



May Fair Schedule Inside!

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Celebrate Mother's Day

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Dixon Independent Voice

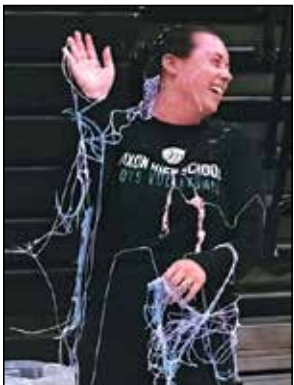
VOLUME 30 • ISSUE 18

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

MAY 6, 2022

SEE INSIDE

WINNING STREAK HITS 15



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SERENITY SADDLES YARD SALE



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Mother's Delight at May Fair



Women from Ballet Folklórico Netzahualcoyotl entertain spectators with their colorful skirt swirling and traditional Mexican dances. Photo courtesy of KE Spencer & Co Event Marketing

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Flowers are always sweet and chocolates can be amazing but there is also an exciting opportunity for mothers to be celebrated with a delicious lunch after the May Fair Parade or at the Dixon May Fair. Neither require driving far!

The 145th annual parade is hosted by the Dixon Chamber of Commerce and the City of Dixon on Saturday, May 7, beginning at 10 AM. The Dixon May Fair Parade is the oldest state-affiliated parade in California and is one of the most colorful of its kind. The parade route will be along 1st Street starting at C St. and traveling to Chestnut St. Road closures will be in effect starting at 8 AM.

Our amazing local options of delicious meals mean you could just get up from watching the parade and wander into one or a variety of ethnic foods including Sushi from The

Frying Pan, Thai from Bangkok Garden, or Mexican foods from Panchita Taqueria.

For those moms who just want fresh American dishes, there is Dawson's, Bud's Pub & Grill or experience a unique choice of organic flair from Rosemary's Farm to Fork. Don't forget on the rim of Dixon, there is a life-size horse as part of Pedro's Cocina's Mexican decor on Market Lane, Punjabi Dhaba serving Indian foods at 7800 Batavia Road, S & S Deli Mediterranean Grill in the shopping plaza by Walmart with La Cocina Mexican Restaurant across the parking lot, and nothing beats special like an old-fashioned American steak served at Cattlemens.

The Dixon May Fair beginning Thursday, May 5 at 4 PM and running through Sunday, May 8, 10 PM, has been the place for neighbors, friends, and family to gather for 147 years with entertainment, food, and

activities for all ages and interests. Thursday is Thrifty Thursday with just \$5 admission and Friday is Kids Day with free Fair admission for youth 12 and under. Mother's Day will be celebrated with the long tradition of 500 roses being given away at the main entry on South First Street.

Thinking of entertainment at the May Fair for Mom? At the Leber Garden Stage at the May Fair at 12:45 PM, the Ballet Folklórico Netzahualcoyotl will perform a colorful display of Mexican dancing.

Their mission is to empower the community and to educate the general public by providing a greater understanding and appreciation for Mexican culture and folklore through music, dance, and traditional art forms. Watch how their colorful skirts twirl!

At 1 pm, right afterwards as well as 3 and 5 pm, Patrick Contreras

Continued on page 3

Dixon Unified School News

By Brian Dolan, DUSD Superintendent

COVID News

As of April 27, we had an increase in positive tests over the last week, with a kindergarten class at Tremont being the largest number of positive students. We continue to work with Solano Public Health on a daily basis to ensure that the proper protocols and reporting is followed. Total student cases: 15; Total staff cases: 2

COVID testing remains available at Dixon High School every Monday and Thursday from 2:00 to 3:30. Please register in advance through at www.dixonusd.org/schoolclosureinformation

We continue to plan and offer more of the regular things that happen every year. To the delight of almost everyone. Please watch for information from your schools with the details. All three elementary schools are holding their Open Houses this evening, as an example. Check your school's regular communication locations if you somehow missed the information on them.

Town Hall on Student Behavior

We held a Town Hall Meeting last Wednesday that focused on student behaviors, including bullying. Families were given the chance to share their concerns with the District administrators, including the principal from all of the schools. On Wednesday, May 4, we held the second meeting of three that are scheduled with May 11, for the third one. Our focus in this meeting is to provide information about laws and policies, and outline all of the District programs and work addressing the negative behaviors that are happening. The meetings are intended for families from all schools and grade levels to attend, and we encourage all of you to do so.

State Testing

Our secondary schools are completing testing this week, and all reports are that students have been taking them seriously and problems have been limited. Elementary schools begin on May 16th, and we again encourage students and families to follow the suggestions that are being made by schools to maximize students' performance.

Kindergarten Registration

We continue to encourage any family that will have a student in Transitional or regular Kindergarten to get enrolled at their school site immediately. We must be sure to have the

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Farmstead Senior Living Breaks Ground

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - With a huge bulldozer helping to hold the waving banners of the Calson Management and J3C Group, about a hundred contractors, electricians, investors, administration, and family and friends of Jason Reyes, Calson's Managing Partner, celebrated the official groundbreaking of the new Dixon Senior Living facility at 350 Gateway Drive last week.

There was music and food, and even playhouses for the children—all exuding the warmth and personal care Reyes has built his reputation on as a creative and collaborative community visionary. A dozen shiny new shovels stuck upward out of a long mound of dirt so that instrumental supporters would all be involved in the ceremonial dig and official 'naming.'

"We asked all of our



Supporters of 'The Farmstead at Dixon,' along with Managing Partner Jason Reyes, grabbed shovels and posed for the groundbreaking ceremonial picture last week on Gateway Drive, where the new senior living facility will be completed in approximately 18 months. Photo by Debra Dingman

closed investors, friends, family and colleagues to name the building," Reyes said. "We had so many good name choices but ultimately felt that 'The Farmstead' was a perfect

fit for our new community. Hanna Richardson is our Director of Resident Development at Rockville Terrace Senior Living in Fairfield and she's from Dixon. Besides coming up

with great names, she's also been a tremendous asset to the team."

Reyes also thanked the City of Dixon for their support and gave Mayor Bird

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Parade Morning Tips and Tricks

By Debra Dingman

This is my almost annual column on “parade tips” for the sake of those first-timers who may enjoy it all the more if the locals’ secrets are known. As a disclaimer this year, though, remember that we have not had a parade for two years...

First of all, lots of folks bring their folding chairs and blankets down to the sidewalks along both sides of First Street from the Women’s Improvement Club Park where it starts to the opposite end where the parade turns at the corner of Chestnut and the May Fair. The parade disperses at Hall Park at the end of Chestnut.

After a few years and being too late to find a good spot to sit and watch the parade Saturday mornings, I put out our chairs. I was worried about them being stolen. I was more endeared to Dixon when the next morning, I found that hundreds of chairs were still safe and sound.

This is where I plug the Rotary Pancake Breakfast at the Olde Vet’s Hall across from the library (\$5 per plate.) It’s just a great way to fill up the tummy

before the parade. The pancakes are good and there is hot coffee plus, funds go for a great cause (student scholarships.) Oh, and make sure your children go to the potty before you leave!

Now, you have to remember that this is a parade—full of loud sounds. Music from bands and dance troupes blare, and there are roaring sounds from hot rods and firetrucks. Most children love the sounds but babies usually don’t.

Years ago, I was holding my 4-month-old granddaughter at the parade. She seemed delighted with all the colors and balloons and was happy... until a parade entry shot a canon. It sounded like a bomb. She crawled up my body in terror like a monkey trying to get away from a tiger.

When I couldn’t find a place that would protect her (all storefronts were closed,) and the explosions re-occurred with her screaming again, I wrapped her close to me and ran as fast as I could until blocks away from the noise and finally got her calmed down. When I met up with the family afterwards, I had busted a vein in my eye and had several

cold sores that had popped out on my lower lip. My back was killing me, but the baby was good.

Now whenever I see strollers at the parade, I get nervous. My advice is to leave the baby with Grandma at home or miss the parade. For toddlers and preschoolers, give them a talk about what they can expect at the parade and show them how to cover their ears if the sounds are too loud.

Also tell them to NOT run out in the street to hug a giant costumed chipmunk or grab something off the street. Parade participants often have things to hand out (they are not allowed to throw from their vehicles) so you might want to bring a bag of some sort for your goodies; And, a blanket so you or the children can sit on a curb.

The parade can be an hour or two—depending on how many entries there are and how slow entries move in line so wear sun-block, bring a hat or visor, sunglasses and water. At press time, the forecast says partly cloudy and 82 degrees with only a 1% chance of rain and a slight wind.

It should be a great day and lots to see! ★

Dixon News Briefs

MPG Staff

Camp Rummage Sale

Students are raising funds for their summer church camps by hosting a huge rummage sale on Saturday, May 14, 7 am to 1 pm at Grace Fellowship Church, 535 West H Street. The proceeds are not just for one church group but for multiple local church youth groups as well so come help the teens earn their way. Donations will be accepted Tuesday through Friday, May 10-13 from 9 am to 4:30 but please call ahead (707) 678-5700.

Minimum School Day Friday

What might surprise new families to Dixon is we actually allow the children to get out of school a half day early for the May Fair (so that will be this Friday, May 6.) How great is that? Since most Dixonites visit the May Fair on Thursdays, that gives teachers a break from children who might need a nap on Friday and/or the families get to avoid the crowds and go Friday afternoon!

Planning Commission

This coming Tuesday, May 10, at 7 pm there will be a City Planning Commission meeting in the Council Chambers, 600 East A Street, right next to the brand new trailer/office that is now fully operational for City staff. Interested citizens may also participate via Zoom listed at the beginning of the agenda or can watch via Granicus live streaming by logging onto the City website and clicking on Government then clicking on City Planning then on ‘agendas.’

Students Reps

The City of Dixon is currently accepting applications for one (1) vacancy for a Student Representative and one

(1) vacancy for an Alternate Student Representative on the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Commission is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to recreation programs and parks facilities. For more information, go to the City of Dixon website. Interested students may obtain an application by contacting DHS Principal Stephanie Marquez at (707) 693-6330.

DHS Dates

The end of school is approaching and upcoming events to note (all held in the school theater) are the Community Scholarship Awards Night on Monday, May 16 at 6:30 pm; the Choir Concert on Tuesday, May 24 at 7 pm; and the End of Year Band Concert on May 26, 7 pm. Finally, the Graduation Ceremonies held in the school football stadium will be on Saturday, June 4. More information forthcoming on those.

Blood Drive

The next Community Blood Drive will be Monday, May 16 from 2 to 6 pm at the Veteran’s Memorial Hall, 1305 North First Street in Dixon. To schedule your appointment, call Vitalant at (877) 258-4825 and mention blood drive SMFM014 to sign up. There is no age limit as long as you are healthy.

Steak Dinner

This Friday’s Dinner at the Veterans Memorial Hall will feature a May Fair Special: Steak! There will also be a baked potato and green beans. The cost will be \$17 at the door. The hall is located at 1305 North First Street and dinners are 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. ★

Dixon Unified School News

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appropriate number of teachers and other staff in place for our students. The more late registrations that we get, the harder it is to fill our positions. Please register now!

Credit Recovery - DHS Students

Students who are behind on their credits toward graduation are being invited to enroll in our Credit Recovery program that will be offered this summer. Our focus is on next year’s Seniors first,

with invitations then being made to the Juniors, and perhaps some Sophomores. We are getting a very small number of the invitations returned, while we also know that many students are in very high need of earning credits this summer. Families should check with their student’s counselor to check the status of an invitation if they are unsure. Families that have received an invitation but have not returned it yet should do so immediately. Spots will be offered to students lower on the priority list if we don’t hear from you. ★

Snapped Telephone Pole



One has to ask, how does this even happen? This telephone pole on West A Street was snapped off at the base and cables were pulled dangerously down toward the street on both sides of it. It was discovered early Monday morning. City of Dixon crews blocked off the area and closed the sidewalk until Pacific Gas and Electric crews were able to get out later in the afternoon to fix the situation. Calls to the agencies involved were not returned by press time so it’s not known if it was Superman accidentally flying too low last night or someone super late for work in the morning. Photo by Debra Dingman



DIXON MAY FAIR

MAY 5-8 2022

Best Entertainment Value in Solano County

Admission
Adult (13-64): \$15
Senior (65+) / Military / Child (5-12): \$10
Carnival Pay-one-Price Wristband \$35

In the Dawson’s Bar & Grill Grandstands
Friday: Pro Broncs & Bulls \$25 all ages*
Saturday: Truck & Tractor Pulls \$25 all ages*
Sunday: Demolition Derby \$30 all ages*
**May sell out in advance*

Friday Kid’s Day: Open at Noon
Kids 12 and under Free admission all day

Family Entertainment
Free Train Rides • Kids Town America
Jack Spareribs Pirate Show • Livestock Shows

Live Bands Daily on Leber Stage
Friday: Robby James and the Streets of Bakersfield and Foreigner Unauthorized
Saturday: Latin Touch Band, Vinyl Ride and Classic Car Show
Sunday: Crossman Connection and Latin Music

DixonMayFair.com
Schedule subject to change without notification

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Professional Affordable Repairs
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Senior Living Breaking Ground

Continued from page 1
an opportunity to talk.

“We have an aging community and an aging society. I challenge people to think about your parents and appreciate them,” he said. “They are living wisdom and we thank you for this project.”

“The powers that be in the City of Dixon have been nothing but helpful,”

Steven Brown, Reyes’ business partner, mentor and contractor on the project responded.

Reyes said that building a better Dixon for the



Architectural rendering of what the Assisted Living and Memory Care Facility will look like when finished on Gateway Boulevard. Courtesy of Calson Management and J3C Group

future and for healthier, happier lives is part of the company mission and thanked his parents, wife and aunts who have been for him through acquisition, development, and construction.

“Jason is my only child and to be able to work side-by-side with him every day is one of my greatest pleasures. His passion for the Senior Living industry is evident and inspiring to everyone he meets,” his mother said.

“That I get to work with a loving family everyday, I am more than grateful,” Reyes said, then invited numerous families by name to pick up a shovel. “Everyone: Straight from the heart, I appreciate it.”

The long-needed residential assisted living and memory care facility will house 88 beds and up to 100 residents in a

contemporary, 2-story facility looking more like a hotel on Gateway Boulevard.

“This is not a nursing home,” said Sam Thomas, Senior Specialist Architect in a presentation last summer to the Dixon City Planning Commission. “The average age of our residents is 82 and our residents are still somewhat mobile.” There will be a centralized dining facility, social activities, and 24-hour staff on site.

“Growing old doesn’t mean you’re closing the book on life,” Reyes said. “One of our biggest challenges with

this generation in their 80s is that they still have a negative stigmatism of what [assisted living] is. We move people in all the time and soon, you can see them relax with a complete transition in four to five weeks.”

Currently, Calson operates seven communities comprising over 640 units of senior living and totaling more than \$150 million in market value. In addition to Dixon, they have three other projects actively under construction in Los Gatos, Santa Rosa and San Jose, equating to another 368 units.

Roughly 18 months from now, they will be moving residents into the community. Anyone interested in getting on the interest list for future residents can email Cathy@calsonmanagement.com. ★

Mother’s Delight at May Fair



Per Dixon May Fair tradition, beautiful roses will be given out to 500 moms that come through the gates on Sunday, Mother’s Day, at the South First Street entrance. Photo courtesy of KE Spencer & Co Event Marketing

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from Fresno will treat with his ‘Violin on Fire’ as he walks around the grounds. Hunt him down. This editor says he’ll be worth it.

If mom wants an afternoon and evening to sit and listen more, there will be Latin music and if she’s energetic, there’s dancing on the Picnic Lawn. ★

Of course, there are a lot of moms who really like the Demolition Derby. It’s loud with crashing and cheering and even a bit dangerous with sometimes tires flying. No worries, mom can escape to see the beautiful quilts or stroll through the peaceful gardens to see who got the ‘Best of Show’ or an afternoon and evening of Latin music and dancing on the Picnic Lawn. ★

Serenity Saddles Yard Sale

Serenity Saddles Press Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Serenity Saddles Therapeutic Riding Program, a local non-profit organization will be hosting a Yard Sale, on Saturday, May 14 and Sunday, May 15, from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. on both days.

The yard sale will be held in the Vacaville Moose Lodge parking lot, located at 6585 Gibson Valley Road, in Vacaville. Lots of merchandise will be available such as

household goods, knick-knacks, tools, plants and much more. You’re sure to find some amazing bargains here and help a worthy non-profit at the same time. Organizers for the event expect a large turn out with perfect weather and lots of sunshine expected.

Raffle drawings will be held throughout the day, which you may enter and need not be present to win. Pony rides will also be on hand for \$5 a ride which is always lots of fun for the kids.

If you would rather participate instead

of shop, you may rent a space for \$15 and sell your wares. It’s time to clean out those closets and get some spring cleaning done. Contact Renee at 203-392-4102 to reserve your spot or for more information.

Private horse-riding lessons, summer camps, and birthday parties gift certificates are also available. Give the gift of a horse-riding experience, it’s the perfect gift. Call 707-590-2691 for more information or sign up at the sale.

Serenity Saddles Therapeutic Riding

Program is an equine assisted activity for children and adults with a variety of abilities and needs, teaching riding and horsemanship skills aimed at improving physical, cognitive, social and emotional well-being. Serenity Saddles is located at the J Bar 4 Ranch, 7778 Nunes Road, in Dixon.

Serenity Saddles accepts donations which are greatly appreciated and tax deductible. Check out this worthy program at serenitysaddles.com or on their Facebook page @ serenitysaddles2020. ★

OUTDOOR OR INDOOR DINING AVAILABLE (Reservations Suggested)

Bar & Grill DAWSON'S
EST. 1908 Dixon, Ca
105 N. 1st St, Dixon, CA 95620 • (707) 678-2067

Come down and have some SUPER FUN at the Dixon May Fair Parade or, Celebrate Mother’s Day With Us!

Have a Delicious Bloody Mary and Celebrate!

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38532 W. Kentucky Ave. Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 662-5001

AmosMetz.com

DIXON MAY FAIR SUPER FUN!

THANK YOU

to all of our sponsors who made the **Parade** on Saturday, May 7 possible.

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Motley Realty
Safeway
Ray & Yvonne McCluskey

Presented by the
Dixon Chamber of Commerce and the City of Dixon

EVERY DAY AT THE DIXON MAY FAIR

Butler Amusements Carnival
Western Express Railroad Trackless Train Rides
Included in Fair Admission – Daily until Dusk

Strolling Entertainment
 Flo the Clown
 The Throw Zone – Friday – Sunday
 Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire – Saturday – Sunday
(See daily schedule)
Daily until Dusk unless otherwise specified

KIDS ZONE
 Kids Town America – Activities for children
 Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza - *(See daily schedule)*

LIVESTOCK AREA
 Sudsy's Barn - Interactive Hand Washing Station

FOOD
 Over 25 Food Vendors with food to tempt your taste buds.

WINE ROOM - Featuring Solano County Wineries
 Come relax and enjoy Solano County Wine in the peaceful Wine Room.
(See schedule for hours of operation.)

Madden Hall Commercial Building
 Shopping from A to Z

Fine Art & Photography Building
 Paintings • Photographs • Sculptures

Interior Living Building
 Adult Home Arts and Crafts Exhibits
 Adult Baking
 Prairie Quilters - Quilting Demonstrations

Today's Youth Building
 The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 Friday – Sunday (See schedule for times)
 Youth Exhibits
 4-H Exhibits
 Career Technical Education Projects
 Agriculture Mechanics Projects

Southard Floriculture Pavilion
 Youth and Adult Gardens
 Cut Flowers
 Container Grown Plants
 Arnold Collier Farm Implement Collection Display
 Tips from the Solano County Master Gardeners
(See daily Schedule for times)
 Integrated Pest Management Kiosk

Thursday, May 5, 2022

Thrifty Thursday \$5.00 Admission for Everyone! Fair Opens at 4 p.m.

Livestock Shows in Progress *(Fair Admission Required)*
 8:00 A.M. Youth Swine Show - Swine Pavilion
 9:00 A.M. Youth Sheep Show - Sheep Show Ring
 10:00 A.M. Youth Poultry Show - Beef Show Ring
4:00 P.M. FAIR OPENS
 4:00 P.M. Butler Amusements Carnival Opens
 4:00 - 9:00 P.M. Wine Room Open

4:00 - 8:00 P.M. Master Gardeners of Solano County - Southard Floriculture Pavilion
 4:30 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza - Kids Zone
 5:00 - 9:00 P.M. Sacred Fire - A Tribute to Santana- Leber Garden Stage
 6:00 P.M. Youth Still Life Awards Ceremony - Today's Youth Building
 6:30 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 9:00 P.M. Exhibit Buildings & Admission Gates Close
 10:00 P.M. Fair Closes until tomorrow

Friday, May 6, 2022

Kids Day Free Fair Admission for Kids 12 and Under Fair Opens at Noon

Noon – FAIR OPENS
Butler Amusements Carnival Opens
Livestock Shows in Progress *(Fair Admission Required)*
 8:00 A.M. Youth Goat Show - Sheep Show Ring
 9:00 A.M. Youth Beef Cattle Show - Beef Show Ring
 9:00 A.M. Youth Rabbit Show - Swine Show Ring
 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Dixon Fire Department's Sparky the Fire Dog - Kids Zone
 Noon - 8:00 P.M. Master Gardeners of Solano County - Southard Floriculture Pavilion
 Noon - 10:00 P.M. Wine Room Open
 12:30 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Leber Garden Stage
 1:00 P.M. Youth Dairy Cattle Show - Beef Show Ring
 2:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 2:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. Robby James and the Streets of Bakersfield - Leber Garden Stage

3:00 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 4:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 6:00 P.M. Seating begins for Bull & Bronc Riding Event
(Must have a ticket to enter)
 6:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 6:00 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 6:30 P.M. Pee Wee (Children 8 & Under) Showmanship - Sheep Show Ring
 7:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. Foreigner Unauthorized - Leber Garden Stage
 7:00 P.M. **Dawson's Bar & Grill Grandstand - West Coast Rodeo Company - Bull & Bronc Riding Event** *(Tickets \$25 - Advance sale includes fair admission. Day of event \$25 w/o fair admission)*
 10:00 P.M. Exhibit Buildings and Admission Gates Close
 11:00 P.M. Fair Closes until tomorrow

Saturday, May 7, 2022

Fair Opens at 11 a.m.

Rawhide Express Shuttle Available from High School Parking during Fair hours

10:00 A.M. – Dixon Chamber of Commerce Parade – First Street - Dixon
 11:00 A.M. – FAIR OPENS
 11:00 A.M. – 3 p.m. – **8th Annual Dixon May Fair Classic Car Show**
Picnic Stage Area
 11:00 A.M. - Noon 4-H Presentations - Today's Youth Building
 11:30 A.M. Junior Livestock Auction - Beef Show Ring
 11:30 A.M. Dixon Dance Studio - Leber Garden Stage
Noon - Butler Amusements Carnival Opens
 Noon - 10:00 P.M. Wine Room Open
 12:30 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 12:30 P.M. - 8 P.M. Master Gardeners of Solano County - Southard Floriculture Pavilion
 12:30 P.M. - 1:30 P.M. Keep on Truckin' - Picnic Stage
 1:00 P.M. Vacaville High School Drumline - Main Gate Courtyard
 1:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 1:00 P.M. - 5 P.M. Latin Touch Band - Leber Garden Stage
 2:00 P.M. - 3 P.M. 4-H Presentations - Today's Youth Building
 2:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 2:00 P.M. Dixon Chamber of Commerce Parade Awards - Picnic Stage

2:30 P.M. Diaper Derby - Kids Zone
 2:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. Keep on Truckin' - Picnic Stage
 3:00 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 3:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 3:30 P.M. Classic Car Show Awards Ceremony - Picnic Stage
 4:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. Keep on Truckin' - Picnic Stage
 5:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 5:30 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 6:00 P.M. Seating begins for Truck & Tractor Pull (must have a ticket to enter)
 6:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 6:00 P.M. - 10:30 P.M. Vinyl Ride - Leber Garden Stage
 7:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 7:00 P.M. **Dawson's Bar & Grill Grandstand - MAXX KAKL MOTORSPORTS - TRUCK & TRACTOR PULLS** *(Tickets \$25 - Advance sale includes fair admission. Day of event \$25 w/o fair admission)*
 10:00 P.M. Exhibit Buildings & Admission Gates Close
 11:00 P.M. Fair Closes until tomorrow

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Fair Opens at Noon

Rawhide Express Shuttle Available from High School Parking during Fair hours

Mothers' Day Rose Giveaway – First 500 through the Main Gate
(Subject to availability)

Livestock Shows in Progress *(Fair Admission Required)*
 9:00 A.M. - Large Animal Supreme Showmanship - Livestock Area
 11:00 A.M. - Small Animal Supreme Showmanship
Noon – FAIR OPENS
Butler Amusements Carnival Opens
 Noon - 2:00 P.M. Mariachi Oro De Mexico - Main Gate Courtyard
 Noon - 8:00 P.M. Master Gardeners of Solano County - Southard Floriculture Pavilion
 Noon - 12:45 P.M. Ballet Folklorico Netzahualcoyotl – Leber Garden Stage
 Noon - 9:00 P.M. Wine Room Open
 12:30 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 1:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. Crossman Connection - Leber Garden Stage
 2:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. DJ - Picnic Stage
 2:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 2:30 P.M. - 3:20 P.M. Marisol y Su Revancha
 3:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 3:20 P.M. - 3:35 P.M. DJ - Picnic Stage
 3:35 P.M. - 4:25 P.M. Grupo Doble Estilo - Picnic Stage
 3:00 P.M. Livestock Exhibitor Awards - Livestock Area

3:00 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 4:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 4:00 P.M. Seating begins for Demolition Derby (must have a ticket to enter)
 4:25 P.M. - 4:40 P.M. DJ - Picnic Stage
 4:40 P.M. - 5:35 P.M. Rocio y Su Sonora - Picnic Stage
 5:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. 4-H Presentations - Today's Youth Building
 5:30 P.M. The Rubber Chicken Show - Today's Youth Stage
 5:30 P.M. **Dawson's Bar & Grill Grandstand – MoonDog Motorsports DEMOLITION DERBY** *(Tickets \$30 - Advance sale includes fair admission. Day of event \$30 w/o fair admission)*
 5:35 P.M. - 5:50 P.M. DJ – Picnic Stage
 5:50 P.M. - 6:45 P.M. Los Bondadosos – Picnic Stage
 6:00 P.M. Jack Spareribs' Pirate Palooza Show - Kids Zone
 6:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. Rhythm Method Trio - Leber Garden Stage
 6:45 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. DJ - Picnic Stage
 7:00 P.M. Patrick Contreras - Violin on Fire - grounds
 7:00 P.M. to 7:55 P.M. La Raza Obrera - Picnic Stage
 7:55 P.M. to 8:10 P.M. DJ- Picnic Stage - Picnic Stage
 8:10 P.M. to 9 P.M. Banda La 8va Maravilla - Picnic Stage
 9:00 P.M. Exhibit Buildings & Admission Gates Close
 10:00 P.M. Fair Closes until 2023

Subject to change without notification.

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May 5-8, 2022

ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, MAY 6TH • 7 PM

WEST COAST RODEO COMPANY
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SATURDAY, MAY 7TH • 7 PM

MAXX KAKL POWERSPORTS
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SUNDAY, MAY 8TH • 5:30 PM

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- ACROSS**
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9. Type of tide
13. Make more attractive
14. Lawyers' grp.
15. China grass
16. "West Side Story" Tony and _____
17. Mourner's acronym
18. Utilizing
19. "a.k.a. "The King"
21. "Kitschy art movement begun in '50s (2 words)
23. Mortar carrier
24. Back of the neck
25. "Kelly or Chanel 2.55, e.g.
28. Hurtful remark
30. "____ Margery Daw," nursery rhyme
35. Paper unit
37. Duds
39. Eurasian antelope
40. Guesstimate phrase (2 words)
41. Unaccompanied
43. Disgust with sweetness excess
44. Brandish
46. Track competition, e.g.
47. Frustrated driver's recourse
48. Legendary King of Pylos
50. Tsar, tzar or _____
52. Greek letters on campus
53. Deprivation
55. Greek R
57. "A Streetcar Named Desire" star
60. "Popular type of 1950s restaurant
64. Pro athletes' move
65. Sea in Spain
67. Narcotics agent
68. Stringed instrument of India
69. Brewpub offering
70. Shakespearean "ergo"
71. "Gwendolyn Brooks" "Annie Allen" entry, e.g.
72. "Doris of "Que Sera, Sera" fame
73. Disinfectant brand
- DOWN**
1. Statue of Liberty: "I lift my _____ beside the golden door"
2. Sixth month of civil year
3. Encore!
4. "Like Maureen O'Hara and Samuel Beckett
5. Not digital
6. On one's guard
7. "____-Wan of "Star Wars"
8. Fraternity K
9. "Space program established in 1958
10. Arabian chieftain
11. Are not
12. Margaret, for short
15. Raja's money, pl.
20. Changes to a manuscript
22. Military moves
24. Fail to care
25. "____ v. Board of Education
26. Eagle's nest
27. Kr and Xe on the periodic table, e.g.
29. "Postwar prosperity
31. Per person
32. Farm structures
33. Ancient market
34. "Rio Grande" and "Rio Bravo"

CROSSWORD														
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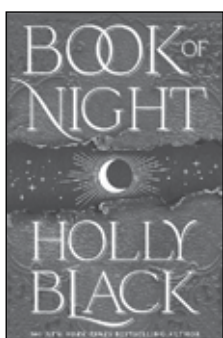
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FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS
By Amy Shane
BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • amy-shane@att.net • amy_fortheloveofbook

New Releases for the Adult Fantasy Reader



Book Of Night
by Holly Black; Tor Books

NYT bestselling author of the famed children's series, *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and *The Folk of the Air* young adult series crashes into bookstores with her new adult debut, *Book of Night*.

Charlie Hall lives in a world where shadows have their own unique power. They can be altered to change your status, looks, value, and even power; however, altering shadows also come at a significant cost. Magic doesn't come free, and the cost can be time off your life, memories, or even your shadow altogether. But there were those who craved the need for power and those specialty alterationists who could provide the service. As a low-level con artist trying to change her life as a bartender, Charlie learned just enough art of manipulation to get by. Then a figure from her past returns, tearing everything apart. As Charlie's future straddles existent and non-existent, she will have to make some dark decisions to keep those she loves safe, which will ultimately throw her into a tumult uproar of murder, secrets, and hidden agenda's where everyone's sights are on controlling the shadows.

Holly Black takes readers on a dark, mysterious, and magical ride where innermost thoughts and fears are woven into a spine-tingling story. Black masterfully forces readers to imagine a world where shadows hold a unique power and influence and can be used to propel a person



The Bone Orchard
by Sara A. Mueller; Tor Books

into fame and fortune. Yet, these shadows also hide dark and gritty secrets, holding the key to your deepest desires, and for a fee, can be cosmetically altered, manipulated, changed, and even stolen. This chilling thought delivers the backdrop of a story bound to fly off bookstore shelves and keep readers afraid of the shadows that always lurk just out of reach.

Charm spends her days confined in a garden of Orchard House, where trees are grown from bones, and the marrow holds the darkest of secrets. As the last necromancer, Charm tends the garden, as well as to the boneghosts that she grew from the orchard. As the madam of the house, Charm is also the mistress to the Emperor, and when she is called to his deathbed, Charm is finally given a chance at freedom, but at a cost. Now, Charm is charged with the heavy burden to uncover who is responsible for the murder of the Emperor she despises, or vengeance for herself and the ghosts she tends and lose her chance at freedom.

Sara Mueller delivers a powerful story built on beautiful worldbuilding and complex characters. With the heavy weight of multiple agendas combined with politics, mystery, and fantasy elements, *The Bone Orchard* delivers on all levels. While this story does depict many sensitive issues and triggers, this plot takes a powerful turn opening the door for reflection and discussion for any book club. ★



Riley Reviews

"MASSIVE TALENT" SPOOFS A FILM LEGEND; TCM FESTIVAL FINALE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"THE UNBEARABLE WEIGHT OF MASSIVE TALENT" Rated R

Nicolas Cage as a fictionalized version of himself in "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent" has odd parallels to troubled legal, real estate and tax issues in his past.

For all his perceived quirks, Cage is more than just an actor. In the words of director/co-writer Tom Gormican, Cage has become not only "a cultural figure," but the "patron saint of strangeness" and this film sets out to prove it.

In the dramatized tale of this film, Cage is first seen deep into compounding his personal and professional difficulties. His career is floundering and huge debts are about to put him out on the streets.

Divorced from makeup artist Olivia (Sharon Horgan) and not relating well to their teen daughter Addy (Lily Sheen), Cage receives the distressing news that he's not getting a great role that could easily launch his comeback.

Hallucinating at times with the surreal presence of his younger self named Nicky, apparently from his "Wild at Heart" era, Cage is admonished that he's a movie star and not an ordinary mortal dealing with family and career issues.

But the best that his smarmy agent Richard Fink (Neil Patrick Harris) can come up with is a strange invitation to collect one million dollars to attend the birthday celebration of obsessed fan Javi Gutierrez (Pedro Pascal).

With no other options on how to pay \$600,000 owed to his hotel residence, Cage ends up as the guest of honor at the eccentric billionaire's oceanfront estate on the Spanish island of Mallorca.

The movie-obsessed Javi, who includes "Paddington 2" as one of his personal favorites, maintains his own little museum of Nicolas Cage memorabilia, including film props and a life-sized wax figure brandishing two golden handguns.

Bonding over a love of cinema, Javi persuades Cage to take a look at a screenplay that offers a chance for their incipient friendship to evolve into a working collaboration that could easily be a caricature of Hollywood fantasy.

The wrinkle to this tale of fandom is that Javi is an international arms dealer, and two CIA agents (Tiffany Haddish and Ike Barinholtz) enlist Cage on a spy mission to rescue a kidnapped daughter of a political leader.

The movie turns into the kind of action thriller that was once the staple of Cage's career, and now he's mired in his screen persona of confronting thugs in the Gutierrez crime family with some gunplay and a car chase through quaint Spanish streets.

More than anything, "Massive Talent" places Cage in absurd situations of living up to his own legend, channeling his most iconic screen characters in order to save himself and his loved ones.

TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL FINALE

The 13th TCM Classic Film Festival, or as I prefer to call it the 11th because the last two gatherings were virtual, came to an end with the usual flourish.

Classic films on display include fan favorites that most cinephiles have already enjoyed over the years. It's great to see Humphrey Bogart in "Key Largo" or Paul Newman and Robert Redford in "The Sting" on the big screen.

On the last day of the festival, the better option was to choose films not as readily available. Watching Piper Laurie and Rock Hudson as young actors in 1952's "Has Anybody Seen My Gal" was a welcome treat.

Ostensibly, the star was Charles Coburn in the role of aging bachelor Samuel Fulton, a millionaire without an heir, who wants to find out if the family of the woman who rejected his marriage proposal decades ago deserves to inherit his fortune.

Fulton finagles his way into the home of the Blaisdell family as a boarder under an assumed name and arranges for them to receive an unexpected windfall and sits back to observe the results of his anonymous beneficence.

The family patriarch (Larry Gates), who runs a pharmacy and soda fountain in a small town, is prompted by his social-climbing wife (Lynn Bari) to sell the family home and business in order to relocate to a wealthy neighborhood.

Piper Laurie's Millicent, the eldest Blaisdell daughter, is romantically linked to Rock Hudson's soda jerk Dan Stebbins, but her disapproving mother tries to arrange a marriage with a rich socialite.

The nouveau riche status of the Blaisdells is soon derailed by poor decisions, and the family finds themselves broke and returning back to their old lives. Yet, everyone seems to be happier, and a life lesson proves that the grass is not always greener on the other side.

"Has Anybody Seen My Gal" is a remarkably agreeable and charming comedy, mostly due to Coburn's bluffing his way into an ordinary lifestyle, going so far as to train as a soda jerk with hilarious mishaps.

A bonus for film buffs at the screening was seeing James Dean in a cameo appearance as a soda fountain customer and hearing from Piper Laurie in person that Charles Coburn's fondness for pinching young ladies was problematic even back then. ★



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-000548
The following persons are doing business as: Chonies Express 366 Crimson Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687. Alba Kipers, 1720 Green Acres Lane, Brentwood, CA 94513 and Jordan Krehlik, 366 Crimson Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687. Date Filed in Solano County: March 29, 2022. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. 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 March 29, 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: April 15, 22, 29 & May 6 2022
CHONIES 5-6-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-000668
The following persons are doing business as: Blue Monarch Medical Transport, 3628 Sunny Hills Lane, Vacaville, CA 95688. Blue Monarch Medical Transport, LLC, 3628 Sunny Hills Lane, Vacaville, CA 95688. Date Filed in Solano County: April 14, 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 April 13, 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: April 22, 29, May 6 & 13, 2022
BLUE 5-13-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2022-000665
The following persons are doing business as: Hancock Properties, 65 Villa Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533. Jeffrey Hancock, 65 Villa Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533. Date Filed in Solano County: April 13, 2022. The Registrant commenced

to transact business under the above business name on: 1.23.2021
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 April 12, 2027. The filing of this state-

ment 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: May 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022
HANCOCK 5-27-22

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Dixon ("City") City Council ("City Council") will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at Council Chambers located at 600 East A Street, Dixon, California 95620, to receive public comment and consider potential transit capital projects funded in part with federal funding under 49 U.S.C. Section 5311 through the California Department of Transportation.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES are invited to attend the Tuesday, May 17, 2022, public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the potential transit capital projects funded in part with federal funding under 49 U.S.C. Section 5311 through the California Department of Transportation. 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 potential transit capital projects funded in part with federal funding under 49 U.S.C. Section 5311 through the California Department of Transportation. 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 regular 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 of, or opposition to, the above proposed action. Written comments are also accepted prior to the hearing by the City Clerk's office, at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Copies of the agenda packet and supporting documents will be available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620, at least three (3) days before the meeting.

If you have any questions, please call the Administrative City Clerk at (707) 678-7000, ext. 1116, or stop by the office at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

BY ORDER OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL, KRISTIN M JANISCH, ELECTED CITY CLERK
Dixon Independent Voice 5-6-2022

Dixon Winning Streak Hits 15



Left: Members of the Dixon High School boy's varsity volleyball team pose for a photo after sweeping Pioneer on Wednesday, April 27 at Senior Night in Dixon. Right: Dixon coach Jessica Biesanz smiles and laughs after being sprayed with silly string by her players following a sweep of Pioneer. Photos by Nicolas Brown

Rams Sweep Pioneer on Senior Night

By Shaun Holkko, sports editor

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The 2022 Golden Empire League champion Dixon Rams concluded the regular season Wednesday, April 27 at home with a Senior Night sweep of the Pioneer Patriots.

With the win, the Dixon boy's varsity volleyball team (15-1, 10-0 Golden Empire) finishes the regular season on a 14-match winning streak. Pioneer (1-14, 1-8) ended its season on a 10-game losing streak. The Rams cruised to the league championship as the next closest team, Mesa Verde, was three games behind them in the standings.

Nine out of 14 Dixon team members were honored on Wednesday evening at Senior Night. The following Rams are in the Class of 2022: Defensive specialist (DS) Diego Palomino, co-captain and libero Demetrio Acosta, middle hitter (MH) Shanay Nair, DS Ethan Reed, setter (S) Jonathan Covello, co-captain and MH/S Ernesto Arias, opposite

hitter (OPP)/outside hitter (OH)/MH Kyan Fries, OH Dylan Diaz and OH/MH Josef Iten.

Dixon controlled the entire match beginning with a dominant 25-11 first set victory. The Rams kept it rolling in the next set, winning 25-10. The Patriots played a much-tighter third set as they attempted to extend the match, however, Dixon prevailed 25-20 to complete the sweep.

The Rams only regular season loss came on March 9 in their second game when they were swept at home by Vanden (18-3, 10-0 Sierra Delta) of Fairfield. Since then, Dixon has won 14 games in a row, including a streak of nine straight without conceding a set to an opponent. The Rams finished undefeated in league play and only lost a set to a Golden Empire opponent once.

Dixon begins the postseason at home on Tuesday against Bear River (11-10, 6-4 Sierra Delta) of Grass Valley in the 2022 CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Division III Boys Volleyball Playoffs. ★

Rams Advance in Division 3 Playoffs

By Shaun Holkko, sports editor

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon won its 15th straight match on Tuesday night, May 3 at home with a sweep of Bear River in the first round of the 2022 CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Division III Boys Volleyball Playoffs.

The No. 5 seed Rams (16-1, 10-0 Golden Empire League) have gone unbeaten nearly all season long, with their only loss coming in the second match of the year when they were swept at home by No. 3 seed Vanden (19-3, 10-0 Sierra Delta) of Fairfield on March 9. The No. 12 seed Bear River (11-11, 6-4 Sierra Delta) of Grass Valley was swept in both its matches against the Vikings as well.

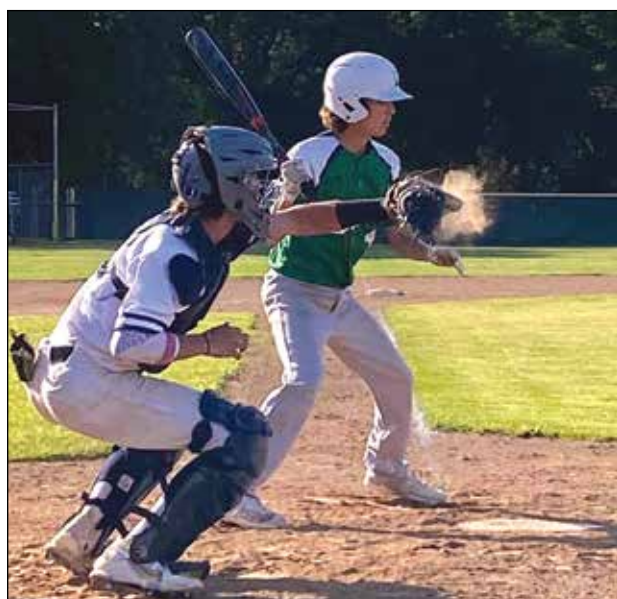
Each set Tuesday was closely contested. Dixon narrowly prevailed in the first set, winning 25-21. Bear River kept it close in the second set as well but lost 25-20. The Rams were victorious in the third and

final set by a similar margin, triumphing over the Bruins 25-21 to sweep the match and advance into the next round of the postseason.

The sweep by Dixon was its 11th in the Rams' last 12 games, during what has been an extremely dominant stretch for Dixon. The Rams have been the victors in 48 sets so far this season and have only dropped 10 total in 17 matches.

Dixon had a quick turnaround with its next game on Thursday night against No. 13 seed East Union (11-9, 5-5 Valley Oak) of Manteca in the quarterfinals of the playoffs. The Lancers appeared to be a formidable test for the Rams going into the game after they pulled off an upset and swept No. 4 seed Livingston (17-4, 7-0 Trans Valley) in the first round.

The result of Thursday's match was unknown as of press time. Visit <https://www.independentvoice.com/> for more Dixon sports coverage. ★



A Dixon batter stands in the box as a pitch passes him by during a 4-1 win.

Dixon Defeats Casa Roble 4-1 in Series Opener

By Shaun Holkko, sports editor

ORANGEVALE, CA (MPG) - The Dixon High School varsity baseball team won on the road at Casa Roble on Monday afternoon, May 2, in the first of three games that will be played between the league rivals this week.

In a battle of the Rams played in Orangevale, Dixon

(14-10, 7-5 Golden Empire League) prevailed over Casa Roble (14-10, 6-4) by a score of 4-1. The loss snapped Casa Roble's four game winning streak.

Dixon scored all four of its runs in the top of the fourth inning. Casa Roble attempted to mount a comeback in the bottom of the fifth. However, the attempt fell short as the Rams only scored one run and ultimately lost 4-1.

Senior pitcher Cade Jacobson earned the win on the mound for Dixon. The right-hander allowed six hits and one run across five and a third innings with eight strikeouts. Junior pitcher Hayden Moore came on to record the final five outs and get the save. Senior pitcher Roman James suffered the loss for Casa Roble after pitching six innings and allowing four runs (two earned) on six hits and two walks with seven punchouts.

Dixon totaled six hits in the win. Seniors Nick Barr and Nolan Fish combined for most of the hits as they each had two to lead the Rams to victory. Casa Roble out-hit Dixon by two with eight total despite scoring three less runs. Infielders, sophomore Carter Gustafson and junior Colton Del Carlo, combined for half Casa Roble's total hits, each with two in four at bats. Del Carlo scored the Rams' only run with one swing of the

bat on a solo home run.

The two teams played again on Wednesday afternoon in Dixon and back in Orangevale on Friday for each team's regular season finale. The outcome of the series was unknown as of press time. Visit <https://www.independentvoice.com/> and <https://americanriver-messenger.com/> for more Dixon and Casa Roble sports coverage.

Dixon photos and statistics courtesy of Regina Fish ★



Above: The Dixon High School varsity baseball team stands on the first base line during the national anthem before winning 4-1. Right: Dixon senior pitcher Cade Jacobson prepares to throw a pitch.



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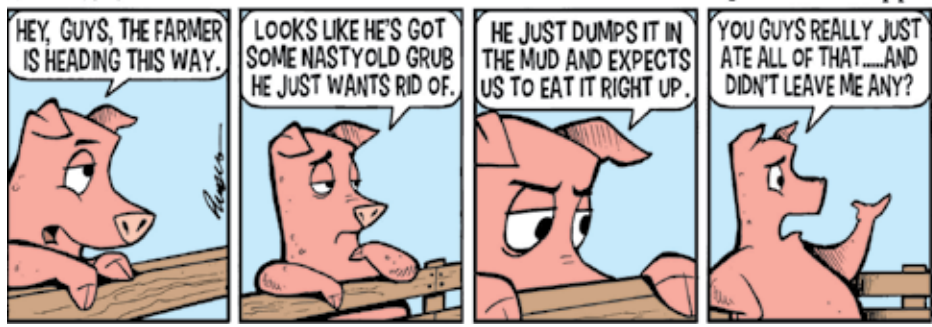
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by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



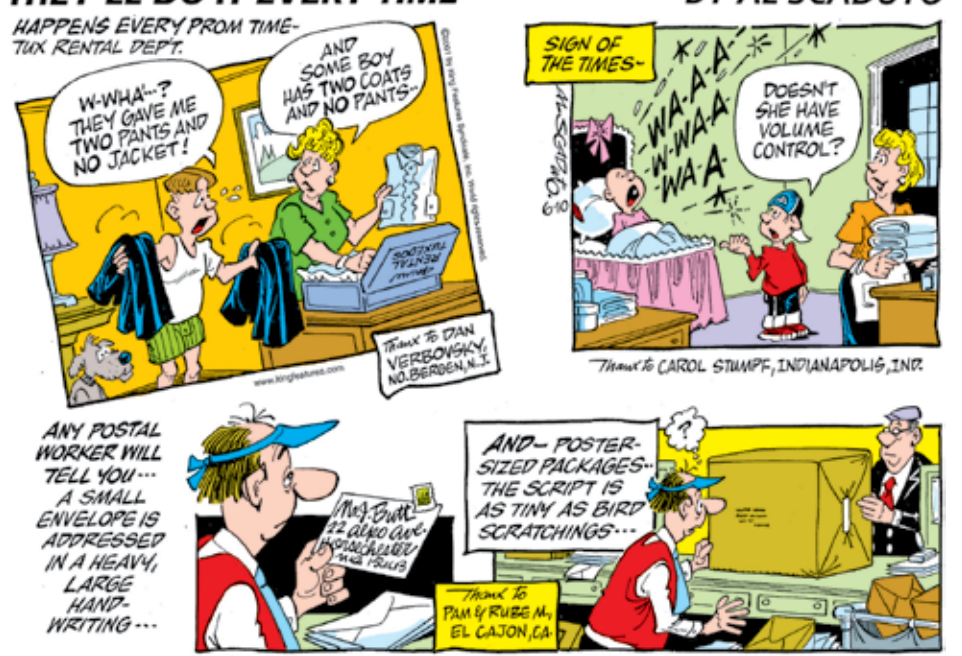
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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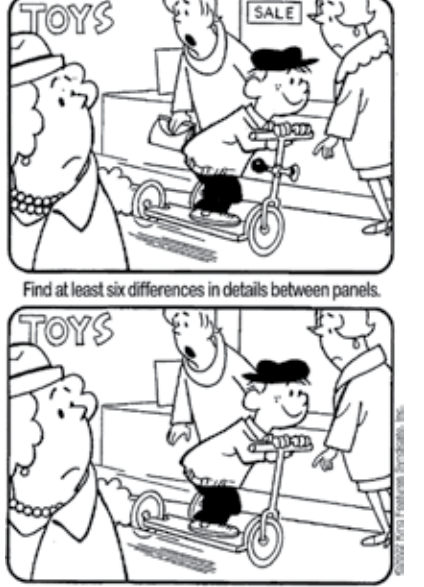
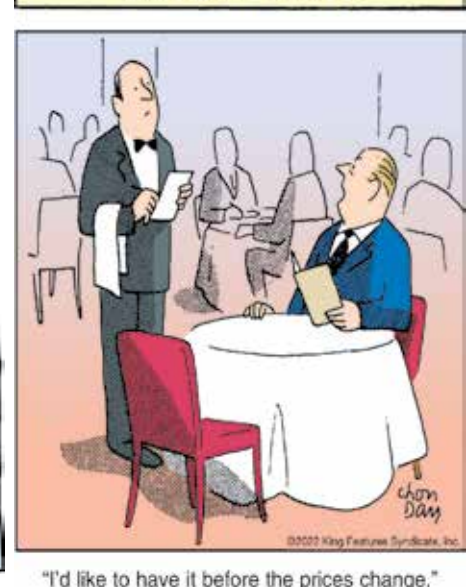
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Celebrate Mother's Day

Commentary
by Dr. Glenn Mollette

Celebrate Mother's Day anyway you can but don't miss the opportunity to honor mom. The opportunities pass us by. While mom is alive is the time to do something for her. Too often someone dies and we want to make sure we attend their funeral and buy flowers. We talk about missed opportunities. While your special person is alive is the time to cherish and make a big deal about that person.

Do what you can do. Mom's simply want to know you care. You could clean out the garage or clean the house. Spend a day working in the yard or trimming shrubbery. People buy flowers and take mom out to dinner typically on Mother's Day. It is no secret that flowers have become even more expensive and many restaurants are having employee issues. If you had to wait to be served in the past this Mother's Day may be challenging. Consider taking mom a card and writing her a letter. Tell her how you feel about her and thank her for being a great mom. The main thing is don't forget the day. If you are a long way from home by all means, make a phone call.

I know some great mothers. My wife is a phenomenal mother. I have sisters, daughters



While your special person is alive is the time to cherish and make a big deal about that person. MPG file photo

and a daughter in law who are great mothers. So, there are plenty of people around for me to honor this weekend. I suspect you may know one or two. Even if they aren't family, wish them a happy Mother's Day.

My mother has been in heaven for a long time and so has the mother of my two sons. Mother's Day is a tough day for them as they lost their mother when they were 20 and 17 years' old. My wife's mother passed just a few years ago. It happens. The chair at the table suddenly is empty and all you are left with are pictures and memories.

I miss the long telephone conversations with my mother. We talked on the telephone for 30 minutes sometimes twice a week. When I was a child, she was my advocate. She was my school tutor. We didn't eat out growing up, so she kept food on the table three times a day. When I was a small child,

we still had a wringer washing machine and the water was not great. We caught rainwater in large tubs and then carried it in to wash clothes. I remember a couple of summers of carrying water from the creek to wash clothes. She ironed clothes for an entire day every week. It was a great day when we were finally able to have an automatic washer and dryer.

Mom worked hard and about twice a week dressed up really nice and she and dad went to church. Like most of our mothers I could write a lot about her, but Eula Hinkle Mollette was a wonderful mother. She loved me, corrected me, and supported me. I know there were times I disappointed her, but she never disconnected from me. She was always there as best as she could be.

The point is don't miss celebrating Mother's Day. You only have one mom. Cherish every minute. ★

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