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Dixon Independent Voice

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MARCH 11, 2022

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Celebrating Curves



Cher Besneatte and Dorothy Luedke have owned the local Curves franchise since 2006 and have announced it's time to retire. They are looking for a new owner so they can keep working out at the Dixon studio. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Thirty years ago, a women's workout studio in Texas opened and soon after franchising, a wave of them flooded across the world as busy women realized the circuit of hydraulic resistance machines gave them a great workout in less time than it takes to do a load of laundry.

One of those locations opened in Dixon in 2002 and just a few years later, Cher Besneatte and Dorothy Luedke teamed up to take it over

and thousands of Dixon women have walked through their doors since.

"Helping women with their health and fitness is the most rewarding," said Besneatte. "When they come in with a cane or walker and a month or two later, they come in without them, that's very gratifying." Both her and Luedke regularly see this.

"What is most meaningful to me is supporting them emotionally," said Luedke. "They cannot get that anywhere else." The business

partners have been through two changes in location – first from the Safeway Shopping Plaza to North Lincoln. But when KUIU wanted to expand their location, they moved again—but like their new location at 1145 Pitt School Road, suite #F because it's closer in town.

"It was a lot of work to relocate here," Besneatte added that both her husband and her son-in-law moved walls and painted, and they all worked to remove the scent of a restaurant that had been in there. It

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New Website for Dixon Schools

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Can't remember when spring break is going to be? Want to know what to do if your child is getting bullied? You have three children at three different schools, and you're having difficulty keeping track of schedules?

The new Dixon Unified School District website is now live and, although not completely finished yet, offers the answers to these questions and more for parents and students. Even teachers will be able to post their assignments, and the District Superintendent and Principals can post weekly updates.

And, in a simple drop-down menu, there is every language anyone local might think of that will instantly change every bit of information into Spanish, Taiwanese, Dutch, or any other language.

The news was presented by Shawntel McCammon, Coordinator of Outreach, Engagement and Innovation, who has been working on the project for several months and was proud to present it to the school board at last week's meeting.

When some of the board was a bit skeptical about staying current, McCammon was quick to report that the website offers the ability for scheduling posts and having drop off dates as well that will help keep the new site current. They also have simple training for all teachers and staff.

The site looks clean and light with pictures of the six mascots of the various schools that anyone can easily see and go directly to their desired school's information. This includes Anderson, Gretchen Higgins, and Tremont Elementary Schools, John Knight Middle School, Dixon High School and Maine Prairie High School.

"Dixon Montessori is a separate entity," said DUSD Superintendent Brian Dolan, "so was not included but they have their own website," he added. Board members commented that they had waited six to nine years for this to happen and all seemed pleased.

In another Board discussion, Assistant Superintendent of Education Services Nick Girimonte reported on the Two-way Bilingual Immersion Program which started in one class at Gretchen Higgins this year.

"If you don't want your Kindergarten student in the program next year, you will have to change to Anderson or Tremont. Students will not get to enter the program after

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Recovering 7-Eleven Clerk Shares Story

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Mild mannered and soft spoken 7-Eleven clerk David Fontaine was not having a good day when what felt like the cold steel of a gun barrel was painfully pushed down into the soft tissue between his neck and shoulder. He simply closed the cash register drawer and made an instant decision.

"You've learned all the procedures but in that moment you have two options going through your brain: fight or flight. They tell us to just let them have it but that tells thieves to come back. I wasn't going to tolerate it," said Fontaine from his small bedroom he rents in a Dixon residence with friends. Fontaine was the clerk working at 10 pm on Feb. 8 at the 7-Eleven store on the corner of Stratford and North First Street who was critically wounded in an armed robbery.

"Every animal in the entire world will instantly attack if something tries to steal it. I was cornered. No



On the night of February 8, a 7-Eleven clerk was critically wounded in a robbery on Stratford and North First Street that put neighboring Dixonites on edge. Within a week, the Dixon Police arrested three suspects. Photo by Debra Dingman

one was expecting that and I know I wasn't, but when you're in that moment where it's either them or you, my brain chose me," said the 31-year-old.

He raised his loose t-shirt to show two black circles the size of quarters on either side of his abdomen and a 6 to 8-inch red line with dots on either

side running down the center of his torso. He had been in the hospital listed in critical condition for a week while Dixonites sat on edge as news unfolded around town.

"There was a scuffle and I was shot in my lower right hand stomach region a few inches in and the bullet came out the back so

didn't hit any organs but the other shot which is below my bottom left rib, hit my upper and lower intestinal track and grazed my kidneys," he said. "The third shot hit a shelf and thankfully, missed everybody else." Fontaine said a couple of customers were visiting with him in the

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Free World Finds Ways to Help Ukraine

By Debra Dingman

It is amazing that Ukraine has not fallen yet to Russia considering the mere size of the Russian army, tanks, bombing, etc. There are many people all over the world praying for them but that's not all they are doing. I read a newspaper article on the crisis in Europe by AP journalists Glenn Gamboa and Halleluya Hadero who cover philanthropy that the free world is doing what the free world does best: Be creative.

This is the first story since Russia's invasion of Ukraine started that really gave me hope that there were a lot of other people in a lot of other countries that feel the way Americans seem to feel—at least as far as I can tell from all the television, social media, and newspaper reports.

We are angry and frustrated that America isn't helping Ukraine just because they don't belong to NATO yet we're watching families being torn and mothers with babies and small children hunkering in subways and bomb shelters without food, water, and heat or walking miles to escape to other countries.

I was sickened when I learned that the last of the free television in Russia was shut down. I never thought I'd live to see the day where there was another Hitler on the loose, but there is and he reigns in Russia. Watching people's recordings direct from their phones shows the truth of a dangerous mind.

"Such scenes are horrifying for the entire continent, witnessing a major power invading a European neighbor for the first time in decades. Recalling the Cold War, Volodymyr Zelensky spoke of Ukraine battling to avoid a new iron curtain closing Russia off from the civilized world," said a BCC news report on March 3.

But, there is hope. The free people of the world who see Russian President Vladimir Putin's unprovoked war have created new channels of support to help Ukraine with

fighting back and providing humanitarian aid.

The AP writers reported that according to the United Nations, the scale of need is "enormous," and that the UN issued an appeal for \$1.7 billion to help with aid efforts for the estimated 12 million people in Ukraine and 4 million refugees. Coming through with that help are companies like Amazon who donated \$5 million to the U.N. refugee agency and has a plan to match up to \$5 million more in donations made by employees. Airbnb is offering free housing in Ukraine for people booking them yet having no plans to stay in them as a means of getting money quickly into the accounts of hosts.

There is a U.S. refugee agency that reported they have already received \$40 million in private donations from individuals and companies. A cryptocurrency tracking company reported more than \$50 million donated to Ukraine's government and to Come Back Alive, an organization that trains and supplies ammunition to Ukraine's military.

It is the first time that there is sort of a public concerted effort to finance an ongoing conflict through cryptocurrency, said a regulation and compliant expert. And there were several other sites including Facebook and Instagram that reported millions raised for humanitarian aid.

But there's also a warning to be careful of scammers and the reporters said it is better for people to donate through the American non-profit, Razom (which means "together" in Ukrainian.) It was established to help Ukrainians after Russia's 2014 invasion and annexation of Crimea and is a 501(c)(3). The website says Razom "supports the people of Ukraine in their pursuit of a democratic society with dignity, justice, and human and civil rights for all."

The AP writers ended their article saying that little things can add up to big things. Please continue to pray for peace. ★

Dixon News Briefs



The Panchita Taqueria, the Mexican Restaurant known for its authentic food truck tacos located at 162 West A Street has expanded into the space that was formerly occupied by a watch repair business. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

Downtown Changes

Bella Moda—the women's clothing store that was located inside the Linde Lane Tea Room has temporarily closed. Dr. Kristina Wiley who owns the dentistry practice upstairs and who owns the tea room reports due to labor shortages, she does not plan to reopen the Linde Lane Tea Room at this time.

The Panchita Taqueria—the Mexican Restaurant known for its authentic food truck tacos located across from Frosty's has expanded into the space that was formerly occupied by a watch repair business.

Tiffany Fabiani—owner of the new Whiskey Bar in the old Bank of America location that closed in 2017, is working with Edward Renger and requested a conditional use permit for permanent outdoor seating and pub use.

It is rumored that a Zumba class is going to be offered in the location formerly the office of Olimpia Garner's State Farm office but could not be confirmed at press time.

Garden Tour

Sustainable Solano announced this Saturday, March 12, from 10 am to noon will be a Garden Tour by Demonstration Food Forest at Dixon Community Church, 955 East A Street.

Learn simple techniques that you can apply to replace lawn with a vibrant, food-producing ecosystem using water wisely.

Then on Saturday, March 19, there will be a 'Gracious Garden Installation' from 10 am to 4 pm. Learn to convert a lawn into an edible garden, dig swales, move mulch, and divert roof water.

Finally, on Saturday, March 26, also from 10 am to 4 pm you can learn to install a water-efficient in-line drip irrigation drip system and help plant the resilient food forest. The program is funded by the Solano County Water Agency. Register online at www.SustainSolano.org/events. The classes are free and lunch will be provided. ★

Wine Bar

Amy Grabish, owner of the Pip Wine Bar in downtown Dixon, is celebrating the company's 2nd anniversary and has invested in a few cocktail tables and folding chairs so that they can host small meetings, weddings (um, yes, Amy is ordained!) or intimate receptions. Grabish is actually ordained but the added seating will also be ideal for small meetings or get-togethers.

"Thank you to everyone who's supported us whether you've been in once, have received deliveries, are still planning to come in or we see you every week," she said in her email. "It's the amalgam and balance of everything and everyone supporting us that has contributed to us surviving thus far. And, we'll drink to that!"

During the month of March, the artwork of local resident and former Dixon Police Officer Ray Mince will be on display at The Pip along with some of their own. The Pip Wine Bar is located at 116 North First Street.

Antique Show

This weekend, the 20th annual Dixon Antiques & Vintage Sale hosted by the Twin Bridges will be indoors at the Dixon May Fair on Saturday, March 12, from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, March 13, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Admission is \$6 with free return and free parking both days. The Dixon May Fair is located at 655 South First Street. For more information, see more info online at: www.tbcashows.info.

City Council

The next opportunity for citizens to hear about Dixon decisions or have a chance to comment on them, is Tuesday, March 15, 7 pm inside the Council Chambers at 600 east A Street. You can also participate via Zoom. Check out the link available online at cityofdixon.com. This is also a great opportunity to learn about the District Representatives and if you want to re-elect them in November.

Celebrating Curves

Continued from page 1

was well worth it, though, and the work-out circuit is much larger now with separate rooms in the back for the Jenny Craig consults.

They have outlasted a long recession, and lots of changes within the larger company including the partnering (and then un-partnering) with Jenny Craig and now a pandemic, but the membership has remained constant, said Besneatte.

"Women need this," she said. "You don't have to change weights or figure out what to do. The machines are designed specifically for women and deliver the equivalent of a 90-minute workout in just 30 minutes. On most mornings and afternoons, a steady stream of women come to work out."

"I've been coming since they first opened in 2002," said member Kitty Lockwood. "It's a nice exercise program I feel I can do, and I like that I know how much time it's going to take. It works for muscle toning and cardiac. I lost 30 to 35 pounds this past year

doing Jenny Craig and Curves! My 77th birthday is this week," she said proudly.

"As a woman's strength improves and she is able to push harder against the machines, the machines respond with more resistance, continually challenging the body," explained Luedke. Curves leveraged this same science when they created MyCurves On Demand, the Curves at-home work-out solution.

On days when the members can't get to the gym, they can use a high-quality resistance band at home to work through a series of exercises, guided by videos and virtual coaching.

"It's the best of both worlds, even when our ability and willingness to venture out in public is challenged," Luedke added.

The business has been a family affair for her as her two daughters worked for them after graduation and it was a good experience.

"They know that they can do it," she said. Luedke has served as Soroptimist President and

Besneatte served as the Dixon Chamber president, both during their business ownership. "They have seen that they can be a mom and work [outside the home.] They were about sixth graders when we bought it and I think it helped keep the girls athletic," Luedke added.

Now, the women have new goals. They want to retire and are looking for a new owner.

"We're selling the Curves franchise," announced Besneatte. "I'm 68, have two grandbabies, and Dorothy's husband passed three years ago so she's ready to move on. We're hoping someone local keeps it open so we can work out here."

The women are considering keeping the Jenny Craig business, now a separate entity, and working a couple days a week in the back offices—that would also help provide business support for the new owner, they say.

To learn more about Curves or Jenny Craig, call (707) 678-4200 or curves-dixon@sbc-global.net or visit www.Curves.com. ★

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DWIC to Arrange Flowers Rams' Season Ends with Playoff Loss



Courtney Kett, Co-owner of Dixon Florist and Gifts.
Photo Courtesy of Dixon Florist

By Loran Hoffmann

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Floral arranging is a favorite topic for the Dixon Women's Improvement Club members so will be welcoming Courtney Kett, Co-Owner of Dixon Florist and Gifts, to present at their Wednesday, March 16 meeting at 1 pm. Meetings are held at the Dixon United Methodist Church social hall at 209 East Jefferson.

Kett is back by popular demand and will share her extensive knowledge of plants and flowers while demonstrating floral arranging techniques. She will share seasonal flowers

available at the flower market in San Francisco and entertain with wonderful family memories of her Mom and Dad, Jean and Joe Williams, who raised five children while owning and operating the family business. Guests are welcome to attend.

In other news, the annual Scholarship Dinner held at Bud's Pub and Grill in February was highly successful in allowing the group to provide more scholarships to graduating seniors for the Dixon High School Class of 2022.

Applications are available at the school counseling office. In

addition, the unique gift baskets, both large and small, and products donated by the members raised more than \$2,100 for the DWIC Community Grant Program for funding special projects of local non-profit organizations. The club is excited to be able to fund more deserving projects than ever before. Contact Teri Brown for Grant Guidelines at (916) 601-3371.

The women will also hear more about taking a Spring field trip to the Gold Country in April where they will be visiting Columbia State Park, enjoying lunch at the Tea House, and traveling on to the small town of Murphys for some retail therapy, a visit to the Murphys Hotel which has historic connections to the club President, Jewel Fink, and finally a quick look at the biggest gold nugget found in California while visiting the grounds of the Ironstone Winery.

Heading back to Dixon, they will stop at a plant nursery in San Andreas, and at Sloughouse for fruits and vegetables. It will definitely be a full day for those who love adventure. Date and price to be announced after the March meeting.

The Dixon Women's Improvement Club meets the third Wednesday of each month, September-June. The dues are \$35 annually. Please call membership Chair, Mary Kay Callaway at (916) 541-0417 if you would like to attend as a guest or would like more information about becoming a member ★



Dixon senior forward Brianna Humphries shoots a floater against Chico in the first round of the CIF State Girls Basketball Championships on Tuesday, March 1 in Dixon. Photo courtesy of Nicolas Brown

By Shaun Holkko, sports editor

OAKLAND, CA (MPG) - A season that will be remembered forever came to an end Thursday, March 3 in Oakland as the Dixon High School girls varsity basketball team lost at Oakland Tech 78-38.

The loss to the Bulldogs (18-11, 7-1 Oakland) not only ends the Rams' (27-4, 10-0 Golden Empire League) season, but also snaps their 20-game winning streak.

All four of Dixon's losses came by at least 19 points. The defeat in Oakland was the Rams' first road loss of the season. 40 points is the Rams' worst margin of defeat, surpassing the first game of the

season when Whitney won by 35.

After dropping their first two games of the season, the Rams rattled off wins in 27 out of 28 games led by head coach Mike Gilliard. 10 of the 27 came in Golden Empire League play, where the Rams went unbeaten.

The most important victory of them all came on Feb. 25 at Golden 1 Center when Dixon defeated Calaveras 48-42 to secure the CIF Sac-Joaquin Division IV section championship.

Senior forward Brianna Humphries concludes her high school career averaging 16.9 points, 8.8 rebounds, 3.1 assists, 2.6 steals and 2.1 blocks per game. ★

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Solano Child Care Planning Council Hosts Community Forum

By Jennifer Leonard, Solano COE

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and the Solano Child Care Planning Council invites families, caregivers, childcare providers, and the community to virtually attend the Child Care Community Forum, on Saturday, March 12, 2022, 10:00-11:30 AM via Zoom.

Presentations and a panel discussion will include Solano Family & Children's Services (childcare resource and referral services), Help Me Grow Solano, Solano Family Resource Centers, and Vallejo First 5 Center. A Better Way's training on mental health first aid will be offered, and participants can learn about local resources and organizations that provide support to children and families. The panel discussion will also address the impacts, responses, and outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic for the childcare system, providers, and the clients these organizations serve.

Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson remarked, "Every Solano family deserves access to high-quality resources and educational options for their children. This

community forum can help parents and community members connect with the wide-ranging supports and programs available to Solano families."

The Solano Child Care Planning Council operates under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools. The council has the responsibility of planning and coordinating childcare services in Solano County. The mission of the council is to provide leadership and advocacy for the development of high-quality, accessible, and affordable childcare programs for every child and family in Solano County. Council members include parents who are currently using or have used childcare services, community members, public agencies that represent childcare, and childcare providers.

The Saturday morning event will be held virtually, via Zoom. Register in advance at: <https://bit.ly/3HF2RrE>

For more information about the Solano Child Care Planning Council or the Community Forum please contact Bronwyn Kennedy, Solano Child Care Planning Council Coordinator, bkennedy@solanocoe.net. ★

Prepping for New Traffic Lights/Crosswalks



Expect a few more days of traffic delays on Highway 113. The work at the South First Street and Chestnut intersection as well as the South First Street and Valley Glen intersection includes traffic signal installation and associated public improvements, according to the City of Dixon. Work specific to the Chestnut intersection is storm drain piping improvements, traffic signal installation, and roadway resurfacing to accommodate new ADA ramps and crosswalks. Photo by Debra Dingman

Dodd: Feral Pig Control Bill Clears Committee



SB 865 increases the eligibility age for a junior hunting license in California. Photo:Pixabay

Office of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Legislation from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would help control California's growing wild pig population, reducing damage caused by the invasive species to the environment, private property and agriculture, cleared a key committee.

"We're a step closer to controlling these destructive, non-native animals, which are endangering sensitive habitats, farms and other animals," Sen. Dodd said. "Thanks to my colleagues for recognizing wild pigs' threat to our state and for doing something about it. We must increase opportunities to hunt them so that we may bring our pig population under control."

California's wild pig population has soared since various non-native boar and pig breeds were introduced centuries ago. They now can be found in 56 of the 58 counties. Numerous environmental and public health problems are associated with pigs and the California Department

of Fish and Wildlife allows year-round pig hunting. Sen. Dodd's proposal, Senate Bill 856, would lift remaining hunting restrictions allowing for better population control and habitat management.

SB 856 has support from wildlife officials and farmers, among other groups. It passed the Senate Natural Resources and Water committee today. At the same time, the committee cleared a second bill from Sen. Dodd, SB 865, which increases the eligibility age for a junior hunting license in California, opening opportunities to participate in outdoor sports to a greater number of young people.

"Feral pigs cause of significant damage in our state to the environment, private property, agriculture and other wildlife," said Eric Sklar, member of the California Fish and Game Commission. "They are not native and are a real challenge to many native species. We need to take a broad approach to reducing the feral pig population and I am grateful to Sen. Dodd for his efforts on this issue." ★

Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Submitted

Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - For the first time in history, California's Solano Subbasin now has the robust framework needed to help sustainably manage the region's valuable groundwater resources in such a large and ag-focused state. On Jan. 31, 2022, the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) submitted the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on behalf of the Solano Collaborative. As required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014, the GSP describes current groundwater conditions in the Subbasin, sets sustainable management criteria, and identifies projects and management actions to achieve sustainable groundwater management.

The GSP represents three years of collaborative planning efforts among GSAs, a Community Advisory Committee, a technical team, and extensive public outreach across the Subbasin. Signatories to the GSP represent 10 water management entities – including the Solano Irrigation District GSA, Solano GSA, Sacramento County GSA, City of Vacaville GSA, and the Northern Delta GSA – collectively

known as the Solano Collaborative, which has recently been joined by several Reclamation Districts.

Consistent with SGMA requirements, DWR has opened a public comment period for all GSPs received. The GSP is now available for public comment on the DWR website here: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/preview/117>

Public comment will be available through April 23, 2022.

As the Solano Subbasin moves to implement the GSP, engaging surrounding communities will be essential in order to understand how to support groundwater sustainability measures.

"Cities like Dixon and Rio Vista rely 100% on groundwater for their domestic needs. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act allows for local control, which we know is important to keep management of our resources here at the local level," said Chris Lee, chair of the Solano Collaborative. "Community support and involvement will help us ensure effective and sustainable local management of the water resources — so that the Solano Subbasin's treasured communities and agriculture can thrive for generations to come."

To learn more about the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, visit solanogsp.com. ★

New Website for Dixon Schools

Continued from page 1
kindergarten," he said. When asked about costs, he reported that they were in the process of writing a grant, and that the "District feels they'll get funding to offset any costs."

The District has been working with consultants who are convinced

Dixon is ready to move ahead and get started, but there is much more to do to promote the program to parents. As of two weeks ago, there were 27 enrolled.

"Keep in perspective that we are only talking one grade, not the whole school, so there is only

one group of teachers to be trained," Girimonte said.

At the end of the meeting, Board President Caitlin O'Halloran reminded that March 17 is the next School Board Meeting, Spring Break is April 4 through 8, and that April 21 is the next School Board Meeting after that. ★

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Food & Farm NEWS

Federal Water Supplies Cut Off from Central Valley Project

Thousands of California farmers and ranchers will get no federal water deliveries for 2022. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced that it is suspending all shipments to irrigation contractors that rely on the Central Valley Project. This marks the second straight year no federal water was supplied due to drought conditions. The water picture has only worsened since December snowstorms. Most of that early snowpack melted away in the dry January and February.

UC Merced Study: Drought in 2021 Cost California Agriculture \$1.1 Billion

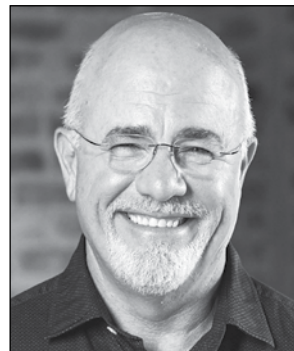
The drought is having a severe economic toll on California agriculture. A new study from the University of California, Merced, said exceptionally dry conditions in 2021 resulted in a \$1.1 billion loss for farm businesses in the state. An estimated 8,750 full- or part-time agricultural workers lost their jobs. The report also said 395,000 acres of farmland were idled. Crops most affected by fallowing were rice in the Sacramento Valley, cotton in the San Joaquin Valley and grain and field crops statewide.

Cattle Ranchers Face Tough Decisions as Pastures Turn Brown

The next two weeks may be crunch time for California ranchers, who are hoping for rain to get their pastures growing and keep their livestock fed. With grazing lands browning, many ranchers may need to rely on feed hay, for which prices are surging. Freight costs are also soaring. Without more precipitation, more ranchers may have to weigh decisions on culling their herds. The cattle market is better than last year, but prices are lower than during the state's last drought.

USDA Funding to Boost Market Access for Regional Food Producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is releasing \$130 million in supplemental funding to help promote and create expanded markets for regional food producers. The funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and the USDA's Local Agriculture Market Program is intended to strengthen opportunities for farmers and rural producers to sell products to institutions, including universities and hospitals. ★



Dave Ramsey Says

make \$150,000 a year, I'd say go have a great time. But with your income, and a lot of debt on top, I'd put the brakes on that amount. It sounds like he's looking for an outlet to unwind and have a little fun, without giving a lot of thought to the big picture. The good thing, though, is you're working together and beginning to take this personal finance thing seriously.

hiking and picnics are great ways to spend quality time together, while keeping your pocketbook in your pocket. Just be creative, talk about it together and make sure you find ways to have a little us time on a regular basis.

I think you're right on this one, Carlyne!

– Dave

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

Date Night can be Inexpensive and Fun

Dear Dave,

We're trying to get control of our finances by living on a budget. We also have about \$18,000 in debt we are trying to pay off. My husband brings home \$3,400 a month, and I am currently taking care of our eight-month-old baby. We would like to have a date night once a month, and he thinks we should set aside \$200 for this. Under the current circumstances, I feel like this is too much. What do you think?

– Carlyne

Dear Carlyne,

If you'd told me you guys

My advice would be to lower the date night amount to about \$50 right now. That's plenty for a reasonable dinner and a babysitter for a couple of hours. You might not have to figure babysitting expenses into the equation at all if you have family or friends nearby.

Going out on a date doesn't have to mean spending a lot of money. Years ago, when my wife and I were broke, we did tons of stuff that didn't cost a dime. Things like

CLG NEWS UPDATES

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DC area bracing for trucker convoy protests as nearly 1,000 vehicles hit Maryland town | 5 March 2022 | Long lines of 18-wheelers and other trucks crowded the roads of Hagerstown, Maryland, early Saturday as the Washington, DC-area prepared for protests over COVID-19 mandates. While other similar US trucker convoys have fizzled, this one started gaining steam Friday evening. Roughly 1,000 vehicles arriving from all directions converged on Hagerstown Speedway, clogging traffic, the Washington Post reported. As of 8 p.m., a two-mile-long line of cars and trucks could be seen stuck in traffic on Route 40 trying to get into the location, WUSA-9 TV reported. Some truckers participating in the "People's Convoy" said they planned to head to the DC Beltway area Saturday, but others said they were awaiting instructions.

US Surgeon General asks Big Tech platforms to hand over Covid 'misinformation' data | 4 March 2022 | Joe Biden's Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy formally requested Big Tech companies submit data on the prevalence of COVID-19 "misinformation" on social media, instant messengers, search engines, e-commerce platforms, and crowdsourcing platforms. The request for information is part of the Covid National Preparedness Plan that Biden announced during the State of The Union address on Tuesday. The surgeon general's office wants platforms to submit data on the prevalence of alleged Covid misinformation, beginning with the common examples of such misinformation outlined by the CDC. Dr. Murthy's request asked about the major sources of Covid misinformation, including those that have been providing "unproven" treatments. The request for information asked platforms to provide data on "exactly how many users saw or may have been exposed to instances of Covid-19 misinformation," and the demographics that have allegedly been disproportionately exposed and affected by Covid misinformation.

Pfizer Vaccine Only 12% Effective in Kids 5 to 11, Study Says – | 1 March 2022 | The effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine against Omicron "declined rapidly for children, particularly those 5-11 years," according to a study released February 28. The authors of the study still recommended the vaccine for that age group, stating it was protective against severe disease. They also proposed the recommended dose for 5- to 11-year-olds was too small, suggesting a higher dose might solve the problem. According to The New York Times, the study's lead author, Dr. Eli Rosenberg, briefed Dr. Rochelle Walensky and other officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the New York data in early February. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials learned of the data around the same time. Some scientists at those agencies then pushed for the data to be made public before an FDA meeting, scheduled for Feb. 15, to review Pfizer's application for Emergency Use Authorization of a three-dose regimen of its vaccine for infants and children 6 months to 5 years old. But the study's findings were only made public on Monday.

Durham Tells Court Not to Dismiss Charge Against Lawyer Who Hid Ties to Clinton Campaign | 5 March 2022 | Special Counsel John Durham on March 4 told a federal judge not to dismiss a charge against a lawyer who lied to the FBI about representing Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign. Michael Sussman was representing the Clinton campaign when in 2016 he passed along information to an FBI counsel. His lawyers say the documents "raised national security concerns" while prosecutors describe them as purportedly detailing a covert channel between a Russian bank and the business of Donald Trump, Clinton's rival at the time. Sussman was charged with lying to the FBI because he falsely told the counsel he was not providing the allegations to the FBI on behalf of any client despite presenting the information on behalf of the Clinton campaign, prosecutors say. In a filing in February, Sussman's lawyers moved to dismiss the charge, claiming their client "did not make any false statement to the FBI" but even if he had, "the false statement alleged in the indictment is immaterial as a matter of law." ★

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 Chris Gilbreth, 106 Meadowbrook Court Vallejo, CA 94591
 Date Filed in Solano County: December 30, 2021
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 This Business is conducted by: Individual
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 Publish: February 25, March 4, 11, and 18, 2022
 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 3-18-22

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 - Marlboro debris
 - *Academy Award ceremony audience sound
 - Botch
 - Sigma _____ fraternity
 - Ten million, in India
 - Embryo sacs
 - Literary "even"
 - Tax evader's fear
 - *Most nominated streamer in this year's Oscars
 - *Most-nominated Black actor in Oscar history
 - Opposite of yang
 - Lard cousin
 - "Milk _____ movie snack
 - Poetic source of Norse mythology
 - 2020 demographic event
 - Arrival times, acronym
 - Baseball points
 - Camelot to King Arthur
 - Actress Campbell
 - "Where Oscar-winner 'Slumdog Millionaire' was set
 - Not in favor
 - "What Halle Berry did when she won an Oscar in 2002
 - Jet black
 - Lively
 - Paid killers (2 words)
 - Upon
 - Rally repeater
 - Sweet-talk
 - Not outs
 - *Total Oscar nominations for "The Power of the Dog"
 - *One of this year's Oscar hosts
 - Exotic juice flavor
 - *Jamie Foxx won an Oscar in 2005 for this flick
 - Bizet's "Carmen," e.g.
 - Off kilter
 - *1942's "Holiday _____" Oscar winner
 - Admit (2 words)
 - Afterward
 - And so on acronym
 - Took the Kool-Aid
- DOWN**
- J. Edgar Hoover's man
 - Ice on a window
 - Antonym of "is"
 - Enlighten
 - Puck stopper
 - Kilimanjaro top, e.g.
 - Pronoun
 - Hinduism follower
 - *"Parallel Mothers" nominee Penelope
 - Prospector's mother
 - Seed coat
 - Lassie, e.g.
 - Type of horse gait
 - Lemur from Madagascar
 - European Economic Community
 - Playground attraction
 - "Belfast" nominee "Shakespeare in Love" winner
 - First cradles
 - Lifeboat support
 - *Denis Villeneuve's sci-fi nominee
 - Type of tide

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Riley Reviews

A BROODING DARKNESS ENGULFS "THE BATMAN" IN GRIM VIOLENCE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"THE BATMAN" RATED PG-13

You don't have to be of a certain age, because of streaming options, to be familiar with the '60s camp classic television series "Batman" to appreciate the comical times of the Caped Crusader's battles with evildoers like the Penguin, the Riddler and the Joker.

Frank Gorshin's Riddler, clad in a green suit adorned with question marks, offered riddles for his nefarious deeds. Burgess Meredith's Penguin, who had an affinity for umbrellas, waddled around in a tuxedo imitating the namesake bird.

Cesar Romero's clown-faced Joker was a villainous prankster leaving behind jokes as clues to his crimes. For Matt Reeves' "The Batman" there are no cartoonish characters. Even the Joker is nowhere to be found.

This reboot of the DC universe's crime-fighter takes a different turn with Robert Pattinson's Bruce Wayne/Batman, as he is not the billionaire playboy of old, but rather a reclusive figure who causes a stir when making a rare public appearance without the costume.

More than ever, Gotham City is a putrid cesspool of violent criminals, corrupt politicians and morally compromised police officials. The crime-riddled streets are populated with the dregs of society who look like they escaped from a "Mad Max" movie.

"The Batman" is a nocturnal journey through the rain-soaked streets of the metropolis, the habitat for Batman who observes in one of many voiceovers, "They think I am hiding in the shadows. I am the shadows."

In the midst of a heated campaign for mayor of Gotham City, the incumbent Don Mitchell (Rupert Penry-Jones), the establishment favorite, is challenged by reformer and political neophyte Bella Real (Jayme Lawson) seeking real change.

The amoral mayor is having an affair with Annika (Hana Hrzic), who just happens to be a roommate with Selina Kyle (Zoe Kravitz), and both of them work at the Iceberg Lounge, a nightclub favored by the criminal class and a few city officials like D.A. Gil Colson (Peter Sarsgaard).

Aside from dealing with petty thugs beating up on innocent bystanders, Batman gets called to duty by way of the Bat-signal when the mayor is brutally murdered in his own home on the eve of the election.

One of Batman's closest friends is Jeffrey Wright's Lt. Jim Gordon, who is on the crime scene of the gruesome death. To the chagrin of other police officials, Gordon has asked Batman to join him for some detective work.

The friendship between Batman and

the lieutenant is rooted in mutual admiration for honesty and rectitude that is woefully lacking within Gotham City's power structure and law enforcement.

It quickly becomes apparent that a serial killer is on the loose in "The Batman," and the first slaying is that of the mayor, a gruesome act that is linked to the elusive Riddler (Paul Dano), who taunts Batman with a greeting card message teasing more deaths and mayhem to come.

This is enough to put the brooding Batman, a tortured soul, into a deeper funk. Even his faithful butler Alfred (Andy Serkis) can't help, and possibly that's because Batman remains anguished over the deaths of his parents.

Little does Batman know at the initial brush of investigating the death of the Riddler's first victim that more torment and pain are in store as family secrets come to light in mysterious ways, courtesy of the serial killer.

Circumstances bring Selina and Batman together to pursue leads that fit each one's agenda, and while they may be at odds sometimes, they make a good pair confronting the Penguin (an unrecognizable Colin Farrell), who reports to his boss, the crime lord Carmine Falcone (John Turturro).

Most of the time it rains in Gotham City, thereby heightening the grim mood that pervades throughout the series of murders and other catastrophes that beset the populace. Yet, "The Batman" is masterful in depicting trauma that even the hero can't fully fix.

Don't come to "The Batman" expecting humor or wisecracks to lighten its deadly seriousness. Darkness reigns and daylight never shines on Gotham City. This is as far away as one can get from Adam West's frivolity, but it seems fitting for the times we are living in today.

Not the typical superhero adventure, "The Batman" is foremost a detective story, with Bruce Wayne's alter-ego working hand-in-hand with Gotham's finest detective in Jim Gordon. Of course, it helps immensely that Batman has more tools at his disposal.

A real bonus to appreciating "The Batman" are the soundtrack by Michael Giacchino and cinematography by Greig Fraser, both of which capture the tenor and essence of Gotham's forbidding chaos.

Compared to other Caped Crusader films, "The Batman" is a modern film noir, where the flaws and foibles of the main characters, even those of the hero, are on full display.

Unlike other indestructible superheroes, Batman's humanity and emotions make for a more compelling hero. Everything adds up to making "The Batman" one of the best DC adaptations, and it is definitely worth seeing on the big screen. ★

Only A Monster

by Vanessa Len



◆ Publisher: Harper Teen
 ◆ Intended Reading Audience: Fantasy, Young Adult
 ◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥
 ◆ Release Date: February 22, 2022

the secret power that only she knows about. While also trying to juggle the ruthless and unsufferable Aaron Oliver, born to a monster family who hates the Hunts. Now with feuding ancestral families and monster hunters around every corner, the battle of good versus evil is turned on its head.

Dark and atmospheric *Only A Monster* takes readers on an adventure that crosses through the planes

of existence and drops them on the other side. A story of ancient powers, shifting timelines, and mythological stories that have been woven together and passed down generations for each family to blend to their own truth.

With a strong main character that readers will want to follow on any adventure and two boys that can easily fill the enemies-to-lovers trope, readers will constantly be left flipping on who to trust and who to follow. But don't be fooled; Vanessa Len has the ability to lead her readers down a maze of truth and lies, allowing them to trustingly follow only to deliver a dead end, making them turn around and rethink their theory. Easily a top choice for young adult fantasy, this is an author to watch and a series to follow. Even though he warned at the book's closing, readers are left with the haunting question- Are monsters born or made? ★

Every summer Joan Chang Hunt looks forward to visiting her eccentric family in London, and this year is starting to shape up to be the best summer yet. Landing a job at the Historic Holland House Museum is a dream. It also helps that she is working alongside handsome coworker Nick. Everything begins to fall into place when Nick finally asks her out on a date, then just as quickly, it all falls apart.

On the night of her date, Joan accidentally discovers the truth about her family, changing everything she thought she knew about the world, and Nick is part of that history. Now, with the startling realization that she is actually part of an ancient line of monsters, Joan must quickly embrace her dark hidden powers. Because the boy she has fallen for is the hero born to slay her.

Now, on a race through time, Joan must try to discover the truth behind the monsters, the hero, and

Feinstein Now Must Decide Whether to Retire



By Dan Walters
CALMatters.org

and was the go-to person for California's interest groups with issues in Washington.

However, political polarization has left her drifting in political no-man's land, reflexively despised by Republicans because she's a Democrat and increasingly alienated from a leftward-drifting Democratic Party.

As Donald Trump's presidency widened the ideological divide, Feinstein's centrism, particularly her willingness to cross the Senate aisle and do business with Republicans, made her a pariah to the Berniecrat wing of her party. Four years ago, as she was seeking another Senate term, the state party endorsed rival Kevin de León.

Feinstein easily defeated de León in 2018 but her popularity continued its downward course, not only because she's out of step with her party but due to her age and media reports that she may be suffering the cognition effects of old age. She must now – and soon – decide whether to seek still another term in 2024.

Feinstein has said she's running again, but she would say that under any circumstances because that's what politicians do. Were she to announce retirement, her clout in the Senate, which already has waned somewhat, would vanish and there would be a feeding frenzy among California's ambitious Democratic politicians.

That said, it was at least a 50-50 bet that Feinstein wouldn't seek another term in 2024 even before the devastating poll and her husband's

death. There's now a strong probability she won't run, approaching near-certainty.

As that probability sinks in, those ambitious politicians will be maneuvering to become her successor and all eyes will be on Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Newsom won't have any trouble winning re-election this year, barring some cataclysmic x-factor, but what then?

Had Trump won a second term in 2020, the door would have been open for Newsom to make a run for the White House in 2024. But with Joe Biden's victory – and more pointedly, Californian Kamala Harris' elevation from the Senate into the vice presidency – a 2024 presidential run by Newsom seems highly unlikely.

Newsom wears ambition on his sleeve and if he wants to extend his political career, the next logical move would be into the Senate, and there's no better springboard than a landslide re-election as governor this year.

Newsom is certainly not the only California politician who might want to succeed Feinstein. There are probably several dozen Democratic members of Congress who see a senator staring back when they look in the mirror, plus some other statewide officials and big city mayors.

It all hinges on whether Feinstein is ready for a well-earned political retirement.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★

Whither Dianne Feinstein? California's senior U.S. senator, a California political fixture for more than a half-century, was facing a turning point even before her husband, financier and philanthropist Richard Blum, died on Sunday of cancer.

The Senate's oldest member at 88 and the state's longest serving senator has clearly fallen out of favor with voters, even her fellow Democrats.

A new poll by UC-Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies found that after years of steadily eroding popularity, just 30% of the state's registered voters now approve of her, including just 45% of Democrats. Meanwhile, 49% said they disapproved.

"The five-term senator now receives more negative than positive job ratings from strong liberals, women, voters of color, younger voters, as well as voters in Los Angeles County or the San Francisco Bay Area," the poll noted.

Feinstein has been a senator for nearly 30 years, following two decades of public service in San Francisco, including a stint as mayor. She was once one of the state's most popular politicians due to her centrist, pragmatic approach,

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7-Eleven Clerk Shares Story

Continued from page 1

store, and he did not realize that the other two guys that had just come in were part of the 'robbery team.'

The Dixon Police Department arrested 21-year-old Jeremiah Gordon-Hill of Richmond on charges relating to attempted murder, attempted robbery, burglary, possession of a firearm as a convicted felon and conspiracy to commit a crime. Also arrested were 25-year-old Kahraan Nabavi and 24-year-old Treyvonn Cook, both from Marin City in Marin County, on similar charges. Cook also faces a violation of probation.

Fontaine has formed opinions about guns during his recovery.

"Honestly, I think everybody who owns a store should have a gun readily available," he said.

"While we respect the right of any citizen to defend themselves against violence, we have tremendous faith and trust in our law enforcement partners. These men and women put their own lives on the line every day to protect the public in situations that are often fluid and wildly unpredictable. We would never encourage a citizen to put themselves in harm's way unnecessarily," said Solano County District Attorney Krishna Abrams.

Dealing with Aftermath

While Fontaine is healing, his mother is driving him to legal proceedings, but Fontaine is still in a lot of pain.

"I'm alive but where they took the staples out, it feels like bee stings and like a burning curling iron resting on my insides," he said. He has been able to pay his rent because of Workers Comp but attributes the other housemates for cooking and providing food.

"We love David but this has given us a deeper level of love for him. He's a beautiful person. He's like a son to me," said homeowner Toni Echarte who said she and the other housemates went into "prayer the instant we heard."

"He has been through major surgery and lost some of his intestines but we are amazed at his recovery rate," she added.

"I've worked here in Dixon 27 years and never had anything like this," said Sunny Atwal, the 7-Eleven manager. "David is a really nice guy, he's a great employee, is always on time, and has helped me out. I love this guy," he added empathetically.

"My philosophy as a prosecutor has

always been to put victims first," offered Abrams. "As District Attorney, I firmly believe it is my responsibility to prosecute serious and violent crimes to the fullest extent of the law. I will never waiver in my commitment to making our community safe and making sure the victim's voice is always heard."

After he was shot the men ran out of the store and Fontaine had to make another choice. To fall on the ground or reach for a phone. He called the Dixon police who responded immediately.

Increase in Violent Crime

Since he's been out of the hospital, Fontaine has been reflecting on his experience.

"I was emotionally prepared as I've had several terrifying experiences when I lived in a group home. I wasn't scared," Fontaine said. He was more angry that someone was trying to steal and spoke about how the "State of California has been degrading over the past several years" and blamed parents for not teaching their children not to steal. He said he has noticed an increase in bad attitudes, disrespectful remarks, and said systems need to "stop spoiling the prisoners" and/or putting criminals back out on the streets.

"Prop 47 and other accompanying legislation simply failed to take into account how the proposed reforms would impact our ability to do our jobs as prosecutors, as well as how those reforms would affect those who have been victimized by crime," said Abrams.

"Further attorney positions are required to immediately address both the uptick in violent crime, as well as the changes in the law that result in violent criminals being released early before their entire sentence has been completed. There are currently over 65 pending murder cases in Solano County and our resources have been stretched to the limit. More funding is needed to ensure that these cases can be prosecuted ethically and fairly, and that the victims get justice."

Fontaine says that he will go back to work when he's healed.

"I've seen the news and seen what everybody has said, and I'm grateful for everybody's words and encouragement to get better," he said. "The best thing I can say even though you're a small town community, you have the biggest hearts and it's much appreciated." ★

A Tuleyome Spring Thing! Picnic at Woodland Regional Park Preserve



The sun rises at the Tuleyome Woodland Regional Park Preserve on Feb. 23, 2019. Photo courtesy of Nate Lillge.

By **Sandra Schubert**,
Tuleyome Executive Director

WOODLAND, CA (MPG)

Tuleyome will host a nature-filled celebration on Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Woodland Regional Park Preserve located in Woodland, CA to celebrate and support Tuleyome's programs and access to natural lands.

This free event will feature experiences to inspire wonder of nature nearby and connect people to their backyard. The

event will also feature live music, hands-on activities, nature exploration, guided bird and tracker walks, heritage talks, and more. Special guest participation includes Laura Sandage and an interactive tree watering experience, UC Davis Bohart Museum of Entomology, and walking theater performances from Nature's Theater. Along with inspiring nature booths, Tuleyome staff and board members will host a variety of presentations to share Tuleyome's plans and field ideas and questions. The event will

conclude with a campfire, storytelling, and drums.

Participants are encouraged to bring their favorite snacks, food and blankets to picnic by the preserve's natural beauty – all while supporting Tuleyome to enhance, restore, and conserve our deep home place.

RSVP AT <https://bit.ly/tuleyomespringthing>. For questions about this fun, experiential Tuleyome event, contact information@tuleyome.org. The event is free, but gratitude donations are welcomed. ★

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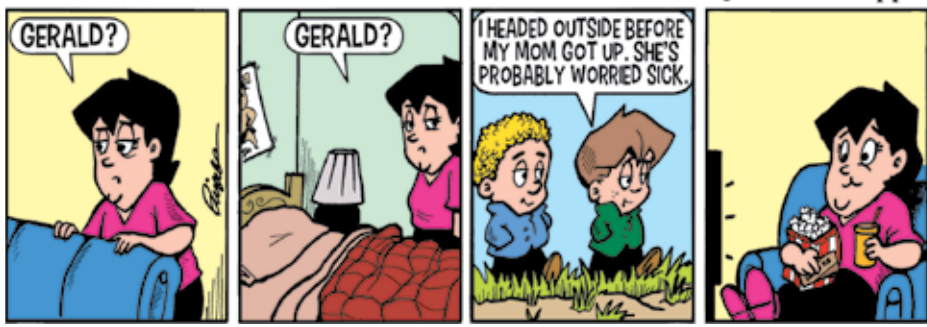
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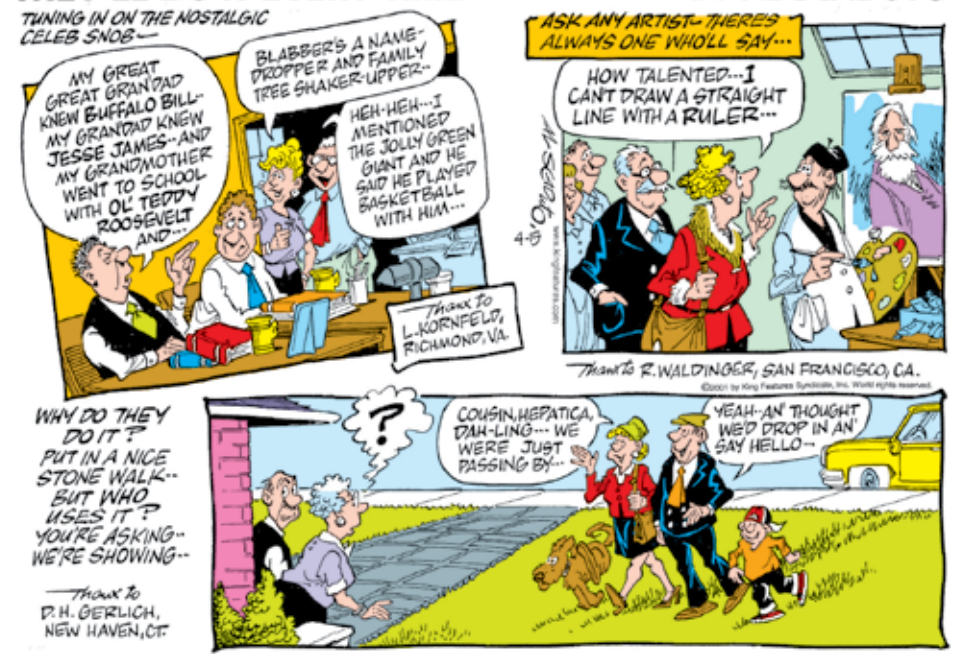
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Dixon Comeback Attempt Falls Short in Loss at Campolindo

By Regina Fish

MORAGA, CA (MPG) - The Dixon High School varsity baseball team's rally came up just short Monday, Feb. 28 in a 9-8 loss at Campolindo High School in Moraga.

The Rams (2-1) entered the top of the sixth inning trailing the Cougars (1-0) by four runs. Dixon scored three runs via a double by Hayden Moore

and a sacrifice fly by Nick Barr, although it wasn't quite enough.

Both the Rams and Cougars had more runs than hits in this high-scoring affair. Dixon collected seven hits and Campolindo had five.

In the top of the second inning, the Rams got their offense started when sophomore Jack Kirchhoff drew a walk, scoring a run. Dixon scored five total runs in the inning to take a

commanding lead.

The Cougars began chipping away at their deficit with one run in the bottom half of the inning and two more in the third.

Campolindo pulled away for good with five runs in the fourth inning. Senior outfielder Connor Fritch singled on a 3-2 count, scoring two runs, Karp drew a walk to score a run and an error scored two more for the Cougars.

Pitcher Colin Godfrey led things off on the mound for Campolindo. The senior fireballer allowed three hits and three runs over one inning, striking out one and walking none. Senior pitcher Zach Anderson recorded the final nine outs to earn the save for the Cougars.

Cade Jacobson started the game on the bump for Dixon. The senior righty lasted 3 1/3 innings, allowing two hits and

four runs while striking out three. Moore threw 2 2/3 innings of relief out of the bullpen.

Nolan Fish, Jett Harris, Cooper Dwyer, Danny Martinez, Moore, Jacobson and Barr each had one hit for the Rams.

Campolindo was sure handed in the field and did not commit a single error. Senior infielder Michael Coane had the most opportunities in the field for the Cougars with 14. ★

Rams Rally in Extra Innings to Beat Winters

Story and photos by Regina Fish

WINTERS, CA (MPG) - The Dixon High School varsity baseball team won their third game in a row Monday in eight innings with a 2-1 road victory at Winters.

Seven innings was not quite enough for the Rams (5-1) and Warriors (1-4) on Monday afternoon as the game went into extras knotted at one. In the top of the eighth, Kai Mulitsch-Reynolds singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring the go-ahead run.

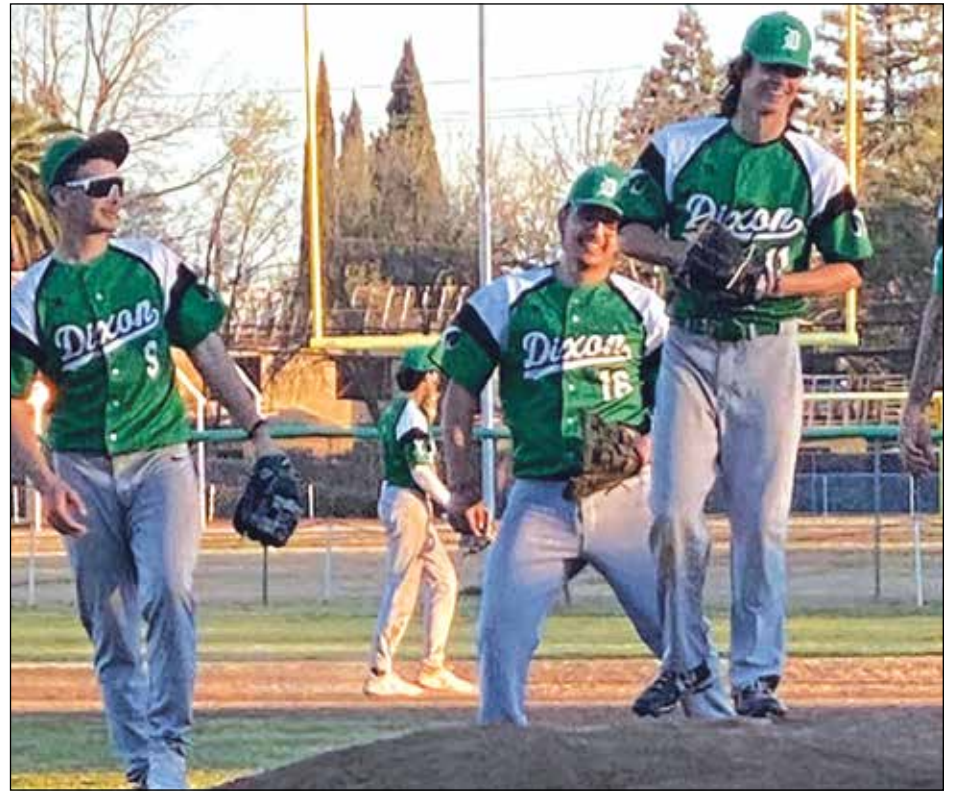
Pitching was strong on both sides of this defensive duel. Dixon struck out ten, while Winters sat down seven.

In the bottom of the second inning, Winters got their offense on the scoreboard when AJ Pignataro hit into a fielder's choice, scoring one run.

In the top of the fourth, Dixon tied the game at one. Junior Jett Harris singled on the first pitch to score the game-tying run.



Dixon batter Malakai Martinez takes practice swings during a 2-1 loss in extra innings against Winters.



From left to right, Dixon players Jett Harris, Danny Martinez and Ryan Green share a laugh in between batters during a 2-1 loss in extra innings against Winters on Monday, March 8 in Winters.

Hayden Moore earned the win for the Rams. Moore lasted 1 2/3 innings, allowing two hits, zero earned runs and no walks while striking out three.

Ryan McGarr-Green threw one inning of relief out of the

bullpen, recording the last three outs to earn the save for Dixon.

Anthony Duran took the loss for Winters. The sophomore pitcher surrendered one run on two hits over one inning, striking out one without

allowing a walk. Matt Moore started the game on the bump for Winters. The senior hurler tossed seven innings, allowing one run on four hits, striking out six and walking none.

Harris started the

game for the Rams. The righthander lasted 5 1/3 innings, allowing four hits and one run while striking out six.

Cade Jacobson, Nolan Fish, Malakai Martinez, Nick Barr, Harris and Mulitsch-Reynolds

each had one hit for Dixon. The Rams were sure-handed and didn't commit a single error. Jack Kirchhoff made the most plays with 12.

Matt Moore went 2-for-4 at the plate to lead Winters in hits. ★



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