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# Dixon Independent Voice

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# Support the New Museum



Dixon Historical Society President Bill Schroeder studies a picture of one of the first graduating classes of Dixon High School that will be on display inside the new museum opening soon. Photo by Debra Dingman

### MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - If you are looking forward to the opening of Dixon's brand new Historical Museum, it might be a good time to place your 2021 Membership with the Dixon Historical Society. They are on the cusp of opening their doors downtown at 125 West "A" Street, behind Bud's Pub & Grill, in the Pacific Coast Ice House.

"Once the pandemic restrictions for museums lift, the doors will open," said First Vice President Loran Hoffman of the Dixon Historical Society. Volunteers have been working since last October to build an interpretive museum with historical exhibitions and displays which include the interpretation of historic sites and houses

highlighting Dixon's history, its diverse cultural heritage, and agricultural roots.

"Getting the community behind the idea of a museum and getting them involved either by contribution or by time will be incredibly helpful," Public History Intern Kayla Nelson said, "for both the older who appreciates the history but also the younger generation."

One can donate by mailing a check to Dixon Historical Society, PO Box 814, Dixon, 95620 or one can pay using PayPal or credit card using the website's "donate" tab at [www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org). The Society has been a non-profit public benefit corporation with 501(c)(3) tax filing status since 1987.

They offered a donation caveat by reminding people that even if you're

one of the 90 percent who do not itemize charitable deductions, the CARES Act states that all donors can claim up to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 per married filing jointly) for charitable gifts made in 2020, whether they itemize or take the standard deduction.

Individual annual membership is \$20 or \$25 a couple/per family of 2 but with a \$250 membership, one receives a DHS shirt with emblem. With a \$500 donation, one receives a 2021 Dixon Historical Society membership, a black short sleeve collared polo shirt with Society emblem and two dinner tickets to the Museum Fundraiser.

For more information, call President Bill Schroeder at (707) 761-9574 or Treasurer Diane Schroeder at (707) 685-0802. ★

## State Aims to Define Farmers' Coverage Gaps

California Farm Bureau Press Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - With California farmers and ranchers finding increasing difficulty in purchasing wildfire insurance for their businesses and properties, the California Farm Bureau welcomed the call by the state insurance commissioner for data on commercial insurance coverage.

California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson said he hopes the request from Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara will lead to more sustainable insurance coverage for farmers and ranchers.

"We thank Commissioner Lara for leading the efforts to bring certainty back to the wildfire insurance marketplace," Johansson said. "Farmers and ranchers from around the state have told us they have been unable to renew insurance and have not been able to find replacement coverage. Commissioner Lara's action should help us determine the breadth and depth of the problem."

In a notice issued, Lara directed insurance companies to provide data about the availability of commercial insurance for businesses including farms, ranches, timber harvesting operations, wineries, cotton gins and other agricultural businesses.

"Farm Bureau has been working with Commissioner Lara and insurance companies to stabilize the insurance market for California farms and ranches," Johansson said. "We believe the commissioner's action will help us move toward a long-term solution."

Legislation sponsored by the California Farm Bureau would also address the problem by specifically authorizing the state's insurer of last resort, the California FAIR Plan, to underwrite insurance coverage for commercial farms and ranches. The legislation, Senate Bill 11 by Susan Rubio, D-Baldwin Park, received unanimous support from the Senate Insurance Committee.

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of nearly 32,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of nearly 5.6 million Farm Bureau members. ★

# Meet You at the Barrel

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - It was in 2005 when John Kett, Dave Morris and Tony Robben spotted the small "For Sale" sign on the Taco Barrel. Joanne Waugh of Sacramento, the second owner of the rolled taco concession stand and who ran it for 35 years at the Dixon May Fair was ready to retire. The guys reminisced on how they would reach up to the window to buy tacos as small kids. They decided the Barrel had to stay in Dixon and made an offer.

"George, the original owner and secret recipe creator, took the Barrel to several locations, including the State Fair when it was on Stockton Boulevard in Sacramento," said Andrea Kett. "We learned the trade by fire. Joanne's son was to work with us the first year starting at Lambtown



Customers line up for one of the May Fair's longest running food concession stands: The Good Ol' Boys Taco Barrel. Photo by Andrea Kett

through the whole May Fair, but bailed on us after the first hour. That was an experience."

Buying the business

and renaming it to the "Good Ol' Boys" Rolled Tacos ensured that the oldest continuously running concession stand--over

60 years--would be at the oldest district fair in California in 2006. It kept the three couples which

Continued on page 3





# No Desire to Build Alcohol Tolerance

By Debra Dingman

After having a headache for an entire day and drinking water like crazy to alleviate the throb in the back of my head and my temples all day, my son appeared in the office and naturally, I complained - you know, since the walls wouldn't give any feedback.

Just as I was saying, "I just don't know what I did," it hit me that I had a glass of wine while participating in a Zoom meeting. I had seen another woman with a glass in the video pane and it looked relaxing so I whispered to my husband to pretty please get me a small glass of the boxed red, Sangria wine that's in the fridge. (It's my favorite.) He obliged and I enjoyed sipping on the refreshing cold drink throughout the hour-long meeting. I slept better than I had in days that night and had forgotten entirely about it.

First my son asked why did I drink it if I know I get headaches and I told him honestly about the woman in the view and that I really do

like the taste of wine. I also like feeling like I'm adult enough to enjoy the relaxed feeling I get.

"Mom, how have you never built up any kind of tolerance?" he asked innocently after reminding me that he doesn't feel anything until he has at least two glasses of wine (although he is bigger than me.) We laughed and he elaborated about "good wine."

Because of my growing up years with an alcoholic biological father, my children benefited from me talking a lot about those negative experiences and the impact on our family and thus, I think they at least learned the importance of calling a designated driver if one has drunk alcohol. Now that I have absolutely no control over what they do, I keep in prayers...

Today, I find a press release in my newspaper inbox about yet another fatality in Dixon. This one involving four teenagers - two females and two males - out on Tremont Road, east of Bulkley Road where, according to the CHP report, "Alcohol impairment is a suspected

factor in this collision." One 18-year-old Woodland male died at the scene and the three others from Woodland and Davis sustained major injuries and were transported to hospitals.

Last week, it was a 28-year-old suspected of drunk driving that rammed into an existing collision on I-80 that claimed the life of one of our fellow dixonites who was merely being a good Samaritan.

We all get to make our decisions about our lives and I decided long ago after experiencing drunkenness to err on the side of caution and especially after witnessing first hand some of the crazy things people do after they have been drinking--both youth and adults. I have never felt deprived of having fun and I've shared as much laughter as any person can with friends and family.

If somewhere on my walk on Earth, I can steer someone to learning to enjoy life without consuming "too much" alcohol (and how do you know when you are young and haven't built up a "tolerance") then I'll be happy with that. ★

# Dixon News Briefs

MPG Staff

## Jobs, Jobs, Jobs

Want some jingle in your pocket? Want to be okay with paying \$5 for a really good coffee? There are several job openings in and around Dixon!

**UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden.** First there are multiple student jobs available. Some start now, some start over the summer, and all are great opportunities to work hard and learn. Application deadlines range from now to May 2. Questions? Contact the supervisor listed for each position. Visit: <https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/learning-by-leading> to see all the postings.

**Denny's** in Dixon is hiring from cooks to managers to servers, there are many open positions. You'll get a workout at this job because it seems they are always busy and have plenty to do. Just watching the servers and staff, I'm sure time flies in this job, and you would get to meet lots of people. Apply online at [WKUSA.COM/CAREERS](http://WKUSA.COM/CAREERS) or stop by and speak with the manager at 1250 Stratford Avenue.

**Atkinson Storage** at 1800 North First Street needs some help in the office and someone who doesn't mind going out and showing customers various space sizes to rent. This is a small office with only a couple people sharing shifts. You don't have to be a computer-guru but you have to be willing to learn and be comfortable working online. This is not ranked as a high-stress job but it is if someone doesn't do their part so be willing to work as a team.

**Murillo's** is starting to hire workers for their new location in Dixon (formerly IHOP building) at 1435 Ary Lane. This is a bar and restaurant so they are looking for bartenders, servers, bussers, and cooks so if interested in working in the restaurant industry, call for Sheila or Frances at (707) 676-5237.



Murillo's Restaurant in Dixon

## Lunch Bunch

The Dixon Chamber has started a monthly no-host lunch meet up with President/CEO Shauna Manina for members who would like to "talk business" while sharing ideas, networking, and enjoying a lunch together. They will meet on third Tuesdays and different restaurants. One has to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce to participate and information on membership can be found at [www.dixonchamber.org](http://www.dixonchamber.org) or call (707) 678-2650.

## Kids Consignments

If you're a parent and needing to update your child's spring clothing supply, here's a great opportunity to do it affordably through "Just Between Friends". Although not in Dixon, there is a large children's consignment sale coming to 6391 Leisure Town Road in Vacaville set for Thursday, April 29 through Sunday, May 2.

JBV Vacaville serves local families by helping them make money and save money. Each spring and fall, families clean out their closets and sell quality items at 50%-90% off retail prices. Shoppers stock up on everything their kids need and want for the next season of their lives. Sale days are Thursday - Sunday so check out the website for the full schedule including details on how to sell your items and learn more. ★

# Solano County Genealogical Society – May 1 Presentation

By NANCY Adams, Solano County Genealogical Society

VACAVILLE, CA (MPG) - Linda Harms Okazaki will present a program, "Internment Camps in the U.S. During WWII". After Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941, thousands of Japanese and Japanese Americans were incarcerated in "Internment Camps." German, Italians, and Latin Americans were also interned. The various sites of confinement and the records created will be examined, covering the period of time immediately

preceding World War II through resettlement and redress.

This virtual presentation begins at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 1st at the next meeting of the Solano County Genealogical Society.

Linda Okazaki is a nationally known researcher and lecturer on Japanese American Genealogy. A charter member of the Nikkei Genealogical Society and past president of the California genealogical Society, she is the founder and partner of Linda's Orchard, LLC, a company

specializing in Japanese American research. Her presentation will include the events leading up to the mass incarceration of over 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry, the political climate of the time, and military concerns that the U.S. would go to war with Japan.

Guests are welcome to attend this free event. If interested, send an email to the society at [scgsca.org](mailto:scgsca.org) no later than 4 p.m. April 30 and request an invitation. More information on the event can be found on the society's webpage at [www.scgsca.org](http://www.scgsca.org) ★



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# Meet You at the Barrel

*Continued from page 1*  
included Denise Morris, Andrea Kett, and Michelle Tyler plenty busy over the years as they all had other jobs.

“We’ve weathered rain storms, heatwaves, power outages, air conditioner breakdowns and selling out of meat early. But, we know the May Fair

wouldn’t be complete without a rolled taco or standing in line for one,” she added. “It’s the meet up place for old friends and parents and kids. We hear “Meet you at the barrel” and “Let’s grab a beer and go get some rolled tacos and catch up.” We love seeing our loyal customers every year, and making new ones. “First

one’s free!” And, they’re gluten free.”

Andrea says there have been some changes as Robben retired but she happily reported, the next generation of Kett and Morris have come on board.

“And, the recipe remains the same!” she said enthusiastically. ★

# Solano County Water Agency Extends Lower Putah Creek Salmon Study

**By Ryan Abusaa, Solano County Water Agency**

**SOLANO COUNTY, CA. (MPG)** - The Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) has approved another year of funding through Fiscal Year 2021-22 for University of California, Davis researchers to continue their Lower Putah Creek Salmon Study.

As part of ongoing Putah Creek restoration efforts, SCWA and its partners have developed a robust program to monitor the abundance and population dynamics of salmon in Lower Putah Creek. This monitoring program will continue with the implementation of new monitoring tools to determine the presence and growth of a self-sustaining salmon population within the creek.

The study also explores best practices to manage the ecosystem into the future. Salmon runs are a critical

part of the Putah Creek ecosystem health, and by creating the ideal habitat for salmon to spawn, whole food-chains stand to benefit as Putah Creek becomes a thriving ecosystem for invertebrates, birds, and fish alike.

“We are pleased to continue to fund a program that will give us a greater idea of how effective our restoration work is for Putah Creek’s environment,” said Roland Sanford, General Manager at SCWA. “It’s important that we continue to have this research-based feedback as we continue and refine our efforts to improve the creek’s flows and habitat.”

The project will involve five labs at UC Davis, with collaboration from the SCWA and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife with efforts to sample and track juvenile and adult fish.

“We will be able to use data from DNA comparisons to estimate how many Chinook salmon in Putah Creek originate from past spawners in the system. In addition, we will be able to track juvenile salmon migrations within and outside the system to understand their survival rates and outmigration dynamics, including potential methods for boosting survival,” said Andrew Rypel, Associate Professor and the California Trout Chair in Coldwater Fish Ecology at UC Davis. “Increasing understanding of the salmon run on Putah Creek is critical to managing the health of this ecosystem in the future.”

SCWA has championed decades of restoration efforts in this region to date, making Putah Creek the statewide model it is today for stream conservation and habitat restoration. ★

# May Fair Offers a Taste of the Fair

**By Patricia Conklin, Dixon May Fair**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - With the restrictions on gatherings and events due to the COVID Pandemic the Dixon May Fair is unable to offer a traditional fair for 2021 but is offering fair patrons a chance to pick-up some of their favorite fair foods.

“A big component of the annual fair is the food and we have heard from our guests that they miss the tastes offered at the fair, so we have put together a Grab and Go Taste of the May Fair where patrons can come and take out some of their favorite fair food to enjoy at home”, said Patricia Conklin, CEO.

Some of the food being offered are: burritos, caramel and candy apples, churros, cotton candy, corn dogs, curly fries, fry bread, funnel cake, hot dogs, kettle corn, ice cream, pie, pink popcorn, pretzels, rolled tacos, tacos, shaved ice, sundaes and more. Menu is subject to change without notification.

Dates & Times: Thursday, May 6th - 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday, May 7th through Sunday, May 9th - 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Guests can come during those hours, park in the main parking lot of the fairgrounds, enter through the main gate, place their order and then take their



These rolled tacos from the Taco Barrel will be some of the delicious offerings at the scaled-down version of the Dixon May Fair. Photo by Andrea Kett

fair food home to enjoy. With the current Covid restrictions there may be wait times since only a limited number of people can enter the facility at one time. In accordance with California Department of Public Health all guests are asked not to attend if they feel sick or have been exposed to someone who has been sick; wear a face mask and maintain 6’ distance from others.

“We are excited to offer a taste of the fair to the community and hope they will come out to support the vendors and the fair,” said Patricia Conklin, CEO.

More information is available at [www.dixonmayfair.com](http://www.dixonmayfair.com). Feel free to contact the fair office if you have questions at 707-678-5529. ★

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### Woke Disinformation Trumps Russian Trolls

Why do the Russians need to bother spreading disinformation when our own domestic sources do a much better job at it?

We just went through a four-year national obsession with Kremlin disinformation. It supposedly swayed the 2016 presidential election. It was “sowing divisions” in American society. It accounted for the discovery of Hunter Biden’s laptop during the 2020 election.

Social media companies were excoriated for allegedly letting Russian disinfo poison their networks, and the American mind.

There was nothing that some Russian operators – spending a pittance – couldn’t do. The former Time magazine managing editor and Obama state department official Richard Stengel wrote a book called “Information Wars: How We Lost the Global Battle Against Disinformation and What We Can Do About It.” According to Stengel, the Russians had mounted “an unprecedented attack against the very foundation of our democracy.”

The Russians were amateurs, though. If they really knew what they were doing, they’d spread rank lies about election reforms passed by an American state, make the deceptions so pervasive that the president of

the United States would casually repeat them, unjustifiably dredge up memories of a terrible period of repression in America, relentlessly racialize the debate, and intimidate corporate America into thoughtlessly entering the partisan fight and discrediting itself with a significant segment of the population.

No, Russian trolls operating somewhere in St. Petersburg didn’t undertake this highly successful information operation against the Georgia election law – Stacey Abrams and her allies in media and politics did.

If the Russians had the requisite skill, they’d spread the false story that a talented American governor had sold out his citizens by letting a campaign contribution distort his distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, suppressing all facts to the contrary and stoking yet more conspiratorial thinking about the governor among his political opponents.

The Russians couldn’t pull this off – yet “60 Minutes” did, in a laughably dishonest report about Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis using the most popular grocery store chain in the state to get the vaccine in the arms of Floridians.

If the Russians were devils enough, they’d take a god-awful mass shooting, ignore all of the evidence about the perpetrator’s motives to define it as a crime driven by racial hatred, and undermine faith in the local police and FBI when they presented the facts.

The Russians couldn’t manage this, either – but a veritable army of media commentators and progressive politicians could. They insisted against the available evidence that the Atlanta spa shooter must have been driven by hatred of Asians,

while Democratic senators openly dissented from the FBI director’s statement that the shooting wasn’t a hate crime.

If the Russians had the power or know-how, they’d spin a story of American law enforcement as a racist occupying force that should be resisted in “largely peaceful” protests all over the country, putting the cops on their back foot and creating an environment of spiraling disorder and violence in some of the most iconic U.S. cities.

Of course, the Russians also had nothing to do with this – Black Lives Matter and the media did all of the hard work and have largely managed to ignore the rising tide of crime that is undoing one of the signal America domestic accomplishments of the past several decades.

None of this is to dismiss the pernicious influence of Russian information operations and cyber strikes, especially overseas, or to minimize the hideousness of the Putin regime. But it is galling to see the same people who sounded the klaxons about Russians undermining faith in the American system for years themselves spread – or at least casually accept – progressive narratives based on poisonous lies about our own country.

The Russians are never going to stop running their information campaigns against the West, which date back to the Soviet Union. But they must occasionally be tempted to stand back in envy and awe at all that the U.S. promoters of woke narratives have been able to accomplish without them.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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# CONVERSATIONS

By Loran Hoffmann and Shirley Humphrey

## General Plan Has One More Public Review

Listen Up!! The General Plan Will Have Another Review! You Have a Chance to Ask Probing Questions!

Those of us that thought that after more than ten years and the City of Dixon spending well over a million dollars for consultants to develop and finalize Dixon’s General Plan 2040 and Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) that both reports were a done deal! Not so! The Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 9th, 2021 and voted to recommend approval to the City Council with certain additions/deletions and modifications. In response, the City Council tentatively scheduled to review the Draft General Plan and Final EIR at one of their two meetings in May 2021 and this is the final step for adoption.

We have talked incessantly about Dixon’s General Plan 2040 since we began writing this column six years ago. We have attempted to get residents engaged and contributing to the planning for the future of our community/town. We recognize Dixon’s residents have full lives and are interested in the welfare of their town, but choose not to spend time attending council meetings or investigating local issues. Besides, we elect people and pay our property and sales taxes so that we can hire professionals to keep our families safe and make the important decisions on Dixon’s long term future.

Dixon has been split into five voting districts, with each district having its own representative. This system allows resident concerns and thoughts to be funneled through their own District representative, hopefully, establishing an open line of communication between the residents and governing body of the city. This system should simplify citizens having their voice heard without waiting for a particular topic to come up at a City Council meeting.

Sorry, we digressed... Back to the new Dixon’s General Plan 2040 and one area that not only causes us concern, but probably most Dixon residents as well. That is the section on Transportation.

This past year, traffic in the downtown area has been lighter due to the pandemic and schools being closed. We have had a pleasant reprieve from the logger-jam of traffic. However, the new general plan is willing to accept a Failing grade for level of service in Dixon on West A and North First Street (The Bud’s and Dawson’s corner). Immediate plans for improving or eliminating the problem are non-existent.

The plan does list several steps which require ACTION in the Mobility area: One of which is “Work with Caltrans to study options for re-routing State Route-113 away from downtown Dixon.” We are concerned whenever the City wants to “study” something because of the unbelievable cost for consultants that perform these studies.

Several years ago, a resident of Dixon, Gail Preston, who was a former engineer with CalTrans, provided documents citing that the state of California had a long-term plan that included moving SR 113. Instead of performing a “study” a phone call or letter to the appropriate employee at CalTrans will provide an answer that

will help in Dixon’s long range planning process. CalTrans provides the funding for State Route-113 through Dixon and is the decision maker.

Our recollection is the last time CalTrans visited a Dixon City Council meeting speaking on transportation, council representatives were told that if the city wanted to provide the millions of dollars necessary to move SR-113, it would take \$50 million to get the process started. This would be the only way that Dixon would have the authority to make decisions on SR-113.

What does the City of Dixon plan to study? How much more in city taxes residents are willing to pay?

Another statement in the General Plan 2040 that is concerning – “And working with Amtrak to bring a passenger rail station back to downtown Dixon...” Since Union Pacific owns and maintains the railroad tracks through Dixon it would seem that Union Pacific should be the entity, not Amtrak, to ask when a passenger train will be allowed to stop in Dixon for passengers to board and disembark. One would imagine Union Pacific must have specific criteria that allows trains to stop in particular locations. Such as certain distances from intersections, state highways, length of trains passing, proximity of other stations. A phone call or letter from the City of Dixon to Union Pacific would provide them with the information needed to respond to the residents as to the reasons the train will never stop at the current train station in Dixon.

Dixon is changing. Recently, the Community Development Director told the City Council Meeting attendees that over 1000 new housing units are scheduled to be built. This will add several thousand new residents. Just how congested is the downtown intersection at Bud’s and Dawson’s corner going to be with 1,000 additional families transporting children across town?

The completion of the Parkway Overpass is a priority. It was a priority twenty years ago and it is a higher priority today. Funding for the project has been collected from developers for more than twenty five years. An occasional dump of dirt in the overpass area from local swimming pools being dug does not qualify as progress. Questions needing to be answered are when will the Overpass be completed? From where will the funds come? Will new taxes be needed?

We encourage you to read Dixon’s General Plan over the next couple of weeks. Don’t be overwhelmed by the full document. Pick up one section to read and comment on. We will let you know which meeting in May that the City Council will be reviewing the document for the last time before adoption. It is not too late, and your comments are important to the future of Dixon.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, contact your representative and give him your comments and ask him to carry them forward. If you don’t know who your representative is, contact City of Dixon at 707-678-7000 or visit their website at [ci.dixon.ca.us](http://ci.dixon.ca.us). ★

# CLG NEWS UPDATES

Provided by Citizens for Legitimate Government (CLG) See [legitgov.org](http://legitgov.org)

**39 vaccinated residents from Bay Area county test positive for COVID-19** | 14 April 2021 | Sonoma County health officials said Tuesday that at least 39 people in the region tested positive for the coronavirus despite being vaccinated, according to a statement from the county. While Sonoma is the only Bay Area county thus far to share instances of inoculated people getting COVID-19, it’s assumed all regions are experiencing similar developments as the vaccines do not provide complete protection. One of the 39 people was hospitalized with moderate illness for a short period.

**Twitter bans James O’Keefe after major CNN bias exposé** | 15 April 2021 | Following a string of undercover exposés into how CNN injects bias into narratives, Twitter has suspended Project Veritas’s founder, James O’Keefe. Project Veritas has, for several years, been releasing exclusive undercover video footage that exposes the biases of TV networks, the media, and Big Tech. The Project Veritas account had already been suspended by Twitter earlier this year for a video confronting Facebook’s Vice President of Integrity about political bias in which the platform had been partaking.

**CBS News Edited Police Body Cam Video to Mask Teen Holding a Gun Before He Was Fatally Shot** | 16 April 2021 | CBS News deceptively cropped body camera footage that showed a 13-year-old boy holding a gun before he was fatally shot by Chicago police in March. A law enforcement officer fatally shot Adam Toledo during an encounter in response to gunshots heard on a police scanner. Police said Toledo ignored “verbal directions, fled, used significant force, and was armed with a semiautomatic pistol,” which is why the officer fired. Body cam footage released this week appears to show Toledo holding a weapon moments before he was shot, but CBS News posted a clip to its website and Twitter page that cropped out the footage showing the teen’s alleged firearm. The CBS News article accompanying the cropped video did not directly acknowledge that Toledo was armed.


**Arizona Senate to Start Major Audit of 2.1 Million 2020 Presidential Election Ballots** | 18 April 2021 | The Arizona Senate, which is controlled by Republicans, is ready to start a major audit of 2.1 million ballots for the 2020 presidential election. The recount will be done by hand this time. The state Senate said in March they would be conducting a “broad and detailed” audit, adding that they will test voting machines, scan ballots, look for IT breaches, and perform a hand count.


**Rasmussen Reports: 51% Believe Cheating Likely Affected Outcome of 2020 Presidential Election** | 13 April 2021 | Most voters say it’s more important to prevent cheating in elections than to make it easier to vote and, by more than a two-to-one margin, they reject claims that voter ID laws are discriminatory. The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that just 29% of Likely U.S. Voters say laws requiring photo identification at the polls discriminate against some voters. Sixty-two percent (62%) say voter ID laws don’t discriminate. (See survey question wording.) A majority (51%) of voters believe it is likely that cheating affected the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, including 35% who say it’s Very Likely cheating affected the election.

**Illegal immigrant, ordered deported but never removed, convicted for child rape in California** | 17 April 2021 | An illegal immigrant from El Salvador, who was ordered removed from the U.S. in 2016 but never deported, was convicted this month of child r-pe in California and sentenced to more than 45 years in prison. Fredys Aguilar-Menjivar, a 31-year-old El Salvadoran, was convicted of three counts of forcible r-pe of a child under 14 and one count of child molestation. The victim reported that the man, a family member, r-ped and molested her on several occasions between 2018 and 2020.

**Former Pfizer VP: ‘Your government is lying to you in a way that could lead to your death’** | 07 April 2021 | Dr. Michael Yeadon, Pfizer’s former Vice President and Chief Scientist for Allergy & Respiratory who spent 32 years in the industry leading new medic research and retired from the pharmaceutical giant with “the most senior research position” in his field, spoke with LifeSiteNews in a telephone interview. He addressed the “demonstrably false” propaganda from governments in response to COVID-19, including the “lie” of dangerous variants, the totalitarian potential for “vaccine passports,” and the strong possibility we are dealing with a “conspiracy” which could lead to something far beyond the carnage experienced in the wars and massacres of the 20th century. ★







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# Bills would Hamstring Future California Recalls



By Dan Walters  
CALMatters

As signatures on petitions to force Gov. Gavin Newsom into a recall election are being tallied, the Legislature is considering bills that would, if enacted, make future recalls of California's elected officials less likely.

Two Democratic state senators, Ben Allen of Redondo Beach and Josh Newman of Fullerton, are carrying measures they say are needed to reform the recall process.

Newman's Senate Bill 663 would allow targets of recall campaigns to access the lists of recall petition signers and try to persuade them to remove their signatures. Current law allows only election officials to access their names to validate signatures.

Currently, signers have 30 days after the recall to change their minds. SB 663 would extend that to 45 days.

Critics say that revealing the names of petition signers would subject them to harassment by recall targets and their supporters.

Newman, who went through a recall election himself in 2018, told the Senate's election committee this week that "this bill has no impact whatsoever on the recall effort against Governor Newsom" because, as now written, it would not take effect until next January.

Theoretically, SB 663 could be amended to make it take effect immediately and thus impact the Newsom recall, but only with a two-thirds vote of the Legislature and Newsom's signature, thus making it highly unlikely.

The Senate elections committee approved SB 663 and another Newman measure, Senate Bill 660, that would ban the now-common practice of paying professional petition circulators by the signature, not only for recalls but also for initiative measures and for referenda to invalidate laws passed by the Legislature.

A prohibition on per-signature payments has been floated for years. Advocates contend that paying signature-gatherers by the name encourages them to mislead potential petition signers about the issues before them.

However, every recent governor has vetoed at least one version of the proposal. When he vetoed a 2019 ban on per-signature payments, Newsom said, "While I appreciate the intent of this legislation to incentivize grassroots support for the initiative process, I believe this measure could make the qualification of many initiatives cost-prohibitive, thereby having the opposite effect."

Allen, meanwhile, is offering a constitutional amendment and a conventional bill that would affect the recall process.

Senate Constitutional Amendment 3 would make successful recalls more difficult by placing the name of the targeted official on the ballot as a successor candidate.

Under current law,

voters are given two issues to decide — whether the official should be ousted and which of the successor candidates should be elected instead.

That, Allen argues, is unfair because with multiple candidates, someone could win with relatively few votes. Under his measure, voters would simply decide whether to retain the incumbent with a plurality of votes or opt for one of the other contenders.

SCA 3 also would cancel a recall election if the incumbent resigns after the recall qualifies which, in the case of governors, would mean an automatic takeover by the lieutenant governor. If another statewide official facing recall resigned, the governor would name a successor.

Allen's second measure, Senate Bill 752, would require that before voters signed petitions for a recall, an initiative or a referendum, they would have to certify that they had read a list of the proposed measure's top financial contributors. As with Newman's SB 660, its declared aim is to prevent signature gatherers from misrepresenting the issues involved.

It's debatable whether these measures would, as Newman and Allen contend, improve the recall and other forms of direct democracy. They certainly would make them more cumbersome and expensive and therefore less likely to succeed.

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

## Search is on for Dixon's 2021 Mother of the Year

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# CDFW Urges Public to Leave Deer Fawns Alone



It is both illegal to feed deer and keep deer in your personal possession. Image by Marcel Langthim from Pixabay

By Peter Tira, California Department of Fish & Wildlife

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Late spring and early summer is the peak time for California's deer herds to give birth to fawns, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is issuing a reminder to well-intentioned people to not

interact with the baby deer – even if they find one that appears to be abandoned.

Adult female deer often stash their fawns in tall grass or brush for many hours while they are out foraging for food.

“It is a very common mistake to believe a fawn has been abandoned when it's found alone, even if the mother has not been seen in the area for a long period of time,” said Joe Croteau, environmental program manager with CDFW's Northern Region. “It's actually a survival strategy for the doe to separate from her fawns so as not to attract predators to the whereabouts of her young.”

Each year, CDFW and wildlife rehabilitation facilities are called to assist with fawns that have been removed from the wild by concerned members of the public recreating outdoors. With limited long-term placement options in zoos

or other wildlife sanctuaries, the animals often have to be euthanized since they lack the survival skills to be released back into the wild and can become dangerous and difficult to keep as they become bigger.

To report an injured, sick or suspected orphaned fawn, contact your local CDFW regional office directly.

Anyone who removes a young animal from the wild is required to notify CDFW or take the animal to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator within 48 hours. Only a limited number of wildlife rehabilitation facilities are licensed to accept fawns.

It is both illegal to feed deer and keep deer in your personal possession. Both crimes are misdemeanors, each subject to penalties of up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail. Learn more about the dangers and consequences of feeding deer in this CDFW video. ★

# Senator Dodd Praises Early Wildfire Prevention Agreement



Bill Dodd

By Paul Payne, Office of Senator Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - With drought conditions threatening another serious wildfire season, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, lauded an agreement between Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders to invest \$536 million in wildfire prevention and resiliency measures.

“Wildfire prevention and response is a top priority in California, especially with drier conditions expected

from this year's drought,” said Sen. Dodd, a member of the Senate Wildfire Working Group advising on preparedness planning. “This makes sound investments in what we need to safeguard life and property. I applaud my fellow lawmakers for taking this proactive step toward avoiding the devastation we've seen over the past five years.”

The package, which is consistent with the Senate's “Blueprint for a Fire Safe California” released last month, grew from an agreement with the governor, Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins, D- San Diego, and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, D-Lakewood. It will provide short- and long-term funding for wildfire, climate, watershed, and forest health, as well as implement modern-day vegetation, forest management, and community

hardening plans, and train and deploy a fire resiliency workforce.

Among its key provisions is multi-year funding on projects with both wildfire and drought resiliency benefits, and investing in Senate priorities such as Cal Fire grants for small landowners, funding for home hardening, urban greening and forestry, and funding for immediate, shovel-ready projects across the state. Highlights include : More than \$280 million to create resilient wildlands; manage forest health; \$200 million for development of wildfire fuel breaks; \$30 million for community and home hardening; \$25 million for forest sector economic stimulus; \$3 million for science-based forest management.

The early action budget item will be amended into a budget bill and taken up by the Legislature in coming days. ★

# Sen. Dodd's Complex Rehabilitative Technology Bill Advances

Paul Payne, Office of Senator Bill Dodd

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Legislation from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would ensure people with disabilities have access to complex rehabilitative services and equipment such as individually fitted wheelchairs cleared a key committee.

“We must do all we can to ensure people with disabilities get the specialized equipment they need that allows them to live their lives to the fullest,” Sen. Dodd said. “Also, we must ensure this vulnerable population has access to a network of qualified providers. My bill would do that, achieving a level of dignity people deserve. I thank committee members for seeing the value of this proposal.”

In California, people living with significant physical disabilities such as ALS, multiple sclerosis and brain injuries have access to a limited number of providers of complex rehabilitative technology including customized wheelchairs. Compounding the problem is recession-related legislation from 2009 that reduced reimbursement rates for many Medi-Cal providers. Currently, the small network of providers of complex rehabilitative technology are subject to this cut along with other reductions, increased expenses from the COVID-19 pandemic and significant operating costs involved in providing and servicing this specialized equipment.

Senate Bill 717 would change state law to conform to federal regulations, ensuring patients needing treatment are served by qualified professionals. It also exempts

complex rehabilitative products from previous Medi-Cal reimbursement reductions to help cover costs of quality care.

SB 717 passed the Senate Health committee with overwhelming support. It is sponsored by the National Coalition for Assistive and Rehabilitative Technology. Numerous supporters include the California Children's Hospital Association, Disability Rights California, the Advanced Medical Technology Association, and the California Association of Medical Product Suppliers.

“Thousands of people with disabilities across California rely on specialized wheelchairs and other adaptive equipment to be independent and manage their health care needs,” said Donald Clayback, executive director of NCART. “Unfortunately access to this equipment has been compromised due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other long-term funding challenges. We thank Sen. Dodd for his leadership in introducing Senate Bill SB 717 to improve consumer safeguards and ensure they have continued and timely access to the important products and supporting services they depend on.”

“On behalf of National Seating and Mobility, our Fairfield facility staff, and our complex rehab technology clients, we would like to thank Sen. Dodd for introducing SB 717,” said Jackie Kirkwood, NSM's regional area director. “This important legislation will improve the health and safety of our clients and ensure access to the critical specialized equipment that people with disabilities require.” ★

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**FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS**  
By Amy Shane  
BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy\_fortheloveofbook

## Let Young Adult Fantasy Wisk Into New and Enchanting Reads



**Chain Of Iron**  
by Cassandra Clare; Simon & Schuster Children's

After moving to London to try and help her family from falling into ruin, Cordelia quickly gets thrown into the world of Shadowhunter's, while battling a new type of demon that threatens all the inhabitants of the city. Together with her best friends from childhood, Lucie and James, Cordelia must use the dark legacy that has bestowed them with the tremendous power to save the city while also revealing the true sacrifice of being a hero.

Now, as the adventure continues, Cordelia finally seems to have it all. Engaged to her childhood friend, James, while also living in London with her best friend Lucie and James's band of Merry Thieves, Cordelia is finally about to see her father. But everything is not as it appears, and the carefully crafted illusion she has created begins

to shatter. Cordelia's father isn't the man he once was, and a new killer threatens the lives of the Shadowhunter's. However, it isn't just a serial killer that is the most threatening; it's the shocking secrets that each of them hold close that could be their ruin.

The highly anticipated sequel in The Last Hours series, *Chain Of Iron* by NYT and USA Today Best-selling author Cassandra Clare has enchanted readers from the first page. Described as "The new Queen of Fantasy" by the Wall Street Journal, Cassandra Clare has once again taken the world by storm, delivering a story that readers will be unable to put down.

Readers will be taken deep into the luxurious and glamorous era of Edwardian London, with the addition of supernatural beings. However, it is not just the thrilling adventure that darts in and out of the streets of London, but the unwavering romances, internal struggles, and forbidden love that keeps this story a fast-paced page-turner. Cassandra Clare doesn't disappoint the fans that have come to love her ShadowHunter World, while also drawing in new readers with a new series. Pick this one up for the nostalgia or the adventure, but fall for the amazing characters, friendships, relationships, and romance. This series is an exquisite, enchanting, and exhilarating page-turner and a wonderful new series to fall into.



**Sweet & Bitter Magic**  
by Adrienne Tooley; Simon & Schuster Children's

After Tamsin commits a magical sin, she is cursed never to be able to love. Wren is made of magic but unable to use it and has spent her life in hiding. When their Queendom is threatened by a magical plague, Tamsin and Wren strike a bargain. However, deals are never straightforward, especially when the barter is love.

In this enchanting debut, *Sweet & Bitter Magic* will take readers into a story of inner battles, acceptance, and love. A story that winds a beautiful story of two girls who are completely opposite, but will learn that what they genuinely need to survive lies within the other. Adrienne Tooley's beautiful writing takes readers into the story entwined with magic, witches, and true emotions, while delivering a story that is both unique and refreshing. ★



## Riley Reviews

### "SPY CITY" COLD WAR ESPIONAGE NOSTALGIA; FOX SUMMER PREVIEW

#### A TV Review by Tim Riley

##### "SPY CITY" ON AMC+

Daniel Craig's stretch as James Bond may come to end with "No Time to Die," and my new top candidate for his replacement is English actor Dominic Cooper, for reasons readily apparent for his role as an intelligence agent in the new AMC+ limited series "Spy City."

Cooper's Fielding Scott, a British secret agent, finds himself embroiled in the messy espionage business in the dangerous city of Berlin circa 1961, when it was divided into four sectors controlled by the Americans, Brits, French and Russians.

Posted to the British Sector headquarters, Fielding barely survives the first episode when the handoff of an envelope in a men's room results in having to slay an assailant who turns out inconveniently to be holding a British passport.

The killing of a fellow citizen casts suspicion on Fielding from his superior, who seems motivated primarily by personal animosity rather than the affairs of state.

Berlin, as treacherous any place in the world, is rife with corruption, assassinations and intrigue that makes life perilous for anyone sleuthing around, because the bathroom assault may not be the last attempt on Fielding's life.

Even romance carries a sense of palpable menace. Fielding has an affair with French spy Severine Bloch (Romane Portail), who is preoccupied with tracking down the Nazi hiding in Berlin who killed her husband in Paris during World War II.

Plenty of subplots run through "Spy City," one involving Fielding's secretary Eliza (Leonie Benesch), who lives in East Berlin and has been forced by a Russian general to spy on her boss as the price for keeping her boyfriend Reinhart (Ben Munchow) out of prison.

Another assignment for Fielding, of which there are many, is helping an East German scientist with the code name Beethoven to defect to the West and bring with him a missile guidance weapons device that the Soviets are eager to conceal.

Bonding with photographer Ulrike (Johanna Wokalek), Fielding employs her services for surveillance photos of friends and foes alike in a quest to unearth the traitor within the ranks of any of the Western allies.

The red herrings that abound in "Spy City" are just a part of the engrossing appeal of this Cold War espionage tale leading up to the Soviets building the infamous Berlin Wall. Everyone seems to be trapped in some sense of betrayal.

##### FOX SUMMER PREVIEW

According to the FOX network, summer is just around the corner at the end of May and they want us to know that things are cooking

with four nights of original entertainment programming.

Hosted by Rob Lowe, "Mental Samurai," which kicks off on May 25th, is a combination of game show, sporting event and thrill ride, in which contestants mentally battle each other – and a ticking clock – as they attempt to stay focused and answer a variety of interactive questions.

On May 26th, the all-new baking competition "Crime Scene Kitchen," hosted by actor and comedian Joel McHale, is a culinary guessing game in which bakers are tasked with decoding what type of dessert was made and then recreating the recipe for celebrity judges.

Following soon thereafter, a new twist to Chef Gordon Ramsay's "Hell's Kitchen" is a culinary competition for 18 aspiring chefs all aged 23 years old or younger. Staged in Las Vegas, "Hell's Kitchen: Young Guns" results in high stakes gastronomic challenges for the competitors.

Actor Will Arnett hosts season two of "Lego Masters," where teams of LEGO enthusiasts go head-to-head with creative design ideas and an unlimited supply of LEGO bricks for ambitious brick-building challenges where the top teams face off for a \$100,000 cash prize.

An even bigger cash grand size to the tune of \$250,000 is at stake in Gordon Ramsay's "Masterchef: Legends," where culinary legends that include Morimoto and Emeril Lagasse must be impressed by only 15 of the best home cooks that will receive the coveted white apron.

Entering its fourth season on June 3rd, "Beat Shazam," hosted by comedian Jamie Foxx, is an interactive game show that pits three teams against the clock and each other as they attempt to identify the biggest hits songs of all time.

"Beat Shazam" will feature a special episode during which contestants can play to win 2 million dollars, as well as celebrity episode in which talent will play for charity. Viewers can also play along with the show's play-at-home game available exclusively on the Shazam app.

This August, FOX travels to "Fantasy Island" with an all-new version of the classic show. "Fantasy Island" takes place at a luxury resort, where literally any fantasy requested by guests is fulfilled, although they rarely turn out as expected.

Delving into the "what if" questions – both big and small – that keep us awake at night, each episode will tell emotional, provocative stories about people who arrive with dreams and desires and depart enlightened and transformed through the magical realism of Fantasy Island.

Sadly, we won't have Herve Villechaize's Tattoo shouting "the plane, the plane" and pointing to the aircraft bringing guests to Fantasy Island. ★



#### Commissioner sets out to Define Farmers' Insurance Gaps

With California farmers and ranchers finding increasing difficulty in purchasing wildfire insurance, the state insurance commissioner directed insurance companies Tuesday to provide data about the availability of commercial coverage for businesses including farms and ranches. The California Farm Bureau welcomed the action, saying it hoped the request from Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara will lead to more sustainable coverage for farmers and ranchers.

#### Water Shortages Stress Klamath Basin Farms

Farmers in the Klamath Basin expect to receive a water allocation this week from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation—and all indications point to extreme shortage. Drought and regulations protecting fish species mean farmers may have little or no water from the federal Klamath Project. A leading farmer in the basin says this second dry year, combined with the COVID-19 pandemic, will have a "compounding effect" that will hit the community hard.

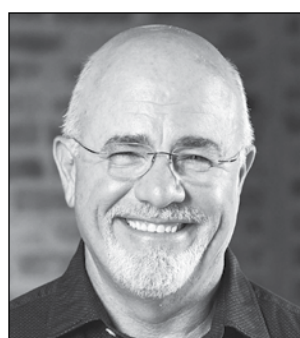
#### Grape Growers Face Drought, Wildfire Concerns

As grapevines along the North Coast begin pushing out new growth, farmers face the prospects of preparing for drought while trying to recover from wildfire. Farmers say they may have to reduce crops on some vines due to lack of rainfall, which one Napa County grower says would be a "bitter pill" after losing grapes to smoke exposure last year. Preseason work by farmers includes creating buffer zones to reduce the chance of wildfire spreading into vineyards.

#### Farmers Respond as Restaurants, Cafeterias Begin to Reopen

The gradual reopening of restaurants, schools and other facilities brings changes for farmers who had sold crops to food-service outlets. Sales abruptly halted a year ago due to the pandemic. Many farmers shifted to sell subscription food boxes or other alternatives. Now, they're having to decide how strong those markets will remain when restaurants and cafeterias reopen. One farmer says "we all have to stay nimble" as markets adjust. ★

## Dave Ramsey Says



#### Help Her Get Back Out There

Dear Dave,

Our daughter recently moved back in with us after she lost her job and her apartment. She hasn't been able to find full-time work yet, and she had nowhere else to go. My husband and I are nearing retirement age, so we want to do the best and smartest thing to help her get back on her feet. What do you suggest?

– Joan

Dear Joan

First, you need to define what helping your daughter really means. What does it look like? In my mind, you haven't helped her if she's still living at home two or three years from now. Going to those lengths is called being an enabler. At the same time, you shouldn't just show her the door and wish her good luck. You and your husband together should

come to agreement on a forward-thinking plan that falls somewhere in the middle. I'm talking about something that allows your daughter a little time to heal and regain her dignity, but also includes a plan, expectations, and a move-out date.

If I were in your shoes, there would be requirements attached to her living at home again. One is that she would respect and abide by your household rules. If she's going to live in your home, she should be expected to respect her parents and their wishes.

Number two, she should be thinking about and working on tangible career steps every single day. I'm pretty sure she could find a part-time job out there to put a little extra money in her pocket. When she's not earning some cash, she should be focusing on long-term career goals. Sending out resumés and filling out applications for full-time employment needs to be a priority.

The last thing I'll suggest may sound a little strange, but trust me on this one. Right now, your daughter also needs some

kind of physical activity on a regular basis. Exercise stimulates the mind, and she really needs that right now. It'll also be great for her body.

This young lady has been through a stressful experience. She needs some understanding and support right now. At the same time, you don't want to let her slide into bad habits and participate in promoting negative behavior. Step in, help her get her life back on track, and get her out in the world again. All three of you will be glad you did!

– 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 16 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.* ★

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All tour information can be found on our website:  
[www.bobsbaseballtours.com](http://www.bobsbaseballtours.com)

## Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

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

## Classified Advertising

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916-773-1111

## Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

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

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## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • FICTIONAL MONSTERS

- ### CLUES
- ACROSS**
- "Turkey" dance
  - X minus III
  - Accounting acronym
  - Angel's glow
  - Like list of chores
  - Inside info
  - "National Velvet" author
  - Heavy Metal band Quiet
  - "Worn by monster hunters and dragonslayers
  - "Sea monster with atomic breath
  - Brooms and cauldrons to a witch, e.g.
  - Subject of biographies, pl.
  - \_\_\_ of Aquarius
  - Saudi's southern neighbor
  - Ceremonial flight
  - "I" problem
  - Sweet-talk
  - Marine eagle
  - The Revenge of the \_\_\_ 1984
  - \_\_\_ you sure?
  - Desires
  - Russia's Romanov, e.g.
  - Comfy pants
  - Preceding month
  - Google Maps predecessor, pl.
  - Blackbird-like birds
  - Crow sound
  - Group of professionals
  - Like a bow string
  - "Witch of Russian fairytales
  - \_\_\_ con carne
  - 6 in 1000 g., e.g.
  - Loose hood
  - Was rebroadcast
  - Prospector's mother?
  - Bassoon cousin
  - Nod up and down
  - "He played Dracula and Count Dracula
  - "Like Sendak's Things
- DOWN**
- England's favorite drink, in French
  - \*Addams Family's Lurch: "You \_\_\_?"
  - A dish of stewed meat
  - Waddle
  - Bridal veil fabric
  - Objects of worship
  - Just a little
  - Michael Douglas' 1978 mystery thriller
  - Like the Weasleys of "Harry Potter"
  - Second qtr. calendar month
  - Alex Trebek's forte
  - Drooping
  - "Jeepers \_\_\_ sing.
  - Coats with Zn
  - Tap order
  - Yiddish busybody
  - Opposite of digest
  - Like high ground
  - Pestilence pest
  - Lock horns
  - Darlene or Jacob of Ozark
  - MCAT and LSAT
  - \*Amity Island fish
  - Bonanza find
  - Transylvanian bloodsucker
  - Shylock's practice
  - Use a Singer

### Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 8

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		34		
35					36				37		38
39					40				41		42
43					44				45		46
47					48	49					
50	51				52				53	54	
55					56				57		58
59					60				61		
62					63				64		

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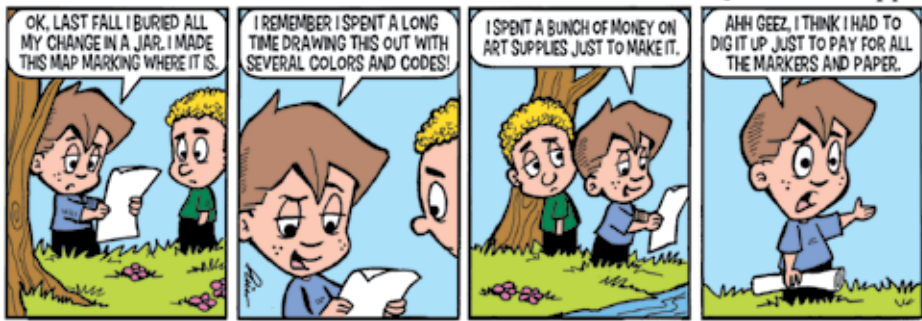
		5	4	7	1	2		
			5					3
			9					7
7	9	5			2			
		3			8			
6					1			
4				9				
9	8	7	2		4			

Solutions on Page 8



# WEEKLY COMICS

## Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

## The Spats



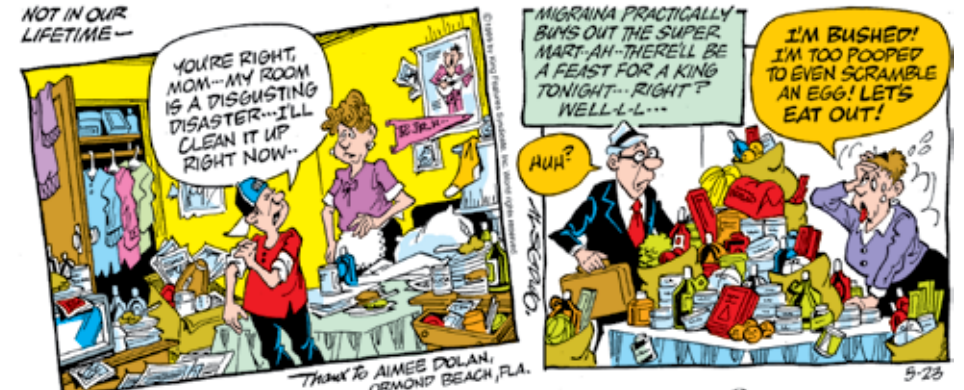
by Jeff Pickering

## Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO

## R.F.D.



by Mike Marland



THANK TO AIMEE DOLAN, ORMOND BEACH, FLA.  
THANK TO F. BECKERMAN, SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

## GRIN and BEAR IT



## LAFF-A-DAY

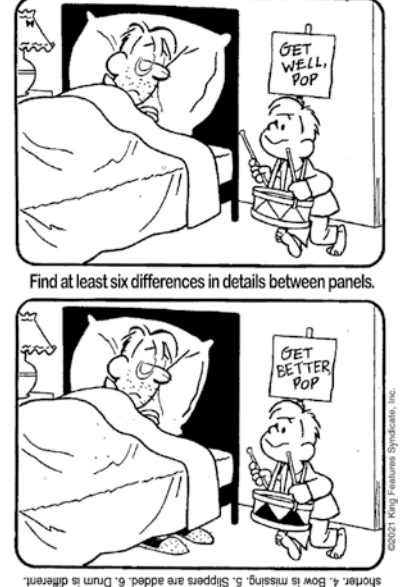


## Just Like Cats & Dogs



by Dave T. Phipps

## HOCUS-FOCUS



BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

"Someday this will all be your fault, son."

"I had a very happy childhood. What does a child know about taxes?"

Find at least six differences in details between panels.  
Differences: 1. Pillow is smaller. 2. Sign is smaller. 3. Sign is different. 4. Bow is missing. 5. Slippers are added. 6. Dimples is different.

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CALL **916-773-1111**



# Fatal Traffic Collision on Tremont Road East of Bulkley Road

**Solano Area  
California Highway Patrol**

**SOLANO AREA, CA (MPG)** - On April 17, 2021, at 9:30 PM, a black Ford Mustang was traveling at a high rate of speed on Tremont Road eastbound, east of Buckley Road. The driver made an unsafe turning movement and allowed the vehicle to travel into a field where the vehicle overturned. The driver and the right rear passenger were not wearing seat belts and were ejected from the vehicle. The

driver sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. The right rear passenger received major injuries and was transported to UC Davis Medical Center. The two remaining passengers received major injuries and were transported to Kaiser Vacaville. Alcohol impairment is a suspected factor in this collision.

If you witnessed this collision, or have any information, please contact Officer Garcia at the CHP Solano office at 707-428-2100. ★

# Overdose Deaths Increased During the Pandemic

**Commentary by M. K. Leach**

The pandemic and excessive intervention by state government contributed to a worsening overdose crisis within the United States. In 2018, drug overdose deaths fell for the first time in 25 years yet began to rise again in 2019. Since 2019, the country's number of drug overdose deaths continued to climb and were made worse by government lockdowns. According to the CDC, the provisional drug overdose count shows a steady increase between January 2019 and January 2020.

According to the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program, after March 19, 2020, 61.84% of participating counties experienced an increase in overdose submissions. In addition, there was a 17.59% increase in suspected overdose submissions when comparing the weeks before and following the commencement of state-mandated stay-at-home orders. Overall, the number of overdoses increased nationally. Non-fatal and fatal overdose involving stimulants, with and without opioids, continue to increase. Some research has found associations between unemployment and or non-labor participation and the risk of a drug overdose.

The CDC released a press release in 2020, and over 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States in the 12 months ending in May 2020. Up to that date, that is the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in a 12-month period, according to the CDC. Overdose deaths were already increasing preceding the pandemic—synthetic opioids appeared to be the primary driver of the increase in overdose deaths, increasing 38.4% within the 12 months leading up to June 2019. Also, 37 of the 38 U.S. jurisdictions reported an increase in synthetic opioid-involved overdose

deaths. Approximately 18 of these jurisdictions reported increases greater than 50%, and ten western states reported over a 98% increase.

Some experts believe the spike in overdose deaths was caused by the pandemic driven by increased substance use due to anxiety, social isolation, and depression. When the government began ordering people to stay at home, not go to work, and forcing millions of Americans out of work, many people turned to drugs or alcohol to cope. The pandemic made it difficult for recovering addicts to access support, opiate addicts to receive treatment, and everyone in between that may have been struggling with addiction. There are numerous underlying factors, but the pandemic response caused a cascade effect impacting the most vulnerable when America was forced to shutter.

People became more isolated, depressed, anxious, and worrisome. Young people like students began to struggle as schools were closed and students were forced to stay home. The CDC's Director said at a Buck Institute webinar that suicides and drug overdoses had surpassed the death rate for COVID-19 among high school students. Lockdowns and the lack of public schooling constituted a disproportionately negative impact on young people and adults' mental health. The data for suicides and overdose deaths will not be verified for two more years. Still, it is apparent the excessive lockdowns, government intervention, and restrictions on life and liberty were far worse than the coronavirus disease COVID-19.

Michael Leach has spent most of his career as a health care professional specializing in Substance Use Disorder and addiction recovery. He is a regular contributor to the healthcare website Addicted.org and a Certified Clinical Medical Assistant. ★

# Disabled Americans Could Soon Face Healthcare Discrimination

**Commentary by Angela F. Williams**



Patients with disabilities are 11 times more likely to die from Covid-19 than their able-bodied peers. Image by klimkin from Pixabay

Patients with disabilities are 11 times more likely to die from Covid-19 than their able-bodied peers. That's a sobering statistic. And it's why public health officials have prioritized these vulnerable patients for vaccinations.

Unfortunately, when it comes to non-Covid matters, society doesn't always show the same concern. In fact, many states and private insurers are pushing for a "reform" that could deprive Americans living with multiple sclerosis (MS), cerebral palsy, and other disabilities of life-saving medicines.

The reform relies on a metric known as a "quality-adjusted life year." These QALYs supposedly quantify the "cost effectiveness" of drugs by assessing the "quality" of an individual's life. The use of QALYs should concern every American, but especially those living with disabilities or battling chronic illnesses.

When this metric is utilized, a drug that delivers one year of "perfect" health receives one QALY. A drug that provides a benefit – but doesn't return a patient to "perfect" – receives a fraction of a QALY.

So, by design, QALYs devalue important treatments for chronically ill and disabled patients.

Since even breakthrough drugs will not restore perfect health in those patients, this puts them at a distinct disadvantage when it comes to accessing life-saving or life-improving drugs and medications. While there is no cure for blindness, MS, or cerebral palsy, new drugs can still dramatically improve patient well-being and longevity.

The British national health system regularly employs this tactic to deny coverage for advanced new therapies for chronically ill and disabled patients. Many other nations use QALY-like assessments to determine which medicines are available to patients.

The biggest advocate for their use stateside is the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review – or "ICER" – an influential Boston-based organization.

ICER's evaluations impose brutally simplistic categories on complex diseases. For instance, the institute splits patients with spinal muscular atrophy that have received treatment into three rudimentary categories: mobile, requiring ventilation, and dead.

That classification is offensively reductive. Spinal muscular atrophy is an extremely challenging condition that involves several gradients of incapacitation. Drugs can deliver significant improvements to patients' well-being without moving them between those three categories.

Worryingly, the Institute has become very effective at getting large health insurers to utilize its metrics in their coverage decisions. And now New York health officials have begun using ICER metrics in their state-run Medicaid program, specifically to clamp down on access to advanced cystic fibrosis treatments.

ICER hasn't been the only group working to jeopardize disabled Americans' access to medication.

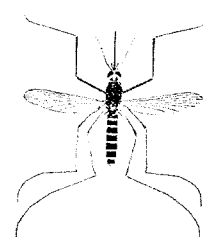
Shortly before President Trump left office, his administration announced a rule that ties the price of physician-administered drugs covered by Medicare to their cost in a select group of other developed nations. In doing so, then-President Trump imported the ruthless QALYs used abroad.

Countless Americans with disabilities rely on cutting-edge medications to live healthy, productive lives. Unfortunately, access to those drugs is now in jeopardy because of ICER and the Trump administration's rule. As we navigate the ongoing public health crisis, we must work to ensure these individuals have the tools to thrive, not simply survive.

To truly protect the health of the one in four Americans living with disabilities today, policymakers must work to ensure that those most deserving of new medicines are able to access them.

Angela F. Williams is president and CEO of Easterseals, a leading provider of services for people with disabilities, veterans, and seniors. This piece originally ran in the Buffalo News. ★

# REDUCE THE RISK



## of Becoming Infected with the West Nile Virus

A number of types of sources found within residential neighborhoods are capable of producing enough adult mosquitoes to bother not only the residents of one home but a number of homes in the area. These mosquitoes are also capable of transmitting West Nile virus! Water left standing for seven to ten days can produce mosquitoes during warmer weather. There are a number of simple precautions that can be taken to prevent this from happening...

TYPE OF SOURCE	WHAT TO DO...
Leaking faucets and broken pipes:	Repair or replace defective parts immediately.
Water under buildings:	Install sump pump and provide drainage if possible.
Roof gutters:	Maintain roof gutters and down spouts clear of debris.
Septic tanks:	Seal and cover all openings and screen vents.
Impounded water:	Fill if possible or provide adequate drainage.
Flower pots:	Drain-off excess water or invert if not in use.
Swimming pools & Hot tubs:	Use filter and skimmer daily to remove egg rafts and larvae. Chlorine will not kill mosquito larvae. Provide drainage for filter and sump pumps. When not in use, cover tightly.
Wading pools:	Change water weekly. When not in use turn upside down.
Swimming pool covers:	Tighten cover to prevent sagging.
Ornamental ponds:	Stock with mosquito fish and remove excess vegetation such as leaves, and thin pond lilies occasionally. Maintain even water level. Screen inlet on recirculation pump. When cleaning pond, transfer to glass bowl - chlorine kills fish. If pond is no longer desired, make holes in bottom and fill with dirt or sand.
Bird baths:	Change water frequently, preferably every 2-3 days
Lawns:	Avoid over watering.
Tree holes:	Fill with a polymer such as Soil Moist or Broadleaf P4 granules which absorb water - can last for years, available at garden supply stores, sand or dirt, drain if possible - when in doubt, call a tree surgeon.
Water troughs:	Change water weekly or stock with mosquito fish.
Boats:	Use a water tight cover or store upside down.
Containers:	Dispose of all unused containers that can collect rain or irrigation water such as tin cans, jars, barrels, buckets, old tires and tubs. Gardening containers such as vases and buckets should be stored upside down.

**Solano County Mosquito Abatement District**  
707.437.1116  
solanomosquito.com

**MPG** CALL 916-773-1111 TO ADVERTISE  
www.DixonIndependentVoice.com

April 2021

# DTSC PUBLIC NOTICE

Department of Toxic Substances Control - Our mission is to protect the people, communities, and environment of California from harmful chemicals by cleaning up contaminated sites, enforcing hazardous waste laws, and compelling the development of safer products.

## EMERGENCY PERMIT

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-DAVIS  
2201 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LANE  
DAVIS, CA 95616

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has issued an Emergency Permit to University of California-Davis (UC-Davis) for onsite treatment of expired chemicals located at 2201 Environmental Services Lane, Davis, CA 95616. The items to be treated consists of the following:

Description	Quantity	Hazard Designation	Container Size
Acrylic Acid	2	Peroxide Forming Monomer	1x100 milliliters, 1x5 milliliters
Methacrylic Acid	1	Peroxide Forming Monomer	500 milliliters
Potassium	1	Solid, Peroxide Former	50 grams
2,4 Dinitrophenylhydrazine	1	Shock-sensitive	5 grams
Picric Acid	4	Shock-sensitive	1x20 grams, 2x20 milliliters, 1x1 liter
Diethyl Azodicarboxylate	2	Shock-sensitive	2x5 milliliters
Benzoyl Peroxide	1	Temperature/Shock sensitive	50 grams

The Clean Harbors Environmental Services company has been contracted to conduct this treatment. The chemicals are potentially reactive and unsafe for transport in their present state. The treatment involves the addition of liquid solution to the containers to stabilize the chemicals. Once the chemicals are treated, they will be transported offsite for proper management. DTSC has determined that the chemicals pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment if not properly managed. Therefore, an emergency permit should be issued. This Emergency Permit is effective from March 5, 2021 through May 10, 2021. The Emergency Permit includes measures to minimize any adverse impact to the community and the environment.

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA):** DTSC has determined that the issuance of this permit is exempt from the requirements of CEQA and has filed a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the State Clearinghouse. The Emergency Permit, NOE, UC-Davis's request for this project are available for review at the file room located at:

DTSC Sacramento Regional Office  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826  
(916) 255-3758, call for an appointment

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Parisa Khosraviani Project Manager (916) 255-6559 Parisa.Khosraviani@dtsc.ca.gov	Criss Trinidad Public Participation Specialist (714) 410-8468 Criss.Trinidad@dtsc.ca.gov	Barbara Zumwalt Public Information Officer (916) 708-4303 Barbara.Zumwalt@dtsc.ca.gov
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Hearing impaired individuals may use the California Relay Service at 711 or 800-735-2929 TTY/VCO/HCO to voice.

Additional information on DTSC sites can be found through our EnviroStor. (rev. 5-2020)

Dixon Independent Voice 4-23-2021