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Second Annual  
Open House

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Dixon  
**Independent Voice**

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**SEE  
INSIDE**

**OLIVEIRA  
NAMED OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR**



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**RAIN  
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**Rams RUMBLE!**



Above: Dixon High School Varsity Rams storm through a giant inflated helmet while the high school band plays. Right: Homecoming King and Queen: Seniors Kanye Smith and Lianna Rodriguez take a pose. Photos by Nicolas Brown

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The Dixon High School Varsity Rams stormed through a 12-foot-high inflated helmet onto their football field last Friday night in their Homecoming game against the Mesa Verde Mavericks from Citrus Heights, stomping them to a 51-0 loss.

There was no junior varsity game so homecoming festivities moved up a bit and the crowning of King and Queen at about 5:30 were missed by some later arrivals. Seniors Kanye Smith, dressed in full football uniform with a crown on top of his head, had to rush off for the game after taking pictures with the Queen, Lianna Rodriguez.

Homecoming Court winners were Juniors Jett Harris and Arriana Okhomina; Sophomores Marcos Mata and Natalie Diaz; and Freshmen Mikayla Marcentelli and Kai Reynolds.

The team broke into two and started warming up while the stadium of the home side filled to near capacity.

Weather held out although biting cold with a touchdown in the first few minutes of the game starting a string of touchdowns all the way to half time when the score was 30-0.

After the school band took their

place on the field Drum Major Angel Santa Cruz donned a black Darth Vader helmet and led performances of a variety of Star Wars-themed songs.

The Color Guard performed with flags and board letters spelling out DIXON followed by the cheerleading

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**City Spends  
\$28K to Edit  
44 Words**

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - According to documents obtained by the Solano Taxpayers Association and shared with this newspaper, the city of Dixon spent \$28,454.20 on a legal action against the Solano County Board of Supervisors. The successful legal action sought to have 44 words stricken from the candidate statement of City Clerk candidate Michael Ceremello in the official election guide published by the county.

City Attorney Doug White of White Brenner, LLP argued that the 44 words were misleading as they referenced the default California law regarding the role of city clerks, which had been superseded with changes in city law leading up to and following the passage of Measure T.

White argued that the sections of California law referenced by Ceremello in his statement would confuse voters as they are no longer relevant to the elected City Clerk position in the City of Dixon. The City Elections official, City Manager Jim Lindley, did not contest the statement when it was submitted which would have avoided the legal action.

"It is puzzling that the City Manager, Jim Lindley, who has assumed the duties of the City of Dixon Elections Officer, allowed, what he claims is an "incorrect" candidate's statement to be filed with the County. Ceremello filed his candidate's statement with the City of Dixon's Elections Officer, and they had no problem with that statement," said Michael Nolan, President of Solano County Taxpayers Association.

The language that the City had removed dealt with the City Clerk duties of public records requests, appeals, and Elections Official. Until Measure T had qualified to be on the ballot last year, these duties were included in the responsibilities of the City Clerk. But the Council at the time changed the ordinances and separated the City Clerk position into two separate roles: an Elected City Clerk and an Administrative City Clerk. This drew the ire of Measure T supporters who claim that the Council was attempting to water down the position and subvert the will of the voters in passing Measure T.

"Mike Ceremello had some things in his campaign statement that weren't appropriate and Doug White, the Elections Clerk or the purveyor of that, contacted Mike to discuss what needed to be removed or changed but he refused to do so. He left us no choice but to take him to

*Continued on page 6*

**Furry Friends to Show**

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Man's best friends will be all over the Dixon May Fair this coming weekend at the 55th Annual AKC licensed All Breeds Dog Show Oct. 29 - 31 and will even feature a Halloween costume contest on Saturday afternoon. Organizers are hoping the public will come meet and talk with responsible breeders while perusing retailers of dog toys, collars, leashes, and pet beds. It is a fun, family activity with free admission, \$5 parking, and food available via the Buckhorn food truck and pizza.

The organization is following the state fairgrounds directive so if you are fully vaccinated, masks are not required and only dogs entered in the shows are permitted on the grounds.

"This is the best way to get to see a variety of breeds of dogs but, especially, to talk with breeders," said Show Chair Elizabeth Blake of Davis.

"Either way of acquiring a dog be it rescue or



Morton the Corgi is one of several breeds that will be shown at the May Fair dog show put on by the Sacramento Valley Dog Fanciers Association this weekend. The public is invited. Photo by Nicolas Brown

breeder, it is a responsibility. Most of the time, breeders are there to work with the owners," she said. "Breeders will take the time to ensure owners are matched with the right breed for their lifestyle-exercise, energy level, for example and although there is no 100 percent guarantee, a breeder is an immediate contact for troubleshooting."

"When one adopts the

kind of grounding (that naturally happens) when raising puppies, the right way goes out the window," she added. "Breeders will do [the grounding] before trouble hits. If the pups are not grounded or if they are a mixed breed, that's when they get turned back over to the pound or given up to foster homes but even that might not be enough. Whenever a dog goes to a new home, everything is

tested," she said. Blake has stayed with her breed for 50 years.

When a dog owner breeds their dog, most of them become experts in that breed and can be a great resource to help interested parties learn characteristics. That information also helps people be better pet owners because they can anticipate strengths and weaknesses

*Continued on page 6*





# Being in the Right Place

By Debra Dingman

I’ve had to say a lot of goodbyes lately to people, to plans, to dreams. Sometimes we just have to live for the day to get through some tough times. Isn’t that the motto for AA, Al-Anon, Celebrate Recovery and the truth behind the Serenity Prayer? And like a miracle, in the middle of my pity party, came an understanding person who loves me with time for a brief, but sweet, visit.

I do not believe in coincidence anymore. So, when I went searching in my editorial files later for “dog show,” this page of five options opened up with “100! Birthday” on top, and I thought what dog would last 100 years? But, I opened it anyway.

It was a page full of notes that I had taken when a woman called wanting me to do a story on her grandmother who was turning 100. The only problem was, she wasn’t a Dixonite and I couldn’t justify NOT doing one on a local centurion.

Nonetheless, we had a very, very long

conversation. I asked her questions to learn more and see if I could make some kind of link from Davis to Dixon that would make the story appropriate for our Dixon readers. I wish I would have done the story anyway but with the Covid virus raging at the time, there was little chance of getting a picture with the two of them together either.

So, refreshing my memory on this whole thing, I see the grandmother’s birthday: It is the day I’m writing this. So, she would be turning 101.

There are a zillion times I have felt I was in the wrong place at the wrong time and overheard something I wish I hadn’t or saw something that burned my eyes. There were also plenty of times, though, that I knew I was in the right place at the right time but now that I’m older and I’ve learned so much more about God, angels, and the Holy Spirit, I feel like those times happen every day. Like that day I spoke with this younger woman.

She needed a caring person to point out perhaps the other side of an estranged relationship with

her mother. At the time, I was in an estranged situation with my own daughter, so I was interested in hearing how she thought and what she felt. Her life story unfolded over the phone with me. I think we both cried at the end with new understanding. She touched my heart.

Over the many months that have passed since, I had forgotten all about her until the page opened and I find it of absolutely no coincidence that her grandmother’s birthday is the date of the next edition I am working on. I wonder if her grandmother made it through this awful Covid virus. Is she still alive? Did this woman’s relationship with her mother get any better with my insight? My relationship in my situation got better with her insight.

I called and left a message.

People helping people in ways they might not even be aware of so wherever you are – and you know who you are–thank you. Maybe, if we surrender our lives to our Heavenly Father, we will always be where we are supposed to be – in the right place. ★



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# Dixon News Briefs

MPG Staff

### Capitol Christmas Tree

Don’t miss the official Capitol Christmas Tree visit which happens this next week on Tuesday, Nov. 2, thanks to a collaboration with the City of Dixon, Dixon Chamber of Commerce, and the Dixon May Fair. The tree that will make its way to the United States Capitol lawn for the holidays makes a brief but special appearance in Dixon from 3 pm until 6 pm at the Dixon May Fair. Admission and parking are free. Festivities during the tree’s visit to Dixon includes remarks by public officials, visits with Santa, free refreshments and more.

### Soroptimist Grant

Women who have the primary financial responsibility for self and their dependents, are attending an undergraduate degree program, or a vocational skills training program and have financial need may qualify to receive the Soroptimist Live Your Dream Education and Training Award for Women.

The Dixon club will provide a \$1,000 cash grant to its award recipient. Funds can offset costs for tuition, books, childcare, car fare and/or any other education related expenses. The applicant is to be attending college or involved in a training program and show financial need.

Applications are available online at Soroptimist.org and see Live Your Dream Awards, then scroll down to see “How to Apply,” then “Start my Application”. Chair for the 2021 project is Mary Lou Batchelor and one can call her at (707) 678-9317 with questions. Application deadline is Nov. 15, 2021.

### City Council

The next City Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, Nov. 2, and will be inside the Council Chambers at 655 West A Street beginning at 7 pm. If you are one to schedule your calendar way in advance, you can mark that Dec. 21, Dixon Council Meeting will not be happening in exchange for a Merry Christmas.

Hybrid meetings have not been worked completely out yet, but one can still watch the meeting online through the City of

Dixon’s website which uses the Granicus system.

Agendas for city meetings are usually posted on the city website, cityofdixon.com, on Thursdays before the meetings. You can also view minutes of previous meetings on that site.

### Community Connect

The Dixon Fire Department has been working closely with technology partner First Due to release Community Connect, an application focused on protecting residents and their property in the most effective way possible during an incident or major disaster.

Community Connect is a secure, easy to use platform that allows residents to share critical information about their household in order to aid first responders and emergency service personnel to respond more efficiently and effectively, ultimately resulting in better incident outcomes.

In addition to the residential portal, Community Connect also helps business owners and managers keep people at their commercial properties safe by giving First Responders access to critical documents such as evacuation procedures, occupant rosters, hazardous material lists and more.

Also, designated contacts at properties that joined the program will receive immediate alerts via text message when First Responders are dispatched to the building address. A good example of this might be when the small apartment complex on C Street caught fire on 4th of July, the owners would have been immediately alerted.

Community Connect is completely voluntary and residents are individually able to decide which information they are comfortable sharing. Residents simply create a profile and enter critical property and occupant information which is then made available to public safety agencies at the time of dispatch.

Data provided by residents within Community Connect is 100 percent secure and is used only for the purpose of better serving the resident during emergency situations. To learn more about the program and to create your profile, please visit the City of Dixon website or call Madeline Henry at (707) 678-7000 Ext. 1125 ★

# Serenity Saddles Second Annual Open House



Horse decorated for the second annual Halloween open house.

### Serenity Saddles Therapeutic Riding Program

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Serenity Saddles is hosting their 2nd Annual Open House which will take place on October 29th from 5 pm until 8:30 pm at the J Bar 4 Ranch located at 7778 Nunes Road, in Dixon, CA.

The event and parking is free, so bring the family and join in for some fun. Celebrate a night of horror by participating in games, horse rides, pumpkin

painting and arts and crafts. Food, such as tacos plates and beverages will be on hand for purchase.

Trick or Treaters are urged to come out and show off their Halloween costumes. Costumes are optional and not required to get a Halloween treat from one of our Ghouls!

*Serenity Saddles Therapeutic Riding Program is a non-profit organization serving our local community. For more information call 203-392-4102 or 707-590-2691.* ★



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# Detective Oliveira Named California Bricklaying Battle! Officer of the Year



Alberto Oliveira  
Officer of the Year

City of Dixon  
News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Police Department is pleased to name Detective Alberto Oliveira as Officer of the Year. Detective

Oliveira was chosen by his supervisors and peers for his hard work and dedication to the department and community. “Detective Oliveira is an outstanding investigator who is committed to serving the public. He frequently assists patrol officers with their investigations, providing them with guidance and direction,” said Chief Robert Thompson. “This year, he took the initiative to create a training program to expand other officers’ investigative skills and completed the Officer in Charge Program. Oliveira works diligently to develop

leads and has recovered multiple stolen firearms and tens of thousands of dollars of stolen property.” Throughout the past year Detective Oliveira has collaborated with numerous local, state, and federal agencies to investigate high-profile cases. He has successfully identified dozens of suspects and closed cases. Detective Oliveira has been with the Dixon Police Department for four years, serving first as a Patrol Officer and moving into Investigations. Prior to joining the Department, he served as a Police Officer with the Petaluma Police Department. ★



2021 World Champion, David Chavez. Courtesy photo

By Greg Hutchinson, SPEC MIX

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The world’s largest and most successful masonry challenge, the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500®, is coming to CastleLite Block in Dixon, CA on October 30th, 2021. North America’s top masons are ready to grab their levels and trowels and race for a chance to be named, “World’s Best Bricklayer.” Entering its 20th season, this unique and grueling competition has captured the hearts and minds of people from all over the globe.

Don’t miss your chance to see this world-famous competition up close! The SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 California Regional Series event is one of 20 regional qualifiers to be held across North America. The bricklaying battle is designed to test the speed, skill, and stamina of each participant by challenging them to build the tallest and best 26-foot-long brick wall, with as few errors as possible, in one hour. Working with their trusted mason tender, the winning bricklayer is determined by a judging panel who subtracts any mistakes from the total number of bricks laid on their wall. The mason with the highest brick count at the end of judging earns the title, “Best Bricklayer in California,” and a roster spot at the 2022 World Championship taking place January 19th, 2022, in Las Vegas during the World of Concrete Expo.

With workforce development being the primary battle cry for the skilled trades, the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 is

designed to create interest for a new generation of masons in the rewards and opportunities possible in masonry and construction.

World Championship prizes total more than \$125,000 and include a new Ford F-250 4×4 Super Duty truck, Kubota RTV-X1140, Multiquip Mortar Mixer, and other prizes from IQ Power Tools, Stabila, Marshalltown, STIHL, Blaklader, Iron Age Footwear and Belden Brick.

**California Regional Series Details:**  
**DATE:** October 30th, 2021  
**TIME:** 10:00 AM PST  
**LOCATION:** CastleLite Block  
8615 Robben Rd., Dixon, CA 95620  
**CONTACTS:**  
Ken DiLoreto - SPEC MIX - Regional Manager Organizer: (801) 809-9502  
Greg Hutchinson - SPEC MIX Marketing and PR: (316) 650-8419  
Visit the official Regional Series Webpage: <https://www.specmix.com/spec-mix-bricklayer-500/2021-california/>  
Learn more about the World Championship: <https://www.specmix.com/spec-mix-bricklayer-500/2021-world-championship/>  
See the regional series promotional video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJacSd4QD9>  
If you have any questions or would like to get in touch with the regional organizers or competitors, please contact *Greg Hutchinson at 316-650-8419 or by email at [Greg.Hutchinson@specmix.com](mailto:Greg.Hutchinson@specmix.com)* ★

## Voting/Poll Information for City Clerk Election

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - A Voting Day will be happening soon that will involve Dixon citizens only. Locals will vote on Nov. 2 for an Elected Dixon City Clerk which has only two candidates, Michael Ceremello and Kristin Janisch. Voter Information Guides were mailed out so all registered voters should have already received one. If you haven’t, you can contact the Solano County Office of Voter Registrar or go online to Solano County. Please note that October 18, was the last day one could register to vote for Nov. 2 Dixon City Clerk election unless you are a new citizen. All registered voters should have received vote-by-mail ballots as they were sent automatically to all active, registered voters in Dixon. The returning of ballots by mail deadline is over. There will be drop-off voting available through Nov. 2, at Dixon City Hall with the City Clerk at 600 East A Street from 9 am

to 5 pm. Drop boxes are inside the building. There will also be “curbside” voting at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 South 5th Street Oct. 28, 29, and 30 and Nov. 1 and 2. All curbside locations are open 8 am to 5 pm, including Saturday, plus 7 am to 8 pm on Election Day. There are four polling places in Dixon to cast your vote or drop off your ballot in the Dixon City Clerk Election next Tuesday, Nov. 2. They are the following: former CA Jacobs Middle School at 200 North Lincoln Street; the Dixon Moose Lodge at 180 West B Street; the Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center at 201 South 5th Street and the Veterans Memorial Hall at 1305 North First Street across from DuPratt Ford. The Solano County Office of Registrar of Voters is able to help with a variety of special situations considering the California fires affecting one’s access to his or her ballot. If you have not registered to vote, have no ballot or your identification was destroyed, you can call (707) 784-6675 or email [Elections@solanocounty.com](mailto:Elections@solanocounty.com). ★

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# Rams RUMBLE!

*Continued from page 1*  
squad that tossed and flipped other teammates into the air. This was the time to check out

the four brightly decorated floats at the end of the field including the “Luau” decorated by the Freshman class of 2025; A

paddleboat by the Class of 2024; a Halloween Harvest themed one by the Class of 2023; and a music-themed one boasting 7-foot-high

DHS letters for the Class of 2022. The snack bar line was handled efficiently and offered sodas, hotdogs, and pizza to Ram

fans of all sorts and sizes. It was all a Homecoming Game including more touchdowns in the last quarter ending in 51-0. ★



The DHS Homecoming Court less a couple football players that had to start warming up on the field. Photo by Nicolas Brown



The Color Guard gals for the Dixon High School Marching Band show off their favorite letters. Photo by Nicolas Brown



The Rams lunge for the football at the Dixon High School Homecoming game. Photo by Nicolas Brown

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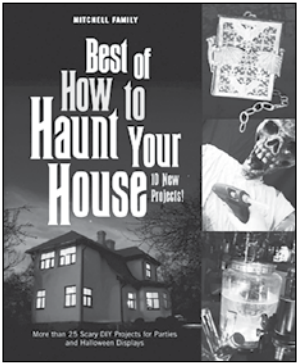


FOR THE LOVE OF  
**BOOKS**  
By Amy Shane

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

# Halloween Haunts

These haunting reads will have you ready for Halloween, or continuing the haunting thrills past Halloween night.



**The Best of How to Haunt Your House**  
by Lynne Mitchell, Shawn Mitchell; Schiffer Craft

Be the most frightening house on your block with the Best Of How To Haunt Your House: More than 25 Scary DIY Projects for Parties and Halloween Displays. This book is a visual display of Halloween extravagance, beauty, and pure craftsmanship. With over 25 Halloween projects and frightening displays, the Mitchell family is here to make your Halloween dreams or nightmares come to life. Whether you are looking for one or two simple projects of an overall extreme makeover, these do-it-yourself projects will help you transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. Every type of project is covered, from the large and extravagant projects such as a gothic cemetery, mad scientist lab, and creepy scarecrows; too little items such as potion bottles,

flying bats, and spells books. Learn how to craft and carve styrofoam, make faux moss, and even learn how to make the infamous monster mud. With 127 pages of full-color photographs, this book can easily be categorized as the encyclopedias to Halloween décor and even used as a coffee table book. With directions on how to achieve animated props, lighted labs, costumes, and personalized tombstones, whatever your heart desires, the Mitchell family is here to help you achieve it.



**Slewfoot: A Tale of Bewitchery**  
by Brom, NightFire

One of the most stunning collections of haunting artworks paired with a dark tale of bewitchery, feminism, terror, and wicked intent. Taking readers back into the colonial time of 1666, where the lines between Pagan and Puritan are purely drawn and the echoes of

which are uttered among the lips of villagers. Young and newly widowed, Abitha is quickly shunned by the villagers, and she is left battling for any shred of power she can hang onto, considering she is a woman in a patriarchal society. Then she meets Slewfoot, a spirit who is also struggling to find his place. Is he a dark entity or one that is meant to save? Together they must discover the terrifying truth while they come together to create something dark and ominous that could end the village once and for all.

A spellbinding tale reaches from the depths of darkness and grabs its readers by the throat, ready to pull them under. Captivating readers from the very first line, Brom delicately tickles the edges of fantasy and realism, proving to new readers that his pen is just as mighty as his brush. Brom leaves readers questioning if this is a haunting fairytale or a dark, fantastical horror. Acclaimed for his dark fantasy artwork, Brom is also known for his prior novels, comics, and games and fans of his will be blown away by the stunning, expressive artwork included in this book brings the story to even more haunting depths. ★



## La Niña Climate Pattern Threatens to Sustain California Drought

A La Niña climate pattern in the Pacific Ocean is threatening sustained drought conditions for next year, even with autumn storms in the forecast. Two years of drought has already depleted California’s surface and groundwater supplies, creating acute challenges for farmers and ranchers. And due to depleted snowpack, climatologists say, California needs 140% of average annual precipitation to generate normal water runoff.

## Insurance Commissioner to Expand Wildfire Coverage for Agriculture

California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara is taking additional steps to protect farmers and ranchers denied insurance coverage after wildfires. The Legislature in July made farm structures eligible for coverage under the California FAIR Plan. Now Lara says he will expand coverage limits for agriculture. He said, “Many farmers and vintners need more coverage than they can currently get.”

## Bill Signed to Aid Livestock Rescues During Wildfires

Gov. Gavin Newsom has signed legislation to help farmers and ranchers rescue livestock during wildfires. Assembly Bill 1103 creates a statewide program, called Ag Pass. The new law will allow farmers, ranchers and managerial employees to have access to livestock during wildfires or other natural disasters. The Ag Pass would permit them to pass law-enforcement checkpoints and enter their properties without escort.

## USDA Forest Service Offers Aid for Innovative Wood Ventures

The Department of Agriculture is offering grants to help wood products and energy companies support sustainable forest management practices to reduce wildfire risk. The USDA Forest Service is accepting applications for funding from 2022 wood innovation and community wood grant programs. Some \$13 million in funding will support ventures that use forest materials in wood energy production or wood product manufacturing. ★

# I Didn’t Do It My Way

Dr. James L. Snyder

I don’t think I’ve learned very much during my life. I just bounce from day to day and take what comes.

The one thing I did learn as I look back is, for the most part, I didn’t do it my way.

I have learned that I don’t have to have everything my way. That was the first thing I learned as a husband. If I get everything my way, somebody in the house is not happy.

Thinking along this line, a memory flashed back. I remember rushing my wife to the hospital to deliver our first baby. I’m not sure who was more nervous, the mother or the expected father.

We got there, and she was escorted back to the delivery room where they would deliver the baby. I paced the lobby, not knowing exactly what I should be doing.

Several hours went by, and I heard nothing concerning the birth of our baby. If I only had my way, I would go back there and see for myself.

Just then, the nurse came out, I approached her and said, “Can I go and see my wife and baby now?”

The nurse, who looked

like she had just gone through World War II, glared at me and, with a very rough voice, said, “No, you’re not going back there. After all, you’re the one that’s responsible for all of this.”

I did not know what she meant or what she was talking about?

There was not anything I could do but continue waiting. As I sat in the waiting room, I thought, she ought to be very, very, very glad that I was not doing it my way. My way would have been very nasty and ugly for her.

Finally, I had the opportunity to go back and see my wife and our first baby. That took away all my memories, at the time, of that nasty nurse who wanted to do everything her way.

I was glad I didn’t do it my way.

Many times through life, I allowed the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to have it her way. Most of the time, her way was the right way. If I would’ve stepped in to do it my way, we would be in a lot of trouble today.

Only a few times in my life have I been right, and she has been wrong. I choose not to identify those

times for various reasons. Every once in a while, I sit back and think about a few times when I have been right but did not step up to interfere in the situation. That always causes me to chuckle.

The other night I was chuckling as I was thinking of one in particular, which I cannot disclose, when my wife said, “What are you chuckling about?”

“Oh,” I said, “I was just thinking about a joke.”

“And, what joke was that,” she asked?

“Why was 6 afraid of 7? Because 7, 8, 9.”

As I sat back in my chair, a verse of Scripture came to mind. “Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God” (Ephesians 5:21).

Some of my happiest times in life are when I’m not doing anything my way. Giving someone else the privilege of doing it their way is a very satisfying thing.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com. ★



## The New Missile Gap

The Biden administration is hesitant to call our competition with China a new Cold War, even though Beijing has zero qualms about making the parallels with our decades-long struggle with the Soviet Union abundantly clear.

We are once again discussing a “Sputnik moment,” a nuclear arms race, and a missile gap – all throwbacks to the 1950s-1980s – thanks to China’s aggressive pursuit of military capabilities designed to deter and defeat the United States.

Whatever Beijing may say and however we may try to comfort ourselves with cushioning delusions, the Chinese have repeatedly made it plain that they intend to hold U.S. bases and our homeland at risk.

The example of Sputnik, the primitive Soviet satellite launched in 1957 that raised the prospect of the U.S. losing the space race, was on everyone’s lips with a bombshell Financial Times report over the weekend.

According to the FT, the Chinese tested a nuclear-capable hypersonic missile that circled the Earth once before descending on its target, thus demonstrating “an advanced space capability that caught U.S. intelligence by surprise.”

It’s not clear why anyone would be shocked. It wasn’t a secret that China and Russia were developing these technologies, and indeed, it

wasn’t a secret that China had leapt ahead of us.

(The Chinese, bringing the same transparency they’ve shown regarding the origins of COVID-19, say it was just a routine space launch.)

Hypersonic missiles bring a new element to the ever-evolving competition between missile offense and defense.

As former state department official Christian Brose notes in his book “The Kill Chain,” ballistic missiles travel fast but in a predictable parabolic path. Cruise missiles, on the other hand, travel relatively slowly but are maneuverable and therefore unpredictable.

Hypersonic missiles are both unpredictable and fast – six times faster than a Tomahawk missile.

That means they are uniquely suited to defeat our missile defenses. Not only can’t we counter them, we can’t track them adequately at the moment.

Over the summer, the head of North American Aerospace Defense Command – yes, that’s NORAD of Cold War fame – said that the new missiles would pose “significant challenges to my NORAD capability to provide threat warning and attack assessment.”

The FT reports that the test missile missed its target by roughly two dozen miles. That’s a significant miss but wouldn’t necessarily be that much comfort if the missile were carrying a nuclear payload. And the targeting will presumably be improved –that’s one reason to carry out the test in the first place.

An MIT professor told the FT that just because China tested the capability doesn’t mean that it will

deploy it. But the history of expansionistic totalitarian states forbearing from fielding advanced weapons after pouring significant time and resources into developing them is not, to say the least, very encouraging.

It’d be best if we abandon all wishful thinking and admit the obvious.

We’ve had a zombie arms control policy focused on deals with Russia, while China has been aggressively adding new weapons and delivery systems.

We’ve allowed China to rob our technology and pour it into developing threats against us.

We’ve been much too slow in developing the next generation of weapons, including hypersonic missiles, and are modernizing our nuclear triad at a glacial pace while China is rapidly adding new capabilities.

The response to the new circumstances should reflect a Cold War-era urgency. The Biden administration has proposed more spending on hypersonic missiles, but the latest news should mean even more of an emphasis on their rapid deployment, so we can hold at risk Chinese assets and maintain our deterrence.

We should, with an eye to the growing Chinese missile threat, deploy missile-defense interceptors in Australia and more sensors in space, as well as work toward directed-energy weapons that would be the best counter to hypersonic missiles.

If we aren’t going to call it a new Cold War, we must – or risk falling further behind – treat it as one.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2021 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

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## YOUR VOICE at CITY HALL

PAID FOR BY Mary Zuniga-Savage



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# Furry Friends to Show

*Continued from page 1*  
in their own dog.  
After being gifted with a german short-hair dog, a retriever, by her son, Vanita Wayne, was a devoted pet owner until the dog passed and then sought out a similar breed, a Vizsla, a bird dog, for their new pet.  
“I saw a neighbor walking a dog and it was perfect in just every way and we’ve always had bigger dogs,” she explained. “He looked a lot like our other dog. He was slim, his head was proportionate, and I thought he was really beautiful, so we looked it up and did some investigating.” They found a breeder who filled in all the rest to know.  
“They call them Velcro Vizslas because they are very clingy. Wherever you go, they will go,” Vanita said. “They are very loving dogs and they don’t talk very much. They are one of the more intelligent dogs—in the way they mind. They are also rare because people don’t like that they are so clingy.” That pup’s breeder spoke about dog shows and encouraged them to show the dog because it had a line of championships on its registry. They will be at the Dixon show.  
“The reason we like to go to the smaller shows is because our dog is a relatively rare breed so we don’t usually have a lot of competition. At smaller shows, we have an opportunity to go into a group – like sporting dog group – then there is a better chance to get into “Best of Show,” explained her husband, Doug. “We may not get a lot of points, but we get some pretty cool prizes,” he said with a laugh.  
Luna gets “ecstatic” being around the other dogs at the show, said Vanita. “She’s a very dog-friendly dog. She loves everybody. She wants to end the whole day being exhausted,” she said. “But, she knows what she’s doing. Crazy on the outside but put her in the ring and she’s all business.”  
Founded in 1940, the primary objective of the Sacramento Valley Dog Fanciers Association is to encourage, promote, and protect the quality of purebred dogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.  
The club is an official Friend of the Fair in honor of the financial support in making the Dixon May Fairgrounds a highly desirable dog show venue. They’ve donated to numerous rescue organizations and helped during tragedies such as Hurricane Katrina and local floods. They also donated scholarship money to UC-Davis, the Mercer Foundation, Take the Lead, the Canine Health Foundation; and during profitable years, they have managed to honor each of their members with donations to their favorite breed rescue.  
For more information, go to <https://sacvalleydfa.com/>

# Lee Found Guilty of of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Minor

**Solano County Superior Court News Release**  
**SOLANO, CA (MPG)** - On October 21, 2021, in Department 2 of the Solano County Superior Court, before the Honorable Daniel J. Healy Presiding, the jury found Defendant Vintonivish Lee, age 30, Guilty as charged. Specifically, the jury found the defendant Guilty of Sex with a Minor Ten Years or Younger, four counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Minor, Rape of a Minor Under 14, three counts of Forcible Rape, three counts of Forcible Oral Copulation, three counts of Forcible Lewd Acts, one count of Attempted Lewd Act, and one count of Furnishing Marijuana to a Minor over Fourteen.  
Over a period of seven years from 2010 to 2017, Defendant, who was entrusted with the care of a young child, committed the unthinkable crimes against her while living in Contra Costa County and Solano County. As a young child, the victim was threatened with discipline if she reported the abuse. As the sexual abuse continued, the defendant would have the victim’s siblings go in their rooms and close the door while he sexually assaulted the victim. In December 2018, the victim’s mother found her child’s diary which had documented the abuse. The child came forward and courageously spoke to law enforcement and courageously testified at trial regarding the abuse she suffered from the age of eight years old to fifteen years old. Physical findings were also presented at trial that corroborated the sexual abuse.  
The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced on November 19, 2021. The defendant is facing life in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Retired Detective Terry Poyser of the Vallejo Police Department investigated the case. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Barry Shapiro and assisted by Victim Advocate Shamar Lewis.  
If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault and need the assistance of an advocate, please call 707-784-6827 or our Family Justice Center at 707-784-7635. If you have an emergency, please call 911. ★

# City Spends \$28K to Edit 44 Words

*Continued from page 1*  
court,” said Mayor Steve Bird.  
“Nothing of what I said in my original candidate statement is untrue,” said Ceremello, who was named as an interested party in the legal action and had to appear at an official meeting. Even though not technically a defendant, Ceremello reported spending \$435 to file an opposition statement. “My personal legal costs were nothing in comparison to the city spending 28 thousand dollars. Read the invoices. They spent nine hours three different times to review my statement. It’s ridiculous,” he said.  
“If Jim Lindley had done the job he claims to have, there would have been no lawsuit. It seems that while the City Manager wants the authority of City Elections Officer, he too readily gave the responsibility to the County Registrar of Voters, which cost the Dixon Taxpayers \$28,454.20,” said SCTA President Nolan. “Since City Elections Officer Jim Lindley made the mistake, City Manager Jim Lindley should demand repayment of the attorney fees from himself.”  
City Manager Jim Lindley said it was the duty of the City Attorney to review candidates’ statements and rarely are they changed.  
“We do this every election. It only gets changed when there is something wildly inaccurate or blatantly untrue. Those things get changed all the time,” Lindley said, adding that the attorney brought his concerns to the Council and the Council said to ask Ceremello for the changes. “Mike refused to make any changes and took him to court to change that and the judge agreed and suggested better wording so those were incorporated,” he said.  
“The truth of the matter is that Mike cost the city taxpayer money because he wasn’t willing to participate or play fairly,” said Bird. “It’s unfortunate. We’re in the situation we’re in because of that.”  
“I’ve not done any research on this issue so will withhold comment,” said Kristin Janisch, the temporary Elected City Clerk who is Ceremello’s opposing candidate. Dixon voters will decide at the polls between the two on Nov. 2. ★

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### FILE NO. 2021-1002004

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The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: February 1, 2015  
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 SEPTEMBER 29, 2026. 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: October 15, 22, 29, and November 5, 2021 (The DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE)



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## DIXON POLICE LOG

Persons listed in this log from the Dixon Police Department are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Only activities deemed significant by the Police Dept. are included.



### Friday, October 15, 2021

**0758** - Agency Assist 300 block West H Street  
**0915** - Welfare Check 1500 block Valley Glen Dr.  
**1320** - Vandalism at Veteran's Park  
**1322** - Info report 300 block Rennert Way  
**1445** - Found Property 2500 block North 1st Street  
**2017** - Court Order violation report was taken at 1500 block of Valley Glen Dr.

### Saturday, October 16, 2021

**0808** - Dixon Police Officers responded to an apartment complex on the 200 block of East D Street. The Officers heard a woman in distress inside an apartment. The Officers broke in the door and found the resident had fallen out of a wheelchair. The Officers summoned Paramedics and the resident was taken to a local hospital.  
**0146** - Traffic stop 900 block West H Street. Manuel Ramirez (23) of Dixon was arrested for DUI and was cited and released from the PD.

### Sunday, October 17, 2021

**0811** - Theft report taken in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive. All 4 tires were stolen from the victim's vehicle.  
**1542** - Trespassing report taken in the 200 block of North Lincoln Street. Two juveniles were seen on CA Jacobs school grounds  
**2001** - A hit and run with property damage report was taken from the 1500 block of Fitzgerald Drive  
**0005** - A vandalism report was taken from the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.

### Monday, October 18, 2021

**0906** - Battery reported in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive. Blake Dunham (30) of Dixon was arrested for pepper spraying his neighbor and violating the restraining order against him. Blake was taken to county jail.  
**1254** - Welfare check in the 1500 block of Dunn Lane.  
**1410** - Lost property report taken in the lobby.  
**1531** - Information report taken in the 400 block of Stratford Avenue.

### Tuesday, October 19, 2021

**1230** - Battery reported at Dixon High School. Two students got into a fight.  
**1235** - Found property report at the PD. Someone found a wheelchair and a football.  
**1341** - Theft report taken in the 600 block of Fountain Way.  
**2000** - An informational report was taken from the 400 block of Georgetown Place

### Wednesday, October 20, 2021

**0720** - Domestic violence reported in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue. The suspect had been hitting the victim since Vallejo and got off in Dixon to get gas where he hit the victim several more times. The victim was able to get out of the car and call a friend. An employee with Safeway gas overheard the victim's conversation and called police. Suspect left for the Sacramento area before police arrival. EPO was granted.  
**0830** - Stolen vehicle reported in the 2000 block of Reherrmann Drive.  
**0912** - Juvenile report taken from John Knight Middle School.  
1320 Found property report in the PD lobby. Someone found a set of keys near the railroad tracks.  
**1423** - Found bike in the 400 block of South Lincoln Street.  
**1815** - A vehicle stolen in Dixon was located in Vacaville.

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### Crossword Puzzle on Page 7

I	R	A	N		S	P	A		C	L	E	F			
N	O	V	A		D	U	O	S		S	A	I	G	A	
S	E	E	D		R	I	L	E		I	M	M	I	X	
	S	R	I	L	A	N	K	A		E	B	B	S		
		R	A	G	G	A		A	G	O					
	B	A	S	S	O			U	S	E	D	U	P		
D	U	D		E	N	M	E	S	H		I	L	I	A	
O	R	M	E	R		O	D	E		T	A	C	E	T	
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L	U	R	I	D			A	P	E	R		O	G	R	E
D	A	T	A				L	S	D			G	O	T	O

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### Sudoku Puzzle on Page 7

2	8	9	7	1	4	3	5	6
1	3	6	5	2	9	7	8	4
4	5	7	6	3	8	2	1	9
7	4	8	9	6	2	5	3	1
5	9	2	1	4	3	6	7	8
6	1	3	8	5	7	4	9	2
8	6	5	2	7	1	9	4	3
3	2	1	4	9	5	8	6	7
9	7	4	3	8	6	1	2	5

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1. \*Core of Persia today  
5. \*Belgian village where Roman soldiers enjoyed warm mineral springs  
8. Pitch symbol  
12. More luminous star  
13. Abbott and Costello or Rocky and Bullwinkle  
14. Eurasian goat-like antelope  
15. Team's ranking  
16. Make someone angry  
17. Mix in  
18. \*Formerly Ceylon (2 words)  
20. What tide does half the time  
21. Reggae subgenre  
22. Back then  
23. \_\_\_\_ profundo  
25. Depleted (2 words)  
28. Wet firecracker  
29. Catch in a net  
32. Hip bones  
34. Dormer without D  
36. Schiller's poem  
37. "It is silent" in sheet music  
38. Discharge  
39. Admirer  
41. Earlier in time than, archaic  
42. Not out (2 words)  
44. Pinocchio and his kind  
46. Evergreen creeper  
47. "A League of Their Own" member, e.g.  
49. Command to a fly  
51. \*Formerly Siam  
54. Rain forest ruminant  
55. Irish for Ireland  
56. It's under a fig leaf?  
58. Shockingly graphic  
59. Impersonator  
60. Manlike man-eater of fairy tales  
61. Crunchable information  
62. Popular '60s drug  
63. A \_\_\_\_ move

DOWN  
1. Opposite of outs  
2. Fish eggs, pl.  
3. Affirm solemnly  
4. Lowest points  
5. Seeking damages  
6. Kenosha Kickers' music  
7. On the sea  
8. \*Once named Kampuchea  
9. Trunk appendage  
10. Shining armor  
11. Facsimile machine  
13. Fire-starter in fairy tales  
14. Trojan War military action  
19. Red-dot pointer, e.g.  
22. Cigar residue  
23. \*Myanmar, formerly  
24. " \_\_\_\_ One" on a ticket  
25. Consumer  
26. Stomach sore  
27. Boat stops  
28. John's and Jane's last name?  
30. Pie a la \_\_\_\_  
31. \*Tokyo, formerly  
33. Absorbed, as in a cost  
35. \*Abyssinia, now  
37. Jury duty event  
39. Comedian Schumer  
40. Has more elm trees  
43. Roundish  
45. Not digital  
47. Ox prod, pl.

48. Propelled like Argo  
49. Arctic jaeger  
50. '80 TV series " \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_" (1 word)  
51. Bluish green  
52. Canceled  
53. "American \_\_\_\_," Jeanine Cummins' bestseller  
54. Like one of the Testaments  
57. Modern, prefix

### Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 7

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
	18				19				20			
				21					22			
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28				29		30	31			32		33
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					46				47	48		
	49	50				51				52	53	
54						55				56		57
58						59				60		
61						62				63		

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Solutions on Page 7



# Covid and Beyond



Commentary  
by bil paul

New covid cases continue to fall in Dixon, with only 11 new cases reported last week. Three covid deaths were reported in the county.

Exactly what causes a covid surge and its end? Sure, we know that areas with low vaccination rates and lack of mask wearing are prone to outbreaks. New covid mutations which spread faster play a part. There have to be other factors in play too. Now the speculation is that with colder weather, people will spend more time indoors, sparking a new surge.

All the news now is about covid booster shots and vaccinating school-age kids. I'll say one thing – if I originally got the one-shot Johnson and Johnson covid vaccine, I'd look for augmenting that with a Pfizer or Moderna booster shot for better protection.

Sometimes J&J, Pfizer and Moderna seem like knights in shining armor, riding in to end the pandemic. But having worked in the medical field, I know that making money is not at the low end of the equation. These companies are raking in the dough.

Who ever thought covid would divide our country so much? Many police officers and nurses, among others, are refusing to get vaccinated, saying it's their right to choose. Pro-vaccine people often see them as ignorant, selfish and believing rampant misinformation.

On the other hand, anti-vaccine people often see the other side as goody two-shoe types doing whatever the government tells them to do without question. They probably think the provaxers are ignorant as well! Some seem to feel government officials take sadistic delight in laying down mask and vaccine mandates.

I have this to say: We've had over 700,000 covid deaths in the U.S. so far. What would the death count be if no one had been vaccinated? Two or three times that number?

Those who chose not to be vaccinated left the job of cooperatively ending the pandemic to everyone else. Non-vaccinated police and nurses have shirked their duty to protect others. It takes courage for a big-city mayor to say to his or her police officers: "vax-up or lose your job."

Governor Newsom has waffled before on the covid issue, and now he's waffled again. He and the California health apparatus issued a mandate directing all students to be vaccinated, once their age groups received a vaccine go-ahead. The catch is that he will allow students/parents to decline the vaccine based on personal beliefs. That's despite the

long-running requirement that all California students be vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella with no personal exemptions allowed.

We've heard that the federal government has been throwing a lot of money at the pandemic. A lot of it flowed through the American Rescue Plan Act. Here's how some of the money is being spent: A Colorado city started paying homeless residents to clean city streets. Even though a county in Florida already has 160 golf courses, a city there is using the federal funds to help build yet another one. Other cities have used the money for employee bonuses.

In a note about politics in general, the Democratic party seems to be ineffectually spinning its tires in Washington, trying to fund broad new social programs. Because the Senate is split 50-50 between the two parties, two rebel Democratic senators have accumulated too much power in holding legislation back. Biden is looking more and more old and ineffectual. Both parties have been guilty of massive deficit spending. Not good.

*bil paul did PR for the Postal Service and medical companies, and worked as a reporter and photographer. He's the author of the book about Dixon's failed movie studio project ("The Train Never Stops in Dixon" – available at Amazon or the library) and has a non-fiction book coming out next year about GLs in the Aleutian Islands during WWII.* ★



A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

**"DUNE" RATED PG-13**

Forget about David Lynch's 1984 version of "Dune," because I certainly have and won't revisit his vision for any comparison to director Denis Villeneuve's take on Frank Herbert's science-fiction novel.

Set thousands of years in the future, the year 10191 to be exact, "Dune" tells the story of Paul Atreides (Timothée Chalamet), a young man propelled by fate into an intergalactic power struggle.

The son of beloved, embattled ruler Duke Leto (Oscar Isaac) and powerful warrior priestess Lady Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson), Paul will be given the ultimate test of conquering his fear when fate and unseen forces pull him inexorably to the sands of the remote planet Arrakis.

An unwelcoming desert wasteland, Arrakis is home to an indigenous human civilization called the Fremen. The planet has been fiercely contested for generations for its valuable natural resource.

The allure of Arrakis is the fight for control of the Spice, a rare, highly valued, mind-expanding resource upon which space travel, knowledge, commerce and human existence all rely.

But those seeking to harvest the Spice must survive the planet's inhospitable heat, hurricane-strength sandstorms, and monolithic sandworms that are justly feared with the kind of reverence usually reserved for gods.

The battle for Spice involves a trade war pitting House Atreides against House Harkonnen, the leader of which is the sadistic Baron Harkonnen (Stellan Skarsgård), a truly malevolent force ruling through fear and determined to feed his addiction to cruelty.

On the side of good is Josh Brolin's irreverent and quick-witted Gurney Halleck, Duke Leto's Warmaster, who has been forged in battle and will do anything necessary to protect House Atreides by overseeing Paul's combat training.

The deadliest weapon for House Atreides is Jason Momoa's Duncan Idaho, a legendary sword master and fearless pilot who serves as the eyes and ears of Duke Leto and defends members of the family as though they were his own.

Another wrinkle to be considered is that "Dune" is an incomplete take on Frank Herbert's vision not easily translated to a cinematic adaptation, and it is understood that Villeneuve is looking to bring forward a second part to this movie.

Meanwhile, this big screen adaptation fully immerses the audience in the moving story of Paul's coming of age against family rivalries, tribal clashes, social oppression and ecological disaster on the unforgiving, austere planet of Arrakis.

While the film may be streaming on HBO

# Riley Reviews

## "DUNE" MYTHIC FUTURISTIC JOURNEY; "CANTERVILLE GHOST" ON TV

Max, "Dune" demands to be seen on the big screen to appreciate its stunning visual effects. On the other hand, viewer interest may wane for those who are less than avid followers of science-fiction.

**"THE CANTERVILLE GHOST" ON BYUtv**

In conjunction with BBC Studios, the cable network BYUtv turns the Oscar Wilde novella "The Canterville Ghost" into a four-part modern retelling of the humorous short story about an American family moving into a haunted British castle.

Premiering fittingly on Halloween, "The Canterville Ghost" stars Anthony Head as centuries-old Sir Simon de Canterville, the ethereal inhabitant of Canterville Chase, an estate purchased by Hiram Otis (James Lance), an American billionaire with ideas foreign to the locals.

Hiram and his psychotherapist wife Lucy (Caroline Catz) have three children, 22-year-old Virginia (Laurel Waghorn) and mischievous 12-year-old twins Franklin and Theodore (Joe and Tom Graves) who devise ways to torment Sir Simon.

For hundreds of years, the otherworldly and malevolent Sir Simon de Canterville, who considers himself Britain's premier ghost, has taken immense pride in scaring the locals and terrorizing the tenants of his castle in rural England.

Even his own descendant Lord St. John Canterville (Harry Gostelow), who grew up in the castle, moved his family out when he could no longer take the haunting and abandoned the estate to an American willing to buy the ancient mansion with all of its contents.

For the lonely, unhappy spirit, the thought that anyone would move into his ancestral home is an insult, but it's an even greater affront that a family of (gasp!) Americans would have the temerity to purchase his property.

That the uppity Americans are unwilling to be frightened by a ghost who wants them to skip back across the pond to their homeland is certainly unsettling to an apparition who believes he's an experienced performer going about his haunting duties with enthusiasm.

But Sir Simon's attempts to haunt the Otis family fall flat when the Americans greet his efforts with gift baskets and positive affirmations. He's consumed with guilt and unable to go to eternal rest until he finds redemption he so desperately craves.

The Otis family has its own struggles. Virginia seeks solace after dropping out of law school and is the only one who doesn't torment the ghost. Lucy and Hiram must navigate the treacherous and chilly waters of British aristocracy that abhors outsiders.

Like many of Oscar Wilde's works, "The Canterville Ghost" has been adapted for films and television on many occasions. BYUtv may have a hit on its hands. ★



## Dare to Live Without Limits

by Bryan Golden

### Overcoming Toxic Emotions



You've experienced one or more toxic emotions. Anger, frustration, fear, guilt, bitterness, resentment, and sadness negatively impact you. Toxic emotions cause you mental and physical harm.

Anger leads you to do or say things you'll regret later. Frustration causes you to consider giving up. Fear holds you back by inhibiting action. Guilt makes you ashamed about what you've done. Bitterness and resentment cause you to feel sick both mentally and physically. Sadness can be all consuming.

The good news is that you don't have to suffer with toxic emotions. You can proactively deal with these emotions, rather than feeling like a passive victim. Toxic emotions are best dealt with before they take hold.

Here are some effective strategies for overcoming toxic emotions. Start with keeping things in perspective. Don't blow situations out of proportion. Marinating an attitude of gratitude, where you are thankful for all of your blessings helps keep you balanced.

Be patient. The world is filled with negativity. Toxic feelings want to creep into your mind. You can become conditioned to automatically purge them once detected. Although you will experience toxic emotions, you can significantly minimize the amount of time they persist.

Relax and engage in enjoyable activities. Maintaining positive

emotions is the best defense against toxic ones. The better you feel on a regular basis, the less likely toxic emotions will have much of an impact.

Physical exercise clears your mind and keeps your body healthy. You don't have to be a fitness fanatic, (although there's nothing wrong with being one.) Just a vigorous 20-minute walk, 3 or 4 times a week is effective. So is taking the stairs instead of the elevator. Or when out shopping, park as far from the door as possible.

Let go of any negative aspects of your past. You don't want your past to pollute your future. Lamenting what you could have, would have, or should have done feeds toxic emotions. Instead, determine what you can and will do moving forward.

Recognize and acknowledge your toxic emotions. These feelings must be dealt with rather than being repressed. You feel the way you feel. Don't make excuses. Identify the sources of your feelings. When possible, avoid negative people and seek out positive ones.

Toxic emotions are displaced by focusing on positive thoughts and memories. You can't stop thinking about something. Instead, you have to change your thoughts. You are free to choose what you think about. Whenever you are upset with the way you are feeling, start thinking about something more pleasant.

Learn from your mistakes,

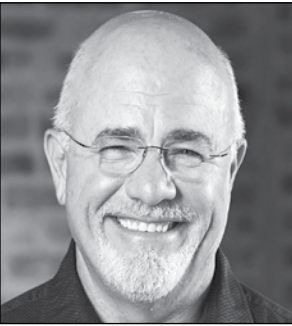
they are a normal part of life. Maintain an awareness of what worked and what didn't. Eliminate behavior which results in toxic emotions. You're not a victim. You are free to make necessary changes to improve your life.

Have patience. You won't completely eliminate toxic emotions, but you can minimize the amount of time they reside in your mind. In order to overcome toxic emotions, you must identify them as they occur. Once you realize negative feelings have taken hold, work to displace them with positive emotions.

Maintaining an attitude of gratitude is a powerful antidote to toxic emotions. Being thankful for all of the blessings in your life creates a potent force, which keeps negative emotions at bay. Other positive emotions worth cultivating include joy, pride, hope, happiness, and inspiration.

Toxic emotions can't take hold when you are leading a rewarding life. You don't have time for them while you are busy traveling down your desired path. Being immersed in positive energy creates a toxic emotion repelling force field.

**NOW AVAILABLE:** "Dare to Live Without Limits," the book. Visit [www.BryanGolden.com](http://www.BryanGolden.com) or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at [bryan@columlist.com](mailto:bryan@columlist.com) or write him c/o this paper. © 2021 Bryan Golden ★



## There are Better Options

Dear Dave,

I'm coming up on a transition phase in my life. I'll be leaving the military soon, and I've been evaluating my living situation once I am out. My parents said I could live with them for a while, but I am not sure that would work out well. I have done some research on renting versus buying a home, but I understand that you hate VA loans. Can you clarify as to why you feel this way and give some advice for a person in my situation?

– Tyler

Dear Tyler,

Hate might be a strong word for how I feel about VA loans, but there are some things you should know about them. Number one,

## Dave Ramsey Says

VA loans are usually more expensive, with the interest rate and all the fees, than FHA or conventional loans. Number two, the reason most people gravitate toward a VA loan is they can get a house with no money down. But if you're trying to buy a house with no money down, it means you're too broke to buy a house!

When you buy a house, and you've got no money in the bank, that house is going to be a curse instead of a blessing. What happens if you buy a home this way, and the air conditioner goes out next week? What happens if your car needs a new transmission next month? Most people who find themselves in situations like this start piling on debt to fix things, and that's not a wise answer.

VA loans and other "no down payment" mortgage loans allow you to buy a home from a position of financial weakness rather than a position of financial strength. Don't get me wrong, I want you to own a home someday. I just don't want the home – and a

bunch of other debt stacked on top – to own you.

My advice is to rent a decent, affordable place for a while and concentrate on getting your new life and career off the ground while saving some money. You might even consider a roommate situation for a while to help cut costs. But you don't need to be buying a home right now.

Good luck and God bless, Tyler. And thank you for your service to our country!

– 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.* ★





WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves



Out on a Limb



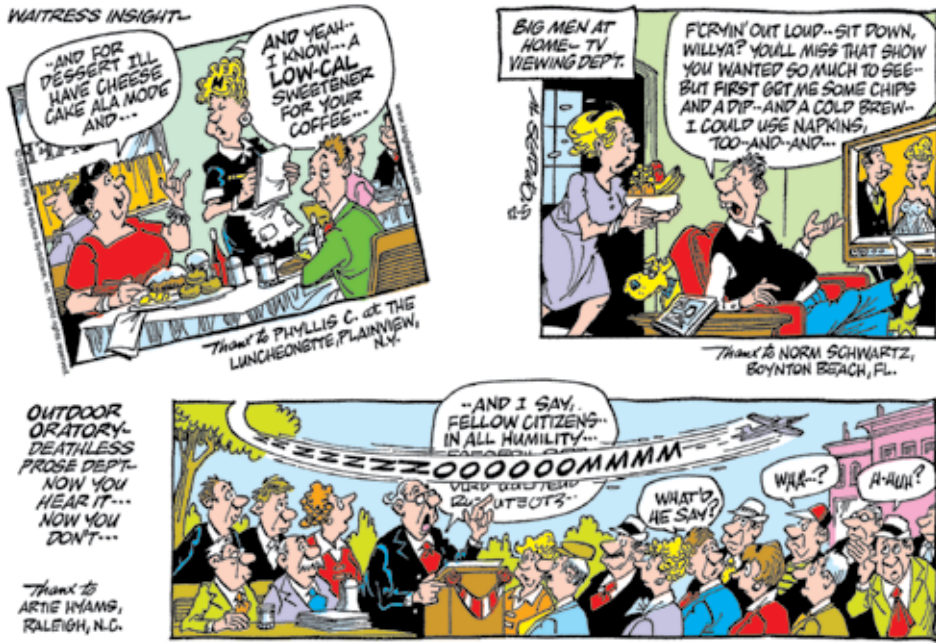
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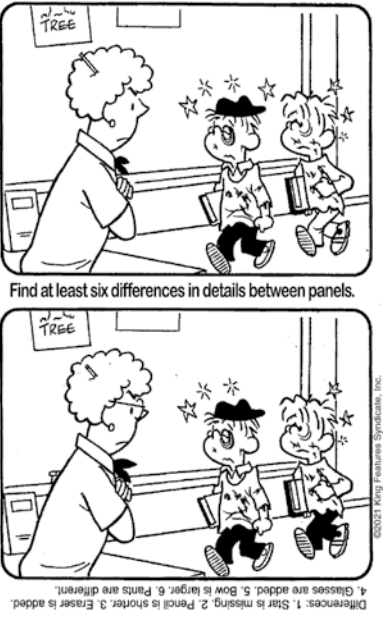
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# Live History Happening for Halloween



There will be no lack of sugar for all the little people in Dixon starting Friday afternoon but there won't be a shortage of entertainment either if you park your brooms at the Dixon Museum where they will have long-ago Dixonites return to share their history. Photo by Jill Orr

By Loran Hoffmann

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Downtown Business Association (DDBA) has made the downtown area festive by adding large displays of pumpkins, hay bales, and cutouts of witches and ghosts at major intersections downtown. They invite families to come downtown and join in the trick or treating at the downtown business from 2 to 4 pm on Friday afternoon, October 29th. In addition, the Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Trunk or Treat event, live music, and games from 4 to 7 pm at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Parking lot located at 220 N. Jefferson.

The Dixon History Museum is excited to participate and announced that several characters from Dixon's captivating history will be at the museum for the festivities. A rumor has been circulating that Captain Devilbiss, leader of the wagon train that left Canton, Missouri, in April of 1865, headed to California, will be making a stop in front of the Dixon History Museum from 2 to 4 pm on Friday afternoon, October 29. Treats will be available for children in costume that have come to the museum to welcome the wagon train.

Also, arriving on the wagon train is Bud and Henrietta Ellis along with their infant daughter Carrie. They left their home in Missouri four months ago and are pleased to have almost reached the destination of their

new home - Silveyville. It has been a long journey made more difficult due to Indian uprisings in the "four corners" making it necessary for the wagon train to travel further south into Colorado before safely reaching Fort Bridger. At that point they joined other wagons traveling to California on the trail that crossed the salt flats of the Great Salt Lake, over the Sierras stopping in Carson City, Placerville, and then on to Sacramento before reaching Silveyville.

Elijah Silvey and his wife will be at the museum to meet folks and tell the weary travelers about the soft beds and good meals a few miles down the trail at their tavern in the town of Silveyville. The proprietors proudly wave their red lanterns to guide travelers to the tavern which is located halfway between Vacaville and Davisville.

Several ladies from the Dixon Women's Improvement Club will be holding a meeting to discuss purchasing the property on First Street that is sometimes referred to as Dixon's "Barbary Coast." In an effort to beautify and enhance the Dixon community, Mrs. Oscar Schulze, along with Mrs. Robert J. Currey and other members of the Club have contacted Andrew Carnegie to inquire about a grant from the Carnegie Foundation to build a park and an actual library on the site.

We encourage everyone to come, have fun, and enjoy a family friendly Halloween event in our hometown. ★

# Walking in the Rain



Trying out her new galoshes and umbrella, little Milana got a walk in Northwest Park this past week with Grandpa Valentin. Rain was forecast all week and offered much relief from expensive water bills to Dixon residents and helped city parks look lush. The weather service said Sacramento should have gotten up to an inch and a half while there was a dusting of snow in the mountains possibly as low as 7,000 or 8,000 feet. Photo by Debra Dingman

# Rain Drenches Dixon



Laura and Tom Gomez were busy filling sandbags at the lot across from the Dixon Post Office on Saturday morning after they watched the water level in front of their East Broadway home go over the sidewalk but admitted the weather was "exciting." "This is the first rain since we bought the house and a storm drain is clogged on the corner," said Tom. "I got on social media to find out if there was a place for getting sandbags and funny, they were at the Fire Department but the sand is over here." The storm stripped tree limbs, created small lakes around town, and drenched neighborhoods in a record downpour. Sacramento News reported that there had not been that much rain in that short amount of time since 1880. Photo by Debra Dingman

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