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Wildlife Area
Scavenger Hunt
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Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 29 • ISSUE 11

MARCH 12, 2021

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GOOD SCOOP CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY



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Vikings in Dixon?



Jens, Carla, and Adam Demaray are working to bring Dixon a medieval fantasy land by summer. Brothers Jens and Adam, long-time gamers, decided to bring their Dungeons and Dragons games and stories to full-size life. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - 'Victory or Valhalla' is one of the places that time forgot. Men and women of all ages and of all interests will congregate to experience another world that stood in the past. Participants will learn to throw axes with Vikings, pick up swordplay with a Crusader Knight Errant, browse artisanal arms, armor, jewelry and leather work – all skillfully created by local craftsmen. This place will be dedicated to its historical roots and will aim to share the creator's passion for the collective storied past. It will be a hub for any enthusiast of history, culture, or fantasy. And, it will be located in Dixon.

'Victory or Valhalla' is the name of the business created by Jens Demaray, 31, and his younger

brother Adam, 24, with a little help from their parents, Keith and Carla Demaray. Long time gamers, the brothers grew up with the fun of coming up with stories and writing about a world of good and bad guys when their mom recently suggested it might be even more fun to act their stories out. Then, they celebrated Adam's birthday with ax throwing in Berkeley.

"The idea took root and grew," said Jens. "I'm 31-years-old and stuck on the computer all the time looking out the window thinking 'I want to go outside and play.' This would be the ultimate outdoor experience. There will be knights and warriors in our own backyard!" he added with enthusiasm.

Both began to daydream about the possibilities with Adam wondering if

they could afford to buy land or even get a loan and Jens dreaming about activities they could provide for the whole family from small children to older adults. Since they both have been involved in this world already, they were able to easily connect with other groups and took advantage of the Society for Creative Anachronisms, an international living history group with the aim of studying and recreating mainly Medieval European cultures and their histories before the 17th century. Interestingly, the group originated in Sacramento.

"It's been growing in popularity for years, on television, and with celebrities," said Jens, reminding of the fact that the origins of video games came from board games. "But people are ready to disconnect and

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Time for Second Shot at High School Injection Clinic

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - If you received a COVID-19 vaccine last month at the pop-up free clinic held at Dixon High School, it is time to get your second shot. The injection clinic will be on Wednesday, March 17, 9 am to 4 pm at the school again and is only for the 1,000 Solano County residents who got their first Moderna vaccine dose there on February 17.

"They are only providing enough vaccines for those who already received the first dose," said Yvonne McCluskey, a local volunteer who helped coordinate the first vaccine clinic at the high school.

"They need to come at the exact same time as they got their first injection," she said. "They also need to bring their card that was issued at their first appointment. They were given the Moderna vaccine and it has the information on that and they will complete that card for them," she said. It is helpful if people keep that card with them if they are traveling as it is proof that they had their vaccination, she advised.

The effort was put together through a partnership with Solano County Health Department, Kaiser Permanente, Medic Ambulance, and the City of Dixon. It was open to seniors 75 and up or 65 to 74 with underlying conditions.

"This one will be so much faster because people won't have to fill out all the forms," McCluskey said, and who expressed gratitude for all of the people who worked to make the local event happen. She said there were 22 volunteers including Spanish speaking.

"It was amazing. The clinic ran beautiful," she said.

For more information on the vaccines and to fill out an interest form, visit Solanocounty.com/depts/ph/coronavirus_links/covid_19_vaccines.asp.

For questions about this second injection clinic in Dixon, call McCluskey at (707) 678-3449. ★

Downtown Organization Pushes Re-Start

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - In a robust economy like never before, the Covid-19 virus pandemic shutdown was ordered in March last year and downtown Dixon became instantly void of activity. The Downtown Dixon Business Association "went dark" as most business owners struggled to figure out how to keep some semblance of their business producing income.

"A lot of the business owners were shocked at what we had to try to do to keep our businesses," said DDBA President Jill Orr, who with her husband owns Dawson's Bar and Grill on the corner of First and A Streets. "Your business plan changes every day because you're just trying to stay alive and everything costs money to try and stay alive."

During the past year,



If the City agrees with the request from the Downtown Dixon Business Association, special parking will be marked off for customers picking up meals from downtown restaurants. This sign is in front of Bangkok Garden Thai Restaurant and Rosemary's Farm to Fork on North First Street to encourage cars to leave space for quick meal pick-ups. Photo by Debra Dingman

Larry Burkhardt, City of Dixon Economic Development/Grants Manager, was the sole communicator for several federal, state, county,

and city grants and funding opportunities for the local businesses, sending out numerous emails and following up with individual business owners to help

them navigate eligibility, applications, restrictions, and requirements.

Now, many business owners have adjusted – as

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**WE
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Surprising Discovery in Goodbye to Old Home

By Debra Dingman

Fresno was the raisin capital of the world when I grew up there until we moved to Tracy in 4th grade. Although my siblings and I regularly came back to spend vacations with Daddy, Fresno was a huge city and I remember sirens keeping me awake at night and being scared of his driving.

The good memories were from the early years as a child when he convinced me Santa had dropped presents down our chimney and being cuddled in his thick arms. He taught me how to put a worm on a fish hook and how to watch for a fish to nibble on the shore of our favorite spot, Bass Lake. There are memories of barbecues at our grandparents when he would always do the 'Twist' with me and how he loved dogs. My mom told me that I had no baby photos or photos of those early years because they were burned in the house fire that stole everything our penniless family ever had.

My Dad had lots of trouble in his adult years but there were regular long distance calls and lots and lots of letters so I always felt loved. Over the many years he settled down and was married 35 years to a woman that was hard to have a relationship with-although I tried. My brother was put in charge of the property when Dad died and she'd live out her life there, finally having an extremely demanding caretaker.

When I learned my Dad's wife was being moved to a nursing home and the property was being sold, I felt drawn more powerfully than starvation to see it one last time. I was busy with work I love and was surprised at my strong feelings to stop everything and go before the escrow closed.

Now I know the angels were leading me. My husband and I went through the house, the garages, the barn, and the other run down structures. It was tough. These are the kinds of places that you see on television where there are so many boxes, bags, and garbage that you feel sick.

We were going through the last room in the separate building which, for some



A 1965 photo of (L-R) Dena, Debbie and Doug Beasley, now very old people, at Roeding Park Zoo in Fresno, California. This picture captures a rare moment when Debra's brother was nice to her. Photo by J. R. Beasley

reason, had been swept and had three large black plastic bags filled with my Dad's clothes in the middle of it and two smaller boxes. They were filled with seven photo albums.

I pulled out one of them. On the first page was a picture of my Mom and Dad's wedding. Mom was wearing a white fitted suit with a large corsage and a hat with netting. Daddy was in a suit. An old newspaper clipping of the day of their marriage license was dated August 12, 1953.

The rest of the album was their first years of their marriage including baby pictures of my oldest brother. There were other albums where on the first pages, in my Dad's own handwriting, was the year and title: J.R. Beasley Photo Album.

"My Dad was a scrapbooker!" I exclaimed to my hubby. To my great surprise, there were pictures of me as a little child with my siblings. Even the barbecues at my grandparents and us with his dogs. One picture of us at the zoo shows my big brother holding my hand with my sister ahead of us. He was always a tyrant when we were growing up so this small act of caring was not lost on me and the dam broke.

I consider myself an old(er) woman now. I would have never - in my wildest dreams - thought I'd come across something from my family at this stage of life that was a new discovery from my past. ★

New Resident Janisch Chosen Temporary City Clerk



New Dixon resident Kristin Janisch was chosen to be the new Temporary City Clerk who will hold the position until the November elections. Courtesy photo

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Moving back to Dixon last year to be close to her retired Dixon parents, Kristin Janisch was put forth by Mayor Steve Bird at the March 2 city council meeting to fill the temporary elected Dixon City Clerk position out of three applicants including City Clerk Lupe Ruiz and former Councilman Jerry Castanon, Sr.

"I believe my experience in both private and public sectors and an understanding of the unique challenges faced by leadership tasked with stewardship and maintenance of precious resources are among the assets I would bring to accomplish this job in

service to the City of Dixon stakeholders and the community," Janisch wrote in a letter to the City.

She is a mother of two teens, an avid bicyclist, and an artist with a passion for backyard farming. She wanted to get involved in the community after relocating from Oklahoma and has been serving on the Solano Transportation Authority Bicycle Advisory Committee since this past August.

In January, the Dixon City Council voted unanimously to separate the duties of the City Clerk into two positions; one elected and one administrative even though there was a 57 percent vote for Measure T, where a "yes" vote supported changing the position of city clerk from an appointed position to an elected one.

After that, the new City Council of which none supported the Measure, voted to transfer most of the duties of the long-time City Clerk position to a newly created Administrative City Clerk position, leaving minimal duties for the new Elected City Clerk position.

In February, after a report by City Attorney

Doug White on a nearby city's compensations for that office, it was voted to give that elected person a stipend of \$250 per month. Janisch will be receiving that as a temporary and will serve in the position until the next regular election cycle which will be November 2, 2021.

In the discussion of other stipends, the Treasurer stipend increased to \$200 per month; the Planning Commissioners will receive \$100 per meeting; and any other commissions will receive \$75 per meeting including the Transportation Advisory Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

In the Public Hearing portion of the meeting for Item 10.1, there was a first reading of a proposed change to include cannabis in the Ordinance that deals with Social Host Accountability. This is an ordinance in the Public Peace, Morals, and Welfare section of the Dixon Municipal Code that makes it illegal for an adult or 'social host' to knowingly serve drugs or alcohol to minors on their property. It was initiated by Councilman Scott Pederson. ★

Downtown Organization Pushes Re-Start

Continued from page 1

much as they can - to stay in business, re-creating their services to include online and the DDBA is coming back alive.

"We are trying to step back up to the plate and get things going again to help support our local businesses," said Orr who is a past president of many years and who took over the leadership recently, teaming up with Rebecca Robinson, also a past DDBA President, who owns the Uptown Collective retail boutique also in downtown.

First, they are working on a proposal to City Council to see if they can get approved for five sidewalk signs and temporary designated parking spaces for 'Food Carry Out Parking Only.' The intent is to help the local restaurant community have additional support and enhancements during these different times of varying government restrictions.

The proposal is identical to one put forward by then-Councilman Devon Minnema in 2020 at the beginning of the lockdown but the City Manager said there was no need and

therefore it was not voted on.

"Even with return to in-house dining at 25 percent or greater, there is still a segment of our community that prefers take out dining (due to their health)," Orr and Robinson wrote in an email to about 60 DDBA members. "The City of Benicia which is in Solano County and the City of Davis, both afford these opportunities to their restaurant community and we've spoken with engineering staff to discuss potential issues in gaining approval."

The signs would block off minimal parking in front of Bud's Pub & Grill, Dawson's, Bangkok Garden, Rosemary's, Taqueria Adelina, The Frying Pan, and also in front of the Barn & Pantry.

Robinson is simultaneously coordinating a brainstorming session at Pip Wine Bar in downtown for members.

"We are organizing a 'Lucky March Madness' sidewalk sale on Saturday, March 20 from 10 am to 2 pm," Robinson said. "Our initial idea is to see if restaurants are interested in

having pre-made sandwich/salad meal boxes to go during this event for pickup and/or available outside dining and for retail stores and businesses to have tables set outside in front with spring items and inventory for sale." They hope service businesses will provide brochures, information or promotional handouts.

"Local community businesses outside of the downtown boundaries - as members - are also welcome to participate. We will be providing each business with window signs to display," Robinson added and is asking participants to call or email her with their plans.

The mission of the DDBA is to enhance the business environment and promote the revitalization of downtown as the cultural center of the community. The volunteer group also coordinates numerous events downtown such as the annual Tree Lighting Festival, Wine Stroll and Dixon Dash, which were all cancelled last year. For more information, go to www.downtowndixon.com or call (707) 678-8400. ★

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

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Local Academic Decathlon Teams Advance to State Competition

By Jennifer Leonard, Solano County Office of Education

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) - Results are in from the 2021 Bay Regional Academic Decathlon, hosted by Solano County Office of Education. This year, over 240 students from 15 high schools across 11 counties (Solano, Alameda, Contra Costa, Imperial, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma and Yolo) participated in the Bay Region's Academic Decathlon, held virtually. The theme of this year's academic decathlon contests was "In Sickness and in Health: An Exploration of Illness and Wellness."

The Academic Decathlon is a ten-event scholastic competition for teams of high school decathletes. The ten events include comprehensive written exams in art, economics, language and literature, mathematics, music, social science and science. Decathletes also deliver prepared and impromptu speeches, write an essay and communicate through a conversational interview.

The Academic Decathlon is designed to include decathletes from all academic backgrounds. A team consists of decathletes in 9th-12th grades from the same high school. Each team competes in three

team categories, Honor, Scholastic, and Varsity, all based upon grade point average. Each decathlete competes in all ten events with fellow decathletes of comparable grade point average.

"Academic Decathlon fosters a deep respect for knowledge, cooperation, and self-esteem for students. This competitive event stimulates academic achievement and honors 'athletes of the mind' while providing an enriching educational experience with an emphasis on personal growth," said Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Campolindo High School, Acalanes Unified High School District, Contra Costa County, took first place at Regionals, with 40,641 points; Vanden High School, Travis Unified School District, Solano County, came in second with 38,244 points and Davis Senior High School, Davis Joint Unified School District, Yolo County, finished third, scoring 36,614 points. The winning school from each county will compete virtually in the 44th California Academic Decathlon later in March.

Schools moving on to the statewide competition include: Vanden High School (Solano

County), Piedmont High School (Alameda County), Campolindo High School (Contra Costa County), South West High School (Imperial County), Upper Lake High School (Lake County), Willits High School (Mendocino County), American Canyon High School (Napa County), Menlo-Atherton High School (San Mateo County), BASIS Independent Silicon Valley (Santa Clara County), Casa Grande High School (Sonoma County) and Davis Senior High School (Yolo County).

For more information about the Academic Decathlon, please contact Ken Scarberry at 707-646-7603 or kscarberry@solanocoe.net.

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 63,000 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state. ★

Solano SBDS Announces Rounds 3 and 4 of California Relief Grant

Solano Small Business Development Center

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On February 23, Governor Newsom signed into law a comprehensive package providing urgent relief for the small businesses of CA. The package provides an additional \$2 billion – a four-fold increase over the \$500 million currently being distributed – for grants up to \$25,000 for small businesses impacted by the pandemic, and allocates \$50 million of this total for non-profit cultural institutions.

Please read below for additional information about each round.

ROUND 3 (WAITLISTED FROM ROUNDS 1 AND 2) - Round 3 is a CLOSED round and only available to eligible applicants that have been waitlisted in Rounds 1 and 2. Applicants will be selected from the existing pool of waitlisted applicants. Applicants do not need to reapply.

Important Dates for Round 3 - Closed Round Opens: March 05, 2021; Closed Round Closes: March 11, 2021; Start of Selection Notifications: March 05, 2021

ROUND 4 (ARTS & CULTURAL PROGRAM) - Round 4, The Arts & Cultural Program, will support California eligible nonprofit cultural institutions defined as registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit entities that satisfy the criteria for a qualified small business, but with no limitation on annual gross revenue, and that are in one of the following North American Industry Classification System codes: (A) 453920 - Art Dealers.

(B) 711110 - Theater Companies and Dinner Theaters. (C) 711120 - Dance Companies. (D) 711130 - Musical Groups and Artists. (E) 711190 - Other Performing Arts Companies. (F) 711310 - Promoters of Performing Arts, Sports, and Similar Events with facilities. (G) 711320 - Promoters of Performing Arts, Sports, and Similar Events without facilities. (H) 711410 - Agents and Managers for Artists, Athletes, Entertainers, and Other Public Figures. (I) 711510 - Independent Artists, Writers, and Performers. (J) 712110 - Museums. (K) 712120 - Historical Sites. (L) 712130 - Zoos and Botanical Gardens. (M) 712190 - Nature Parks & Other Similar Institutions.

Important Dates for Round 4 - Application Opens: March 16, 2021; Application Closes: March 23, 2021; Start of Selection Notifications: TBD.

How to Apply - There will be a new online application for eligible nonprofit cultural institutions to complete, which will also be available through multiple partner portals.

Eligible nonprofit cultural institutions for the Arts & Cultural Program will be permitted to complete a new application even if they already applied in the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program; provided that grants will not be awarded to any eligible nonprofit cultural institution if such entity has otherwise been awarded a grant.

For more information, please continue to check www.CAReliefGrant.com for the latest information or call 833-ASK-SBDC. ★

Dodd's Wildfire Bills Approved in Committee

From Office of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A pair of bills advanced today from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would improve wildfire safety and community resiliency as the state faces the coming, drought-fueled wildfire season.

The legislation moved forward as the state experiences the largest wildfires in its history. Seventeen of the 20 largest wildfires have occurred since 2000, with six of the seven largest wildfires occurring in 2020 alone. Collectively, the fires have claimed hundreds of lives and caused tens of billions of dollars in damage. Wildfire response costs have strained state and local finances.

Senate Bill 52 follows a series of power shutoffs from PG&E over the past two years that were intended to prevent fallen

power lines and damaged equipment from sparking fires. It makes clear that such de-energizations are eligible for official emergency declarations, freeing financial assistance for local government under the Emergency Services Act.

Senate Bill 109 calls for creation of the Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development under the auspices of the California Office of Emergency Services. It would identify more effective ways to address wildfires, studying, testing and advising state and local agencies on new tools and techniques to prevent and suppress them. It would also serve as a central hub for promising, new ideas.

Both bills were approved with bipartisan support in the Senate Governmental Organization committee, which is chaired by Sen. Dodd. ★

Dixon News Briefs

By Debra Dingman

City Council Meets Tuesday

You can now watch the last Planning Commission Meeting online by going to cityofdixon.com and watching the recording of the meeting.

This coming Tuesday, March 16 at 7 pm is the next City Council Meeting. It will be held via Zoom.

The meeting is not in person but all members of the public may participate in the meeting via video conferencing by going to the city website and clicking on the zoom link and "raising your hand" for questions or comments. Or, by calling (669) 900-9128, meeting ID: 988 621 1137, passcode 604754 and you will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

To speak during the public comment via video conferencing, press *9 or you can email questions and comments to publiccomment@cityofdixon.us.

Garage Sales OK?

Last Saturday, the Neighborhood Christian School to be held at Dixon Community church, 955 East A Street was cancelled due to not being able to get a permit from the Dixon Police Department so this newspaper checked on that issue with Acting Chief of Police Tom Cordova.

Normally, Garage and Yard Sales do require a permit issued through the Dixon Police Department and costs \$7.50 but due to Solano County being in the most restrictive tier – purple – no permits were being issued. Although we are not currently under a 'Stay at Home' Order, the purple tier is the most restrictive 'tier' under the State's 'Blueprint for a Safer Economy.'

"I feel very awkward about this when retail is open," said Cordova. "We're stuck between a rock and a hard place, but my intentions are to resume yard sale permits when we enter the red tier." That could happen this week (or not.)

Good Scoop Anniversary

It's hard to believe the wonderful little ice cream shop in the Safeway Plaza has survived the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions so it is important for all of us to celebrate with them for their 2nd Anniversary.

"To show our appreciation and celebrate our two years in Dixon, during the month of March we are offering our customers \$2 single scoops. You can also buy two pints and get a single scoop free," they wrote on a social media page. "We appreciate your business and hope to see you at The Good Scoop."

They are at 1160 Pitt School Road near Solano Baking Company and hours are simple: 4 to 8 pm Tuesday through Sunday. Closed Mondays.

Scrapbook Time

March is National Craft Month so this month, owners of 'It's All About the Scrapbook' are celebrating Tuesday thru Saturday with the class/crop room back open for free from 10 am to 6 pm this month only on select days. Come complete those past class kits or unfinished projects at your own 6-foot table, spatially distanced, of course.

Please make a reservation through their calendar to ensure that you have a spot for the day. Go to: itsallaboutthescrapbook.com or call (707) 676-5252. The business is located at 1670 North Lincoln Street in Dixon. ★

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Garamendi on Passing the American Rescue Plan for Solano County



John Garamendi

Dear Friend,
 Today, I am pleased to vote for the American Rescue Plan (H.R. 1319): the boldest and strongest COVID-19 relief package to-date. 100% of the bill's funds provide much-needed support to crush COVID-19 and put students safely back in classrooms, put vaccines in arms, put money in people's pockets, and put Americans back to work.
 The bill provides \$1,400 in direct assistance to Americans, bringing the total – including the \$600 down payment from December, 2020 – to \$2,000 per person. Additionally, it provides direct housing and nutrition assistance, extends and expands unemployment insurance to ensure Americans who have lost their job during the pandemic can afford to pay their bills, and expands the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to support small businesses and their employees.
 The COVID-19 pandemic is destroying lives, small businesses, and communities across this nation as it nears its second year of existence. Congress has worked in a bipartisan manner to provide relief along the way and I'm pleased that this new bill is being passed by the House. I will work to ensure it is swiftly passed in the Senate

and signed into law so the American people immediately receive the relief and support they deserve.

The "American Rescue Plan" provides millions of dollars for our district to address our specific needs in local health care, transportation, education, and other essential services. This funding is included in several dedicated pools of financial assistance for Solano County, which you can find outlined below:

EDUCATION

That includes a portion of the \$128 billion in direct funding to school districts nationwide to support remote learning, help K-12 programs safely reopen, and address lost time in the classroom. I secured the following funds for your local school districts:

California Statewide Total: \$14,293,604,000;

Dixon Unified School District: \$5,728,000; Fairfield-Suisun School District: \$27,281,000; River Delta Joint Unified School District: \$2,958,000; Travis Unified School District: \$1,442,000; Vacaville Unified School District: \$9,789,000

Essential Services

The "American Rescue Plan" also includes direct federal financial relief to local communities to help cover budget shortfalls they have experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic so they can continue providing essential services like firefighting, law enforcement, nutrition assistance, and more. I secured the following funding for cities and Solano County:

Solano County: \$88,000,000; Dixon: \$3,800,000; Fairfield:

\$20,000,000; Rio Vista: \$1,700,000; Suisun City: \$5,500,000; Vacaville: \$12,000,000

TRANSPORTATION

The "American Rescue Plan" also provides new federal funding to restore public transportation services to pre-pandemic levels. I secured new federal public transportation funding for the following cities in the county:

California Statewide for Rural Areas: \$27,104,027; Fairfield: \$2,527,694; Vacaville: \$787,979

According to the Solano Transportation Authority (STA), the COVID-19 pandemic created budget shortfalls of:

Fairfield: \$2,795,361; Vacaville: \$894,922

These budget shortfalls resulted in a 45% reduction of service for the SolanoExpress transit service. The funding that I secure today will restore this funding to pre-pandemic levels and allow SolanoExpress to transport essential workers and frontline health care workers who rely on SolanoExpress for their commute.

January, 2021 saw the most COVID-19 deaths of any month since the start of the pandemic. There are also 9.8 million fewer jobs in the U.S. than there were right before the start of the pandemic. This aid is urgently needed to save lives, jobs, and the wellbeing of our cities, states, and citizens. I won't rest until the "American Rescue Plan" is passed by the Senate and signed law to get its much-needed aid in the American people's hands.

JOHN GARAMENDI
 Member of Congress

CONVERSATIONS

By Loran Hoffmann and Shirley Humphrey

SECURE Act: New IRA Legislation which May Affect You

It is income tax time. This year when researching IRA rules, we found that there was a change in income IRA (Individual Retirement Account) rules in late 2020. This is just a brief overview but you will want to do your own research. We missed this change which was made in late 2020, so we wanted to alert those of you that have IRA's. The new law is more extensive and will take time and attention.

First change, last year if you turned 70 ½, you can stay invested in your Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's) or defined contribution plan, your account does not change until 72. You can continue contributing to the IRA's without taking minimum distributions if you are still working and earning income.

A significant change in the legislation impacts money inherited from someone other than your spouse in the form of an IRA or 401(k) retirement plans. You may want to do some additional research on this and perhaps consult with a tax attorney. We have been told that Roth IRA funds are tax free because the taxes were paid on the money before it was invested in a Roth. This should still be true.

If you have not converted money in your regular IRA to a Roth, you may want to at least explore this.

Now, previously if you inherited an IRA or 401(k), you could 'stretch' your distributions and tax payments over your life expectancy. Meaning, your heirs could choose to receive the payments over their lifetime. The new rule means that your heirs will now have ten years to withdraw all of the funds.

The change in the law will require looking at your IRA investments and making adjustments to conform with the new tax law. About three years ago, we took a financial class and we learned about the stretch IRA

where heirs could withdraw the IRA funds over their length of their lives. We are going to do more research to understand the new rules and how to set up our estates with the mandated 10-year withdrawal.

Garden Companion

The early spring and warm weather ignited the gardening bug in many of us! Being outside and noticing the trees with new buds and flowering, young fresh leaves emerging, and spring bulbs in full bloom is a respite from the time spent indoors, confined due to COVID-19.

There is a plethora of gardening information available on the internet to help you select the type of plant that will grow in our area as well as in the shade, sun, or any combination of those two exposures. If you enjoy gardening allow yourself a few minutes to browse the web to get some new ideas for your yard this year.

In addition, the Master Gardeners offer Zoom Webinars on various aspects of gardening on a weekly basis. Visit their Solano or Yolo County website to learn what is being offered each week. If you do not have a computer, you can log in with your telephone to watch ZOOM webinars.

In addition, the Yolo County Master Gardeners have completed a publication titled "Gardener's Companion" which is on sale for \$5.00. The book is available at Farmers Markets, public information booths, anywhere Yolo Master Gardeners are participating.

The journal includes a monthly planting guide, garden checklist, vegetable planning guide, drought tolerant plants, and guides for growing tomatoes, perennials, roses, citrus, trees and much more. To learn more visit their website at yolomg.ucanr.edu. ★

Solano First and Valley Strong Credit Union Announce Merger

By Chris McGown, Solano First Federal Credit Union

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) - Solano First Federal Credit Union and Valley Strong Credit Union have agreed to a merger, subject to regulatory approvals and membership vote. Combined, the organization would serve more than 160,000 Members, with assets of \$2.4 billion, and 21 branches.

A Solano First merger with Valley Strong represents a partnership between two credit unions that are committed to Members and the communities they serve. This partnership will allow Solano First to provide several enhancements to their Members in the form of access to more branch locations, and the ability to offer more product and services, at competitive rates. This partnership would also provide enhanced technology offerings that would provide

greater 24/7 convenience.

"This merger represents a true Member and people first approach," said Nick Ambrosini, Valley Strong, EVP/CFO, and incoming CEO, effective July 1. "After several months of working side by side to analyze the value of partnering with Solano First, the Valley Strong Board of Directors and I feel that combining our two organizations allows us to further our mission of helping people and communities prosper."

Mike Warrell, President/CEO of Solano First added, "Merging with Valley Strong allows us to provide enhanced capabilities, more robust products and service offerings, and other significant benefits to our Members, our team members, and the communities we serve."

As Member-owned cooperatives, and under the guidelines of the National Credit Union Association, full merger approval is

contingent upon Solano First's Member approval. Upon that approval, the entities will become one sometime in 2021.

As the merger process moves forward, both credit unions will provide information to their respective memberships via their websites (www.valleystrong.com and www.solanofirst.com), and other applicable communication channels.

Valley Strong Credit Union operates 18 branches, serving more than 150,000 individuals, with approximately \$2.2 billion in assets. It remains one of the largest financial institutions headquartered in the San Joaquin Valley.

Solano First Federal Credit Union was chartered in 1956. Solano First has reached over \$175 million in assets, has nearly 10,000 Members and is the largest financial institution serving Solano County residents and organizations exclusively. ★

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Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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Another Chance to Act on Housing



By Dan Walters
CALMatters

When he was running for governor three years ago, Gavin Newsom promised, rather absurdly, that he would spearhead a drive to build 3.5 million new housing units by 2025.

It was absurd because it would require California to escalate new construction from about 100,000 units a year to 500,000, which would be financially and physically impossible.

Once elected, Newsom backed away from that pledge, calling it “aspirational,” but he did attempt, a year ago, to once again focus attention on the state’s housing crisis by devoting nearly all of his State of the State address to it and the closely related homelessness issue.

Within weeks, however, his attention shifted to the COVID-19 pandemic and housing went on the Capitol’s back burner.

Meanwhile, California’s housing shortage has gotten significantly worse. This month, Newsom’s Department of Finance revealed that just 102,800 residential building permits were issued in 2020, down 8.8% from 2019’s total, which itself was a 3.8% drop from 2018.

Not only is overall construction headed the wrong

way, but all of last year’s decline was in apartments and other forms of multi-family housing where shortages are the worst. Moreover, when housing lost to fires, old age and other causes is included in the equation, the net gain last year was only about 75,000 units, under half of the state’s official yearly goal.

The cold fact that housing construction is headed the wrong way, and that housing shortages and high housing costs are feeding a high poverty rate and pushing employers and workers out of the state doesn’t seem to be having much effect on the Capitol.

Newsom and other politicians talk a good game, but don’t back up their words with action. What happened, or didn’t happen, to last year’s major housing bill is a telling example. The measure, carried by Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, was a modest stab at the housing issue’s biggest roadblock – the not-in-my-backyard attitudes in local communities. The bill would have made it easier to build duplexes and other low-impact multi-family projects on lots zoned for single-family homes.

Atkins’ measure cleared the Senate easily and had enough votes to pass the Assembly. However, due to conflict between Atkins and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon over legislative procedures, it was held in the Assembly on the last night of the session until just minutes before the midnight deadline, leaving too little time for a final Senate vote.

Newsom could have intervened in the petty squabble to get the bill to his desk, but didn’t, for reasons best known to himself.

The Legislature is back in session and its leaders and Newsom have another opportunity to match their words on the housing shortage with action – or not.

Atkins has introduced a new version of her failed bill, now known as Senate Bill 9, and others have proposed measures to speed up construction, most notably a four-bill package by Sen. Scott Wiener. The San Francisco Democrat has emerged as the Legislature’s leading housing advocate with a willingness to challenge the reluctance of many cities to build their fair share of low- and moderate-income housing.

The most important of the four is Senate Bill 478, which would neutralize local ordinances that effectively prevent construction of multi-family projects on land zoned for them by imposing unworkable land-to-building ratios.

The Atkins and Wiener bills challenge local governments’ much-cherished powers over land use, which is the most contentious but most important piece of the housing conundrum. They also will test the willingness of California’s political leadership to do something more than talk about the crisis.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Grateful Volunteer Lauds 'Village'

Dear Editor,

Dixon is a community of caring and giving to one another.

On February 17th, we were able to host a Covid 19 vaccination clinic at Dixon High School for seniors 65 and above and vaccinated almost 1000!!

This was done in partnership between Solano County Public Health, Solano County Emergency Medical Services Coordinator, Kaiser Permanente, Medic Ambulance and the City of Dixon.

Within the city of Dixon, we had our Dixon Firemen, Dixon Police and many from the public works department at the site giving vaccinations and directing seniors to the vaccination stations.

Our service organizations were: Dixon Rotary, Women’s Improvement Club and Dixon Soroptimist. A family of five volunteered from Vacaville who are bilingual, which provided help for our Spanish

speaking citizens. These volunteers worked at the registration table signing in our seniors.

A special thanks go to Jocie Bair and Janice Beaman for manning the phones with me for four days prior to the event.

A very special thank you to Louren Kotow, the City of Dixon Deputy Public Works Director for doing such a great job putting this all together. She is a Gem!!

A special thank you to Mayor Steve Bird, and City of Dixon City Manager Jim Lindley for coordinating this with Solano County.

They say it takes a village to make something work, well this took a really big village!!

From me personally, I thank each and everyone of you for saving our seniors lives!

Very sincerely,
Yvonne McCluskey

Minimum Wage, Maximum Discrimination

Commentary
by Dr. Caleb Fuller

Since the days of Adam Smith, economists have sought a set of social institutions which permit “neither dominion, nor discrimination,” to use Nobel Prize-winning economist James Buchanan’s phrase. In this, economists are joined by all people of goodwill – including those in the Biden administration, which has enshrined equity and inclusion as cornerstones of how they’ll govern.

What separates the economist from other social do-gooders, however, is an unflinching focus on the means used to achieve noble goals. It’s therefore with alarm that I consider the Biden administration’s dual focus on “diversity and equity” and its doubling down on the “fight for \$15.” I’m alarmed because the minimum wage impedes our ability to foster a society genuinely built on “diversity and equity.”

Here’s the straight talk on the minimum wage that you probably didn’t learn in school: The minimum wage has been a powerful weapon in the arsenal of racists and bigots. Economists have illuminated the devastating effects of the minimum wage on minorities with empirical evidence and entire books on the subject, but to see one reason why the policy targets minorities, first consider a little basic economics.

Consider the demand side of the labor market. Firms will hire fewer workers if the government criminalizes voluntary agreements to work for less than \$15 per hour. This is an uncontroversial point to make about virtually any other market. If the price of apples doubles, people buy fewer apples. They buy more oranges instead. Employers do the same thing. Under the minimum wage, they start buying more machinery, like the kiosks you see in Panera. The upshot: Fewer jobs.

Now let’s consider the supply side of the labor market, where the higher minimum wage attracts new workers into the labor

market – those, who like college students, might have sat on the sidelines otherwise. The upshot: More jobseekers.

Fewer jobs plus more jobseekers means that more people will be searching for jobs than there are jobs available – a labor surplus. In other words, the minimum wage creates a “buyer’s market” in labor because it causes jobseekers to line up in front of employers who have limited jobs to offer.

Suppose an employer receives 100 applicants for a job opening. How does he choose who to hire? Without the minimum wage, whoever wants the job most will outcompete other jobseekers by offering to work for less.

With a minimum wage, the employer can’t say: “Who will work for \$14.95?” If he does, he’s a criminal; he literally violates the law. Since he can’t just pick the most eager jobseekers, he needs some alternative way to select from his 100 applicants. When you have a surplus of labor in a market with a minimum wage, prices aren’t allowed to adjust, so the employer picks from that surplus based on personal preferences. These may include race, sex, gender, religion, or other personal characteristics that have little to do with productivity. In fact, in the past, it has included just that. Faced with more jobseekers than there are jobs available, a bigoted employer bears little cost when he refuses to hire a member of a group he dislikes. He knows someone else in the applicant pool will be from his preferred group.

In a market without minimum wage, when an employer turns down an applicant to satisfy his bigoted tastes, he doesn’t have 99 other jobseekers to choose from. There’s no labor surplus. If he chooses to indulge his bigoted tastes, the job remains unfilled for longer, which means less money for our racist employer. Consider that, in the United States, the African-American teenage male unemployment

rate was lower than the white teenage male unemployment rate through the late 1940s. The 1950s saw the single largest increase (in percentage terms) of the minimum wage. The reasoning I just gave explains why the African-American teen joblessness rate then soared above whites. That gap remains to the present day.

Like Adam Smith, James Buchanan, and the Biden administration, I too desire a society where the power of bad people to exercise “dominion or discrimination” against their fellow man is constrained, even eliminated. Presumably, my fellow Pennsylvanians do too. The fact that nearly two-thirds of them (and 89% of liberals) support a \$15/hr. minimum wage is therefore troubling. My fellow citizens should consider whether this policy facilitates or impedes the ability of bad men to do harm. Economics says it facilitates.

So does history. As Princeton’s Thomas Leonard has demonstrated in his book, *Illiberal Reformers: Race, Eugenics, and American Economics in the Progressive Era*, the early minimum-wage advocates saw it as a prime tool to exercise “dominion and discrimination” over those they deemed ill-suited to reproduction. The minimum wage was well-suited to perform the Progressives’ dirty work of discriminating against (what they considered) the least productive by making them unemployable.

It has been over 100 years since the Progressive Era. But the laws of economics haven’t changed. The only question is: Have we?

Dr. Caleb Fuller is assistant professor of economics at Grove City College. He has published or has forthcoming papers in the European Journal of Law and Economics, the Journal of Business Venturing Insights, the Review of Austrian Economics, the Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy, the Independent Review, and others. ★



Press Swapped the Script on Cuomo vs. DeSantis

Throughout the pandemic, the press has been excoriatingly harsh on a governor who was slow to act, unnecessarily endangered the lives of the elderly, alienated experts and cooked the numbers.

It just thought the governor in question was Florida’s Ron DeSantis rather than New York’s Andrew Cuomo.

After it has become clear that Cuomo’s handling of the pandemic was not just criminal in the metaphorical sense, but perhaps in the literal sense, the press has begun, only reluctantly and belatedly, to abandon its long-running Cuomo hagiography.

It never made any sense to lionize Andrew Cuomo at the expense of Ron DeSantis, except that one had a “D” after his name and the other didn’t, and one hated Trump and the other didn’t. The national media also labors under the assumption that New York must be competent while the Sunshine State is the preserve of the embarrassingly boorish “Florida Man.”

Finally, the media loved the way Cuomo talked about the pandemic at his take-charge press conferences. This was taken as the opposite of Trump’s approach, which it was – Cuomo talked a good game, while utterly botching the substance of the

response, while Trump talked irresponsibly about the pandemic, while handling the substance pretty well (or, certainly, not as badly as advertised).

All this meant that the press made both Cuomo and DeSantis into something they were not – a hero and a villain, respectively – when it should have been obvious all along that this wasn’t remotely justified.

From the outset of the pandemic, New York state has had the highest number of deaths of any state and still does (47,000), and the second highest deaths-per-million of anywhere in the country. In contrast, Florida is right around the national average for deaths-per-million. Journalists brushed right by these top-line numbers in the interest of their tendentious narrative-building.

They erupted in outrage when DeSantis was allegedly slow to close the beaches last March, but didn’t dwell much on Cuomo saying, when the virus was already spreading throughout his state: “The facts defeat fear. Because the reality is reassuring.”

They accused DeSantis of unnecessarily endangering seniors when the Florida governor took steps to protect the nursing homes, and Andrew Cuomo, infamously, ordered nursing homes to accept COVID-19 patients.

They claimed DeSantis was rejecting the “science” by, among other things, pushing to reopen the schools, an approach that has proved out. Meanwhile, experts have fled the New York public health bureaucracy in response to Cuomo’s highhandedness.

They bought the bogus

story of a Florida data manager who was supposedly persecuted for blowing the whistle on the state’s manipulation of its COVID numbers, when, of course, this is exactly what Cuomo was doing.

And so, the media’s anointed hero of the pandemic – who wrote a book on his own exemplary pandemic response, who won a Grammy, who was elevated to an authority with the standing to comment on how the country was handling COVID-19 – is facing calls to resign or face impeachment and is the subject of multiple investigations, while his routine bullying of critics is now out in the open.

Not only are none of these things happening to Ron DeSantis, his policy of avoiding strict lockdowns, which occasioned so much criticism, has avoided the educational and economic downsides of Cuomo’s policies. According to Florida data, the state offers more in-person education than any other state and it has a lower unemployment rate than the national average and other populous states. This matters greatly to the well-being of Floridians.

All of this said, the virus has presented enormous challenges and excruciating choices to policymakers around the country. It’s not healthy to be overly invested in red state versus blue state comparisons. But the media gleefully went all-in on this game – and managed to pump up the wrong governor and run down the wrong one, in a failure for the ages.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Solano County Returns to Red Tier (Tier 2)

Solano County Press Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The State of California announced that Solano County has moved from the most restrictive Purple Tier (Tier 1) to a less-restrictive Red Tier (Tier 2) of the State's COVID-19 Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Effective as of Wednesday, March 10, more businesses and activities will be able to expand capacity or resume operations, including indoor services at restaurants, increased capacity at retail and shopping centers, youth sports activities and an opportunity for schools to reopen.

"The declining number of cases is great news for our community as a whole, with local businesses now able to expand operations," said Bela T. Matyas, M.D., M.P.H. "However, it is still critical for everyone to continue to practice health and safety measures. Let us all continue to do our part to protect ourselves and others from COVID-19 infection—wear a mask, practice physical distancing, limit gatherings with others outside of the household, and get vaccinated when the vaccine is available for you."

Moving Into The Red Tier (Tier 2) Allows:

Restaurants indoor dining (max 25% capacity of facility or 100 people, whichever is fewer); All retail indoors (max 50% capacity of facility); Shopping centers, swap meets indoors (max 50% capacity of facility, closed common areas); Museums, zoos and aquariums (max 25% capacity of facility); Movie theaters indoors (max 25% capacity of facility or 100 people, whichever is fewer); Gyms and fitness centers indoors (max 10% capacity of facility)

Schools may open while in Red Tier status and provide in-person instruction; Youth sports: Outdoor low-and moderate-contact sports are permitted; outdoor high-contact sports are also permitted if state guidelines are adhered to.

Businesses Must Still Implement State-Mandated Industry Guidance:

Prior to opening under the Red Tier, all

businesses and activities must review the State guidelines, complete a State COVID-19 general checklist and ensure a written plan is on file and available for public review. Information and resources on Guidance for Specific Industries is available on the State's COVID-19 website at www.covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/

What Can Happen Over the Next Several Weeks

To move to an even less restrictive tier, the Orange Tier (Tier 3), test positivity rates and additional metrics must continue to improve for two consecutive weeks. If Solano County residents and businesses continue to make progress in preventing COVID-19 transmission, additional business sectors and indoor activities can progressively begin to open, with modifications.

Vaccinated Sectors in Solano County

Nearly 90,000 people have been vaccinated and more than 30,000 have received two doses, including the healthcare and emergency services sectors, individuals 65 years of age and older, childcare workers, teachers and school employees, food and agricultural workers.

Notification about Upcoming Vaccine Clinics

Solano Public Health urges Solano County residents to register on both the Solano County Vaccine Interest Form and on the State's MyTurn system to be pre-screened and notified of opportunities to receive a vaccine when it's their turn. Register for the Vaccine Interest Form by visiting bit.ly/solanovax or by calling (707) 784-8988. Register on the State's MyTurn notification system by visiting <https://MyTurn.Ca.Gov> or by calling (833) 422-4255.

Covid-19 Information

For the most recent local COVID-19 health information, including the number of COVID-19 cases and to register for vaccination in Solano County, visit the Solano County website at www.SolanoCounty.com/COVID19 and on Facebook at [@SolanoCountyPH](https://www.facebook.com/SolanoCountyPH). ★

CLG NEWS UPDATES

Provided by Citizens for Legitimate Government (CLG) See legitgov.org

90 percent of COVID deaths occur in countries with high obesity levels - study | 05 March 2021 | Nearly 90 percent of coronavirus fatalities have occurred in countries with high obesity levels, according to researchers -- who now want overweight people to be prioritized for vaccinations. Death rates were 10 times higher in countries such as the US where at least 50 percent of the total population is overweight, according to a World Health Organization-backed study released Thursday by the World Obesity Federation. For the report, researchers examined mortality data from Johns Hopkins University and the WHO Global Health Observatory data that showed a total of 2.2 million of the 2.5 million deaths worldwide were in countries with high levels of obesity.

Four Months After 2020 Presidential Election in Georgia, No Chain of Custody Documents Produced for 404,000 Absentee Ballots Deposited in Drop Boxes; Fulton County One of 35 Scofflaw Counties - The 2020 presidential election outcome in Georgia was decided by fewer than 12,000 votes | 04 March 2021 | Four months after the November 3, 2020 presidential election, state and county officials in Georgia have failed to produce chain of custody documents for an estimated 404,691 vote by mail absentee ballots deposited in drop boxes and subsequently delivered to county registrars for counting. As of March 3, only 56 of Georgia's 159 counties have provided ballot transfer form data to *The Georgia Star News*. The number of absentee by mail ballots delivered to registrars in those 56 counties total only 195,309, or 32.5 percent, of the estimated 600,000 absentee vote by mail ballots deposited in drop boxes and delivered to county registrars and counted in Georgia's 2020 presidential election.

After Finding Shredded Ballots in the Dumpster Earlier Today, a Mysterious Fire Breaks Out at Maricopa County Official's Farm | 06 March 2021 | The Arizona Maricopa County Board of Supervisors (MCBOS) on Wednesday loaded its 2020 Election ballots on a truck for delivery to the Arizona Senate. After months of attempting to obtain access to the ballots, the Senate won a court case where the judge ordered the ballots to be produced to the Senate. So immediately before being told when and where to deliver the ballots, the MCBOS loaded the ballots onto a truck even though the Senate had not yet asked for the ballots. It is not believed that this move of the ballots was performed under the proper chain of custody... The ballots were then stored in an open warehouse. Individuals in the county found shredded ballots at this location, earlier today. Tonight, two barns on the farm of one of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors caught on fire.

Ballots in Maricopa County Found Shredded and in Dumpster - Days Before Senate Audit to Begin | 06 March 2021 | Piles of shredded ballots were located today in a dumpster in Maricopa County, Arizona. This find occurs only days before the Senate's audit of the county's 2020 election results is due to start. For months, the Board of Supervisors in Maricopa County have blocked and delayed any independent audit performed by the Arizona Senate of the County's results in the 2020 presidential election. As we've reported previously, after being subpoenaed by the Arizona Senate and then suing the senate to prevent a senate audit of their 2020 election results, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors (MCBOS) agreed to have an audit if they could pick the auditors.

YouTube Deletes All Copies of President Trump's CPAC Speech, Suspends RSNB for Two Weeks | 04 March 2021 | YouTube has deleted all copies of President Trump's speech to CPAC given last Sunday in Orlando and has suspended the account of Right Side Broadcasting Network for two weeks as apparent punishment for live streaming the speech in which Trump reiterated his belief the 2020 presidential election was stolen from him. YouTube took down videos from mainstream outlets including the U.K. Independent which had over one million views as well as Fox, Fox Business, ABC News and the U.K. Sun. A search of YouTube that earlier this week showed several channels with archived live streams of the speech now shows all archived live streams have been taken down.

People more concerned about violence in cities than Capitol riot - Poll | 04 March 2021 | A poll shows that a majority of U.S. voters are more concerned about the violence that took place in cities over the summer than the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. The most recent Harvard-Harris poll found that 55% of registered voters see violence in cities as more concerning, while 45% said the Capitol riot was more concerning. The poll also found that 71% of voters view antifa as a domestic terrorist group, with 29% of respondents disagreeing with that characterization. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 2021-000283

The following persons are doing business as: **PERCIVAL CUSTOMS AND FABRICATION**
6104 Chicorp Lane Elmira, CA 95625
Wayne Percival, 1005 Weyand Way Dixon, CA 95620, Houston Percival, 1005 Weyand Way Dixon, CA 95620
Date Filed in Solano County: February 3, 2021
The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is Conducted by: A General Partnership
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 2, 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: February 19, 26, March 5, and 12, 2021 (The DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE)

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)

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

Tuesday, March 2, 2021
0901 - Burglary reported in the 1100 block of Business Park Drive.
1117 - Fraud reported in the 400 block of West Chestnut Street.


Wednesday, March 3, 2021
1816 - Informational report for an industrial accident in the 1900 block of North 1st Street.

Thursday, March 4, 2021
0636 - A confidential report taken in the 100 block of Heritage Ln.
1024 - A disorderly Conduct and public nuisance arrest report was taken in the 1000 block of Newgate Wy. Officers contacted (S) Efrain Preciado (24) of Dixon. Preciado was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.
1044 - A sexual assault case was taken in the 400 block of East Mayes St.
1440 - A harassing and annoying phone call report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.
1816 - Theft of a catalytic converter reported in the 400 block of Lynd Way.
2050 - A proactive enforcement stop in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road resulted in the arrest of Jeremi Ellis (26) of Oakland for failing to yield to a police officers lawful order and driving without a valid license. The passenger in the vehicle, Mila Araujo (23) of Oakland was also arrested. Her charges included Possession of a loaded firearm, possession of a controlled substance while armed with a loaded firearm, carrying a loaded firearm in public, carrying an unregistered firearm, possession of drug paraphernalia and violating the terms of her probation. Both were transported and booked into the Solano County Jail. Their vehicle (Blue 2017 Chevy Cruz - 7WIE826) was towed by All About Tow incident to arrest.

Friday, March 5, 2021
0202 - A proactive enforcement stop in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive resulted in the arrest of Robert Reynolds (49) of Stockton for having two outstanding misdemeanor bench warrants, failing to have a court-mandated ignition interlock device, and for driving with a suspended license. He was transported and booked into the Solano County Jail. The felony charge of bringing narcotics into a jail facility was added after several grams of methamphetamine was located on his person upon pre-booking search. His vehicle (white 1992 Chevy Silverado 4M82053) was towed incident to arrest.
0732 - Suspicious Circumstance report was taken in the 1300 block of North 1st.
0745 - A burglary report was taken in the 700 block of North 1st St.
1412 - A confidential report was taken in the 500 block of Industrial Way.
1803 - A battery was reported in the 1700 block of Winfield St.
2324 - A pedestrian stop in the 1200 block of North First Street resulted in the arrest of Richard Nunez (47) of Dixon for possession of drug paraphernalia and for violating the terms of his misdemeanor probation. He was booked into the Solano County Jail.

Saturday, March 6, 2021
1213 - Informational report taken in the 1400 block of Ary Ln.

Sunday, March 7, 2021
0014 - Domestic Violence incident reported in the 1400 block of Ary Lane resulted in the arrest of Richard Williams (41) for Domestic Violence and Restraining Order Violation. Williams was booked into the Solano County Jail.
0845 - Graffiti in the 800 block of North Adams Street.
1046 - Agency assist for Dixon Fire Department in the 300 block of North 2nd Street. Jesus Ascencio Avila (34), of Dixon, was contact in the area. He was found to be on probation and in possession of drug paraphernalia. He was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail for Possession of Drug paraphernalia, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Probation Violation.
1242 - Burglary reported in the 2000 block of North 1st Street.
1930 - Child custody order violation in the 100 block of Dorset Drive.
2023 - Vandalism to a vehicle reported in the 100 block of North 2nd Street.
2212 - Hit and run accident reported in the 900 block of Bounds Drive.



FOR THE LOVE OF
BOOKS
By Amy Shane

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

Ignite your Reading List



Everything That Burns
by Gita Trelease;
Flatiron Books

“Camille Durbonne gambled everything she had to keep herself and her sister safe. But as the people of Paris starve and mobs riot, safety may no longer be possible ...”

Not when Camille lives

for the rebellion. In the pamphlets she prints, she tells the stories of girls living at society’s margins. But as her writings captivate the public, she begins to suspect a dark magic she can’t control lies at the heart of her success. Then Louis XVI declares magic a crime and all magicians traitors to France. As bonfires incinerate enchanted books and special police prowl the city, the time for magic – and those who work it – is running out.”

Rush back to the streets of Paris, in the conclusion to *Enchantee* (*All that Glitters*). It’s Paris 1789, and readers are swept into the time of Louis XVI, where magic is forbidden, and sacrifice is survival. Camille

has learned how to harness dark magic and use it for good, but now she is caught up within the enchanting courts of Versailles and the temptation to use her magic just one more time to tell the story of the Lost Girls. Gita Trelease once again captivates her readers with an alternate story on the French Revolution. *Everything That Burns* is over brimming with beautiful description, French language, and sweeping scenes from within a hot air balloon. Readers will instantly fall into the dreaminess of glamorized gowns, royal courts, and garden paths where nightingales sing. A historical fantasy duology that is sure to catch any reader within its magical tale. ★



The Ravens
by Danielle Paige
Kass Morgan

Famous for their exclusivity and beauty, the Kappa Rho Nu Sorority, The Ravens, were the most

popular and powerful girls on campus. Yet, they all keep a powerful secret. Their bond of sisterhood isn’t just by happenstance; they are a powerful coven of witches. However, this year there is someone who is out there threaten them, and they are willing to take the Kappa Rho Nu girls down one by one.

Told in two perspectives, *The Ravens* is a contemporary story that delivers hard punches from every angle. While Vivi Devereaux grew up never knowing what she truly is, she did, however, know one thing, she longed to be part of a sisterhood.

For Scarlet Winter, being a witch was easy. It was her Legacy, and so was being a Raven. However, one secret could ruin everything for them, and these two will need to learn to work together or watch their coven fall apart.

Danielle Paige and Kass Morgan deliver a refreshing story, fast-paced and full of wicked intent. *The Ravens* take readers deep into a secret coven of witches, friendships, relationships, and deceit but also delivers twists and turns that will keep you guessing. A slightly slow build only adds to this book’s explosive ending. ★



Survey Confirms Erosion of Sierra Snowpack

Recording a fifth straight dry month, state surveyors report the Sierra snowpack has slipped further below average. Survey results released Tuesday showed the statewide snowpack at 61% of average, compared to 70% at the time of last month’s survey. Farmers have been warned to expect low water supplies, and say they will have to leave land idle as one response to the dry conditions.

Farmers Look To Accelerate Wood-Disposal Alternatives

With a final decision having been made to phase out agricultural burning in the San Joaquin Valley by 2025, farmers seek alternatives for disposing of vineyard and orchard prunings. The state Air Resources Board voted last week to end the practice. Farmers can grind discarded wood and incorporate it into the soil, but that’s not now possible in all cases. Farmers asked the board for help in developing alternatives for wood disposal.

Pandemic Takes Toll On County Fairs

County fairgrounds face a cash crunch, as the pandemic forces ongoing cancellations of events. A number of county fair boards have already voted to cancel their 2021 fairs. Some fairs have made accommodations for junior livestock sales, so students can still market their animals. In other locations, fairs have pushed back their traditional start dates, in hope pandemic restrictions will ease in time.

U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Will Come From North Coast

A tree from the North Coast of California will serve as the official U.S. Capitol Christmas tree. The Six Rivers National Forest, based in Eureka, announced it had been chosen to provide the tree, which will be placed on the west lawn of the Capitol in early December. It’s the first time a tree from the Six Rivers forest has been selected, and the fifth time a tree from California will serve as the Capitol Christmas tree. ★



A TV Review by Tim Riley

Riley Reviews

“DEBRIS” FALLS TO EARTH ON NBC; “SIMPSONS” REIGN ON FOX

“DEBRIS” ON NBC

In New Orleans, the culinary capital of America, “debris” is a very tasty shredded roast beef that’s been moistened with pan drippings, resulting in tender, falling-apart meat with lots of juicy flavor.

When visiting the Crescent City, be sure to lunch at Mother’s Restaurant, a veritable institution dishing out the gustatory delights of the most delicious debris Po’boy sandwich.

“Debris,” the new series on NBC, is nothing at all about food, but the mere hint of that New Orleans specialty is making me hungry. The show’s title refers to a traditional understanding of the word, in this case being the detritus from a spaceship.

Similar in a few ways to “The X-Files,” this science-fiction series features two agents investigating the unexplained phenomena of shards of a wrecked spacecraft passing through our solar system that get scattered across the Western Hemisphere.

CIA operative Brian Beneventi (Jonathan Tucker) and British MI6 agent Finola Jones (Riann Steele) are teamed in a top-secret mission to track down the alien wreckage before it falls into the wrong hands.

The opening scene takes place in a high-end New York hotel where a black market deal involving a piece of metal is about to be closed with Anson Ash (Scroobius Pip) and his henchman, when the American and British agents arrive in time to give chase.

Contact with the debris poses dangerous risks. When a maid touches a shard, she plummets through the interior of the hotel to her death on the ground floor ballroom. Others may bleed through their eyes or have visions of a dead relative.

Though Brian and Finola engage in the type of banter to be expected of their disparate backgrounds, they bring dissimilar approaches to their investigate work, ostensibly designed to draw the audience deeper into a supernatural drama.

Strange happenings are convoluted and puzzling. A woman’s body levitates off the ground and floats away. A young boy possessed by an alien convinces women he’s their son before they meet a terrible fate.

Early on, it seems evident that catching up with the black marketeer Anson Ash and his crew will be no easy task. After all, they elude capture very easily by popping pills that allow them to vanish into thin air.

With only the pilot episode available for review, the jury is out on whether the mysteries that unfold in “Debris” will be sustained over time. On another level, interest in this series may hinge on one’s proclivity for alien intrigue.

During the NBC press tour, Jonathan Tucker revealed that each week a piece of debris is discovered and “it allows us, as partners and the audience, to discover the

capabilities....that this debris has to offer.” We’ll see how this goes.

“THE SIMPSONS” LONG REIGN ON FOX

During the winter press tour for television critics came the announcement from the FOX network that it has renewed its animated program “The Simpsons” for its 33rd and 34th seasons.

Even now, “The Simpsons” is already the longest-running primetime scripted show in television history, and Homer Simpson weighed in with the observation that “with any luck the show will soon be older than I am.”

This brings up the interesting point of what this series would be like if the characters had aged according to the number of years that series has been on the air.

For one thing, instead of being a 10-year-old kid, Bart Simpson would be a middle-aged man, presumably married and very likely to have kids of his own that turned to be juvenile delinquents.

Homer would be collecting Social Security and either living in a rest home and annoying the other residents or he may have contracted coronavirus, which would be worrisome, given that his lifestyle would likely have resulted in dreaded comorbidities.

Exploding into the popular culture in 1990, “The Simpsons” remains not only groundbreaking entertainment, but recognizable throughout the world. One has to marvel at the talent to keep a franchise going this long.

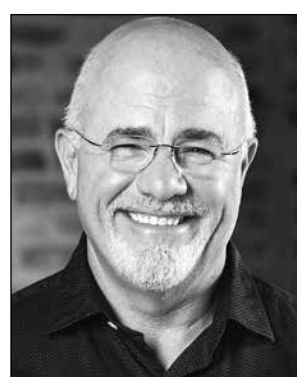
The voice actors are immediately identifiable television icons. Who doesn’t know the voices of family members Homer (Dan Castellaneta), Bart (Nancy Cartwright), Lisa (Yeardley Smith), and Marge (Julie Kavner)? In person, you wouldn’t recognize them.

Creator and executive producer Matt Groening, added his perspective by noting that “Everyone at ‘The Simpsons’ is thrilled to be renewed once more, and we are planning lots of big surprises. Home will lose a hair and Bart will celebrate his 10th birthday for the thirty-third time.”

It’s also reassuring to know that beloved Springfield residents like Hank Azaria’s tavern proprietor Moe Szyslak and Harry Shearer’s nuclear power plant owner Mr. Burns still remain comic foils.

As Bart would say, “Don’t Have a Cow, Man!” if you don’t appreciate the show’s satirical parody of everyday life and cultural references. The ratings prove that “The Simpsons” has incredible staying power.

“It’s a sincere pleasure to announce the Season 33 and 34 pick-ups for ‘The Simpsons.’ We keep hoping that eventually they’ll get it right,” said Charlie Collier, CEO, FOX Entertainment. For devoted fans, it’s safe to say mission accomplished. ★



Dave Ramsey Says

It’s Just Not Worth It

Dear Dave,

Do you think I should get a new hybrid car to save money on gas? A lot of my friends have done this, and with the rise in gas and oil prices lately, they’re telling me I should, too. According to them, I’ll save a ton of money, especially since I have a bigger car and a longer drive to work. What are your thoughts?

–Daneen

Dear Daneen,

I get lots of questions about these kinds of scenarios, and how it plays into people’s budgets. Many folks wonder if it would be better to go out and get a new vehicle with better gas mileage. Well, do you really want to lose more money?

Let’s say you currently drive a vehicle worth \$10,000 that gets 15

miles per gallon. There’s a \$25,000 hybrid you’re thinking about buying that gets 25 miles per gallon. That’s a \$15,000 price difference just to get 10 more miles a gallon. If you drive 100 miles a week, that’s about a \$10 difference a week. That would be about \$40 extra you’re spending a month in gas if you stuck with the current car. A monthly car payment is a whole lot more than that! In short, the math doesn’t work. You’d have to drive to the moon and back to make it worthwhile.

There are a lot smarter things you can do to cut down on your fuel bill. Have you thought about trading for something smaller? If you’re driving a gas guzzler, trade it in on another car worth no more than your current car’s selling price. This means better fuel efficiency without a car payment. Carpooling is an option, too, even if you split the driving just a few days a week.

If you want to get a little more radical with the money-saving ideas, you could think about moving closer to work. Spend some time doing the calculations and looking at the specifics

to see if it makes sense in your case. Finally, and this may be a last ditch effort, you could consider changing jobs. No one’s forcing you to work where you do, especially if you’re spending a lot of time and money on the road just getting to and from your job. If you’re really spending a ridiculous amount on gas each month, it might even be time to look into ideas you may have once had to start your own business.

But don’t use better gas mileage, or bad advice from your friends, as a rationalization for buying a new car. It’s just not worth it!

–Dave

Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave Ramsey has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. ★

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

T	T	E		N	A	P		H	M	M							
A	E	O	N		G	A	L	E		S	M	E	A	R			
B	L	O	C		R	A	L	E		H	U	L	K	S			
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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

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

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Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 8

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10			
11					12				13	14				
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55							52				53	54		
59									56			57		58
59									60			61		
62									63				64	

CLUES

ACROSS
1. *A or O, to blood
5. Catch a wink
8. "Don't know what to say" sound
11. Eon, alt. sp.
12. Severe blow
13. *Blood ____, type of blood test
15. Eastern ____, 1947-1991
16. *Respiratory rattling
17. Enormous ones
18. *Annual exam
20. Largest city of Norway
21. Like a romantic movie?
22. *Anatomical pouch
23. Work over with fists (2 words)
26. Levee next to water mill
30. Not cooked
31. What a terrorist wants to spread
34. Continental currency
35. Wide open
37. Charged particle
38. Colorado resort
39. Hipbones
40. Recede, as in tide (2 words)
42. Laos resident
43. Stinging shrub, pl.
45. Handrail's main supports
47. Caribou kin
48. Relating to a lobe
50. Saint's topper
52. *L in ACL
55. Bad-tempered
56. Affirm with confidence
57. Stain on Santa
59. Work the dough
60. Tiger Woods' pegs
61. Ruptured
62. ____ my party, and I'll cry if I want too...
63. Store posting, abbr.
64. *Largest organ

DOWN
1. Can opener
2. Crowd's judgement
3. Tubby little cubby
4. Enclose within a cyst
5. W.E.B Du Bois' org.
6. Assuage
7. Spa treatment
8. 2016 western "____ or High Water"
9. Type of shark
10. Not Miss or Ms
12. Influenza
13. Sandbar
14. *Cardiac, smooth or skeletal ones
19. Quickly fry
22. Knightly title
23. *Cerebellum location
24. Two under on one hole
25. Look forward to
26. *Kissing disease?
27. Having two parts
28. Beatles: "He's ____ nowhere man" (2 words)
29. Plural of #2 Down
32. *12 pairs of these
33. Rip off
36. *a.k.a. kneecap
38. Mr. T's team
40. Comic book cry
41. Unlocks the gate
44. Andrew Webber's middle name
46. Forcefully grabs
48. *Blood filter
49. S-shaped moldings

50. "The ____ for Red October"
51. Greek god of war
52. Strip of wood
53. Breakfast spot?
54. Spelling or Kelly
55. Biathlon equipment
58. One less than jack

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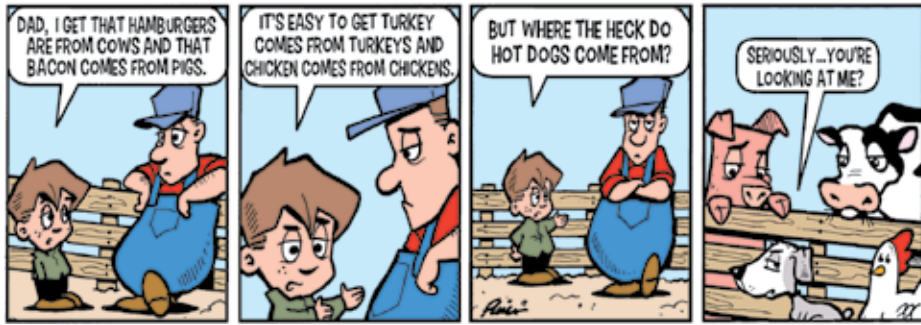
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

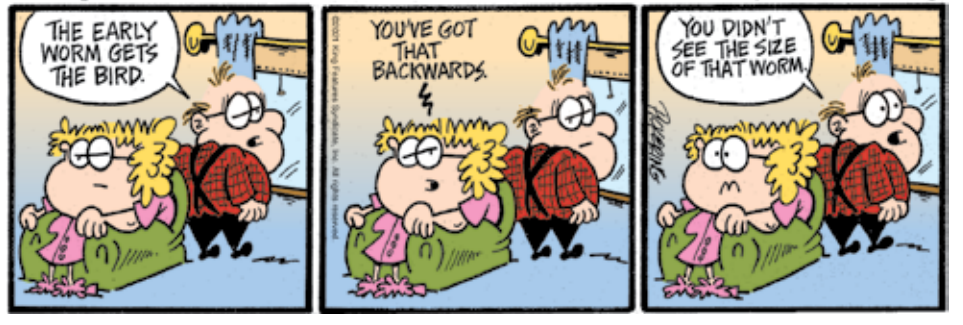
Solutions on Page 8

WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves



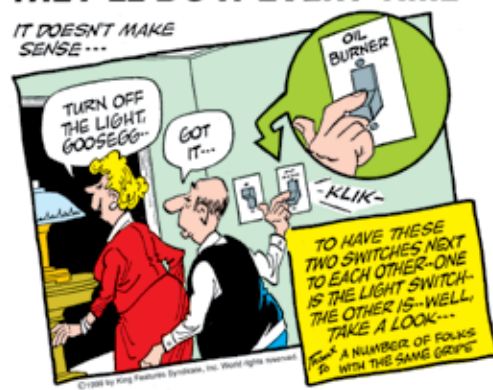
The Spats



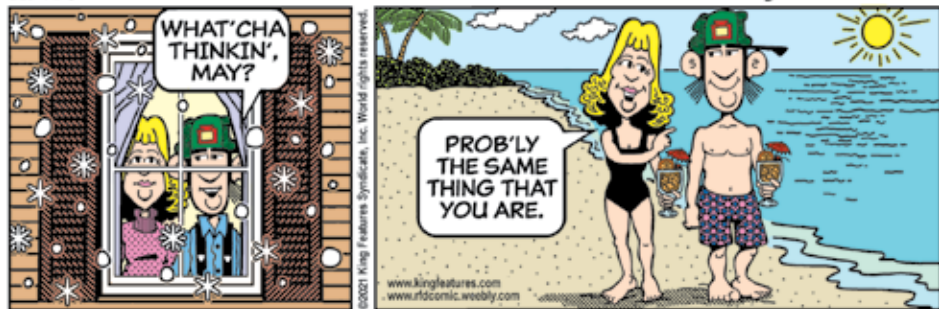
Out on a Limb



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



R.F.D.



GRIN and BEAR IT



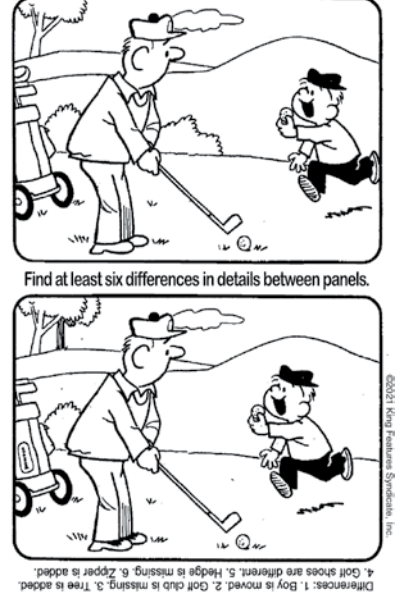
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Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Scavenger Hunt Announced



Family of River Otters in the bypass. Visit the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area to view plants and wildlife with your family. Photo credit: Lewis Kemper

Spring is a wonderful time to get outdoors and explore your local wetlands. Yolo Basin Foundation is hosting a family fun scavenger hunt! Find your way around the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area using the provided Scavenger Hunt Map, labeled with the scavenger hunt stations. At each station, you will have a clue to solve, then hop out of your car to search the back of existing signs and posts for information about the amazing plants and animals that depend on these wetlands. Visit at least five stations to enter the prize drawing. You can submit

a hard copy of the form, filling it out by pencil or you can fill it out electronically on your smartphone or tablet as you go. The Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area is almost 17,000 acres of restored wetlands and farmland managed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. That is about 25 square miles of habitat in the shadow of the State Capitol and it's not just for the birds. Although many people visit to birdwatch, there are other things to view and to learn, such as the methods used for Wildlife Friendly Farming – helping both wildlife

and providing food for humans. The Wildlife Area is open to the public daily, sunrise to sunset. During the Scavenger Hunt you will explore the area to find clues about the birds and other animals that depend on these wetlands for their survival. You may find River Otter scat or an owl pellet, learn about the restoration for the Monarch Butterfly or how farmers remove dams to help salmon in their journey through the wildlife area.

For the directions, map and more information to participate, visit www.yolobasin.org/scavengerhunt/ or call Yolo Basin Foundation at (530) 757-3780.

A \$10 donation to support the Foundation's wetland education programs is suggested. Yolo Basin Foundation members are free.

Yolo Basin Foundation offers environmental education programs for all ages related to wetlands and wildlife. This is a safe way to explore a new location, or visit a loved birding spot, learn a little and have a great time. ★

Vikings in Dixon?



Adam Demaray sword fights with a friend at one of the trainings held by the Society for Creative Anachronisms. Courtesy photo

Continued from page 1
have the face to face sharing of stories now," he said. Adam bounced the idea to a few friends and one showed up at his door on a Dungeons and Dragons game night in a wizard's robe.

"Where our real joy comes from is community," said Adam who leads a 'hird'— an old Swedish term for a group of Vikings. He plans to teach heavy armor fighting. "Seeing people around a campfire and sharing stories is great. We've built friendships over the years and see them almost every week. The other parts like activities and food are important but we want people to stay for the culture and community. Who wouldn't love axe throwing?" he said matter of factly.

For a fee per half hour or so, participants will learn about the arts, skills, and the culture of the middle ages and Renaissance in an atmosphere of fun through tournaments, royal courts, armored combat, dancing classes and hands on workshops. The guys are excited about offering target archery, fencing, leather crafting, leather book binding, mazes, and for children, cornhole competition, horse shoes, and other games.

"This is on top of complete interactive and immersive role playing," added Jens. The name of their business, Valhalla, comes from an old Norse belief that brave soldiers who died in combat as well as

other heroes and kings, went to an enormous majestic hall ruled over by the God, Odin, who prepares them for the Viking version of the apocalypse.

The Demaray family is "all in" they say with Dad, an architect drawing up plans, and mom admitting it's great to have the whole family involved and seeing their sons doing something for their community. The lease is signed and the goal is to open by Memorial Day Weekend in a 3-acre space on A Street across from Wienerschnitzel. The business plan is developing and they are using other models from around the country to make one specific to Dixon's Ag community.

The ultimate plan will include two large tents and the ability to host gatherings such as birthdays or a feast, they said. One can also book a 30-minute axe throwing session for as low as \$20 per person.

The family will be looking to hire youth, they reported, and have taken advantage of mom's small business experience from Demaray Chiropractic and Wellness Center for guidance including respecting wheelchair access laws, they said.

"This is our retirement," said Carla who confirmed getting her tunic was "exciting." For more information, email info@victoryorvalhalla.net, call (707) 761-6259, see their Facebook page or go to VictoryOrValhalla.net which will be their booking site. ★



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