there is no way a teacher can be expected to "really see, hear, and know" each student. Teachers are supposed to be teaching a lesson and cannot possibly be a counselor for all.

Teaching American values of respect for others starts with the parents when the child is little and hits another child for taking a toy. It is my firm belief that it is the responsibility of every parent, every grandparent, and every neighbor to help raise children to be respectful of another human.

But, what do we do when we see delinquents in Taco Bell? We call the police.

When the group of unruly youths ride their bikes in the streets daring us to run them over or laughing that we jerked the car, we go home angry. What do we do when we catch them in the act of deliberately destroying property? We shrink back into our safe spot but think the world is going to the pits. Dolan is right about this: We must do something MORE.

Parents get exasperated and think the schools aren't doing anything with their complaint because we think there should be an instant answer and that is understandable. We know stories about the student who died on Monday after being punched by a bully who was supposed to be expelled on Friday but wasn't.

So, I ask do we accept that bureaucracy must go through every single channel possible before they are certain the organization won't get sued? Do we have time to get the experts in? I say, we need to accept that there is risk in any of it. You might use the wrong word or have an old belief that needs to be changed but for God's sake, start talking with neighbors and students and pray for the best. If you come from the heart, it is easy to defend yourself.

Let's form a think tank with grandparents, parents, teachers and students and start asking questions, start understanding, and start formulating ideas. Let's study what other districts do in these situations and see how racism issues were resolved. This is Dixon – our town and we want to be proud to live here. Let us do something. ★



## 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 3

- 1023 - Hit and run reported in the 1300 block of Bello Dr.
- 1107 - Vandalism report in the 200 block of N Jefferson St 1324 Information report in the 300 block of N Almond St.
- 1508 - Package theft report in the 200 block of West H St.
- 1626 - Attempted residential burglary in the 400 block of West F St.
- 2120 - Driving w/ a suspended license and possession of prescription pills w/out a prescription arrest report was taken at the intersection of McKenzie Dr. at Pembroke Wy. Officers contacted (S) Tony Lorenzana (36) of Dixon. Lorenzana was arrested and transported to the Dixon Police Department. Lorenzana was cited and released.
- 2135 - Theft case was taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Dr. Officers arrived and contacted (S) Kimberly Kitz (35) of Carmichael. Kitz was arrested and transported to the Dixon Police Department where she was cited and released.
- 2245 - Warrant arrest and providing a false name to a police officer arrest report was taken in the 100 block of Heritage Ln. Officers contacted (S) Elizabeth Cudmore (39) of Fairfield for a municipal code violation. Cudmore fled from officers on her bike and was contacted a few minutes later. Cudmore provided a false name, and it was later determined she had 4 outstanding warrants. Cudmore was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail. After arresting Cudmore, (S) David Freeman (31) of Fairfield arrived to pick up Cudmore's personal property. Freeman was seen discarding suspected narcotics and taken into custody. Freeman was transported to Solano County Jail.

### Thursday, February 2

- 0806 - Domestic Battery at 1400 block of Ary Lane.
- 0900 - Information report 400 block of East A Street.
- 0900 - Traffic stop on Brians Way at Miwok Court following a report of a reckless driver. Melissa Garner (43) of Folsom was arrested for DUI, possession of controlled substances, and possession of controlled substance paraphernalia. She was booked into the Solano County Jail.
- 1620 - Abandoned Vehicle 300 block McKenzie Drive. The vehicle was removed.
- 1615 - Found property at Dixon PD Lobby.
- 1615 - Confidential Report 400 block East A Street.
- 2106 - Informational report was taken by telephone.
- 2143 - Confidential report was taken in the 300 block of Holly Ct.

### Wednesday, February 1

- 0907 - Warrant Service at Dixon PD. Brandon Hourmouzous (48) of Dixon was arrested for an outstanding warrant.
- 1350 - Fraud Report at Dixon PD.
- 1620 - Agency Assist for Fairfield PD.
- 2038 - Warrant arrest and possession of drug paraphernalia arrest report was taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Dr. Officers contacted (S) Ford Wood (25) of Vacaville. A records check revealed Wood had an outstanding felony warrant out of Solano County. Wood was arrested for the warrant and transported to the Solano County Jail. Wood was associated with a vehicle. During an inventory search of the vehicle, drug paraphernalia was found inside. The vehicle was towed by All About Towing pursuant to 22651(h)(1).

### Tuesday, January 31

- 0124 - Hours- Incident report taken in the 1300 Block of Bello Drive.
- 0327 - Hours- Incident report taken in the 1100 Block of Afton Way.
- 0719 - Stolen Vehicle Recovery 1500 block Tuskegee Court.
- 0720 - Stolen Vehicle report 1500 block Tuskegee Court.
- 0815 - Stolen Vehicle 1500 block Valley Glen Drive.
- 0840 - Information report at Dixon PD.
- 0930 - Information report 400 block East A St.
- 1130 - Theft report via telephone.
- 1415 - Traffic Stop West A Street at North Almond Street resulted in the arrest of Rovante Robinson (20) out of Winters for an outstanding misdemeanor bench warrant. 1910 Hours- Vehicle Stop in the 200 Block of Dorset Drive led to the arrest of Joshua McGee (Age 36) of Woodland was arrested for an outstanding warrant.

# Dixon News Briefs

MPG Staff

### Fish Fry

The Veterans Dinner on Friday, Feb. 10, will be at 6 p.m. with the monthly Fish Fry for \$12. It includes hush puppies, fries, and coleslaw. Bar opens at 4 p.m. for those who want to really relax before dinner. It will be cooked by Carla Schafer of American Legion Post 208 Women's Auxiliary. No reservations required at 1305 North First Street and monies help maintain the facility. Tips are welcome.

### Crab Feed

Rotary Crab Feed is Saturday, February 25, at the Dixon May Fairgrounds. For the details, see last week's newspaper. You can go online to independentvoice.com and click on 'back issues,' and you'll find everything you need to know in the January 27 edition front page.

### City Meeting

The next Dixon City meeting on the calendar is the Planning Commission. It will be on Valentine's Day – sad but true. It is on Tuesday, February 14 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 cityof-dixon.us website.

### Safequest Solano

Safequest Solano is an organization in Fairfield but serving Dixon as well with domestic violence situations. They are holding a fundraising dinner and dance called Cheers & Beers on Friday, March 17, 6 – 9 p.m. at the Joseph Nelson Center, 611 Village Drive in Suisun. For more info, go to safequestcheersandbeers2023.eventbrite.com.

### Girls Softball

Opening ceremonies for Dixon Girls Softball will be on Saturday, March 11. If you are interested in being



**Congratulations to Sean Matija, the 2022 City of Dixon Employee of the Year. He is a Maintenance Worker in the Streets Division. He was recognized by City Manager Jim Lindley for exhibiting extreme patience and willingness to help a Dixon resident who had concerns about City maintenance. Not only did he fix the issue but taught them the mobile app where they can submit further requests.** Photo Courtesy of City of Dixon

a vendor at the event, please contact Tara Caldwell via Facebook.

### Senior Meeting

The Senior Club Meeting should be lovely as it is meeting on Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center 201 South Fifth St. The club members are being reminded that it is time for Membership Dues which are only \$10 per person if paid for by March 31, so don't delay. Please note the place will be closed on Monday, Feb. 20, for President's Day.

Bunco is on the calendar for Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. if you're looking for some fun and 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 costs \$20 per person but please call to sign up at (707) 678-7022 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or go to 201 South Fifth Street.

### Transit Survey

Your opinion matters.

The Dixon Transit Division, who is responsible for Read-Ride service, would like to hear from you. Please utilize the link below to complete the Read-Ride Annual Survey by February 17, 2023. Enter this in your computer's search bar: <https://forms.gle/PXQG37gXWmuJyUe76>

### School Break

Dixon Unified School District students will be out of school on Friday, Feb. 17 and Monday, Feb. 20 (to make a nice, long weekend) in honor of President's Day.

For Neighborhood Christian School, students will be out at noon on Friday, Feb. 17 and are off the whole next week. They are to return to class on Monday, Monday, Feb. 27.

Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy students are off on Monday, Feb. 20 only.

Dixon Montessori Charter School is off all week starting with President's Day, Feb. 20-24 for their annual "Ski Week." ★

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# Women in Business to Gather



Karstin Stranger, left, will be featured at the Chamber's Women in Business event. She is the owner of Almond Tree Mortgage and is pictured here with past Kiwanis President Melanie Wright at a club meeting. She will be sharing about her business and serving one's community.

Story and photo by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - What can you learn from another woman in business that you can't learn from a man? Apparently, there is a lot more—like how to manage family time being number one, say women who are successfully running Dixon businesses.

Men tend to start their own companies in order to “be their own boss,” which is compatible with growing a business as large as possible. Women generally start companies with the goal of integrating work and family, a goal that is more consistent with keeping the size of their

companies smaller and more manageable, according to an article by Lisa Dorward in CHRON, a social media news site.

There will be plenty more offered at a Dixon Chamber of Commerce ‘Women in Business Night’ on Thursday, February 16, at 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. It will be held at The Creative Space, 160 West A St. The group of local women business professionals will meet up for a “fun evening as we sip, mingle, and get inspired for the new year,” according to Chamber CEO Shauna Manina’s social media post.

“We want to help gather and inspire local women business owners,

leaders and aspiring entrepreneurs,” said Chamber President Robin Tully. “I don't think many of us realize just how many local businesses are owned or ran by women. I'm confident we will have a diverse, impressive, and vibrant group of women there to meet one another, share ideas and help each other.”

Guest speaker will be Karstin Stranger of Almond Tree Mortgage who also was honored with the 2021 Chamber Business of the Year and 2021 Congressman John Garamendi Woman of the Year award.

“She started her business Almond Tree Mortgage many years ago in Dixon and has kept her family and business going strong while battling breast cancer and two home fires in which she lost everything,” added Tully. “She stayed strong and didn't give up. She will share some tips for success.”

Sponsors are First Northern Bank, Tully consulting Group, Almond Tree Mortgage, Dixon Wellness Collective, Ramtown Karate, Dixon Tire Pros, The Pip Wine Bar, and The Creative Space. This woman has been running her mortgage brokerage company for 20 years.

For more information, contact Chamber President Robin Tully who is also the Business Education and Resources Committee Chair. ★

# First Northern Adds Three Branches

FNB Press Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - First Northern Community Bancorp, holding company for First Northern Bank announced that its acquisition of three Columbia State Bank (“Columbia Bank”) branches in Orland, Willows, and Colusa, California, has been successfully completed.

The acquired branches were divested by Columbia Bank in connection with the pending merger of Columbia Banking System, Inc., the parent company of Columbia Bank, and Umpqua Holdings Corporation. Following the acquisition, all employees of these branches were retained by First Northern Bank and the branches will remain in operation as branches of First Northern Bank. The Bank, headquartered in Solano County since 1910, now operates 14 full-service branches serving Solano, Yolo, Sacramento, Placer, Contra Costa, Glenn, Colusa, and the west slope of El Dorado County.

“Orland, Willows and Colusa are a natural fit for First Northern Bank and allow us to extend our footprint north, along the I-5 corridor,” said Jeremiah Z. Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer of First Northern Bank. “We are excited to bring our brand of



First Northern Bank acquired three former Columbia State Bank (“Columbia Bank”) branches in Orland, Willows, and Colusa, Calif. Photo by Debra Dingman

authentic community banking to these new customers and communities and to further build strong customer and community relationships throughout the North Valley region.”

First Northern Community Bancorp received financial advisory services from Panoramic Capital Advisors, Inc., and Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP served as legal counsel in connection with the transaction.

First Northern Bank is an independent community bank that specializes in relationship banking. The Bank, headquartered in Solano County since 1910, now serves Solano, Yolo, Sacramento, Placer, Contra Costa, Glenn, Colusa, and the west slope of El Dorado County. Experts are available in small-business, commercial, real estate and agribusiness

lending, as well as mortgage loans. The Bank is an SBA Preferred Lender. Non-FDIC insured Investment and Brokerage Services are available at every branch location, including Dixon, Davis, West Sacramento, Fairfield, Vacaville, Winters, Woodland, Sacramento, Roseville, Auburn, Rancho Cordova, Colusa, Willows and Orland. The Bank also has a commercial lending office in Walnut Creek. Real estate mortgage and small-business loan officers are available by appointment in any of the Bank's 14 branches.

First Northern is rated as a Veribanc “Blue Ribbon” Bank and a “5-Star Superior” Bank by Bauer Financial for the earnings period ended September 30, 2022 (veribanc.com) and (bauerfinancial.com).★

# Hustle and Heart Set Them Apart

Continued from page 1 playing for a couple years.

“His coaching helps me because he tells me what I messed up on. My grandpa used to play baseball and started telling me about it so that's how I got interested,” Miree said. “I really enjoy it.” Olivia Granada, 12, was also out practicing and is in her sixth year.

“My first year, I was scared because I didn't know how to navigate the ball,” she said. “You gotta get comfortable. Now, softball is my life. I play first base and there's a lot of action but I'm good at it.” Her goal is to play on the Lady Rams team at Dixon High School and ultimately win a San Diego University scholarship.

“You can't get upset when someone's new,” she said. “You just adapt.”

Umpires are needed for the upcoming spring season and training will be provided. Umpires get paid per game. If you would like a little extra cash in your pocket, contact Teri Thompson by emailing her at Scubateri7@gmail.com. Training will be on February 25 from 10 a.m. to noon at Hall Park Ball Field.

“When I was out here watching a game and a girl got a hit, I got excited. Now, I get to get excited for 13 girls,” Conn said with a laugh.

### Board Members

Dixon mother of thee Melissa Alexander said her girls were “super excited” to start the spring practices.

“They're happy to be working as a team again. It's a fun group and we stay pretty local, playing in Davis, Winters, and Woodland,” she said.

Alexander serves as the sponsorship coordinator on the Board of about 15 people. The first couple years after the pandemic, the team numbers dwindled but seem to be on a path to double this season. Their goal is to

grow the league so they can play more competitive baseball with other cities.

“The board wants to increase the numbers of people interested in the sport,” said Jennifer Reid, former President and current Vice President. “But we also strive to bring a fun environment.” Her daughter, Caitlin, has played since she was 5-years-old and now she is 11. That is what got her to step up and serve on the Board. Jennifer is also a coach for the team sponsored by SM Air.

“So many moms have been volunteering for years,” she said. “It's fun and I like organizing the League, making sure we provide a [rewarding] experience. There are three areas to develop,” she said. “The number one thing is for the girls to learn the game and secondly to develop in the game of softball. The third is to develop skills. The organization is run by an all-women Executive Board: President Micah Martinez, Treasurer Heather Smith, and Secretary Velia Martinez.

The girls are already practicing almost every night of the week and the games that start soon are two to three evenings a week beginning March 11 and running through mid-May.

“So many life skills are learned through sports,” Reid added. “It's everything else with teamwork and camaraderie.”

For the season kick off, they will host a community event to “get all the players involved and see what we do for our girls” plus they are hoping to find some new team sponsors, said Reid.

DGSA is operated entirely by volunteers. They are always looking for interested and energetic volunteers that will promote and model DGSA values, help keep DGSA running smoothly, and enable players and teams to focus on having fun, organizers said. ★

# It's Migration Time



The 2022 U.S. State of the Birds report shows plummeting bird populations across almost all habitats while highlighting the need for further conservation efforts, but there doesn't seem to be a problem like that in Dixon lately. Birds are everywhere, especially in the early evening. It might be the start of the migrating season or our feathered friends could be looking for food but plenty of them dotted this tree near Sycamore Court this week. Photo by Debra Dingman

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# Dixon Unified Statement Regarding Social Media Post

## DUSD Press Release

On February 1, 2023, at approximately 3:30, a parent reported an inappropriate social media post to the administrative staff at John Knight Middle School. In the limited investigation that we have been able to conduct as this is being written (5:15 P.M.), we have been able to determine that the post was made on Instagram during lunch earlier in the day, from an account belonging to a seventh-grade student at John Knight.

The nature of the post is racially offensive. It includes photos of approximately 20 individuals, including at least one staff member. All of those in the photos are African-American or biracial. It is clear from the nature of the pictures that these individuals did not know why their picture was being taken. They are posing and smiling as one would do for a casual picture.

The words included in the post read, "Happy black history month to all of the monkeys." These words are superimposed over the images of students and staff of color.

In a statement, Superintendent of Schools Brian Dolan stated:

"Never in my thirty-five years in education have I seen something so hateful, vile, and abhorrent come from one of my students. It is not possible to describe the devastating impact that this post will have on members of our school community, and many people outside it. Despite claims stating otherwise, racial hatred and discrimination remain persistent and corrosive forces in our society,

and as evidenced today, among students in Dixon Unified. This is a shameful, shameful moment for which there is no excuse or explanation. As the leader of Dixon Unified, and a person who places great value on each and every one of our students, I apologize for this post. I also ask that we remember the vast majority of Dixon students who do not think or act in the ways reflected here today. I know that they will be a part of loving and supporting their friends and classmates, and helping to address the systemic and overt bias, prejudice, discrimination, and hate that we must eliminate in Dixon and all around us.

Based on what we know at this time, this incident will be treated as school-related. That calls for a complete and timely investigation, the identification of the Education Code Sections that have been violated, and the application of due process for the student alleged to have made the posting. While a student accused of this type of act maintains privacy rights, the District will communicate everything that it possibly can to ensure that our actions are made known to everyone and that we follow up appropriately in the immediate and long-term future.

The contact for this statement is Brian Dolan, Superintendent of Schools. Email: bdolan@dixonusd.org

Given circumstances, he is unlikely to be able to respond to emails this evening while he and other staff are contacting parents of students who were included in the Instagram post. ★

# Racist Post Shames Dixon

*Continued from page 1*  
been a chance to talk with students and their parents. They were also able to identify the suspect, a seventh-grade boy.

"There was outrage, anger, disgust, weeping, and lots of questions and concerns," Dolan said.

The second press conference on Friday afternoon was more for the media who had run news stories on the local channels the previous two days and to ensure the public that there was "immediate action" and "complete transparency" on the issue, he said.

"The victims of the post are sixth, seventh, and eighth-graders taken maybe even a few weeks ago and it appeared the students did not know why the picture was being taken," he said. In others, some had people cropped out, or they were still trying to identify them.

Dolan was subdued and said that in his 35 years in public education with 12 of those as Superintendent, "this was the most disgusting, disturbing, really hateful thing" he'd ever seen. He said he took full responsibility and because it happened at the school and during school hours, the District's next step was applying the education code and reviewing other steps in regards to what's effective. The student had history with staff, and currently, he was not being allowed to attend school while disciplinary steps were determined. They will partner with Solano County staff who completed equity work last year.

"I believe we need outside help. I am not the man – as an older white man, I am not the right person to be in front of this work," Dolan said, adding that there is a "cultural shift in the schools" and that Dixon doesn't have the capacity to "do this on our own."

Several black families were in the audience and made statements or asked questions.



DUSD Superintendent Brian Dolan appeared disheartened while giving details on a "disgusting" post by a John Knight Middle School student but vowed to give a more thorough report about discipline at the next School board Meeting, Feb. 16.



A father who had moved to Dixon from the Bay Area reported local discrimination experienced by his family.

"This is an ongoing name-calling and bullying and nothing will be done about it after the cameras go away," said Marty Levino. "America was not built by one group of people. It was all of us. Something concrete has to be done." Another parent said that although she appreciated what the administration was doing, "this is just the tip of the iceberg."

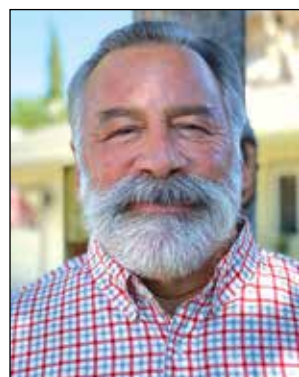
"My son was called a monkey on Monday and the teacher didn't do anything," she said. "She ignored the situation." Other black parents

expressed their frustration about moving to Dixon and discovering racism.

"I know this starts at home," said one man. "I've lived in the Bay Area and you don't see color. I'm disgusted here. This is an everybody factor. What happens going forward is what counts." Another man said, "I'm a black father. I don't get no breaks. I'm black every day."

Dolan promised the Governing Board "would not let this issue die" and that he'd have a full report on February 16, the next School Board Meeting. ★

# Statement from Mayor Steve Bird



Last week our community was made aware of a racially offensive social media post including students and staff at John Knight Middle School. In the days since, our School Resource Officer has worked closely with Dixon Unified School District to provide support to students and staff. We must all work together through open dialogue and education to build understanding and respect in our community. The City will continue to provide support to Dixon Unified. Together, we are committed to providing a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students and staff.

# Are You Talking to A Human Or AI?

## From the office of Senator Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - With the rapid emergence of artificial intelligence technology, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, introduced legislation, that would help increase consumer privacy and protection, aligning California law with the principles of President Joe Biden's Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights.

"AI can do a lot and there are certainly benefits, but it can't be trusted to regulate itself," Sen. Dodd said. "Like any new industry we've seen, safeguards must be added as the risks emerge. Think of the auto industry. Over the years we've adopted speed limits, seatbelts, and airbags. Now is the time for AI oversight to catch up, increasing consumer protections with the help of proactive, thoughtful policy."

AI technology has exploded in recent years, fueling a booming market that is expected to swell to \$126 billion by 2025. Applications simulating human thought can now perform a multitude of tasks – from running errands to driving cars. However,

concerns have arisen over unwanted side effects including automated job loss, privacy violations, algorithmic bias, and socioeconomic inequality.

At the federal level, the president has released his framework to guide the design, use and deployment of automated systems to protect the American public. His five key principles would guard against unsafe or ineffective systems, prevent algorithmic discrimination in things like hiring or credit decisions, ensure data privacy, notify consumers when AI systems are being used and give consumers a chance to opt out.

To advance these pillars in California, Sen. Dodd introduced Senate Bill 315, which would shape policy as AI evolves in the Golden State. For example, Sen. Dodd intends to amend the bill to provide notice when people are interacting with AI-driven government communications. It is an extension of previous legislation, including Sen. Dodd's co-authorship of the California Consumer Privacy Act. Earlier this year, he introduced the first AI-drafted resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 17, which calls for responsible use of AI. ★

# Women's Heart Health to be Heard



New DWIC members Cheryl Hughes and Angela Remides are ladies in red for the Women's Heart Health talk this week.

## Story and photo by Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Women planning to attend the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Meeting next Wednesday, February 15, 1 - 3 p.m., are encouraged to wear red and be ready to learn more about their hearts.

February is American Heart Month and the goal is to raise awareness about cardiovascular disease in females and save women's lives. Heart disease takes the life of one in three women, more than any other health risk, including cancer.

Discussion will focus on cardiovascular diseases, including aortic disease, coronary heart disease, peripheral arterial disease, and stroke. There will also be information on diet and lifestyle that can improve heart health and lower the risk of death or disability.

While some risk factors cannot be changed, others can be treated or managed with medication. Family history is important in assessing heart disease risk so women are encouraged to seek that out. The business meeting will follow.

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. at the Fellowship Hall at the Dixon United Methodist Church. To become an active member, dues are \$35 annually. Call (707) 301-0795 for more information. ★

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# ‘Day of Reckoning’



Commentary by Bruce Lee

As all parents or adults, we have daily needs, grocery, shelter, transportation, repair bills, electricity to keep the lights on plus a host of other things. And occasionally you feel the desire to splurge, maybe a weekend getaway. Maybe we spend more than we can afford, but there’s always the credit card!

Eventually the debt builds grows, the budget stretches, and you make “interest only” payments occasionally; but even minimum payments on the credit card, at 8-18% interest, the amount owed balloons! But it’s okay. That hoped for wage increase in six months will ease the burden. However, you know that you can’t continue this way and that eventually your debtors will require a “day of reckoning.” You pray that your lenders will simply forget about you!

Teaching personal finance at the university, I’ve seen it all, families struggling financially, having autos repossessed, inability to afford a home, debt burdens, and bankruptcy. They muse, “If only I had learned to live on a budget.” In fact, all states in the USA (except Vermont) require a balanced budget! California, the sixth largest nation-state in the world, has a yearly balanced budget! (Though having

worked for the Governor’s Department of Finance, sometimes the revenues might be bit overestimated, and expenses underestimated, but still basically balanced.)

Hopefully you’re aware that the United States has no requirement to balance its budget. But are you aware that the debt of the national government is your debt? As the citizen owners of our government, we are also going into debt. And are you aware of just how much debt the USA has?

USA debt has dramatically increased in the past 30 years and is currently \$30.2 trillion (\$30,200,000,000,000) and rising! Your individual fair share is \$90,853!! And we, our children, and grandchildren will be paying for that bill! Now, suddenly it’s not just a big number about a distant government, it’s about YOU!

And this, \$30.2 trillion does NOT reflect our unfunded liabilities that exceed \$100 trillion, and that in less than ten years our interest on the debt will be \$1 trillion a year (that’s interest only!)

At this moment, Medicare will be insolvent by 2026 and Social Security by 2030.

Again, this is a MASSIVE burden upon future generations, unless you think the USA government is somehow exempt from the basic rules of finance.

If you and I spent money so recklessly, you know that our “house of cards” would soon come tumbling down. Perhaps those from whom we (the US government) have borrowed won’t want their money back? Perhaps they’ll say, “Aw, shucks USA, that’s alright, you

don’t have to pay me back?” Maybe. But then, again, some of us may still believe in the “tooth fairy.”

The immediate result of this debt is slower growth; compromised national security in an already very dangerous world; more of a gap between the haves and have not’s; increasing taxes from Washington; and the federal government will cut spending only to give more unfunded mandates to the states. Ultimately, taxpayers and the states will bear the burden.

Just as a lender looks at your financial ability to pay for a loan, or debt to income ratio, we can look at the financial stability of the USA by comparing our debt to our “gross domestic product or GDP” (the total of goods and services created by the US economy annually). It should normally be 30-40%. Today it’s 129% and growing. Is the day of reckoning upon us?

We’ll look at this debt ratio; our history of debt; who’s responsible; and solutions in upcoming columns. Check out.

<https://youtu.be/da7nVx-DzPfk>

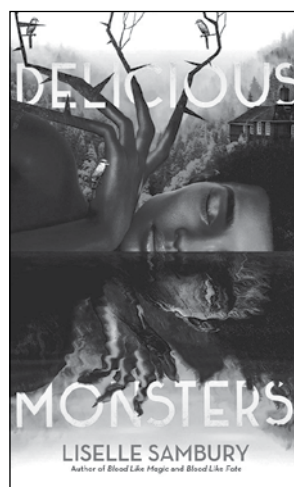
*W. Bruce Lee is an educator and speaker (WBruceLee.com) with a career in government as an elected official and fiscal advisor, who has worked at the local, state, and federal levels. He authors the “We the Government” column as a community service. He is president of the Sacramento Taxpayers Association (SacTax) - promoting efficient, economical government; fair and equitable taxation which permits a strong, healthy economy; as well as sensible balance and rational control of government expenditures. ★*

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

## Delicious Monsters by Liselle Sambury

Daisy has always dealt with her unusual gift of seeing dead people. Trying not to let it take hold of her is the hard part, especially when you live in a big city. But when her boyfriend Noah breaks up with her, everything starts to fall apart. Then her mother gets a call, offering them the chance of a lifetime. A secluded mansion, nestled within a small island, is theirs to inherit as long as they agree to live on the property. Daisy jumps at the chance to leave her old life behind, and before she knows it, they arrive at the mansion, but not without a firm set of rules. Most importantly, she is never to set foot inside the mansion. Daisy quickly learns that this house is not like other houses. This house is alive, harboring so many secrets, lies, and ghostly inhabitants that Daisy begins to spiral out of control. But it’s not just the house hiding things beyond its walls; it’s Daisy’s mom.

Brittany will do anything to shake her overshadowing mother, famous for talking about her stay at “Miracle-Mansion,” the same mansion a girl named Daisy and her mother lived ten years prior.



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

Brittany knows that the mansion is anything but a miracle, that her mother is a sham, and it’s finally time to uncover the truth on her popular web series. But Brittany is unaware of the mansion’s power, and it will take everything she has to uncover the truth. The only problem is, whose truth is she about to uncover?

In a story that runs a decade apart, dual timelines will parallel each other, rocketing readers through a story that yearns to be heard.

Delicious Monsters explores the power and the danger behind the monsters that hide right in front of you, hidden

behind the mask of those you know and trust. Liselle Sambury knows how to dive deep into the heart of her readers and squeeze. With an intense narrative and realistic characters, Sambury takes her time to carefully craft a story that winds around many trigger issues that are usually buried so deep that the truth rarely finds a way to surface.

Heavy-laden and often delivering blows to the gut, Delicious Monsters keeps its readers on edge, the way good stories often do. Readers will fall for the authentic, raw characters, all filled with their own faults, traumas, and pasts, while simultaneously trying to uncover the mystery that binds everyone together. This story is unlike any other. The main characters make their own choices, good or bad, while also choosing to be angry, defiant, or even guarded. In the sense of unapologetic authenticity, they all display the real emotions of anyone who has had trauma, difficult life events, or life struggles. With twists and turns at every bend, this story will keep readers up late at night and thinking about it long after it’s finished. ★

# Sen. Dodd’s In-Vehicle Camera Measure Enhances Driver Privacy

Office of Sen. Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Protecting consumers against the increased collection and sale of personal data, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, announced new legislation on Feb. 3, 2023, that would notify drivers when images are gathered by in-vehicle cameras and prohibit their sale to third parties or for advertising purposes.

“Increasingly in society today, we find ourselves being recorded or surveilled with no idea how the images are being used,” Sen. Dodd said. “This erosion of privacy is now happening inside our own cars. My bill would prevent the unwanted taking of video by in-vehicle cameras and give the consumer more control over their personal information.”

Vehicle camera technology has evolved in recent years from the ubiquitous back-up cameras and blind-spot monitoring systems to newer in-vehicle cameras that enhance driver safety by monitoring impaired or distracted driving. However, there is increasing concern that such cameras could also be exploited by data brokers and other third parties who would sell driver and passenger images without regard to consumer privacy.

Existing law offers some protections but gaps remain. In response, Sen. Dodd introduced Senate Bill 296, would place restrictions on the retention and transfer of video recordings from in-vehicle

cameras. Under provisions of the bill, consumers would not have to take action to prevent their in-vehicle video recordings from being collected without their permission or knowledge. And the bill would not prevent the use of cameras for traffic safety.

The bill, which is supported by Consumer Federation of California, was introduced Thursday and is expected to be heard in committee next month. It is similar to a bill from Sen. Bob Wieckowski, D-Fremont, that was introduced in the Legislature in 2022. Sen. Dodd was the co-author of California’s landmark Consumer Privacy Act and numerous other related consumer protections.

“Consumers should know if their cars have inward facing cameras that may be recording them and their passengers, and auto companies should not be able to use these videos without a consumer’s clear consent,” said Robert Herrell, executive director of the Consumer Federation of California. “AB 296 would make California the first state in the country to give consumers meaningful control over these types of in-vehicle cameras. We thank Sen. Dodd for authoring this important legislation.”

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



### Memphis is Not About Racism

There’s nothing white supremacy can’t do.

It is supposedly so pervasive and powerful that it can cause Black men to sign up to serve as police officers in a majority Black city and severely beat a Black arrestee. It is to the contemporary left what capital was to Marx, sex was to Freud, and gravity was to Newton.

It is the King Charles head of American public life, a matter of obsession that comes up in debates and contexts where it has no possible relevance.

An opinion piece at CNN by former Obama official Van Jones was headlined, “The police who killed Tyre Nichols were Black. But they might still have been driven by racism.”

A piece at The New York Times on Memphis related the view that it “is the system and the tactics that foster racism and violence,” not “the specific racial identities of officers.”

This argument gets points for novelty but none for plausibility. The Memphis officers who brutalized Tyre Nichols may be guilty of many things – incompetence, malice, criminal wrongdoing – but white supremacy is unlikely to be one of them.

Presumably these officers don’t all hate their parents, children, neighbors, and colleagues as unworthy, racially inferior people who

deserve no protection under our laws.

Maybe it’s only as police officers that these men become unwitting tools of white supremacy? This makes no sense, either. The Atlantic noted in an article last year that FBI data showed Memphis to be the most violent metropolitan jurisdiction in the United States in 2020. According to The New York Times, Memphis had nearly 350 murders in 2021, when New York City – 13 times larger – had about 480.

Of course, these murders disproportionately affect young Black men. Isn’t this just how a white supremacist would like it – overwhelmingly Black neighborhoods under siege as Black men kill other Black men? Why would white supremacy want to interfere with this dynamic by deploying police units to try to quell the disorder?

Indeed, the false consciousness in Memphis must run deep. Cerelyn Davis, the city’s first African American woman police chief, created the just-disbanded special police unit implicated in the Nichols beating. Understandably, she thought it was very important to get a handle on rising homicides and dangerous reckless driving, but, unbeknownst to her, she was just serving the man.

The obsession with white supremacy is perverse and insulting on several levels. It implies that if urban neighborhoods are under-policed and dangerous, that is their natural state, whereas if they are robustly policed to try to make them safer – a worthy project that tends to be supported by people of all races – that is somehow an inherently “white” initiative.

It suggests that good African American, Hispanic and Asian cops are dupes, puppets on the string of nefarious white people using them to perpetuate white rule. And, finally, if taken seriously, it would vitiate the agency of the cops involved in the abuse of Tyre Nichols. How can they fully take the blame if an ineradicable, unavoidable force was ultimately responsible for their behavior?

The explanation for what happened in Memphis is more straightforward than any of this. Police are given considerable authority, and human beings – of all races and creeds, in all times and places – have a natural tendency to abuse authority unless constrained by institutions, norms and accountability.

If you are unwilling to believe that the cops in this case were self-loathing Black men, then their behavior becomes a function of poor training and supervision, abysmal decision-making, anger in the moment, free-floating cruelty, or some combination of these things.

The left elevates race above all the other factors that might play into a police encounter gone horribly wrong because the racial interpretation allows it to make a broader critique of American society and force wide-ranging political and social changes.

This is a very useful narrative, which is why it is loath to give it up even in an incident involving Black cops.


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


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**CLUES**

**ACROSS**  
1. Biased perspective  
6. Male sibs  
10. Monday Night Football audience  
14. Tapiridae representative  
15. Rock opera version of "La Bohème"  
16. Object of worship  
17. Opposite of alpha  
18. Spumante  
19. Novice  
20. \*Unanimously elected President  
22. Gusto  
23. Eggy drink  
24. Jig music, pl.  
26. Stashed in a hold  
30. Penniless  
32. Wood turning device  
33. Toll payment, e.g.  
34. Not slouching  
38. Like nay-sayers  
39. Of many years  
40. Malaria symptom  
41. Instagram post  
43. River, in Spanish  
44. Bell-bottoms bottom  
45. Dodge  
47. Unexpected  
48. The Cat in the Hat's headgear (2 words)  
51. Campbell's container  
52. International Civil Aviation Organization  
53. \*President Hayes' first name  
60. "Through" in a text?  
61. Pelvic bones  
62. Plural of #54 Down  
63. Andrew Sean Greer's 2018 Pulitzer Prize winner  
64. Reverse action  
65. Mother-of-pearl  
66. \*Lake off Ohio, the state known as "the Mother of Presidents"  
67. Baseball's "The Say Hey Kid"  
68. Navigate

**DOWN**  
1. \*Present tense of #26 Across  
2. Tibetan priest  
3. "Singes" in "La Planète des singes"  
4. Nearly  
5. Apprentice  
6. Name on apple cider vinegar bottle  
7. R in R&R  
8. Cognizant of  
9. "Sophie's Choice" protagonist  
10. \*F in JFK  
11. Bye, to Emmanuel Macron  
12. Relating to Scandinavia  
13. Casino bandits  
21. Sign of assent  
25. \*Civil Rights Act of 1957 signer  
26. Dueler's blow  
27. Hyperbolic tangent  
28. Football great Graham  
29. \*Executive Mansion, colloquially (2 words)  
30. Misrepresent  
31. Make over  
33. \*One of four presidents to have never been elected  
35. "Goodness gracious!"  
36. "Kiss Me, Kiss Me, Kiss Me" band, The \_\_\_\_\_

37. High school student, usually  
42. Spermatozoa counterparts  
44. Not marathons, pl. (2 words)  
46. Central court in domus  
47. Certain frat house letters  
48. Ownership document  
49. Autumn color  
50. Zoroaster follower  
51. Pandemonium  
54. Elbow-wrist connection  
55. Not a slob  
56. Like certain Stanley  
57. A third of three  
58. Steak choice  
59. Whitetail, e.g.

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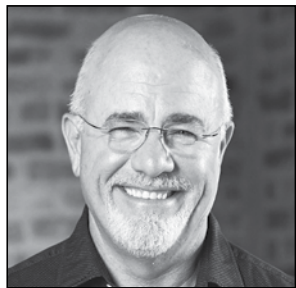
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## Dave Ramsey Says

### It's not as Difficult as you Think

Dear Dave,

I'm single, and I make \$35,000 a year. Next year, my salary and bonuses should be around \$50,000. I have a little over \$30,000 in debt right now, including student loans, and I'm not sure how I'll be able to keep up with bills and everything else right now if I have to save \$1,000 for a starter emergency fund like you recommend. Can I get by with a starter emergency fund of \$500?

– Jonas

Dear Jonas,

I really think you're making this whole thing

sound a lot harder than it really is. The key is making and living on a budget, and that's not rocket science. It's a simple, written planning process where you give a name and a job to every dollar you make before the month begins.

Food, shelter, clothing, transportation and utilities are necessities, so they come first. After that, make sure you're current on your debts. Once all that is out of the way, put every spare dollar you can into your emergency fund. If you do this with a sense of urgency, and limit spending to necessities, you'll be surprised by how fast it will happen. And you'll love the newfound sense of security.

The truth is you really need a starter emergency fund of \$1,000 if you're at

a point in life where student loans and other debts are in the picture. That may seem like an impossible goal right now, but it should be your first priority. And a written, monthly budget will go a long way toward helping you achieve that goal.

You can do this, Jonas!

– 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

### LEGENDS OF THE SCREEN AND GRIDIRON ROMP IN '80 FOR BRADY

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

#### "80 FOR BRADY" RATED PG-13

Just in time for the festivities surrounding the final playoff game of the National Football League's season, "80 for Brady" takes us back to the run-up to Super Bowl LI in 2017 when New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady would guide his team through a thrilling game.

This film, in which Brady appears as himself and also serves as producer, is the story of four mostly octogenarian Massachusetts women who gather to watch the Patriots with their fervor fueled by a love for a quarterback in the hunt for a fifth ring at the time.

"80 for Brady" is, in fact, inspired loosely by the true story of best friends living life to the fullest when they take a wild trip to Houston to see their hero, all the while wearing homemade jerseys sporting the film's title.

The all-star cast includes Lily Tomlin's Lou, a cancer survivor who for reasons that are understood from a flashback to chemotherapy treatments early in the century is a catalyst for the ladies love of Tom Brady.

Even though her cancer has been in remission, Lou is dodging calls from her oncologist about test results because she figures a trip to Texas could be her swan song now that the Patriots' victory in the AFC championship game has them headed to the Super Bowl.

While Lou instigates the life-changing excursion, Jane Fonda's Trish is the group's most outgoing and outrageous member, who once had local fame as a model for an ad campaign and is now a novelist specializing in erotic football-themed fan fiction.

Falling in love too easily over and over is as problematic as her flirtatious behavior. Fitting for the Super Bowl is the release of her latest book titled "Between a Gronk and a Hard Place," referring to Patriots' tight end Rob Gronkowski.

The liveliest and best dancer of the quartet, Rita Moreno's Maura, while still grieving over the loss of her husband, has moved into assisted living where her neighbor Mickey (Glynn Thurman) is drawn to her fiery passion for life.

The responsible member of the group is Sally Field's Betty, a retired mathematics professor needing a little escape from her needy husband (Bob Balaban) who often needs a reminder to put on his pants. Is there a chance that Betty might cut loose a bit on this trip?

Hijinks come into play even before the ladies can make it to the Boston airport. First, they have to stage a jailbreak at the

retirement facility to free Maura from the rules laid down by the despotic manager (Jimmy O. Yang).

Once in Houston, the fan festival NFL Experience beckons, and Betty taking up the challenge of a hot wings contest hosted by Guy Fieri portraying himself proves that being hungry will overcome extra spicy hot sauce.

With Trish being the glamorous one with a suitcase full of wigs, it's no surprise that she's soon caught up in a flirty hookup with smitten, fictional Super Bowl champion Dan O'Halloran (Harry Hamlin).

At a party on the night before the big game, more mischief ensues when some of them consume drug-laced edible gummies. Having a fondness for gambling, Maura ends up in a poker game where in her hallucinatory state every player looks like Guy Fieri.

Game day holds a few surprises, with Billy Porter being impressed with the women's determination to become his backup dancers and Ron Funches comically taking his security guard role too seriously when confronting them.

What is the audience for "80 for Brady," a female-centric story of obsession with a truly gifted football player? For a guy, it may work as a date night movie because at least there is some gridiron action to revive memories of an exciting game.

For fans of a storied franchise that once called Oakland home, the controversial "Tuck Rule Game" that resulted in the Patriots defeating the Raiders in the AFC championship game still lingers as a really bad memory.

The Silver and Black fandom would find a celebration of Brady an even more bitter pill to swallow knowing that the outcome of that contentious playoff game was the fact that Brady went on to win his first Super Bowl by prevailing over the St. Louis Rams.

One has to wonder how the film will play for audiences in Boston and Atlanta when actual footage from the game reveals incredible plays that upend what looked like an inevitable rout. The fan base sure to lament the outcome may not want to relive the experience.

A fair assessment of "80 for Brady" is that the leading ladies are not only effortlessly talented, but believable as lifelong friends bonding over their love of a team and hero worship of its star player.

Moreover, these senior citizen thespians look to be having an authentically good time throughout their adventure with an enthusiasm so infectious that, at least, it should rub off on the audience. ★

## California Climate Credit Approved for High Winter Bills

#### PG&E News Release

**OAKLAND, CA (MPG)** - Residential customers will automatically receive the California Climate Credit earlier than usual this year. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved distributing the credit as soon as possible, instead of the annual April timeframe. The Climate Credit is part of California's efforts to fight climate change. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is pleased to administer the credit to help reduce customer energy bills. This credit will help offset higher than normal natural gas and electricity bills, which have been increasing due to higher demand and tighter natural gas supplies, especially on the West Coast.

For natural gas residential customers, the credit will be \$52.78, and for electric residential customers, the credit will be \$38.39. Customers who receive both services will receive a total credit of \$91.17.

"PG&E recognizes our responsibility to serve our customers safely and reliably while keeping their energy bills as low as possible. With the price PG&E pays for natural gas rising this year, this credit is great news for PG&E customers, who are likely noticing higher than average bills," said Vincent Davis, PG&E's Vice President of Customer Operations and Enablement.

California requires power plants, natural gas providers and other large industries that emit greenhouse gases to buy carbon pollution permits from auctions managed by the California Air Resources Board. The California Climate Credit is

customers' share of the payments from the state's program.

Customers do not need to do anything to receive the credit, it will automatically appear as an adjustment on a customer's bill under the Adjustments Section on the Detailed Charges page.

#### Ways to Reduce Energy Bills

Here are several tools that customers can use now to manage winter bills:

Make sure you're on the right rate plan. Get a personalized Rate Plan Comparison to find the best rate plan for how your household uses energy. Budget Billing keeps bills predictable by leveling out monthly payments to offset high seasonal bills. Bill Forecast Alerts are notifications sent by email, text or phone notifying the customer if their monthly bill is expected to exceed a specific amount set by the customer.

Flexible payment arrangements. Extend your bill due date or make a payment arrangement. Access your online account for details.

Residential customers receive the Climate Credit twice a year, typically in April and October.

To learn more about the Climate Credit, visit the CPUC's California Climate Credit page.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE:PCG), is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16 million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit [pge.com](http://pge.com) and [pge.com/news](http://pge.com/news). ★

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#### Walnut Growers are Hard Hit by Crop Damage, Plummeting Prices

California walnut farmers are tearing out older trees and less desirable varieties as walnut prices have plummeted well below costs of production. The California Walnut Commission estimates that the 2022 crop suffered \$1 billion in damages after a devastating heat wave in September cooked walnuts on trees in a critical time in the growing cycle. Later, ill-timed rains led to mold problems. As much as 30% to 40% of the walnut volume was impacted—resulting in disaster declarations for growers in several counties.

#### Surging Natural Gas Costs Causing Greenhouse Operations to Hike Prices

Skyrocketing natural gas prices are created challenges for California nursery operations, which use the fuel to heat greenhouses. Some are facing utility bills as much as five times higher than in previous years. As a result, nursery operators say they must raise prices to customers, including farmers who buy transplants and seedlings for planting. Some nursery businesses are adding fuel surcharges to their plants. The West Coast, which relies on natural gas imports, has seen reduced deliveries from Canada and the Rocky Mountains.

#### State Upgrades Water Delivery Expectations after January Storm Deluge

California's January storms may be paying their first dividends for farmers. The California Department of Water Resources announced that the State Water Project may deliver 30% of requested supplies this year. That allocation is up from an initial projection of 5% in December. The final water allocation for 2022 was 5%, plus limited supplies for unmet human and safety needs. A 30% allotment would allow the state to deliver 1.27 million acre-feet of water to 29 public water agencies.

#### Wine Sector Seeks to Connect with Younger Consumers Amid Declining Demand

California winegrape growers and wine professionals say they have been facing sliding demand for wine over the past two years. At the recent 2023 United Wine & Grape Symposium in Sacramento, speakers said the wine sector needs to win over younger consumers and market to a more diverse customer base. Wine sales saw roughly two decades of sustained growth before the recent decline in demand. It has been attributed to a broad shift away from alcohol in general. Last year, people over 60 were the only demographic with higher wine consumption. ★

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 Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

It is the intent of the *Dixon Independent Voice* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

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 P.O. Box 1106, Dixon, CA 95620

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# Anti-Christian Bigotry in U.S. and Europe To Help Patients Save Money, Congress Needs to Tackle the Middlemen

## Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights

**NEW YORK, NY (MPG)** - Last July, Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, who had just recently written the majority opinion overturning *Roe v. Wade*, upset militant secularists when he spoke honestly about the fate of religious liberty. In his Rome address, he talked about a “growing hostility to religion, or at least the traditional religious beliefs that are contrary to the new moral code that is ascendant in some sectors.”

What Alito said is true in the U.S. and Europe.

In a survey by Lifeway Research, it found that “nearly 60% agreed that Christians increasingly are confronted by intolerance in America today.” Those who regularly attend religious services were even more likely to say this is true. Young people and those who are religiously unaffiliated were the least likely to agree.

In a survey of anti-Christian bigotry on the other side of the Atlantic, the Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe investigated five countries: France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. It found that anti-Christian hate crimes increased by 70 percent between 2019 and 2020. “These have a higher frequency in France and Germany, although they tend to be more severe in Spain and France, due to a reactionary form of secularism.”

Why the increase in hate crimes against

Christians in Europe? What they found is exactly what Alito was saying. “Secular intolerance and discrimination against Christianity seem to be based on the opposition against more traditional and conservative moral view of Christians.” It also said that “It was uncovered that there is a high rate of religious illiteracy among state authorities, public officials and journalists.”

The finding about anti-Christianity in Europe also applies to the U.S. It is not religious extremists who are responsible for most of the anti-Christian bigotry, it is militant secularists. Similarly, the high rate of religious illiteracy among government officials and reporters is a serious problem in this country as well.

In 2016, Dean Baquet, the executive editor of the *New York Times*, said on NPR that it is important for journalists to realize that they have to do a better job understanding the “anger and disconnectedness that people feel. And I think I use religion as an example because I was raised Catholic in New Orleans. I think that the New York-based, and Washington-based, too, probably, media powerhouses don’t quite get religion.” He added, “We don’t get the role of religion in people’s lives.”

Nothing has changed. Christian bashing is sport in the very Western nations that gave birth to Christianity. That those doing the bashing fancy themselves as the tolerant ones, the “open-minded” secularists, makes the situation all the more perverse. ★



**Commentary by Sally C. Pipes**

As a Republican-controlled House of Representatives with a small majority opens for business in January, one member has especially big ideas for saving patients money on prescription drug costs and the research to back it up.

A year ago, Rep. James Comer (R-KY) released a comprehensive report on the role of pharmacy benefit managers in the nation’s healthcare system. The result does not make for pleasant reading. It is largely a tale of how greedy middlemen have taken advantage of existing legal loopholes and lax oversight to create an industry that raked in \$28 billion in profits in 2019 while providing no actual healthcare to patients.

Insurers use pharmacy benefit managers to negotiate with drug makers on terms for the inclusion of medications in insurance plan coverage. In fact, however, the three biggest PBMs, which account for nearly 80 percent of prescription claims, are co-owned alongside

respective massive insurers like Cigna and pharmacy behemoths like CVS Caremark. The result is an interlocking daisy chain for extracting maximum profit from consumers and payers such as employers and federal and state governments, all while deflecting blame for increasing drug costs away from themselves and onto drug makers.

There’s evidence that to remain competitive with PBMs, drug makers have set list prices higher in expectation of large forthcoming discounts, a move that passes none of the discounts directly to patients but allows PBMs to extract increased revenue for their bottom line.

Insurers, meanwhile, charge coinsurance payments and count toward deductibles patient out-of-pocket costs based on the list price of the medication, not the discounted price the insurers actually pay. Insurers like this arrangement just fine because it allows them to crank up their own revenue without raising premiums.

Insurers and their PBMs also pressure consumers to obtain medications through their own respective pharmacy groups. That can take the relatively benign form of an endless barrage of emails from insurers urging beneficiaries to switch their prescriptions in-house. In more severe cases, PBMs can discriminate against independent pharmacies by offering lower reimbursement rates and excluding

them from insurer networks. Altogether, this conduct has become so parasitic that more than 50% of each dollar spent on brand-name medicines now goes to middlemen entities.

If lawmakers and regulators at the Federal Trade Commission and elsewhere were doing their jobs, this would all be illegal and patients would save big. Instead, many lawmakers have been happy to look the other way while pointing a finger at “Big Pharma” and pocketing campaign contributions from PBMs and allied grifters.

Rep. Comer hits the nail on the head with his main reform push: meaningful transparency among PBMs. Consumers deserve to know who’s paying what to whom for prescription drugs.

Healthcare reform must allow patients to make informed choices about their care. Greater transparency for PBM practices is the starting point. Next up should be the shocking requirement that drug discounts ostensibly for patients get passed on to patients, not sucked up by middlemen.

Sally C. Pipes (@sallypipes) is president, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book is *False Promise, False Reality of Medicare for All* (Encounter 2020). Follow her on Twitter @sallypipes. ★

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-000053**  
The following persons are doing business as: Legal Docs4U, RW Doc Prep, RW Docs, All Doc Prep, All Legal Docs, 360 Arlington Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533.  
Regina Whitaker, 360 Arlington Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533. Date Filed in Solano County: January 11, 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 January 10, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)  
Publish: Jan 20, 27, Feb 3, 10, 2023  
LEGAL 2-10-23

**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

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 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

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.)  
Publish: Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 2023  
TASTY 3-3-23

**ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE # 2022001261  
The following person(s) has/ have abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Dixon Suspension & Smog, at 790 N Adams Street, Dixon, CA 95620. The Fictitious Business Name referred to above was filed in Solano

County on July 22, 2022, File Number: 2022001261  
Dixon Suspension & Smog LLC, 136 Peridot Court, Hercules, CA, 94547.  
This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company  
Filed with the Clerk of Solano County on January 23, 2023.  
Publish: Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023  
SUSPENSION 2-24-23

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
CASE #FCS059046

Ngan Kim Pham and Viet Hung Nguyen on behalf of Minor Children filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Nathaniel Hung Minh Pham Nguyen to Nathaniel Pham-Nguyen and Catherine Ngan Khanh Pham Nguyen to Catherine Ngan Khanh Pham-Nguyen.  
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 8, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Department 3, Room 2, Superior

Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533  
Judge of the Superior Court: Stephen Gizzi  
Dated: January 23, 2023  
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

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS TO PROVIDE PLANNING, ENGINEERING, AND DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY EXPANSION

**January 27, 2023**

The City of Dixon (City) is seeking planning, engineering, architectural, and design services to plan, develop, and assist in the delivery of the Wastewater Treatment Facility expansion (WWTF expansion).

The qualifications shall be submitted by firms that are capable and experienced in the type of work described in Section III, "SCOPE OF SERVICES," of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ). In addition, all interested firms shall have sufficient, readily available resources in the form of trained personnel, support services, specialized consultants, and financial resources to carry out the work without delay or shortcomings. The qualifications shall be submitted **NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM (PST) on Thursday March 2nd, 2023**, to:

City of Dixon  
600 East A Street  
Dixon, CA 95620  
Attn: Jordan Santos, Junior Engineer  
707 678-7030  
jsantos@cityofdixon.us

**Each proposer shall submit five (5) bound copies, and an electronic version (Adobe Acrobat PDF) of the qualification in accordance with Section V, "QUALIFICATION FORMAT," of the RFQ.** This RFQ and related documents are available on the City website at <http://www.dixonplanroom.com>. **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS TO CHECK THE CITY WEBSITE FOR ANY FUTURE ADDENDUMS TO THIS RFQ.**

All questions regarding this RFQ should be directed to Jordan Santos, Junior Engineer, via electronic mail at [jsantos@cityofdixon.us](mailto:jsantos@cityofdixon.us)

Dixon Independent Voice 1-27-2023 and 2-10-2023







# SMF Launches \$1.3 Billion Expansion Project

**Sac County News Release**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento County Department of Airports, which operates Sacramento International Airport (SMF), announced on February 1, SMForward, a \$1.3 billion expansion project that will reshape the Airport to accommodate projected passenger growth over the next seven years.

SMForward is embarking on a transformative journey, with the launch of six ambitious projects in 2024, including the construction of a stunning \$140 million pedestrian walkway. This state-of-the-art walkway will seamlessly connect Terminal B to Concourse B, empowering passengers with the flexibility to choose between a leisurely walk to their gate or utilizing the Airport's efficient train system.

Additional SMForward projects include expansions to both Terminal A and Concourse B, which will add gates and new amenities; a new Terminal B parking garage; and a consolidated ground transportation center that will centralize taxi, rideshare, and off-site shuttle providers into a single area that is walkable from both terminals. SMForward is expected to conclude in late 2027 with the completion of a new \$400 million consolidated rental car facility, allowing passengers access to the Airport's rental car



SMForward is embarking on a transformative journey, with the launch of six ambitious projects in 2024. Photo courtesy Sac County

providers without the need to ride a shuttle bus.

SMForward is a major milestone for Sacramento, representing the largest construction program in the airport's history. This ambitious project is not just an expansion, but a complete transformation of the airport experience for the people of Sacramento and its visitors. The project will bring about significant improvements and upgrades that will enhance the convenience, comfort, and accessibility of the airport for all.

"The airport experience is the first impression many people see when they arrive in Northern California – and the last as they leave," said Cindy Nichol, Director of Sacramento County Department of Airports. "SMForward will change the airport's skyline, but it also sets the stage for the airport's growth and our region's as a whole."

SMForward creates jobs and economic opportunities for local businesses and serves as a catalyst for further development in the region. The project will help Sacramento to be more competitive as a destination, attract more visitors and businesses, and ultimately contribute to the growth of the region.

SMForward is a visionary project that will be financed through a combination of federal and state grants, municipal bonds issued by the airport, and user fees. This means that the burden of financing will not fall on the local taxpayers.

"Over the next five years, this transformation will create world-class facilities that will enhance our customer's travel experience while improving crucial infrastructure to meet our growth," said Nichol. "Our airfield has plenty of capacity,

but our parking, concourses, and roadways have several choke points. SMForward will address these issues and create an airport ready to serve the modern passenger."

SMForward comes as air travel demand in the Greater Sacramento region continues to exceed peer airports in the region after unprecedented impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, SMF nearly returned to pre-pandemic levels with six consecutive years of year-over-year record-breaking passenger growth through 2019. Forecasts show steady passenger growth averaging 4.3 percent annually through 2041, underscoring the need for expansion.

"With record numbers of people traveling through SMF and the region's growing economy that continues

to create new opportunities, Sacramento International Airport is at a crucial intersection," said Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna, "It is critical to invest in our aviation infrastructure to ensure we can meet the needs of residents and travelers who will make the region an even better place to live, work and visit."

"SMForward represents the continued implementation of SMF's master plan, which the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved in February 2022. The plan evaluated past and projected passenger growth along with infrastructure needs as a basis for developing a plan to accommodate that growth," said TJ Chen, Deputy Director of Airport Planning and Development. "In addition to roadways and gates, the master plan anticipates the additional

facilities and airfield infrastructure needed to meet the growing demand for air travel."

"A lot of hard work and planning has gone into ensuring the success of SMForward," Nichol said. "I want to thank the SMF team and Sacramento County leadership for their dedication and support in helping shape this project."

Additional information and business opportunities within SMForward can be found on the newly launched website at SMForward.com. The website provides a wealth of information on the projects, timelines, and opportunities for businesses and individuals to get involved and be a part of this exciting journey of shaping the future of travel. Stay informed, stay connected, and be a part of the revolution.

The Sacramento County Department of Airports is responsible for planning, developing, operating and maintaining the county's four airports: Sacramento International Airport, Executive Airport, Mather Airport and Franklin Field. Sacramento International Airport offers more than 155 daily nonstop flights on 12 domestic and international carriers to 36 destinations. The regional economic impact of the Sacramento County Department of Airports is more than \$4 billion annually. For more information, visit sacramento.aero. ★

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