



CSSA Issues Alert Following DOJ Data Breach

PAGE 3

4th of July Celebration Photos

PAGE 10



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SEE
INSIDE

DIXON CITY DECISIONS



PAGE 3

SUPREME COURT REINS IN EPA



PAGE 8

SUNFLOWERS BLOSSOM



PAGE 3

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Downtown Street Fair is Back!



Plenty of vendors will line up along the sides of North and South First Street downtown which will be closed off to traffic on Saturday, July 16.

Story and photos
by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Get ready for the grills to fire up and the aroma of barbecued pork ribs to fill the air at the 11th annual Grillin' and Chillin' on Saturday, July 16, in downtown Dixon. The free event will take up the entire downtown with a car show, the cook-off, food and craft vendors, live music, and dancing from 10 AM to 10 PM.

Mike Hamilton, 11-year Event Chair was thrilled to have the support of the City of Dixon which will be assisting with roads blocked off, traffic control, and security.

"City Council and City Staff are completely behind this," he said. "It's been excellent team work. I have no complaints and that takes a lot for me to say. I'm impressed how well they got behind this."

There will be three bands performing throughout the day on the new Pardi Plaza Stage; a country band, and two rock & roll bands. There is still a bit of time to enter the Rib Cook Off and folks can go online to



Contestants at Grillin' & Chillin' vie for the coveted 'bragging rights' of winning the Pork Rib Barbecue Contest and usually fire up their grills early in the morning of the event.

fill out their entry information to compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place which includes money and a plaque or trophy.

"We're going to have beautiful fancy cars and lots of things for the kids to do and great music and just chill out. Bring your own chairs because we only have so many," he said. The children's area will feature pony rides and water slides, plus Smokey the Bear is supposed to be there.

Bringing the community together is just a side benefit to the real goal

of being able to help support Dixon's nonprofits, Hamilton explained.

"People have been wanting this for two years so this is their chance to support the veterans, special needs, senior citizens, and kids programs," he said. "Over the years we have given away more than \$300,000, but we always have to have seed money. It gets tough; that's why anything helps. We are a non-profit and no one gets paid for doing this."

Free parking is available across the street from the Post Office, behind the school district building, at the Chamber of Commerce and at the field there.

Hamilton gave a shout out to several volunteers such as Leah Marlin of the American Legion Post 208, Jack Caldwell of California Water, Michael Hamilton Jr., Carla, and Shaun—the list was growing long.

"We have other great people like Mark Jones of Country Bear Electric and Frank Lopez for the bounce houses and all the veterans and the soccer parents. Soccer parents are cleaning the streets afterwards and running the beer booths," he added. ★

Workshops for Zoning Updates Announced

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Are you wondering what our town is going to look like in five years? Do you think we're aiming to be another Vacaville and will allow any and all growth anywhere? Well, there's probably a lot of long-timers trying to figure that out but here's your chance to have some input.

Two upcoming public workshops are coming on July 20 and another on July 21, where the City wants to hear from you in regards to the City of Dixon Comprehensive Update to the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map. It is organized by Raffi Boloyan, Dixon Community Development Director.

The process will shape future growth and help realize the community's vision for Dixon as a safe, vibrant, and livable community with a robust local economy. The zones are important because they determine what can be built and where. For example, there is light industrial, commercial, and housing, to name a few but there are several.

"To date, our consultant has worked with staff to understand all the issues we face with our current ordinance, the gaps, outdated information, areas of confusion, missing components and areas where people have lots of questions," said Boloyan. "They also conducted stakeholder interviews, with people who regularly use the zoning code and have some familiarity with it, to get their thoughts on what works, what doesn't work, etc. I believe there were about 8-10 different people interviewed, including architects, contractors, planners, real estate agents, who regularly use the code." Those were taken into consideration and a consultant prepared recommendations that are already approved by the City Council and the Planning Commission.

He admits most residents don't understand Zoning codes and only have an interest once they discover they can't do something they want to do, he explained.

"The people who really care are staff so that we can give out clear and accurate information to homeowners, builders, etc., and to the professionals, such as architects, contractors, and developers who use it to prepare plans to submit for review," he said. "Regardless, every city is required to have one, as the zoning ordinance sets the specific rules, based on the higher level general

Continued on page 2

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - In a small white house surrounded by a white picket fence on Mayes Street lives 10-year-old cherubic-faced Aberdeen Gorley, who like other girls her age, loves all kinds of animals—especially hogs.

Her mother, Dawn, found Aberdeen in the hall, busy stuffing their 1-year-old black cat into a colorful sweater. There was also a more-than-friendly and laugh-triggering orange-striped kitty a foot. Aberdeen is an animal lover and has had guinea pigs, a turtle, a chameleon, fish, ducks, chickens, and sheep—but we were here to talk about her pigs.

Aberdeen holds the record for garnering the highest price-per-pound hog at the Dixon May Fair this last spring—a whopping



Aberdeen with her brown pig, Texas. Photo by Dawn Gorley

\$18 per pound for 'Delilah', her 221-pound pig. She also just got a top bid of \$6.50 per pound for 'Texas,' a 249-pound Duroc hog at

the Solano County Fair in Vallejo.

When asked about wearing the traditional 4-H white shirt and pants,

soft-spoken Aberdeen was quick to clarify she is an 'Independent' thus missing the green emblems and that the money went into her college savings fund. She had wanted to become a veterinarian but now she is re-considering, she explained to her mom almost secretively. Apparently, she has watched pigs deliver piglets.

"It's gross," Aberdeen said. She hopes to be in FFA when she's in high school following her 17-year-old brother, Sawyer, who also raised animals and taught her much like her friends like Delaney and Kylie, 16-year-old FFA students in Vacaville who told her to use 'Show Shine' before going in the auction.

"It makes them look so much better and they

Continued on page 3

www.IndependentVoice.com



Change Often Opens Doors to Growth, Improvement

By Debra Dingman

Like we often do, hubby and I were getting in our daily walk when we went by our old house where we lived for nearly 20 years. It was stunningly beautiful. It had all new fancy wood fencing, new front and side yards, drought-tolerant plants that were pretty, and solar panels.

There was a bit in me that was remorseful we ever sold it but then, we could have never envisioned all that, I said. It would have just stayed the same if we hadn't sold because I already thought it was beautiful. And it is so much prettier and classier now. The new owners have done a fantastic job.

I guess that teaches me something important about change, I said. I have been missing my involvement with an organization I've been a part of for many years. I gave it 13 years of my life and loved it like it was my child. I was the last founding member, but I knew I had to go because

it wasn't growing, and I felt overwhelmed with responsibility.

And that's all it took. People stepped up and pushed for growth. They got new members and are even spreading out into new territories. I could feel upset knowing that there was this kind of potential before I left but I won't after seeing my old house. Maybe they just thought it was beautiful the way it was.

I remember when we bought the old family truck from our son-in-law. My oldest son owned it first, then he sold it to his dad who later sold it to our son-in-law. It had been in the family for 20 years. We needed a truck and decided we'd buy it several years ago, and the first thing we did was fix it up. We replaced the timing belt and the catalytic converter. We replaced the windshield, sham-pooed the carpet, and the seats. It met our needs perfectly. We sold it knowing it was in great shape for the new owner — who will

probably improve it.

Before I left my job after four years at a local church, I had made my office clean and tidy, attractive with simple accents and nice, matching furniture I had picked up at garage sales. I struggled with an old computer but was determined to learn it and make do which I did the whole time. It was a lovely office, but my mother was getting old and it was time for me to step up with her care.

The next time I walked into my old office at that church who had a new person in charge, I literally gasped. It was absolutely beautiful. There was an all-new cherry wood office suite and a brand-new computer and printer plus elegant wall décor and plants. I could not have envisioned that.

That is what typically happens with change. People make things better. Do not feel sad that you didn't get more or didn't do more; be happy that you provided a springboard for improvement! ★

Dixon News Briefs



Parks and Recreation Commissioner Jocie Bair bid farewell to her fellow commissioners at the June Parks and Recreation meeting. She has served for five years and in her speech highlighted accomplishments, challenges, and gave a special thank you to Public Works Director Loren Kotow for "letting be a commissioner for the City of Dixon." Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

City Planning

Next Tuesday, July 12, there will be a City Planning Commission meeting at 7 pm. As always, the meeting is inside the Council chambers at City Hall, 600 East A Street but is also on Zoom to participate from your computer or Granicus to watch. See the agenda and links on the City of Dixon website.

Library Events

The Corny Crow Show which will feature Steve and his partner 'Corny Crow' will present their unique ventriloquy show for children and adults on Thursday, July 14 at 10 AM, at the Dixon Public Library. Steve and Corny will also teach a bit about puppetry, too.

A Sumer Time Ice Cream Social is next on their calendar for Thursday, July 21, at noon. Residents are invited to come beat the heat and join others on the back patio following lunch at the library.

On Saturday, July 30, children will want to join in on the Harry Potter Party featuring 'Magic Dan.' It will be a magical celebration in honor of Harry Potter's birthday. There will be a wizarding classroom with stations to play games, make crafts, and practice wand waving skills. Then, Magic Dan will arrive at 3 PM to entertain and delight. Witch, Wizard, and magical creature costumes are encouraged. These events are free. More information can be found at solanolibrary.com/summer-reading or by visiting the library, located at 230 North First Street.

Dog Days

Friendly reminder that pet paws can get burnt on hot concrete or asphalt so if you're walking your dog during the summer heat, try one of the local parks where grass is abundant and shade trees help keep temperatures a bit cooler. There is a

Dixon Dog Park at the end of Hall Park with entry closest via South 7th Street and East Chestnut Avenue.

Hall Rental

For those who have put off big celebrations due to pandemic restrictions or masking, you will be happy to know the Veterans Memorial Hall at 1305 North First Street is now open and taking reservations for quinceañeras, wedding receptions, 80th or other large birthday celebrations, trade shows, and business meetings or parties.

Contact Wayne Holland at (707) 301-0941 or email alp208@gmail.com to reserve your date now!

Old Letters

The Dixon Historical Society invites the public to share their ancestors' old and interesting letters from the past at their next quarterly meeting, Sunday, July 17, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 209 North Jefferson across from the Chamber of Commerce.

"We are inviting the public to bring a letter that has some significance to Dixon or your personal history to read to the group. Who knows what interesting history we will uncover?" said Kim Schroeder-Evans, President.

All are welcome and encouraged to become members for \$20 per year or \$25 per couple. For more information, email to: info@dixonhistoricalsociety.org.

Fish Fry Time

This Friday's Veterans Dinner will feature their Fish Fry at 1305 North First Street. It includes coleslaw and deep-fried Southern Hush Puppies. The dinner is only \$10 and the atmosphere is informal and fun with live music, too. Time is 6 to 8 PM. They help support the veterans and keep the hall open. There is also an open, no host bar. ★

Solano Child Care Planning Council Seeks New Members

Solano County Office of Education News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG)

- The Solano County Child Care Planning Council is seeking new members who are interested in understanding the needs of the Solano County child care community and have a desire to help plan and implement beneficial strategies.

Solano County Planning Council's mission is to provide leadership and advocacy for the development of high quality, accessible, and affordable child care programs for every child and family in Solano County.

The Solano County Child Care Planning Council supports the overall coordination of child care services in Solano County. Their most important goal is collaborating with community partners to developed plans that will support child care providers based on the needs of the families they serve. The council is made of up of a diverse group of members representing public agencies, community representatives, child care

providers and consumers accessing child care services in Solano County.

"High-quality learning environments are critical and foundational for young children. Solano's Child Care Planning Council serves an important role in providing leadership and advocacy for every child and family in Solano County," commented Solano Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Every five years Solano's Child Care Planning Council is responsible for assessing the county-wide child care needs and creating and implementing comprehensive plans designed to identify public and private resources to address those needs. The assessment focuses on identifying local funding priorities for general child care, developmental and state preschool programs, as well as, fostering local partnerships with a variety of public and private organizations. By cultivating these partnerships, the council strives to optimize resources and staff needed to reduce and eliminate countywide

child care shortages.

To view and complete a council membership application please visit www.solanocoe.net/childcarelpc.

For more information about the Solano County Child Care Planning Council or becoming a member, please contact Bronwyn Kennedy at 707-339-4452 or bkennedy@solano.net. Visit www.solanocoe.net/childcarelpc to view the general membership meeting schedule or to submit a public comment.

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. ★

Workshops for Zoning Updates Announced

Continued from page 1

plan, for how one can use or develop their property."

The updating of the zoning ordinance was an action item from the General Plan and Dixon is required to have zoning consistent with its general plan.

"Given the age, significant deficiencies, poor origination and all the other issues we have had with our code, it was time to do a comprehensive update," he added. "The zoning code does not set new policy, but only implements the policies established by the General Plan into

more specific land use, and development standards."

You're encouraged to attend one of the workshops. The one on Wednesday, July 20 is from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Senior/Multi-Use Center, 201 South 5th Street.

The other is Thursday, July 21 from 10 AM to 11:30 AM at City Hall, 600 East A Street. If you cannot make the workshop but still would like to have some input, you can visit the project website and take the online survey in English or Spanish. For more information, call (707) 678-7000 or email rboloyan@cityofdixon.us. ★

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Hog Lovin’ Lassie

Continued from page 1
taught me other tricks,” she said. She tells about what she’s learned while raising about ten pigs over the past four years.

For example, the pigs are 50 pounds when you first get them, and you buy them from people who are FFA teachers or local farmers. Aberdeen is fortunate to have an uncle with a farm in Vacaville and lets Aberdeen come out almost every day to feed and care for her pigs. Her goal is to raise a 400-pounder to breed.

“The animals get fed a mixture of different grains as all our pigs are vegetarians,” Dawn said.

“They love pumpkins and squash and apples,” Aberdeen added. Her favorite thing to do is to give them a bath and show pictures of shampooing Texas. White pigs get sunburned, so she isn’t planning on getting one. Also, because at fair time, people feed pigs, although, they are not supposed to, which gives the pigs diarrhea.

Aberdeen feeds them barley and adds chocolate milk before a show and tells of how Texas ate a whole bucket at a time.

“Six months before a show, you give them their best life,” said Dawn. “The taste of fresh farm-raised pork tastes 100-percent better than store bought. What you feed them changes the flavor.” Their favorite cut is pork chops. After an auction, students say goodbye to their animals when they take them to the butcher and yes, youth usually cry.

“Except with Texas,” added Aberdeen. “I didn’t because he was kind of mean. He was a Duroc—and they have bad, weird personalities.”

Next spring, Aberdeen plans to show another pig and a turkey at the May Fair, and a pig and two quails at the County Fair.

“She’d have a pig in the house, if she could,” said her mother. “It’s a lot of work but seeing her happy and a freezer full of pork is worth it.” ★

Victim Identified in Dumpster

Dixon Police Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On June 28, 2022, Dixon Police were called by Davis Police regarding a waste disposal service, who reported one of their garbage trucks found a dead body when it deposited the contents of the truck at a trash dump in Yolo County.

A review of the route the truck made trash pick-ups on indicated the body was most likely from the City of Dixon service area. Dixon Police detectives responded to the dump with the Yolo County Sheriff/Coroner’s Office. Preliminary investigation indicated the victim climbed into the dumpster about an hour before the trash pickup occurred and was inside when the contents of the dumpster were collected by the truck.

On June 29, the Yolo County Coroner identified the victim of the accidental death as Miguel Peñuelas, a resident of Dixon. The investigation has confirmed that Peñuelas climbed into a dumpster on his own accord around 4:30 a.m. and covered himself with cardboard. He remained in the dumpster until a garbage truck arrived around 5:30 a.m.

A preliminary medical examination conducted by the Yolo County Coroner showed no sign of foul play. Dixon Police investigated and believe the death to be accidental. Anyone with information is asked to contact Dixon Police Detective Sergeant Jenna Cameron at (707) 678-7070. ★

California Sheriffs Issue Public Alert Following DOJ Data Breach

CSSA News Release

SUTTER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The California State Sheriffs’ Association (CSSA) is alarmed to learn of a data breach by the California Department of Justice (DOJ) that has made public the personal information of California’s citizen concealed weapon (CCW) permit holders.

CSSA is issuing this alert to make CCW permit holders aware of the situation so they can take appropriate precautions.

“It is infuriating that people who have been complying with the law have been put at risk by this breach,” said CSSA President and Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea. “California’s sheriffs are very concerned about this data breach and the risk it poses to California’s CCW permit holders.”

CSSA will continue to engage with DOJ in an effort to ensure that the risk to CCW permit holders is mitigated and a breach of this nature does not happen again.

Every law enforcement agency in California that issues CCW permits is required by law to provide certain information about CCW permit holders to DOJ, which in turn is required to safeguard that information. The data breach was in conjunction with DOJ’s launch of its “2022 Firearms Dashboard Portal.” The breach included, but was not limited to, the names, ages, and addresses of individuals who hold CCW permits in California. It appears that before the breach was detected by DOJ, the information was copied and at least some portion of it was posted on the internet.

After learning of the breach, CSSA President and Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea contacted DOJ officials. During that conversation DOJ confirmed there was a data breach involving CCW permit holder information. DOJ advised it has deactivated the dashboard and is working to determine the scope of the breach. DOJ stated it would be contacting all CCW permit holders directly to advise them of the breach and will institute a program to mitigate any harm or damages to CCW holders that result from the breach.

DOJ has issued a statement regarding this situation that can be accessed on their website. ★

City Decisions: Huge Building Expansion, Pay Raises

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Addressing Item 9.4 in the Consent Calendar, Dixonite Mike Ceremello was concerned that the City was spending \$447,757 on the 2022 Pavement Preservation Project which is using Surry Sealing on roads but not prioritized correctly.

He said the work should be done on Adams Street, the branch of road that splits Highway 113 in front of Amos Metz Equipment Rental and changes into Porter and A Street, a much heavier travelled road driven by big rigs avoiding downtown.

“You are doing the streets out by Dixon High School which are new streets instead of Adams. I think that is a mistake,” he said.

Under Public Hearings, Item 10 on the agenda, the design review for the expansion of the former Gymboree Distribution Center on Vaughn Road that has an industrial-based zoning had already been approved by the Planning Commission.

This area of 463 acres was annexed to Dixon in 1988 for commercial development. The building sits on a parcel of 21 acres of land that is divided into five lots where for several years, Gymboree, a children’s clothing distribution center was housed. It closed in 2019 at the beginning of the pandemic. The new owners have major changes including adding 125,000 more square feet, 223 new parking spaces to make a total of 452, and 87 more truck bays — with no tenant yet.

“At this point, there is no potential tenant identified,” said Nick Rini for Nearon Enterprises. Nearon has acquired more than \$1 billion in industrial, office, retail and multifamily properties since the 1990s and enhanced those real estate assets through physical property improvements, aggressive property management and leasing, and creative financing, according to their website. The company is based in Walnut Creek.

Councilmen Dist. Rep. 2 Jim Ernest and Dist. Rep. 1 Scott Pederson both expressed their hope that future tenants would bring more revenue into Dixon and cited that the new GE Distribution Center brings only property tax revenue.

“We need to pay people a fair wage and we need money to do that,” said Ernest. His concern was that currently “a warehouse brings zero” they have few workers and it is mostly storage, he explained. “If we could partner together and get a retailer like an Amazon business, it would be more beneficial to the city.”

Under new business Item 12, Deborah Barr, P.E., City Engineer and Director of Utilities proposed increases in Development Transportation Impact Fees (new subdivisions or commercial development) that had not been updated in years. They are also known as Capital Facility Fees, Development Impact Fees, or AB1600 Fees.

“We compared with other cities and it is all about finding our balance [to not be too high or too low,]” she said. Those fees help maintain roads.

Ceremello also commented saying, “It was about time that we updated. We were at \$2,500 when Vacaville was \$7,000,” he said. It passed 5-0.

Mayor Steve Bird re-appointed Planning Commissioners Randy Davis and Baudelio Diaz to another term and appointed Ronald Butts and Clarissa Herrera to the Parks and Recreation Commission. He also renewed terms for Rudy Baltazar, Angelic Villalpando, and Charles King.

Items 12.3 and 12.4 were about pay increases and both were approved 5-0 due to labor negotiations for Mid-Management and Professional Employees Compensation Plan through June 2025. It was initiated by Human Resources Director Rachel Ancheta. There will be 5% increases every year plus there is an increase in “stand by” pay, being able to speak Spanish, and an increase from 64 to 80 hours for administrative leave. ★

Sunflowers Blossom at Aggie



These are some sunflowers you are welcome to stand in front of and take selfies. No farmer will mind. These large and cheerful flowers were painted by artist Mary and greet drivers, clients, or furry friends on North First Street passing by Aggie Animal Clinic, 449 North First Street. Photo by Debra Dingman

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How Taxes are Decided in California



By Dan Walters
CALMatters.org

Let’s start with the premise that taxation is largely arbitrary. Despite efforts to frame tax policy in moral or at least philosophical terms, what or who is taxed and the form and level of that taxation merely reflect current political priorities. Take, for example, South Lake Tahoe, a small city that sits on California’s border with Nevada. If you live in that city, you pay the nation’s highest state income taxes. However, if your home is located a few feet to the east, inside Douglas County, Nevada, you pay no state income taxes. That explains why there’s a steady rivulet of high-income Californians resettling in Nevada, or at least changing their official addresses. If a couple of pending California ballot measures are approved in November, state taxes on the wealthy will increase even more and Nevada will become an even more popular tax refuge. California’s income taxes became the nation’s highest through a series of incremental decisions made by legislators or voters and they now provide more than two-thirds of the state’s general fund revenue. Nevada, on the

other hand, makes do without taxing incomes. So which state is correct? Neither. They just happened to take different taxation paths for different reasons. The arbitrary nature of taxation is evident, too, within the California revenue system, particularly in sales taxes. One oddity is that cold food is not subject to taxation but hot food is and the differential can be very difficult to sort out. Some years ago, a movie theater chain asked the state Board of Equalization to shift popcorn from being a taxable hot food to a tax-free cold food. The rationale was that by the time theater patrons returned to their seats with popcorn in hand, it had turned cold. The board agreed. If someone buys computer software, such as Turbo Tax, in a store to file federal and state income tax returns, that purchase is subject to a sales tax. But if a large company obtains a custom computer program to prepare its tax returns, the purchase is free of sales taxes. Why? Because those who sell custom software lobbied the Legislature for an exemption in the 1980s. The Legislature, at the behest of Gov. Gavin Newsom, is on the verge of enacting a new and especially questionable tax anomaly. One budget trailer bill would impose a hefty new tax on the embryonic industry of extracting lithium from the brine of the Salton Sea in the Southern California desert.

Lithium is the key ingredient of long-life, rechargeable batteries used in everything from cellphones to electric cars and immense electrical energy storage banks and therefore plays a key role in the state’s drive to make itself carbon-free. Most lithium is imported from other countries, including China. The Salton Sea, however, is a potentially huge source of the mineral that, if developed, would both contribute to energy independence and create many new jobs in an economically depressed corner of the state. Lithium companies have warned that taxing extraction, \$400 to \$800 per metric ton, would make California lithium more expensive than imports and discourage investment in the industry, but were ignored. Another trailer bill, however, would give sellers of legal marijuana a hefty cut in taxes, responding to their complaints that taxation makes their product too expensive vis-à-vis pot from illegal growers and sellers. So California politicians may be strangling an industry vital to their vision of a carbon-free future while encouraging – in essence, subsidizing – an industry that helps people get stoned. That’s about as arbitrary as it can get. *Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers.* ★



Amid Drought, Agencies Work to Restore Salmon Habitat for Wet Years
State and federal agencies are undertaking a 30,000-acre floodplain restoration project to enhance habitat for juvenile salmon in the Yolo Bypass near the Sacramento River. The project will allow water to enter the floodplain to nurture habitat for fish when river levels are higher. The project is being implemented in conjunction with the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project. Both key water providers for California agriculture have slashed deliveries due to drought.

Study: Sweet Corn Yields Increase with Water-Saving Drip Irrigation
A study in California’s low desert region has shown that switching to drip irrigation for growing sweet corn can significantly conserve water, curb fertilizer use and boost crop yield. That’s according to University of California Cooperative Extension researchers who conducted trials in Imperial County. The county is California’s top sweet corn producing area, with an average of 8,000 acres planted a year. The study was conducted in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 growing seasons.

UC Davis Breeders Hoping to Develop Warmer-Climate Variety of Popular Leafy Green
Researchers at the University of California, Davis, are working to breed new varieties of a popular leafy green vegetable in Asian cuisine that may be grown in warmer climates. Celtuce, or stem lettuce, is grown for its crunchy stalk, which has a mild, nutty taste. Celtuce plants generally thrive in cool climates. But a new garden at UC Davis and greenhouse cultivations are testing different breeds in hopes they can thrive in hotter temperatures. Researchers say the breeding program could be expanded to other crops.

940 California Farm And Rangeland Projects Get Healthy Soils Program Funds
The California Department of Food and Agriculture is awarding \$66 million in grants to fund 940 projects under its Healthy Soils Program. The grant awards, announced this month, will cover 82,000 acres of California agricultural and rangelands. The effort is aimed at improving soil health, sequestering carbon and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Since 2017, \$107 million has been awarded for Healthy Soils projects spanning more than 135,000 acres of farmland. ★

DBW Reminds Boaters to Carry a California Boater Card

California State Parks News Release
SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) reminds California boaters of the requirement to obtain and carry a California Boater Card when boating on state inland and coastal waterways. Applying for one is a simple process, it costs \$10 and lasts a lifetime. Operators who are not in compliance with the law and caught operating a vessel without their California Boater Card will be cited accordingly. This is considered an infraction and base fines can range anywhere from \$100-\$500. U.S. Coast Guard boating accident data show that states with some form of boating safety education have fewer accidents and fatalities than states without any boater education requirements. California is one of the last states to implement a mandatory boating education requirement. The law is being phased-in by age. By Jan. 1, 2023, all boaters 50 years of age or younger must carry a card. All boaters, regardless of age, will need to carry one by Jan. 1, 2025. The card is verification that its holder has successfully taken and passed an approved boating safety education course. It is important to note there are exemptions to the law. For example, those operating a rental vessel or possessing a valid marine operator’s license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard do not need to obtain a California Boater Card. To date, DBW has issued more than 143,000 cards. “It’s not just novice boaters that benefit from this education program by learning the boating rules of the road,” said DBW Acting Deputy Director Ramona Fernandez. “Even experienced boaters find that a boating safety course can help them improve their boating knowledge and stay up to date with current boating laws.” Applying for a California Boater Card is a simple process. Boaters can complete their application by visiting CaliforniaBoaterCard.com. The card only costs \$10 and lasts a lifetime. Boaters have an option to complete an online, classroom or a home study course. Boaters only need to complete one of the approved courses. Once DBW has received your application, proof of education and payment, you will receive a 90-day temporary boater card by email. You should receive your official boater card by mail within 30 days from the time the application was approved. Detailed information on the process and information on available boating safety courses is available online at CaliforniaBoaterCard.com. A toll-free telephone support line is also available at (844) 421-8333. California State Parks and the recreational programs supported by its divisions of Boating and Waterways, Historic Preservation and Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation provide the opportunity for families, friends, and communities to connect. Off-highway motor vehicle recreation, boating activities, horseback riding, cycling, hiking, camping, rock climbing, tours, hikes, school group enrichment, and special events are just some of the activities enjoyed in 279 park units organized into 21 field districts throughout the state. Learn more at www.parks.ca.gov. ★

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bailing Out City Hall

Unfortunately, due to working as a poll worker during the June 7, 2022, primary election I missed the Dixon City Council meeting, not that the council listens to the public. During the meeting the city’s budget for the upcoming period July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, was discussed. I commend the city’s finance director Kate Zawadski for providing a good projection of the city’s finances which included a 6.6% reduction in sales tax revenue due to the country’s current economic condition of high inflation and with the Federal Reserve attempting to cool the economy with higher interest rates. She realized that people are probably going to reduce their spending which will result in lower sales tax revenue. Unfortunately, this fell on deaf ears to the City Manager Jim Lindley. Under his direction a budget was prepared that has the city’s projected revenue as being \$26.4 million versus expenses of \$28.5 million resulting in an overrun of \$2.1 million. This overrun will be funded by dipping into the city’s reserves (savings account). Having worked in finance for many years and managed my own household budget, it boggles my mind why the city manager would submit a budget to the council that had deficit spending; unless he wants a tax increase to fund his desires for additional staff. The \$2.1 million overrun is due to increased personnel and operating expenses. Additional personnel hiring and operating costs should not be funded out of the city’s reserves.

This would be like you using your savings account to hire someone to clean your house, mow your lawn or pay your water bill. Your savings account is for items like your car needs a new transmission or your home air conditioner. Same with the city, reserves/savings should be used in case sales tax revenue is less than projected or a water main breaks causing damage to a main street, but not to hire another fire battalion chief when the city only has one fire station. Also, the finance director’s budget projection’s calls for the city to dip into the city’s reserves for the next few years resulting in the reserves being depleted in 2025-2026. Yet your financially uneducated council which consists of mayor Bird, councilman Pederson, councilman Ernst, and councilman Hendershot approved city manager Jim Lindley’s proposed budget without making any changes. They should have balanced the budget so that expenses equal revenue. An utterly ridiculous and bad decision! A financial train wreck is coming, yet the council is doing nothing. But wait, the council is doing something. They are placing a tax increase on the upcoming election ballot and on Nov 8, 2022, they want you to vote to increase the city’s sales tax from 7.375% to 8.375% in order to bail out city hall. You try and live within your paycheck; city hall should do the same.

David Dingman
Former City Treasurer

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Solano County Civil Grand Jury Reviews Library Services

California Superior Court News Release

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) - The 2021-2022 Solano County Grand Jury has released the following report entitled: An Operational Review of Solano County Library Services (SCLS)

To see how the Libraries in Solano County weathered the COVID pandemic, the 2021-2022 Solano County Civil Grand Jury conducted a comprehensive review of local libraries. The Jury found that faced with the challenge of serving the community when most of its “business” was based on walk-ins, the Solano County Library Services shifted its focus to implement technology to meet the needs of the community.

While some counties ended up closing their libraries for several months, Solano County libraries were able to continue operating with a full staff during the pandemic. They used existing staff to help maximize online access to e-books, DVDs, CDs, and added curb-side check-outs. Because of the restructuring of library services, the community now has access to a wide range of free informational programs and resources.

In spite of the great strides made in technology, facility maintenance is a persistent issue in county buildings. In its investigation of Solano County Library Services (SCLS), the 2021-2022 Grand Jury found there were deficiencies in facility maintenance, marketing and community outreach activities, data collection mechanisms, and maintenance of updated information on public agencies operating within SCLS. Library Services conducted assessments of its facilities and reported its findings in the March 7, 2021, Solano County Library Facilities Master Plan. The plan included several

recommendations which still remain outstanding.

Perhaps one of the issues in resolving maintenance issues is while the county manages the libraries, most library facilities are owned and maintained by cities, school districts, or special districts, not the County. One common issue identified countywide is a deficit in library space.

The Vallejo library branches personify the problems most of the county libraries share. For example, at the Springtowne Branch, a request for a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC) has gone unfulfilled. As a result, it cannot be used as a designated cooling center. In addition, other unresolved maintenance issues exist relating to the electrical system and internet connectivity.

Meanwhile, John F. Kennedy Branch (also in Vallejo) has second floor access problems. Though the facility has two elevators one has been broken for what some people say has been years while the other threatens to break down at any time. The lack of access to the second floor makes the facility non-ADA compliant.

In addition, some county libraries are experiencing leaky roofs, flooding, high noise levels, poor lighting, and lack of public outreach.

The Solano County Grand Jury is an investigatory body and part of the judicial branch of government. The results of Grand Jury investigations are reported to public officials and to the general public through written reports, which contain the Jury’s findings and recommendations. Public officials are required to respond to Grand Jury findings and recommendations within 60 or 90 days.

These reports are available on the Grand Jury website, which may be accessed at www.solano.courts.ca.gov by clicking on “Grand Jury Information.” ★

Grocery Outlet Announces Twelfth Annual Independence from Hunger® Campaign

Grocery Outlet Media News Release

EMERYVILLE, CA (MPG) - Grocery Outlet Bargain Market, extreme-value grocery retailer, launched its 12th consecutive Independence from Hunger® Food Drive to combat food insecurity. From June 29 – July 31, 2022, the campaign will collect cash donations and pre-made bags of non-perishable foods in-store at Grocery Outlet’s more than 400 locations that will be distributed to local food agencies partners. In addition, online donations made at GroceryOutlet.com/Donate will support Grocery Outlet’s Bay Area partner, Alameda County Community Food Bank.

With inflation on the rise and supply chain backlogs, more families have been turning to food banks. In 2022, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has estimated that as many as 30 million adults and 12 million children are living in food-insecure households. Each independently owned and operated Grocery Outlet store is committed to giving back to their community and have partnered locally to bring the community together in providing families nutritious food.

“Each year, we’re blown away by the continued growth of the Independence from Hunger® Food Drive due to the commitment of our employees, operators,

charitable partners and customers” said Eric Lindberg, CEO at Grocery Outlet, Inc. “At Grocery Outlet, our mission is touching lives for the better–We’re so grateful to be able to help our local families rest a little easier knowing they don’t have to worry about where their next meal is coming.”

For 76 years, Grocery Outlet has been committed to giving back to local community organizations and IFH is an integral part of their commitment. Since its launch in 2011, the Independence from Hunger® campaign efforts have collected nearly \$14 million nationwide. Customers can make a difference by visiting their local Grocery Outlet and participating in one of these easy steps:

Give \$5, get \$5. Donate \$5 or more in a single transaction in-store or online and you will receive a coupon for \$5 off a future purchase of \$25 or more; Purchase a pre-made bag that is complete with an assortment of groceries selected by the local food agency and then place it in a collection bin at the front of the store; Make an in-store donation at the register. Donations will benefit that store’s local food agency partner. Donate \$1, \$5 or round up your change; Donate online by visiting GroceryOutlet.com/Donate. Online donations support the San Francisco bay area community through Grocery Outlet’s partnership with Alameda County Community Food Bank.

“Since 1946, our core values have been built around our desire to provide and give back to our local communities,” said Lindberg “Our customers and communities alike are the foundation of our success. We feel it’s important to continue our ultimate mission to touch lives for the better.”

For 76 years Grocery Outlet, an extreme-value grocery retailer based in Emeryville, California, has offered customers big savings on brand-name products. The company has more than 400 locations throughout California, Idaho, Nevada, New Jersey, Maryland, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Washington. Stores are owned by Independent Operators based in the communities they serve.

Grocery Outlet offers a full range of products including fresh produce, meat, deli and dairy, along with a wide assortment of natural and organic choices. Grocery Outlet also carries a large selection of beer and wine, health and beauty care, as well as seasonal items. A third-generation, family-led company founded in 1946, Grocery Outlet provides local customers an exciting place to find WOW deals on name brands they trust.

For more information about Grocery Outlet, please visit www.GroceryOutlet.com. ★

YSAQMD Executive Director Mat Ehrhardt Passes Away

YSAQMD News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - It is with profound sadness that the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) announces the passing of Executive Director and Air Pollution Control Officer Mat Ehrhardt, P.E. on June 26, 2022.

“We are deeply shocked and saddened by this sudden and tragic loss. It was a great privilege to know him personally and work alongside Mat for more than 28 years,” Paul Hensleigh, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer said.

Mr. Ehrhardt held a degree in Mechanical Engineering from California State University of Sacramento, where he was on the Dean’s list (1990-1992) and a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. He came to the District in 1997

as an Associate Air Quality Engineer, earning his Professional Engineering license in Mechanical Engineering in 1997 before promoting to Supervising Air Quality Engineer in 2000 and Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer in 2002. In 2005, Mr. Ehrhardt became the Executive Director of YSAQMD, leading operations for nearly 20 years.

Board Chair and Rio Vista Mayor Ronald Kott stated, “Mat served the Board of Directors with unwavering dedication, protecting and improving air quality for communities within the District. His knowledge and leadership will be sorely missed. I extend my sympathies to his family during this time.”

Mat was a strong advocate for clean air, but in a way that made sense for all stakeholders, including the regulated community. Though Yolo-Solano is

a medium size district, Mat’s impact on statewide air quality policy issues was undeniable, including serving as President of the California Air Pollution Control Officer’s Association from 2009 to 2010.

Yolo County Supervisor Donald Saylor and long-time Board Member recalled “Mat was universally respected by staff, the Board and colleagues in air quality management throughout the state and nation. On top of that, he was a warm human being and friend to all. His loss will be deeply felt. My condolences and best wishes to his family at this very stunning time.”

District staff extend their deepest condolences to his wife, daughter and family and asks to keep them in your thoughts at this difficult time. Any details regarding services will be provided on the District website, www.ysaqmd.org, when they are available. ★

Defendant Found Guilty of 18 Felony Sex Crimes

Solano County DA News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On June 28, 2022, in Department 9 of the Superior Court before the Honorable Carlos R. Gutierrez Presiding, the jury found Defendant Felipe Jesus Rios-Angulo Guilty of all 18 felony sex crimes charged against him.

Defendant was charged with 3 counts of Forcible Lewd Act Upon a Child (13 Years of Age or Younger) in violation of Penal Code section 288(b)(1); 9 counts of Lewd Act Upon a Child (13 Years of Age or Younger) in violation of Penal Code section 288(a); and 6 counts of Lewd Act Upon a Child (14 or 15 Years of Age) in violation of Penal Code section 288(c)(1).

At jury trial, the testimony revealed a callous and continuous pattern of sexual abuse by the defendant, who was a trusted relative. The victim showed incredible courage during her testimony at trial, which took place over the course of four separate days. The victim’s close childhood friend—the first person she ever confided in about the sexual abuse while they were classmates at Dover Middle

School – also traveled from out of state to give testimony.

The jury rejected the attempts by the defense to portray the victim as a dishonest, troubled child attempting to frame him for crimes he did not commit and found the defendant guilty of all counts.

Defendant Felipe Jesus Rios-Angulo is scheduled to be sentenced on July 27, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 9 of the Solano County Superior Court.

Former Fairfield Police Detective (and current District Attorney Investigator) Kathryn Lenke investigated the case, with the assistance of former Fairfield Police Officer Preston Carole. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Kathleen McBride. District Attorney Victim Witness Unit provided advocacy and support for the victim and her family, as did Lilia Breaux, Domestic Violence Program Manager for the Fairfield Police Department.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault and need the assistance of an advocate, please call 707-784-6827 or Family Justice Center at 707-784-7635. If you have an emergency, please call 911. ★

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- Ship's steering wheel
- Sign of escape
- "How to Get Away with Murder," starring ____ Davis
- *Featuring Jerry, Elaine, George, Kramer
- Theories
- Make awake
- Mai follower
- *Featuring Sam, Diane, Cliff, Norm, Carla
- Scary creature
- Salmon on a bagel
- Etsy member
- Craving
- Old and feeble
- Quaker Man's grain
- Romanov rulers
- Without help
- Stay clear of
- *"The ____ Life" on Animal Planet
- Keep from happening
- Sets to zero
- Old age, in the olden days
- *"____ Previews" with Siskel and Ebert
- Same as taboo
- *Featuring Dre, Rainbow, Zoey, Andre, Diane, Jack
- New Testament king
- Is not, colloquially
- At hand
- Pond buildup
- Microscope part
- *"Hogan's Heroes," set in ____ Germany
- Coin opening
- Like some martinis
- Big Bang's original matter

DOWN

- ____-di-dah
- Awfully long time
- Stubborn beast
- Make soiled, in the olden days
- At the heart of Boston Tea Party
- Quick or nimble
- No longer working, shortened
- *Featuring Rebecca, Jack, Kate, Randall, Kevin
- *ABC comedy-drama, "____ 222" (1969-74)
- 90-degree pipes, e.g.
- Public health agency, acr.
- "The wretched ____ of your teeming shores"
- Of a bird
- Relating to Scandinavia
- Lookout point
- Necklace lock
- Great esteem
- Napoleon's time on Elba
- Crystalline hydrochloride
- Crossbeam
- Kind of heron
- "The defense ____"
- *Featuring Hurley, Sawyer, Kate, Sayid, John
- Lake, in Provence
- *Featuring Stubing, Smith, Washington, McCoy, Bricker
- Fine-tune
- Finish line, e.g.
- Builds
- Dodge
- Certain jeans fit
- More than sly
- *"The ____," featuring Fran, Maxwell, C.C., Niles
- *"To ____ the Truth," game show
- Golden Fleece ship
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- Mental confusion
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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

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WILD 7-1-22

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Blue Monarch Medical Transport, LLC, 300 Crescent Drive, Apt. 266, CA 95688. Date Filed in Solano County: June 7, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which

it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 6, 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: July 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2022
BLUE 7-29-22

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL APPROVING ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR THE DIXON LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 INCLUDING CONFIRMING DIAGRAM AND ASSESSMENTS AND ORDERING LEVY OF ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN The City of Dixon (“City”) City Council will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on July 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers located at 600 East A Street, Dixon, California 95620 to consider the adoption of a resolution approving the Engineer’s Report for the Dixon Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2021-22, including confirming diagram and assessments and ordering levy assessment.

The resolution to be considered by the City Council approves the City Engineer’s Report which recommends levying an assessment on each of several lots and parcels of land within the Dixon Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District, each of which will be specially benefited by the maintenance of the improvements at least in the amount of the assessment apportioned against the lots and parcels of land, respectively.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: are invited to attend the July 19, 2022, public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the approval of the resolution. At the above noted time and place, testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the resolution. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Interested individuals will be given an opportunity to speak in favor or opposition to the above proposed action. Written comments are also accepted prior to the meeting at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Information regarding the meeting is on file and may be viewed by interested individuals at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If a challenge to the above proposed action is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City before the meeting.

Copies of the proposed resolution will be available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk at (707) 678-7000, or stop by the office at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Dixon Independent Voice 7-8-2022

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS CITY OF OF THE DIXON

The City of Dixon will host two community workshops on the following project:

PROJECT: **Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and Map Update** – The City is embarking on a process to update Dixon’s Zoning Code and Map, the regulations which govern land use and development. This process will shape future growth and help realize the community’s vision for Dixon as a safe, vibrant, and livable community with a robust local economy.

The recent adoption of the General Plan 2040 has created an obligation and opportunity for a comprehensive update of the Zoning Ordinance, creating a concise and user-friendly set of regulations that will clearly communicate and effectively implement the new General Plan’s policies and incorporate its carefully crafted direction for the development, maintenance, and improvement of land and properties.

The City of Dixon will host two community workshops to present information and solicit input on the project. Both workshop dates will contain the same information, but are being hosted at two different times to offer choice to the community. Both workshops will cover: 1) Project Overview 2) Introduction to Zoning and 3) Focus Areas like Downtown, residential neighborhoods, and employment centers east of 1st Street.

This project is an informational item and no decisions are to be made at this meeting. Therefore, there is no California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review or action required at this time. Prior to adoption of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Update project, the project will undergo the level of CEQA review.

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 6:00pm-7:30pm at Senior Multi Use Center, 201 S 5th St, Dixon CA**
Thursday, July 21, 2022, 10:00am-11:30am Dixon City Council Chambers, 600 E A St, Dixon CA

These workshops **will** be in person only meeting and be physically open to the public.

MORE INFORMATION: Contact **Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director** at (707) 678-7000 x1114 or **rboloyan@cityofdixon.us**. You can also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can view more information about the project on the project web page at **http://www.cityofdixon.us/zoningupdate**

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: All interested parties are invited to attend the workshop to learn about the project and provide input. These workshops are informational only, and no decisions or actions will be taken.

You may attend the public workshops at the time and location listed above, and provide comments during the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Alternatively, anyone can provide comments at either workshop or submit written comments before or after the workshop by: 1) emailing **PlanningDepartment@cityofdixon.us** with “Zoning Update Comments” in subject line or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, Community Development Department, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620

Dixon Independent Voice July 8, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE
SUBJECT: DIXON CITY COUNCIL MEETING ACCEPTANCE OF THE SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

To whom it may concern:

The City Council of the City of Dixon has received a request to consider the acceptance of the 2020 update of the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP), as well as the 2022 amendment which includes an update to the City of Dixon’s ATP project list.

Copies of the agenda and staff report for the meeting will be available for review on Friday, July 15, 2022 at City Hall as well as the City of Dixon website. The meeting will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Location: City Council Chambers
600 East A Street
Dixon, CA 95620

Additionally, the public may participate via video conferencing at **https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9886211137?pwd=R2dxZ3RkbU9SQXdlUVlIRkc0QlQwZz09** and via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128, meeting ID: 988 621 1137, passcode: 604754 and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment. To speak during public comment via video conferencing click on “Raise Hand”, via teleconference press *9. We welcome and appreciate your participation. If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me at (707) 678-7031 ext. 5311 or by email at **jsantos@cityofdixon.us**

Dixon Independent Voice 7-8-2022



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT FOR DELINQUENT REFUSE COLLECTION ACCOUNTS AND DIRECTING ASSESSMENTS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT PROPERTY TAX BILL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN The City of Dixon (“City”) City Council will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on July 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers located at 600 East A Street, Dixon, California 95620 to discuss placing past due Recology Dixon accounts on property tax bills. Government Code Sections 38790.1 and 25831 and Dixon Municipal Code Section 9.06.110 give the City the authority to collect past due refuse collection accounts by placing an assessment/lien in the amount of the past due balance on the annual property tax rolls. This process makes the past due amount subject to the County’s property tax collection methods and late property tax fees.

The resolution to be considered will authorize the Finance Director, or her designee, to request that the Solano County Auditor enter each assessment on the tax roll against the respective property and to collect the assessment at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary municipal and county ad valorem taxes and to further subject the property to the same penalties and the same procedure of sale in case of delinquency as provided for such taxes. Upon receipt of said funds from Solano County, funds will be remitted to Recology Dixon.

Notices regarding this process were mailed to all delinquent accounts prior to this hearing.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: are invited to attend the July 19, 2022 public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence of why you feel the billing is in error or why you feel you should be exempted from the lien process. At the above noted time and place, testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the resolution. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Interested individuals will be given an opportunity to speak in favor or opposition to the above proposed action. Written comments are also accepted, prior to the meeting at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Information regarding the meeting is on file and may be viewed by interested individuals at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If a challenge to the above proposed action is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City before the meeting.

Copies of the proposed resolution will be available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk at (707) 678-7000, or stop by the office at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Dixon Independent Voice 7-8-2022

CITY OF DIXON NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that a General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Dixon on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, for the following Officers and Measure:

For City Council Member District 1	Full Term of Four Years
For City Council Member District 2	Full Term of Four Years
For Elected City Clerk (Elected At-Large representing entire City)	Full Term of Four Years

<i>“Dixon Quality of Life/Essential City Services Measure: Shall the measure to maintain Dixon’s essential services such as fire prevention; rapid 911 emergency response/ neighborhood police patrols; disaster preparedness; crime/gangs/drugs prevention; street/pothole repair; attract/retain local businesses/jobs; and for general government use; by establishing a 1c sales tax until ended by voters, providing approximately \$3,100,000 annually, with independent citizen oversight and no money that can be taken by the State, be adopted?”</i>	Yes
	No

Official nomination documents for eligible candidates desiring to file for the above offices will be available commencing Monday, July 18, 2022, at City Hall, City Manager’s Office, 600 East A Street, Dixon, California. The nomination period for these offices begins on July 18, 2022 and closes on August 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Candidates must be 18 years old or older, reside and be registered to vote within the City of Dixon. Candidates running for City Council must also reside within the District for which they are running.

If nomination papers for an incumbent officer of the City are not filed by August 12, 2022 (the 88th day before the election), the voters shall have until the 83rd day before the election, August 17, 2022, to nominate candidates other than the person(s) who are the incumbents on the 88th day before the election, for that incumbent’s elective office. This extension is not applicable where there is no incumbent eligible to be elected.

If no one or only one person is nominated for an elected office, appointment to the elective office may be made as prescribed by section 10229 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

The City Council or any individual voter or bona fide association of citizens, or any combination of voters and associations, may file a written argument, not exceed three hundred (300) words in length, accompanied by the printed name(s) and signatures(s) of the author(s) submitting it, or if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization, and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers who is the author of the argument, for or against the City measure.

Based upon the time reasonably necessary to prepare and print the arguments, the voter information guide, and sample ballots for the election, the City Manager has fixed August 19, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. as the deadline after which no argument for or against the City measures may be submitted to the City Manager for printing and distribution to voters. Arguments shall be submitted to the City Manager, accompanied by the printed names(s) and signature(s) of the authors submitting it or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers who is the author of the argument, at City Hall, City Manager’s Office, 600 East A Street, Dixon, California. Arguments may be changed or withdrawn until and including the deadline fixed by the City Manager. Any rebuttal arguments shall be submitted to the City Manager by August 23, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. Rebuttal arguments shall not exceed two hundred fifty (250) words in length and shall be accompanied by the printed names(s) and signatures(s) of the author(s) submitting it or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization, and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers who is the author of the rebuttal argument.

Any impartial analysis or direct argument filed under the authority of the Elections Code will be available for public examination in the City Manager’s Office for not less than ten (10) calendar days from the deadline for the filing of the arguments and analysis. Any rebuttal argument filed under the authority of the Elections Code shall be available for public examination in the City Manager’s office for not less than ten (10) calendar days from the deadline for filing rebuttal arguments.

The polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Jim Lindley
Elections Official

Dixon Independent Voice 7-8-2022

PUBLIC NOTICE
SUBJECT: DIXON CITY COUNCIL MEETING FISCAL YEAR 22/23-26/27 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

To whom it may concern:

The City Council of the City of Dixon has received a request to consider the adoption of the Fiscal Year 22/23-26/27 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is a planning document used by City Staff to determine projects necessary to the implementation of the currently adopted General Plan.

Copies of the agenda and staff report for the meeting will be available for review on Friday, July 15, 2022 at City Hall as well as the City of Dixon website. The meeting will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Location: City Council Chambers
600 East A Street
Dixon, CA 95620

Additionally, the public may participate via video conferencing at **https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9886211137?pwd=R2dxZ3RkbU9SQXdlUVlIRkc0QlQwZz09** and via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128, meeting ID: 988 621 1137, passcode: 604754 and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment. To speak during public comment via video conferencing click on “Raise Hand”, via teleconference press *9. We welcome and appreciate your participation. If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me at (707) 678-7031 ext. 5311 or by email at **jsantos@cityofdixon.us**

Dixon Independent Voice 7-8-2022

NATIONAL NEWS *courtesy of* THE EPOCH TIMES

Supreme Court Narrows EPA’s Ability to Regulate Carbon Dioxide Emissions

MATTHEW VADUM

The Supreme Court ruled 6–3 on June 30 that the Clean Air Act doesn’t give the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) widespread power to regulate carbon dioxide emissions that a popular theory says contribute to global warming.

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the court’s majority opinion in *West Virginia v. EPA*, court file 20–1530. Roberts was joined by the court’s other five conservatives. The court’s three liberal justices dissented.

While “capping carbon dioxide emissions at a level that will force a nationwide transition away from the use of coal to generate electricity may be a sensible ‘solution to the crisis of the day,’” Roberts wrote, quoting a 1992 precedent, “it is not plausible that Congress gave EPA the authority to adopt on its own such a regulatory scheme in Section 111(d)” of the Clean Air Act.”

“A decision of such magnitude and consequence rests with Congress itself, or an agency acting pursuant to a clear delegation from that representative body,” he wrote.

West Virginia and 18 other states challenged the authority the Clean Air Act provides the EPA.

In 2016, the Supreme Court overturned the Obama-era Clean Power Plan (CPP), which expanded controls over the industry. Next, the deregulation-minded Trump administration reversed course, easing control on the industry with its Affordable Clean Energy Rule (ACE Rule).

On Jan. 19, 2021, the U.S.



The Supreme Court in Washington on May 4, 2020.

A decision of such magnitude and consequence rests with Congress itself, or an agency acting pursuant to a clear delegation from that representative body.

Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts

Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit struck down the ACE Rule, restoring some of the EPA’s authority in *American Lung Association v. EPA*. The court held that the EPA, under Trump, had misconstrued section 7411(d) of the Clean Air Act.

In the new opinion, the

Supreme Court reversed the D.C. Circuit decision and remanded the case “for further proceedings consistent with this opinion.”

In Justice Elena Kagan’s dissent, she criticized the court majority for a decision she said “strips” the EPA of the power Congress gave it to respond to “the most pressing environmental challenge of our time,” citing *Massachusetts v. EPA* (2007).

“Climate change’s causes and dangers are no longer subject to serious doubt. Modern science is ‘unequivocal that human influence’—in particular, the emission of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide—‘has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.’”

“Whatever else this Court may know about, it does not have a clue about how to address climate change. And let’s say the obvious: The stakes

here are high. Yet the Court today prevents congressionally authorized agency action to curb power plants’ carbon dioxide emissions. The Court appoints itself—instead of Congress or the expert agency—the decision maker on climate policy. I cannot think of many things more frightening.”

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey, who previously told *The Epoch Times* that the EPA is trying to transform itself from “an environmental regulator into a central energy planning authority,” praised the Supreme Court.

“For many years, we’ve argued that EPA only had a narrow bit of authority to regulate carbon emissions,” Morrisey, a Republican who brought the appeal, said at a press conference.

“I think that the court today

amplified that point. And once again, they also made clear that when you have something this big, something with vast economic and political significance, then that represents an extraordinary question. And that means Congress needs to step in, as opposed to the unelected bureaucrats.

“We know that over the last year and a half, the Biden administration has tried to run roughshod over the American economy with respect to its energy agenda.

“We want to make sure that the Biden agenda is limited by basis of what Congress authorized these agencies [to do],” he said.

“Our founders envisioned” that “Congress and not the unelected bureaucrats” should make decisions “about the major issues of the day.”

“They didn’t want to just have these unelected bureaucrats reach out and try to seize power where it didn’t exist,” Morrisey said.

U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez (D-N.J.) criticized the ruling and the six conservative justices.

“As the devastating impacts of climate change are becoming ever-more present, it is mind boggling and deeply alarming that the Supreme Court today has decided to hamstring the EPA’s authority to regulate greenhouse gases. This ruling not only restricts the agency’s ability to limit air pollution from the second-largest source of emissions in America, it also undermines the landmark Clean Air Act that gave it such authority,” the senator said.

“Make no mistake, with this devastating ruling in *West Virginia v. EPA*, the conservative majority of the Court continues to take our country backward and more worrisome, it opens the door to far-reaching implications for how other federal agencies generally create regulations to implement existing legislation moving forward.”

After 53 Die in Smuggling Tragedy, Texas Governor to Start Truck Checkpoints on Highways

CHARLOTTE CUTHBERTSON

EAGLE PASS, Texas—The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will be setting up random highway checkpoints to inspect trucks following the deaths of 53 illegal immigrants who were being smuggled in the back of a tractor-trailer earlier this week.

“We’ve seen increased brazenness by cartels that feel empowered, because we do not have a federal government that’s pushing back against those cartels and their illegal activity,” Gov. Greg Abbott said at a June 29 press conference in Eagle Pass, one of the busiest regions for illegal border crossings in the country.

“And of course, the worst thing of all is the catastrophic death that we have witnessed.”

DPS Director Steven McCraw said state troopers will assist civilian inspectors in setting up checkpoints along

the main highways running from the Texas–Mexico border to San Antonio, Houston, and other major hubs.

Often, illegal aliens wade or are rafted across the Rio Grande into Texas and, while avoiding Border Patrol, are taken to stash houses to await vehicle transport further into the United States.

McCraw said he also plans to deploy DPS special agents to identify stash houses near the border, “which is very important to disrupting Mexican cartel operations.”

The truck that was carrying the illegal immigrants who died in San Antonio passed through a Border Patrol highway checkpoint 30 miles north of Laredo on Interstate Highway 35, McCraw told *The Epoch Times*.

The checkpoint often has two truck lanes and three car lanes operating simultaneously.

Tom Homan, the former chief of Immigration and

Customs Enforcement, told *The Epoch Times* that smugglers will turn off the freezer unit in refrigerated trucks to give the appearance that it’s an empty trailer and that there’s no need for a secondary inspection.

The refrigeration was turned off in the truck in San Antonio and there was no water inside, even as the mercury topped 100 degrees.

“The truck passed through a Border Patrol checkpoint, it was not inspected. It was not inspected because the Border Patrol does not have the resources to be able to inspect all of the trucks,” Abbott said.

“Many of these deaths could be prevented if Biden simply fully funded the Border Patrol operation of the United States of America and implemented the policies that the Border Patrol needs in order to do their real job. And the real job is not the paper processing work that they’ve been assigned to do.”

President Joe Biden called the deaths in San Antonio “horrific and heartbreaking,” and he vowed to crack down on the criminal smuggling organizations.

“Exploiting vulnerable individuals for profit is shameful,” he added.

White House press secre-



Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, flanked by state and local law enforcement officials, speaks to media in Eagle Pass, Texas, on June 29, 2022.

tary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters on June 28, “The fact of the matter is the border is closed, which is in part why you see people trying to make this dangerous journey using smuggling networks.”

Since Biden took office, the number of illegal crossings has hit multiple record highs. Border Patrol has apprehended more than 3.2 million illegal immigrants since January 2021, according to Customs and Border Protection data.

Four people have now been arrested in connection with the truck smuggling operation that resulted in the 53 deaths, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Homero Zamorano, the driver of the truck, was charged

on June 29 with one count of alien smuggling resulting in death, and Christian Martinez, 28, was charged with one count of conspiracy to transport illegal aliens resulting in death.

If convicted, both Zamorano and Martinez face up to life in prison or potentially the death penalty.

Two Mexican nationals, Juan Francisco D’Luna-Bilbao and Juan Claudio D’Luna-Mendez, were arrested on June 27. The men have each been charged with three firearm-related offenses after exiting a San Antonio property listed as the registered address of the truck used in the smuggling operation. Both had overstayed their B-2 visas.

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by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO

R.E.D.

by Mike Marland

GRIN and BEAR IT

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2022 Independence Day



Matt Carter of the Dixon Moose Lodge shows off one of the largest boxes of fireworks for sale at the club's booth outside of the Grocery Outlet. All photos by Debra Dingman



Fireworks exploded over the skies of Hall Park delighting hundreds of citizens thanks to the Rotary Club of Dixon. The bright and beautiful displays lasted about 30 minutes for a grand show for Independence Day.



The lines were steady to various food trucks including the Buckhorn, La Familia, Kona Ice, and more at Hall Park.



Celebrate Your Freedom
HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



Music, hamburgers, hotdogs and refreshments were part of a 'post fireworks' gathering hosted by American Legion Post 208 and the Veteran Riders at the Veterans Memorial Hall Monday night.

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