



**Tragedy, Triage  
and Triumph**  
PAGE 10

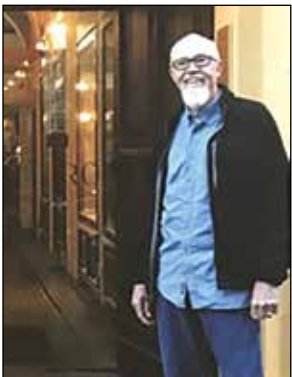
**Police Seek  
Information in  
Fatal Hit and Run**  
PAGE 3



# **Dixon Independent Voice**

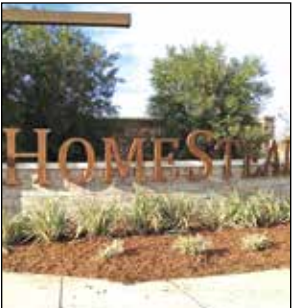
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**SEE  
INSIDE**  
**DAN ROTT  
TO SHARE  
MEMOIR AT  
DWIC**



PAGE 3

**NEW  
DEVELOPMENT  
TO HOST GRAND  
OPENING**



PAGE 2

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## **Ford Mustang Expands Family: Shows Off at Dixon's DuPratt**



Dixonites Robin and Rick Tully explore the new Mustang Mach-E that was featured at Ron DuPratt Ford in Dixon this past Saturday. It has been 55 years since a new vehicle was added to the Ford Mustang line. Photo by Debra Dingman

*By Debra Dingman*

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - For the first time in 55 years, Ford is expanding the Mustang line-up with an all-electric Mustang Mach-E SUV which was on display at Dixon's DuPratt Ford Saturday. Looking as sleek as a Tesla with smooth yet slightly curved lines the car's features were demonstrated by Pro Driver Les Betchner who answered questions to interested customers.

"We already ordered one and have been waiting to see this," said Robin Tully of Dixon who was on hand with her husband to explore the new

machine. Their engineering firm is located just down the street and uses Ford vehicles for their company fleet. That's how they found out about the special electric car.

Ford designed this car to comfortably seat five adults and offers plenty of space for friends, children and cargo. With the hood up, the first thing you realize is that it doesn't look like there is an engine as the front trunk is actually a storage area.

"It's a cooler and perfect for beer or fish or muddy boots," said Betchner, obviously familiar with some of the Dixon market. "It offers 4.7 cubic feet of storage space." He explained

that because the electric motor is so much smaller, it is actually tucked into the hood more, leaving ample space for the front trunk.

It also has a rear trunk with 29 cubic feet of space and with the back seats folded down, there is nearly 60 cubic feet, more than enough room for luggage, camping gear, or whatever else you may want to move around.

Inside, there are two center instrument clusters, unlike Tesla that has only one. The dashboard is one and the other is a very large iPad-looking screen that, of course, is a mini

*Continued on page 2*

## **City Council Considers Who Pays for Dixon's Landscape and Lighting**

*By Debra Dingman*

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - You aren't the only ones who might have noticed that there has been a huge deficit of care to mediums and public landscape areas in our small town of Dixon. The City Council heard a presentation at their last meeting after many residents have asked what was going on.

Assessment Districts are normally set up in advance of developing homes with determination of how much it will cost and then passed onto the new homeowner on their annual property tax bill permanently. This is what has been done for many years in Dixon so there are ten Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Districts (LLMD) with each assessment ranging from \$6 to \$136 per year, depending on when the area was developed and after they were developed. In addition, there is also a large 'core' area of Dixon that

has no L & L assessments because they weren't established in those early years.

If you drive down any of the Dixon thoroughfares, such as Pitt School bordering the residential areas or along North First Street, or along North First Street where there are wide

mediums filled with plants and trees, you'll know several mediums are looking shabby right now with huge weeds, dried foliage, untrimmed bushes, and trees that look on the verge of perishing. With the exception of the Valley Glen subdivision, all other LLMDs are not being

funded satisfactorily due to increased costs.

City Council reviewed the situation, hearing a detailed report from Deputy Public Works Director Louren Kotow about each district and the prevailing maintenance fees for water, lighting,

*Continued on page 3*



Medium strips around Dixon are no longer beautifying the community. Whose responsibility are these areas? Discussion ensued at City Hall. Photo by Debra Dingman

**Marianne  
MacDonald  
Joins Woodland  
Healthcare Board**



Long time Dixon Real Estate Broker Marianne Macdonald was recently appointed as a Board trustee of Woodland Healthcare Foundation. Courtesy photo

*By Debra Dingman*

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Long-time Dixon Real Estate Broker Marianne MacDonald was recently appointed as a Board trustee of Woodland Healthcare Foundation. Since 1967 Woodland Healthcare Foundation has partnered with the communities it serves, raising charitable support to strengthen health care in the region.

MacDonald previously served on the Woodland Healthcare Community Board for seven years and as its president for one year. This board provides input and feedback on what is needed to improve the health and wellbeing of patients.

After a year-long study considering moving the hospital, for example, the decision was made to renovate the facility instead of relocating it. The Foundation, on the other hand, raises funds for capital equipment needs, supports physicians and staff, educates, and develops programs that are needed to strengthen the hospital, clinics and community.

"What we're working on now is raising funds for the hospital which will be totally renovated," said MacDonald. "There are 103 beds but most are shared and people want private rooms now."

"Making time to give back while being an active Real Estate broker since 1978 has always been a priority for me," said MacDonald. "I am looking forward to this wonderful new opportunity to serve the communities supported by Woodland Healthcare, of which Dixon is a meaningful part." The volunteer community leaders dedicate time, talent and resources to furthering Woodland Healthcare Foundation's mission and vision.

MacDonald is a past board member of Child Haven in Fairfield and of the Dixon Teen Center and was a Cub Scout Den Leader. Currently, she is a member of the Rotary Club of Dixon.

For more than 50 years, Woodland Healthcare Foundation has partnered with local communities to strengthen healthcare in the region. ★





# Learning patience when you're out of it

By Debra Dingman

Everything this past week was about waiting. We were waiting to learn who the United States President was going to be – Trump or Biden. The race seemed to be so close and each day the news would report on who was in the lead and depending on which television station you watched, it rotated back and forth between the two men.

We were also waiting for the final tallies for the Dixon Mayor. Just so you won't think we're lacking in our reporting abilities, we have chosen not to run a story in this edition because of what we're told at the Registrar of Voters office:

**Total Potential Ballots Remaining:**  
Vote by mail received/to-be-processed - ~500-1,000\*  
Provisional ballots issued to be processed - ~2,000-4,000\*  
Potential vote by mail ballots not received or not cast - ~52,000-57,000  
(Note: The Registrar can receive ballots received with a valid postmark/date of November 3rd or earlier up to November 20th).  
(\*Numbers are countywide estimates, the Registrar does not have a breakdown by district on these totals)

Since there are still so many votes not counted, we are still waiting. And, once all the votes are counted, we will write about the results and the winners. Watch for next week's edition.

While waiting for colder weather, I

cleaned out my closet and hauled a giant bag of beautiful, but unwanted, women's clothes to Goodwill only to discover they were not taking donations. So once again, they were taken out of town. I'm very happy with my thinned-out closet but, of course, the cold snapped in and I realized my wardrobe from teaching children was mostly comfortable sweats as we lived in the beach town of El Segundo and it really never got too cold. Even when I was subbing last year in Dixon schools, I still dressed layered but this cold is really what I remember for Northern California. The heater had to come on and I had to buy a real coat. So much for our morning or evening walks. It's too cold in the morning and too dark when I get home from work. The exercise bike beckons...

I have also been waiting for call backs in regards to an updated COVID classification for our town.

We have been in the red tier for six weeks now but due to a spike in infections, we were going to move back into more restrictive lifestyles Tuesday, November 10. However, it was announced last week that the review of our data allowed us to continue to stay in the red tier until at least November 24. This nugget was in the update provided by Dixon Unified School District Superintendent Brian Dolan. I don't know who returns his calls or how he stays up with all of this, but I appreciate his help in knowing that my local gym will still be open, I can still worship at church, and I can hope for the best Thanksgiving Dinner with family. ★

# New Development to Host Grand Opening This Saturday



Homestead, the new Southwest development featuring homes built by D.R. Horton, Richmond Homes, and KB Homes will begin selling homes at the D.R. Horton model home center. Their Grand Opening is this Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The Southwest Development called 'Homestead,' features three subdivisions and will begin opening their models starting next week. The homes are offered by builders D.R. Horton, Richmond Homes, and KB Homes and will be part of an extensive neighborhood which will ultimately span 517 acres. The Southwest Dixon Specific Plan was approved in 2005 and provides for the development of residential, commercial and employment centers south of West A Street and east I-80.

Savannah at Homestead

by D.R. Horton is the first to open and will host their Grand Opening on Saturday, November 14, from 10 am to 5 pm at the model homes on Meadowlark Lane, east of South Lincoln Street.

They offer three floor plans. Model 1753 (also the square footage) is the smallest starting at \$463,990 and is a 3-bedroom; the 1959 sq. ft. at \$476,990 is a 4-bedroom, 2-bath, and the third one is 2317 which is a 4-bedroom, 2-bath at \$509,990. All are single stories.

For more information, call Anahi Munez at (916) 755-5120 or go to [sacramentoinfo@drhorton.com](mailto:sacramentoinfo@drhorton.com).  
Copperleaf at

Homestead is the subdivision by KB Homes. The homes will be priced in the mid \$400s and there are four models including one 2-story offered very similar in size to the Savannah homes by D.R. Horton. The KB sales office is located at 675 Johnnytuck Lane and you can reach them at (888) 524-6637.

Midway Grove at Homestead is built by Richmond American Homes and offers six models ranging from 2290 sq. ft. for \$566,950 to 3,210 sq. ft. for \$621,950 and features an 'Ultra Garage' that is large enough for a recreational vehicle bus. For more information, call (707) 788-7484. ★

# Ford Mustang Expands Family

*Continued from page 1*

computer. It is the next generation SYNC communications and entertainment system. It's a sleek and modern interface that uses machine learning to quickly learn drivers' preferences and gets even better over time thanks to the advanced over-the-air updates.

It has a 15.5-inch screen and adaptive dash card interface making it easier to access features with touch, swipe, and pinch controls that every smartphone user will be comfortable with. The 'Safety Assist' feature helps you avoid collisions and safely park.

There is also a 10-speaker system with subwoofers and comes with the foot-wave trunk opening feature for loading groceries or golf bags, Betchner said.

What was most impressive was the sky-light that spans nearly the entire ceiling so when inside, you get the feel of being outside and blessed by blue skies.

But, the biggest selling point of this car is for those who want electric. One does not have to buy fuel and less maintenance is required. People can use the solar cells

on their house and can travel up to 270 miles on a full charge in all-wheel drive or 300 miles in 2-wheel drive.

Since 80 percent of electric vehicle owners charge at home, Ford offers a Ford Connected Charging Station that can add an estimated average of 32 miles per charging hour on a 240V outlet, based on an extended range and rear-wheel drive configuration.

Owners might want to install a 'super-charger' for their garage, Betchner said, as it will take 32 to 48 amps and helps extend the premium batteries. There is an adapter for a 110V electrical circuit but that only gives 3-miles per hour charge. What you see available around town at public charging stations is the Level 3, which does 61-miles per hour in 10 minutes using 480 volts.

Price of the Mustang Mach-E depends on the trim packages but can begin at \$42,895. There are also state and federal tax credits available.

For more information, call Ron DuPratt Ford at (844) 288-6708 or stop by one of their two locations: 1320 North First Street or 1760 North Lincoln in Dixon. ★

# A Message from City Councilman Devon Minnema

Dear Supporters,

While I know Tuesday night did not give us the result we wanted, I am so proud of what we all accomplished. We sent a loud and clear message to the establishment that there is a growing hunger in this city for change and reform.

I want to thank all of you for your dedication to the cause and your support over the last four years. I say this, as this was an all-or-nothing campaign. I will be leaving office this December as my term will be expiring.

Particularly, I'd like to thank our volunteers who worked countless hours – Kenya Smith, my parents – David, Debra, and Tom, Megan Paxton, Brandon Nelson, Donna Armstrong, Victoria Austin, Claudia Weise, and Luis Angel. Our donors made this effort possible, and I thank Chris Rufer, Mike Farias, Dustin Kaiser, Kyle and Kent Ramos, Steve

Dingman, Bill Higgins, Brock McMahon, Donna Armstrong, Paul and Carol Abrams, Amy Boales, JE Paino, Syed Mehdi, and so many more for donating your hard-earned dollars for a cause worthy of believing in.

Many of you know I didn't want to run for mayor, but God called me to do it, so I take peace knowing that I have done what He asked.

Finally I would like to congratulate Treasurer-elect Jim Ward, Councilman-elect Kevin Johnson, the proponents of Measures S and T, and my soon-to-be successor Don Hendershot.

I have called and left a voicemail for Mayor-elect Bird congratulating him and I wish him the best as I hope for better times for our community.

Thank you, Dixon  
City Councilman Devon Minnema



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# Who Pays for Dixon's Landscape and Lighting

Continued from page 1 and landscape and other costs associated with each area. There was an additional detailed plan to offer the citizens an option of how to care for their districts via a ballot measure – after the City would activate an extensive educational program.

The goal with the ballot process was to give the residents a say in how they wanted to move forward with maintaining the properties or not. Basically the choice was Yes; “Raise my rates” or No, “Don’t.” Obviously a ‘no’ vote would mean Dixon losing the beautification locals have become accustomed to.

Community Activist Michael Ceremello responded during the public comment portion of the meeting stating that Kotow was not familiar with the history of this issue.

“The fact of the matter is that anybody can enjoy the landscape and lighting districts; that’s why it was proposed long ago that we convert this to a city-wide thing. Don’t we already pay real estate taxes to pay for the lighting everywhere whether or not they are in a district? How much does the school district pay for their water? What about downtown? Who maintains the lighting downtown? Who pays for those lights? Where does that money come from?” he said. “You’re not asking enough questions.”

When Mayor Thom



More medium strips that are no longer beautifying the community. Photo by Debra Dingman

Bogue agreed that it would be best for the cost to be spread over everyone, City Manager Jim Lindley said they are also looking at that option.

“We are looking at other alternatives and we have for several months,” he said adding that he didn’t want to add a “controversial item” onto the agenda before the elections and that he wanted to wait until the new Council was in place to bring another option.

“We haven’t talked to council members before we moved forward with this process. We have been working with the financial team. Because it would be shared by everyone, there would be a much lower assessment needed. Everybody uses the bike trail and this would spread the cost and make

the city look nicer,” Lindley said.

Another option brought by Ceremello was the City paying for it all.

“With what you are already collecting, you’re talking about \$100 thousand a year. You have \$6 million sitting in your reserves and you can’t spend \$200 thousand to take care of all the landscape and lighting needs in this city?” he asked. Councilman Jim Ernest was cautious of taking the full amount out of the general fund saying it would eventually “bleed out” the fund. There was no discussion of how other cities Dixon’s size handles this.

“I just really believe that we should be looking at a flat rate. We don’t need a bond, all we need is time,” Mayor Bogue said. ★

# Hometown Author Dan Rott to Share Memoir at DWIC

By Loran Hoffmann

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Well known Dixon schools teacher and Principal Dan Rott will share from his book, ‘What Happened Along the Way’ at the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club Zoom meeting on Wednesday, November 18 from 1 to 2:30 pm.

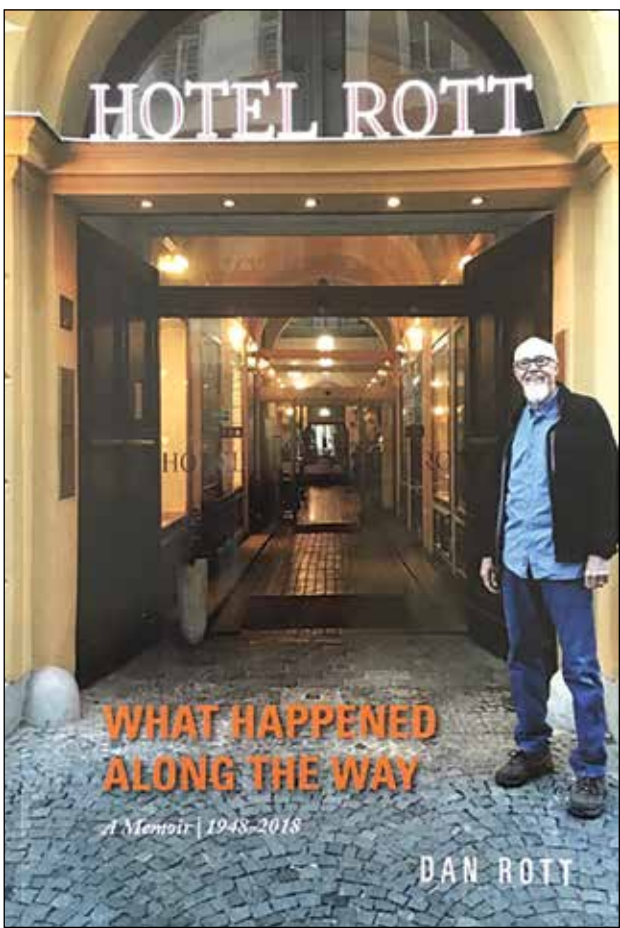
A memoir covering 70 years of life in Northern California including simple humorous family tales and unforeseen tragedies was written for his children.

“Most of our parents and grandparents had stories to tell but didn’t share them with us,” he said. “This memoir does that.”

Dan spent his childhood in Dixon and was an educator here, working as the principal of East Elementary (Anderson) and Tremont Elementary Schools. During the years of 1978-2015 Dan married Joan Brugh, had three children: Eric, Ivan and Tara. He retired in 2008 and has been engaged in penning his memoir and pursuing personal interests.

The newly released book is available on Amazon.com.

A business meeting will be held following the presentation. Teri Brown will be giving more instructions and answering questions on making the fleece lap quilts for the Dixon Seniors Christmas Project. The Women’s Improvement Club will be collaborating with the Women of the Dixon Methodist Church group in providing lap quilts for those Seniors receiving Food Baskets



Book Cover of long-time Dixon educator/Principal Dan Rott.

from the Community Christmas Project on Christmas Eve.

Mary’s Pizza Shack will donate 20% of their “take out” and delivery sales to the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club Scholarship Fund all day on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd. Anyone wanting to support the fundraiser needs to mention “Dine and Donate Program” for Dixon Women’s Improvement Club. You do not need to bring a flier or a coupon. DWIC will also receive a 20% donation for any gift cards sold. The gift cards make excellent Christmas gifts, so do some holiday gift buying AND make a donation to the DWIC

scholarship fund for 2021 graduates of Dixon High School. This is truly a ‘gift that keeps on giving!’ If ordering online, select the “Dine & Donate” button in the EXTRAS menu page at MarysPizzaShack.com. Mark your calendar for November 23rd! Mary’s Pizza Shack is right next door to Starbucks at 1460 Ary Lane in Dixon.

If you are interested in participating in the Zoom presentation and meeting, contact membership chair, Mary Kay Callaway, at (916) 541-0417 for the connection code. Also, if you would like to make a fleece lap blanket, Mary Kay can provide you with the contact information also. ★

# Dixon Police Seek Information in Fatal Hit and Run

Dixon Police Dept.

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On November 8, 2020, at about 8:00 pm, Dixon Police received a call for a welfare check on a person down in the area of North First Street and East B Street. Dixon police officers arrived as additional calls were being received regarding a hit and run collision. Officers located a citizen performing CPR on an unresponsive female (70) and assisted with treatment. Dixon Fire Department responded to the scene and treated the female pedestrian who succumbed to her injuries. A male pedestrian victim (71) was located nearby and was transported to the hospital for treatment of serious non-life-threatening injuries.

Dixon Police have identified a vehicle of interest and would like to speak to the owner. The vehicle is a



The vehicle is a white 2010 Nissan Murano with Virginia license plate URS-7882. Photo: Dixon Police

white 2010 Nissan Murano with Virginia license plate URS-7882. The vehicle has two distinct decals on the rear window. A photo of the vehicle and decals is attached. If this is your vehicle or you have any information about this vehicle or incident, please contact Dixon Police.

The Solano County Sheriff’s Office of the

Coroner is notifying next of kin and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

This case is active, and several leads are being followed. If anyone has information regarding this incident, the vehicle, or driver, they are asked to contact Dixon Police Detective Alberto Oliveira at 707-678-7080. ★

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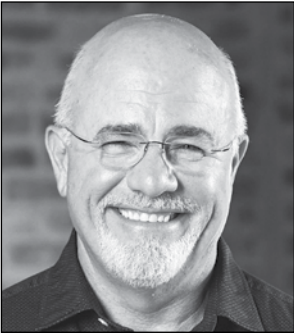
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Dave Ramsey Says

Jump In!

Dear Dave,

I recently received my master's degree in finance, and for the last four years I've had a job as a social worker. I love my job and have a decent income, but I know I could make more money and come closer to reaching my full potential in the finance industry. I'm on Baby Step 2, and I have lots of debt. On top of this, my dad lives with me and needs transplant surgery. I'll have to take six weeks off work when he has this done, and my current job has always been very supportive of his healthcare needs. Should I wait until after the procedure to look for a job in the finance field? Will the fact that I won't be a brand new graduate at that point make finding something difficult?

–Rachel

Dear Rachel,

Not at all. You can seek employment in anything you want anytime you want. But I think you're putting the cart before the horse a little bit here. It sounds like you're assuming you won't be able to find an employer in the finance world that will understand your situation and work with you where you dad is concerned.

If you were interviewing at my company, and we determined you were an amazing person and a perfect fit for the job, we'd take a look at things and do what we could to work things out to where we could bring you on and help you through the situation. So, in my mind, it doesn't reflect badly on you at all to be seeking a better job now.

Now, if you found yourself in an interview where the company reeked of that hardcore, corporate, no-days-off-no-matter-what crap, well, you obviously wouldn't take the job.

Always remember that in a job interview you're interviewing them just as much as they're interviewing you. You have to decide if they're a good fit for you as much as they need to see if you're the right person for them.

Honestly? It sounds to me a little like you're just trying to stay in your comfort zone, kiddo. I think you need to go swimming. Jump in! The water's fine.

–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.* ★

Social Security Matters  
Younger Wife is the  
Higher Earner



By Russell Gloor,  
AMAC Certified Social  
Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I've seen examples of how to maximize Social Security, but I've never seen an analysis for our situation. I'm 61 and my wife is 57, but she has been the primary breadwinner, while I just barely made eligibility. Our plan is for me to start at age 62 (\$500 a month) and then switch to my spousal benefit at age 74 when she starts her benefits at age 70 (her benefits should be \$2,500 a month). Are we missing anything? We are both in good health with an average life expectancy but there is a very good chance my wife will exceed the "average."

**Signed: Planning Ahead**

**Dear Planning:** Well first, be aware that Social Security's rules are "gender neutral" – that is, the rules are the same regardless of which of you is the higher earner. That said, you and your wife seem to have a good strategy, for with her as the higher earner with the highest benefit, maximizing her SS payment by waiting until age 70 is an excellent plan. Since her longevity outlook is very good, she should get the most in cumulative lifetime benefits by waiting. Your plan to claim at age 62 is also prudent if you will not be working full time. That's because if you claim before your full retirement age (FRA), you'll be



subject to an earnings test, which limits how much you can earn before SS takes back some of your benefits.

If you exceed the earnings limit, Social Security will assess a penalty of \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit and take back benefits equal to that amount. For example, if you were collecting SS this year the earnings limit is \$18,240. If you earned \$25,000, you'd be \$6,760 over the limit and SS would take back benefits equal to \$3,380. And at your \$500 monthly benefit rate, they would withhold benefits for 7 months to recover what you owe. And that's true until you reach your full retirement age when the earnings limit goes away (born in 1959, your FRA is 66 years and 10 months). At your FRA you would get time credit for any withheld months, but if you're planning on that SS income starting at age 62, and you're still working, the earnings limit could derail your benefit income plan. Of course, if you won't be working after you claim early benefits, the earnings limit doesn't apply. And for clarity, your wife's earnings from working don't count toward your personal earnings limit, and the limit goes up considerably in the year you reach your FRA. If you plan to continue working and the earnings limit is an issue, you might choose to wait until your FRA to claim your benefit. By doing so you would avoid the earnings limit,

and you would also assure that you would receive the full 50% of your wife's FRA benefit amount when she claims.

If you claim at age 62, your spousal benefit (when your wife claims) will be less than half of your wife's FRA benefit amount because you claimed your own benefit early. Your spousal benefit will consist of both your own (reduced) benefit and a spousal boost to bring you up to your spouse benefit amount. When your wife claims at age 70, your spousal boost (the difference between your full FRA benefit amount and half of her FRA benefit amount) will be added to your own (reduced) early SS benefit, yielding a spousal benefit less than half of your wife's FRA benefit amount. The only way you can get the full 50% spouse benefit is to wait until your own FRA to claim your own Social Security and later get the higher spouse benefit for the rest of your life.

In the end, your health, financial need and life expectancy should be the primary factors considered when deciding when to claim.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.* ★

How Long will Newsom  
have One-Man Rule?



By Dan Walters  
CALMatters

California has been a one-party state for the last decade, with Democratic governors and supermajorities in both legislative houses doing pretty much as they pleased without paying any attention to the relative handful of Republican legislators.

However, one-party rule gave way to one-man rule eight months ago when Gov. Gavin Newsom declared an emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, thus empowering himself to govern by decree and suspend any laws that stood in his way.

Democratic legislators were fully complicit, even suspending their proceedings and abandoning Sacramento for months. Eventually, however, even they chafed a bit at Newsom's seeming endless string of emergency orders.

In effect, some of those orders essentially made new law and while Democratic lawmakers stood by, two Republican legislators, Kevin Kiley and James Gallagher, filed suit, alleging that Newsom had gone too far.

Last week, Sutter County Superior Court Judge Sarah Heckman sided with the Republicans, declaring that Newsom's order changing procedures for the

November election, including a mandate that every voter be sent a mail ballot, crossed the line.

Although the Legislature later ratified the election changes, Heckman wrote that it was still important to place limits on a governor's powers under the California Emergency Services Act. Heckman indicated that in her final ruling, she would permanently enjoin Newsom from issuing any order "which amends, alters, or changes existing statutory law or makes new statutory law or legislative policy."

"The doctrine of the separation of powers prohibits any of the three branches of government exercising the complete power constitutionally vested in another or exercising power in a way which undermines the authority and independence of another," Heckman, who was elected in 2012, wrote.

The law empowering a governor to declare an emergency and suspend laws that impeded a rapid response was clearly aimed at some immediate catastrophe such as a flood, an earthquake or a riot. It envisioned something like then-Gov. Pete Wilson's suspension of contract bidding laws to quickly rebuild a major freeway after the 1994 Northridge Earthquake.

COVID-19 required a rapid response, but it's also something that could last, in one form or another, for years. Conceivably, Newsom could continue governing under his emergency decree for the remainder of his first four-year term.

Even before pandemic struck, Newsom was prone to sidestepping laws that could impede whatever he

might want to do. He boasts, for instance, of ignoring state law when, as mayor of San Francisco, he unilaterally authorized same-sex marriages. More recently, he declared that there would be no executions of murderers during his governorship even though California's death penalty is still law — one that voters refused to repeal just four years ago.

Newsom claims moral imperative as justification for his acts, but if elected officials ignore laws they don't happen to like or find inconvenient, they undermine the concept of governance under law and encourage disrespect for legal authority. Ironically, this is the same governor who demands that 40 million Californians obey his pandemic decrees, such as shutting down small businesses.


Judge Heckman's order will certainly be appealed and the issue will probably wind up in the state Supreme Court. Newsom press secretary Jesse Melgar said Newsom and his advisers "strongly disagree" with "specific limitations" on the governor's emergency authority.

Meanwhile, it's time for the entire Legislature, not just Kiley and Gallagher, to reassert its co-equal authority rather than allowing Newsom to operate indefinitely as a one-man band.

The law that gives Newsom the authority to declare an emergency also allows the Legislature, on its own, to end such an order.

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


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# Riley Reviews

## “EMILY IN PARIS” AMUSES WITH CULTURE CLASH IN FRANCE

A Film and TV  
Review by Tim Riley

**“EMILY IN PARIS” ON NETFLIX**  
As fluffy as a croissant from a Parisian boulangerie and tasty like a crème brulée, Netflix’s ten-episode “Emily in Paris” may be loosely defined as a romantic comedy that fits nicely with the French capital’s moniker of “City of Love.”

Emily Cooper (Lily Cooper), a junior level executive at a Chicago marketing firm, is properly skilled at social media strategies since she’s a millennial obsessed with Instagram and taking endless selfies quite often in mundane settings.

Having acquired the boutique French marketing company Savoir that deals with luxury products, the Chicago firm needs to send one of its executives to Paris to oversee the integration of a social media campaign from the American perspective.

When Emily’s middle-aged boss (Kate Walsh) unexpectedly becomes pregnant and thus unable to take the assignment in

Paris, Emily is inexplicably chosen for the task despite her glaring lack of French language skills.

The culture clash in the workplace is immediate when the perky Emily shows up with only having mastered the French greeting of “bonjour” and full of ideas for marketing that offend the sensibilities of her new colleagues.

Savoir’s managing executive Sylvie (Philippe Leroy-Beaulieu), aghast at Emily’s inability to communicate in anything other than English, is promptly dismissive of the American’s value to her firm.

Looking for any chance to send Emily packing back to Chicago, Sylvie throws up roadblocks to social media suggestions as out-of-step with French cultural norms. She also proves intimidating to an office staff that might otherwise start warming up to the foreign interloper.

Moving into an apartment on the fifth floor in a building without an elevator, Emily is startled to discover that in France the first floor starts at the level above the ground, leading to her mistake of entering the wrong unit.

As luck would have it, the occupant of said apartment is budding chef Gabriel (Lucas Bravo), a handsome young guy working at a nearby restaurant. Inevitable romantic sparks with Emily are as certain as the French love of pastries.

Yet, in the City of Love it’s inescapable that Emily will have a number of suitors, and with the apparent lax French attitude toward marital fidelity, the American girl catches the notice of Savoir’s major client Antoine (William Abadie).

Convenient to a plot contrivance, complicated romantic relationships abound. The married Antoine, seemingly with the acquiescence of his spouse, is having an affair with Sylvie, who now suspects he may be attracted to Emily for reasons

other than her catchy ideas.  
Emily meets Camille (Camille Razat) while shopping for flowers, not knowing that she’s actually Gabriel’s girlfriend. Paris is a big city, but if you stay within one arrondissement the environment is evidently that of a small town where everyone knows the neighbors.

Having arrived in Paris without any friends and the boyfriend back home deciding not to visit for even a week’s vacation, Emily makes a new best friend with Mindy Chen (Ashley Park), a nanny for a couple’s small children.

Coming from a wealthy family in China, Mindy speaks three languages and has a singing voice that would make her a sensation but for stage fright. Mindy’s desire to stay in Paris is driven in part by escaping her father’s wish that she would enter the family business.

Mindy helps Emily to avoid some cultural faux pas and to navigate the local customs. On her own, Emily is easily seduced by all that Paris has to offer, including a chance encounter at the iconic Café de Flore with a pretentious professor that ends up in a one-night stand.

Not helping her cause at work is Emily’s lackadaisical approach to actually learning to speak French. When enrolled in a language class, Emily demonstrates study habits more in line with those of a high school dropout.

The City of Light, another nickname for the French capital, is very much a central character for this series. The tourist landmarks like the Eiffel Tower and Arc de Triomphe create arresting visuals especially when bathed in a nighttime glow.

Whether a photo shoot on the Pont Alexandre III, a boat ride on the Seine or exterior shots of a charming bistro, Paris is a place of great beauty that makes one wish for a European vacation at the earliest opportunity.

“Emily in Paris” fits neatly into the pantheon of show creator Darren Star’s penchant for writing television series such as “Beverly Hills 90210” and “Sex and the City,” which result in guilty pleasures from the vicarious enjoyment of glamorous lives.

Glamor resides easily within the confines of the Paris environment where stylish people wearing chic clothes strolling along expansive boulevards conjure up visions of elegance that we don’t see in everyday life.

As a result of the glitz and allure of the fabulous settings, “Emily in Paris,” even though the storyline is as predictable as Google tracking one’s online activity, holds appeal if for no other reason than the vicarious enjoyment of an exotic location during the pandemic. ★

# DC’s Newest Line Up

DC Comics has taken the comic world by storm with its line of graphic novels specifically geared for the young adult reading audience. DC Ink combines the amazing writing talents of beloved young adult writers with esteemed illustrators’ extraordinary talents, creating truly enchanting teams and powerful coming-of-age storylines. With their first few released titles: Mera Tidebreaker by Danielle Paige, Harley Quinn Breaking Glass by Mariko Tamaki, and Teen Titans Raven by Kami Garcia, the graphic-novel and young adult world collided into a fury of stunning fireworks. Catch this season’s newest releases, all available now.



**Teen Titans Beast Boy by Kami Garcia and illustrated by Gabriel Picolo**  
Garfield Logan knows this is his last year to stand out! All through high school, he’s been the little guy, but not this year! Gar is determined to make this year matter and finally be noticed by the popular crowd. Then Gar accepts a dare that finally gets him noticed, and his popularity grows overnight. But other things start happening as

well. Gar grows taller, muscles begin to form, and his voice even drops. Everything that Gar ever wanted is finally happening, but it’s more than he bargained. Now, Gar will have to face the truth and the Beast inside before he allows it to take over.

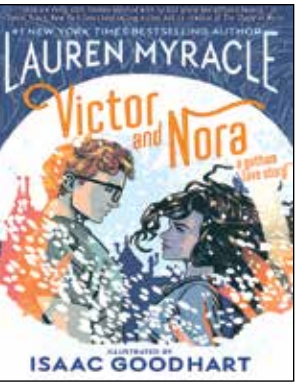
Kami Garcia and Gabriel Picolo bring the *Beast Boy* to life, lending readers an exclusive inside look from the very beginning. Fans of Beast Boy will be overjoyed with this graphic novel’s take and even more delighted for the next book in the series; *Beast Boy loves Raven*.



**Swamp Thing Twin Branches by Maggie Stiefvater, illustrations by Morgan Beem**  
Alex and Walker Holland couldn’t be more opposites, yet as twins, they are inseparable. Walker is loud, fun, and social, while Alec is quiet, preferring life in the lab studying plants. So, when they are sent to live with their cousins for the summer, they decide to make the best of it, each falling right into their familiar comforts. However, this summer is going to be different. The swamp calls

to both of them, quickly pulling them in separate directions forcing them to face certain truths while confronting the past.

*Swamp Thing, Twin Branches* takes its reader deep into the emotional journey of two twins as they learn to accept the darkness that haunts them, and the truth that is wanting to break free. This story teaches readers to take a good look at the seeds of truth that they plant in themselves before they take root.



**Victor and Nora: A Gotham Love Story by Lauren Myracle, illustrated by Isaac Goodhart**

From the dynamic team that brought readers, *Under the Moon A Catwoman Tale* comes a new story of love and forgiveness. Victor is haunted by the death of his brother and has dedicated his life to science. At the same time, Nora is determined to spend her last days to the fullest. When Victor and Nora meet, they form an unbreakable bond that will open Victor’s heart and give Nora the will to live. Showing readers the true meaning of loving and letting go. ★

# How Has the Decline in Physical Activities Affected California Residents

By Elli Carrillo,  
QuoteWizard

**SEATTLE, WA (MPG)** - The lack of physical activity is found to be directly linked to mental health along with many health conditions deemed high-risk for serious COVID-19 illness. Physical activity during stay-at-home orders found 43% of people experiencing a significant decline, which came with an increase in stress.

Our team at

QuoteWizard analyzed CDC data and found, 79.2% of California residents were found to be physically active ranking among the most active states in the country —making those in California at lower risk of serious illness from COVID-19, but susceptible to adverse mental health. If you would like to learn more about physical activity and its effect on health during the pandemic, visit our full data report here: <https://>

[quotewizard.com/news/posts/most-physically-active-states](https://quotewizard.com/news/posts/most-physically-active-states)

**Key Findings:**  
In 2019 there were 64.2 million US gym memberships, with an average attendance of 104 days a year per gym goer; On average 76% of American’s have participated in physical activities in the last month; Nearly 88% of workers reported experiencing moderate to extreme stress over the first six weeks of the COVID-19 outbreak. ★



## Lumber Prices Ease a Bit from Record Highs

Pandemic-related effects have changed both supply of lumber and demand for it — sending prices to record highs. Analysts say lumber production slowed due to stay-at-home and social-distancing guidelines affecting mills. At the same time, individuals bought more lumber to work on home repair and expansion projects. Lumber prices have declined sharply since mid-September, but remain higher than previous records set in 2018.

## Cotton Farmers Monitor Markets


As they approach the halfway point in their harvest, California cotton farmers say the market for the crop may be stabilizing. Farmers had already reduced cotton acreage due to water shortages and trade uncertainties, when the pandemic further disrupted markets by reducing demand for cotton products. Farmers say prices have started to rebound a bit, and report a good-quality California cotton crop with better-than-average yields.

## Flower Growers Express Concern on Import Ruling

Low-priced flowers from Central and South America have driven many California flower growers out of business — and representatives say a new decision may accelerate that trend. The U.S. Trade Representative’s office says it will allow roses from Ecuador to enter the U.S. duty-free. The California Cut Flower Commission describes its members as disappointed, and says imports have already pushed more than three-quarters of U.S. rose growers out of business.

## Share of Income Spent on Food Stays Stable

On average, Americans spend about 10% of their disposable income on food, according to an updated report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The USDA says that proportion has stayed relatively stable for the past 20 years. Americans have spent a rising share of income on food consumed away from home, at restaurants and other eating places. The figures go through 2019, so don’t include changes in eating habits caused by the pandemic. ★



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Ask Toni

Group Health Insurance . . .  
Who Pays First with Medicare?



Toni King

Toni,  
I am 67 and have group health insurance through my current employer. I have talked with friends, my company HR, and my insurance agent. I am receiving answers from “I don’t know” to “I’m not sure but I think ...”. My company health insurance has a \$2,500 deductible. If I have a medical claim and I have Medicare Part A and my employer medical insurance, who will pay the claim first and how much will I have to pay? Also, should I have enrolled in Medicare Part B since I am still working?

I have just started following your Medicare column in our local paper and am finding you are answering problems, I never knew I could have. Thank You so much. ~ Roxanne, New Orleans

Roxanne,

Let’s start with discussing enrolling in Medicare Part B when working with an employer group health plan. On page 22 of the 2018 Medicare & You handbook, it discusses “Should I Get Part B” with employer or union coverage and states... “If you or your spouse is still working, and you have health coverage through that employer or union, contact your employer or union benefits administrator to find out how your coverage works with Medicare ... It might be to your advantage to delay Part B enrollment.”

To answer about enrolling in Medicare Part B, it is optional because when you leave your or your spouse’s employer group health plan, then you can enroll in Medicare Part B with a Special Enrollment Period.

Now let’s talk about who will pay your claim first and this depends on how many employees are on your company’s group health plan:

- 1. **Your employer has 20 or more employees.** Your group health plan will generally be primary. Should your group health plan not pay all the bill, you may need to ask the health

care provider or your doctor to send the remainder of the bill to Medicare if you are enrolled in Medicare Parts A and/or B for secondary payment. Should there be any cost your health insurance or Medicare didn’t cover, you will have to pay the balance.

**Your employer has 20 or more employees.** The employer must offer their employees 65 and older the same health benefits, under the same conditions that the company offers employees under 65. If the employer offers coverage to under 65 employees’ spouses, the employers must offer over 65 employees’ spouses the same coverage.

**Medicare will generally pay second if the following applies:**

- If your employer joins forces with other employers or employer organizations i.e., unions, to sponsor a multi-employer plan (group health plan). Sometimes employers with less than 100 employees will band together to form a multi- employer plan. Medicare pays second.

2. **Your employer has less than 20 employees.** Medicare pays first.

3. **You and Retiree Insurance** (insurance from your or your spouse’s former employer): Medicare pays first.

Always verify with your Human Resources if the Insurance Company will pay first when the employees or employees’ spouses are over 65 and on company health benefits. One thing to know is that if you should go outside your employer’s network, it is possible that neither the company’s plan nor Medicare will pay.

Is the maze of Medicare confusing you? Call the Toni Says® Medicare hotline at 832-519-8664 or visit the Medicare Annual Enrollment Toni Says® webinars which explain what Medicare is and how to properly find your Medicare Part D plan at [www.toni-says.com](http://www.toni-says.com).

Toni King, author of the Medicare Survival Guide® is giving a \$5 discount on the Medicare Survival Guide® Advanced book to Toni Says Medicare column readers. ★

CLG NEWS UPDATES

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

**If Trump concedes election, Republicans will ‘never’ elect another president** | 08 Nov 2020 | Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) warned that President Trump should not concede defeat in the 2020 presidential election in part because Republicans will “never” be able to elect another president from their party again. “If Republicans don’t challenge and change the U.S. election system, there will never be another Republican president elected again,” Graham said Sunday on Fox News. “President Trump should not concede. We’re down to less – 10,000 votes in Georgia. He’s going to win North Carolina. We have gone from 93,000 votes to less than 20,000 votes in Arizona, where more –more votes to be counted.” Every major news network and The Associated Press on Saturday projected Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 race for the White House. Trump has said he will not concede, alleging widespread voter fraud led to tens of thousands of illegal ballots being cast against him.

**Rep. Doug Collins to lead Trump campaign’s Georgia recount effort** | 08 Nov 2020 | Georgia Rep. Doug Collins – who just lost his bid for a Senate seat – will lead the Trump campaign’s recount effort in the state that was too close to call. The move was announced Sunday night and the recount in The Peach State will begin when “the canvassing has concluded,” according to President Trump’s campaign. “Republicans stand by the ideal that every eligible voter should be able to vote legally and have it be counted,” Collins said in a statement. Collins and the Trump campaign both claimed that ballots were “improperly harvested” in Georgia.

**99.6% of Mail Ballots Went to Joe Biden in Pennsylvania?** | 08 Nov 2020 | Democratic Absentee: 1,704,817 Republican Absentee: 625,766 Independent Absentee: 303,355 ([votespa.com/About-Elections/Pages/Counting-Dashboard.aspx](https://votespa.com/About-Elections/Pages/Counting-Dashboard.aspx)) % of Absentee Ballots that were Returned from Registered Democrats and Non-Republicans: (1,704,817 + 303,355) / (1,704,817 + 625,766 + 303,355) = 76.24% % of Absentee Ballots that were Returned from Registered Republicans and Non-Democrats: (625,766 + 303,355) / (1,704,817 + 625,766 + 303,355) = 35.27% Total Biden Mail Votes: 1,942,596 Total Trump Mail Votes: 582,430 Total Joe Mail Votes: 23,996 ([electionreturns.pa.gov/](https://electionreturns.pa.gov/)) % of Absentee Ballots that voted for Biden: 1,942,596 / (1,942,596 + 582,430 + 23,996) = 0.7623 = 76.21% % of Absentee Ballots that voted for Trump: 582,430 / (1,942,596 + 582,430 + 23,996) = 0.7623 = 22.85% % of **Democratic and Non-Republican Absentee Voters who voted for Joe Biden: 76.21% / 76.24% = 99.96%** % of Republican and Non-Democratic Absentee Voters who voted for Donald Trump: 22.85% / 35.27% = 64.79%

**Trump Campaign to Name David Bossie to Lead Legal Election Fight - Report** | 06 Nov 2020 | President Donald Trump’s re-election campaign is expected to name seasoned conservative operative David Bossie to lead its post-2020 presidential election legal efforts, according to reports. The *New York Times*, CBS News, and ABC News all reported the development Friday afternoon as the Trump campaign continues to wage legal battles in key battleground states over concerns of voter fraud and inadequate observation of ballot counting in the November 3rd election.

**Candace Owens targets Facebook 3rd-party fact-checkers with lawsuit** | 06 Nov 2020 | Conservative activist Candace Owens said Thursday that she plans to sue Facebook’s third-party fact-checkers over perceived censorship of her social media posts. “It is time to fact-check the fact-checkers,” Owens said in a video posted to her Twitter account. “I’m going to put these suckers through discovery and figure out what the relationship is that they have with Facebook.” Owens gave an example of an instance that she alleged crossed the line. “Quite literally a doctor gave his opinion about COVID-19, which I shared, and Facebook issued a strike on my account because they said only information that they agree with about COVID-19...was acceptable,” she said.

**Supreme Court Orders Pennsylvania to Separate Late-Arriving Ballots** – Alito orders that ‘all such ballots, if counted, be counted separately’ | 07 Nov 2020 | U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito late Friday ordered Pennsylvania election officials to segregate and separately count ballots that arrived after Election Day. Alito granted a request by the state’s Republican party to separate mail-in ballots received between 8 p.m. Nov. 3 and 5 p.m. Nov. 6 from those that arrived by 8p.m. Nov. 3, in accordance with state guidance. He ordered that those segregated ballots must be kept “in a secure, safe and sealed container separate from other voted ballots.” The justice, however, did not order the counties to stop counting but instead ordered “all such ballots, if counted, be counted separately.” Alito also directed any responses to the application by 2 p.m. Nov. 7. The Republican Party of Pennsylvania had filed a request earlier on Friday asking the court for an order to log, segregate, and not take any actions over mail-in ballots received after Election Day.

**Two ‘Bomb Threats’ Force Trump Supporters to Move Locations of Detroit Rally; Detroit Police Arrest Trump Unity Bridge Driver, Falsely Accuse Him of Having Two Outstanding Warrants** | 06 Nov 2020 | WalkAway founder Brandon Straka and other local Michigan grassroots groups organized a rally to show their support for President Trump in front of the TCF Center in Detroit, where the process of ‘counting’ absentee ballots took place for the past 3 days. Shortly after Trump supporters arrived, they were told by Detroit Police that they had to leave because there was a bomb threat at the TCF Center. The group moved to the Detroit City Hall, where they reorganized and began to show their support for President Trump when they were told to move AGAIN because there was another bomb threat... Avid Trump supporter Scott Hagerstrom was with Rob Cortis, when he arrested. Hagerstrom told us that although the police told them there was a bomb threat at Detroit City Hall, none of the workers inside City Hall were being evacuated.

**Fixed ‘computer glitch’ turns losing Republican into a winner in Oakland County** | 06 Nov 2020 | (MI) A ‘computer error’ led election officials in Oakland County to hand an upset victory Wednesday to a Democrat, only to switch the win back to an incumbent Republican a day later. In Oakland County’s 15th County Commission District – representing Rochester and Rochester Hills – the initial count gave a 104-vote margin to the Democrat, Melanie Hartman, amounting to a razor-thin majority of 50.08%. That stunned the incumbent, Adam Kochenderfer, giving him a sure sense that he’d lost in a district long deemed a Republican stronghold. “Apparently, there was a technical glitch in Rochester Hills. And so I actually ended up winning by a little over 1,100 votes,” said a chuckling Kochenderfer. The margin was 1,127 votes, to be exact. That gave him a 51.67% share of the total (with 48.23% going to his opponent, Hartman).

**GOP Claims Software Error Switched 6,000 Republican Votes to Democratic, Used in 47 Michigan Counties** | 06 Nov 2020 | Republican National Committee Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel and other GOP officials said the fight over the presidential election isn’t over, saying that 47 counties in Michigan may have used software that was detected to have allocated votes to Democrat Joe Biden instead of President Donald Trump in one county. “In Antrim County, ballots were counted for Democrats that were meant for Republicans causing a 6,000-vote swing against our candidates,” Michigan GOP Chairwoman Laura Cox said in a news conference Friday. “The county clerk came forward and said tabulating software glitched and caused a miscalculation of the votes.” Cox added: “Since then, we have now discovered that 47 counties use this same software in the same capacity. Antrim County had to hand count all of the ballots, and these counties that use this software needs to closely examine their results for similar discrepancies.”

**New blacklist of 'Trump sycophants' inspired by AOC being compiled** | 06 Nov 2020 | At the behest of ‘squad’ member and New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D), a blacklist of “Trump sycophants” – entitled “The Trump Accountability Project” – is archiving the names of individuals who “elected, served, funded, supported, and represented” President Donald Trump. “Is anyone archiving these Trump sycophants for when they try to downplay or deny their complicity in the future? I foresee decent probability of many deleted Tweets, writings, photos in the future,” the US representative tweeted Friday afternoon. “Yes, we are,” answered former Obama administration staffer Michael Simon, citing the Trump Accountability Project. “Every Administration staffer, campaign staffer, bundler, lawyer who represented them – everyone.” On the website’s landing page, it urges that “[w]e must never forget those who helped further the Trump agenda.” The site is a self-described “permanent record” of those who elected the president, including Trump campaign staffers, Republican National Committee members, and affiliated PACs in 2016 or 2020.

**Nevada Republican Party sends criminal referral to DOJ alleging thousands of cases of voter fraud** | 05 Nov 2020 | The Nevada Republican Party announced Thursday evening that it has sent a criminal referral to U.S. Attorney General William Barr with allegations that the state had 3,602 cases of voter fraud. The criminal complaint comes as news outlets have yet to announce a projected winner in the race between President Trump and Democratic nominee Joe Biden, with the Trump campaign and the GOP having already filed multiple unsuccessful legal challenges in the Southwestern state. “Our lawyers just sent a criminal referral to AG Barr regarding at least 3,062 instances of voter fraud,” the Nevada Republican Party wrote in a tweet. “We expect that number to grow substantially. Thousands of individuals have been identified who appear to have violated the law by casting ballots after they moved from NV.” ★

# 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, November 3, 2020

**0035** – A proactive enforcement stop for a vehicle code violation at North First Street at Stratford Avenue resulted in the arrest of Timell Brown (6/24/1987) of Sacramento for possession of methamphetamine. He was transported to DPD, where he was cited and released.

## Wednesday, November 4, 2020

**1845** – Officers responded to a report of a verbal argument in the 200 block of East D Street. As a result of their investigation, officers arrested Raymond Victor Sanchez (4/8/1954) of Dixon for Felony Domestic Violence and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. He was transported to the Solano County Jail without incident.

## Thursday, November 5, 2020

**0722** – Vandalism reported at Hall Park.

**0739** – Bicycle stop in the area of Watson Ranch Way and Dawson Drive. Chadwick Redding (31), of Dixon, was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

**1032** – Theft reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

**1000** – Theft reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive. Desirea Washington (42), of San Francisco, was arrested for Burglary, Possession of Stolen Property, Burglary Tools, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

**1459** – Code compliance check in the 700 block of West B Street. Johnnie Bryce (20), of Dixon, was contacted and arrested for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Probation Violation. He was transported to the Solano County Jail. There was also a stolen trailer, out of Chico, recovered at the scene.

**1627** – Suspicious cirmstance in the 1500 block of Marendra Drive.

**2312** – Officers responded to a report of a suspicious circumstance in the area of Sunflower Way and Fielding Way. Officers located a suspicious vehicle and conducted an enforcement stop. As a result of their stop, officers arrested Ayman Elahi (7/22/1976) of Dixon for being a felon in possession of ammunition (felony), misdemeanor violating the terms of his probation, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of methamphetamine. He was transported to Northbay Hospital after it was learned that his bloodpressure was dangerously high. He was admitted to the hospital, and released from police custody with a citation.

## Friday November 6, 2020

**0257** – While investigating an alarm in the 1000 block on North First Street, officers contacted Carlos Ascencio (10/14/1981) of Fairfield. A records check confirmed that Carlos had a misdemeanor warrant. He was cited and released for the warrant after it was determined that no additional crime had been committed.

**0933** – Vandlaism reported in the are of Currey Road and Milk Farm Road. 20-1501 Schwarz

**1326** – Burglary reported in the 400 block of McKenzie Drive. 20-1502



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**Crossword Puzzle on Page 8**

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

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**CLUES**

ACROSS

- Brocadopa or Larodopa
- They are often covert
- Used for watering
- Vexed
- Took the bait
- Spot for boutonniere
- Old West pack animal
- Big-headedness
- Render harmless
- \*Bamm-Bamm's dad
- \*Angelica, Tommy and Dil
- Opposite of yang
- Archipelago unit
- Solemn pledge
- Depletes
- Works, as in a bakery
- Kind of beige
- Hammer or sickle
- \_\_\_\_\_ firma
- Lecherous look
- Computer key
- Lure for a dieter, on a package
- Tropical smoothie flavor
- Health club offering
- Hourglass filler
- Popular saint's name
- Pea \_\_\_\_\_ pl.
- Limit, to some
- Peace symbol
- Like King George, 1760-1820
- \*Ill-tempered fourth-grader's last name
- \*Beast Boy and Starfire
- Rossini's offering
- Lobe locale
- Sure sign of fire
- Pretend, two words
- Number cruncher, acr.
- Lusitania destroyer
- Gave the boot
- Pivotal
- Santa Maria's companion

DOWN

- Party choice, abbr.
- Clobber
- Southern stew staple
- \*Stepbrothers' bipedal platypus
- Apollo Creed's son
- Toe the line
- \*Peppa's or George's last name
- "The buck \_\_\_\_\_ here"
- \*King of the Hill
- Milky-white gem
- Dry as dust
- Popular street-lining trees
- Aglow
- Related on mother's side
- Type
- Carbon-12 or carbon-13
- \*The "brains" of Scooby-Doo's group
- Billy of '80s Billboard charts
- Small songbirds
- \*Pinky Pie or Fluttershy
- Unagi, pl.
- A in A=ab, pl.
- Did it to Kool-Aid
- \*Land mammal in Bikini Bottom
- Give a pep talk
- \*Emmet Brickowski's brick
- Spokes of a wheel, e.g.
- \*Mr. Magoo or Mr. Burns, e.g.
- Bygone bird of New Zealand
- Opposite of 'lies down'
- Sweater style
- More than one iamb
- Float liquid
- Mt. Everest to Earth
- Network of nerves
- Walked on
- Cafeteria carrier
- High part of day
- 3-handed card game
- \*Magilla Gorilla, e.g.
- Pilot's announcement

**Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 8**

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
	19					20			21	22				
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39			
40						41			42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48				49		50				51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60					61			62	63		
64						65	66			67			68	
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

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**Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8**

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

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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**

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

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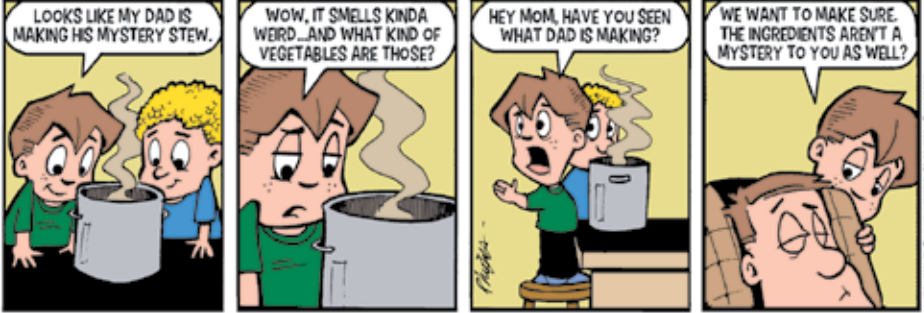
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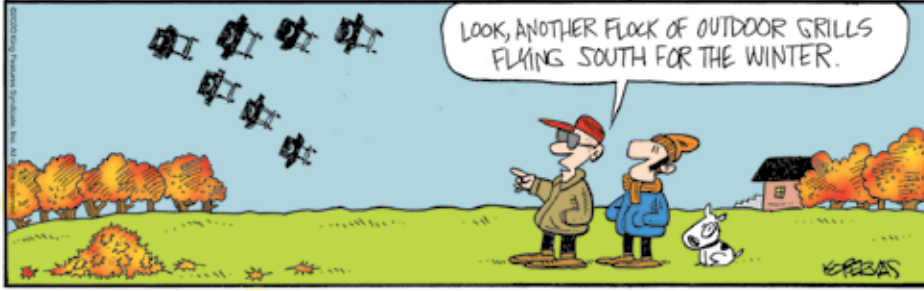


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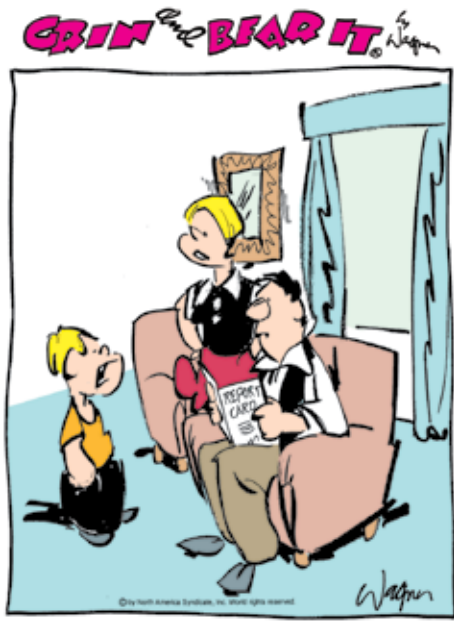
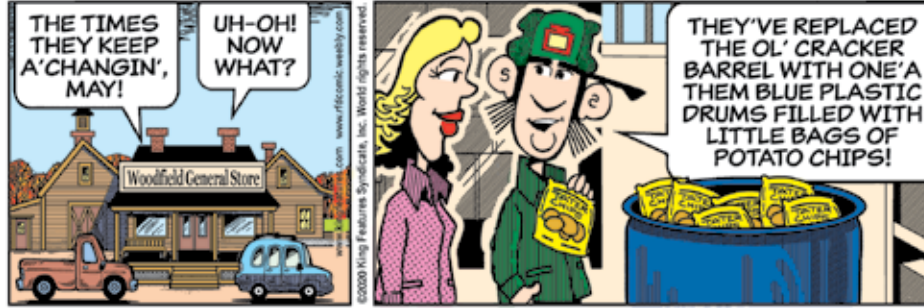
Amber Waves



Out on a Limb



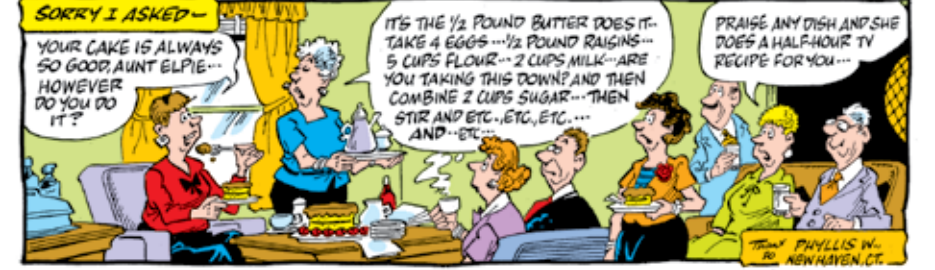
R.F.D.



The Spats



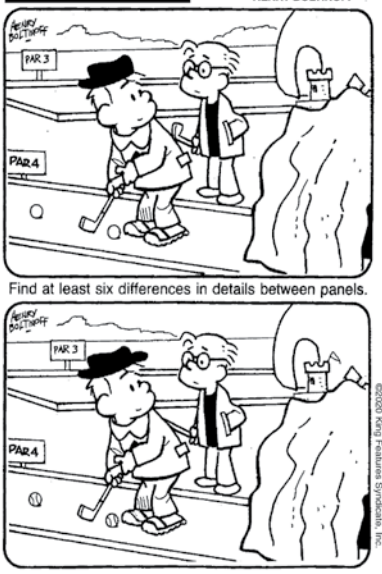
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# Tragedy, Triage and Triumph

## Post-Fire Resiliency and Recovery in the Putah Creek Watershed

By Leslie Allen,  
Putah Creek Council

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Wildlife in the upper Putah Creek watershed was devastated by the LNU Complex Fire, which started on August 17th, was finally extinguished on October 2nd, and grew to be the fourth largest in California history. However, the oak woodlands in this region have evolved with fire, and with natural resiliency and a little support from local agencies, recovery is expected.

Ignited by lightning, the LNU Complex Fire charred 363, 220 acres. It destroyed 1,491 structures. It claimed five human lives. These statistics, related to human losses, help us understand the magnitude of the tragedy. But the tragedy wasn't ours alone. The fire's impact on nature is less publicized.

Putah Creek Council executive director Kenny Liner witnessed such undocumented loss while fighting to save structures alongside Putah Creek's inter-dam reach. "The fire leaves visible scars on the landscape, but the impact to wildlife can sometimes go unseen. During the fire, I won't soon forget the deer running to escape the flames or seeing the many birds dead on the ground from the smoke. It was a jarring scene." Recently, Forbes and ABC News covered unexplained deaths of thousands of birds in the southwest, both suggesting that smoke from CA wildfires may be the culprit.

Days after the fire, a paddle upstream from Solano Lake reveals still smoldering beaver lodges, gasping Western Grebes, and ash-covered deer crowded into narrow riparian strips where a few green shoots survive. Charred and toppled trees line the upper reaches of the creek, creating competition among raptors for remaining perches. Ash smothers the landscape, a black blanket speckled with white patches where fire burned hottest.

Putah Creek Streamkeeper Rich Marovich described other less visible impacts a large fire has on ecosystems. Importantly, winter rain run-off poses a long term threat. "Past fire events have resulted in significant surges of ash and sediment that impacted benthic micro-invertebrates (small aquatic animals and insect



As a result of the fire, many oak trees drop their acorns creating a nutrient rich food source for the deers. Photo courtesy PCC



A playful otter along Putah Creek. Photo courtesy PCC

larvae that live on the stream bottom ) and buried spawning habitat."

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife concurs in its "Bio in the Region" report of fire impact on fish. "Fish are directly impacted by wildfires when the heat from a fire increases the water temperature. Fires can also negatively change the water chemistry by increasing phosphorous and nitrogen when plants are burned. Increased phosphorous and nitrogen can cause algae to bloom. Algal blooms... remove oxygen from the water.... Wood ash is very

alkaline and can raise the pH of water." Bald eagles, just beginning their annual sorties downstream in anticipation of the salmon smorgasbord Fall provides, may find their feast wanting this year.

Clearly, the impact of fire lasts well beyond the heat from its last ember. But nature is resilient, and with a little help from local agencies, will recover sooner than the current apocalyptic view would suggest.

California oak woodlands, like the one cradling Putah Creek, have evolved with fire. The subterranean biomass of all oak

trees, protected from fire by soil, is greater than what we see above ground. Oak trees can regenerate basal shoots from this root base. This adaptation is especially important to oak species with thin bark, as damage to their essential cambium layer is more likely. Oaks with thicker bark, which protects their cambium layer, push out new leaves in their canopy. Additionally, as a result of the fire, many oaks drop their acorns. The charred landscape, cleared of competing shrub and grass vegetation, allows more light and water to reach these acorns, helping them

grow into new oak seedlings. An added bonus of this acorn drop is that it provides a nutrient rich food source for deer, whose browse has been destroyed by flames. The unsightly ash also provides nutrients, enriching the soil for many native plants that quickly begin to re-emerge. According to Putah Creek Council's native plant manager, Brian Keeley, "The oak woodland should be viewed as a huge, interconnected organism in and of itself. It will never be exactly the same after a fire, but it will recover, adapt and continue to thrive in its new form."

Dr. Seuss-like clumps of native grasses that line the creek, verdant hippy-hair wigs, became blackened lumps. Yet, only a week after the flames, new green shoots extend from each wig, promising future waterfowl nesting sites once again.

An iconic sight along Putah Creek is playful otters. Because of their varied diet and water-loving lifestyle, fire has less affect on their immediate survival. The fresh blanket of ash along the banks creates an irresistible fur care treatment, and they can be seen log-rolling in ash piles until sooty from nose to tail. However, otters suffer in polluted water conditions. So the threats to them, and wild salmon that spawn in Putah Creek, are related to post-fire erosion.

Fortunately, creekside land owners and local agencies such as Solano Irrigation District, Solano County Water Agency, and Putah Creek Council, are currently instituting emergency erosion mitigation measures to prevent excess silt and debris from polluting the creek during eventual seasonal rains. Fallen debris is being cleared from feeder creeks along the watershed. Strategically placed boulder vanes, curved lines of large boulders, are installed to trap silt in pools and deflect currents away from sharp turns in the creek where flooding incurs excess erosion. Rice straw, preferred because of its lack of invasive weeds as a result of its aquatic origins, is placed on slopes to help control sheet run-off. Water chemistry is monitored on a continuing basis. This triage care by humans may be able to reduce unnecessary damage and possibly even speed recovery of the Putah Creek 'ecosystem organism.'

Meanwhile, popular recreation areas along the creek such as Cold Canyon, Solano Lake Picnic Area, and Solano Lake Campground remain closed while nature recovers. Fire seems devastating at first, but since most fires do not burn everything, life quickly begins to emerge from the soil, spill out from unburned "habitat islands," and drift or fly in from surrounding regions to begin repopulating the ecosystem. In time, the landscape will shed its current ashen blanket and snuggle into one of vibrant wildflowers. ★

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