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Merry Christmas



Please Get Your Dog Trained



Patti Sousa-Liu with her pet Pugs, a Dachshund, and a Pug-Weenie. Photo courtesy of Clip'N and Groom

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - If you like to watch America's Funniest Videos, you will know there is a regular feature called 'Dog Park.'

You see videos of dogs that are hilarious because they seem to show human emotions of shame or embarrassment when they've been caught shredding a couch, sneaking into a refrigerator, or stealing something off a kitchen counter. But having an untrained pup isn't fun for anyone and often people give them as Christmas gifts.

"As a former certified dog trainer, I don't recommend getting a pet to surprise another party, children, or otherwise. That is something to be picked out by a family after the holidays," said Dixonite Patti Sousa-Liu of Clip-N & Groom-N. "It's how the owner connects with the dog and it's all about a connection." Sousa-Liu is still a pet groomer.

"We'd see a pickup in springtime of a lot of people wanting to rehome their pets," said another local dog lover, Victoria Pringle, who worked at the Solano County Animal Shelter for 13 years, owns VIP Pet Dog Training, and is an AKC Certified Trainer. "People don't realize how much work it will be," she added about pets for Christmas gifts. She's always been about dogs, she said, and owns a Great Dane and a Staffordshire Bull Terrier but also does shows and competition obedience.

Potty training should start immediately when they first come into the home at about seven to eight weeks. The training process should start as soon as they have all their shots, which is usually four to five months. Pet owners seek dog training when they want "peace in the house," Sousa-Liu said with a laugh. "Or, when they decide they can't stand the dog jumping on them and all over everybody who comes to the door all the time."

Pringle tries to catch families before they get to that point. She teaches an

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Christmas Church Celebrations

Story and photo by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Only about one in every seven years does Christmas fall on a Sunday, a day when most Christians in America attend church services. Sometimes it happens in five or six years for a Christmas Sunday, depending on the number of leap years.

Other times it takes 11 years, if leap year places Christmas on Monday. The last time Christmas was on a Sunday was in 1994 and it won't happen again until 2033.

That makes this Christmas even more special and a wonderful reason for the churches of Dixon to come together and present a 'Community Christmas Eve Gathering' on Saturday, December 24, in the Pardi Plaza, the new community plaza on the corner of First and A Streets in downtown Dixon. It will be brief;



The life-like Nativity that sits in the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park reminds passers-by of the reason for the season: the birth of Jesus Christ. It is provided courtesy of Grace Fellowship Church.

from 5 to 5:30 p.m.

St. Peter's Catholic Church announced confessions will be heard December 19 through 22 from 6 to 7:30 pm. They will hold its Christmas Eve Mass in both English

and Spanish at 5 p.m.

They are located on the corner of A and Second Streets and will also have a Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. in English and 11 p.m. in Spanish. For more information, the phone is

(707) 678-9424.

Candlelight services are always very precious and offer a time to reflect on the true reason for the season. They will be happening at Cornerstone Baptist

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Life's too SHORT



Christmas Cards and Heavenly Downpour

By Debra Dingman

It was Friday, December 16, when my sweet husband kindly picked up our photo Christmas cards, I had designed yesterday and ordered through same day pick up of Walmart Photos. He said in his ever-so-kind voice that maybe next year I shouldn't wait till the last minute. He is saying this to the woman who for the last two years managed to send 'Happy New Year' cards.

I gave him the eyeball and said they turned out beautiful. He complained that no one could tell who was on the train in one of the pictures. I could have chosen a different picture, but it is a bit difficult when you have to cut down from 28 photos to 10 and try to give the best representation of one's last year. Plus, I tried to be fair to the grandchildren and included all of them twice.

He thinks it is silly to send cards.

"I like getting them," I answered. They are of my family and my friends, and I can't expect the

equally yoked husband to get in my shoes and FEEL the love I have for these people or for this season. I love traditions and the warm feeling they give me in my heart. Who doesn't enjoy that feeling when you feel love and supported...and thought of from afar? Christmas cards are great for some people and stressful for others. I get it but puleeze, don't rain on my parade!

Speaking of rain, I'm on a high after spending the day with volunteers getting ready for the Kiwanis Festival of Trees and then spending the day in crazy-mode at the event itself--you know the day the Heavenly dam broke on Dixon. For about six hours, volunteers (especially Carol Demaray, the Key Clubbers, and Wayne Holland) mopped up after a seriously leaking roof!

It was really nice being just a regular Kiwanis member and not the chair or co-chair. It was wonderful to see Marge Litsinger come through, the other founder of the event and who worked side by side

for almost a decade.

Hats off to co-chairs Brandi Profit who designed beautiful posters, programs, and got all the trees there along with Kristen Janisch who got us into the electronic age and took bids online.

Visitors as well as performers came through the doors just like the drenching rain was no big thing. It amazed me. But then you have to remember that most people are really amazing humans. Only the news wants us to think otherwise.

If you want to see a whole bunch of wonderful Dixonites, please listen to the review of caroling in the train tunnel and certainly select a church to celebrate Christmas this Sunday. (See front page.) It is a rarity for Christmas to fall on a church day, but I hope that because it does, you will experience a special joy as you see the crosses in the front of the churches and feel at least an inkling of love that God gives us.

Merry Christmas to all!

Dixon News Briefs



The helpers who marked 835 veteran gravesites with wreaths or boughs at Silveyville. Photo courtesy of Molly Cowan Photography

Silveyville Wreaths

Inspired by Suzie and Curtis Stocking's endeavor with Wreaths Across America, Silveyville Cemetery District Manager Jennifer Huff worked to get wreaths for the gravesites of veterans at Silveyville Cemetery. And, with a whole lot of help from her staff and the Scouts from Troop 152, the wreaths were laid on a recent Saturday morning in the rain and cold.

"My husband and grandfather were veterans and since I started work here, I wondered why we didn't do the wreaths here," she said. After being promoted to her new position, she's been on a mission, working at the Vacaville Bingo 10 hours a week with the money going to the non-profit endeavor. Ultimately, she purchased 835 wreaths for the veteran's grave sites at Silveyville. Special thanks to Jeff Fountain of Solex Corporation, who picked up all the boxes for them. "As long as I'm here, there will be veteran wreaths," she said.

Last Chance

In an effort to address informal comments from the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the City of Dixon has revised the September 2022 version of the it's 2023-2031 Draft Housing Element. The revised Draft Housing Element is available for review on the City's website at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/housingelementupdate>. The HCD 90-day review period ends on Friday, December 23.

Comments on the revised draft Housing Element can be submitted to the City of Dixon, Community Development Department, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620, Attention: Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director or via Email at rboloyan@cityofdixon.us. Please include "Comments on Dixon Draft Housing Element" in the subject line of any communication. Continued interest and participation in the Dixon Housing Element Update is appreciated.

School Break

Dixon Unified School Students will be out of school through January 6. Neighborhood Christian School is also

out but they are due back on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

Coaches Needed

Dixon Youth Basketball (DYB) needs head coaches for Division 2, Division 3 Boys, and Division 4 Boys, as well as assistant coaches for all divisions. If you have a child playing this season, please consider signing up to be a coach. No experience is necessary. Complete a coaching application at dixonyouthbasketball.com.

Meals Delivered

Meals on Wheels of Solano County offers meals delivered to Seniors aged 60 and older. The suggested contribution is \$4 per meal; however, no senior will ever be denied a meal based on their ability to contribute. Deliveries are normally made Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. but the week between Christmas and New Year's, they will be closed on Monday and Friday so deliveries will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information and to order, call (707) 425-0638.

Scam Alert

The Solano County Sheriff's Office has received reports of a phone scam involving someone impersonating a member from SCSO. Unfortunately, they are using a phone number that appears to come from the SCSO. The phone scammer then leaves a call back number and answers as a SCSO member. THIS IS A SCAM. The Solano County Sheriff's Office will not ask to collect any debts or payments over the phone or offer to clear up any pending legal action for payment. Stay safe and secure this holiday season.

Hobo Dinner

Mark your calendar for the American Legion Auxiliary, Dixon Unit 208, annual Hobo Beef Stew Dinner & Raffle on Saturday, January 21, 2023. This is always a whole lot of fun and there are plenty of raffle prizes, too. Tickets are \$10 each. There is a no-host bar that opens at 4:30 p.m. and dinner is at 6 p.m. For tickets, please call (707) 592-0991 or inquire at the Veterans Hall. ★

Recology Reports on Senate Bill 1383

Recology News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Senate Bill 1383 (SB1383) is a law enacted by the State of California that requires all residents to divert organic materials (including: food waste, yard waste and soiled paper products) from the landfill.

To comply with the law, Recology and the City of Dixon expanded your services to include organic/food waste collection, which includes new vehicles and drivers to collect the material. This resulted in an 18% rate increase for all customers. In addition, all customers must have recycling services to comply with the law.

Customers who had previously opted out of recycling service will now receive blue recycling carts.

How does this change my account?

Senior Service Option, which entails a 20% discount on monthly bills for customers 62 years and older or disabled, effective October 1, 2022. 32-Gallon Solid Waste Carts, which allows customers to reduce their overall bill by subscribing to less landfill service.

Free Landfill Passes will start January 1, 2023, with residential customers receiving a free landfill pass each year, allowing them to dispose of up to 1,000 pounds of material at no charge.

New Mandatory Organics/Recycling Services and Cost-Saving Options for Dixon can be learned by contacting: CustomerService005@Recology.com (preferred) Recology.com/Dixon/Contact (707) 678-4026. To learn about what's accepted in your program, please visit Recology.com/Dixon. ★

Dixon Cheer Donation!



The Dixon Lions Club is happy to donate \$1000 to the teams to help defray some of the competition costs. Courtesy photo

Dixon Lions Club News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Peewee and Junior Cheer Squads placed 2nd and 3rd respectfully in the Norcal competition earning the right to compete to in the National Cheer competition in Las Vegas.

The Dixon Lions Club is happy to donate \$1000 to the teams to help defray some of the competition costs. Representing the cheerleaders are Head Coach Amanda

Sardenga and Assistant Coaches Melissa Habbeshaw, Rachel Domgaard, Alyna Lopez, and Jasmine Turner. Representing the Dixon Lions Club are Justin Ford, Chris Ford, Jim Mayoral, and Eric Kratzer. Congratulations to the Dixon cheerleaders and good luck in Las Vegas.

For more information about the Dixon Lions Club, visit; Website: <http://e-Clubhouse.org/sites/DixonCA>, Facebook: [Dixon Lions Club](https://www.facebook.com/DixonLionsClub). ★

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Shappy Joins First Northern Bank as VP/Commercial Loan Officer



Daniel Shappy, Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer, has responsibilities that includes commercial, real estate and agricultural lending, underwriting, risk.
Courtesy photo

First Northern Bank News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Carol Landry, Senior Vice President/Business & Industrial Team Manager is pleased to announce that Daniel Shappy has joined First Northern Bank's Business & Industrial Loan Team as Vice President/Commercial Loan Officer.

First Northern Bank is the Sacramento Region's local leader in small business lending and customer satisfaction, offering a full range of business lines of credit, equipment loans and leases, owner and investor commercial real estate loans, construction loans, commercial and industrial loans, SBA 504 and 7A loans, letters of credit, and business acquisition loans throughout Yolo, Solano, Placer, El Dorado, and Sacramento Counties, as well as the East Bay Area Region.

Daniel's 29 years' experience in the financial services industry management, and business development. Prior to joining First Northern Bank, Daniel served as Commercial Credit Officer for Westamerica Bank in Fairfield.

Daniel holds a Master of

Business Administration degree from University of Phoenix, Sacramento. He has enjoyed cooking and serving hot meals during Thanksgiving and Christmas at Opportunity House Homeless Shelter in Vacaville and looks forward to volunteering at other community non-profit organizations in the coming year.

Daniel is a native of the Philippines and currently resides in Vacaville with his wife and two daughters. He enjoys camping, hiking, biking, hunting, traveling, and cooking for his family and friends.

Daniel's office is located at 508 Second Street., Suite #104, Davis, CA 95616. Daniel is available by appointment and can be reached at 530.297.3905, 916.595.8090 (cell), or dshappy@thatsmybank.com



Festive Farewell to Students



Dixon High School students got visits from Santa (Assistant Principal Brian Wellborn,) Christmas Tree (Stephanie Marquez,) and Snowman (Assistant Principal Bob Bugalski) last Friday as they were bid "farewell for now." Students will be on Winter Break until Monday, January 9. Photo by Debra Dingman

Christmas Church Celebrations

Continued from page 1

Church on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24 at 6 pm, at 185 West Cherry Street.

Christmas Day Service is Sunday, December 25, at 10:30 a.m. Phone is (707) 678-5234.

At Freedom Church, Pastor Joe Mejia will lead a special Christmas service on Sunday, Christmas Day, beginning at 10 a.m. and one can enjoy a treat from their hot cocoa bar at 470 East H Street according to Church Administrator Erica Mejia. Phone is (707) 693-1774.

For Living Hope Church, you won't have to change your clothes after opening presents in the morning. Just wear your Christmas 'jammies' and come over for their Christmas service at 10 a.m. It will be a 'Cozy Christmas' service where pajamas and blankets are encouraged and will be family-style; no KidsChurch according to Office Manager Jessi Besseghini. They are at 410 Gateway Drive and the phone number is (707) 693-1512.

You can also wear jammies to Grace Fellowship Church Christmas Sunday at 10 a.m. There won't be nursery or

children's church staff, but the nursery will be open, and they'll have activity packs for the kiddos. Hot cocoa and cookies will be served after the service.

Calvary Chapel is at 150 North First Street in downtown Dixon just down the street from the Pardi Plaza Christmas Eve Gathering and invites their families to communion afterwards in the church building. They invite folks to join them Christmas morning at 10 a.m. Their phone is (707) 678-4012.

Only one service on Christmas for Dixon United Methodist Church but they are having three Christmas Eve services at 5, 7, and 11 p.m. They are at 209 North Jefferson across from the Chamber of Commerce. Phone is (707) 678-2191.

Revive Church, formerly Dixon Community Church, will be participating in the downtown Christmas Eve Community Gathering but will not hold services on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. The church is located at 955 East A Street and the phone is (707) 678-1981.

Every attempt has been made to get a hold of all the churches in Dixon over the past few weeks.



COVID-19 Patent Waiver Will Cost Lives, Not Save Them

Commentary by Joe Crowley

Anyone wondering why Democrats fared better than expected in the midterms should direct their attention to President Joe Biden's recent string of legislative victories.

These accomplishments helped Democrats win crucial votes in key states and maintain control of the Senate. But if they want to hold onto the White House, it's important that President Biden and congressional Democrats avoid any policy stumbles before 2024.

One such stumble would be the president and his allies throwing their support behind the World Trade Organization's proposal to waive intellectual property protections on therapeutics and tests related to COVID-19. It would allow our global competitors -- including China -- to help themselves to U.S. patents and other intellectual property.

The stated goal of the proposal is to improve access to COVID-19 therapeutics and diagnostics in the developing world, similar to the WTO's nullification of IP protections for vaccines in June. But there's little evidence that such access is lacking or that this reform would improve it.

What it would do is harm the research ecosystem that has made the U.S. the world's leading source of medical breakthroughs.

The very idea that patents are inhibiting access to COVID-19 tests and therapies is unfounded. Since the beginning of the pandemic, pharmaceutical firms have voluntarily licensed their COVID-19 therapies to manufacturers in low- and middle-income countries around the world.

Simply put, suspending IP for valuable COVID-19 technologies isn't likely to save lives. But it will certainly compromise the Biden administration's efforts to improve healthcare access and encourage domestic biotech innovation.

Currently, getting a new medicine to

market requires a massive investment -- \$2.6 billion, on average. Patents help ensure that when a new drug passes government-mandated clinical trials -- about 90% don't -- investors have a chance to recover their development costs and pay for the numerous failures that came along the way.

If federal officials start calling patents into question, the result will be a future deprived of cutting-edge medicines for everything from cancer and heart disease to diabetes and Alzheimer's. It's also a future in which the world will be far less ready to handle a global health crisis like COVID-19.

Had patent waivers been the norm before the pandemic, America's scientists and drug manufacturers would have lacked the basic infrastructure to invent, mass produce, and distribute the vaccines and therapies that are now bringing this emergency to an end.

Indeed, a new Progressive Policy Institute paper notes that strong, codified IP protection has "contributed to a long-term upturn in scientific research and invention, a public good well worth preserving, which makes this next decision one that raises some systemic questions."

By weakening IP protections, the WTO's expanded waiver would deal a blow to a \$1 trillion domestic industry that supports millions of U.S. jobs. It would also enable other countries -- friends and foes alike -- to piggyback off American innovation, hurting our economic competitiveness.

President Biden's historic strides in expanding healthcare access and bolstering America's biotech economy are legacy accomplishments. Rejecting an expansion of the WTO waiver gives his administration the opportunity to continue that legacy of supporting American ingenuity and prosperity and restoring our nation's position as a leader in global health.

Joe Crowley represented New York's 7th and 14th congressional districts from 1999 to 2019.



Please Get Your Dog Trained

Continued from page 1

introductory class to "expose pet owners how to start communicating with their pet" and is certified to teach the A.K.C STAR Puppy and Canine Good Citizen obedience training.

"I want them to see what it's about and how to engage with a pet and how to make it a fun, family affair," Pringle said. "The focus is a lot about food or toy-driven response. For the pet, it's all about fun."

Thanks to training, there can be an immediate difference in the pet's behavior. After the course, people say things like, "Oh my baby is a 400% turn around," or "I'm so glad I did this training." Costs usually range between \$150 and \$300 depending on if you are private or a group.

Typical family pet commands taught are sit, stay, off, down, (there is a difference) no bite, no bark, and 'loose leash training;' that's where they learn to walk on a leash without being pulled or tugged or pulling and tugging on the owners while they walk.

Dog trainers often offer additional training after that course especially for cattle dogs, Labs, German Shepherd, for example, because they are high energy and need a lot of exercise and can be trained to fetch or do different tricks.

But the holidays for any pet can also be dangerous.

"A new dog or kitten can get in so much trouble with the decorations and everything," Sousa-Liu warned. "Tinsel on trees can get into their digestive system and literally kill them. Some nuts and chocolate, too. Poinsettias are poison to dogs."

Sousa-Liu also gave sage advice: "Don't go buy a purebred [for the sake of a paper] ...There's so many rescues, please go to the rescues. Almost every breed has a rescue. Go to the SPCAs as they are buried in their dogs and cats desperately."

To reach Pringle for dog training, call (707) 590-0735 or email at animalcrazyone@yahoo.com. For grooming, call Sousa-Liu, at (707) 635-3303.



Sacramento State Names Andy Thompson Head Football Coach



Andy Thompson has been named the 12th head football coach in Sacramento State history. Photos courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

Tunes in the Tunnel



A nice crowd joined together in the B Street railroad underpass to sing Christmas carols and were led by Comerstone Church Pastor Frank Salamone. The public was invited to join several local church members including Living Hope and Grace Fellowship to hear the echoing sounds of Christmas. It's become a regular favorite over the holidays despite the cold. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Congressmen's Statement on Exclusion of H.R. 7305

From the Office of Mike Thompson

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - On Monday, December 19, Reps. Mike Thompson (CA-05), Jared Huffman (CA-02), and Doug LaMalfa (CA-01) released the following statements expressing disappointment after help for fire survivors was left out of the government funding bill.

"It is a sad day when a bipartisan bill that helps people and has broad support in both chambers of Congress can't get through the Senate," said Thompson. "This is terrible for fire survivors throughout California. There are several tax bills that must be considered next year, and I will continue to push that relief for fire survivors be included."

"Along with several California colleagues, I worked hard to pass this legislation, but nobody worked harder than Mike Thompson. I commend Rep. Thompson for the passion and dedication he brought to this effort, and I share his disappointment that Northern California fire disaster victims will not get federal tax relief in this year's government funding bill," said Huffman. "I will keep working in every way I can to support Californians who lost property, homes, and even loved ones in the terrible wildfires that ravaged our region."

"It's appalling that after all this time an agreement could not be made between

the House and Senate to deliver wildfire survivors financial relief from abusive taxes. Congressman Thompson and I have led a bipartisan delegation, including our Senators, to fight for Fire Victim Trust beneficiaries' tax-exempt status. The removal of the tax package as a whole was a significant setback by the Senate. I will continue to fight for this bill and we will reintroduce it quickly in the new Congress. I expect there will be a new effort on disaster relief and other tax provisions that were not included," said LaMalfa. "Fire victims need this tax relief to help in rebuilding their lives."

The PG&E Fire Victim Trust was established following California wildfires in 2015, 2017, and 2018. H.R. 7305 was introduced by Thompson, Huffman, and LaMalfa on March 30, 2022.

Congressman Mike Thompson is proud to represent California's 5th Congressional District, which includes all or part of Contra Costa, Lake, Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties. He is a senior member of the House Committee on Ways and Means where he chairs the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures. Rep. Thompson is Chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. He is also Co-Chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus and a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition. ★

Heeney's History 'ol Dawg Hustler

Commentary by Ed Heeney

As I grew up on a farm in Kansas, my Mother did not like animals in the house. We had milk cows, horses, pigs, chickens, and beef cattle. The cows furnished milk and cream, the horses power to plow, the pigs bacon, and the chickens eggs and drumsticks.

There were several cats around the barn, but they only came around at milking time. One time we received a brown, fluffy pup. Each of us four kids claimed the pup was our own. I was too snooty and my sisters too sophisticated for a "down home" farm dog. My brother, however, fit right into the new pup's life. They both were calm, liked to take walks, and both liked each other's company. They both liked the other animals and fit right in as "farm folk."

We had a lot of visitors on the river farm who came to swim and fish and soon Hustler was accepted as one of the crowds and most of the neighbors felt like the dog was part of the neighborhood. A bridge connected both sides of the river, cow pasture on one side and homestead on the other.

My mother relented and allowed Hustler to sleep in the house, even on my brother's bed. This had never happened before. Brother was a true farmer; arising early in the morning to start chores and Hustler followed soon thereafter. I was not so ambitious and crawled back under the blanket. When I finally stumbled into the barn, ol' Hustler gave me a dog look like "where you been?"

One Spring morning, we were alerted by telephone that the river was rising

and that our homestead and pasture was susceptible to flooding. We quickly gathered the family and dog and proceeded to move livestock to higher ground. After about an hour we succeeded and had all livestock safe. We then enjoyed watching the swirling water carry debris downstream and marveled that we were lucky.

As the day wore on, we headed to the farmstead getting ready for evening chores. Brother Marvin asked if anyone had seen Hustler. No one had seen the dog since early morn, which was unusual, and a tinge of concern began to permeate the crowd. The entire farmstead was searched, and we called, whistled, looked, and scouted to no avail and since the water was still rising, we decided it was time to go home. We were sure that Hustler would come home at dark. Well, Hustler did not come home at dark, nor the next day, nor the next. Neighbors formed search parties and still no Hustler.

This was repeated nearly every day for the next six weeks, but Hustler seemed to disappear. We thought he might just have become a victim of the flood waters and we just had given up on ol' Hustler.

Nearly two months later, we got a call from a neighbor. He had been fishing on the other side of the river and had seen a brown dog wandering about an old cabin, he thought it might be ol' Hustler. My brother dropped his garden hoe and took for the river, about three steps at a time. When in the hearing range, my brother started calling. And soon there was the biggest pile of dust, boy, and dog you ever saw. Hustler was home! ★



BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy_fortheloveofbooks

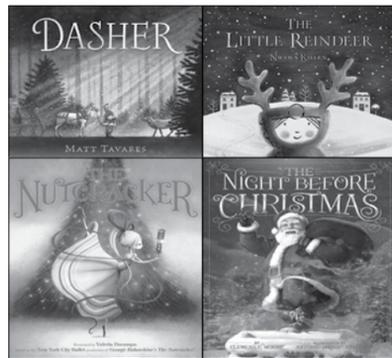
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

Celebrate the joy and beauty of the holiday with these cherished classics.

Dasher

by Matt Tavares; Candlewick Press

Like gentle, falling snow, Dasher lands into readers' hearts as they hear the story of Santa's very first reindeer. Capturing all the love and magic of Christmas, Matt Tavares lends readers a new account to tell around the Christmas tree. Dasher is a celebration of one little reindeer's determination, heart, and willingness to dream of a better life changes the lives of reindeer forever. With enchanting illustrations and a story that encapsulates many familiar traditions, Dasher is sure to become a beloved classic.



The Nutcracker based on NYC Ballet
illustrated by Valeria Docampo; Little Simon

The world of dance and storytelling meet in this breathtaking Christmas classic retelling of, *The Nutcracker*. Straight from the NYC Ballet and into your home, this fascinating book will whisk readers into a land of magic and enchantment with Marie and her Nutcracker Prince.

Mesmerizing audiences since 1954, the NYC ballet captures all the wonder of Christmas magic as this beautiful story is retold for the younger generation through whimsical details and vivid colors.

The Night Before Christmas

by Clement C. Moore, illustrated by Antonio Javier Caparo; Little Simon

The timeless poem is now beautifully illustrated for a new generation. With lifelike artwork that nearly leaps off the pages, vivid detail, and oversized hardback design, this book will soon become a favorite Christmas Eve read.

The Little Reindeer

by Nicola Killen; Simon and Schuster

With her sled in hand, little Ollie heads off on an adventure to investigate the sound of jingling bells. But what she discovers in the forest is more than just the source of the bells; but a magical Christmas adventure.

With its delightful black-and-white illustrations and eye-catching pops of red, readers are pulled right into the story while also

focusing on the smaller details with window cutouts and metallic silver adornments. This book takes on a magical journey allowing young readers' imaginations to take flight.

The Steadfast Tin Soldier

illustrated by Fred Marcellino, retold by Tor Seidler; Atheneum Books

In a box of 25 tin soldiers, all standing at attention, one soldier stood out. For the one-legged soldier, the beauty of the delicate paper ballerina, who also stood on one leg, made him feel that he needed to protect her. But it was the jealousy of a goblin that could not bear anyone having affection for his paper ballerina that set the tin soldier's fate in motion. With the goblin's one swift gust of wind, the soldier went flying out the window, landing him on an astonishing journey to return to his paper ballerina.

A Hans Christian Andersen's story is retold in a straightforward, old-world approach that captures the essence of the Victorian era in beautiful full-color pastel illustrations. True love instantly blossoms in this heart-wrenching tale of love, jealousy, nobility, and sacrifice. Breathtaking illustrations capture the essence of a story that has been told for over a century. ★



Elon Musk Is the Nation's Foremost Culture Warrior

Elon Musk, who has never called himself a conservative, is now the nation's foremost culture warrior.

That he's achieved this status without espousing anything remotely like social conservatism illustrates how important a set of hothouse progressive pieties have become to the nation's political debate.

We've come a long way from the days of Pat Buchanan or Pat Robertson.

Simply by refusing to play by the rules that so many in corporate America accept without hesitation, Musk has made himself Public Enemy No. 1, a figure of fear and loathing that his critics desperately want to fail and the more humiliatingly so, the better.

Not that Musk is shy. He has taken over Donald Trump's championship belt as the troll who most dominates the consciousness of the country's journalistic elite. His puckish tweet the other day tweaked both the fashionable practice of declaring your pronouns and the secular saint Dr. Anthony Fauci: "My pronouns are Prosecute/Fauci."

This little 5-word haiku of provocation predictably created a storm of "How could he?" outrage.

The Atlantic responded with a piece arguing, as the headline put it, "Elon Musk Is a Far-Right Activist." The

only thing the article lacked was a shred of evidence that Musk is either "far-right," or an "activist."

Yes, Musk said before the midterms that he'd vote Republican, but that doesn't make him far-right any more than voting for Democrats necessarily makes someone far-left. News flash: About half the country votes for Republicans. And he's obviously doing everything he can to garner attention for Twitter as he tries to make it a sustainable business. That's marketing and showmanship, though, not political activism.

In releasing what he calls "The Twitter Files," exposing the decision-making of the company's prior management, Musk hasn't been working with conservatives. One of the writers, Matt Taibbi, is a progressive, while the other, Bari Weiss, is right of center, but by no means a right-winger.

What Taibbi and Weiss share, along with Musk, is an unwillingness to swallow the orthodoxies of the elite media and progressive establishment.

It is this posture that makes Musk an intolerable dissenter. Far right now means saying things that you aren't supposed to say -- not racist things or extreme things -- but things that have been deemed unsayable only recently. Several years ago, no one would have thought it was terrible offense to refuse to adopt the weird obsession with pronouns gaining traction at some liberal-arts colleges; now, it's practically a hate crime.

Musk is also a traitor to his class. The tech elite was supposed to be libertarian but in a left-aligned way, maintaining a belief in the profit

motive but otherwise moving along in the slipstream of progressive culture.

Musk has refused to do it and is highlighting what is ultimately a clash of values. It's independent-thinking v. the herd mentality; free speech over and above an ideology of "safety"; a tough-minded focus on work and the bottom line in opposition to the priorities of an entitled woke workforce.

This is all playing out in the battle for the soul of Twitter, assuming it has one. The platform had become a progressive playpen. Woke writers and activists expected it to be run according to their worldview and by rules favorable to their interests -- for good reason.

Not anymore. The fearless, shoot-from-the-hip Musk is, like Trump before him, a barbarian at the gate and a heretic. His takeover of Twitter is like the Vikings sacking the famous English monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow in the 8th century. Questioning Fauci is like the Albigensians challenging monotheism in the 13th century. Mocking pronouns is like questioning divine-right kingship in the age of absolute monarchies.

This is why the fight over Twitter, which is itself not that important -- "Twitter has it -- is so heated and bitter. It's ultimately over whether progressive ideology will maintain its default status in elite precincts of America, and whether a high-profile dissenter can survive and thrive.

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

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Voting Mischief, They Did it Again, But How?



Commentary by Harold Pease, Ph.D.

Yes, election mischief is old news, but with new proofs. (I am using words less likely to trigger algorithms for big tech censorship). Sometimes it takes a few months to catch new methods of manipulating elections. For liberty to survive we have to stop managed elections and we have to punish those corrupting them or we will never again have an honest election.

In the 2020 elections we now know that mail-in ballots, election laws permitting such, multiple days to vote, big tech censorship of conservative views and candidates, and Chinese influence via Dominion voting machines and Konnech administering elections programs were the primary tools of election mischief. We have previously published on these subjects and tools. In many states these methods and tools were still in place and used in the 2022 elections.

We focus on three of the most egregious new, or newly discovered, methods of fraud: databased latency, election manipulation using inactive voters, and Operation Bronze Griffin a secret combination between the federal government, via FBI, and Facebook. All to affect an election.

We begin with databased latency as explained by Jay Valentine, a noted authority on election fraud. "In a real-life example, this month, we found a county that changed 31,500 zip codes, yet the voter remained at the same address." These were changed on September 3, ballots went out that week. Those valid 31,500 ballots are undeliverable but retrievable later for their use. On September 15, those addresses are quietly changed back. The National Change of Address Database will not pick up those address changes. That does not happen because there is no history kept of this quick change. The 31,500 citizens were getting their mail just fine, except for ballots. Ballot addresses were driven by the county mail-in ballot database. The one that was changed, then

changed back. The recipient is none the wiser that they never received the mail-in ballots. They may vote in person. Oops, you already voted. Welcome to database latency" Many states send ballots to everyone allowing hundreds of thousand unused available to scammers ("Here is how they did it: Real-time Election Fraud," by Jay Valentine, American Thinker, November 30, 2022). This is the fraud equation "taking place across the country...Our teams in Wisconsin and Florida are discovering this scam by the truckload.

How does this method of gaming the system work in practice? "The ballot-gathering scammers know about latency — it's their ground game!" They "count the in-person votes on election day. Count the early in-person votes. Shut down the system (Atlanta water leak, Maricopa County, everything). Bring in undeliverable ballots gathered when you changed voter's names addresses. zip codes, then change them back. Determine the votes you need to win. Press the win button. Wait for the Republicans to file lawsuits months later." Fait Accompli!!

Valentine continues, "floating ballots are the lifeblood Democrats need to win; and win they will. Ballot gatherers know Republicans use dumb technology — relational databases, SQL, NCOA, Melissa, all non-real-time, highly latent systems. Bad guys are happy to watch Republicans waste time finding ones and twos while the real action takes place by the thousands, invisible to these batch, latency-prone systems." So this is how they get away with it (Ibid.).

Next we look at utilizing the inactive voters ballots. Liz Harrington reported that a "Lawsuit filed in Maricopa County reveals 'steroid-like injection' of 225,171, 'inactive' voters just before November 8." This resulted in several things: "An inflated turnout rate, headaches for those deemed 'inactive' at the polls. possibility of throwing out votes if the arcane Election Procedures Manual, written by Katie Hobbs, was not followed by poll workers who were not trained on inactive voters." She asked, "Who was put on the 'inactive list? Might they be inclined to vote Republican?" (Liz Harrington@real-LizUSA, December 1, 2022). People who seldom or never vote suddenly surfaced, a quarter of a million of them in one county.

Operation Bronze Griffin

is the most serious of our disclosed election mischief practices because it involves a marriage between the federal government through the FBI and Facebook to censor a political party and potentially all its messaging and messengers and was fully operational in both the 2020 and 2022 elections. The allegations for this originated from numerous FBI whistleblowers coming forth on their own volition to expose their own organization of creating "a secret Facebook portal through which authorities can request the deletion of alleged misinformation from the world's top social media platforms." If true, the government would be violating Amendment I of the Constitution and such a marriage between government and private corporations to overthrow an election would constitute treason.

The 1050 paged whistleblowers report claimed that FBI leadership demonstrated a pro-Democrat political bias and "alleged that it accepts private users information from Facebook without the user's consent or the legal process. The FBI otherwise would need to independently pursue such user related information. Furthermore, according to the whistleblowers, the information, the types of users content Facebook provides, have a partisan focus only concerning users from one side of the political spectrum. The FBI's willingness to accept this political speak information from Facebook outside the routine investigative pathways further threatens America's constitutional rights" ("Whistleblowers: What their Disclosures Indicate about the Politicization of the FBI and Justice Department, Republican Staff Report, Committee on the Judiciary, US House of Representatives, November 4, 2022).

Serious election mischief has and now exists more than ever. It can no longer reasonably be denied in 2020 or in 2022. America will not survive if we don't demand election reform NOW.

Harold Pease is an expert on the United States Constitution and a syndicated columnist. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years. Newspapers have permission to publish this column. To read more of his weekly articles, please visit www.LibertyUnderFire.org ★

MEMORIAL

DOROTHY FAY WALLACE • 1921 – 2022

A life-long Dixon resident, Dorothy celebrated her rural life, California farming and ranching, a multigenerational circle of friends and extended family and her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, all of whom she held close to her heart. She loved her 100th birthday party last year, and she was equally delighted with her birthday luncheon this year with a close group of family. Maybe it was the company, her longevity, her brother's jokes, or the delicious dessert she couldn't stop eating. Maybe it was the glory of a sunny fall day and the chance to go out for a nice drive. Perhaps the pride she felt to be able to express her thoughts and thanks to her loved ones made her so happy. She died peacefully in her sleep about three weeks later after a brief illness. The family will issue a full obituary and a schedule for services soon.

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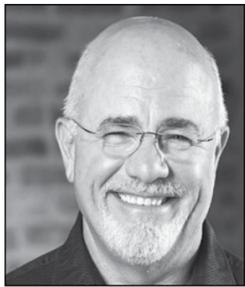
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Dave Ramsey Says

Wait Until the Time is Right

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-Craig

Dear Craig,

I can understand how things might feel a little hopeless in your current situation. You're probably feeling the weight of the responsibility a new life brings to the picture. Things are getting real really fast, aren't they? Believe me, I get it.

The truth is you may not be ready to buy a house today. And that's okay. Having a new baby on the horizon doesn't mean you have to run out and buy a home. That little boy or girl isn't going to know the difference between a house and an apartment for a long time. Right now, giving your child a safe, loving environment is the most important thing.

Now, looking down the road, is owning a house worth it? Yes. But it's not worth doing it at the wrong time or in a stupid way. You first need to make sure the income is there. Then, you need an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses in place along with a strong down payment. So, what if you don't buy a home for another two or three years? Home buying should always be done with patience and wisdom.

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God bless you guys, Craig!

-Dave

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



Riley Reviews

THE HOLIDAY SEASON TAKES ITS FINAL LAST STAND ON TV

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

CHRISTMAS MAGIC ON TCM AND LIFETIME

Turner Classic Movies' Christmas marathon ends on Christmas day with 1949's "Holiday Affair," which may not be seen as truly in the Christmas spirit as what one may find on the Hallmark Channel.

Interestingly enough, TCM announced its holiday marathon by noting that "Christmas movie," means different things to different people. After all, many argue that "Die Hard" is a Christmas movie, and throw in "Bad Santa" for good measure.

According to TCM, the Christmas movie label is subject to personal definition because Christmas films have not historically comprised a distinct genre. For some fans, the mere appearance of the season onscreen, no matter how brief, will suffice for the holiday spirit.

Growing in popularity over the years, "Holiday Affair" stars Robert Mitchum and Janet Leigh, who was just 22 at the time. The film was clearly an attempt by RKO Studios to capitalize on the success of "Miracle on 34th Street."

Like that 1947 classic, "Holiday Affair" centers on a single working mother with a young child in Manhattan. Both films prominently incorporate department stores and their owners, and devote much time to their child characters.

But while "Miracle" touches on fantasy and the explores our inner-child, "Holiday Affair" is geared more toward adults, and adult relationship issues.

Leigh's Connie Ennis, a young war widow, finds herself having to choose between two men: rugged, free-spirited Mitchum's Steve Mason and more traditional, steady Wendell Corey's Carl Davis.

Simmering under the surface is Connie's continuing heartbreak over having lost her husband, and "Holiday Affair's" Christmastime setting is key to emphasizing the importance of family.

The Lifetime Channel is another source of holiday programming. "The Holiday Dating Game" finds dating coach and aspiring book author Abigale Slater (Maria Menounos) close to making her lifelong dream come true, but with a catch that ties into Christmas.

Abigale has completed her first book, a how-to-guide for dating in today's modern world, and is ready to become a published author. However, her publisher Jack (Steve Vinovich) won't proceed with the deal without knowing that her advice actually works.

Before he has a chance to say no, Abigale proposes that she prove the rules work by using them herself and making a man fall for her by Christmas Eve in 12 days.

Although Abigale has never seen love as a priority for herself, she sets out to find someone who will tumble quickly

enough into ardor to get this book in print.

Things change when Abigale meets Michael Ryan (Brent Bailey), and her single-minded mission takes an unexpected turn. While following her own advice, Abigale discovers the romance of her dreams. And just like that, "The Holiday Dating Game" becomes a Christmas movie.

If you have ever visited New Orleans, you know they like to celebrate everything, from a Saints victory to Mardi Gras to Halloween. They even have marching brass bands for funeral processions through the French Quarter.

Lifetime's "A New Orleans Noel" weaves the Christmas theme into the lives of Grace Hill (Keshia Knight Pulliam) and Anthony Brown (Brad James), both of whom went to college to study architecture together.

But they could not be more different, and their lives took them on completely different paths. However, when they're both hired for a job at the home of Loretta Brown (Patti LaBelle), a New Orleans praline icon, they end working together at Christmas.

When Anthony and his family discover that Grace will be celebrating Christmas alone, they invite her to take part in their traditions and celebrations.

Soon, fiercely independent Grace begins to learn the importance of family and community, while modern Anthony learns to embrace tradition and the magic of Christmas.

But when Grace is offered a new job far away from New Orleans, she'll have to decide whether to go, or follow her heart. Well, does the heart believe the Crescent City is a romantic place?

New Orleans is often referred to as one of the most romantic cities in the nation, and according to the tourist bureau that's no surprise given the beauty of the city's architecture, gorgeous views, and candlelit bistros.

If New Orleans is a city for lovers, then tune into "A New Orleans Noel" to see if that notion, as well as some Christmas magic, holds true or not for Grace.

An essential part of holiday fun is indulging in the gastronomic pleasures of such staples as turkey and gravy, baked ham, mashed potatoes, and gingerbread. Some may like fruitcake, but I call those people lunatics.

In any event, Lifetime's "A Recipe for Joy" brings food into the equation when ambitious culinary correspondent Carly Hayes (Erin Agostino) gets a shot at her own TV show.

She's sent to Angel Heights to help chef Grant Quinn (Dillon Casey) reopen his family's beloved diner and film it as a holiday television special.

Thanks to Carly, Grant will not only reopen his restaurant, but most probably his heart too. And that's how you get a recipe for romance during Christmas. ★

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Food & Farm NEWS

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Firms Help Farmers Transition to Organic Production... California Certified Organic Farmers and other organic certifiers are helping growers with paperwork, inspections and logistics to transition to organic production.

Researchers Study Light Spectrum for Pairing Crops with Solar Panels... University of California, Davis, researchers are studying the efficiency of agrivoltaics, in which crops are grown in the shade of solar panels.

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NATIONAL NEWS *courtesy of THE EPOCH TIMES*

Americans Face Elevated Winter Power Outage Risks From Tight Fuel Supplies, Faltering Grid: Report

AUTUMN SPREDEMAN

As the snow flies and temperatures plummet, regulatory agencies and analysts alike warn that residents in multiple U.S. states are at an elevated risk of dangerous winter blackouts.

States such as Texas and North Carolina, and also the Great Lakes and New England regions are in the highest risk category, according to a report from the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC).

Meanwhile, a “large portion” of the U.S. power grid is at risk of insufficient electricity supplies during peak winter conditions, the agency concluded in the same analysis.

Although climate change advocates claim that severe weather events are the primary culprit, energy insiders say tight fuel supplies and an outdated electric grid play a critical role in potential blackouts.

Conservative estimates this year put the cost of critical power grid and infrastructure upgrades at \$4 trillion, with the use of supplemental nuclear power; the price tag jumps another \$500 million without nuclear energy.

The Biden administration approved a \$13 billion stopgap measure on Nov. 18 to “modernize and expand” the power grid. However, people in the energy industry say it will take months or years for U.S. residents to see the difference.

Falling Behind

“There is a significant gap to upgrade aging grid infrastructure to meet net-zero mandates and maintain reliability, and we are running out of time,” ana-

lyst Kim Getgen told The Epoch Times.

Getgen is the CEO and founder of Innovation Force, which tackles complex issues such as America’s energy crisis. She says the Biden administration’s infrastructure investment is a good start, but it’s exactly that, just a start.

“Upgrading aging infrastructure, system hardening, and resilience measures while complying with the evolving set of new cyber and physical security threats will require even more investment,” Getgen said.

She added that the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the U.S. power grid a C- grade on its 2021 Infrastructure Report Card.

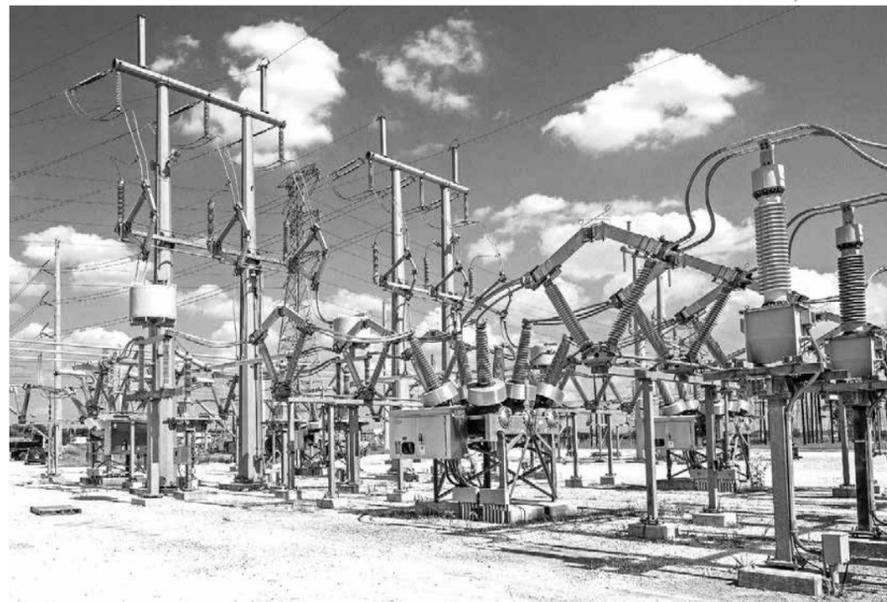
Getgen maintains that a greater level of investment is needed, saying, “we can’t maintain the millions of miles of distribution and transmission lines that deliver the power, and we can’t harness the potential of renewable clean power.”

And although upgrades are crucial, some energy specialists say the U.S. electrical grid won’t become efficient overnight, or even by next winter.

“It’s important to remember that something as complex as the electricity grid takes time to change,” Ted Kury, director of energy studies at the University of Florida, told The Epoch Times.

Working in the university’s Public Utility Research Center, Kury says the regulatory process for new utility projects moves slowly, no matter how much money is thrown at it.

“It’s a process with numerous safeguards, but that also means it takes more time. It’s reason-



BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES

▲ An electric generator in Houston on June 9, 2022.

There is a significant gap to upgrade aging grid infrastructure to meet net-zero mandates and maintain reliability, and we are running out of time.

Kim Getgen, analyst

able to think that we’ll start seeing impacts in the next few years,” he said.

Eric Hendrick, senior consultant in risk management at Customized Energy Solutions, agreed with Kury’s assessment.

“Given the politics involved in any legislation, it’ll take some time before any of these funds trickle down to the states that need the funds,” Hendrick told The Epoch Times.

During a press statement, John Moura, the director of reliability assessment for NERC, said there are “more areas at risk” of blackouts this winter amid power generation and fuel supply challenges.

U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm also noted in a November brief that 70 percent of the nation’s power grid is more than 25 years old.

Grid upgrades aside, strained natural gas and coal supplies are also, quite literally, fueling higher power-outage risks.

Fuel Factor

Not only are millions of Americans facing a greater risk of losing power this winter, they’ll also be paying more for energy.

Homes that run on natural gas can expect to pay 28 percent more. For those using heating oil, a 27 percent price spike is expected, and a 10 percent increase is likely for households that rely on electricity alone for heat.

The increases are due to a combination of higher market prices and demand, according to an Energy Information Administration analysis.

And with the continued push toward Biden’s net-zero ener-

gy goals, an additional 11,778 megawatts of coal generation was retired in 2022. Meanwhile, the demand burden has shifted heavily toward natural gas, which is already encountering supply issues.

“This problem will be difficult to address in the short term. ... Keep in mind gas storage is currently 89 BCF below last year’s level and 86 BCF below the five-year average,” Hendrick said.

He noted that low levels of natural gas storage and a lack of transportation infrastructure in the northeastern United States would likely create “volatile scenarios” with just 10 to 12 days of colder-than-normal weather.

Nevertheless, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission predicts a 24 percent increase in net natural gas exports for the 2022–2023 withdrawal season.

And then there’s the coal conundrum. With fewer generating facilities and sporadic supply-chain disruptions in 2022, NERC asserts that coal has “limited stocks and resupply uncertainty” this winter.

Kury says 2021 saw a spike in coal consumption for electrical power. This year has seen an overall decrease in demand, but it doesn’t shore up with diminished reserves.

“It’s still impacting coal stockpiles at power plants,” Kury said.

“When you also consider that coal is delivered by rail, and rail transportation has been impacted by labor disputes, it reinforces the need to get more fuel to power plants.”

McCarthy to Support Revival of Holman Rule That Strengthens Congress Against Bureaucrats

MARK TAPSCOTT

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) has told Republican colleagues that if he’s elected Speaker of the House, he’ll support the restoration of a controversial legislative tool used by Congress to reduce or eliminate salaries for specific executive branch programs and employees.

Multiple congressional sources confirmed to The Epoch Times on Dec. 15 that McCarthy told members of the House Republican Conference on Dec. 14 that he will back reviving the rule, which could potentially strengthen congressional oversight.

McCarthy’s agreement on the Holman Rule appears to be a move in his continuing effort to gain sufficient support to be elected House speaker on Jan. 3, when the 118th Congress takes office.

There will be 222 Republicans in the House and 212 Democrats, so, assuming all members are present for the speaker vote, McCarthy must gain the votes of at least 218 House members. A dissident group led by Rep. Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.) claims to have enough votes to prevent a McCarthy speakership.

Members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus (HFC)

have pushed for the rule’s return as a condition of the 42-member group’s support for McCarthy’s bid to become speaker. However, McCarthy has balked at agreeing to another proposed rule change that would make it easier for an individual representative to force a new speaker election.

McCarthy has hinted recently that he might be agreeable to a modified rule requiring some number of House members to support the action rather than a lone lawmaker. Adoption of such a rule, even in a modified form, could significantly reduce the power of the speaker to enforce caucus discipline.

The Holman Rule was first adopted shortly before the Civil War and since then has had an on-again, off-again tenure. The previous House Republican majority, led by then-Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.), brought the rule back in 2017 after it was rescinded by Speaker Thomas P. “Tip” O’Neill (D-Mass.) in 1983.

Congress has the “power of the purse” authority under Article 1 of the Constitution and can thus increase, decrease, or eliminate any federal spending if the Senate and House agree, but the president must also agree, so the rule’s application is rarely easy.



ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY IMAGES

Ranking member Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.) at a hearing with the House Committee on Oversight and Reform in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, on Nov. 16, 2021.

The Holman Rule provides an exception to the long-standing House rule against including anything in appropriations legislation other than spending provisions.

The HFC contends that bringing the rule back is needed to put muscle in congressional oversight of the policies and programs of President Joe Biden.

“Congress has the tools in its arsenal to hold the Biden Administration accountable—if we activate them. Democrats eliminated the ‘Holman Rule’ when they took the House because it allows Members to make targeted spending cuts in appropriations funding bills by slashing the funding of specific federal programs or cut-

ting the salaries of individual federal employees (e.g., Dr. Anthony Fauci). Republicans must reimplement the Holman Rule,” the HFC stated in its rules change proposal.

Likely incoming House Committee on Oversight and Reform Chairman James Comer (R-Ky.) is enthusiastic about the prospect of potentially having the Holman Rule available to House Republicans.

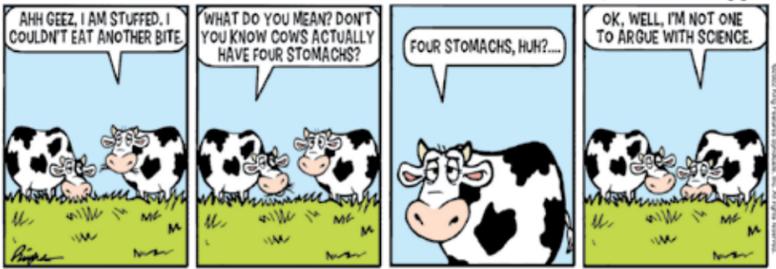
“We have bureaucrats and agencies all over Washington, D.C. that are answering to no one. They’re trying to enact their own ideologies on the will of the private sector, on the will of the taxpayers, and they, thus far, haven’t been held accountable,” Comer told Just the News.

“That’ll give us the tools in the toolbox, when we do an appropriations bill, to actually pinpoint that particular employee of the federal government and erase their salary, cut their salary down or maybe lower it down to \$1. I don’t know what the exact rule will be, but make it very hard on them to where they’re basically no longer employed there. So that’s something that you have to have if you’re serious about providing oversight and actually holding people accountable.”

After House Republicans had the House majority and reinstated the Holman Rule in 2017, a half-dozen attempts were made to utilize it in the form of amendments to appropriations legislation, but all of the attempts failed.

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