



Biggest Ever Basket Will Bless Someone

PAGE 3

DWR Adjusts State Water Project Allocation Following Another Dry Winter

PAGE 6



Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 29 • ISSUE 13

MARCH 26, 2021

PO Box 1106 • Dixon, CA 95620 • (707) 678-8917 • email: staff@independentvoice.com • Independentvoice.com

SEE INSIDE

WATER RESOURCES FOR SOLANO COUNTY SCHOOLS



PAGE 3

RECALL PROCESS HOLDS ELECTEDS ACCOUNTABLE



PAGE 4

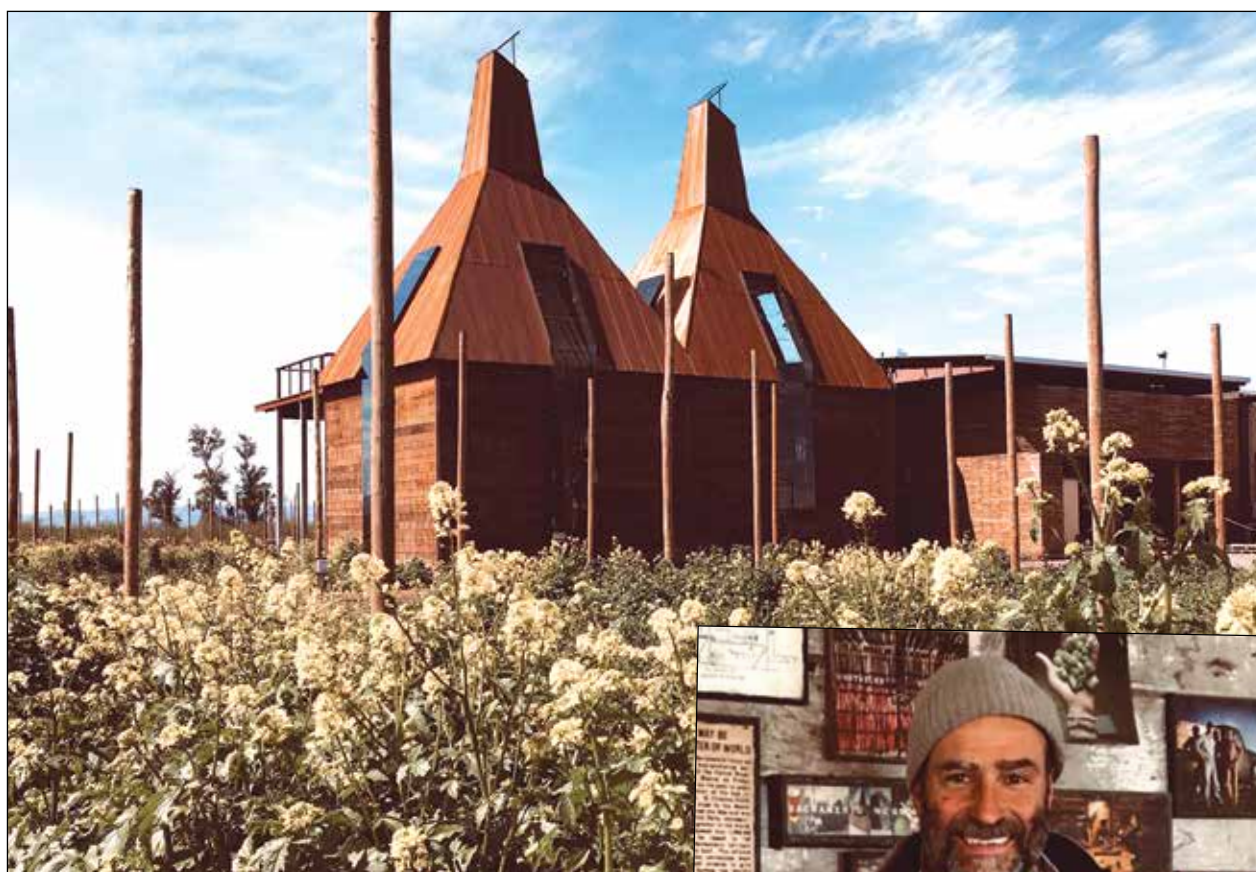
47¢

At Newstands plus Calif. Information Tax (Sales Tax)

PRESORTED STANDARD MAIL US POSTAGE PAID Permit #45 Dixon, CA 95620

Ruhstaller Plants More than Beer

Brewery's Grand Opening Celebrates Dixon Ridge Microenvironment



Above: These two uniquely designed buildings are kilns that were originally used to dry hops for beer making. Paino affectionately refers to them as Hugo and Harry, named after childhood friends who were twins. Right: Jan Erik known as "J.E." Paino stands in front of the photo timeline. Photos by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman and Devon Nishimura

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Large green plants dotted with thousands of tiny yellow flowers spill over the edges of a 50-foot walkway that seems to disappear into the horizon. It is just wide enough for two average adults to lean into each other. The path makes a sharp right at the simple sign emblazoned with the hand-painted letters 'B E E R'. A thick black arrow

under the letters points visitors to the right.

Sawdust drifts in the air while a buzz from a circular saw momentarily drowns out the hard knocks of hammers, nail guns, and the comforting sound of Mariachi music from a small, portable radio. A couple of young women carrying clipboards suddenly appear and disappear in opposite directions. A tall man with salt and pepper eyebrows peeking

from a knit cap walks with long strides into the half-made building. Looking fittingly Scandinavian, he's wearing some kind of unbranded shorts, a tight vest, thick wool socks and heavy work boots. He busily checks something with workers who are creating temporary doors with windows on the large

Continued on page 10

It's Time to Begin the Search for Mother of the Year

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - For more than 25 years, children, young students and adults have written about why their mother is the 'Mother of the Year.' It is with great honor that the Kiwanis Club of Dixon, with Debra Dingman as President, should join in sponsoring the program that the Independent Voice Newspaper has continued until now - as it was Dingman who started the contest in her first year as Publisher of The Dixon Newspaper in 1993.

In the original publication, she said why they wanted to start the program: "Dixon mothers often get short-changed on Mother's Day because many are busy with their children's May Fair activities," she wrote. "I am honored that this idea continued throughout the years and will continue with my favorite club," she said.

They had about 100 entries and the very first Mother of the Year was Jeanine Cooper submitted by one of her four sons. Runner-ups were Maura Davis and Cindy Pretti, both submitted by their children. There were hundreds of dollars in prizes donated by local merchants and the women rode in decorated vehicles in the Dixon May Fair parade. Many, many deserving women have shared the honor.

Well a lot certainly changed this past year but there is no reason the contest can't go on this year just minus the ride in the parade. The criteria for entering are simple: the woman being nominated must exemplify mothering qualities and must reside in Dixon.

Attach one of our entry forms to an essay no more than one-page about your mother and why she is the best. All entries must have a name, grade level or age and a phone number of the person submitting the entry.

There will be three finalists chosen in three categories: Under 6th grade; 7th through 9th grades; and 10th grade through adults. A panel of Kiwanis Club members will judge all entries. The winner and two finalists will receive floral bouquets and other gifts.

Written entries should be in an envelope with the words 'Mother of the Year Contest' written on the outside. They can be dropped off at the Independent

Continued on page 5

Kiwanis Offers Hippy Hop Photo Op

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - It may be too soon for the Kiwanis Club of Dixon to host its Breakfast with the Bunny indoors due to the lingering COVID virus but the bunny still wants to pay a visit to Dixon and will bring his friend, Chipper, too.

The club members invite residents of Dixon to participate in their drive-thru "Hippy Hop Spring Photo Op" at Almond Tree Mortgage, corner of Stratford and Lincoln in Dixon from 9 am to 11 am on Saturday before Easter, April 3.

The parking lot at 1115 Stratford will open as a drive-thru where families can just hop out of their cars and take your photo with the Spring Bunny and/or his furry friend, Chipper the CHP chipmunk.

"We appreciate the community's commitment to staying at home during this past year and want to make the start of the spring season a safe and happy occasion for all," said club member Patti Sousa-Liu who added that small goodie bags will be given away to the first 200 children.

Look for the California



The Easter bunny gets Almond Tree Mortgage's Tye McDaniel ready for the Kiwanis Hippy Hop Spring Photo Op, a drive-thru in the parking lot of the business across from Safeway on Saturday, April 3. Photo by Jim Ward

Highway Patrol car and the festive balloons and don't forget your camera.

The Kiwanis of Dixon is dedicated to ensuring that our community remains healthy and safe through the COVID-19 pandemic. For the health and safety of our community the Dixon Kiwanis Club kindly asks you to follow the following COVID-19 guidelines if

Solano County is still in the red tier of the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy:

Keep 6-feet of physical distance from others. Wear a face covering while participating except when smiling for the cameras. Children with breathing problems should not wear a face covering. Please do not attend this event if feeling sick, have a fever,

cough, and/or are exhibiting any signs of illness.

Kiwanis Club is a civic organization dedicated to serving the children of the world. In Dixon, they meet on the 4th Monday of each month and work on service projects throughout the year. For more information go to Kiwanis.org or contact Sousa-Liu at (707) 635-3303. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Just Waitin' For My Turn

By Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman
 Okay, I admit it. I am angry. I have spent the last couple weeks getting on every list for a vaccine. Then I read that people in jail are getting them before me. I haven't broken the law, or wasted anyone's time or money with court time being repeatedly postponed. I have been a good citizen. I'm employed. I have productive children who are not on any kind of government aid. I have paid more than my fair share of taxes. Yet, someone who has failed at all these things has priority over me.
 Can I beat the state? Nope. But, it still makes me angry. I just have to wait my turn.
 This is after spending last week trying to find a source that would test me for antigens. I have stayed amazingly COVID-free despite having a job that has taken me far and wide in Dixon (ha!) I believe I had the virus last February after my son had been terribly sick before the symptoms of the virus were well known and before the shutdown. And, now we know that the virus bounced around California long before the shutdown began.
 He had been with a fever and delirious for a couple days on my couch. (Then I learned he was on his Dad's couch.) Those nights I worried he would die and I didn't sleep at all while listening to him breathe. It seemed he went in and out of consciousness during the day and said crazy things that I attributed to dreams. About the time I was going to take him to the doctor, he started to come out of it. He fully recovered. Then I got it. I slept for several days.
 I could find little online about getting the vaccine after having COVID, but that's where I determined it would be better to find out if I had the antigens.

If you have already had the virus, you should have only one shot. I never found one medical office that had that test.
 My microbiologist daughter-in-law said that it would still be good to get the vaccine as it protects against other viruses. This is very important as I'm expecting a new grandchild any day and want to hold that precious baby. So I pressed onward to get vaccinated.
 After my "level" (communications) was cleared a few days ago, I got on the phone again after going through several websites – like, seriously, a half a day of my life was spent on Safeway pharmacy, CVS, David Grant Medical Center, MyTurn, etc., etc. I checked all the proper boxes and was repeatedly told it wasn't my turn.
 At one point and just out of curiosity, I checked the box about an underlying condition because I do have asthma but it wasn't listed as an underlying condition on the state's list of issues that fit "underlying." I discovered I could get an appointment in Visalia or Clovis at CVS...
 I finally got a human being at the State Health Department. I explained I'm only mildly concerned because I have asthma. As soon as I said that, she exclaimed, "That is an underlying condition! You are eligible now!" Apparently, I've been eligible for awhile but was trying to follow the rules – you know, the kinds of 'rules' that the prisoners didn't.
 My youngest son finally got his appointment (he's employed in an essential industry) amazingly without all the effort through Kaiser in Folsom. I checked and sure enough, got an appointment for April 19, through Dignity in Woodland.
 The baby is due any day. I've decided I may look like an astronaut or a mummy when that baby is born but I will be there to hold that little newborn soul! ★



Rotary Club members who helped with the recent Vaccine Clinic held at Dixon High School (L-R): Janice and Steve Beaman, Jack Batchelor, Tad Smith, Jim Ernest, Danny & Kathy Ayala, Marlene Vega, Kay Cayler and Herb Cross. Rotary photo

Rotary Served Seniors

Thanks to Dixon Rotary members who provided assistance with the recent Solano County Vaccination Clinic in partnership with the City of Dixon, Kaiser Permanente, and Medic Ambulance. About 1,000 first vaccinations to Solano County residents were given on February 17 and the second injection was given March 17 to the same Solano County residents.

By making initial appointments for Dixon residents, completing pertinent information on Vaccination Record Cards and assisting with guiding the vaccination recipients to injection stations, the flow of people moving went smooth and efficiently. The Solano County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) had an organized process resulting in the process taking only about 30 minutes for most people, which included a 15 minute waiting period to make sure there was no reaction to the vaccine.

Next City Council

Because there is a 5th week in the month of March, everyone who attends Dixon City Council Meetings will get a brief reprieve. The next official meeting is slated for Tuesday, April 6 at 7 pm. That meeting is still planned for being online via Zoom. For more information, call (707) 678-7000.

Bunny Contest

The City of Dixon has launched an online city-wide 'bunny hunt' challenging residents to keep track of ten locations the

bunny is seen at and posted pictures of on the City Facebook site. Once the last location has been posted on Friday, March 26, please submit a list of the 10 locations on March 26 from 2-5pm PST. Early/late submissions will not be reviewed.

The first three submissions with all 10 locations will be announced the following week. If there are not three submissions with 10 correct locations, they'll review for 9 correct, etc. The winners will receive an Easter basket with goodies for the kids. See the City's website or Facebook page for the pictures.

Lions Auction

Dixon Lions Club will be having their First Annual Online Charity Auction, a chance for folks to bid on some great items and help out those in need. The auction ends on March 31. One hundred percent of the proceeds go right back to those in need in Dixon, according to Lion Justin Ford.

To bid, view items at <https://www.32auctions.com/DixonLionsClub> so take a look quick!

DFS Donations

Since the Goodwill in Dixon has closed, Dixon Family Services has been getting a lot of calls and drop offs of items they do not take.

"We do not accept donations other than financial or non-perishable foods (that are not expired) for the DFS Food Pantry," said DFS Director Cookie Powell. She is trying to locate a source she can refer people to and put a call out to Dixon Community Church which offered a 'Clothing Closet' but that may be changing soon and at press time, that availability is not known.

Powell encouraged anyone wanting to run a thrift store to the benefit of DFS to contact her. There are many thrift stores around the country that are set up to benefit nonprofits and are a great way to recycle, reuse, and repurpose people's unwanted. There have been numerous that have been setup to support a handful of non-profits as well. They are also great stores for retirees to keep busy and give purpose. ★

No April Fools, I Promise



Sacramento River Cats Press Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Did you hear the news? Governor Newsom said that fans would be allowed back at baseball games beginning April 1st. We can't wait! Sutter Health Park is

located in Yolo County which is currently in the Red Tier of the Blueprint for a Safer Economy. The current guidelines would include pod-style seating spaced apart based on distance recommendations, along with mobile tickets and a few other modifications. Check out rivercats.com for up-to-date information.
Get Your Tickets!
 Be first in line by putting down as little as \$100 today towards a River Cats Membership. Membership

options start with a game or two a month to the traditional season ticket so there is a perfect plan for you and your family. Lock in your fun today by emailing tickets@rivercats.com or <mailto:tickets@rivercats.com>? subject=Interested%2520in%25202021%2520Tickets%2520, Call us at (916) 371-HITS (4487) Sacramento River Cats | tickets@rivercats.com | 400 Ballpark Dr, Sacramento CA 95691 ★

You're Invited To

Loving God, Loving Others, Sewing Our World

This weeks sermon is as follows:
Transformation
"From Stressed To Blessed"
Psalm 23

Sunday - Bible Study 9:00 am • Worship 10:00 am
 Small Groups meet throughout the week.
 Tuesday Children's Adventure Bay - 6:30 pm

Frank Salamone - Pastor/Teacher
Sheila Dybdahl - Children's Minister

185 W. Cherry Street • Dixon • 707-678-5234
CornerstoneinDixon.com

CENTRAL AUTO PARTS
 Your Local NAPA Dealer

AUTO & TRUCK PARTS

For All Your Automotive Needs
707-678-2309
 1205 N. First Street, Dixon

MEMORIAL NOTICE

Lieutenant Colonel Robert "Ike" Ikelman
 January 1, 1938 to March 11, 2021

Lieutenant Colonel Robert "Ike" Ikelman, 83, of Dixon, CA, died peacefully in his home on March 11, 2021 surrounded by family and friends. His death was a result of the after-effects of a series of strokes. He will be so greatly missed by the many lives he touched with his gentle spirit and positive outlook.
 Bob is survived by his wife, Donna (nee Lemna); children, Ann (John) Vandonk of Chino Hills, CA, Tom (Wendy) Ikelman of Roseville, CA, Kim (Brian) Jones of Folsom, CA, Karl (Jennifer) Ikelman of Woodland, CA, 12 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, brother Douglas Ikelman of Atlanta, GA, and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Roberta Ikelman, formerly of Grand Forks, ND.
 Bob was born on January 1, 1938 in Wilkesburg, PA. At 9 he moved with his family to Grand Forks, ND. He graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1961 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. To achieve his lifelong goal of flying airplanes he also completed the Air Force ROTC officers program while at UND. He married Donna Lemna in 1960.
 He began his 28 year career with the United States Air Force in 1961, and over that time successfully completed many assignments. In 1962 he completed pilot training at Moody AFB, GA. From 1962-1965 he flew C-130's at Charleston AFB, SC. From 1966-1967 he served in Vietnam, flying C-123's. While there he was awarded two Distinguished Flying Cross medals and several other service medals. Upon return from Vietnam, he again flew C-130's, first at McGuire AFB, NJ and then at Dyess AFB, TX. From 1969-1972 he represented the USAF as an acceptance pilot of C-5 aircraft purchased from Lockheed-Martin in Marietta, GA. In 1972 Bob completed Squadron Officers School at Maxwell AFB, and earned a Masters in Public Administration from Auburn University in Montgomery, AL. From 1973-1977 he served at Norton AFB, CA as a flight safety investigator, flying both C-5's and various other aircraft in order to stay current. In 1977 he moved his family to Dixon, CA, where he served the remainder of his military career as a C-5 Aircraft Commander at Travis AFB. It was in this capacity that Bob got to do what he loved most, which was flying USAF cargo planes all over the world. He retired from the USAF in 1989, only to continue serving his former colleagues as flight safety instructor in the C-5 simulator at Flight Safety Services Corporation at Travis AFB. He retired from this position in 2001.
 Meanwhile, from 1984-1988, Bob participated in Diaconal Formation classes in order to achieve his goal of becoming a deacon in his beloved Roman Catholic Church. He felt both blessed and humbled to be ordained in 1988 as a permanent deacon to serve at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Dixon, CA. He served faithfully until he was required to retire in 2013. As chaplain, Bob continued serving the families of many military comrades by officiating at burial services at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, where he was also on the board.
 In lieu of flowers, please send donations to St. Peter's Catholic Church at 105 S. 2nd St, Dixon, CA 95620. Condolences may also be sent there, or via email to ikelman0537@ATT.net
 The family would like to thank the Fijian caregiver community for sending one of its members, David, who lovingly helped care for Bob during the final months of his life.

Water Resources for Solano County Schools



School Water Education Program (SWEP) highlights the roll each student has in helping to conserve and maintain a healthy water supply. Image by Rudy and Peter Skitterians from Pixabay

By Marianne Butler,
Solano County Schools

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Water conservation is once again the order of the day as California's perennial drought reemerges from its brief hiatus. The Cities of Vacaville, Fairfield, Suisun City, Vallejo, Benicia, and the Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District and Solano Irrigation District are providing funding for the School Water Education Program (SWEP). SWEP provides K-12 teachers and their classrooms a fresh and exciting interactive live-lesson about our local water resources. Lessons are custom tailored to the needs of each classroom, and include fun visuals, engaging educators and lively pacing to pull students into the science of our County's water systems. The lesson highlights the roll each student has in helping to conserve and maintain a healthy water supply. "I definitely think the kids were motivated by the thought of their actions affecting the environment (and) ...getting involved in a career in science," reports Ayesha Faust, a Markham Elementary 5th Grade Teacher from Vacaville. Stacia Symanski, a 3rd Grade teacher from Cordelia Hills Elementary in Fairfield adds "(SWEP lessons) supported the curriculum we're working on, ... (helping students to) understand that water and pollutants go into the ground and waterways."

SWEP provides a variety of live and virtual water education programming for

students and teachers, including intensive training workshops that provide teachers with innovative water science education resources and support. This year, program offerings also include a spring virtual, live-streamed field trip for younger students to the Dunnell Nature Center in Fairfield. All SWEP activities are free to Solano County teachers and their classes, and lessons link to other County environmental programs like Earth Day, Coastal Cleanup Day and World Environment Day. Solano RCD Education Program Director Marianne Butler says "There's still time to take advantage of SWEP offerings this year. Teachers can go to our website or give me a call at (707) 678-1655 to get started." Butler is excited to point out that "We have an additional new opportunity for teachers. Our Solano Water Institute Teacher Training is open for registration on our website. This is a multi-day, fieldtrip-based institute offering innovative, locally relevant information on our region's complex water resources and highlights the preservation of Solano County open spaces." The first session of the Solano Water Institute will be held in August 2021.

Solano RCD is a non-regulatory special district to the state of California that works to protect, restore, and enhance Solano County watersheds through its diverse education, restoration, and partnership initiatives. Learn more at solanored.org or by calling (707) 678-1655. ★

Biggest Ever Basket Will Bless Someone

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Freedom Church in Dixon is planning to give away the largest Easter basket because they have a lot to celebrate.

"We are super excited to be opening back up, share our love of Jesus, and reach out to the community," said church leader Erica Mejia who announced the free giveaway. "We are going to really bless someone," she said with a laugh. "We've had tons of things donated by businesses and groups and anyone can enter but they do have to be present to win."

To give you an idea of the size, she said, the bottom of the basket is one of those blue-formed swimming pools for children. Dixon's Largest Easter Egg Basket will have tons of great stuff including a new PlayStation.

Raffle tickets will be available for pick-up on Sunday, March 28, after church services between 1



Dolores Mejia of Dixon's Freedom Church shows a 'Nintendo Switch' that will be in Dixon's Largest Easter Basket to be given away on Easter Sunday morning. Photo by Erica Mejia

and 3 pm by just driving by at 470 East H Street. Only one ticket per person is allowed. The winner will be chosen on Easter Sunday and you have to be present to win.

"Mark your calendars for April 4, at 10 am, and begin praying about someone to invite to join you, in person or live online as we celebrate our Risen Savior

this year," Mejia said. "We need Jesus and there's hope and healing found in Him."

Freedom Church is led by Pastor Joe Mejia and is located at 470 East H Street in Dixon. They offer services throughout the weekdays and also at 10 am on Sundays. See more at www.freedomchurch-dixon.com or call (707) 693-1774. ★

Committee Ok's Power Reliability Bill

By Paul Payne,
Office of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, announced legislation to improve the reliability of California's electricity grid co-authored by Assembly member Chad Mayes, I-Yucca Valley, to prevent rolling blackouts such as those that left hundreds of thousands of residents without power during summer and fall heatwaves, has cleared a key committee.

"By reducing demand from the largest energy users during peak times, my bill would make the grid more reliable, ensuring Californians have continued access to the energy they need," Sen. Dodd said. "We need to be proactive to prevent the risk of future blackouts. Outages that come from imbalanced supply and demand are completely unacceptable."

Since the 1980s, industrial customers

have contributed to grid reliability by curtailing manufacturing during low capacity under the Base Interruptible Program emergency system. During the extreme heat, the California Public Utilities Commission called on large businesses to voluntarily reduce energy consumption, preventing more widespread outages of nearly a million customers in the dark. However, an improved program could have further reduced blackouts.

Senate Bill 204 strengthens the commission's mandate to call for energy use reductions, requires participation from the state's three largest utilities and improves incentives for compliance. It is supported by the California Large Energy Consumers Association.

It was approved late Monday in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications committee with overwhelming support. ★



GOOD BETTER BEST

WE HAVE THE RIGHT TIRES FOR YOUR CAR OR TRUCK FOR LESS!

All Tires Come with **FREE** Rotations, Flats and Balance, for the Life of a Set of 4 Tires.

DIXON TIRE PROS

(707) 678-1669
205 Stratford Avenue, Dixon

Lucky March Deal!
On Saturday, March 20 • 10am – 3pm

BUD'S
* PUB & GRILL *

10% OFF
ALL FOOD & BEVERAGES!

TRY OUR MARCH DRINK SPECIALS:

IRISH COFFEE	SHAMROCK SHOOTER • Jameson • Bailey's • Melon Juice	IRISH MUDSLIDE • Jameson • Bailey's • Kahlua
IRISH BUCK • Jameson • Fresh Lime Juice • Ginger Ale	DUBLIN KISS • Jameson • Bailey's • Creme de Mint	APPLETINI • Made with Kettle One

100 S. First St., Dixon, CA • (707) 678-4745
www.budspubandgrill.com

California Water Service

Call us for **FREE** Water Conservation Information

201 S. First St. • Dixon
707.678.5928

Fisk's Cyclery
"Your family bike shop since 1976"

FULL SERVICE BIKE SHOP
Professional Affordable Repairs
FAST SERVICE!

Monday - Friday 9:30 - 6:00 PM • Saturday 9:30 - 3:00 PM
539 N. Adams St., Dixon • 707.678.4330
fiskscyclery.com

Recall Process Holds Electeds Accountable



Ted Gaines

**Commentary
by Ted Gaines**

Governor Newsom looks certain to face a recall election. Voters – even his supporters – should be thankful that California has citizen empowerment tools to check corrupt, incompetent, unresponsive or simply unpopular government officials. If you favor accountability, look kindly upon the recall effort as a means of voters being heard.

It was not always so. In the early 20th century, California state and local governments, media, and courtrooms operated as little more than subsidiaries of the mighty railroads, which abused the public faith by buying and selling influence as though it was rail stock. Republican reform Governor Hiram Johnson revolted against railroad dominance by creating a direct-democracy end run around the moneyed Colossus that so easily and thoroughly controlled the state.

Johnson championed three major reforms: the initiative, the referendum, and, so critical now, the recall.

Each gave voters the chance to circumvent the existing and corrupted power structure that had silenced them.

Voters went from having little or no way to hold their representatives to account to having a powerful arsenal for self-determination, which they have used many times in the past century.

When runaway property taxes chased seniors out of their homes and broke family budgets, voters came together in 1978 to pass Proposition 13, the most consequential tax reform in state history. Prop. 13 has saved families billions in its four-plus decades of existence. This reform simply could not have originated in the legislature, whose appetite for more and more tax dollars is legendary, but only as an initiative from the people.

When Gray Davis short circuited during the energy crisis, voters famously used the recall to usher in Arnold Schwarzenegger as his replacement, to see if the Hollywood legend could right the ship of state.

Whether you supported Davis or Schwarzenegger or Prop. 13 is secondary to the power Governor Johnson's reforms invested in the people. The key element of his changes is that voters were given the ability to weigh in, to be heard, in ways that purely representative democracy does not allow.

Governor Newsom's detractors have accused him of decimating small business, failing to reopen schools, and disregarding his own restaurant-killing safety guidance. These criticisms have fueled another

grassroots effort to end his term early and find a better replacement.

Even if you support Newsom completely and think his handling of California is flawless, is it not a good thing for the Governor – and all politicians – to be haunted by the specter of accountability?

Hiram Johnson left us tools, not toys. It is not easy to place a recall on the ballot. To qualify, proponents need to submit valid signatures equal to 12-percent of the prior election's turnout total. This year, that means roughly 1.2 million signatures were needed to put our current Governor up for a vote of (no) confidence. That threshold is a huge hurdle and ensures that recalls will not be used lightly.

But that threshold also means it now typically costs \$5 million or so to qualify a recall or initiative for the ballot. This tool of the people runs the risk of being transported into the exclusive realm of big-money special interests who can afford paid signature gatherers, advertising, mail pieces and other tools of organization and persuasion. We should not let it turn into the very thing it was intended to fight. We should make it easier to qualify initiatives, referenda, and recalls, to keep them safely within reach of authentic grassroots efforts.

Newsom may or may not fare better than Davis. But win or lose, the recall is a signal to the current Governor and all politicians that they serve at the people's pleasure. ★

CONVERSATIONS

By Loran Hoffmann and Shirley Humphrey

Past Projects Prove Cause for Attention on New Ones

A few weeks ago, the new community development director updated the Planning Commission on the number of new houses that will be built in Dixon over the next few years. He explained that over 1,000 new houses will be built including at the following subdivisions--the Brookfield, Valley Glenn, Homestead area, and the Lewis LLC.

Immediately, previous projects proposed when new housing has been built came to mind. First when the new high school was built, citizens and new residents moving into Country Faire were

told that the city recognized that the traffic would increase and a new overpass would be needed and would be completed by 2007. It still has not been built and the Level of Service may be lowered when students return to school in person.

Around 2011, the library proposed adding to the library. At that time, the Rice house was located behind the Carnegie library. It was a brown house and at one time was rented by different families. Then, the library bought the house. To make room for a new library, the librarian at that time, Bruce Atkins, decided (and obtained permission from someone higher up) to have the Rice house burned down. At the time, the staff had to watch the fire department burn a \$600,000 house. Concurrently, a Library preservation group succeeded in

having the Carnegie library placed on the National Historical List. Now it is eight to nine years later, the Carnegie Library has not been enlarged, and over \$600,000 went up into smoke.

When the new High School was built, a new 300-person Dixon Performing Arts Theater was included. At first, the city and the Dixon Unified School District offered plays and speakers to folks in town, but when Jeff Matheson left city employment, the theater performances were no longer offered. But if you check the Chamber of Commerce web site now, rental of the high school theater is offered but is not well known in the community.

With new housing being built, traffic increasing, and a new General Plan being approved citizens need to be involved to make sure our views are considered. When new projects are proposed, citizens need to ask a lot of questions and make sure that there are firm plans to complete the proposed project.

To hold city council representatives accountable, we should ask for yearly reports on the progress being made on an approved project. This shouldn't be too difficult because we are now in districts with our own representative. If citizens in each district ask their representative to report to them annually, it is possible we can keep proposed projects on track. ★

Dodd Introduces Broadband Upgrade Bill



Bill Dodd

**By Paul Payne,
Office of Senator Bill Dodd**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -With more Californians relying on the internet during the coronavirus pandemic for distance learning and remote work, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, today announced the introduction of his new legislation to streamline the installation of high-speed broadband service, ensuring better access, especially for low-income people.

"California can take immediate steps to close the digital divide by passing this proposal," Sen. Dodd said. "For too long, telecommunication projects have been delayed by confusing regulations, entrenched in excessive bureaucracy. These processes have had a severe impact on bringing high-speed internet to many communities across California."

Sen. Dodd's legislation comes as employers and schools across our state have shifted to virtual participation, highlighting disparities of access faced by low-income families and people of color. Nearly 42% of California families said unreliable internet access was a challenge for them during distance learning, according to a recent poll by EdSource and FM3 Research.

Senate Bill 556 would ensure equity while helping small business by removing local discretion to put roadblocks before 5G small cell deployment – something that is critical for reliable high-speed internet. It builds on existing law setting timelines and reasonable fees for processing and approving broadband projects. Instead of having to sue to get project approval, the bill will result in quicker decisions and ultimately more robust coverage.

SB 556 is expected to be heard next month in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications committee.

"I am grateful Sen. Dodd has taken on the challenge of expanding 5G in California," said Barry Broome, president and CEO of the Greater Sacramento Economic Council. "This technology

is needed now more than ever with the digitalization of our economy. An accelerated path forward for 5G will ensure all citizens in our community will participate in the post COVID-19 recovery. We see 5G as an essential part of our inclusion objective."

"Greater access to broadband internet service is essential to bridge the digital divide for low-income people and communities of color," said Eleese Cheek, Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce president and Solano County Office of Education trustee. "It is a necessary step to achieve equity for minority owned businesses as well as our young students participating in remote learning. I thank Sen. Dodd for introducing this bill to remove these roadblocks."

"What 5G means to us is better connectivity," said Nicolas Hastings, Square Root Academy's co-founder and executive director. "Better connectivity for more connected systems as well as more connected communities. It means our scholars get exposed to a higher caliber of technology and to leverage it for different applications for the future." ★

Farm Bureau Supports Reintroduction of Agricultural Immigration Bill

**By Dave Kranz,
California Farm Bureau**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Saying it would provide mutual benefit for farmers, ranchers and their employees, the California Farm Bureau applauded the reintroduction of federal legislation to improve agricultural immigration programs.

California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson said the organization is committed to work for passage of the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, reintroduced by Reps. Zoe Lofgren, D-San Jose, and Dan Newhouse, R-Wash.

"We were early supporters of the Farm Workforce Modernization Act when it was originally introduced in 2019, and we're pleased to see its reintroduction," Johansson said. "Reform of federal immigration law continues

to be a top priority for the California Farm Bureau, and this bill would create meaningful changes that would ease chronic employee shortages and recognize the value of farm work."

The original bill won passage from the House of Representatives in late 2019, based in part on the support of more than 300 agricultural groups and companies.

"The Farm Workforce Modernization Act earned bipartisan support at that time by addressing both current and future needs for agricultural employers and employees," Johansson said. "Its reintroduction will stimulate ongoing discussions about immigration policy. Its passage would improve agricultural visa programs and accommodate immigrant agricultural employees already in the United States, while

enhancing border security."

Johansson said the bill's reintroduction comes at a particularly important time, as farmers and their employees maintain agricultural production during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Long before the pandemic, we recognized the people who work on California farms and ranches as essential to reliable supplies of healthy food and farm products. The pandemic has only underscored the importance of assuring the people who work on farms and ranches can do so with the security of legal immigration status," he said.

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. ★



SALE LOCATIONS

Get Your Copy Weekly At:

DIXON LIQUOR & GAS—483 North Adams

DIXON FOOD & LIQUOR—109 North Adams

7-ELEVEN, SOUTHLAND—1075 North First

CHEVRON—6854 Sievers Road

CHEVRON—1300 Stratford Avenue



**Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl**

Dixon Independent Voice is a member of Messenger Publishing Group

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@mpg8.com. Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher." If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.



Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1994

It is the intent of the Dixon Independent Voice to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The Dixon Independent Voice is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the Dixon Independent Voice are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the Dixon Independent Voice is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to:

Dixon Independent Voice

P.O. Box 1106, Dixon, CA 95620

Subscription rate is \$32 per year within Dixon and Solano County.

Main Office Address: 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite #5, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The Dixon Independent Voice is published weekly on Friday.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.





COVID Relief Bill: Bad Policy, Bad Faith

Joe Biden has signed what may well end up being the biggest accomplishment of his presidency, an enormous \$1.9 trillion COVID relief bill.

With his other priorities likely to molder in the Senate, the spending will probably stand as a signature statement of Biden's approach to governance – and it should be a damning one.

The legislation is a misnomer; it is neither a COVID nor a relief bill. Only a tiny portion of the spending in the bill goes toward vaccinations and other priorities directly related to the pandemic.

Much of the rest of the spending is not well-suited, or even designed, to respond to current economic conditions, which are increasingly favorable.

Democrats are telling themselves that it's like 1933, when we were in the midst of a depression, whereas it's more like 1983, when we were coming out of a punishing recession.

Or to put it another way, the Biden bill is reacting to the wrong spring. It is no longer the cataclysmic spring of 2020, with the economy shuttered and nothing to fight the virus except social distancing and masks, but the much more hopeful spring of 2021, with the economy opening back up, COVID cases steeply declining and

vaccinations ramping up massively.

Jobless claims have decreased, and personal incomes are higher than when the pandemic started. Both the Congressional Budget Office and Goldman Sachs are projecting rapid economic growth in 2021. As states open back up, nearly 20% of the U.S. population has received at least one vaccination shot.

This isn't to say that all is well. There is an estimated \$420 billion hole in the economy, although, as even center-left critics of the bill have noted, you don't need a \$1.9 trillion bill to fill it.

The latest bout of spending is spread around willy-nilly on Democratic priorities and constituencies.

Take public education, where Democratic-allied teacher unions dominate. It's not clear why any additional spending is necessary, given that tens of billions of education funding from prior COVID relief bills are still unspent, even as many districts have already begun to reopen for in-person instruction.

Nonetheless, the bill spends roughly another \$130 billion on K-12 education, which will be spread out over years. The CBO projects more spending for elementary and secondary education will occur in fiscal year 2026 than this fiscal year.

The \$350 billion in aid to states and localities comes despite state and local tax revenue being down only a tick through much of 2020 compared with the year before. According to widely cited Moody's economist Mark Zandi, the state and local funding gap will be roughly \$60 billion through

fiscal 2022. Still, states and localities will be showered with money, after more than \$500 billion in aid to states and localities last year.

The bill spends \$86 billion bailing out union-negotiated multi-employer pension plans.

Transportation gets tens of billions of new spending, which by its nature doesn't happen quickly, and more than \$30 billion goes to expanding Obamacare, a long-term Democratic policy goal.

It's doubtful that the checks of \$1,400 to individuals are necessary; it is more supply – i.e., businesses being closed or supply chains disrupted – than demand that is hampering the economy now.

The continued elevated unemployment payments make unemployment more lucrative than employment for many people, and will discourage a return to work at the margins.

For all that, the bill is popular. From where Biden sits, why not spend as much as possible under the rubric of "COVID relief?" To paraphrase Rahm Emanuel, a pandemic is a terrible thing to waste.

Assuming the bill doesn't cause some disastrous unintended consequence, it will allow Biden to take credit for a roaring economic recovery that is already building.

This might be shrewd politics, but it is not evidence-based or bipartisan governance. It's getting while the getting is good, and assuming that no one will notice.

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

Solano Youth Coalition Tackles More Teen Issues

By Jennifer Leonard, Solano County Office of Education

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG)

Thirty students from Solano County schools, Solano County Office of Education staff and over 700 students from across the Bay Area attended the 23rd Annual Teens Tackle Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs and Youth Wellness Conference this month, held virtually due to COVID restrictions. Students from Benicia, Travis, Fairfield-Suisun, Vacaville, and Vallejo City Unified School Districts attended workshops designed by youth for youth. Workshop topics included: healthy relationships, tobacco and vaping, mental health and more.

Participants walked away with a better understanding about prevention, cessation, community resources, refusal skills and overall wellness.

Solano Youth Coalition's (SYC) Family Justice Youth Committee (FJCYC) presented the workshop on healthy relationships that included warning signs of abuse, forms of abuse and what resources are available to victims. The Social Justice and Racial Equity Committee (SJREC) hosted a workshop about allyship, focusing on privilege and power and how they can be used to make better allies. The Mental Health Awareness Committee (MHAC) presented workshops at both middle and high school levels. Their Messin' with

Stressin' workshop focused on the effects of stress, the different types of stress and how to utilize positive and health coping techniques.

According to the Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson, "The Solano Youth Coalition are leaders in our community, using their voices to educate their peers, engaging with adult allies, and share resources with their peers. Through their work around mental health, teen dating violence, social justice and racial equity, they are making positive changes in our community and showing how powerful the youth voice is."

"For more information on SYC contact Johanna Nowak-Palmer at jnowak@solanocoe.net. ★

It's Time to Begin the Search for Mother of the Year

Continued from page 1

Voice Newspaper office at 100 N. Adams, or mailed to Dixon Kiwanis, P.O. Box 1602, Dixon or emailed to DixonKiwanis@hotmail.com. Entry DEADLINE is 5 pm on May 1, 2021.

For further information about the Kiwanis Club of Dixon, call Patti Sousa-Liu at (707) 635-3303. Kiwanis Club of Dixon

'Kids Need Kiwanis' is the popular slogan used by Kiwanis Clubs in more than

80 nations across the globe. The international volunteer organization raises approximately \$133 million and dedicates more than 19 million hours to strengthen communities and help children. Dixon chartered its club in 2009, meets on the 4th Monday of each month at Bud's Pub & Grill for a no-host dinner and is responsible for numerous service projects in town. Its premier fundraiser has been the annual Festival of Trees. ★



How Will California Spend \$150 Billion Windfall?



By Dan Walters CALMatters

Let's assume that your rich Uncle Harry died and when his will was read, he had left you \$50,000.

The unexpected inheritance gives you three choices. You could put the money into a savings account or investment and have it available should you need it in the future. You could use it for a one-time purchase such as a new car, college tuition or a down payment on a house. Or you could ramp up your lifestyle by \$50K a year and hope that Harry's brother George dies and leaves you enough money to continue the party.

Something like that is occurring now as Uncle Joe (Biden) sends out nearly \$2 trillion in "stimulus" payments both to low- and moderate-income families and state and local government entities to offset losses of income during the COVID-19 pandemic and, it's assumed, kick-start the pandemic-ravaged economy.

California will be a case study in how the massive transfer of money that the federal government is borrowing from buyers of its bonds and treasury notes plays out.

California is expected to receive the nation's largest single share of the pot, at least \$150 billion. Nearly half will be

in the form of cash payments to families (\$40 billion) and supplemental payments to the roughly 800,000 unemployed workers now drawing unemployment insurance benefits (\$30 billion). Most of that money, it's assumed, will go directly into the consumer economy, plus another \$3.8 billion for direct assistance on rent, food and other necessities.

The remainder of the \$150 billion will mostly go to state and local agencies as both unrestricted revenue and money for specific purposes, such as \$15.9 billion to help schools reopen, \$5 billion for colleges, \$4 billion for mass transit services, and \$3.9 billion for child care. Throughout California, officials in the specific government agencies that will benefit from Uncle Joe's largesse are busily deciding how to spend it – and they face the same three choices as Uncle Harry's beneficiaries would.

The political pressure to spend it on new commitments will be immense. Advocates of specific programs, such as those seeking universal pre-kindergarten education and child care, will want to expand their reach. Public employee unions will seek increases in salaries and benefits.

Elected political figures don't like to say "no" to demands for immediate gratification and few have the courage to insist that one-time windfalls should be carefully husbanded rather than spent.

There's already a mini-version of the syndrome underway in California. The state has perhaps \$15 billion in unexpected

revenues because the pandemic-induced recession had little, if any, impact on high-income taxpayers and Gov. Gavin Newsom is under pressure to spend the windfall on program expansions, even though the state faces projected budget deficits in following years.

The problem, of course, is spending windfall money on new commitments, such as salaries, benefits and program expansions, backfires when the money is gone. Those commitments morph into entitlements and their beneficiaries then demand that politicians generate new income streams to pay for them.

There's already a debate underway in Washington over how much of the stimulus spending will become permanent and whether the federal government should continue borrowing to pay for it, or raise taxes.

Left-leaning Democrats in both Washington and Sacramento are floating new tax proposals, such as a "wealth tax" on those sitting atop the economic ladder.

Newsom simultaneously embraces, in principle, big expansions of entitlements, such as universal pre-kindergarten and single-payer health care, while warning that he won't embrace new taxes, apparently fearing they would chase away the high-income taxpayers who supply a huge portion of the state's revenues.

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

- Enter your Mother or ANY OTHER MOTHER who you believe exemplifies the finest qualities of Motherhood.
- Three age groups for those submitting entries:
 - Grade 4 and Under;
 - Grade 5 through 8;
 - and High School and Adults
- Essays should be no more than 500 words
- Please include recent photo for publication with the winning entries.
- Decisions of the judges are final.
- Essays must be submitted by 5:00 pm on Saturday, May 1st.



Mother of the Year Award

Official Entry Form Sponsored By
Dixon Kiwanis Club and Dixon Independent Voice

Mom's Name and Age

Address DIXON, CA 95620

Mom's Phone

Nominator's Name, Grade and Age (You)

Nominator's Phone

Attach this form to an essay telling us why YOUR mom should be *Mother of the Year*. Essays should be less than 500 words. Please include a recent photo which may be published. Email, or Mail this form and the essay to:

Dixon Kiwanis Club
P.O. Box 1602 • Dixon, CA 95620
707.678.8917
or email to DixonKiwanis@hotmail.com

DWR Adjusts State Water Project Allocation Following Dry Winter

California Department of Water Resources

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As California experiences a second consecutive dry year, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced an adjustment to its initial State Water Project (SWP) allocation for the 2021 water year. The department now expects to deliver 5 percent of requested supplies this year, down from the initial allocation of 10 percent announced in December.

Initial allocations are based on conservative assumptions regarding hydrology and factors such as reservoir storage. Allocations are reviewed monthly and may change based on snowpack and runoff information. They are typically finalized by May.

"We are now facing the reality that it will be a second dry year for California and that is having a significant impact on our water supply," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. "The Department of Water Resources is working with our federal and state partners to plan for the impacts of limited water supplies this summer for agriculture as well as urban and rural water users. We encourage everyone to look for ways to use water efficiently in their everyday lives."

Ongoing drought conditions require the coordination of federal, state and local agencies. Today, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which operates the Central Valley Project, is also expected to adjust its initial CVP water supply allocation accordingly. The State Water Resources Control Board mailed early warning notices to approximately 40,000 water right holders urging them to plan for potential shortages by reducing water use and adopting practical conservation measures.

As a result of the persistent drought conditions, and in accordance with its permit for the long-term operation of the State Water Project, DWR has submitted a revised Drought Contingency Plan to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The plan provides updated hydrologic conditions and outlines areas of concern for the joint

operations of the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project, water quality, and environmental impacts.

DWR does not anticipate the need to pursue a Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) to allow for temporary changes to the water quality and outflow requirements for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The severity of the situation is particularly evident in the North State. Lake Oroville is currently at 53 percent of average. The Feather River watershed, which feeds into Lake Oroville, has seen significantly less precipitation this year than normal, on track for its second driest year on record. Following a below average 2020 water year, California's major reservoirs are at 50 percent of capacity.

California is better prepared for drought than in the past. Following the 2012-2016 drought, DWR enacted many programs focused on managing the state's water through a strategic, integrated approach with a strong emphasis on water use efficiency and conservation. The state provides assistance and tools to local water agencies to help them reduce their drought vulnerability. DWR's Water Use and Efficiency Branch (WUE) provides agencies and individuals assistance for improving water use efficiency and developing and meeting efficient water use requirements.

The 5 percent allocation amounts to 210,266 acre-feet of water, distributed among the 29 long-term SWP contractors who serve more than 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland.

Allocations represent the amount of SWP water that DWR will deliver for the year and are reviewed monthly based on several factors, such as water in storage, environmental requirements, and rain and snow runoff projections. For 2020, the initial SWP allocation was 10 percent and the final allocation was 20 percent in May.

For information on current water conditions at the state's largest reservoirs and weather stations, visit the California Data Exchange Center website at cdec.water.ca.gov/snow_rain.html ★

Airport's New Human Trafficking Detection Program Announced

Samantha Mott, Sacramento County News

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Every year traffickers use trains, buses, planes and ships to transport thousands of victims, hiding them in plain sight while traveling to destinations around the world. As the eyes and ears in airports and global transportation systems, airport employees are uniquely positioned to help combat the issue of human trafficking.

January was National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, and in recognition of that, the Sacramento County Department of Airports (SCDA) partnered with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop a new Human Trafficking Awareness and Reporting training program.

Together with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Transportation, the Blue Campaign, a division within the DHS Office of Partnership and Engagement, created the Blue Lightning Initiative (BLI).

The BLI program is designed to provide airport employees with the tools needed to take advantage of their unique position and ability to identify potential human trafficking victims and notify federal



As the eyes and ears in airports and global transportation systems, airport employees are uniquely positioned to help combat the issue of human trafficking. Image by Ahmad Ardity from Pixabay

authorities.

In 2018, then California Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 2034. This bill requires transit agencies like bus and light rail stations to provide human trafficking training to employees who may interact with traffickers and/or their victims.

Although the bill does not apply to airport agencies, SCDA has decided to move forward and join this partnership to provide training to all of its employees.

"SCDA leadership feels strongly about this program," said Airport Director Cindy Nichol. "We realize the potential impact it can have and we are committed to offering this training to our employees."

In addition to a number of other Federal agencies, there are approximately 10 other airports, 26 airlines,

and six industry associations taking part in the program.

Participating BLI partners instruct their employees using the BLI virtual training module and associated printed educational materials. The training may be integrated into partners' initial or refresher training for flight attendants, pilots, customer service representatives, and other aviation industry personnel.

The Blue Campaign is the unified voice for the DHS efforts to combat human trafficking, working with federal, state, and local governments, as well as law enforcement, public, and private organizations. The Blue Campaign strives to protect the fundamental right to freedom and bring those who exploit human lives to justice. ★

Jones Convicted of Murder

By Krishna A. Abrams, County of Solano

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) - On March 17, 2021, after a five week jury trial in Department 11 of the Solano County Superior Court, before the Honorable Judge William J. Pendergast III, the jury convicted Defendant Merlin Sylvester Jones of First Degree Murder (Penal Code Section 187(a)) for the killing of Maleek Mitchell, being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm in violation of Penal Code Section 29800(a)(1), and for Personally Using a Firearm in the murder of Maleek Mitchell. The jury further found the defendant suffered a prior "strike" conviction.

On March 31, 2017, at approximately 11:09 p.m., officers responded to the area of Pennsylvania and Marin in Vallejo for a report of shots fired and a subject down in the middle of the street. Later, video surveillance showed a white Volvo coming down the street with the body of the victim falling out of it. The victim, identified as Maleek Mitchell, had been shot in the back and was tossed from the car. Officers attempted to revive him but were not successful. Maleek Mitchell's friends indicated that he had gotten into the white Volvo to meet up with the driver, whom they did not know. Within

a minute of getting in this car, Maleek Mitchell was dead and his wallet and money were gone.

Officers were able to connect Merlin Sylvester Jones to the crime through his phone which was seized by the Santa Clara Police Department (SCPD). SCPD had been working a case that had occurred a few hours before Mitchell was killed. Officers in Santa Clara were able to track down the defendant and arrest him. They obtained a search warrant for the defendant's phone and worked with the Vallejo Police Department in helping solve the case. The defendant had incriminating content on his phone showing that he arranged to meet up with Maleek Mitchell shortly before he was killed. Additionally, the defendant's phone had photographs and video of the murder weapon. Ballistics demonstrated that bullets taken from Maleek Mitchell's body matched the weapon located in the photographs.

Defendant Jones is scheduled to be sentenced on May 20, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 11 of the Solano County Superior Court.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney Julie Underwood. Victim Witness Advocate Susanne Perthes provided victim advocacy. ★

LEGAL ADS FOR SOLANO COUNTY?
We Can Do That!
 Call to place your legal advertising **916-773-1111**
 All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing **MPG**

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.

Monday, March 15, 2021
 0552 - Stolen vehicle reported in the 1800 block of Gold Street.
 0906 - Graffiti reported in the 1000 block of North Adams Street.
 1042 - Welfare check in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.
 1101 - Stolen catalytic converter in the 1100 block of North 1st Street.
 1441 - Found property in the 1400 block of Regency Pkwy.
 1534 - Informational report taken in the 700 block of Vaughn Road.
 1830 - Courtesy report for Sacramento PD regarding child abuse taken in the 400 block of West Chestnut Street.

Tuesday, March 16, 2021
 1107 - Traffic enforcement stop in the area of Amesbury Drive and Berkshire Drive. Jose Contreras Jr (41), of Dixon, was contacted and arrested for an outstanding warrant out of Napa.
 1205 - Agency assist got Lassen County in the 1300 block of Commercial Way.
 1304 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.
 1524 - Stolen catalytic converter reported in the 1500 block of North Lincoln Street.

Wednesday, March 17, 2021
 1338 - A confidential report was taken in the 800 block of S. 1st. St.
 1551 - A probation violation and warrant arrest report was taken 1200 block of West H St. Officers contacted (S) Nancy Alatorre (42) of Dixon. Alatorre violated her active Solano County probation and had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. Alatorre was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

Thursday, March 18, 2021
 1038 - A found property report was taken in the 100 block of North 1st St.
 1305 - Informational report was taken in the 100 block of Heritage Ln.
 1401 - Recovered stolen vehicle report was taken at the intersection of North Adams at West B. St.

Friday, March 19, 2021
 1047 - Informational report was taken in the 1300 block of West H. St.
 1703 - Informational report was taken in the 200 block of Heritage Ln.
 1741 - A warrant arrest report was taken in the 1600 block of North 1st St. Officers contacted (S) Frankie Hamby (64) of Fairfield. Hamby was arrested for an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. Hamby was transported to the Dixon Police Department. Once at the police department Hamby was given a citation and released.

Saturday, March 20, 2021
 1916 - Incident report in the 2100 block of Moore Drive.

Sunday, March 21, 2021
 0152 - Officers responded to the 2800 block of West A Street for a report of a possible drunk driver. As a result of their investigation, officers arrested Denton Fry (34) of Dixon for driving under the influence of alcohol, with a blood alcohol content over .08%. He was booked into the Solano County Jail. His vehicle (74837Y2 - Black 2016 Chevy Silverado) was towed by All About Towing incident to arrest.
 1500 - Officers responded to the 400 block of West D Street for a welfare check. An adult subject was transported to Kaiser Hospital for a mental health evaluation.

LEGAL ADVERTISING
 Dixon's Independent Voice Adjudicated For and By the County of Solano.
 Adjudication No. FCS030046 - November 24, 2008
 Legal Advertising Hotline 916-483-2299 P.O. Box 14, Carmichael, CA 95609
 Legal Advertising Fax 916-773-2999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 2021-000398


The following persons are doing business as: : **HUMBLE ROOTS DESIGN**
363 N Alamo Drive Vacaville, CA 95688
 Travis Colin Luedecke, 363 N Alamo Drive Vacaville, CA 95688
 Date Filed in Solano County: February 19, 2021
 The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
 This Business is Conducted by: an Individual

NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 18, 2026. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code.)
 Publish: March 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2021 (The DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 2021-000316

The following persons are doing business as: : **RIVERS OF VICTORY**
1841 Holsteiner Drive Fairfield, CA 94534
 Paula Rivers, 1841 Holsteiner Drive Fairfield, CA 94534
 Date Filed in Solano County: February 08, 2021
 The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
 This Business is Conducted by: an Individual

NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 07, 2026. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code.)
 Publish: March 12, 19, 26, and April 2, 2021 (The DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE)



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

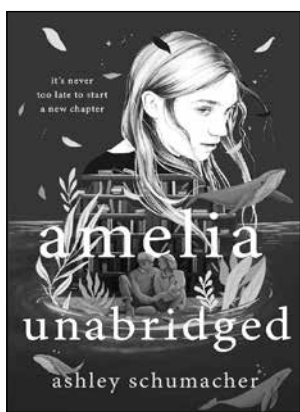
Amelia Unabridged

by Ashley Schumacher

Amelia never thought that the last conversation she would ever have with her best friend Jenna would end in a fight. That in an instant, her whole world would shatter, and she would have to live in a world without her.

The day Amelia and Jenna met, it was as if fate stepped in and joined their lives with one single book. Jenna, with her loving parents and financially secure future, and Amelia with her fractured home life, both instantly fell in love with the magical world of the Orman Chronicles, and at that moment, become the best of friends.

The only thing that ever made sense in Amelia's life was Jenna and the magical world of Orman, and without Jenna here to hold everything together, she simply felt her life start to fracture and fall apart again. So, when a rare first edition of the Orman Chronicles mysteriously arrives with Amelia's name on it, she knows it has to be Jenna. Taking fate into her own hands, Amelia decides to track the package's origin leading her all the way to Michigan. The moment she steps into the little bookstore, the world feels



◆ Publisher: Wednesday Books
◆ Hardcover, 3041 pages
◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥♥

right, it feels magical, and it feels like Jenna, and at that moment, Amelia quickly realizes that the very book that saved her once before would be the very thing that would save her again.

Heart-wrenching in its raw emotion and sadness, Ashley Schumacher writes a story so captivating it will leave her readers breathless and gasping for air through a veil of tears. *Amelia Unabridged* is an invitation for grief, for longing, and for allowing yourself to let go. With some of the most heartbreaking and honest writing, this story creates a tie so strong that readers will be unable to break its hold.

Ashley Schumacher will wreck her readers in the most heart-wrenching way, then carefully, word by word, will put them together again. Schumacher delivers two characters, each with their own sense of emptiness, struggling to discover where they fit. Each with their own shattered secrets and a longing they didn't even know was possible. With one girl who see solace in whales, where their simple imagery guides her into the clouds whispering promises of the sea, freeing her from the sadness that feels like it is crushing her in waves. And one boy whose sadness is as deep as the ocean, encapsulating him like a ship in a bottle.

With almost too much emotion for one heart to hold, the feelings will spill over the pages.

For the soul who is wandering, or searching this book is your whale in the clouds guiding you to a place where acceptance is possible and fate is miraculous.

"Instead, I try to keep my heart from splitting into two as we build something we know is going to break." Ashley Schumacher ★

Food & Farm NEWS

Agricultural Immigration Bill Faces House Vote

The U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to vote on an agricultural immigration bill this week. The Farm Workforce Modernization Act addresses both current and future workforce needs for agricultural employers and employees. The California Farm Bureau and hundreds of other farm organizations have announced support for the bill. It would update agricultural visa programs and accommodate immigrant agricultural employees already in the country.

Bill Would Enhance Direct Meat Sales

The pandemic has brought shifts in meat demand, as people stock freezers with meat. Ranchers who sell whole animals directly to customers say a change in law could help them fulfill that demand. A bill in the state Legislature would allow more ranchers to process small numbers of animals on the farm for direct sale. Cattle ranchers may already do so. The bill would expand that option to include sheep, goats and potentially swine.

Food System Continues to Adapt to Pandemic

With the COVID-19 pandemic having passed the one-year mark, farmers and agricultural officials say it has shown the resiliency of the food system. State Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross called it "a year of pivots and adaptation." California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson said farmers remain focused on employee health and feeding communities. Representatives of grocers and food banks said the past year has brought changes in demand.

Plant Nurseries See Rising Demand

With people staying closer to home during the pandemic, more have taken up gardening – and that has brought new demand to plant nurseries. Nursery operators say they may run low on inventory this spring as a result of the surge in sales, which caused some to sell plants last year that they had planned to save for this year. Edible plants remain popular, with nursery owners reporting strong customer interest in herbs, vegetables and fruit trees. ★



Riley Reviews

"BOSS LEVEL" VIOLENT ACTION TIME LOOP; HBO CABLE TV PREVIEW

A TV Review by Tim Riley

"BOSS LEVEL" TV MOVIE ON HULU

The first question one may have about "Boss Level," not knowing the videogame lexicon, is the meaning of the title and its relevance to the wild action that unfolds in a continuous cycle of repetitive battles.

The phrase "boss level" is the highest level of difficulty in a fighting videogame, the ultimate challenge for any gamer. I would have had no idea of this unless director Joe Carnahan, who knows plenty about delivering violent action, explained the meaning.

If you've seen Carnahan's explosive "Smokin' Aces," where bounty hunters, thugs-for-hire, deadly vixens and double-crossing mobsters are determined to fulfill a contract hit on a mob informant, you may have a good idea of what's in store for the target in "Boss Level."

Mix in the formula of "Groundhog Day" with a heavy dose of Carnahan's most outrageous action sequences, and the result is what ex-soldier Roy Pulver (Frank Grillo) experiences every day in his time-loop nightmare.

Living in a spacious loft, Roy wakes up each morning dodging a machete-wielding assassin and the hail of bullets from a machine-gunner hovering outside his building in a helicopter. Sometimes an escape requires jumping out of his multi-story building.

Having no fear of death, Roy survives for another day, and the only thing that seems to matter is whether he can ever live past 12:47 p.m. on any given day. That appears to be the magic threshold to get to the boss level.

Depending on how Roy reacts to daily attacks, he finds refuge in an underground bar run by the wisecracking Jake (Ken Jeong), where he proceeds to get hammered while listening to an annoying security expert that he refers to as "Dave the pantload."

As a former Delta Force operative, Roy may have been battle-hardened by his service, but it's nothing like enduring daily slaughter by assassins in different ways, such as being shot, blown up, or decapitated. He takes it all in stride with self-deprecating, profane humor.

Unraveling the mystery of the time loop leads to the discovery of a connection to his ex-wife, Dr. Jemma Wells (Naomi Watts), a brilliant scientist employed by Colonel Clive Vantor (Mel Gibson).

As an unwitting part of Vantor's plan to use a powerful machine called the Osiris Spindle, Roy is targeted by Vantor's security chief (Will Sasso) with an army of killers that include a redneck with a harpoon, an Irish little person fond of explosives and the German twins.

The best and most memorable of all assassins is Guan Yin (Selina Lo), a

sword-wielding ninja with the running gag of uttering the catchphrase "I am Guan Yin, and Guan Yin has done this" every time after beheading Roy.

While the supporting players are good, including Michelle Yeoh's Chinese champion sword-fighter who trains Roy to defeat Guan Yin, it's Frank Grillo's tough guy, with his sarcasm and weary cynicism, who carries the day.

"Boss Level" may be one of the best entertainments to reflect our pandemic times. With lockdowns and avenues of fun mostly closed, it often feels like we are trapped in a terrible time loop of repeating the same daily routines. At least "Boss Level" offers a cool diversion.

HBO CABLE TV PREVIEW

HBO's two-hour documentary film "Tina," which will also be available to stream on HBO Max, is a revealing and intimate look at the life and career of musical icon Tina Turner, charting her improbable rise to early fame, along with her personal and professional struggles.

Insightful interviews with Tina herself were conducted in her hometown of Zurich, Switzerland (she became a Swiss citizen in 2013), and with those closest to her. Also featured is a wealth of never-before-seen archival footage.

"Tina" draws to an emotional conclusion with Tina Turner taking a bow at the opening night of the Broadway musical about her life, a fitting swan song for a talented artist who courageously spoke truth about domestic abuse at the hands of Ike Turner.

After a long absence from an HBO production, Kate Winslet stars in the limited series "Mare of Easttown" as Mare Sheehan, a small-town Pennsylvania detective who investigates a local murder as life crumbles around her.

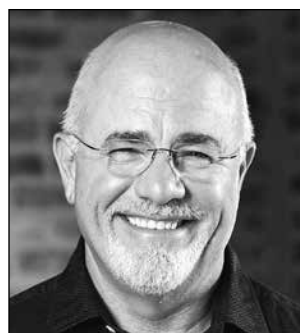
That "Mare of Easttown" explores the dark side of a close community may explain why Winslet, during the winter press tour, said that being Mare Sheehan was "like one of the biggest challenges I think I've ever been slapped with. And she's nothing like me."

Jean Smart also stars as Helen, Mare's mother; Julianne Nicholson as Lori Ross, Mare's best friend since childhood; and Evan Peters as the county detective called in to assist with Mare's investigation.

In new drama series "The Nevers," Victorian London is rocked by a supernatural event which gives certain people – mostly women – abnormal abilities, all of whom belong to a new underclass in grave danger.

It falls to mysterious, quick-fisted widow Amalia True (Laura Donnelly) and young inventor Penance Adair (Ann Skelly) to protect and shelter the gifted people from brutal forces determined to annihilate their kind. ★

Dave Ramsey Says



You May Already Have Some

Dear Dave,
I started listening to your radio show recently, and I heard you say people should have 10 to 12 times their yearly income in life insurance. I'm single, with no plans to get married. Plus, I don't have any children. Do I still need a big life insurance policy like that?
– Kris

Dear Kris,
I do recommend most people, if they work outside the home and are married – especially if they have kids – have 10 to 12 times their annual income in a good, level term life insurance policy. You only need life insurance to take care of things you leave behind when you die. So, when it comes to this kind of coverage, just think about anyone who might be left in a bad financial situation if you died. Your family could never replace you,

but in most cases, they would need to replace your income.

Someone in your shoes might not need a traditional life insurance policy, especially if you've been smart with your money and saved up a pile of cash. A simple, inexpensive burial policy might work. There's also a good chance you already have a small amount of life insurance coverage built into an existing health insurance policy or bank account.

Good question, Kris. I'm glad you're looking for answers!
– Dave

Are You Willing To Do What It Takes?

Dear Dave,
I owe \$17,000 on my car, and it is my largest and only debt. I think I can have it paid off in two years, because I bring home about \$2,800 a month and my monthly expenses are \$2,100. I also just got a \$2,000 tax refund. Should I pay it off as fast as possible, or sell the car?
– Justice
Dear Justice,
If you think you can have the car paid off in two years or less, that's what I'd do.

The question is this: Are you willing to do what it'll take to make that happen?

It's going to mean lots of discipline and hard work on your part, in addition to living on a really strict budget. But in return, you'll have that car loan off your back for good.

You don't want the debt on all your vehicles to be more than half of your annual income. If that's the case, it means you have too much money tied up in things that are going down in value. If you bring home \$2,800 a month, you probably make around \$40,000 a year. Technically, your car loan is under half in this scenario, but it's still pretty expensive. I'd get serious about getting out of debt, and pay the thing off!

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. ★

Imagine The Difference You Can Make
DONATE YOUR CAR
1-888-534-1146 

FREE TOWING TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Heritage for the Blind

Help Prevent Blindness
Get A Vision Screening Annually

Ask About A FREE 3 Day Vacation Voucher To Over 20 Destinations!!!



Local Classified

Announcement

Water Damage to Your Home? Call for a quote for professional cleanup & maintain the value of your home! Set an appt today! Call 855-401-7069 (Cal-SCAN)

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-877-538-9554 or visit <http://dorranceinfo.com/Call> (Cal-SCAN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. Call 1-844-491-2884 (Cal-SCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR, BOAT OR RV to receive a major tax deduction. Help homeless pets. Local, IRS Recognized. Top Value Guaranteed. Free Estimate and Pickup. LAPETSALIVE.ORG 1-833-772-2632 (Cal-SCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation - Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453. (Cal-SCAN)

Cable/Satellite TV

DIRECTV - Every live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS - 1-888-641-5762. (Cal-SCAN)

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-400-6985 www.dental50plus.com/mpgn #6258

DONATE YOUR CAR TO UNITED BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION! Your donation helps education, prevention & support programs. FAST FREE PICKUP - 24 HR RESPONSE - TAX DEDUCTION 1-844-922-4249

Classified Advertising

916-773-1111



Health & Medical

Attention: Oxygen Users! Gain freedom with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator! No more heavy tanks and refills! Guaranteed Lowest Prices! Call the Oxygen Concentrator Store: 1-844-653-7402 (Cal-SCAN)

ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 1-855-702-3408. (Cal-SCAN)

ATTENTION: OXYGEN USERS! The NEW Inogen One G5. 1-6 flow settings. Designed for 24 hour oxygen use. Compact and Lightweight. Get a Free Info kit today! 1-844-359-3976 (Cal-SCAN)

Got News??

Insurance/Health

Lowest Prices on Health & Dental Insurance. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 888-989-4807. (Cal-SCAN)

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurance companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central) (Cal-SCAN)

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-631-2596

DONATE YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-888-534-1146

Miscellaneous

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

Will juice in your home for you. Have juicer will travel. Used juicers wanted. 916 370-0858

Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-866-945-3038 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation. (Cal-SCAN)

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-327-2824. (Cal-SCAN)

Life Alert. One press of a button sends help FAST, 24/7! At home and on the go. Mobile Pendant with GPS. FREE First Aid Kit (with subscription.) CALL 833-518-1049 FREE Brochure. (Cal-SCAN)

INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-844-752-8272 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation. (Cal-SCAN)

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. Mark Twain said, "Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising." So why spend your hard-earned dollars on social media where you already have an audience? For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com ARE YOU BEHIND \$10K OR



Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 866-661-0708 or visit www.Life55plus.info/mpgn

Tax Services

MORE ON YOUR TAXES? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 1-855-970-2032 (Cal-SCAN)

HEALTH & WEALTH

JOIN FOR FREE - NO KITS OR QUOTAS & FREE WEBSITE. CTFO (Changing The Future Outcome) has the best CBD oil available. Products for health, beauty, weight or hair loss and even for your pets. Check out these products: canderson.myctfo.com

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. We deliver the largest consortium of trusted news publishers in California and beyond. For more info on multi-market solutions call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

Become a published author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kit. 1-877-330-3936

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in time-share debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-372-0408

Applying for Social Security Disability or Appealing a Denied Claim? Call Bill Gordon & Assoc. Our case managers simplify the process & work hard to help with your case. Call 1-888-570-0881 FREE Consultation. Local Attorneys Nationwide [Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broward Co. FL (TX/NM Bar.)]

Work Wanted

do garage and house organizing, cleaning, and de-cluttering. Pruning and weeding. Window washing. Wanted reduced rent for yard and house work for a room. References, College grad, security and health background. Tim, 916-370-0858. (MPG 12-31-21)

RETIRED COUPLE

Has \$\$\$\$ to lend on California Real Estate*

V.I.P. TRUST DEED COMPANY

OVER 40 YEARS OF FAST FUNDING

Principal (818) 248-0000 Broker

WWW.VIPLAN.COM *Sufficient equity required on consumer loans

CA Department of Real Estate, DRE #01041073 Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional loans

Real Estate

RETIRED COUPLE \$\$\$\$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 818 248-0000 Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff! Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week! **MPG CALL 916 773-1111**

Wanted- Autos

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-339-5994. Email: porschere restoration@yahoo.com (Cal-SCAN)

CHILD CARE

ORTIZ FAMILY DAY CARE Snacks, Meals, School Transportation Provided 3:30 am to 5:30 pm **707-628-5675** lic. #483004041

FOR RENT

Outside Inn RV campsite available. (707) 678-4059

Classified Advertising

916 773-1111

CALL 916 773-1111 TO ADVERTISE IN YOUR LOCAL HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

READY TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR WORLD?

Connect with a Recruiter to Learn More



PEACECORPS.GOV/WORK

Bob's BASEBALL Tours

June 27-July 7, 2021 MLB games at Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, Minnesota, Chicago Cubs & New York Yankees
Aug. 4-14, 2021 MLB games at New York (Yankees & Mets), Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore & Washington DC.

Each tour includes a day in Cooperstown and guided tour, and then a free day in Manhattan (hotel near Times Square multiple nights). \$2,800/person based on double hotel occupancy. Quality game tickets, hotels & motor coach transportation.

All tour information can be found on our website: www.bobsbaseballtours.com

Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

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

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff! Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!

916-773-1111

Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

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

LEGAL ADS FOR SOLANO COUNTY?

We Can Do That!

Call to place your legal advertising **916-773-1111**

All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • IN THE GARDEN

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	
65					66	67		68				
69					70			71				
72					73			74				

CLUES

ACROSS
 1. Great divide
 6. World's oldest national broadcaster
 9. Pasturelands
 13. Chinese fruit
 14. #9 Across, sing.
 15. Clemency
 16. One in advertising
 17. "___ the land of the free ..."
 18. Characteristic of birds
 19. "Ongoing job in the garden"
 21. "Without synthetic fertilizers"
 23. 2nd tallest bird
 24. Theatrical production
 25. Curiosity killed it?
 28. Additionally
 30. Capital of Poland
 35. Passage into a mine
 37. Prefix in levorotary
 39. Mid-century modern, e.g.
 40. Toothy wheel
 41. "Some are heirlooms"
 43. Make like a cat
 44. Erasable programmable read only memory
 46. Stanislavski's rifle, e.g.
 47. Unwanted correspondence
 48. Motionless
 50. Catch-22
 52. "Are you sure?" in a text
 53. Freight horse cart
 55. Opposite of don'ts
 57. *6 or more hours of sunshine
 61. *Radicchio or frisée
 65. On foot
 66. Negative vote
 68. 2020 NFL MVP
 69. Morrison's "The ___"
 70. Hockey great Bobby
 71. Respectable and quiet
 72. Sports award
 73. Affirmative response
 74. Infernos

DOWN
 1. Old bathtub foot
 2. Opposite of seek
 3. Ne plus ultra
 4. *Opposite of #57 Across
 5. Minimum, pl.
 6. Influencer's journal
 7. *Stinging pollinator
 8. Holiday song
 9. Bulgarian money
 10. Julia Roberts' Academy Award-winning role
 11. Popular smoothie berry
 12. Update an iPod
 15. Inhabitant of Hungary
 20. Nothing, pl.
 22. Like sashimi
 24. Lack of money
 25. *Tomato supports
 26. Highly skilled
 27. Miss America's headdress
 29. Slowly leak
 31. Moves at the gym
 32. Monument to Buddha
 33. Orderly arrangement
 34. *Wiggly plowers
 36. Faster than a walk
 38. *Some plants and flowers emit a good one
 42. *Type of digger
 45. Centers, old-fashioned
 49. French vineyard
 51. *Last of 3 numbers on a bag of fertilizer
 54. Be a pest
 56. Washington, e.g.
 57. Grow dim
 58. Extraterrestrials' rides
 59. Pilot's stunt
 60. Type of parrot
 61. "Musical" constellation
 62. Russian mountain chain
 63. *Type of garden hose that saves space
 64. Goes with "odds"
 67. Am is to I as ___ is to we

© StatePoint Media

BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

Blazing Fast Internet! **\$19.99** per month. Includes Local Channels!

2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE **\$64.99** per month. Includes Local Channels!

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card **1-888-416-7103** Offer ends 3/31/21

SUDOKU

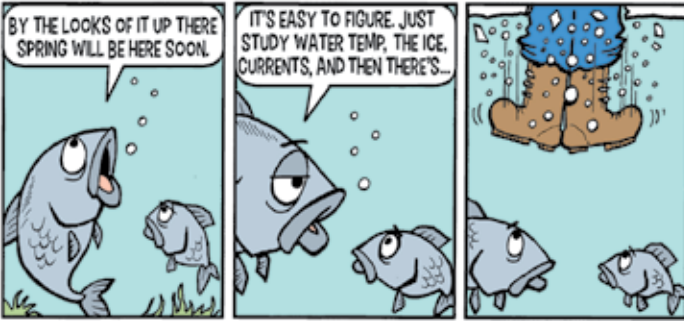
American Standard 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
 ENJOYING A NEW SHOWER IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK
 FREE IN-HOME DESIGN CONSULTATION CALL TODAY!
newshowerdeal.com/state | 877-514-4075

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

© StatePoint Media
 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.
Solutions on Page 8

WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves



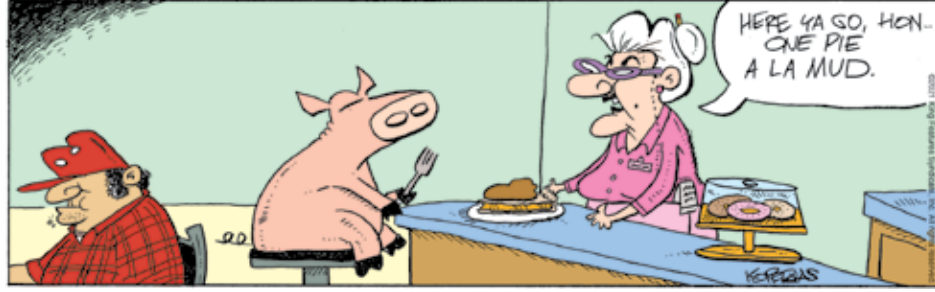
by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

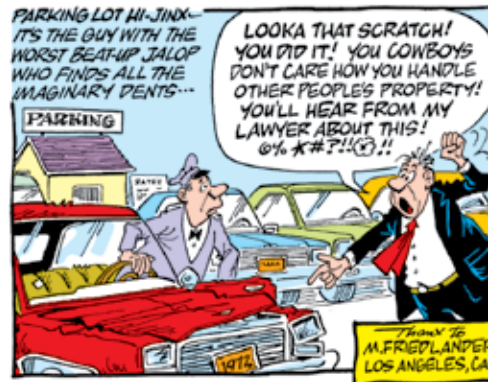
by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO

R.F.D.



by Mike Marland



GRIN and BEAR IT

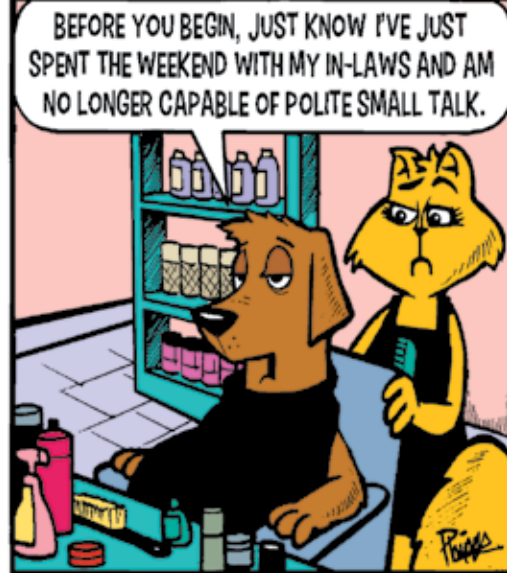


LAFF-A-DAY



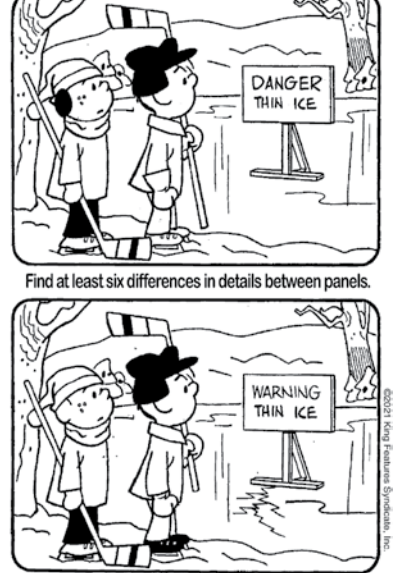
Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



"We've concluded our intelligence investigation and found none."

"I don't see why you have to be so old-fashioned! Other people can talk and watch TV at the same time!"

Differences: 1. Sign is different. 2. Stick is shorter. 3. Earbuds are gone. 4. Man is shorter. 5. Sashes are different. 6. Crocus in ice are added.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

WATER SERVICES

You could give your people

Culligan Water

(530) 662-0295

1122 Pendegast Street • Woodland
culliganwoodland.com

LANDSCAPING

GREG'S ROTOTILLING AND LANDSCAPING

All Phases of Landscape, Construction & Repair
Since 1986

Small Tractor Work | Grading | Mowing

(707) 480-3809

Lic #825681

DENTISTRY

S. Todd Comm, DDS Allison N. Craig, DDS

General Dentistry

Monday - Thursday
Evening Appointments Available

1300 N. Lincoln St. • Ste. A • Dixon
707.678.9296

MEDICAL SERVICES

Community Medical Center

Medical Services for the Whole Family

- General Medicine • Prenatal Care
- Well Baby Care & Immunizations
- Employment Physical • Sports Physical
- Health Counseling & Education • CHDP Provide

707-635-1600

HOURS 8 AM TO 6 PM
Same Day Appointments | Saturday Appointments Available

131 West A Street • Suite 1 • Dixon CA

LANDSCAPING

A-1 GARDENING FULL SERVICE

- Mowing • Trimming • Clean-Up
- Edging • Weeding • Haul Trash

(530) 304-2534

FREE ESTIMATES

PREGNANCY

Pregnant? Worried? We Can Help!

All services are free & completely Confidential.
Info on Pregnancy, Adoption & Abstinence
Post-Abortion, Miscarriage & Stillbirth Counseling

707-449-8991

Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center
138 S. Orchard St. Vacaville

CONSTRUCTION

ALBERTAZZI CONSTRUCTION

GENERAL CONTRACTING
Consistent Results

(916) 257-5400

CA LIC # 560820

Based in Dixon Since 1991

CLEANING

S & Y Cleaning Services

Weekly • Bi-Weekly • Monthly • One Time
Weekends • Move-Ins • Move-Outs

Lots of References on Request
Gift Certificates Available

(707) 689-6532

FREE ESTIMATES

PLUMBING

Jake's Plumbing

- Water Heaters
- Remodels
- General Plumbing
- Emergency Repairs

Energy Efficient Tankless Water Heaters
Water Treatment Units

707-249-6159

jakesplumbingandrooter.com
Discounts for Military & Seniors

Lic. #913295

TO ADVERTISE WITH
THE DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE
CALL **916-773-1111**

Ruhstaller Plants More than Beer

Continued from page 1

kilns for customers to stay warm.

Jan Erik, known as "J.E." Paino views his business with the same curiosity and passion that his parents taught him by taking him and his younger brother on field trips to fascinating places – from NASA to sugar beet farms.

"There were almost no video games," he said with a smile.

"My management style is walking around, checking in, and being there," recounting his paradoxically hands-on and hands-off approach that allows him to keep his half-dozen construction crew on task and yet still autonomous enough to take personal stake in their projects. But that museum-style management also reflects his bigger picture aspirations.

"I get to see kids exploring, learning, and seeing nature," he says of the younger visitors to Ruhstaller Beer's working farm and yard on Sievers Road. The vertically-integrated beer operation has already become a big hit for young families in the local area as parents can unwind with a cold brew fresh from the source and a view as iconic as anything in Dixon while their children roam the mustard-lined dirt paths and peer up at the telephone pole-esque supports and training hops. If the plants and flowers don't capture the children's fascination sufficiently, the grazing sheep munching down the weeds will.

"They are our best 20 employees," Paino jokes, "We could mow, but sheep do it all and better and they're fun to watch." While the two kiln towers reach into the sky, the company has combined artisan beer-making with environmental sustainability not out of a sense of duty, but a sense of celebration.

"L.A. has concrete; San Francisco has the Bay; we have dirt. We have beautiful, agricultural soil in Dixon," he said nearly glowing with perhaps the satisfaction of finding it on his years-long endeavor to find the perfect soil for growing the perfect hops close to his Sacramento beginnings.

Located on some of the few remaining undeveloped areas of the renowned Dixon Ridge soil, the hops grown at the 50-acre Ruhstaller Farm and Yard have a uniquely fertile microenvironment.

"What makes Dixon special is the certain weather and the way the area is predicated to the wind," he explained noting the nearby Dixon Ridge that provides fresh water and also protects the area.

Beer only takes four ingredients to make:



Jan Erik known as "J.E." Paino stands in front of the photo timeline of the development of Ruhstaller's Beer that started in Sacramento and just opened their Dixon 'Farm and Yard' on Sievers Road in Dixon. Photo by Debra Dingman

Water, yeast, hops, and grain. Paino was given a challenge when his uniquely crafted beer was called "Ruhstaller Sacramento" by one of his mentors in the grocery store industry.

"He called me out on it," said Paino of the famed food and wine expert Darrell Corti of Corti Brothers Groceries in Sacramento. The store was the first to sell Ruhstaller Beer.

"You don't deserve the names of Ruhstaller or Sacramento unless you use locally grown hops," said Corti, thus sending Paino off on an intense mission to find local farmers to provide him the elusive hops he needed.

Decades ago, before Prohibition, Sacramento was renowned for its local beer industry. The key to its flavors were the local ingredients grown here, but the ratification of the 18th Amendment killed off beer-making and along with it, any demand for hops cultivation. After the Great Experiment finally ended, micro brewing was nearly impossible with the still tightly-controlled

alcohol market, which caused an incredible centralization of the beer industry to a couple dozen large brewers and a standardized taste that consumers came to expect.

Working for Rubicon Partners in 2009, a real estate development firm, Paino began researching downtown Sacramento to look for potential opportunities. The Ruhstaller building, built in 1898, became a focus for Paino and Rubicon, and the lost history of Sacramento beer-making became of interest.

With the backing of some partners at Rubicon and Paino as a minority owner still working there, a new venture was formed with the intention of creating a beer that celebrated Swiss immigrant Frank Ruhstaller, the namesake of the Ruhstaller building and the once-king of Sacramento beer. The original goal was to use only California ingredients, but Paino was dismayed to learn that his options were extremely limited.

After a decade of successes, setbacks, and experiments with contract growing, Ruhstaller Beer was finally equipped to

grow its own hops and Paino was introduced to the Bagwells, owners of a large parcel off Sievers Road where they ran Welco, a truck repair and fabrication shop, for decades. The Bagwell family was ready to give up on California like many industrial and manufacturing businesses, and suspected that Paino would make something incredible out of the property. In February of 2018, they sold the parcel to Ruhstaller Beer.

Since then, the property has been abuzz with workers, contractors, and craftsmen building it into a working brewery under the easy-going and friendly engineer-turned-brewmaster.

When the pandemic hit, Paino pulled his workers, who are as loyal as any employee could ever be, from the industrial park location in Dixon out to the farm where work on the yard and farm project quickly came together. Some who never picked up a shovel were helping with the planting and what had just been a vision, became a plan, he explained.

A proud day for Paino and the Ruhstaller team was when the tops of the twin kilns were completed, leading Paino to nickname them 'Hugo' and 'Harry' after his childhood friends. They were able to open mid December serving their beers and food, and now, they offer live music.

"We did not expect this response so we had to rethink everything," he said. "We asked, 'how are people being taking care of?' We are all here because people gave us a second or third chance and shared us with their friends. We want to show how appreciative we all are."

The grand opening was last Saturday. There were parents strolling babies, little ones playing corn hole, and many folks relaxing around several large fire pits. Mason jars filled with cold beer rested easily on armrests of patio chairs and freshly made tacos and tortas were delicious. Servers were more than attentive and friendly.

"I followed my love and this is where it got me," he said. "There's a peaceful simplicity to it. None of us make a lot of money but we are happy where we go every day." That is 6686 Sievers Road just around the corner from Pedrick Produce. For more information, see RuhstallerFarm.com or check out their Facebook site RuhstallerFarmAndYard. Or, call (530) 601-8240. ★

Be a part of something important
Help deliver the news to your neighborhood

We are looking for people who want to deliver newspapers in their neighborhoods.

Provide great customer service to our readers every Friday.

Earn money to help pay those monthly bills.



Must have a valid California drivers license and current auto insurance. Previous newspaper delivery experience a plus but not required.

Call us today at 916-773-1111

