

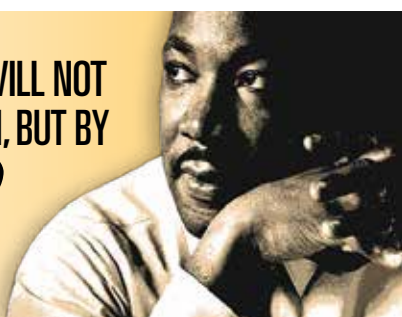


**Kula's New Salon
Offers Self Care
Bounty**

PAGE 3

**“I LOOK TO A DAY WHEN PEOPLE WILL NOT
BE JUDGED BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN, BUT BY
THE CONTENT OF THEIR CHARACTER.”**

— FROM THE “I HAVE A DREAM” SPEECH



**Dixon
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THE FIRST
BUMBLE BEE**



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**TRAVIS
CREDIT UNION
ANNOUNCES NEW
APPOINTMENT**



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**Birthday Fairy Cheers
Dixon Children**



Dixon's Birthday Fairy Dora Affonso helps little Rodolfo Villegas celebrate his first birthday with a present selected just for him. "Dora is doing wonderful things for little children," said his mother Yessenia Villegas who arranged the special visit. Courtesy photo

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - “Imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand,” said Albert Einstein. There is much sadness and loss in our world right now, that maybe only fairies can save the day.

Enter the Dixon Birthday Fairy, a woman who was already helping other moms through the Booze Fairies, who saw that children needed similar surprises waiting at their doors – especially if it was on their birthday.

When Dora Affonso saw her son’s birthday coming up and knew the pandemic shutdown meant they

couldn’t have a party or even go for an ice cream gathering, an arrow struck her heart.

“I really felt the kids were left out and I thought there’s a lot of children in our community that are devastated just like my son because they can’t celebrate their birthday,” the home health worker said.

“I [legally] adopted my husband’s two children, a boy and a girl, and I’m very much a kid person. It’s very wonderful to be a part of them growing up and be a part of their life and I didn’t want anyone to cry like my son did when nobody could come for his birthday.” Soon it came to her that she could be a birthday fairy and leave a basket of surprises at a child’s

door. After dressing up in green satin and sprouting pretty wings, Dora posted her plan on Facebook.

It was a little slow at first, she said, but for the ones who took advantage of her free offer, her popularity began to grow. She went from having four birthdays a month to having a dozen and ultimately having trouble with the cost of supplying free toys, color crayons, stickers, balloons, etc. She had been purchasing all her own supplies from the Dollar Tree and then her mother offered help from the Dollar Tree where she works with donations. Each gift bag or basket is geared for that specific child based on the information the parents have provided.

Continued on page 2

**Health Dept.
and Providers
to Accelerate
Vaccinations**

**California Department
of Public Health**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The state issued vaccine recommendations to local public health departments and providers focused on accelerating the pace of COVID-19 vaccine administration. The recommendations clarify the state’s vaccine prioritization process and that after appropriate efforts to reach highest priority groups, health departments and providers may offer doses to lower priority groups when high-priority demand subsides, or when doses are about to expire.

“California’s health care providers have done incredible work thus far in vaccinating hundreds of thousands of Californians,” said Governor Gavin Newsom. “On behalf of our state, I thank our hospitals, doctors, nurses, and others for joining us in this all-hands-on-deck commitment to safely and quickly Vaccinate All 58. When Californians join together, our spirit of resiliency and innovation always wins. By continuing to take the precautions we need to get through this surge, and by ramping up safe and equitable vaccinations, we can and we will get through this darkest part of the tunnel to the light.”

To maximize vaccine administration and reduce the potential for waste, local health departments and providers should immediately administer COVID-19 vaccines to individuals in all tiers of Phase 1a. In addition to frontline health care workers, this includes a wide range of people in health care settings such as community health care workers, public health field staff, primary care clinics, specialty clinics, laboratory workers, dental clinics and pharmacy staff.

Local health departments and providers should make special efforts to administer vaccine to vaccinators and consider partnering with others to provide vaccinations for individuals in prioritized tiers. They may also allocate doses on the assumption that immunization will be accepted by some but not all who are offered the vaccine, and then continue to offer vaccinations in progressive priority tiers. For example, if a county has maximized use of the vaccine to administer individuals in Phase 1a, they should move to Tier 1 of Phase 1b while continuing to offer vaccines to those in higher priority groups.

To view the full state recommendation visit: www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/NR21-008.aspx ★

City Council Splits City Clerk Duties

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon City Council voted unanimously in the first reading to separate the duties of the City Clerk into two positions; one elected and one administrative and there is a consensus among Solano County City Clerks that there is good reason to do so. The item, however, was challenged by the proponents of Measure T as “circumventing the will of the citizens” because of the 55 percent vote to have only an elected one.

Out of the other six Solano County cities, the largest and the smallest populated, Vallejo and Rio Vista, both have appointed City Clerks who have full-time, salaried positions with Vallejo’s annual

salary starting at \$110,000. Rio Vista’s city clerk duties are combined with administrative duties to the City Manager. City Clerks in Benicia, Fairfield, Suisun and Vacaville are elected.

“We don’t like to see a clerk go to elected because the technical training for a city clerk is unbelievable. It’s election law, it’s Fair Political Practices Commission, and the Voting Right Act,” said Jose Jasso, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk for Rio Vista who is a recent past President of the City Clerk Association of California. “It is an incredible task and involves mind-boggling work to get that certification and that person has to have that in-depth knowledge. There is an unbelievable calendar you have to follow

with the deadlines for publishing.” He knows there are ‘ceremonial positions that collect a stipend’ but doesn’t agree due to that knowledge required.

“That’s what scares me [for elected clerks] even if you are tenacious as all get out,” Jasso said. “I get the distrust thing for Dixon but it scares me when we have an elected clerk and [the public] is going to expect that clerk to go to the trainings. I cringe for Dixon as we go to workshops every year and with all the new laws, your head can explode. People send teams,” he added.

“I lived with the election code next to my bed. I’ve woken up in the middle of the night sweating because I’m thinking I didn’t do a notice. There is an incredible sense of responsibility

that you take. A good clerk lives and breathes the job with all the deadlines and all the facets of the duties.”

Fairfield’s Deputy City Clerk Amber Alexander was surprised “Dixon was considering going the opposite direction of what most small cities are going to,” she said.

“I do 95% of the work and it is important and complicated,” she said. “It’s weird to me. You need a qualified person who can keep up with the laws. The elected clerk determines as much or as little as they want to do so if she doesn’t want to attend a meeting, technically that would fall on me.” Their Deputy City Clerk’s salary starts at \$87,266. Fairfield’s person is not required to be a Certified Municipal Clerk

Continued on page 3



New Year's Resolution to Faithfully Tithe

By Debra Dingman

I've made a New Year's resolution to be faithful with my tithing. For those who aren't church-going, that means a regular offering of money to help support the work of the church. So hold onto that thought...

There are stories in every corner of every town and inside the heart of everyone I meet. Well, okay, to be fair, I've met a few uninteresting people, but I do enjoy interviewing people and learning what makes them tick. It is amazing to me that when I get into the deep part of an interview of why someone is doing something extraordinary, there is often these words:

"Honestly..." "You may think this is crazy but..." and "I believe this is what God wants me to do." This is the moment of truth for the journalist. It will tell me the inside passion that drives this person to do what they are doing or be who they are. No matter how great the sacrifice of time, money, or talent, and sometimes pain, it is why things are getting done by pure graciousness of their spirit.

So I wonder where all these people in every walk of life with every background get the idea that there is a God to believe in?

Was it a Sunday School teacher, a sermon by a minister, speech by a faith leader, a broadcast, book, or simply from a parent? And if it was from a parent, how did that parent learn about God?

Generations of ministers across our world preach about God and that God is

real and breathing air into our spirits the wonder of love. The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. These provide the moral fiber of the nation and in our world. That is why I've decided to better support my church.

If it weren't for a church somewhere – providing some mental or physical nourishment, or shelter, or inadvertently raising up a new faith leader, our country would be hopeless.

The ministers I know work hard and pray without ceasing. Most would have never had much of a family life when they first heard their calling if it weren't for a spouse. My whole life has been better because of my faith, and I'm grateful – especially when I can feel the forgiveness part knowing I've made really sad mistakes.

The national situation has challenged me to the core. I watched the news and read where people died. I lost another schoolmate to COVID. I am very tired. Then, I did another interview with the most special people ever who have given far more than I could have ever dreamed and then that magical sentence was verbalized straight from their soul:

"Well, I really believe this is exactly what God has called me to do."

Thinking back over the hundreds of interviews where I've heard this and think of the magnitude of the work that's been done for humankind, my faith – and my energy – is refreshed. Thus, now I'll say it: My tithings gladly go. ★

Continued from page 1

"My daughter has a huge heart; both my daughters do and I'm so proud of them," said Amy Ruiz, Dora's mother, of Petaluma who shared that her parents, who were in their 60s, helped raise the girls most of their young life while she and their Dad fought substance abuse.

"My father didn't have a childhood due to his mother dying when he was very young so we heard stories all those years while we were growing up and I think that had something to do with Dora wanting to get involved with children," said Ruiz who has gone on a couple deliveries with her daughter and handles the donations. "My father was really the only father she had. She's always been a very sweet person. Dora goes that extra mile to help a mom and a dad."

And, the number of birthday fairy visits were still growing.

"One month, I had 106 children and I couldn't let any of the kids and all the families down so I asked the community for help

but I didn't want anyone to think it was a scam so I posted photos [and made it clear] that I just want to know if the community was interested in helping," she said. "I had 10 to 15 moms coming over and dropping things off. It was wonderful!" Her husband asked why she wanted to do this.

"I want to be the person that makes their birthday special and I want to be the one children talk about to their friends," she told him, feeling confident from work experience with autistic children, that this was important work to help children feel better during these tough times. He's very supportive now, she said, and keeps track of her with his GPS when she's making a delivery.

Now she does a birthday drawing at the first of every month and the children can watch her live feed to see if she draws their name. She then sends a message to the parents to make arrangements for delivery. Over the past ten months they have reached over 500 families, she proudly reports.

"It's really great to have

the community embrace something kind of weird like this," she said. "I just want to celebrate our children and I think we've had so much sadness this year." One call that stands out was a celebration for a 14-year-old boy.

"I did a scavenger hunt all around Dixon for him and he had to hunt around his favorite shops and there was a riddle he had to figure out to get to the next place. The last stop was the ice cream shop," she said. Another boy was really into Pokemon and she hid them all around his front yard so he had to find them all to get to his basket.

Since she already works in the healthcare industry, she easily practices all the rules for ensuring safety during the Coronavirus pandemic including wearing gloves as she assembles gifts/surprises. She has gotten more organized and orders her trips to be most time efficient.

"Lucky for me, Dixon isn't too big," she said. For more information, see the Dixon Birthday Fairy on Facebook or call (707) 679-8058. ★

Sen. Dodd Introduces Wildfire Technology R&D Proposal

By Paul Payne, Office of Senator Bill Dodd (D)

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) – SEN. BILL DODD, D-Napa, announced legislation to promote the research and development of new technology to prevent and respond to California's ever-increasing wildfires.

"The escalating frequency and devastation caused by wildfires demands that we seek out emerging technology to address this urgent threat," Sen. Dodd said. "My proposal will help develop advancements and tap innovation from the public and private sectors. It will allow us to work smarter to protect life and property."

Seventeen of the 20 largest wildfires in California

history 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 109, introduced Wednesday, 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.

Sen. Dodd has been a leading advocate for wildfire safety during his time in the Legislature, writing more than a dozen new laws to improve prevention and response. He has been a champion of innovation, authoring the 2019 bill that established the state's Wildfire Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center to enhance California's ability to predict and prepare for wildfires.

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



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Lions Random Act of Kindness

By Scott Smith, Dixon Lions Club

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Lions Club recently announced the launch of the third annual Dixon Lions Club Random Acts of Kindness program.

For over 60 years the Dixon Lions Club has served Dixon with donations and volunteering time for those in need, today each member will be given \$100 to use to perform *Random Acts of Kindness* in our community! The goal of the *Random Acts of Kindness* Program is to give each member who has shouldered that responsibility a personal say in how some of the money that they have helped raise is donated to our community. This program will create our members to ‘do something nice’ during the season of giving and sharing. It is our way of thanking the community for supporting our club. By expanding the Club’s sphere of influence with this program the Dixon Lions Club hopes to help out additional individuals that might not otherwise have received aid from somewhere else.

The club is currently selling tickets to their March 13 BBQ Fundraiser which raises funds to support DHS senior scholarships! BBQ Tri Tip, baked beans, potato salad & bread for only \$15.00 per meal! Contact any Dixon Lions Club member for tickets or respond via their Facebook page.

Since the club’s chartering in 1954, Proceeds from past fundraising events have gone to Team Dixon, Dixon Unified School District, Dixon Toys for Tots, Dixon Schools Athletic Boosters, Dixon Relay for Life, Dixon High School scholarships, Wreaths Across America, Dixon Bids for Kids, Dixon Destination Imagination, Dixon Dolphins swim team, Dixon youth sports programs, DHS Open House, DHS Sober Grad Night, Dixon FFA, Dixon Elementary School outdoor education trips & Lions Club vision programs.

For more information about the Dixon Lions Club; Website: <http://e-Clubhouse.org/sites/DixonCA>

Facebook: Dixon Lions Club

Kula's New Salon Offers Self Care Bounty



Inside Kula's Boutique and Tanning, stylist Michelle Doan gives Hannah Detmers a sassy new look at the new addition, Kula's Salon, which brought several new services to the menu of the shop. They will reopen the salon portion soon but the retail portion of the business is still open. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - For a regular dose of self-care for women, there is much offered behind the yellow door that bejewels the one block of businesses on West B Street inside Kula's Boutique and Tanning.

The door belies the large space featuring retail of clothing, jewelry, home interiors and gifts leading to the numerous tanning or massage rooms and now: a full hair salon fashioned in urban-esque design by owner Amy Rogers and stylist Michelle Doan.

“It’s very important for me to do what I’m passionate about and [owners] Amy and Brian have given me that opportunity here,” said Doan who spent the first decade of her married life as a full-time homemaker raising her two children.



Michelle Doan-Lavin was more than happy to have her Dad, Don Doan, as her first client in the new Kula's Salon knowing it would make a forever memory. Courtesy Photo

Doan had been a stylist at B’s Gallery for three years and became close friends with owner Becky Jacobs before wanting to pursue her career more with skills for eyebrow microblading and eyelash extensions. Those require a lot of different rules and regulations requiring a move from B’s, she explained.

“But what I love most is the connection I get with my clients,” she said. “That they feel confident enough with me to trust me and share a personal conversation. I’m 38 years old. Life is short and there is so much to be grateful for. During COVID, they let me run with getting the [the salon] all set up. They were a blessing from God to me.”

Kula’s owners, who had a future goal of being a “one-stop-shop,” needed someone to help run the shop for them.

“I was caught by Michelle’s personality and her heart, her passion for being a stylist and for her customers, and we’re both strong believers. I think that I was so lucky to find her. We both have a strong faith and I think that is what clicked first for me,” said Rogers who learned that Doan had conquered many personal struggles but exudes positivity and a sense of determination. “We both have the same vision,” she said.

Rogers works full time for Sutter Medical Center managing a team of 25 employees and put herself through school to provide better for her and her daughter after a teen pregnancy in her early life. Now, she is the mother of three daughters including a 3 and 8-year-old and has a “very supportive” husband.

It’s understandable that Rogers could relate to Doan's drive and ascertain she’d be great for running the shop. Michelle revealed she had been gravely sick as a child and spent a lot of time at Oakland's Children’s Hospital due to a rare genetic condition called Juvenile Polyposis Syndrome.

“Being at Oakland’s Children Hospital and seeing kids there – some that actually live there – I was able to take that in and know the difference,” she said. That realization gave her an attitude of gratitude. “I

was able to go to school and go outside and play and develop my relationship with God – that was at a young age and that is a hard thing for young people.” Not that life was perfectly easy after that.

“I did lose faith –for a minute –and wondered why wasn’t I enough. I had to learn that I was enough for myself,” she said. Out of three children, Doan is the middle child and the only one with the condition. After genetic testing, they learned one of her two sons has it and must be hospitalized for regular testing.

“We don’t know where it came from,” she said. “For an adult, [getting scoped] is a piece of cake but going through it as a kid, it is very traumatizing. I learned that God made me a fighter for a reason. It’s going to take a lot to take me down. I go to counseling once a week and have learned a lot about myself. Family is huge to me.”

Going through Cosmetology School during a divorce brought her closer to her teen sons and now she is developing a rich, communicative relationship with her father who has Stage 4 Terminal Cancer. She seems to find the ‘silver linings’ in each devastating crisis.

“My Dad wanted to be my first haircut,” she said. A \$20 bill is in the frame with her business license on the edge of her mirror at her styling station. “He made me shave his hair off when he first got cancer but his hair has grown back because he’s not doing chemo anymore but it’s different; it’s wiry and curly. He calls me his baby girl and he said, ‘Michelley, just cut it however!’ “She gave him a trimmed down mohawk.

“It was his idea to do the \$20 tip in the frame and sign it but I wanted to create a memory and I wanted that first memory to be of my Dad,” she said.

Kula’s is still open for retail, sells gift certificates, and can schedule appointments. They are located at 120 West B Street – look for the yellow door – and you can call (707) 678-2633 for more information. ★

Water Agency Presents North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project

By Ryan Abussa, Wilson Public Affairs

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Water Agency will be presenting a project for addressing local water quality issues and wetland restoration conflicts at a Public Workshop hosted by the California Water Commission.

The North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project is a multi-benefit alternative to an existing component of the State Water Project (SWP) that provides essential drinking water supplies to about 500,000 people in Solano and Napa counties while also serving large industries that provide job opportunity and support economic prosperity. The current intake, located in the Cache Slough region of the Delta, exhibits the poorest water quality of all the SWP facilities and is further constrained by Federal and State regulatory pumping restrictions put in place to reduce impacts to endangered Delta and Longfin smelt.

The Cache Slough region has also been identified by State and Federal agencies as a unique, high-priority area to protect, enhance and restore the Delta ecosystem to assist in the recovery of endangered species through habitat enhancement and restoration. The North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project is a critical project that will bolster the protection, enhancement, and restoration of the Delta ecosystem and promote regional water

supply reliability.

“The alternate intake project will provide our region with a sustainable solution that strikes a balance between the need to provide a reliable water supply and safe drinking water, protect the environment and support a stable economy in Solano and Napa counties,” said Ron Kott, Mayor of Rio Vista and Solano County Water Agency Board Chair.

“The alternate intake project is an integral component to achieving the legal obligations outlined in the Delta Reform Act’s co-equal goals of improving water supply reliability and habitat in the Delta,” said Solano County Water Agency General Manager Roland Sanford. “This project will be a big undertaking that will require a collaborative local, state and federal partnership to implement - including funding for the project. We believe this project is paramount to the success of efforts to improve regional water supply reliability and recover endangered species in the Delta. The alternate intake project will also protect regional water supplies from the effects of sea level rise and other climate change impacts.”

The workshop is scheduled from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

Interested parties may register for the workshop at [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcteOispjgoGdZfwSHl8tYudPm-KjhniQow](https://zoom.us/join/zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcteOispjgoGdZfwSHl8tYudPm-KjhniQow)

City Council Splits City Clerk Duties

Continued from page 1

but is expected to do the program within four years from the date of hire.

Her experience has been that most elected city clerks think of themselves as volunteers so may or may not do all the expectations. They are doing it for public service, she said. The Fairfield stipend is \$190 per month and they do a lot of signing and paperwork, she said.

“An elected City Clerk has to have a Deputy City Clerk because someone has to do the daily work,” said City of Suisun’s Deputy City Clerk Donna Polk. Their elected City Clerk, Anita Skinner worked for the city for 40 years and was retired but now serves in the official spot and receives a \$416 monthly stipend.

The other two of the three cities in the county that are elected are Benicia and Vacaville Benicia’s City Clerk is elected and receives an annual stipend of \$11,042 per year or approximately \$900 per month. Lisa Wolfe says she has been there for 17 years now and has a ‘cubicle’ in the City Manager’s office where she works five days a week for a few hours

unless it is a meeting night, then it is longer. She has a full-time salaried Deputy City Clerk who does some city clerk responsibilities and also works with the City Manager. Wolfe does all the election tasks.

Vacaville’s City Clerk is elected but is more of a ‘ceremonial position’ with a stipend of just \$75 a month. In an elected position, the internal staff appears to be the key to everything.

At the City Council Meeting, Councilman Jim Ernest asked if it was the same job he had done for six months as an interim recently and Manager Jim Lindley responded, “It is exactly the same job.” Ernest then downplayed the duties as being simple and not at all time consuming. Apparently that was the ‘ceremonial version’ as then the discussion went into detail about the elected duties consisting of everything but milking a cow and City Attorney White estimating the cost of training to be about \$10,000. In another vote, the stipend was set temporarily at \$250. The item will return for full adoption at a later date. ★



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Travis Credit Union Announces New Appointment of General Counsel



Michael J. Levy is the New General Counsel of the Travis Credit Union. Photo courtesy of Travis Credit Union.

By Jill Wallace-Cooper, Travis Credit Union

VACAVILLE, CA (MPG) - Travis Credit Union is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael J. Levy in the new role of General Counsel. Michael has been a practicing attorney for nearly 30 years, amassing a diverse and successful portfolio of litigation experience in a variety of disciplines, both in the public and private sector, and in some of the most complex legal fields including administrative, business, environmental, and constitutional law. Michael's appointment as general counsel of TCU took effect late in 2020. Michael is the principal legal officer, working closely with the executive leadership team and providing leadership

in all matters with legal implications, including supervision of all litigation, guidance on regulatory compliance and bringing a legal perspective to TCU's strategic vision. "We are delighted to have Michael on board as our new general counsel," said Barry Nelson, president and CEO of Travis Credit Union. "Michael is a strong leader in the legal community who has a proven heart for service. His track record of dedication to ethics and giving back to his community aligns perfectly with our philosophy of 'people helping people.' He brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to TCU." Michael's experience includes virtually all aspects of government law, including regulatory oversight, compliance and 15 years as deputy or general counsel for four state agencies, most recently at the California Department of Insurance. He is an active volunteer in the legal and local community, having served two terms as a Supreme Court appointee on the State Bar Trustees Nominating Committee, Chair of the Amicus Committee of the California Access to Justice Commission, president of the Sacramento County Bar Association, Appellate Mediator for the Third District Court of Appeal, multiple commissions for

the City of Davis, and volunteer for his daughters' schools, among many other roles. Michael's penchant for giving back to the community and striving to make our society better makes him a powerful ally for TCU's Awesome Cause, which is to change lives and lift communities through financial wellness. Michael is recently published, having joined the author team for the 2020 Rutter Group publication of California Practice Guide: Administrative Law. Michael earned an LL.M. (cum laude) in natural resources and environmental law from Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College (1998), a J.D. from the University of San Diego (1991), and an A.B. from U.C. Davis (1988). Headquartered in Vacaville, California, Travis Credit Union is a not-for-profit cooperative financial institution serving those who live, work, worship, or attend school in Alameda, Colusa, Contra Costa, Merced, Napa, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, and Yolo Counties. Currently, Travis Credit Union is the 13th largest credit union in California with more than 214,000 members and more than \$3.9 billion in assets. ★

Search on for the First Bumble Bee of the Year



The late Robbin Thorp, distinguished emeritus professor of entomology. The Bohart Museum of Entomology is sponsoring a two-county contest in his memory to find the bumble bee of the year in Solano and Yolo Counties. Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey

By Kathy Keatley Garvey, UC Davis

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Be on the lookout for the first bumble bee of the year in Yolo and Solano counties. In memory of native pollinator specialist Robbin Thorp (1933-2019), UC Davis distinguished emeritus professor of entomology, the Bohart Museum of Entomology is sponsoring the inaugural Robbin Thorp Memorial First-Bumble-Bee-of-the-Year Contest. Professor Thorp, 85, who died June 7, 2019, was a global authority on bumble bees, and always looked forward to seeing the first bumble bee of the year. He launched an impromptu contest several years ago with a small group of bumble bee enthusiasts/photographers from Yolo and Solano counties. Now the Bohart Museum, where Thorp spent much of his time identifying bees and helping others, is sponsoring the contest. Participants are to capture an image of a bumble bee in the wild in either Yolo or Solano counties and email the image to bmuseum@ucdavis.edu, with the details of time, date and place. The image must be recognizable as a bumble bee. The winner receives bragging rights and a special gift from the Bohart Museum, said Lynn Kimsey, director of the Bohart and UC Davis professor of entomology. Plans call for a Bohart coffee mug with a bumble bee image. The first bumble bee to emerge in this area is the black-tailed bumble bee, *Bombus melanopygus*. Native to western North America and found from California to British Columbia and as far east as Idaho, it forages on manzanitas, wild lilacs, wild buckwheats, lupines, penstemons, clovers, and sages, among others. Thorp, a 30-year

member of the UC Davis entomology faculty, from 1964-1994, co-authored two books, *Bumble Bees of North America: An Identification Guide* (Princeton University, 2014) and *California Bees and Blooms: A Guide for Gardeners and Naturalists* (Heyday, 2014). He achieved emeritus status in 1994 but continued to engage in research, teaching and public service until a few weeks before his death. A tireless advocate of pollinator species protection and conservation, he was known for his expertise, dedication and passion in protecting native pollinators, especially bumble bees, and for his teaching, research and public service. He was an authority on pollination ecology, ecology and systematics of honey bees, bumble bees, vernal pool bees, conservation of bees, native bees and crop pollination, and bees of urban gardens and agricultural landscapes. Thorp co-taught The Bee Course from 2002 to 2019, an intensive nine-day workshop affiliated with the American Museum of Natural History and held annually at the Southwestern Research Station, Portal, Ariz. Kimsey, who first met Thorp when she was a graduate student at UC Davis, said that although he wasn't her major professor, "my project was on bees and he was incredibly helpful and supportive. His enthusiasm about pollinators and bees in particular actually grew after he retired, and he continued helping students and researchers and was the backbone of so much research. His support and kindness was matched by his undemanding assistance and expertise. What a terrible loss to his family and to the research and conservation communities." An authority on the critically imperiled Franklin's

bumble bee, *Bombus franklini* Thorp began monitoring the bumble bee population in 1998 in its narrow distribution range of southern Oregon and northern California. He had not seen it since 2006 and was instrumental in placing Franklin's bumble bee on the Red List of Threatened Species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Long active in the North America IUCN Bumblebee Specialist Group, Thorp served as its regional co-chair, beginning in 2011. In August of 2016 a documentary crew from CNN, headed by John Sutter, followed Thorp to a meadow where he last saw Franklin's bumble bee. Sutter wrote about Dr. Thorp, then 82, in a piece he titled "The Old Man and the Bee," a spinoff of Ernest Hemingway's "The Old Man and the Sea." Highly honored by his peers, Thorp was named a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco in 1986; recipient of the Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship of UC Davis in 2010; and recipient of the UC Davis Distinguished Emeritus Award in 2015. Other honors included: member of the UC Davis Bee Team that won the Team Award from the Pacific Branch, Entomological Society of America (PBESA) in 2013. In addition, he was a past president (2010-2011) of the Davis Botanical Society, and former chair (1992-2011) of the Advisory Committee for the Jepson Prairie Reserve, UC Davis/Natural Reserve System. UC Davis professor and pollination ecologist Neal Williams, who organized a special symposium in Thorp's honor at the 2019 PBESA meeting in San Diego, praised his "tireless efforts in research. ★

Arraignment Set for Matthew Scott Jones

By Monica P. Martinez, Office of District Attorney County of Solano

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On January 4, 2021, in Department 9 of the Solano County Superior Court before the Honorable Carlos Gutierrez, Defendant Matthew Scott Jones was held to answer on two counts of Attempted First Degree Murder, Explosion with Intent to Murder, Arson of an Inhabited Structure, three counts of Use of an Explosive Device to Destroy Property, and Possession of a Destructive Device in a Public Place. On April 27, 2017, at approximately 10:00 p.m., officers of the Fairfield Police Department responded to an apartment fire in the City of Fairfield. Upon further investigation, they determined a home-made explosive device

was thrown through the window of an occupied apartment. Fortunately, both victims were able to escape the apartment, however, the explosive device caused substantial damage to the apartment. At approximately 10:32 p.m., officers of the Fairfield Police Department responded to a report of a vehicle fire. During the investigation, the officers determined a homemade explosive device had been thrown through the window of a parked vehicle. On the following morning, at approximately 1:00 a.m., there was another explosion in front of the Fairfield Police Department. During that investigation, it was later determined that a home-made explosive device had been thrown towards the entrance of the Fairfield Police Department. That same morning at

approximately 10:00 a.m., officers of the Fairfield Police Department located a fourth home-made explosive device at the Nexeo Chemical Plant. The Fairfield Police Department, with the assistance of Federal Bureau of Investigations, were able to determine that Matthew Scott Jones was responsible for all four incidents and he was subsequently arrested. Defendant Jones remains in custody and is scheduled to be arraigned on the Information on January 19, 2021, at 8:30a.m., in Department 9. Detectives Adam Brunie and Kathryn McCormick investigated the case. The case is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys Mary Nguyen and Michelle Fraser. Victim Witness Assistant Cynthia Malloy provided victim advocacy. ★

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Employment Development Department Another Name For Titanic Disaster



By Dan Walters
CALMatters

“Rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic” is an overworked cliché, but it certainly applies to California’s Employment Development Department. The name itself is a farce. There’s no evidence that EDD ever developed any jobs, other than employing thousands of bureaucrats to pay out unemployment insurance benefits – and that’s been a titanic disaster. This week, EDD suspended payments to many Californians in its latest effort to deal with massive fraud that erupted when Congress pumped many billions of dollars into the unemployment insurance system for workers who lost jobs due to COVID-19. “As part of ongoing efforts to fight fraud, EDD has suspended payment on claims considered high risk and is informing those affected that their identity will need to be verified starting this week before payments can resume,” the agency tweeted on Sunday. The suspensions were ordered a few days after EDD’s much-criticized director, Sharon Hilliard, abruptly retired – whether voluntarily or otherwise – and Gov. Gavin Newsom replaced her with veteran

apparatchik Rita Saenz. The fraud scandal is doubly embarrassing for Newsom because the agency was already on the hot seat for failing to deliver timely payments to hundreds of thousands of legitimate claimants and still has a massive backlog of unprocessed claims. The Los Angeles Times, in a lengthy examination of the fraud scandal, pointed out that EDD had failed to adopt “precautions implemented in other states, including using sophisticated software to identify suspect applications, keeping Social Security numbers out of official mail and cross-checking benefit claims against personal data on state prison inmates.” The agency had a contract with a firm, Pondera Solutions, that had successfully used publicly available data to flag potentially fraudulent claims, but cancelled it when federal funds for the fraud-prevention program expired. So EDD fell hugely behind on legitimate unemployment claims and approved billions of dollars in fraudulent claims. What else could possibly go wrong? Two years ago, state Auditor Elaine Howle advised the Legislature that EDD was exposing people to identity theft by placing Social Security numbers on mail. The volume of such mail has exploded during the pandemic but EDD ignored the warning and “has continued to place Californians at risk of identity theft,” Howle said in a recent letter to Newsom.

Finally, the surge of unemployment claims has created a gigantic debt. California borrowed more than \$10 billion from the federal government to pay benefits during the recession that began in 2007. The feds hiked taxes on California employers to pay off the debt and by the end of 2019, a year of low unemployment, the unemployment insurance fund had a \$3.3 billion balance. However, during 2020, the state paid out more than \$100 billion in benefits, about a quarter in employer-financed regular benefits and the rest in emergency federal aid. The state unemployment fund was more than \$20 billion in the red at the end of 2020 and, EDD projects, will end 2021 with a negative balance of nearly \$50 billion. When state unemployment funds dry up, benefits continue with federal loans that states must repay. California’s previous \$10 billion debt took years to repay, and it now could face a \$50 billion debt. The state may hope for loan forgiveness, but if it’s not forthcoming, employers will be saddled with new taxes that would make recovery from recession even more difficult. If there’s a political price to be paid for EDD’s seemingly endless crises, it will fall on Newsom, especially if a pending recall drive places his career on the ballot later this year. Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★



There Are Other Ways

Dear Dave, I really don’t have any established credit, because I’ve never taken out a loan or had a credit card. What will happen when I’m ready to get a mortgage loan and buy a home? –Jillian Dear Jillian, There are basically two ways to be in a position to get a home loan. One is to have credit at lots of places and a huge FICO score. This is kind of dumb when you really think about it, but it will get you a mortgage loan almost instantly. When you have no credit, a lender has to do what’s called a manual underwriting. It’s something lots of banks did back in the day, when they actually used common sense when it came to making loans. Fortunately, a few places will still work with you in this manner. They take a look at your work history to see if you have a stable job and a good income.

Dave Ramsey Says

They want proof you pay your bills on time, too. This can be as simple as showing them several utility bills, rent statements, and other receipts. They’re basically looking for a long history of proof that you honor your financial commitments. Remember, buying a house with cash is always the best way to own a home. But I don’t beat people up over having a mortgage, as long as it’s on a 15-year, fixed rate note. Do your very best to save up for a down payment of at least 20 percent, too. That way, you’ll avoid the added expense of PMI (private mortgage insurance). Great question, Jillian! –Dave **First, Define Long Term** Dear Dave, What is your advice when it comes to investing a one-time, lump sum of \$4,000 for a long period of time? I recently received an inheritance from an uncle who passed away, and I want to make the money work for me. I’m 33 and my home is paid for, plus I have no debt and an emergency fund of six months of expenses. I am also maxing out my 401(k) at work. Thank you for your advice. –Pat Dear Pat, I’m sorry to hear about your uncle, but I’m sure he was proud of the responsible young man you’ve become. You’ve made some very mature decisions where your finances are concerned, and as a result you’re at a great spot in life. When it comes to investing, I consider a “long period of time” to be 10 years or more. If this is the case with you, I’d suggest a good mutual fund with a solid track record of between 15 and 20 years. I know some folks like to take chances and play single stocks on a one-time investment like this, but I don’t think that’s a good idea. Single stocks just don’t consistently generate the kinds of returns a good mutual fund will over time. –Dave *Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Dave 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.* ★

Felony EDD Fraud Charges Filed

By Shelly Orio,
Office of Sacramento County
District Attorney

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On January 4, 2021, nine felony counts of EDD fraud were filed against Walter Lee Dawson in Department 62 of the Sacramento Superior Court. Dawson was arrested on December 3, 2020, when Sacramento Probation Officers and Sheriff’s Deputies conducted a probation compliance search and recovered a Glock style pistol with no serial number, multiple rounds of 9 mm ammunition, approximately \$58,000 in cash, approximately 3.8 pounds of marijuana, and packaging material consistent with marijuana sales. Dawson was arrested and charged with felon in possession of a firearm, felon in possession of ammunition, and possession of marijuana for sales charges in Sacramento Superior Court case number 20FE019364. During the search, nine EDD debit

cards issued in different names were also recovered as were approximately 20 additional EDD documents in various people’s names. After Dawson’s arrest, a joint investigation by the District Attorney, Probation Department, Sheriff’s Office, and the California Employment Development Department Investigations Division revealed that approximately \$219,000 had been fraudulently acquired by Dawson when he obtained the nine EDD cards. Dawson, who has prior strike convictions for residential burglary and attempted residential burglary, was arraigned today on an amended felony complaint that added nine felony counts of EDD fraud. With the additional charges, Dawson faces a maximum sentence of 19 years, 4 months in state prison. The Sacramento District Attorney will continue to investigate and prosecute EDD fraud, which cheats rightful recipients out of much needed assistance and costs Californians billions in lost tax dollars. ★

Veterans Ordered to Clean Up Hall

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Time to roll up your sleeves and don your mask as we need to give the Dixon’s Memorial Hall another clean up, Friday, January 15, due to an order from a Solano County official who said it had to be done by January 16 or else... Okay, well not exactly. But, they did want it done by then and as you might not know, County Veteran Halls are not free. The non-profit organizations are required to rent out and maintain the building, including upkeep, landscaping, and paying all of the commercial bills that any typical

business must pay. That would include electricity, water, and garbage and with the pandemic restrictions shutting down the hall, it has not been generating any money to pay those bills. The veterans have used their savings to stay afloat and have cut every cost they can but are still limited in manpower and resources for labor and landscaping. The honorable World War II, Vietnam, Korea or other Veterans need the help of the strong and able. “Everybody is welcome,” said Wayne Holland, Commander of American Legion Post 208. “The green dumpster will be there at 7 am

and a couple bikers group are volunteering and a landscaping company is coming out to help with the side yard.” They are inviting service clubs to claim their service hours with the effort and Kiwanis Club of Dixon is one that has already confirmed assistance. There will also be Veteran Riders Motorcycle Club support gear on hand for sale and, of course, any donations to keeping the Dixon hall afloat will be appreciated as well. The Veterans Memorial Hall is located at 1305 North First Street in Dixon. For more information, call Holland at (707) 301-0941. ★

CLG NEWS UPDATES

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

Petition to recall Gov. Gavin Newsom attracts 1 million signatures in California – Petition needs just 500,000 more signees by mid-March deadline | 08 Jan 2021 | A renewed push to recall California Gov. Gavin Newsom has attracted more than 1 million signatures, with 9 weeks left to collect the remaining 500,000 needed to place the measure on the ballot. Overall, the effort needs roughly 1.5 million people to sign on by mid-March, which would trigger a mid-year election. “The people are being heard loud and clear, and it is not a matter of IF we are going to reach our goal necessary that will trigger a recall election of Newsom, it is just when we cross the finish line,” Orrin Heatlie, the Lead Proponent of the official RecallGavin2020.com, said in a statement.

Ex-Capitol Police Chief Says Pelosi, McConnell’s Sergeants at Arms Refused Security Measures While New Timeline Proves ‘Trump Incitement’ Claims Bogus | 11 Jan 2021 | The *Washington Post* has reported that the outgoing Capitol Police Chief, Steve Sund, believes his efforts to secure the premises were undermined by a lack of concern from House and Senate security officials who answer directly to Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate leader Mitch McConnell. The National Pulse can also report the *Washington Post*’s timeline proves it was impossible for Trump speech attendees to have made it to the Capitol in time for the breach. In addition to the fact that Trump openly called for the “cheering on” of Congressman, and “peaceful” protests, the timeline as established from numerous, establishment media reports simply doesn’t stack up.

IT Expert and Global Defense Contractor Testifies in Italian Court That He and Others Rigged Machines to Switch Votes to Biden in US Election | 06 Jan 2021 | An employee of one of the world largest defense contractors, Leonardo SpA, has sounded the alarm and provided a shocking deposition detailing his role in the most elaborate criminal act affecting a US election. Arturo D’elio outlined the scheme that proved successful in using Leonardo computer systems and military satellites located in Pescara, Italy. Recent reports of a hack at Leonardo now appear to have been an orchestrated cover to mitigate blowback on the corporation which is partially owned by the Italian government. A press release by Nations In Action revealed details:

Nations In Action, a government transparency organization, partnered with the Institute of Good Governance to thoroughly investigate and research the election irregularities which yielded the long awaited proof that a flawless plot to take down America was executed with extraordinary resources and global involvement. Americans and elected officials now have proof that the election was indeed stolen. This provides the mechanism for each state to recall their slate of electors immediately or face lawsuits and request all federal government agencies to lock down all internal communications, equipment and documentation from the Rome Embassy. “Make no mistake, this is a coup d’etat that we will stop in the name of justice and free and fair elections,” stated Maria Strollo Zack, Chairman of Nations In Action.

Rasmussen: Trump’s Approval Rating Rises After DC Protests | 08 Jan 2021 | The Rasmussen poll, one of the most accurate polls of the 2020 election, finds President Trump’s approval is actually rising after Wednesday’s protests. As Democrats move to impeachment and some establishment Republicans call for the 25th Amendment to remove Trump, the poll finds 48% approve of the President’s job performance. A source close to the polling firm tells Newsmax that the rolling survey saw Trump’s approval soar to 51% on Thursday night. Trump’s approval has been up overall, jumping from 45% just before Christmas.

Federal Prosecutor Opens Excessive Force Investigation Into the Death of Ashli Babbitt - Report | 09 Jan 2021 | Michael Sherwin, acting U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, said that his office has started a federal, excessive force investigation over the shooting and killing of former U.S. Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt in the Capitol on Jan. 6. Sherwin confirmed the investigation with CBS News. His civil rights section will lead the prosecution, which is being investigated by D.C. police and the FBI.

The Most Definitive Video Yet of Capitol Police Letting the Protesters Enter the Building | 08 Jan 2021 | A protester was shot and killed and a Capitol Police officer died after protesters at a Trump rally poured into the Capitol Building and became violent. Soon thereafter, videos of crowds being *allowed* in by Capitol Police began to appear. Indeed, two reporters from The Washington Examiner spoke with dozens of people who said that Capitol Police simply allowed them to come into the Capitol Building as they do with visitors. And now there’s a definitive video showing that not only were police letting the protesters in, but a phalanx of police *watched* them let the protesters into the building. ★



FOR THE LOVE OF
BOOKS
By Amy Shane

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

Middle-Grade Reads to Get Excited About
Back-to-school reading has never looked so fun. With virtual classrooms still going strong, the need for adventurous, fun reads is even more important.



School Squad
by Eileen Moskowitz-Palma; RP Kids

The second book in the Popularity Pack series, *School Squad* returns right where *Camp Clique* left off. Now that Maisy is finally in with the popular girls, it's time for her to keep up her end of the deal and help Bea get in too. But will everything turn out as planned once Bea makes it in, or is everything headed for disaster?

In a story that explores popularity and sacrifice at any cost, two friends will explore the meaning of true friendship and the price some will pay for the illusion of popularity. Eileen Moskowitz-Palma understands the multitude of emotions that surface during the middle school years; knowing that one problem always leads to a snowball effect. Moskowitz-Palma introduces two friends that need to conquer school problems while simultaneously dealing with real-life issues at home. The relatability and honesty behind


these characters make this a great coming-of-age read.



The Thirteenth Fairy: Never After
by Melissa De La Cruz; Roaring Book Press

What would you do if your favorite fairytale character came to life? This is exactly what happens to Filomena, and it's not just her favorite character Jack. Jack insists that the stories she has been reading are real, and the Kingdom of Never After needs her help. Whisked into a world that she thought was make-believe, Filomena must fight an evil queen and her army to help save the Kingdom she knows and loves.

Readers will fall for this wonderful, adventurous tale of fairytales coming to life. Melissa De La Cruz knows how to deliver a story that instantly enchants her readers, providing a magical take that the whole family can get into. A story filled with princesses, fairies, sorcerers, and evil slayers, everyone will want to discover the truth of the Thirteenth Fairy and help Filomena save the Kingdom.



The Beast and Bethany
by Jack Meggitt-Phillips; Aladdin

Ebenezer Tweezer has a secret, he is precisely 511 years old, and he has a Beast that lives in his basement. Not, just a regular kind of beast, a beast who produces presents and magical potions after Ebenezer feeds him. But, after so many years, the beast has grown restless, and he is tired of the occasional meal of small pets, or prickly cactus', and now he has his sights set on a child. Good thing there is a perfect, insufferable child at the Institute for Gentlemanly Boys and Ladylike Ladies. Bethany, who is anything but ladylike, fills her days with pranks and mischief, but as Ebenezer begins to befriend this little girl, things start to change. Will he be able to feed her to his beast?

Get lost in the hilarious and heartwarming story of, *The Beast and Bethany*. With all the mischief that will leave readers rolling on the ground in laughter and just enough sentiment to keep them hooked to the very end.



Riley Reviews
“MR. MAYOR” AT LEAST FUNNIER THAN WHAT HAPPENS IN L.A.

A TV Review by Tim Riley

“MR. MAYOR” ON NBC

The tag line for the new NBC comedy series “Mr. Mayor” is “L.A. called. Neil answered.” Neil would be Ted Danson’s Neil Bremer, a retired billboard mogul who runs for mayor of Los Angeles to prove he’s “still got it.”

Back in 1993, voters in the City of Los Angeles did, in fact, elect businessman Richard Riordan as its leader, though it seems he did not have much to prove with a successful career that included a partnership in a top law firm and ownership of a popular downtown eatery.

As things stand right now in California’s largest city, it seems incomprehensible that anyone would want the task of being mayor. For one thing, the current occupant of the post is under attack for a homeless population that was growing exponentially even before the pandemic.

The NBC press notes describes Los Angeles as America’s “second weirdest city.” That may be true but it begs the question of what city is the weirdest. Could it be Portland, Oregon, where the designation seems most likely appropriate? Or is San Francisco in the running?

All that matters is whether “Mr. Mayor” might be worth watching. There’s potential for optimism for a sitcom that has been shaped by the same creative forces of Tina Fey and Robert Carlock that brought the surreal humor of “30 Rock” to prominence on the NBC schedule.

Voter turnout in city elections is already low, so when the current mayor announces his resignation because he was broken by the year 2020 due to the pandemic and supposedly murder hornets, among other things, a special election draws Bremer into the race.

A mayoral aide lets it be known that Bremer is not qualified for the office and yet won 68 percent of the vote of the 8 percent of voters who bothered to show up when the competition consisted of a libertarian porn star and Gary Coleman’s ghost.

That Bremer’s opponents were gadflies is a bit of humor that jogs one’s memory of candidates during the 2003 Grey Davis gubernatorial recall election in which Arnold Schwarzenegger emerged victorious. How many people will remember or catch that particular joke?

What propelled Bremer into the political arena was no high-minded purpose of crafting public policy and solutions, but rather to prove his worth to his politically engaged teenage daughter Orly|(Kyla Kennedy).

Within moments of taking office, Bremer bumbles his way through

advocating a ban on plastic straws to the chagrin of his daughter only because she’s running for sophomore class president on the same issue and feels co-opted by her father’s action.

A television screen captures a clip from the mayor’s press conference which notes his openness to the idea of a robot police force. Apparently, potential initiatives will be randomly tossed out and almost immediately forgotten.

Bremer’s campaign manager and social influencer Mikaela Shaw (Vella Lovell) comes on board as the “first woman of color without a master’s degree to be chief of staff,” and yet wonders how she can work for a politician who thinks Santa Monica is part of the City of Los Angeles.

A more eccentric member of the mayor’s staff is the awkward Jayden Kwapis (Bobby Moynihan), the holdover communications director who wears prescription flip-flops for his “podiatric claustrophobia” condition.

Meanwhile, Mikaela and the mayor’s strategist Tommy Tomas (Mike Cabellon), more of a bureaucratic functionary whose role remains mostly undefined, think it best to keep the odd-ball Jayden on staff as the person to throw under the bus when it becomes convenient.

Bremer’s primary nemesis is veteran council member Arpi Meskimen (Holly Hunter), a caricature of an agenda-driven progressive, who quickly attacks the mayor’s straw ban as an attack on disabled persons.

In a Machiavellian move, Bremer, who at first eschewed having any deputy mayors, brings Arpi into his inner circle in that position on the timeworn concept of “keep your enemies closer.”

Will this arrangement work? Arpi is definitely out in left field. She takes the stance that it is cultural appropriation to call coyotes anything other than “mini wolves” who should also get government funded birth control.

As Bremer gets dragged around town by his staff, the mayor soon realizes that his job is “90% photo ops and animal funerals” and he proves clueless and widely inept even in ceremonial situations.

After visiting a weed dispensary where he ingests proffered edible products, the mayor becomes so increasingly loopy on his city tour that he knocks out the beloved mascot for the Los Angeles Kings hockey team.

With only two episodes offered for critical judgment, “Mr. Mayor” is congenial and amusing enough as a conventional sitcom with its political issues tending so far to innocuous topics and that may be a good thing after a contentious election year.

New Mayor to Speak at Dixon Women’s Improvement Club

By Loran Hoffman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Club President, Jewel Fink, announced that Steve Bird, newly elected Dixon Mayor, will be speaking to members of the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club on Wednesday, January 20, on their monthly ZOOM call. Mayor Bird will offer information on current and future city projects along with an update on the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on Dixon’s economy. Time will also be allowed for questions following his presentation.

Panda Express hosted a successful fundraiser for the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club last Wednesday by donating 20 percent of their sales for the entire day to the club. Guests only had to show a flyer when paying for their meal for the club to receive the credit. We appreciate the generosity of this local small business in supporting community efforts.

The annual Scholarship Fundraising Dinner will be held on Monday, February 15, from 4:30-8 p.m. Bud’s Pub & Restaurant will be providing the great food as usual, entrée choices of steak, prime rib, salmon, chicken dish, or pasta, however, guests will be driving through to pick up their meal. Tickets are \$25 each and include an entrée, house salad, potatoes, vegetable, and bread. Ticket holders can order their dinner from Bud’s after 4 pm and pick it up at a designated time. Women’s Improvement Club members are offering delivery service as well! If you would like tickets or more information, please text/call Loran Hoffmann at (707) 372-7094 or President, Jewel Fink at (510) 301-1887.

If you would like to learn more about the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club or participate in a ZOOM meeting, please contact membership chair, Mary Kay Callaway at (916) 541-0417.




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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.



Friday, January 8, 2021

0945 – Vehicle towed for expired registration at North Jefferson and West E Streets.

1456 – Allen Epperson of Dixon (33) was arrested for outstanding warrants and possession of a dirk.

1922 – A proactive enforcement stop in the 900 block of North Adams Street resulted in the arrest of Jose Anaya Jr. (10/13/1987) for misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia and three outstanding bench warrants. He was transported and booked into the Solano County Jail without incident.

2144 – A proactive enforcement stop in the 800 block of North Adams Street resulted in the arrest of Josef Lee Pratt (12/9/1994) for Possession of drug paraphernalia, a local bench warrant and for violating the terms of his probation. He was transported and booked into the Solano County Jail without incident.

Saturday, January 9, 2021

0027 – A proactive enforcement stop in the area of North First Street and Dorset Drive resulted in the arrest of Roger James Coulter (11/16/2002) of Dixon for Misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of methamphetamine. He was transported and booked into the Solano County Jail without incident.

0752 – Vandalism reported in the 300 block of South 2nd Street.

1112 – Traffic enforcement stop in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue. Abraham Mason (21), of Fairfield, was arrested for an outstanding warrant out of Solano County for Failure to Appear. He was transported to the Solano County Jail.

1242 – Fraud reported in the 1400 block of Ary Lane. Brendon Caldas (31), of Davis, was contacted and arrested for Conspiracy, Larceny, Probation Violation, Unlawful Use of Access Card, a warrant out of Davis for Failure to Appear, and a warrant out of Woodland for Probation Violation. Chelsea Langley (27) of Davis, was also contacted and arrested for Conspiracy, Larceny, Unlawful Use of Access Card, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Violation of Parole. They were both transported to the Solano County Jail.

2111 – A proactive enforcement stop in the 400 block of Adams Street resulted in the arrest of Ismael Estrada (2/25/76) of Dixon for misdemeanor of drug paraphernalia, and Edgar Bojorquez-Gastelum (1/10/1987) of Dixon for having four local no-cite misdemeanor warrants. Estrada was booked into the Solano County Jail, while Bojorquez-Gastelum was cited and released from the Dixon Police Department.

Sunday, January 10, 2021

0621 – Lost property reported in the 1300 block of Weyand Way.

1116 – Domestic dispute in the 500 block of West Creekside Circle.

1124 – Vehicle burglary reported in the 500 block of Fountain Way.

1332 – Theft from a vehicle in the 1400 block of Reed Drive.

1501 – Drunk driver reported in the 300 block of North Almond Street. Kathleen Harper (28), of Roseville, was arrested for Driving Under the Influence and Driving Under the Influence with a BAC of .08 or Greater. She was transported to the Solano County Jail.

1815 – Vandalism to a vehicle reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

1930 – Vehicle burglary reported in the 600 block of Hansen Court.

Monday, January 11, 2021

0958 – Vehicle burglary reported in the 600 block of Hansen Court.

1347 – Lost property reported in the 600 block of Schooner Ridge Drive.

2032 – Child abuse report taken at the PD.

Local Classified

Announcement

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

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

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

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

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • FAMOUS DUOS

CLUES

ACROSS

- *Timothy Q. Mouse's friend, in Disney classic
- River in Germany
- Whistle parts
- Whatsoever
- Like tuna tartare
- Forearm bones
- Plural of #3 Down
- Hardware store
- "Gladiator" setting
- *Ferb Fletcher's stepbrother
- *Mr. White's unfortunate student
- Welcome spot for weary traveler
- It shall, for short
- Cul de ____
- Young herring
- Dieter's cuisine, for short
- Gator's cousin
- French "place"
- Chunk of iceberg
- St. Louis monument
- Like new TV set
- Front of ship
- Singular of loci
- Additional
- Reality TV's Spelling
- *Assistant to regional manager Michael Scott
- Missing a limb
- More, in Madrid
- Like acne-prone skin
- Pimple fluid
- *Shirley's roommate and fellow bottle-capper
- *Rory Gilmore's mom
- Make an effort
- Legal org.
- Long stories
- Scottish valleys
- Doctor Dolittle, e.g.
- *One of The Carpenters duo
- Bone-dry
- Opposite of WSW
- Red or orange announcement

DOWN

- Slightly wet
- *Malone and Stockton of the ____ Jazz
- Skirt length
- Shroveitide dish
- *Mary-Kate and Ashley
- Geologists' studies
- * ____ and cheese
- Moved under the rug
- "All ____ no bite"
- Footnote word
- *Amy Poehler's comedic partner
- Welsh alternative to Siobhán
- Was almost out of gas, e.g.
- Source of indigo dye, pl.
- " ____ Be Home For Christmas"
- In the best possible way
- Coffee burn, e.g.
- *Bow and ____
- Spherical bacteria
- *Corona's main squeeze?
- What willow did
- Read-only chip
- Greek bazaar
- *Clark's fellow traveler
- College party chant
- Celestial bear
- Dancer's beat
- Daisy dukes, e.g.
- *Wizard of Oz' man
- Archimedes' exclamation
- Furlough
- Flower part
- Frog delicacy
- Wheel shaft
- Sverve
- European sea eagle
- *David and Paul on the " ____ Show"
- Italian currency, pl.
- Maple genus
- Negative contraction
- *Jerry's fellow treat-maker

Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 8





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

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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

LEGAL ADS FOR SOLANO COUNTY?

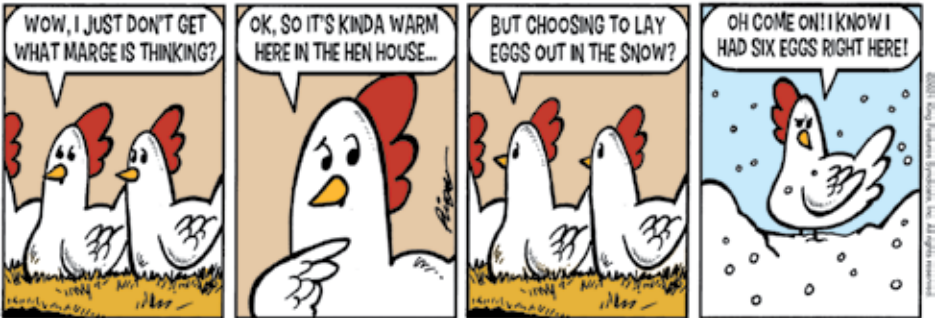
We Can Do That!

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WEEKLY COMICS

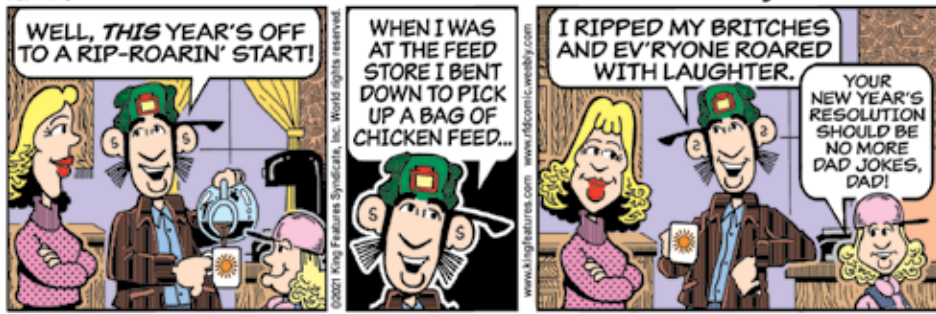
Amber Waves



Out on a Limb



R.F.D.



"The jury's verdict in the Michael Jackson case is noted. However, this is the Figby case."

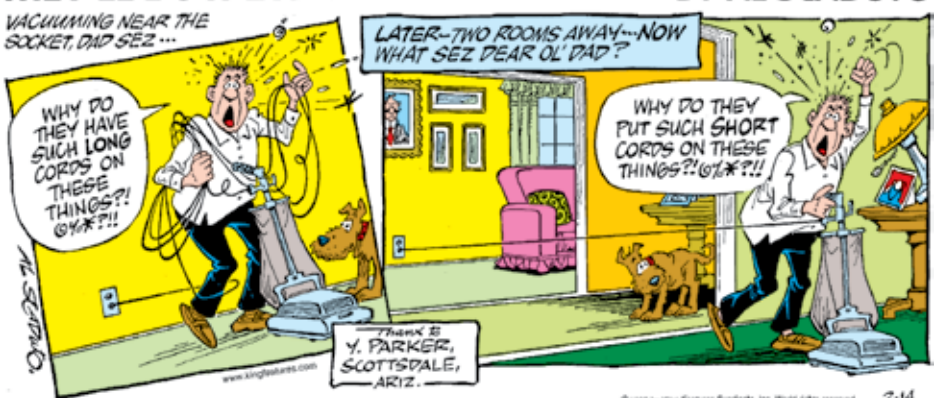


"That sure WAS a surprise party. She actually gave her right age!"

The Spats



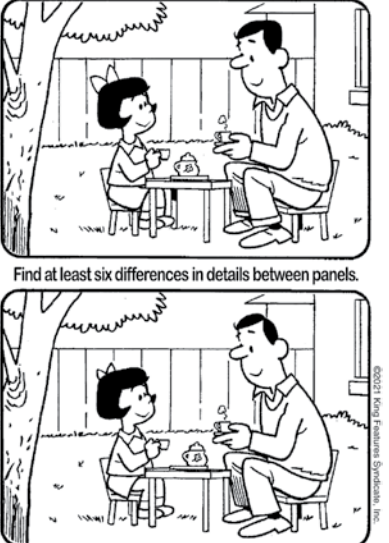
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