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# Dixon Independent Voice

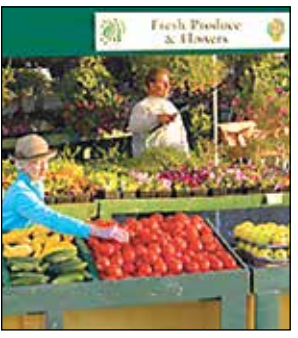
VOLUME 30 • ISSUE 35

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SEPTEMBER 2, 2022

## SEE INSIDE

### NATIONWIDE FARMERS MARKET



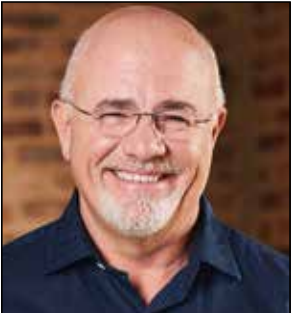
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## WATER INSTITUTE FOR TEACHERS WORKSHOP



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## TIME TO GET SERIOUS



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# Fast Food Changes

State passes bill to regulate wages for fast food workers



Fast-food workers and other SEIU members marched to the Capitol to deliver postcards and petitions in support of AB257 to the Governor's Office on May 31, 2022. Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

By **Jeanne Kuang,**  
*CALMatters.org*

The California Legislature sent Gov. Gavin Newsom a first-in-the-nation bill Monday creating a council to regulate wages and working conditions in fast food restaurants.

The bill would give labor advocates a long-elusive bargaining foothold in a low-wage industry that employs more than half a million non-unionized workers statewide.

Pushed by the Service Employees

International Union and fiercely opposed by business groups, the FAST Recovery Act barely passed the state Senate with the minimum number of votes. The vote was just as narrow in the Assembly hours later. Several Democrats abstained; after it passed six switched their votes to support it.

If Newsom signs AB 257, a council would be able to set standards across the fast food industry on wages and workplace conditions such as safety measures and even the temperature

of a restaurant. Labor advocates say the bill would give workers bargaining power in an industry where union representation is difficult to achieve because of high staff turnover and franchise ownership.

Lawmakers paled back the bill significantly to push it toward final passage after several moderate Democratic Legislators balked at earlier proposals to give the new council sweeping regulatory authority over the industry. Lawmakers added a

*Continued on page 4*

## Constitution Essay Contest Now Open

By **Debra Dingman,**  
*Dixon editor*

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Constitution Literacy Program announces its 11th annual Constitution Essay Contest.

Solano County high school students, grades 10 through 12 have a chance to win up to \$700 plus \$100 for their school by entering. Winners are usually recognized at a formal dinner and are named on a perpetual plaque.

The purpose of the contest is to promote a greater appreciation and understanding of our country's Founding Documents and especially our United States Constitution. The organization hopes to provide opportunities and resources for Constitution education in homes, schools, our local communities, and throughout our country.

All students attending public, private, and home schools in Solano County, in grades 10-12, are eligible and invited to participate. The essays are 500-words written on How does our U.S. Constitution help each of us secure "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" amidst the censorship and cancel culture of today's world?

The 2022 Contest entries will be received beginning September 1 and ending at noon on Friday, October 21, 2022. Entry forms and more information are available by emailing constitution225@gmail.com or reading on the website at [www.celebratethesusconstitution.webs.com](http://www.celebratethesusconstitution.webs.com).

The school award must have 30 students enter from the same school by the deadline to be eligible for the Best of Schools Award.

Awards for the 2022 Constitution Essay Contest will include: Grand Prize \$700 Grant for the best essay; Best of School Awards \$100. Mini-Grant Awards to one student from every school which submits 30 or more entries; and Founders' Choice Awards of \$50. Mini-Grants as merited. Note: All Mini-Grant awards come from the Constitution Education Project Fund, a component fund of the Solano Community Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. Visit their website at [www.solanocf.org](http://www.solanocf.org) for more information and entry forms.

Since 2012, winners were Chris Swenson from Buckingham Charter School in Vacaville; St. Patrick & St. Vincent High School in Vallejo; Kourtney Sweeney, Sierra Richardson, and Hannah Sim also from Buckingham; Victoria Lawson from Armijo High School in Fairfield who won three years in a row; Tyler Carrion from St. Vincent; and last year was Stephanie Choi from Rodriguez Early College High School in Fairfield. ★

# Scouts Recognized at Court of Honor



Dixon BSA Troop 152 and their leaders gathered for their Court of Honor where they handed out numerous merit badges and advanced Scouts to their next ranks.

Story and photo  
by **Debra Dingman,**  
*Dixon editor*

DIXON, CA (MPG) - From fingerprinting to rifle shooting, 80 merit badges were awarded to a dozen Boy Scouts in Troop 152 at its annual Court of Honor which was attended by family and friends. It was emceed by Scoutmaster Matt Latham and held at the Dixon United Methodist Church.

Since 1953, Dixon's

Troop 152 has provided the traditional Scouting experience for youth in the fifth grade through high school and 11 to 17 years of age.

"I congratulate all the Scouts for what they've done for the Troop and for the community this year," Latham said. "They have served a total of 66 hours of service. I am super proud to be able to watch these boys and see a year of growth." He noted the Troop had earned a lot of the badges over the

summer at Camp Hi-Sierra including the rifle shooting by Albert Galindo and his son, Jack Latham.

He provided some stats for the guests reporting there were 13 outings, 208 camping nights, and 200 miles hiked by the Troop. At each one, the Outdoor Code was followed: "As an American, I will do my best to be clean in my outdoor manners; be careful with fire; be considerate of the outdoors; and be conservation minded."

Senior Patrol Leader Noah Kincaid and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster Kenneth Matheson read each of the merit badges before inviting the younger scouts to the stage.

Five scouts earned rank advancements: Declan Clackum to Tenderfoot; Ben Burnett, Nico Huang, and Jack Latham to 2nd Class; and Corey Oram to Eagle Scout.

In a special presentation, Robert Strong, a past

*Continued on page 2*





## Life's too SHORT

### Taming Workaholic; Building Relationships Again



Dixon Kiwanis President Mike Liu gave me an opportunity to speak about my job at the newspaper at a recent club meeting. I enjoyed sharing the fun (and hard decisions) a journalist incurs and about my workaholic tendencies. After answering questions, they awarded me one of the club's highest honors: The Community Service Award for my work at The Independent Voice! Photo courtesy of Jim Ward

By Debra Dingman, Dixon editor

Cell phones and email were supposed to make our lives simpler but active people are using it to squeeze in every bit of activity into their schedules. They are always looking forward to the next child's activity, the next birthday, the next weekend, the next holiday, and the next paycheck. That's why when I saw the parents rushing their children to the first day of school, I wanted to holler at them, "Slow down! Cherish! Enjoy! Have fun! Before you know it, they'll be gone and you'll be scrambling to catch sight of them."

I remember clearly when my 4th grader son dropped my hand as we approached his elementary school. I remember when I came home to such a very quiet house after taking my daughter to her first day of kindergarten and crying. I had considered motherhood as my full-time job and now society was telling me to "get a life."

And then, many years later, I had quite the surprise and despite the stressful circumstances at the time, I got to have fun all over again. As I write this, that surprise is turning 27. He's happily married now and well on his way to a rewarding career. Funny, I clearly remember the feel of his soft little heel in my hand on the day he tried to dive off my bed, but I caught his foot in the nick of time. Later, I would laugh with him at the piano because our Beagle howling alongside his tunes.

I miss the summers of slip 'n slides, pizza nights, and camping. I have pictures of me sitting inside a miniature yellow cloth house out on our patio and two little girls pretending to have tea with their Nana. I am grateful that God blessed me with sweet times and plenty of wonderful memories but it's still really hard not to see or hear from them as often as I'd like. Those times I actually wish I were busier and why I ordered a new book called Your Place, Your People,

Finding Community. "There are some seasons of life where you end up isolated. Whether you've just moved to a new place or you've lost someone close to you, sometimes you don't have a strong sense of family or community around you," said FamilyLife's CEO David Robbins who wrote about the book.

COVID affected us deeply in many ways that we're just beginning to discover. I have a few friends who still wear masks and don't go out. Some of my friends moved out of the area. I'm meeting new people and want to make new friends so we can share real tea. But often, it's easier for me to just stay working.

This book reportedly gives practical insights and inspiration one needs to start building life-giving relationships and meaningful connections with the people placed around you in your spheres of influence and interests. Sounds like some good reading for me and one I hope to share. I'll let you know how it is. ★

# Dixon News Briefs



At Friday's Veterans Dinner, Army veteran Jim Ward will be sharing about the National Army Museum and fundraising efforts. This week's dinner menu is Ham. Photo courtesy of Patty Holland

### MPG Staff

#### Dixon Dolphins

For children aged 4 and older, the Dixon Dolphins Swim Team welcomes sign ups now through October 28. The practices will be on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Fridays from 5 to 7 p.m. and the cost is \$200. For more information/registration, go to [www.teamunify.com](http://www.teamunify.com) or see their Facebook page.

#### School Board

All School Board meetings of the Governing Board happen on the first and third Thursdays of the month at the City Hall inside the Council Chambers, 600 East A Street at 6 p.m. The next one is September 1 and later this month on September 15. The agenda can be found at [dixonusd.org](http://dixonusd.org) under Governing Board.

#### City Council

The Regular Meeting of the Dixon City Council scheduled for Tuesday, September 6, at 7:00 p.m. has been canceled. The next Regular Meeting of the Dixon City Council will be held on Tuesday, September 20, at 7:00 p.m.

#### Service Fair

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Nonprofit Mixer and Resource Fair on Wednesday, September 28, at the Chamber office, 220 North Jefferson from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The event will showcase the many service organizations that help Dixon along its ways and at least 15 of them have been invited to participate. There will be free water and soda plus beer and wine for purchase. The event is free.

#### Fall Crafts

The Creative Space is hosting a Fall Craft /Vendor Fair on October 1 starting at 9 am and is looking for vendors to

participate. The location is at 160 West A Street. Call (707) 920-3496 for more info.

#### Car Seat Check

The California Highway Patrol will host a free Car Seat Safety Check this Saturday, September 3, from 8 am. to noon but you need to call and make an appointment. The phone is (707) 639-5600. CHP will be checking for old, broken and recalled child safety seats and instruct proper installation during the free child safety seat inspection. Children MUST accompany the vehicle for proper child safety seat fitting. The Solano CHP office is at 3050 Travis Boulevard in Fairfield.

#### Lavender Farm

Araceli Lavender Farm has taken a "pause" to rebrand while the season is "past its prime," said owner Justina Salinas. They are relaunching their wholesale first and online shopping is set to make a return on September 24. In the meantime, there have been some classes on making lavender into an essential oil. For more information, activities, and events on this unique Dixon gem, go to their website at [aracelifarms.com](http://aracelifarms.com). They are located at 7389 Pitt School Road.

#### Kids Club

Grace Fellowship Church will be kicking off their annual Kids Club starting Wednesday, September 7, 6:30-8 p.m. Community children Kindergarten through 5th grade will engage in fun and Bible truths. This is a high energy group of great youth led by great leaders at no cost. A registration event will be held the first evening. Parents and children are invited to come sample what a typical night would be like. They plan to hold the club through the school year. For more information, call Debby Coogan at (707) 249-9206 or the church at (707) 678-5700. They are located at 535 West H Street. ★

## Bulldogs Braving the Heat



This pair of grouchy-faced bulldogs had some respite from the extreme temperatures at a recent May Fair Dog Show held by the Richmond Dog Fanciers. The two devices on the side of their crate were portable air conditioners. Photo by Debra Dingman

## Scouts Recognized at Court of Honor

Continued from page 1  
Scoutmaster and current American Legion Post 208 Commander, thanked the Troop with a \$100 check for the assistance by the Scouts at the recent Veterans Stand Down Dinner and Fundraiser. The Troop is saving to purchase a trailer for their camping supplies.

Currently they are having their annual Popcorn Fundraiser which will add to their trailer fund. "It is important you advocate for yourself and consider how you're part of the fabric of this community," said Latham in his closing remarks. "Being active, serving your community,

and serving your family says so much about who you are. Ask yourself what more can I do? Can I help a neighbor? How can I help my community?" For more information, go to [www.troop152dixon.com](http://www.troop152dixon.com) or for the latest news, see their Facebook site. ★



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# Vacaville Ag & Art Film Festival Tickets on Sale Now

Films Screen at Journey Downtown  
in Downtown Vacaville – September 14-18

By Lisa Murray, festival director

**VACAVILLE, CA (MPG)** - The Ag & Art Film Festival (AAFF) is happening in September 14-18 at Journey Downtown, 308 Main Street, Downtown Vacaville.

The Kickoff Party is Wednesday, 9/14 at 6:00 PM at Hyatt Place Vacaville. The Box Office will be located in the “Festival Plaza” (Journey Courtyard) starting on Wednesday, 9/14 at 10:00 AM. Tickets are available now on the festival website. The Festival Plaza will also feature local ag (agriculture) and art organizations as well as local artists.

The Ag & Art Film Festival is a platform to celebrate and raise awareness about agriculture and art/artists around the world. The festival launched in 2019.

All screenings take place during the day in “Movie Blocks” – the first block is at 10:00 AM and the second is at 2:00 PM with a break for lunch in between. The schedule is identical during the day, Thursday – Saturday. On Sunday, movies start later - 11:00 AM- and instead of a lunch break, there is a shorter coffee break with the final block at 2:00 PM.

Out of 60 film submissions received world-wide, 37 will screen in the festival. Ag films include winemakers in Paso Robles and British Columbia, a coffee bean farmer in Kenya, a banana farmer in Peru, a coconut sugar farmer in Indonesia, the state of farming in the U.S., sugar cane boiling in the Southern US, farming near urban borders, a year in the life of a flock of sheep and more. Art films include a mixed media visual artist from Minneapolis who incorporates elements

of nature into her work, an accomplished illustrator (New Yorker Magazine) and musician living and working in New York City, the first African American woman to have her paintings exhibited in the White House, a multi- Grammy nominee and Cuba-born pianist and composer living and working in the US, and a short film from a local autistic artist from Vacaville. All movie descriptions are on the festival’s website. A handful of the filmmakers are traveling to Vacaville to attend the festival and to introduce their films.

Festival Passes are also available which grants the holder access into all of the 8 movie blocks as well entry to the film, “Man in the Field”, on Thursday, 9/15 at 7:00 PM and a private Passholder-only wine & wood-fired pizza mixer from 5:00 – 7:00 PM in The Library – next door to Journey Downtown. Everyone else is invited to the Journey Courtyard to enjoy pizza and drinks before the movie – tickets are sold on the website for both.

Other events include Wine Tasting & Outdoor Movie Night at Hank & Hazels on Saturday, 9/17 and Awards Dinner catered by Backdoor Bistro in Town Square on Sunday, 9/18. Tickets are available now to purchase on the website.

For more information about Ag & Art Film Festival, visit <http://agandartfilmfestival.com> or email [agandartfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:agandartfilmfestival@gmail.com).

**About the Festival Director:**

Lisa Murray is an independent filmmaker and host of the *I Have Dreams Dammit!* podcast. Lisa splits her time between Los Angeles, Vacaville, and Scottsdale, AZ. ★

# Water Polo: The Game of Floats



The Dixon boy's water polo team competes at a recent scrimmage. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Debra Dingman,  
Dixon editor

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - When one student, who wanted to go out for football broke his foot, he missed the try outs but by the time spring came, it had healed and he went out for the swim team.

There, he found a refreshing challenge. So, over the summer, he kept swimming with the swim club.

By fall, the high school water polo team was looking for players, so he signed up. For the next three years, he spent a whole lot of time in the water and many years later, he is still a fan of the sport.

“I played three years of Water Polo, spent four years in swimming and five years in Swim Club,” said Mike Abourezk, who remembered playing against the Davis Blue Devils. “The whole swimming experience was fun for me, but it was pretty hard. It makes you really fit.”

Most players find Dixon

High School Water Polo through competitive swimming - coming from the Dixon Dolphins or from the DHS swim team. But most will conclude, water polo is fun. It is, after all, a game and a cross between soccer or basketball in the water.

“But it can be rougher than you think,” Abourezk said. “It’s a lot of treading water. It’s a physical workout.”

Water polo players are not allowed to touch the bottom of the pool – with the exception of the goalkeeper.

Kraig Katzenmeyer, head coach, also played water polo in high school before pursuing a doctorate in family medicine. He works for Sutter Health in Davis and serves as the doctor for the DHS football team. His wife, Christine, is a registered dietician and is also an assistant coach for the team. They started coaching in 2008 and have been coaching the team ever since. Michael Vlatch and Alex Gonzalez are also assistant coaches.

The Fall 2022 season was kicked off with a well-attended “Parent Night” recently at the Pat Granucci Aquatic Swim Center, where home games happen.

“We appreciate that the city works with us on the pool,” Kraig said. “We had a scrimmage on parent night and learned what we needed to work on.”

At DHS, there is a boy's team and a girl's team. The girls captains are Katelynn Barr and Abigail Kosiewicz. The boys captain is Sean Ward. The teams will play 25 to 28 games per season on Tuesday and Thursdays, plus tournaments.

“We’re really excited for both teams,” Kraig said. “The girls won sections last year and the boys missed it by only one point.”

Their next game will be away at Fairfield's Rodriguez High on Wednesday, September 7. However, there will be a home game on Tuesday, September 27, against Concord's Clayton Valley Charter at 6 p.m. ★



The Dixon girl's water polo team competes at a recent scrimmage. Photo by Nicolas Brown

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# Fast Food Changes



If Newsom signs AB 257, a council would be able to set standards across the fast food industry on wages and workplace conditions such as safety measures and even the temperature of a restaurant. Image by David Z from Pixabay

Continued from page 1

bevy of amendments last week to address the concerns of business owners.

In one major concession, lawmakers stripped out a provision that would have held fast food corporations jointly responsible for wage and labor violations at franchise locations. The bill's sponsor, Democratic Assemblymember Chris Holden of Pasadena, said that was a "significant piece" in swaying some colleagues.

California in recent years has been extending this kind of labor law liability in other industries – from janitorial and gardening contractors to the building owners and firms that hire them, for example – as part of its efforts to combat wage theft. But fast-food franchise corporations have long avoided that responsibility in federal and state labor law.

Even without that provision, labor leaders were calling the bill a victory. SEIU president Mary Kay Henry said at a rally outside the Capitol that the bill was a "watershed moment for working people."

Of particular significance: including workers on the council alongside industry representatives, said Columbia University labor law expert Kate Andrias.

The United States and California have used boards for other industries before to set minimum wages, particularly during the first half of the 20th century. But, Andrias said, the fast-food bill is "a more expansive and ambitious variation" of those past efforts by having workers sit directly on the council and covering a wider range of working conditions.

Business and restaurant groups, which spent big on TV advertising opposing the bill, released a statement Monday afternoon urging Gov. Gavin Newsom to veto it. They have said fast food is being unfairly targeted and warned the new regulations would force restaurants to increase prices at a time of record inflation.

The broadcast and digital ads called the bill a "food tax."

"Upending our state's existing lawmaking structure and regulatory platform is no way to help workers," said Jot Condie,

California Restaurant Association president, in a statement.

Newsom has not stated a position on the bill, but his Department of Finance opposes it, saying it would create ongoing costs and worsen delays in the state's labor enforcement system.

Supporters said Monday the bill incorporates their discussions with the Newsom administration.

Aside from the removal of labor liability for fast food chains, the bill's other changes include provisions preventing the council from requiring any new paid leave benefits for workers, or from regulating how fast-food restaurant operators schedule workers' hours. Also, any minimum wage the council sets would be capped at \$22 an hour in 2023 and subject to inflationary increases in future years. The bill also includes a six-year expiration date.

Some food businesses would be exempt from the council's rules, including bakeries, grocery store fast food counters, and chains with fewer than 100 locations nationally – that's up from a prior threshold of 30 locations or less.

It was not immediately clear how many businesses or workers would be excluded by raising that threshold. For franchised brands with locations in California, the number of chains fitting the description fell from 149 to 84, according to the International Franchise Association.

The bill would give workers and their advocates an equal number of seats on the council as business representatives. The rest of the council would include two representatives of the governor's administration – from the Labor & Workforce Development Agency and the Office of Business and Economic Development.

Sen. Dave Min, an Irvine Democrat, said he initially "had some deep concerns" about the legislation but supported the more limited version.

"I feel it's our duty to protect our business centers from overburdensome state regulations, but we also have to balance that against the rights of the workers that serve us," he said. ★

# Loe to Speak at Genealogical Society Meeting

## SCGS News Release

**VACAVILLE, CA (MPG)** - Nancy Loe will present "Picture This: Cataloging Digital Family Photos" at the next meeting of the Solano County Genealogical Society". This virtual presentation begins at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 3rd.

Nancy Loe is a professional genealogist, archivist, and librarian who has assisted hundreds of people with their family research, not only in the United States, but also in several European countries. After a long professional career in academic archives and genealogy libraries, she launched her website, SassyJaneGenealogy.com, featuring a monthly newsletter, blog and genealogy ebooks on U.S. and European research. Nancy wants to help

genealogists search smart and find more primary sources.

Nancy Loe appears frequently at regional, national and international genealogy webinars and conferences.

Family photographs may seem so complex that they defy organizing. Learn how to tame your digital family photographs by adding names dates, and other information to inside images.

Her presentation will cover simple and effective processes, from scanning and adding information for retrieval, to filing and backing up your photographs, so you can do it once and do it effectively.

Guests are welcome to attend this free event. More information on events can be found on the society's webpage at [www.scgsca.org](http://www.scgsca.org). ★

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001182**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Ruff Translation, 7637 Gish Road, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Juniper Zen, 7637 Gish Road, Vacaville, CA 95688. Date Filed in Solano County: July 11, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 25, 2017.

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 July 10, 2027. 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: Aug. 12, 19, 26 & Sept. 2, 2022  
 RUFF 9-2-22

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-000991**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Brother & Sister Handyman, 524 Tipperary Drive, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Francisco J. Vanilla, 524 Tipperary Drive, Vacaville, CA 95688. Date Filed in Solano County: June 8, 2022. 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 June 7, 2027. 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: Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 2022  
 BROTHER 9-9-22

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001343**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Crossfit Vacaville North, 3777 Vaca Valley Parkway, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Crossfit Vacaville North @ The Compound LLC, 3777 Vaca Valley Parkway, Vacaville, CA 95688. Date Filed in Solano County: August 5, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 8/1/2022

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001396**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Little Shed Crafts, 105 California Street, Vallejo, CA 94590.

Michelle Cabrera, 105 California Street, Vallejo, CA 94590. Date Filed in Solano County: August 11, 2022. 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 August 10, 2027. 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: Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9 & 16, 2022  
 LITTLE 9-16-22

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001400**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Sakura Home 2, 3886 Spanish Bay Drive, Brentwood, CA 94513.

Haven Enterprise, 3886 Spanish Bay Drive, Brentwood, CA 94513. Date Filed in Solano County: August 12, 2022. 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 August 12, 2027. 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: Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022  
 SUNFLOWERS 9-23-22

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001452**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Jade Wellness Studio, 2661 Bloomfield Court, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Michele Payne, 2661 Bloomfield Court, Fairfield, CA 94533. Date Filed in Solano County: August 19, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 2/1/2022  
 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 August 21, 2027. 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: Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022  
 JADE 9-23-22

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001464**  
 The following persons are doing business as: Sunflowers and Sage Herb Farm, 190 East C Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Victoria A. Sheridan, 190 East C Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Date Filed in Solano County: August 23, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 8/1/2022  
 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 August 22, 2027. 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: Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022  
 SUNFLOWERS 9-23-22

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-001464**  
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Victoria A. Sheridan, 190 East C Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Date Filed in Solano County: August 23, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 8/1/2022  
 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 August 22, 2027. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)  
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# Riley Reviews

## 'BEAST' HAS THE RABID FEEL OF CUJO; MAHOGANY BRAND ON CABLE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

### "BEAST" RATED R

Animals gone wild is nothing new in the movies. Stephen King's "Cujo" involved a rabid St. Bernard conducting a reign of terror on a small American town, and the same could be said of the shark in "Jaws."

The aptly-titled "Beast" is a suspenseful action tale about a father and his two teenage daughters who find themselves hunted by a massive rogue lion intent on proving that the savannah has but one apex predator.

Idris Elba's Dr. Nate Samuels, a recently widowed husband returns to South Africa, where he first met his wife, on a trip with his daughters to honor the memory of their mother's heritage.

The trip is meant to heal the father's rift with his offspring who resent the fact that the parents had been separated while the mother was dying of cancer and the good doctor was unable to save her.

Nate obviously loves his daughters with all his heart, but the girls, 18-year-old Mare (Iyana Halley) and 13-year-old Norah (Leah Jeffries), must learn to trust him again after so much disappointment.

Landing by small plane in the middle of nowhere, the family is met by old friend Martin Battles (Sharlto Copley), manager of a game reserve and wildlife biologist, as well as a fierce foe of poachers who wantonly kill protected animals for financial gain.

With Martin as a guide, Nate and his daughters venture into the savannah, and their first encounter is with a pride of lions who are almost domesticated as they have been protected by Martin's humane crew.

The beast in question, whose own pride of lions has been wiped out by vicious poachers, has decided to declare war on all humans regardless of their intentions.

The beast's killing instinct is soon revealed when Martin, Nate and the girls discover to their horror that the inhabitants of a remote desert village have been wiped out.

Shortly thereafter, they become the prey of the monstrous lion, finding themselves stranded in Martin's jeep after it takes a beating from the animal's overpowering desire for revenge against mankind.

Just like in most horror films, poor decisions are often made by the characters that make you want to yell about their stupidity. Such is the case when one of the girls ignores the father's entreaty to not leave the vehicle.

If dumb choices are avoided, then perhaps we'd be missing out on some of the excitements derived from the unimaginable dangers posed by an alpha lion hell-bent on killing humans.

A good reason as any to see the pulse-pounding thriller "Beast" is that it

stars superbly talented, versatile British actor Idris Elba, who should be the next James Bond even though he has apparently stated no interest in the role.

Running at a brisk 93-minutes, "Beast" has many moments of intensity and great thrills which makes for nice escapist fare, even if some of the scares can be seen coming from a mile away. Even if predictable, this B-movie thriller proves to be effective.

### THE MAHOGANY BRAND ARRIVES ON HALLMARK CHANNEL

The Hallmark brand is not just the popular and widely recognized line of greeting cards. Through Crown Media, the Hallmark Channel is family-oriented cable programming with a mix of series and original made-for-TV movies.

During an in-person event for this summer's press tour, Hallmark launched what Wonya Lucas, President & CEO of Hallmark Media, called "a new programming initiative rooted in the spirit and sensibility of the iconic Hallmark Card line."

That distinctive card line is the Hallmark Mahogany brand, consisting of greeting cards that have honored and celebrated Black culture with empowering themes for more than three decades.

The initiation of Mahogany programming in late August brings original movie "Unthinkably Good Things" to Hallmark's Movies & Mysteries, a seminal moment in the evolution of Hallmark content with authentic stories through the unique lens of Black women.

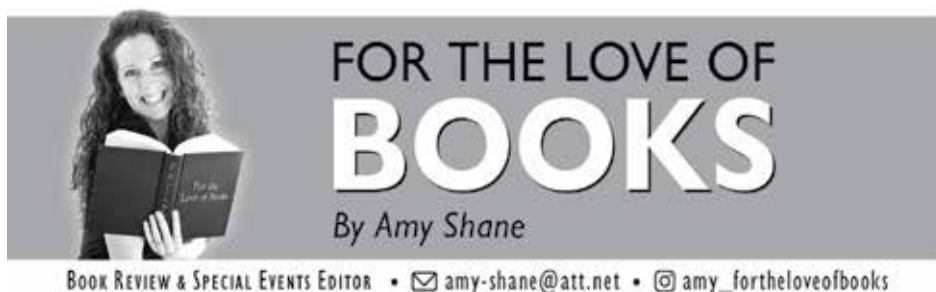
At a crossroads in her career and love life, Karen Pittman's Allison is in need of the love and support of her two friends Melina (Joyful Drake) and Reesa (Erica Ash) in "Unthinkably Good Things."

When the friends visit Allison in Tuscany, the reunion causes each woman to reexamine the state of her own life and relationships. While they have different personalities and perspectives, they know each other's truths and help to make life-changing decisions.

Between the good wine, delicious food, a healthy serving of romance, set against the beautiful backdrop of Tuscany, the three women relish the importance of friendship and inspire each other to take the leap to pursue the life and loves they have always wanted.

Watching "Unthinkably Good Things" may do more than pull at one's heartstrings. The beauty of the Italian countryside is the siren call that will have you looking at travel guides.

During the press conference, Karen Pittman said being in this movie was about the countryside and "the pastoral sense of wine and culture, and I thought it really added a lot to the story, right?" Yes, she's exactly correct. ★



# The Girl In White

by Lindsay Currie

Could Sweet Molly actually be real? And if so - what does she want for Mallory?

When Mallory moves to the famously haunted town of Eastport, she never expected it to actually be haunted. The townspeople, the tourists, and even her parents have totally fallen for the legend of Sweet Molly. Everyone except Mallory. Until the day Mallory starts losing track of time, and a ghostly vision starts to haunt her.

It doesn't help that Mallory's parents have completely jumped on board with their restaurant, The Hill, famous for their own piece of the local legend paired with her dad's spooky themed menu items and her mom's infamous storytelling. With tourists flocking in, the town seems to be in even more of an excited state as they prepare for this year's anniversary parade of Sweet Molly. But this year is different. This year Sweet Molly has plans of her own, and when Mallory sees the old woman from her dreams beckoning for her, she knows that she is the only one



◆ Publisher: Sourcebooks Young Readers  
 ◆ Intended Audience: Middle Grade  
 ◆ Rating: ★★★★★  
 ◆ Release Date: September 6, 2022

willing to listen. Now, Mallory and her friends Emmie, Bri, and Joshua must band together to uncover the truth about Molly, her ship Captain brother Liam, and what really happened the night Molly vanished.

Watch out! Sweet Molly is coming for you! The ghostly adventures continue in this new spine-tingling middle-grade book, The Girl In White. Lindsay Currie knows how to deliver chilling middle-grade reads while making the story relatable to her reading audience.

Hitting on more than just a ghost story, Currie

intertwines heavier issues within the search for truth and understanding. With the overall theme of love, acceptance, and friendship, young readers will root for the main character as she decides to follow her own path. Not your typical town urban legend, Sweet Molly is here to teach a town a lesson, while the main character also struggles with being the new girl and wanting to make friends, all interlaced with the gentle nuance of budding feelings.

Adventure, fun, and ghostly adventures ensure with an adorable legend-obsessed town and a young girl who just wants her life to be normal. Lindsay Currie's strong writing style is full of atmosphere and heart, relating perfectly to her reading audience. The Girl In White explores more than your average ghost story this story has strong characters, real problems, and positive solutions to the issues that arise—touching on themes of friendship, moving states, and tackling the fear of the unknown. ★

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Main Office Address: 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite #5, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The *Dixon Independent Voice* is published weekly on Friday.

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# SCOE Opens Registration for Quality Counts Solano Early Childhood Education Conference

**SCOE News Release**

**SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Registration is now open for the annual Quality Counts Solano Early Childhood Education (ECE) Conference for early care and education professionals.

Solano County Office of Education has partnered with First 5 Solano, Child Start, Inc., Solano Family & Children's Services, Solano Community College, and others to host this year's professional learning event. 200 educators are

expected to attend the conference taking place on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road in Fairfield.

Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson said, "We know teacher effectiveness matters and is one of the most important school-related factors influencing student achievement. When our teachers have access to quality training and resources, student learning is improved."

Early learning professionals from Solano and neighboring counties, including teachers serving infants/toddlers through kindergarten/TK, family childcare providers, center-based administrators, and anyone working with young children are invited to attend this exciting, fun-filled day of professional learning and networking. An early bird registration rate of only \$20 applied until August 31, 2022.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Crystal

McClendon-Gourdine speaking to "Re-Invigorating Joy with Passion and Purpose." Attendees will participate in two breakout sessions and choose from 13 hands-on, interactive, and informative topics.

For more information about the 2022 Quality Counts Solano Early Childhood Conference, please contact Bronwyn Kennedy, Early Learning Liaison, at [bkennedy@solano.net](mailto:bkennedy@solano.net).

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides

leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 63,000 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state. ★

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16. Greek god of love  
17. Event host  
18. \*1960 Golden-Globe winner with Kirk Douglas  
20. The Bee  
21. Rowed  
22. Costa del  
23. \*1922 Pulitzer-winning "Long Day's Journey into Night" author  
26. \*James Cameron's 1997 Oscar-winner  
30. Steal  
31. "Killers of the Flower Moon" tribal members  
34. All's opposite  
35. \*2021 "royal" Emmy winner  
37. "One Fish Two Fish Fish..."  
38. More eccentric  
39. Assistant  
40. Expels  
42. Before, old-fashioned  
43. Consummate professional, in music  
45. Mid-body narrowing, pl.  
47. Feather glue  
48. Library offerings  
50. Cry like a baby  
52. \*"The \_\_\_\_\_", 1972 mafia Oscar winner  
56. Jeopardy, not the game  
57. Type of molding  
58. This location  
59. Full of blood vessels  
60. Christian of haute-couture  
61. Suite cleaner  
62. Mountain goat terrain  
63. D.C. bigwig  
64. Middle of March
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1. Brewer's perennials  
2. Perching place  
3. Italian money  
4. Type of local tax  
5. Travesty  
6. Not silently  
7. Loch \_\_\_\_\_  
8. \*2012 Emmy-winning espionage thriller  
9. Fairy tale opener  
10. Half of binary code, pl.  
11. Yellow #5, e.g.  
13. Bits of wisdom  
14. Fathered  
19. Bird of prey's weapon  
22. Female sib  
23. \_\_\_\_\_'s razor  
24. Waterwheel  
25. Horace's poem  
26. Danson and Kennedy  
27. Lymph "containers"  
28. Lacking vigor  
29. Roman counterpart of Greek Demeter  
32. \*Ben Affleck's 2012 Golden Globe best drama winner  
33. Wow  
36. \*2000-2003 White House Emmy winner, with The  
38. Port city in Japan
40. Get it wrong  
41. BOGO offer  
44. Total amount  
46. Isthmus, pl.  
48. Railroad car undercarriage  
49. Theater, to Socrates  
50. Samuel Adams, e.g.  
51. Operatic solo  
52. Hermes and Apollo  
53. Cabbage amount  
54. Great Lake  
55. \*Best Director Oscar-winner Warren Beatty's 1981 film  
56. Rubber substitute, acr.

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# Heeney's History

## Remembering School Days

Commentary by Ed Heeney

Starting school was quite an adventure but nothing prepared me for the advanced studying that came along with the 4th grade. They were getting serious about multiplication, long division, and writing themes.

Mrs. McCollum gave me an assignment to write something called a theme on the subject of "rubber." Now, I had no idea what this meant and when I questioned the teacher and my Mother, I was told to look it up in the encyclopedia. So I dug out the 'R' book and found a whole bunch of stuff about rubber. Sounded pretty good to me so I copied a couple pages and figured that was good.

A couple days later, both Mrs. M and my mother came down hard on me. It seems they forgot to tell me that I couldn't just copy someone else, especially without using italics. I was told I had to read the stuff and then write it in my own words. I was kind of disappointed that they didn't appreciate what a good paper I had done but knew there was no argument to be had. So, I went back to the dining table and did

the assignment over.

Fifth grade was a great school year. Our teacher, Miss Rinehart, was exceptionally nice and we all really liked her. A highlight was a Halloween party at the Rinehart farm south-east of Drury. Costumes, lemonade, bobbing for apples, popcorn, and all the trimmings made the gathering memorable. The Rinehart sisters, Ruth, our teacher and Ethyl, Mary's teacher, frequently combined both schools for celebrations.

This Halloween party was one of those times.

Fifth grade studies were fairly easy for me, so I had spare time during the day. Our teacher had challenged us to see who could read the most story books during the year. I finished 1st with 52 books. My prize was a small, easily read dictionary, lime green in color. I used that dictionary for many years, and it is probably still in the bottom of a box somewhere.

*Ed Heeney is a long-time Dixonite who has been very active in the community over his lifetime. He enjoys sharing his missives with Dixon Independent Voice readers.* ★

# Tractor Supply Invites Community and Vendors to Nationwide Farmers Market



The Tractor Supply Farmers Market is a fun, family-friendly event offering the best locally grown and homemade goods from the community. Photo Courtesy of Tractor Supply Co

### Tractor Supply Co. News Release

**BRENTWOOD, TN (MPG)** - Farmers, growers, craft makers, artisans and other producers are encouraged to sign up and share their homegrown and handmade items with the community at a National Farmers Market hosted by Tractor Supply, the largest rural lifestyle retailer in the United States, on Saturday, October 1.

The Tractor Supply Farmers Market is a fun, family-friendly event offering the best locally grown and homemade goods from the community. The event provides a platform for customers and local business owners to showcase the community's top, locally produced fruits and vegetables, jams and jellies, honey, pickles, handmade artisan crafts, candles, soaps, oils, jewelry, accessories and more.

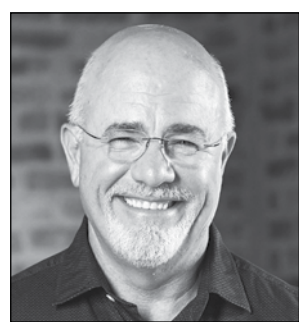
"At Tractor Supply, we take pride in supporting the communities we serve and are always looking for ways to connect with our neighbors," said Kimberley

Gardiner, SVP and Chief Marketing Officer at Tractor Supply. "Our customers are passionate about growing and producing goods, and the Farmers Market is a wonderful opportunity for us to support their talents and local businesses.

The Tractor Supply Farmers Market is open to vendors of all experience levels, from veteran business owners to first-time sellers and hobby farmers. Whether the specialty is homemade lemonade, backyard poultry or herbs from their patio garden, customers of all ages are invited to participate.

Interested partners can learn more and register at [TSEventPartners.com](https://TSEventPartners.com) or can sign up at the Dixon Tractor Supply store, 2000 North First Street. Registration is open until Tuesday, September 13.

The Farmers Market event at Tractor Supply is free for partners and the community. While participation is free, all participating partners are responsible for complying with state and local ordinances. ★



## Dave Ramsey Says

— to a point. What it has also done is trained a spotlight on the fact you and your husband need to start behaving better with your money. That means living on a written, monthly budget, and telling your money where to go instead of "getting by" and wondering where it all went.

That sound you hear is a phone ringing, and it's your wake-up call. If I were you, I'd pick up. That call's saying you two have been disorganized and a little sloppy with your finances in the past, but you've made just enough money to get away with it. Now, you're going to have to get serious and get organized, because you've chosen to take care of her. Don't get me wrong, it's an honorable decision you've made to bring her into your home. But it also means some changes have to be made in terms of the day-to-day finances around your place. You're going to have to sit down with your husband and separate

the wants from the needs.

The good news, Renaye, is that with a budget you can analyze, in detail, the need to cut expenses, generate extra income — or both. But for this thing to work, you've got to create a little margin. Because if you continue to just wander along without a plan, you're going to have a real mess on your hands.

God bless you folks.

— Dave

*Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.* ★

### Time to Get Serious

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have always gotten by. We both make about \$40,000 a year, we each turned 50 last month, and we only have a little bit of debt. Recently, my mother-in-law moved in with us due to health issues. Since that time, we have been struggling financially due to the added expense of having her with us. We love her and want her to be here, but we are unsure how we will continue to make things work. Can you help?

— Renaye

Dear Renaye,

It's completely understandable that your mother-in-law moving in tightened things up for you guys



### Communication Vital to Helping Ranchers in Wildfires

A California county's new program allowing ranchers to get behind evacuation lines to rescue their cattle from an oncoming wildfire got a big test last month and promptly ran into communication issues. Ranchers and agricultural officials from Mariposa County and elsewhere agreed that making sure everyone involved in wildfire response knows what the Ag Pass is and how it works is key to effective livestock evacuations.

### Ancient Technique Shown to Benefit California Watermelon Crop

Using a thousands-year-old practice, a University of California Cooperative Extension farm advisor is helping California watermelon growers increase their yields. The trials involve grafting, which combines a scion (the above-ground part of a plant) with the sturdy rootstock of a related plant. Growers in the trials reported that, on average, their successfully grafted fields produced 15% to 25% more watermelons than non-grafted fields per acre, while using 30% fewer plants and the same amount of water and fertilizer. That has led to a significant increase in the planted acreage of grafted watermelon across California.

### New Citrus Virus Prompts Outreach to Stop Spread

To help protect the state's \$3.6 billion citrus industry from a new disease threat, agricultural officials encourage homeowners to sanitize their gardening tools before using them on citrus trees. They are trying to stop spread of the citrus yellow vein clearing virus, first discovered earlier this year in residential citrus trees in the city of Tulare. The virus is new to the U.S. and has not yet been found in commercial groves. Insects such as aphids and whiteflies carrying the virus can infect trees. Contaminated equipment also can transfer the virus.

### Imperial Valley Irrigators Urge Others to Conserve Water

Despite holding senior water rights on the severely depleted Colorado River, Imperial Valley farmers, who already cut back their water use, fear they could lose critical irrigation supplies if an accord on 2023 water diversions isn't reached for multiple states and agencies relying on the river. The farmers say emergency water delivery cuts, ordered last week by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, do not go far enough to achieve the agency's goal of conserving water for the river's future sustainability. ★





NATIONAL NEWS *courtesy of THE EPOCH TIMES*

# US Government Imposes First-of-Its-Kind Fee on Greenhouse Gas Emissions

KATIE SPENCE

Hidden deep within the more than 700 pages of the recently enacted Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is a provision that intends to boost the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) power to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

Specifically, the IRA establishes the "Methane Emission Reduction Program" under a new section in the Clean Air Act, allowing the EPA to impose a fee on certain "air pollutants."

Importantly, this is the first time the federal government has ever imposed a fee on any greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and is part of Congress' effort to bolster the EPA's power to address the "climate crisis."

## Congress Sends a Message

In June, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *West Virginia v. Environmental Protection Agency* that the EPA didn't have the authority under the Clean Air Act or the Clean Power Plan to essentially force power plants to transition more toward wind and solar. Moreover, the court determined that the interpretive question raised under the Clean Power Plan fell under the "major questions doctrine," which states that Congress must make a "clear statement" if it wants to delegate authority "of this breadth to regulate a fundamental sector of the economy."

Notably, the ruling expressly limited the EPA's ability to regulate carbon emissions from power plants, which President Joe Biden called "devastating."

Biden further added that he planned to "find ways that we can, under federal law, continue protecting Americans from

▶  
**Steam rises from the Miller coal power plant in Adamsville, Ala., on April 13, 2021.**



ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

The EPA now has the authority to impose charges on oil and gas power plants, fulfilling SCOTUS's requirement.

harmful pollution, including pollution that causes climate change."

Enter the IRA and Congress' "clear statement" on what it wants the EPA to do.

Indeed, the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) said Congress' passing of the IRA "modernized" the Clean Air Act and established the EPA's authority "to protect American families from climate and air pollution."

Additionally, via the IRA, Congress reaffirmed that GHGs are "air pollutants" and further specified that the term "greenhouse gas" includes the pollutants "carbon dioxide, hydrofluorocarbons, methane, nitrous oxide, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride."

"These new Clean Air Act sections and the new provisions that rely on the Clean Air Act reinvigorate EPA's responsibilities under the law addressing the climate crisis and long-standing inequities with new tools, new solutions, unprecedented investments, additional policies, and with great urgency," EDF concludes.

## Incentives and Penalties

The IRA includes several tax credits, incentives, and grants, totaling \$369 billion for "Energy Security and Climate Change investments."

And the investments include more than \$1.5 billion to the EPA for "grants, rebates, contracts, loans" and "other activities" to reduce GHG emissions in the natural gas and oil sector.

But incentives aren't the only tool the IRA utilizes regarding the oil and gas sector.

According to a report from the Congressional Research Service (CRS), the Methane Emissions Reduction Program applies to specific types of facilities that report their GHG emissions to the EPA's Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Program.

Specifically, the facilities that the charge applies to include:

"Offshore and onshore petroleum and natural gas production, onshore natural gas processing and transmission compression, underground natural gas storage, liquefied natural gas storage, liquefied natural gas imports and exports, onshore petroleum and natural gas gathering and boosting, and finally, onshore natural gas transmission pipelines."

In other words, the EPA now has the authority to impose charges on oil and gas power plants, fulfilling SCOTUS's requirement.

More importantly, facilities that fall under one or more of the above categories and exceed a specific methane threshold (thresholds vary by facility type) will have to pay \$900 per metric ton of methane starting in 2024.

In 2025, the charge increases to \$1,200, and in 2026 and beyond, the cost is \$1,500.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates, based on 2019 data, that the new fees will raise \$1.1 billion in fiscal year

2026, and almost \$1.9 billion by fiscal 2028. CBO projects revenues will decrease after that as facilities implement methane reduction strategies.

## EPA Powers Up

Methane is the primary component of natural gas, and the EPA reports that methane emissions accounted for 11 percent of total U.S. GHG emissions in 2020. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) accounted for 79 percent.

However, methane is considered more "potent" than CO<sub>2</sub>, with some experts putting its "climate change impact" at 25 to 72 times greater than the equivalent mass of CO<sub>2</sub>. Consequently, reducing methane emissions is "one of the best opportunities for reducing near term [global] warming," CRS says.

Further, Biden made it clear that by 2030, he wants GHG emissions reduced by 40 percent compared to 2005 levels; reduction levels of that amount require significant transformation.

The IRA's passage and its implementation of a methane charge put Biden's goals within reach.

Indeed, the Department of Energy reports that because of the IRA, the United States will not only meet the 40 percent reduction goal but exceed it, as it now projects GHG emissions at 50 to 52 percent below 2005 levels.

According to the EPA, the primary source of methane emissions isn't natural gas or oil—it's livestock.

# Biden's Push for Electric Vehicles Will Benefit China: House Republicans

FRANK FANG

The Chinese Communist Party will likely become the beneficiary of President Joe Biden's push to fill U.S. streets with electric vehicles, according to 16 Republicans on the House Oversight Committee.

The lawmakers, led by the committee's ranking Republican member, Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.), and Rep. Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.), sounded the alarm in an Aug. 24 letter to Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. They wrote that Oversight Committee Republicans are examining "the false claims" made by the Biden administration about the impact of electric vehicles on U.S. jobs.

To rebuke the administration's claims, the lawmakers pointed out how Ford will cut about 8,000 jobs this summer to "boost profits to fund its push into the electric-vehicle market," citing a July article from Bloomberg.

"Most of the 8,000 jobs will be salaried workers in the United States, representing as much as 25 percent of Ford's American salaried workers," they wrote. "Ford is focusing on eliminating employees from its gas-fueled vehicle line."

Aside from the job cuts, Ford has turned to a Chinese supplier for battery packs. According to a statement from Ford's website, the U.S. automaker inked a cooperation agreement with China-based Contemporary Amperex Technology Co. Ltd. (CATL) in July. Under the terms of the agreement, CATL will supply electric batteries for certain models of Ford's electric pickup trucks and SUVs beginning in 2023.

CATL stated that its agreement with Ford allows the two firms to "leverage their respective strengths to jointly explore new business opportunities worldwide."

However, the lawmakers warned about CATL's ties to the Chinese communist regime.

"CATL is influential in the Chinese government—being able to independently draft government safety regulations while completely dominating the EV battery market with support from the Chinese government," they wrote.

CATL, the world's largest electric vehicle (EV) battery manufacturer, has obtained billions in subsidies from Chinese authorities, according to China's state-run media out-

lets. The company's chairman, Zeng Yuqun, is also a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), a political advisory body.

The CPPCC is currently headed by Wang Yang, former Chinese vice premier and a current member of the Chinese regime's top decision-making body, the Politburo Standing Committee.

"This raises concerns about whether the push for EVs over gas-fueled vehicles will make America even more reliant on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) instead of American energy resources," the lawmakers wrote. "It is troubling that the Administration-endorsed EV future is already eliminating American jobs while benefiting China."

In August 2021, Biden signed an executive order, with one of the goals being that half of all vehicles sold in the United States in 2030 be zero-transmission vehicles. In May, electric vehicles accounted for 6.1 percent of new cars sold in the United States.

The Inflation Reduction Act, legislation that Biden signed into law on Aug. 16, offers tax credits of up to \$7,500 for



MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

Tesla cars recharging at a Tesla Supercharger station in Pasadena, Calif., on April 14, 2022.

people buying a new electric vehicle and \$4,000 for those purchasing a used one. The tax relief program has been criticized by some Republican lawmakers as benefiting only wealthy Americans, given the higher cost of electric vehicles compared to gasoline models.

Also in their letter, the lawmakers questioned Buttigieg's statement during a congressional hearing in July, when he said the rise of U.S. domestic clean energy production would be "creating a lot of jobs."

"As the Secretary for the U.S. Department of Transportation

(DOT) and an advocate for Americans' widespread adoption of EVs, your agency is in a position to explain how Ford's actions help American workers and the economy," the letter reads.

The lawmakers wanted Buttigieg to schedule a briefing with Oversight Committee Republicans before Aug. 31.

"We request that you provide the Republican staff of the Committee a briefing to address the loss of American jobs and industry to China and other nations," the lawmakers wrote.



# WEEKLY COMICS

## Amber Waves



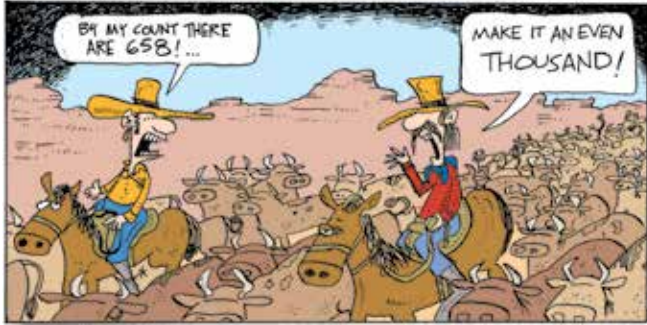
by Dave T. Phipps

## The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

## Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

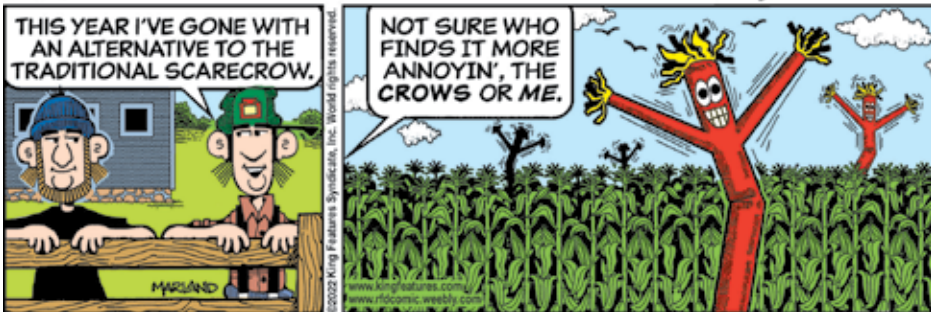
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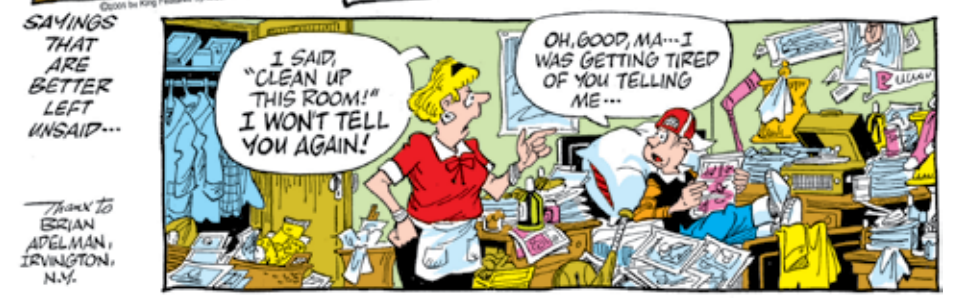
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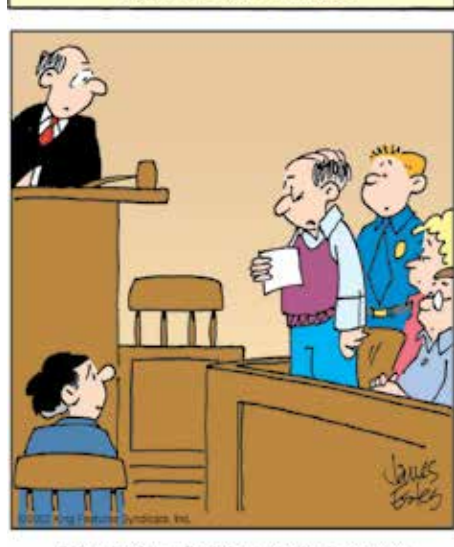
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# Dixon Nearly Doubles-up Winters

By Shaun Holkko, sports editor

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Rams fans were anxiously up and down in their seats Friday night watching the Dixon varsity football team battle back and forth against Winters during the first half.

The Rams (2-0) led the Warriors (0-1) following 15 minutes of play, 15-8. Dixon was scoreless in the second quarter while Winters scored another touchdown, tying the score going into halftime at 15 apiece.

That's when the Rams seized control. Dixon shut out Winters in the third, outscoring the Warriors 14-0 to take a two-score lead. The Rams increased the separation in the fourth period, outscoring Winters 13-7 to widen their lead to three scores, which was ultimately the final. Dixon won 42-22, nearly doubling up the Warriors.

"I don't know why but even in the past, Winters always gives us a great game," said jubilant Dixon coach Wes Besseghini to the Independent Voice after the game.

The victory got even sweeter for Dixonites shortly after the win at 11 p.m. The Rams earned KCRA-TV "Team of the Week," as the football team, cheerleaders and band were spotlighted on channel three.

Dixon got on the scoreboard first on Friday. Senior quarterback Jett Harris tossed a touchdown pass to senior wide receiver Brent Green who was running a post pattern. Sophomore Jackson Cummins rushed in for the two-point conversion



Dixon junior Tyler Morey gets ready to snap the ball during a 42-22 win against Winters on Friday, August 26 in Dixon. Photo by Nicolas Brown



Dixon senior quarterback Jett Harris lines up in shotgun position and prepares to snap the ball during a 42-22 win against Winters on Friday, August 26 in Dixon. Photo by Nicolas Brown

to give the Rams an early 8-0 lead. Winters quickly matched it with eight points of their own.

The Rams retook the lead on a 35-yard TD pass from Harris to senior

wideout Luis Torres, who also converted the extra point attempt with his leg. Dixon recovered a Winters fumble in the second quarter but failed to capitalize. The Warriors tied the score

with their second rushing TD of the night, followed by a successful PAT.

In the second half, Dixon scored its first rushing TD of the game to reclaim the lead. Winters had another

costly turnover with an interception, although, this time the Rams capitalized on it. Dixon took a commanding two-score lead following a 10-yard rushing score from senior

running back Braden Baumbach.

Harris set up the Rams for their next score with a long pass to junior Jordan Sengmany. The duo hooked up again later in the drive, this time for a TD. The PAT was missed, leaving the Warriors' deficit at 20.

Winters began to claw back in the fourth quarter, as junior quarterback Colton Brown completed a TD pass to senior wide receiver Ethan Judd, followed by a successful PAT. The Warriors recovered the ensuing onside kick attempt.

However, Green made a clutch interception, officially putting the comeback attempt to bed. Dixon scored its final points of the night on a 30-yard pass from Harris to junior receiver Leo Iglesias for the TD. The PAT was good. Dixon beat Winters 42-22.

The Rams' total statistics were unavailable as of press time. The Dixon junior varsity team was defeated by Winters 53-6.

Brown finished 7-of-13 for 65 yards, one TD and three interceptions. Senior RB Justice Madsen rushed 11 times for 107 yards (9.7 average) and two scores. Junior defensive back Diego Casillas and sophomore linebacker Gio Jimenez each had a team-high eight tackles in the loss.

Both teams will be on the road this Friday. Dixon will play at Armijo (1-1) in Fairfield while Winters will play at St. Helena (1-0). Each game is scheduled to kickoff at 7:30 p.m.

Additional reporting by Dixon editor, Debra Dingman. ★

## Solano Water Institute for Teachers Kicks off the New School Year

Solano RCD News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano Resource Conservation District (Solano RCD) hosted the three-day Solano Water Institute for Teachers from August 3rd to 5th.

The teacher workshop provided 25 educators with knowledge, skills, and tools to help them effectively teach watershed science from a local perspective. Experts on water resources and local open spaces spoke to teachers over the three days to enhance their knowledge of the area, and sessions integrating Project WET, an award-winning environmental education curriculum created by the Water Education Foundation, sparked ideas for how to incorporate these experiences in the classroom.

The training began on Wednesday, August 3rd at Rush Ranch Open Space near Suisun City. Educators learned about how drought and development affect the Suisun Marsh during a hike with Suisun Resource Conservation District's John Takekawa. Then, the Solano Land Trust's Executive Director, Nicole Byrd Braddock, outlined the Solano Land Trust's vision for getting more people in our county connected to the outdoors. Teachers also learned about the Solano County Office of Education's Explorer Quest program from Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Leonard. The Explorer Quest program is an outdoor wildlife discovery course that offers students and their families the adventure of discovering native plants and animals in Solano County. Over the course of the day, California Project WET Coordinator, Brian Brown, led teachers in hands-on watershed science activities.

"The Solano Institute brings teachers to outdoor spaces around the county, like the Suisun Marsh, and connects them with place-based learning experiences they can use in their classrooms," noted Shea Kinser, Education Program Manager at Solano Resource Conservation District. "Being out in our county's open spaces brings into focus messages about drought and water conservation that our teachers can communicate to their students."

Teachers spent the second day of the

training on a boat tour of Lake Berryessa and heard from local water experts about the importance of the lake to the region. After a land acknowledgment offered by Laverne Bill, Director of Cultural Resources for the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, and a boat ride around the lake, a panel fielded questions from teachers and discussed issues ranging from equitable water management to climate change's effects on the water and land in Solano County.

The panel featured Kathy Schulz, Water Education Specialist at the California Department of Water Resources, Water Quality Supervisor Marc Bautista from the City of Benicia, Senior Engineer Alex Rabadoux with the Solano County Water Agency, and Jennifer Onufer, formerly Lake Berryessa's Supervisory Park Ranger with the National Park Service. Alex Rabadoux also gave a full hour presentation on the State Water Project, Central Valley Project, and the Solano Project, which includes Lake Berryessa and the Putah South Canal.

Finally, on Friday at the City of Fairfield's Dunnell Nature Park and Education Center, Solano County Parks Supervisor Chris Drake gave an overview of the opportunities within Solano County's parks. Teachers also heard from Ramiro Jimenez, Utilities Administrative Manager for the City of Vacaville, about water conservation efforts in Vacaville. The majority of the day involved Brian Brown leading a training in Project WET activities.

"The Solano Institute provides a great opportunity for teachers to learn more about water education," Brown explained. "The resources Project WET provides can help them bring those lessons to their classrooms in the upcoming school year."

Teachers who completed the workshop and participate in an October follow-up meeting are eligible for a \$250 stipend and can receive up to 27 hours of continuing education credit. Teachers interested in participating in next year's Solano Institute should mark their calendars for August 2nd through 4th.

For more information, please visit [solanorcd.org](http://solanorcd.org) or email [education@solanorcd.org](mailto:education@solanorcd.org). ★

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