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on Housing
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Dixon
Independent Voice

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**SEE
INSIDE**

**COASTAL
CLEANUP
OPPORTUNITY
NEAR YOU!**



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**WILDFIRES
IGNITE AN
INSURANCE
CRISIS**



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USAF Band Entertains Dixon



The Band of the Golden West performed at Hall Park last Saturday. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Bright blue skies matched the U.S. Air Force uniforms of the members of the Band of the Golden West who performed Saturday afternoon at Hall Park to citizens hunkered under umbrellas, shade structures and trees. The heat of the week had some concerned, but nature came offering a slight decrease in temperature resulting in only a 'really warm' summer day instead of scorching.

The event was coordinated through the City of Dixon and although it had to be postponed one week due to poor quality air from the

fires and the searing heat, the new date and time last Saturday worked well to pay tribute to the fallen in the September 11 attacks.

"The events that took place on September 11, 2001, forever changed our nation when nearly 3,000 American lives were taken at the hands of those who were determined to undermine our great country and everything it stands for," was posted on the band's social media page. "On the 20th anniversary of that day, we remember the victims and their families. We remember the first responders and our brothers and sisters in arms who valiantly stepped

up to defend our nation and its values. We celebrate the tenacity of Americans to fight for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the face of adversity. No matter the odds, we remain a nation where freedom rings and we stand united. We honor those who have fallen and commemorate the resiliency of our great nation."

The concert began with the national anthem and a decorated colonel addressed the crowd. Many concert attendees were moved to tears during the medley of military salutes from the various branches of the country's armed forces, not to mention the rendition of

Lee Greenwood's song, God Bless The USA.

"It was a great performance and they had a great horn section," said Jim Ward. "They did the Classics and paid tribute to many of the 'greats' on and off Broadway."

The Dixon Police Department also had some impromptu visitors—children inspecting the police motorcycles with one child even getting to sit on the seat of one. Despite it being very warm, the event brought many Dixonites out and inspired much patriotism with lots of folks wearing red, white, and blue. ★

**Solano
Hispanic
Chamber
to Mix in
Dixon**

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - If you drive around Dixon and see our Mexican grocery stores, restaurants, and business names such as Acosta Glass and Guerrero Tax, you know there are plenty of businesses owned by Hispanics but many more aren't obvious. A joint Chamber Mixer of Dixon and the Solano Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Sept. 22, 5:30 to 7 pm will be helpful to draw attention to the Hispanic business owners.

"This is the first time the two chambers have worked together on a mixer, and we look forward to working with them in the future to welcome the Hispanic businesses, which are a very important part of our community," said Dixon Chamber CEO Shauna Manina.

"The Hispanic culture is a very different culture," said Realtor Grace Lupercio of Dream Home Real Estate who was born in Mexico but raised in Dixon. "They work hard, work hard, go home, take care of stuff, and go back to work. There isn't a lot of networking. In my business, I had to learn that it requires networking; And, if I had stayed with that mindset I wouldn't have been able to build my business," she explained. She believes hispanics do need more support in running a business.

"Right next door is a good example," she said. "I facilitated their lease because they are expanding into the space vacated by Anderson Catering and it's exciting that they are thriving but with all the details, it becomes a struggle because the language barrier and the culture. They experience, 'Hey, I already own this place in Dixon, but I have all these roadblocks.' There is a high need to bring the different cultures together to build our community."

The Solano Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (SHCC) was formed to strengthen Solano County's Hispanic businesses by advocating for opportunities that support their economic growth and by providing resources, training and tools, which advance development, prosperity and success in Solano County.

It is a part of the Northern Region of
Continued on page 2

**U.S. Capitol Christmas
Tree to Visit Dixon**

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - A diamond on the I-80 Corridor is going to be a pit stop for a very special Christmas tree in November as it makes its way to the United States Capital in Washington, D.C. The "People's Tree" will surely spread holiday joy on its cross-country journey.

"With the U.S. Capitol Tree stopping here, this is a wonderful opportunity for our community to participate in something that is national, as well as a great opportunity to focus attention on our great town of Dixon," said Mayor Steve Bird. "This event is an honor for Dixon and will definitely lift our spirits for the upcoming holidays."

Every year, the USDA Forest Service selects one of its 154 national forests to provide a tree to appear on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol building for

Continued on page 3



This is a previous year's tree gracing the lawns of the United States capitol. A different national forest is chosen each year to provide "The People's Tree," which includes a public engagement campaign to create connections to and celebrate our national forests. Photo courtesy of U.S. Christmas Tree



Common Decency and the Constitution

By Debra Dingman

When my oldest son was learning to read, our little family in our little Honda station wagon was backing out of our driveway when I heard him start to sound out a word. “Ffff... oooh... kaa” he began when my head whipped around to see what he was reading. Someone had spray-painted that foul word on a utility box on the side of our driveway.

That began the long, slow continuous effort of teaching my children about common decency in America. Which ultimately spilled over into many talks in their future years about how great America is. Now, I’m trying to teach my grandchildren but with the steady move of that vulgar F-word in everyday language, the disrespect of democracy, and the erasing of our country’s history one statue at a time, it’s getting harder and harder to do.

This morning as I got out of my car for work, a roaring huge-wheeled truck with a bearded driver went by with two large flags brazenly waving from the back that said “F-word Biden” I was disgusted. Did he have a child learning to read? Did he drive by Anderson Elementary or John Knight Middle School or was he dropping off his teenager at the high school? What was he teaching his children or any of ours about common decency? What example was he setting for teens: If you don’t like something, you should share your hatred?

Our President was elected through the democratic system and you should volunteer at the polls if you think that didn’t happen correctly. If you don’t like who was elected, there are many more constructive ways to work for your candidate. I should know.

What came across my thoughts was the malleable mind of a child. You may have the right to do something but is it the right thing to do?

Constitution Day

Constitution Day is Sept. 17. While it goes under the radar for most Americans, I’m hoping others will be more aware and learn of the people who worked on building a democracy.

Constitution Day is an important part of the cultural heritage of the U.S. because it recognizes the value of the American experiment, and the success of a nation of free people whose rights and liberties are protected by a written Constitution. That includes the right to drive down the center of town around children going to school waving flags that insult democracy and mock the everyday courtesy, respect, and politeness that is expected and assumed in western civilization.

If we are demonstrating to our children through our behavior that police are not to be trusted, that voting is a joke, that it’s acceptable to be disrespectful to elected public servants including school boards and councilmen, that it’s okay to forego common decency, then what-REALLY does the future of our country look like? I want youth to have hope. I never want them to feel there isn’t any. I want that hope, too, but it’s certainly hard to start my day with it after seeing that foul message and knowing younger eyes will read it.

That’s why I’m encouraging our high school students to enter the 2021 Constitution Essay Contest sponsored by the Constitution Literacy Advocates. I once was a winner, then a judge, and know the work in investigating and understanding what it took to create the Constitution seeps into the contestants.

There is also a grand prize award of \$700, a “Best of School” award of \$100, and a Founder’s Choice Award of \$50. Contest is open to all Solano County students in grades 10 through 12. For more information, email: constitution225@gmail.com. ★

Artists and Wine Yourself at “The Crush”

The Crush Press Release

SOLANO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association would like to invite the public to the 1st Annual “The Crush” Art and Wine Festival. This will be our first event and will offer artwork from over 20 fine artists. The event will be held at a new facility, the Village 360, located at 4949 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, 94534. Google Earth will get you close but does not show the correct location. The Landing will be supplying a variety of types of food, The Point will offer a variety of drinks, and BackRoad Vines will supply a variety of fine wine while you

stroll among the artists and enjoy the live music performed by Yuppie Liberation.

This fine art event will offer by artwork Laura Klein, Maribel Passion, Cherol Ockrassa, Xioneida Ruiz (acrylic), Jim Poff, Bahiya Spaulding, Barbara Smithson (watercolor), Vicki Dennis, Connie Millholland, Ebba Navas (oil painting), Dennis Ariza, Dan Suzio (color and black and white photography), Margo Scarpulla, Jane Loveall, Karen Norton, Rachael Van Sloten (Ceramics), JoRene Danel (fused glass), Carl Bradford III (Drawing), Beverly Parker, Laura Livadas Carolyn Mulliner (jewelry), Kathy Canfield Sheppard (Quilling), Korene Miller

(Wine/Food Items), Pat Calabro (Digital Art), Gina Greene, Janet Barnes (mixed media), food, wine, music, and more. The event will be held on Sunday, September 26th from 11am to 6pm.

Additional information is available at <https://www.fvaa-arts.org/the-crush>.

While at The Crush ask for a private tour of the new Village 360 Art Gallery in the BackRoad Vines Winery Club Room. You can view or purchase all the artwork on display in the Village 360 at any time at <https://www.fvaa-org/fsvaa-galleries>

Admission and parking are free.

For addition information please contact Dennis Ariza at 707-688-8889. ★

Dixon News Briefs

MPG Staff

Lions Barbecue

Tickets are now on sale and always go fast for the Dixon Lions Club Dive Thru BBQ Fundraiser on Saturday, October 9, at Tractor Supply at 200 North First Street from 4 to 7 pm. Tickets are \$15 donation each. The dinner includes barbecue tri-tip, baked beans, potato salad and a roll. All proceeds help fund Dixon High School Senior scholarships. For more information, contact Jim Modar at (707) 580-2881.



2019/2021 Lion President Tom Stalie with Lion of the Year, Jim Mayoral. Photo by Eric Kratzer

The club is currently preparing for their 13th Annual Texas Hold-Em Poker Night Fundraiser for Saturday, November 20, 2021.

Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization with nearly 1.4 million members in approximately 46,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas around the world. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired and made a strong commitment to community service and serving youth throughout the world.

For more information about the Dixon Lions Clubs, visit their Web site at <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/DixonCA>, or see their Dixon Lions Club Facebook page.

City Council

Tuesday, Sept. 21, is the next City Council Meeting inside the Council Chambers at 600 East A Street. You can view the agenda on the City of Dixon website. At the last meeting, the air conditioner was still not working and despite temporary coolers, it was pretty warm so bring a fan just in case they still haven’t figured out the repair after several months.

If it’s any consolation, Dist. 2 Rep Jim Ernest did ask for the City to figure out a way to do a “hybrid meetings” as attendance at the in-person meetings has dropped significantly and he wanted to

get citizen involvement back as high as it was when they held Zoom meetings.

Pocket Constitutions

Friday, Sept. 16 is National Constitution Day and a good time to talk about it over breakfast with your students or at the coffee shop with your friends or during lunch with coworkers. Written in 1787, ratified in 1788, and in operation since 1789, the United States Constitution is the world’s longest surviving written charter of government. Its first three words – “We The People” – affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve its citizens, states the senate.gov website.

For over two centuries the Constitution has remained in force because its framers successfully separated and balanced governmental powers to safeguard the interests of majority rule and minority rights, of liberty and equality, and of the federal and state governments. Really, you should re-read it every year!

In recognition of this day, this newspaper will be giving away free ‘pocket’ constitutions during office hours at 100 N. Adams at the Motley Realty Building while supplies last. They are courtesy of the Constitution Literacy Advocates. Our office is accessible through the back parking area. Look for our sign in the window.

Another place to get those pocket Constitutions is during the veterans Chicken Dinner, 6 pm, at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 North First Street. Cost is \$10.

20th Anniversary

Living Hope Church is celebrating its 20th Anniversary! They will have lots of reminiscing about all that God has done in and through their church. Special services are at 9 am and 10:30 am on Sunday, Sept. 26, and one can find more info on the celebration on the Living Hope Dixon website.

Paper Shredding

Atkinson Self Storage will be hosting a Paper Shredding Event on Saturday, Oct. 9, from 10 am to noon. They are located at 1800 North First Street (Highway 113) and inside the storage facility, around the ‘D’ aisle end cap.

Cost will be \$5 a box and there should be no binder clips, but regular paper clips and staples are okay. It is open to the public so you are welcome to tell a friend. For more information, call (707) 693-9200. ★

Solano Hispanic Chamber to Mix in Dixon

Continued from page 1

the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (CAHCC) which represents the interests of over 800,000 Hispanic business owners in California.

Through its business, government and community partnerships, the SHCC has developed a cohesive network dedicated to promoting business prosperity, educational parity, business and home ownership, citizenship, voting privileges,

and political equity for the local Hispanic community.

“We’re so fortunate to have a diverse community,” Lupercio said.

Admission will be \$5 and includes a drink. The Chamber is at 220 North Jefferson Street in Dixon. For more information, email info@solanochcc.com or call (707) 999-2966 or contact the Dixon Chamber of Commerce at (707) 678-2650 or email info@dixonchamber.org. ★



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Loving Others,
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Worship Services at 10:30 am Sundays
Our sermon topic for this week is

“Who Do You Think You Are”
1 Peter 2:4-10

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Sheila Dybdahl - Children’s Minister

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Coastal Cleanup Opportunity Near You! U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree to Visit Dixon

Solano County Press Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County's Annual Cleanup is all about protecting our waterways and oceans. Individuals or small groups can pick up litter any day this month, performing cleanup sweeps through their neighborhoods and local natural places. Residents can also volunteer on the official Coastal Cleanup Day on September 18. "These combined efforts will help prevent single-use plastic items, recyclable beverage containers, and other litter from polluting our local land and waterways that can eventually make their way to the ocean" says Narcisa Untal, Solano County Senior Planner.

Untal added, "Any person can use the month-long Cleanup Event to clean up wherever they are, whenever they can. Everyone can participate and make a real difference, at whatever scale is safest and works best for them."

Locations for the September 18 cleanup from 9 am to 12 pm and the latest safety protocols can be found at cleanupsolano.org. No matter where or when you participate, we encourage participants to wear a mask, maintain safe distances from others and be sure to monitor air quality to ensure you're

safe while cleaning up. All of the official county cleanup site operations will be contingent on the most current safety guidelines; volunteers should check cleanupsolano.org to make sure they have the latest information before they join the event.

If you're doing small-scale cleanup, be sure to download the Clean Swell app so you can input your results during or after your cleanup work to make sure your numbers are automatically included in the larger statewide tally. However, if you prefer a paper data card, just download it from coastalcleanupday.org and send the completed tally of your day's efforts to the address on the back of the card. Both the app and the printable data card are also available from cleanupsolano.org.

While you're there, check out the helpful guidelines for conducting a neighborhood cleanup and other resources to help plan and prepare do-it-yourself cleanup events.

When we all work together, we make a difference. In 2019, the year of our last in-person event, over 2,000 volunteers cleared more than 25 thousand pounds of trash and single-use beverage containers. Jennifer Kaiser, Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District's Public Information Officer and Vallejo cleanup lead says, "Even with all

the barriers Covid-19 and the wildfires have thrown at us, our Coastal Cleanup efforts are an amazing example of what our community is made of. It is really cool to see all the dedication and commitment volunteers demonstrate, and it's even better to see the real difference they make with the simple gift of three hours of their time."

Solano Resource Conservation District coordinates this annual Coastal Cleanup Day on behalf of the Cities and County of Solano and the local wastewater agencies. The Solano Chapter of the Sierra Club has provided energy bars for all official September 18 sites this year with the support from Sprouts of Vacaville. These local events are part of a larger statewide Coastal Cleanup Day effort usually consisting over more than 1,000 sites throughout California. For a complete listing of Solano County partners and community cleanups, please visit cleanupsolano.org. Follow local cleanup efforts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, use the handle [@cleanupsolano](https://twitter.com/cleanupsolano). Follow statewide efforts on Facebook at facebook.com/CaliforniaCoast, Twitter at twitter.com/TheCACoast and on Instagram at instagram.com/thecaliforniacoast/. We hope we'll see you! ★

Continued from page 1

the holiday season. The Six Rivers National Forest in partnership with non-profit partner Choose Outdoors will bring this special gift from California to Washington, D.C. for the 2021 holiday season.

Thanks to a collaboration with the City of Dixon, Dixon Chamber of Commerce, and the Dixon May Fair, the Tree will make a special appearance in Dixon on Tuesday, November 2 from 3 pm until 6 pm at the Dixon May Fair. Admission and parking are free.

"The Dixon May Fair Board of Directors and staff are proud to be a part of this important visit," said Patricia Conklin, Chief Executive Officer of the Dixon May Fair. "We look forward to celebrating the 'People's Tree' and the start of the holiday season with the community on November 2."

Under the theme, Six Rivers, Many Peoples, One Tree, the 84-foot tall White Fir will be harvested on the Six Rivers National Forest on Oct. 25 and prepared for the 3,300-mile expedition. The journey will include a series of 25 outdoor community celebrations before being delivered to the U.S. Capitol on Nov. 19. The Tree will then be decorated with handmade ornaments and tree skirts specially created by Californians and lit in early December.

"The U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree campaign exists to connect people from across California

and throughout the country to the outdoors and their public lands," said Ted McArthur, forest supervisor for the Six Rivers National Forest. "We are honored to represent California national forests and bring the joy of the People's Tree on its journey to Washington, D.C."

Festivities during the tree's visit to Dixon on November 2, will include remarks by public officials, visits with Santa, free refreshments and more. Additional activities will be announced closer to the event date. All activities are open to the public and free for all to enjoy while following local health guidelines.

"We are honored that the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree will visit Dixon on its journey to Washington, D.C.," said Herb Cross, Chair of the Board of the Dixon Chamber of Commerce. "Our community looks forward to being a part of this gift to the nation and the joy it will bring to our own community this holiday."

The initiative is made possible with cash and

in-kind contributions from companies large and small as well as volunteers locally and across America, who provide vital support of time and resources. 2021 sponsors include Kenworth Truck Company, System Transport, ABC Sacramento, Spireon, Inc., PG&E, Hale Trailer, Mountain F Enterprises, Visit California, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Society of American Foresters, Truckload Carriers Association, Great West Casualty Company, Meritor, Inc., Coast Central Credit Union, Alaska Airlines, BT Metals, The Forest Foundation, Green Diamond Resource Company, Sierra Pacific Industries, Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood Companies, Trinity County, Verizon, LexisNexis VitalChek Network, Inc., The Joy Trip Project, Bass Pro Shops, BERG Co, Vesmir, Gene Lucas Community Center, Dick Taylor Chocolates, Humboldt Craft Spirits, Humboldt Marketplace, and ChicoBag & To-Go Ware.

"We are grateful to the host cities such as Dixon who play a vital role in bringing the tree across the country and this annual celebration to life", said Bruce Ward, President, Choose Outdoors."

For more information on the Dixon event, call 707-678-2650. For news, events, and tour information, visit uscapitolchristmastree.com, along with Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. ★



Sen. Dodd Lauds Passage of Controlled Burn Insurance Fund

By Paul Payne, Office of Sen. Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, lauded the Legislature's approval of a \$20 million pilot program he promoted to expand the use of controlled burning to prevent wildfires. The investment comes as Sen. Dodd's own Senate Bill 332, which also would advance the use of the proven firefighting tool, won legislative approval and awaits a signature from Gov. Gavin Newsom.

"If we want to reduce the frequency and destructiveness of wildfires, we must remove combustible fuels from our tinder-dry forests and woodlands," Sen. Dodd said. "Prescribed burning is a time-tested solution to this worsening problem. I am thrilled to see this come to fruition and thank my legislative colleagues for supporting this worthwhile investment."

The \$20 million line item was contained in

the Senate Bill 170 budget trailer approved late Thursday, September 9, by both the Assembly and Senate. It establishes a pilot program to provide liability insurance for controlled burn professionals. Due to rare instances when their fires burn out of control, many are unable to afford high premiums, effectively preventing critical risk mitigation work. It complements Sen. Dodd's SB 332, which changes the law to require a showing of gross negligence on the part of controlled burn users before they can be found liable for paying suppression costs.

The pilot program was advanced by The Nature Conservancy, which also backs SB 332. Sen. Dodd's bill has additional support from more than two dozen groups including foresters and ranchers.

"Since his earliest days in the Legislature, Sen. Dodd has led efforts to fund science-based approaches to accelerate wildfire

prevention across the state and reduce the risks of megafires for nature and people," said Jay Ziegler, director of external affairs and policy at The Nature Conservancy. "Returning fire to the landscape is essential for forest health and for reducing the impacts of wildfires to our communities. We greatly appreciate his leadership with Senate Bill 332 to establish liability protections for prescribed burners in California and for securing \$20 million to establish a prescribed fire claims fund as part of the wildfire resilience budget. These measures are critical to reduce the growing wildfire risk in the face of climate change."

Senator Bill Dodd represents the 3rd Senate District, which includes all or portions of Napa, Solano, Yolo, Sonoma, Contra Costa, and Sacramento counties. You can learn more about the district and Senator Dodd at www.sen.ca.gov/dodd. ★



The Dixon District Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome the following new members

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Haughn & Son Tire Service Inc.

Kiwanis Club of Dixon

Mendez Sound & Light

For information on how the Dixon Chamber can help your business be more successful, call 707-678-2650 or email info@dixonchamber.org.

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You Are Out of Time

California legislators won't extend housing eviction ban

By **Manuela Tobias,**
CALMatters.org

California's eviction protections will almost certainly not be extended once they expire after Sept. 30, the state Assembly Housing chairperson said today.

The legislative session ends Friday, so that's the last day that lawmakers could push off that deadline. But the political appetite just isn't there to act, according to David Chiu, a San Francisco Democrat who spearheaded the previous efforts to stall the displacement of tenants amid the pandemic.

"I believed our eviction protections for tenants should be extended beyond September 30. The delta variant and the end of many unemployment benefits make that even more urgent," Chiu told CalMatters. "Unfortunately, some of my colleagues feel differently, and there's not enough consensus for that."

The current round of eviction protections were extended on June 25, just days before they were set to expire. At that point, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon said he hoped the economy would be in full swing so that another moratorium would not be necessary. Rendon's office declined to comment on the absence of another extension.

"The Legislature has kind of set a trap for itself because it won't be in session when that expires," said Brian Augusta, legislative advocate for the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, who has been lobbying for stronger protections throughout the pandemic. "So, that means, what we see is what we get."



California's eviction protections will almost certainly not be extended once they expire after Sept. 30. Photo Antonio Guillem Dreamstime.com

Augusta said the governor could still call a special legislative session to extend protections before the end of the month, or issue an executive order as he did at the beginning of the pandemic to pause court proceedings relating to evictions. But he said that's unlikely.

The governor's office also declined to comment.

The California Rental Housing Association, which represents more than 20,000 landlords and has sued the state over the last round of protections, was pleased by the decision, but not surprised.

"Our lobbyists did not come to us and say, 'Hey, you know,

we're going to have to compromise somewhere or anything like that,'" said Sid Lakireddy, a board member for CalRHA. "So, I think the legislators are starting to get it as well. This can't go on at infinity."

The eviction protections in place state that tenants will have a defense in court should their landlord evict them over non-payment of rent through Sept. 30. They still have to submit a declaration saying they are unable to make full rent, and pay at least 25% of their monthly rent since Sept. 1, 2020, in installments or in bulk, by Sept. 30.

The protections are tied to \$5.2 billion in federal aid for

rent relief. People making less than 80% of their area median income who were financially affected by COVID-19 can still apply for the full amount of missed rent and stave off eviction. They can also now apply for three months of forward rent.

But distribution of those dollars remains a problem. While the state has received applications for about \$1.9 billion in rental aid, it has distributed only about \$491 million. Still, that's about a 500% increase since the current moratorium passed at the end of June, according to Russ Heimerich, spokesperson for the state's Business, Consumer Services

and Housing Agency.

According to a recent analysis of California's rental debt by Policy Link, an Oakland-based research group, about 753,000 families are behind on rent, and owe a cumulative \$2.8 billion.

"I think everybody's hope was that more families would have received the funds by now, and that the people who didn't apply or were denied were a minority, as opposed to an overwhelming majority," said Francisco Dueñas, executive director of Housing Now!, a tenant advocacy group.

Existing law has some stopgaps that, in theory, should prevent the tsunami of evictions tenant advocates and researchers have predicted. Heimerich said tenants will be shielded from an eviction procedure by the courts for 15 more days to apply for their missed rent — a provision that extends through March 2022.

To take advantage of those protections, tenants will have to show evidence they applied for the rental assistance program in court, Heimerich said. He said the state agency is working closely with the Judicial Council to inform judges of the procedure.

While the stopgap might seem promising on paper, tenant advocates are leery of its application.

"The problem with relying on the courts is it requires people to go to court," Dueñas said. "And a lot of people don't respond to a court notice. They just move."

Manuela is the housing reporter for CalMatters. Her stories focus on the political dynamics and economic and racial inequities that have contributed to the housing crisis in California. ★



USAF Thunderbirds



RCAF Snowbirds

2 MILITARY JET TEAMS



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SMUD ORANGE FRIDAY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17:

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SUTTER HEALTH FIREWORKS SATURDAY

SATURDAY, September 18:

Sutter Health Fireworks Saturday | Family Fun Pack game

SUNDAY FUNDAY

SUNDAY, September 19:

Dinger's Kids Club | Kids run the bases postgame

FAN APPRECIATION WEEKEND

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1:

SMUD Orange Friday with postgame fireworks presented by ACE Hardware

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2:

Family Fun Pack game

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3:

Season Finale | Dinger's Kids Club

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By Amy Shane

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

Stalking Shadows

by Cyla Panin

Marie knows that she must do everything in her power to set up a good dowry for her sister Ama. A good dowry is the only way to ensure Ama will be married to a decent man, allowing Marie to live a life free of burden and obligation. Taking on the responsibility of solely caring for her family, Marie spends her days mixing sweet perfumes in pretty bottles to sell, and one that has the power to mark death. Deep down, Marie hides the biggest secret one sister can hold; her sister is cursed, taking the form of a beast who ravages for blood, and it is up to Marie to protect her.

With a simple drop of honeysuckle perfume, Marie marks her sister's next victim, making sure to choose those who wouldn't cause suspicion or even noticed if they went missing. But then an unmarked body shows up in their small village, one either killed by her sister or an unfamiliar beast. As fear ripples throughout Marie's body, she quickly becomes aware that she is unable to control her sister's transformation and that no amount of perfumes sold



- ◆ Publisher: Amulet
- ◆ Intended Audience: Fairytale retelling; Young Adult
- ◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥♥
- ◆ Release Date: Sept. 14, 2021

at the market will make enough money to cure her sister. The only way to save her is to undo the curse itself, leaving her to take a job at the LaClaire mansion. Marie knows that somewhere hidden within those walls lies the spellbook that cursed her sister. All too quickly, Marie uncovers a house shrouded in family secrets. However, Marie didn't expect to also discover the small fire she felt under her skin every time Sebastian LaClaire was nearby. With even more hidden behind the mansion doors, Marie is thrown into a whole world of secrets, lies, and family

curses. Leaving Marie to quickly realize that she may never be able to control the truth that lies deeper than the beast itself.

In a story of sisterly bonds and the lengths those will go for the ones they love, Stalking Shadows is this fall's compelling new read. A Beauty and the Beast retelling with a gothic twist, this story has delicate romantic undertones keeping the wholesome elements of the time period while also staying true to the story's relevance. Cyla Panin leads her readers by the hand into a lush, atmospheric tale set deep within a village in the 1800s. This isn't a story that will rattle the cages but instead get under your skin in the best way. With its haunting undertone, readers will have visions of soft candlelight and howling in the distance. While this story is loosely based on Beauty and The Beast, the sisterly love that develops is something you can sink your teeth into. A gothic fantasy that wraps readers within the tendrils of sacrifice, love and soft scents of honeysuckle and lavender unfolding from its pages. ★



No, Afghanistan Not the End of American Power

It's hard to imagine more humiliating images than what we've seen in Afghanistan in recent weeks, from the hasty evacuation of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul to the chaotic scenes outside the airport.

Our surrender to a band of AK-47-bearing guerrillas after 20 years has, understandably, occasioned autumnal thoughts about American power.

Even the Soviet Union, on the cusp of full collapse, managed to get out of Afghanistan in good order and leave behind a government that endured for several years.

What does it say that we couldn't match that?

Writing in The New Yorker, Robin Wright says the pullout may serve as "a bookend for the era of U.S. global power." Allister Heath, editor of The Sunday Telegraph, argues that "the botched exit is merely the latest sign that the American era is ending." Francis Fukuyama says the images in Kabul "have evoked a major juncture in world history," although he thinks "the end of the American era had come much earlier."

There is no sugar-coating our defeat in Afghanistan and the abject position we put ourselves in during the final days. The withdrawal is a blow to our counterterrorism capabilities, our prestige and our

geopolitical position. For all of that, though, no one in the world has the formidable advantages of the United States, which still outstrips everyone else, including China, on every material metric that matters.

Great powers don't go away easily. The British could be forgiven for thinking that it'd be all downhill after losing their American colonies in a long war joined by their traditional rivals France and Spain. Instead, British imperial power had not yet peaked.

Our exit from Saigon in 1975, to this point the touchstone for modern American defeats, was followed by Communist advances all over the map. Yet, within 20 years, we'd win the Cold War and ascend to unprecedented global power.

We are still blessed with an extraordinarily favorable geographical position, as a continental nation with friendly neighbors, access to two oceans, enormous reserves of oil and gas, and vast amounts of arable land.

We produce about a quarter of global GDP, a share that has held up over the years.

We are responsible for an astonishing 40% of all military spending in the world. It was ridiculous that Biden made a bragging point of the evacuation, but it's true that no one else would have been capable of such an operation.

We dominate the list of top universities in the world.

There is no country people would rather come to. A Taliban spokesperson interviewed on Iranian TV, when challenged

why so many people want to flee Afghanistan, rightly pointed out that if American planes were taking people out of Iran, there'd be a rush for the exits there, too.

In his book, "Unrivaled," Michael Beckley of Tufts University and the American Enterprise Institute rebuts the notion that China is overtaking us.

American workers are more productive than workers anywhere else. China's labor productivity has improved, Beckley writes, "but remains half that of Turkey, lower than Mexico's, and roughly on par with Brazil's."

We have demographic challenges, but other big powers, especially China, will be aging faster. Over the course of the century, Beckley notes, China will lose half of its workforce, or 470 million people.

Our alliance system is an enormous force-multiplier, a network that, according to Beckley, "encompasses 25% of the Earth's population and accounts for 75% of world GDP and defense spending." China's formal ally, in contrast, is North Korea.

None of this is to deny that the contemporary United States is racked by self-doubt, poisonous politics and institutional failure.

It is only to say that if we are determined to squander our global position, it will take much more time and folly to do it. A further downward slide, like the disastrous withdrawal from Kabul itself, will be a choice, not an inevitability.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Covid and Beyond



Commentary

by bil paul

The spread of covid slacked off last week as Dixon recorded 41 new cases.

Around Solano County last week, there were four more covid deaths. The percentage of people being tested who tested positive declined to about 10 percent (still way too high). The number of known active cases took a big dive from 1151 to 838. The high figure may be attributed to a Kaiser Permanente reporting glitch. Only 17 percent of the county's ICU beds were available.

There hasn't been a Labor Day covid surge so far.

I got a Pfizer booster shot this week. I was eligible because of my age and an existing medical condition. Speaking of shots, I remember as an army enlisted man walking a gauntlet of army medics armed with air guns that "shot" vaccines into arms. I didn't see anyone back then refusing to get the shots on the grounds of personal freedom.

If you watch the news, you're aware that a block of southern states are covid hotspots, primarily

because of comparatively low rates of vaccination. So I was amazed to see television images of crowds at college football games in these states, with attendees shoulder to shoulder, yelling, without masks and without having to prove vaccinations. What are they thinking? Meanwhile, hospitals down there are running out of ICU beds and medical personnel are being stretched to their limits.

I guess part of the problem is pandemic fatigue and people wanting to return to their former lives. They may be perfectly willing to put up with 136,000 new covid cases and 12,000 new covid hospitalizations per day (in the U.S.) – as long as it doesn't strike their own family – into the foreseeable future.

It's strange that people pooh-poo vaccinations because they don't trust them and the medical establishment. Then some fall ill and are hospitalized with covid, and have to place their trust in the medical system to keep them alive.

Following are some short covid news items and observations.

The Moderna company is working on a vaccine booster shot that would combat both covid and the flu.

The reason why there are so many covid mutations or variants is because so many people around the world catch the disease and breed untold millions of new viruses, some with

mutations. Many third-world countries around the world have only vaccinated around three percent of their populations, making them ideal covid-variant breeding grounds.

In the town of Lacy Lakeview, Texas, near Waco, few students were wearing masks before two of their teachers recently died of covid. Now all students and staff wear masks. This school district and others around the state are defying Governor Greg Abbott's order not to require masking. The teachers were ages 41 and 59. Currently, around the U.S., one-fourth of covid cases belong to children and they make up two percent of those hospitalized.

In the Dixon school district so far this year, there has been an average of 11 confirmed student covid cases per week, and an average of about two staff cases.

Looking at pandemic-related inflation and food prices, the other day I saw pistachios for sale in Safeway at about \$8.66 per pound. Apparently, pistachio farmers are only getting about \$2.50 per pound. Someone's making money here!

bil paul did PR for the Postal Service, worked in the medical field and as a reporter and photographer. He is the author of the book about Dixon's failed movie studio project ("The Train Never Stops in Dixon") and has a book coming out next year titled "Awaiting the Sun: World War Two Veterans Remember the Aleutians." ★

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.



Wednesday, September 08, 2021

0904 - A Dixon resident was arrested for violating a restraining order on the 1400 block of Market Lane

Thursday, September 09, 2021

0607 - Commercial burglary report at the 100 block of Gateway Dr.

0721 - Burglary report in the 100 block of Heritage Ln.

0725 - Information report at the intersection of North First St at Dorset Dr.

0900 - Found property report taken at the Dixon PD.

0913 - Assault and threats report following a neighbor dispute in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Dr.

1049 - Death report at the 400 block of West F St.

1111 - Vehicle vandalism report in the 400 block of Ellesmere Dr.

1338 - Fraud report at Dixon PD's lobby.

1553 - Richard Nunes (48) was contacted and arrested at the 200 block of Dorset Dr for suspected controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. Nunes was cited and released without incident.

1705 - Auto burglary report in the 7800 block of Batavia Rd.

2340 - Warrant arrest report was taken at the intersection of West H. St. at Newgate Way. Officers contacted Salvador Birelas (20) of Dixon. Birelas was cited and released for a misdemeanor warrant.

Friday, September 10, 2021

0409 - Officers responded to a vehicle that collided with the center median in the intersection of Harvard Way and East Parkway Boulevard. Upon arrival, officers contacted Erika Whiting (49) out of Contra Costa County. Whiting was found to be under the influence of an unknown drug and placed under arrest for DUI. Whiting's vehicle (black 2015 Honda) was towed by All About Towing pursuant to 22651(h)(1) CVC. Whiting was cited and released from the Dixon Police Department without incident.

0826 - Welfare check in the 1400 block of Ary Lane.

1154 - Officers conducted an enforcement stop for a traffic violation in the 1300 Block of Stratford Avenue. The driver and solo occupant Cristi Smith (38) out of Winters was contacted. Smith was found to have methamphetamine in her possession and was placed under arrest. Smith was cited and released from the scene without incident.

1533 - Information report in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.

1626 - Vehicle in the 400 block of West C Street was towed for being expired over six months pursuant to 22651(o)(1) CVC. The vehicle was a gold 2005 Mercury Sable.

1949 - Lost property report in the 300 block of Clipper Court.

Saturday, September 11, 2021

0557 - Stolen vehicle report in the 1100 block of Newgate Way.

0913 - Petty theft report in the 1000 block of Orchard Drive.

1109 - Officers conducted a suspicious vehicle check in the 1400 block of Ary Lane. Dmitry Divakov (34) out of Sacramento was contacted in the driver's seat. Divakov was found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia, heroin, and a controlled substance. Divakov was placed under arrest and transported to the Solano County Jail without incident. Divakov's vehicle (2009 Toyota Prius) was towed by All About Towing per 22651(h)(1) CVC.

1713 - Theft report was taken in the 900 block of Merrill Dr

Sunday, September 12, 2021

1355 - A Dixon resident was arrested for an outstanding warrant near the intersection of Market and Pitt School Road.

1530 - A battery report was taken from Northwest Park.

1625 - An elderly Dixon resident was reported missing, but he was found later at home.



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ORDINANCE NO. 21-006

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL REZONING A VACANT PROPERTY ON NORTH LINCOLN AVE FROM PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE – PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (PAO-PD) TO SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL - PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (R1-PD) AT VACANT LOT IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF 805 N LINCOLN ST (ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 0113-290-100)

WHEREAS, a Parcel Map was administratively approved and subsequently recorded on April 30, 2020 in Solano County Recorder's Book 53 Page 28 which subdivided the property from 805 North Lincoln Street (Assessor's Parcel Number 0113-290-090); and

WHEREAS, the City of Dixon's City Council adopted a new General Plan and Land Use Map on May 18, 2021 which included changing the land use designation for Assessor's Parcel Number 0113-290-100 to Low Density Residential (LDR); and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2021, Tanya Hannebohn, applicant, on behalf of Polycomb Trust, submitted a Planning Application (P21-09) requesting the Rezoning (RZ21-01) of a vacant property immediately north of 805 North Lincoln Street from Professional and Administrative Office – Planned Development (PAO-PD) to Single-family Residential (R1) in order to be consistent with the new General Plan land use designation for the site.

WHEREAS, the City of Dixon's ("City") Planning Commission on July 13, 2021, held a duly noticed public hearing regarding the proposed Rezoning and unanimously adopted Resolution No. 21-14, recommending to the City Council approval of the Rezoning (RZ 21-01) request, with a recommendation that the new zoning also include the Planned Development (-PD) overlay in order to be consistent with the surrounding residential areas of the Watson Ranch subdivision; and;

WHEREAS, the City Council on August 17, 2021, held a duly noticed public hearing regarding the proposed Rezoning; and

WHEREAS, the project, in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21166, as implemented by CEQA Guidelines 15162, is consistent with the General Plan 2040 EIR and determined that no circumstances giving rise to a requirement for a subsequent or supplemental EIR are present requiring such subsequent or supplemental document. An exemption is also further supported by CEQA Guidelines 15061 where a proposed project that is being considered would have no foreseeable environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed Rezoning is required to achieve the objectives of the Dixon Municipal Code (DMC 18.42.080.C) given that:

- a) The property, as presently zoned, is inconsistent with the recently adopted General Plan 2040 and its Land Use Map; and
- b) The proposed Rezoning the property from PAO-PD to Single-family Residential-PD (R1-PD) will result in the lot being consistent with the General Plan's 2040 Land Use Map;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the approvals set forth herein are in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the City's residents to ensure that the proposed ordinance amendment would make the Zoning consistent with the General Plan 2040 land use map and thus meet the following objectives of the Dixon Municipal Code (DMC 18.01.010):

- a) Provide a guide for the physical development of the City and to achieve the land uses depicted in the General Plan land use diagram and to foster implementation of other goals and policies of the General Plan dealing with land use, urban design, environmental protection, and public health and safety Foster a harmonious, convenient, workable relationship among land uses.
- b) Promote the stability of existing land uses which conform with the General Plan and to protect them from inharmonious influences and harmful intrusions.
- c) Ensure that public and private lands ultimately are used for the purposes which are most appropriate and most beneficial from the standpoint of the City including

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

The Zoning Map is hereby amended to change the zoning of the vacant property immediately north of 805 N Lincoln St (APN 0113-290-100) from Professional and Administrative Office – Planned Development (PAO-PD) to Single Family Residential – Planned Development (R1-PD), as identified on Exhibit A.

SECTION 2.

Pursuant to Section 18.42.090 of the Dixon Municipal Code, the City Clerk is hereby directed to cause the Official Zoning Map of the City of Dixon to be revised to reflect the Rezoning approved by this ordinance.

SECTION 3.

If any subsection, sentence clause or phrase of this ordinance amendment is, for any reason, held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity or the remaining portions of this added ordinance section.

SECTION 4.

This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its passage by the City Council, and following the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the City Council.

Within 15 days of its adoption, a summary of the ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Dixon, State of California, which summary shall include the names of those Council Members voting for and against the ordinance. A certified copy of the full text of such adopted ordinance or amendment shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Dixon, held on the 17th day of August, 2021, and given its first reading at said meeting. Said Ordinance was given a second reading and adopted at a meeting of the City Council held on the 7th day of September, 2021, and after such reading, Councilmember Pederson, who moved its adoption, seconded by Vice Mayor Ernest, and said Ordinance was thereupon adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Ernest, Hendershot, Johnson, Pederson, Bird

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST: Kristin M. Janisch
Interim Elected City Clerk of the City of Dixon

APPROVED: Steve Bird
Mayor of the City of Dixon

EXHIBIT A - Map of Rezoning



Solano Republican Assembly to Meeting at IHOP in Vallejo

Solano Republican Assembly News Release

SOLANO REGION, CA (MPG)

- The Solano Republican Assembly will be meeting at the IHOP in Vallejo again this month. The Denny's Cordelia has been difficult to contact and confirm our meetings with them in the past, and our meeting at IHOP last month worked well, so we plan to continue with them for the time being. Please join us Monday, September 20...and bring a friend!

Rudy Recile is one of the candidates running for California's Congressional District 3 (CD-3). We look forward to getting to know him and hearing about his campaign. There are presently four Republicans running for the CD-3. With the primary elections having the top two vote getters moving to the General Election, there is no guarantee that a Republican will be on the November ballot. We need to get to know the candidates in order to make sure our voices are heard, and we succeed in getting at least one into the general election.

Republican candidates for local, state and national offices are always invited to present their platforms and give updates to their candidacies. Please email or call me and I will put it on the agenda. This goes for others who would like to address the members on important

and relative issues. We need to stay informed and prepared to support conservative Republicans. Our Republicans in the Congress and the Senate need to unify and show more support for "we the people."

Please note that our national organization, the National Federation of Republican Assemblies (NFRA), is holding a Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona this October 8-10. All CRA members are invited to attend and take the opportunity for meeting like-minded constitutional and conservative Republicans. If you haven't received any information on this and desire so, please let me know and I will forward the details to you. At June's meeting, we unanimously passed a resolution against the evil practice of harvesting human organs against the will of political prisoners by the Chinese Communist Party. This resolution will be submitted for adoption by the upcoming NFRA Convention. See attached.

We have much work to do in getting California to join the majority of the United States in turning back the liberal agenda. Let's do our part in being a voice for Constitutional, conservative, and commonsense politics. Please come to spend time with fellow Republicans who are not apologetic for the sound principles for which we stand. We look forward to seeing you and bring a friend.

Our meetings will

generally be on the third Monday of the month. The meeting begins informally at 7 p.m. to allow plenty of time to order and consume food and beverage. Each attendee will be responsible to order and pay their own bills. I trust this will be convenient for all. We try to start officially around 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, please call President Norman H. Reece at (707) 644-3875, text me at (707) 714-9440 or e-mail me at normanhreece@gmail.com.

Registered Republicans who agree with the California Republican Assembly's principles are encouraged to join us at any time. Due to recent changes, in order to join the Solano Republican Assembly, one must go to this link on-line to join: <https://cra-membership.wildapricot.org/join-us>

Present membership renewal is on January 1 of each year and must also be done on-line. There is power in numbers, so please join us to help California become great again!!!

We invite others to join us in an effort to establish other CRA Units in Solano County as well as Napa and Sonoma Counties. Now is the time for the CRA's influence to be reestablished in these vital areas of Northern California. If you know of fellow conservative Republicans, please introduce them to the CRA and invite them to join us. ★

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 7

R	A	Z	O	R		A	C	E		A	C	E	S
U	V	U	L	A		M	A	N		S	E	R	U
M	I	N	I	S		E	M	U		M	O	I	R
	V	I	V	I	A	N			R	A	I	N	B
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I	R	A	T	E		P	E	O	N		A	C	R
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L	O	R	E	L	A	I		G	E	O	R	G	E
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Y	A	R	D			A	M	Y		E	R	A	S

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 7

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

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CLUES

- ACROSS
1. Sweeney Todd's weapon
6. It's in the hole?
9. Plural of #6 Across
13. Soft palate dangler
14. Each one for himself?
15. Red Cross supply
16. Short skirts
17. Flightless bird
18. Wavelike patterned silk
19. "Philip Banks" wife
21. "Dre Johnson's" wife on "Black-ish" and occasional site around rain storm
23. 31st of the month, e.g.
24. E-mailed
25. Digital audio workstation
28. Essence of idea
30. Mouth infection
35. Fussess
37. Burden or load
39. Official language of Lesotho
40. Choose politically
41. Sashay
43. Thailand, formerly
44. All worked up
46. One assigned menial work
47. Rancher's unit
48. Blue jeans
50. Famous Scottish lake
52. A cause of inflation
53. Number one
55. Israel Kamakawiwo'ole's guitar
57. "Stars Hollow Luke's love interest
61. "Louise Jefferson's husband
64. Like a solitary player
65. Government Printing Office
67. Home to BYU
69. Request to Geico
70. Calendar mo.
71. Gladdened
72. 36 inches
73. "Jake and ____ of "Brooklyn Nine-Nine"
74. Rub off

DOWN

1. Cuba Libre ingredient
2. Tel ____ Israel
3. Pueblo tribesman
4. Good will branch
5. Leveling to the ground
6. Congregation's echo
7. "Mitch's" husband in "Modern Family"
8. Accustom
9. Long, long time
10. Baby container
11. German currency
12. Old World duck
15. The ____, an English rock band from the '80s
20. Goodbye to amiga
22. Marching insect
24. Classroom attendee
25. "Patrick's" fiancée on "Schitt's Creek"
26. Dig, so to speak
27. King of the gods in Wagner's "Das Rheingold"
29. Barber shop sound
31. Civil Rights icon
32. Ancient city in Africa
33. "Javen's" companion on "Temptation Island" or Lamb Chops' puppeteer
34. "Marge Simpson's" husband
36. Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence
38. Kind of gin
42. Follow as a consequence
45. Bald Eagle to Americans, e.g.
49. Old Man's turf, according to Hemingway
51. Capital of the Republic of Macedonia
54. Fraternity letter
56. Trial's partner
57. Like a dolly
58. Paella pot
59. Big cat sound
60. Blyton or Bagnold
61. Like a bloody horror movie
62. Romantic painter Francisco
63. December 24 and 31, e.g.
66. "Jim's" co-worker and wife on "The Office"
68. Type of poem

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				
			23				24					
25	26	27		28		29		30		31	32	33
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44				45		46				47		
48					49		50		51		52	
			53		54			55		56		
57	58	59	60				61			62	63	
64					65	66			67			68
69					70				71			
72					73				74			

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

Solutions on Page 7

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California Wildfires Ignite an Insurance Crisis



By Dan Walters
CALMatters

As if California needed another crisis, the state's seemingly perpetual wildfires are forcing millions of homeowners in fire-prone areas to pay skyrocketing premiums for insurance coverage – if, indeed, they can buy it at all.

As the number and severity of wildfires increase, insurers are increasingly reluctant to renew policies and even if they do, premiums often double or triple.

Insurance is required for most homeowners since their mortgage lenders demand it. And if they cannot obtain regular coverage, they are forced into the insurer of last resort, FAIR, that has very high premiums and limits on coverage.

Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara has repeatedly invoked a law he authored three years ago as a state legislator, imposing one-year moratoriums on policy cancellations for property in or immediately adjacent to the sites of major fires.

In 2020, Lara's moratoriums covered 2.4 million policyholders after fires scorched more than 4 million acres and consumed hundreds of homes and other buildings. When this year's fires are finally extinguished, including the immense Dixie fire and the Caldor fire that nearly wiped out South Lake Tahoe, Lara will extend the moratoriums to

their burn zones.

At best, however, such moratoriums are merely stopgaps. So what, one might ask, are politicians doing about the crisis?

There is some scapegoating. This month, Assemblyman Marc Levine, a Democrat from fire-prone Marin County, fired off a letter to insurance trade groups, telling them, "I do not believe that the costs of utility mismanagement, or the impacts of climate change should be arbitrarily and capriciously passed through to my constituents in the form of homeowners' insurance being declined, non-renewed, or their insurance premiums being raised exorbitantly. Particularly when there has been no change of conditions or circumstances."

Circumstances are also beyond insurers' control as they assess potential losses and calculate whether to offer coverage and if so, what to charge. They cannot, as Levine seems to suggest, ignore the perils regardless of their causes.

Levine later introduced legislation that would have the state become an insurer for those unable to buy coverage elsewhere.

John Norwood, a veteran insurance industry lobbyist, set forth the dilemma in a recent article for an industry publication:

"The availability and affordability of property insurance in California are not likely to change until the worldwide reinsurance market believes California is serious about addressing its wildfire risks and there are demonstrable results in reducing the number and severity of wildfires in the state.

"Without the reinsurance market backing California

property/casualty insurance companies, there will continue to be an availability crisis in the state for property insurance and prices for such coverage will continue to increase substantially to the detriment of California's homeowners and businesses."

The initial state budget signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom appropriated \$2 billion for making the state more fire-resilient, but was criticized for spending many billions more on problems of lesser import. Last week, with big fires still burning, the wildfire budget was sharply increased before the Legislature adjourned for the year.

Reducing the likelihood of destructive fires is a good step in the right direction, but the insurance crisis demands more – perhaps, even, an entirely new approach.

The state could, for instance, purchase basic disaster insurance for every California property owner – covering earthquakes and floods, as well as fires – and pay for it through some sort of property-based assessment. Property owners could tap the private market for coverage beyond the basic policy's limits.

Through reinsurance, the risk would be spread worldwide and Californians wouldn't have to worry about scrounging for coverage. The state's voluntary earthquake insurance program already embodies that concept.

There may be other workable approaches, but without new thinking, the insurance crisis will, as Norwood warns, continue to worsen.

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



A Film and TV
Review by Tim Riley

CABLE TV PREVIEW

The Walt Disney Company owns so many entertainment properties, including networks, cable channels, and film studios, that it is a wonder the behemoth corporation has not become a monopoly, but probably not for a lack of trying.

"Doogie Howser, M.D.," a medical drama starring Neil Patrick Harris in the titular role as a teenage physician, ran for four seasons on the ABC television network, which was acquired by the Walt Disney Company a few years after the end of the series.

Fast forward to now, the Disney+ channel is releasing a coming-of-age dramedy inspired by the hit medical series "Doogie Howser, M.D.," and an obvious nod to this original show is captured in the title of "Doogie Kamealoha, M.D.," which is shot on location in Hawaii.

This Disney+ series follows Lahela "Doogie" Kamealoha (Peyton Elizabeth Lee), a 16-year-old prodigy juggling a budding medical career and life as a teenager, a premise sounding quite familiar to any viewers of the ABC series.

Marketing the show may be easier with "Doogie" in the title, and during the TV press tour executive producer Kourtney Kang in referring to this reboot noted that "Doogie" is a physician's nickname that is "apparently a thing that happens to young doctors."

Guiding the new Doogie is her career-driven mother Dr. Clara Hannon (Kathleen Rose Perkins) who's also her supervisor at the hospital, her dotting father Benny (Jason Scott Lee), her free-spirited older brother Kai (Matthew Sato), and various friends and colleagues.

Since we are on the subject of Disney programming, it is worth noting that on October 1st the ABC network will present a spectacular television event, "The Most Magical Story on Earth: 50 years of Walt Disney World."

Hosted by Whoopi Goldberg, the two-hour program will take viewers on a historical journey spanning half a century and beyond at Walt Disney World in Florida with impressive visuals and musical performances.

The musical talent features Christina Aguilera and Disney's "The Little Mermaid" Halle Bailey in front of the legendary Cinderella Castle at Magic Kingdom Park, accompanied by the renowned Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra.

Interviews are conducted with iconic actors, actresses and athletes, Walt Disney World cast members, Disney Imagineers and executives past and present, who have all played their unique part in sprinkling pixie dust over "The Most Magical Place on Earth."

Celebrity participants include Gary Sinise, John Stamos, Melissa Joan Hart, NFL athletes Tom Brady and Phil

Riley Reviews

CABLE TV PREVIEW: WHAT'S UP WITH THE NEW TCM LOOK

Simms, and creative forces George Lucas and James Cameron.

This special event offers a look at Walt Disney World's humble beginnings in the Florida swamplands and its evolution into a cultural phenomenon, as well as a never-before-seen-on-TV glimpse into the journey to bring Walt's vision to life and a look at grand plans for the future.

THE NEW LOOK OF THE TCM CABLE CHANNEL

Turner Classic Movies (TCM) has been the venerable leader in airing uncut, commercial-free classic films for nearly three decades, engaging film buffs not only on a premium cable platform but also with an annual classic film festival.

Now TCM is unveiling a cable network rebrand that's a "New Look, Same Old TCM," however, they are calling their new tagline "Where Then Meets Now." TCM is based in Atlanta, so I wondering if they remember the fiasco of New Coke, which was quickly abandoned.

According to Wikipedia and most sentient beings at the time, the failure of the reformulated soft drink remains "influential as a cautionary tale against tampering with a well-established and successful brand."

We hope that the idea establishing the network as the destination and catalyst for reframing the conversation around 20th century films for contemporary times is not ill-advised.

"Everything old is new and classics movies are no exception," said Pola Changnon, general manager of TCM in a press release touting dynamic creative packaging of a new logo that focuses on the energy of the letter "C" in TCM that comes to life in print and video.

Changnon goes on to claim that TCM's new look "better reflects the vibrant brand and respected industry authority that TCM has become over the years, with an eye toward the future."

That "fans can still enjoy the same curated classic film experience, now presented with a bold new energy that reflects today's audience" may offer some comfort, but what does this mean anyway?

Does TCM want to target more millennials or other demographic groups that might not be drawn to black-and-white films? For young adults, it could be a challenge to gain appreciation for the classics.

In a video clip, TCM host Ben Mankiewicz notes the refresh of the brand is to "stay culturally relevant," and the only new difference is "we're doing it with a cool new logo and a spiffy 21st century set."

TCM remains committed to showing the films from Hollywood's Golden Age and in Mankiewicz's words "putting them in context and telling stories of the artists who made them." This may be the message we need that the new look won't detract from enjoyment of great films. ★



Dare to Live Without Limits

by Bryan Golden

Everyone is Important



The people you choose to associate with have a big impact on you. Positive people boost your attitude and enthusiasm, while negative ones drag you down. Spending time with the positive people leaves you upbeat, while the negative people leave you drained.

You decide who you spend your time with. Be selective. Look for people who share your enthusiasm and attitude. Associate with those who are upbeat, pleasant, and motivated.

Far too often people socialize with those who leave them angry, depressed, drained, or unhappy. Why do this? You only have so much time in each day. You are better served connecting with people who contribute to your wellbeing.

Attitudes are contagious. Do you want to feel invigorated or depleted after spending time with others? Seek to spend time with people whose attitudes are worth catching. You want situations where each participant has something positive to contribute.

There are several warning signs that someone is likely to sap your energy. Complainers incessantly obsess about problems. They focus on problems while having no interest in solutions. They're "experts" on what's wrong, along with endless dire predictions.

Gossips love to spread dirt on others. They are constantly on the lookout for embarrassing and damaging details about people. Gossips also spread rumors,

speculation, or stuff they make up. Anything you say to them will be spread around.

Condescending people continually strive to show how and why they are better than everyone else. Everything revolves around them. They have no interest in what's happening to others unless they can use it to show how they are superior.

Self-absorbed people make everything about them. They hijack conversations and are not interested in what others have to say. Even when you are speaking with someone else, they will insert themselves into the conversation.

These are just a few examples of the types of people who drain your energy and enthusiasm while contaminating your attitude. The best way of avoiding the deleterious impacts of these people is through avoidance.

Have high standards for yourself and others. Prune from your social circle people you can't count on, are energy drains, are negative or toxic, don't reciprocate, or take without giving back. Being selective with who you associate with isn't rude. It is protecting yourself.

Always be polite and courteous when declining an invitation to a gathering you don't want to attend. Be sure to thank the person for being invited. Tell them you appreciate being thought of but can't make it due to a previous commitment.

Seek out people who share your outlook on life. Spending time with them is enjoyable. You'll contribute

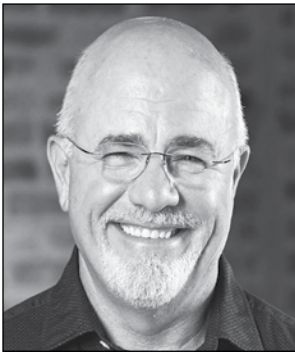
to their well-being also. When you leave, you'll feel recharged. If you can't immediately find these people, you're better off alone than with those who will drain you.

Although everyone has an opinion as to how you should be living your life, there are only certain people you should listen to. If you are looking for advice, turn to someone who has more experience than you and is already where you want to be. Seek out people you want to emulate and then learn from them.

Even though people close to you may be well intentioned, unless they have accomplished what you want to accomplish, they can't advise you on how to reach your goals. Unfortunately, there is sometimes a tendency for jealousy when you are making headway towards your objective. Ignore the naysayers and critics.

Surround yourself with other motivated, positive, and enthusiastic people. You want to be part of a group where everyone benefits. Listen to those who have the experience and expertise to guide you along your desired path.

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



Keep Things Friendly, but Reach an Understanding

Dear Dave,

My husband and I own a small business. We have a large account providing wholesale items to a client. Our original agreement was to work on 30-day payment periods, but he is three months behind on the bill. We live in a small town, and the businesses here stick together and help each other out, so we don't want to ruin the relationship. Do you have some advice on handling this situation?

—Holli

Dear Holli,

From what you said,

Dave Ramsey Says

I assume this guy's not a cheat or anything like that. He's probably like a lot of small business owners in that he's just a little disorganized. Still, you need to correct this behavior.

If it were me, I'd go to his office and have a friendly, sit-down meeting about things. There's no reason to start throwing threats around, but he needs to understand you can't be his bank. You're a small business, too, and you need your money.

Ask a few questions, and find out what's really going on. Then, let him know it will help matters if he can get current on the bill by a certain date. You've provided goods and services, and he owes you money, so this is a fair request. You might think about adjusting your payment agreement to reflect that once he's current, payment must be within 10

days of delivery from that point on.

If that's not workable, you may have to switch to a cash-only basis – where payment is due on delivery. And if none of these options work, well, you should probably tell him to find another supplier.

—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 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning," "Today," Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and 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. ★

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Packathon Packs Thousands of Care Boxes for Troops!

Story and photos from
Move America Forward
Special News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - This past Saturday MAF held our 2021 annual Packathon event in observance of 9/11 where we set out with a goal to ship 2001 boxes for the troops as well as pack an additional 911. As 2021 is also the 20th anniversary of 9/11, this was an especially important task, and we made appeals to our supporters to watch our Troopathon on Newsmax TV and donate to send care packages so we could achieve this goal.

We began packing just before 10 am and didn't wrap up until 3 pm because we had an unprecedented group of enthusiastic and energetic volunteers who just wouldn't quit! They really wanted to do something special for our troops.

At the conclusion of our Packathon drive, we had shipped 3,000 packages for the troops and packed an additional 1,500 more!

There are thousands of troops who are still deployed in the Middle East, eagerly awaiting your words of support, and the many goodies and personal care items in these boxes. These are especially important during the brutally hot Summer months!

If you donate today, our volunteers will quickly pack up a box of goodies for the troops and add it to the stack of boxes waiting to be shipped! These packages REALLY make a difference! We receive letters and notes



back from the troops every day detailing just how important these care packages are to the troops who receive them. Many troops spend 6-12 months of deployment, away from their friends and family.

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