



More Homes are Falling for Fall

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Dixon's Independent Voice

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Restoring Downtown Dixon, One Home at a Time



Above: Tapered columns quickly became the desired style created in the 1860s, featuring simple, intelligent, and clean styling with no ornamentation. Right: Adam Ascher of Ascher Properties is restoring the downtown Dixon neighborhood to its original style. Photos by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - In a neighborhood established 100 years ago, many homes have been renovated to look brand new by Adam Ascher, 40, of Ascher Properties and his small crew of two or three men. The latest one is a dark royal blue with a sharp, chartreuse green front door and it is adorning the corner of 2nd and East Mayes Streets—just across from an entire block of Adam's projects that have been completed in the last couple years.

Inside is the popular contemporary open floor plan with rustic light fixtures and an etched glass pantry door in the kitchen. They just finished the 'umpteenth' Dixon renovation that is transforming the downtown Dixon neighborhood one home at a time.

"I've lost count of how many homes," said the tall, tan man wearing shorts and T-shirt with laced-up work boots in the summer sun; a sign of his trade. He stood on the home's expansive porch just across from St. Peter's Catholic Church social hall.

The 'For Sale' sign already propped in the dark wood chipped yard dotted with pretty green plants. It sold immediately with a cash offer and a planned close of escrow within a couple weeks.

Getting Started

Adam's Dad, Bruno Ascher, worked as a maintenance man at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco and was very good with his money and invested in rental properties. He bought the building now used by Community Medical Center in 1991 when Adam was two years from graduating from high school. Naturally, Adam would go help his Dad with maintaining it.

It may have been an unplanned bonding experience for the two with Bruno teaching Adam a construction trade that would ignite a new passion and establish the younger man's career. "Before building, it was my

1965 Ford Mustang," Adam said in a way a young man remembers his first love. "This is my passion now. It's seeing something come from old and dilapidated — and knowing we changed this whole neighborhood," he said as he gestured down the block of three more newly renovated, cheery Craftsman-style homes on Mayes Street.

Younger Adam took drafting in high school (and still uses those skills) before attending UC Davis to major in Ag Economics and where he met his future wife as they both swam for the swim team. But, he did take a year to drive a truck for Lowrie

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Governor Signs Bill to Protect Newspapers, Journalism

By Paul Payne, Office
of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a bill co-authored by Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that grants a one-year extension for newspapers to comply with the state's new gig-worker law, protecting the industry from financial crisis while ensuring the future of employees and journalism.

"I can't imagine what it would have been like to go through a year like 2020 without our community newspapers informing us about what's going on," Sen. Dodd said. "They are essential to the future of our very democracy and we must do what we can to keep them operating. Thank you to Gov. Newsom for signing this important law."

Many newspapers face an existential crisis. Nationwide, advertising revenue has declined by more than half over the past seven years, dropping from \$25 billion in 2012 to \$11 billion in 2019. The coronavirus pandemic has worsened the situation. Economists predict an additional 25% decrease in 2021 because of the associated economic shutdown. The demise of newspapers will mean lost jobs and a reduction in news coverage — from reporting on local school boards to news in our nation's capital.

Assembly Bill 323 extends the deadline for compliance with Assembly Bill 5, a new law requiring gig workers including newspaper carriers to be classified as full-time employees. Doing so would add an estimated 85% to newspaper distribution costs, forcing layoffs and newspaper closures. AB 323 gives newspapers until Jan. 1, 2022 to comply. The bill further helps the industry by giving preference to local news organizations for state agency advertising and marketing contracts.

AB 323 is authored by Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, D-Baldwin Park, and is co-authored by Sen. Dodd, Sen. Mike McGuire, D-Healdsburg, and Sen. Bob Hertzberg, D-Van Nuys, and others.

"We are extremely thankful for Sen. Dodd's unwavering dedication to and advocacy for free media," said Charles F. Champion, president and CEO of the California News Publishers Association. "His strong support and leadership was instrumental in the passage of AB 323, which will help preserve local journalism and protect community access to essential news and information during these unprecedented times." ★

Pastor Appreciation Draws Kiwanis for Support

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - With social distancing putting a kink in a lot of the service club projects, Kiwanis is enjoying the outdoors. After successfully doing a 2-hour cleanup that made the Vet's Hall outdoors trimmed and proper, the small but mighty club is focusing their efforts on a small but needy church—just in time for Pastor Appreciation Sunday, October 11.

Soon after the Greater Faith Baptist Church relocated to 320 West A Street, the pandemic hit and the congregation was forced to stay away from the new location they had just renovated to fit their needs. Plants have become brown, fire dust has settled on all



Reverend Richard and Lady Linda Smith and Pastor Virgil and Lady Krista Robinson will be honored by their congregation at Pastor Appreciation Sunday after the Kiwanis and congregants help restore the outside to pre-pandemic beauty. Photo by Debra Dingman

the windows and the barrel planter boxes are falling apart.

On Saturday, October 17, at 9 am, the Kiwanis Club and church members

who are able will spend an hour or two sprucing things back up just in time for Pastor Appreciation Sunday, the next day.

"We are expecting to go

fast and furious on the outside, weeding, cleaning up, and maybe repotting some plants," said Club member David Dingman. He

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Harvest Moon, Pumpkins, and Fall Fun All Around

By Debra Dingman

All the way from Texas, my brother-in-law sent a photo of the Harvest Moon so both hubby and I got in our car to drive to a more clear view of it through the slight smokey haze still lingering from Napa and Santa Rosa fires.

In the opposite direction, the evening skyline was dotted with huge lamps towering over the huge corn maze at **Cool Patch Pumpkins**. We could see them from atop the I-80/A Street/Dixon Avenue Overpass and a string of cars heading that way. It is one of several fall festivities available for families and friends willing to emerge from their COVID cocoons.

With social distancing measures in place such as required masks and 6 feet apart markings at ticket and concession stands, Cool Patch Pumpkins offers the largest recorded corn maze, hay rides, and rows and rows of pumpkins. There are a plethora of photo ops as well. It is all a wonderful display of ingenuity created 20 years ago by farmer Matt

Cooley and family.

Admission is \$19 for the Corn Maze (children under 5 are free) but you can take the grand tour of the entire patch via a hay ride for \$5 or you can use the pedal cars for \$4. Don't worry about food options as there are plenty to choose from out there. You know, in case you use all your energy trying to find your way out of the maze. They sell their special Tri-tip sandwiches as well as corn dogs and hotdogs.

They are open daily from 9 am to 8 pm through Halloween, October 31. They are at 6150 Dixon Avenue West. For more information, you can call (530) 746-8725.

Silveyville Pumpkin Farm, Dixon's oldest pumpkin patch, also recently opened and offers a grand harvest adventure. But, if you're planning to go soon, maybe plan for Sunday as rain is forecast for this Saturday and they are closed on Mondays. Tuesday through Friday they are open noon to 6 pm and Saturdays 10 am - 6 pm.

Admission is free and there is plenty to see including the u-pick field

where they have 20 different varieties of pumpkins one can choose from. Pumpkins are sold by size. I love seeing what clever activities or unique displays have been created by Jeri Seifert and her family.

This farm is complete with animals including chickens, ducks, baby lambs and goats. The natural habitat lends itself to many photo ops with children, too. There are Quad Trains (ATV rides) for \$6 that go around the entire 20 acres and the old-fashioned Duck Wagon which heads to a duck pond for \$3. This year, they added a tree maze for only \$2.

Be sure you check out their gift shop chocked full of unique gifts for special occasions and especially for the holidays. They have a variety of refreshments including fresh-popped popcorn at their snack bar.

They are also exercising COVID-19 safety protocols. They are located at 6248 Silveyville Road and their phone is (707) 678-1823. Both pumpkin patches have Facebook sites and web addresses for more information. Thanks for reading and happy fall! ★

More Homes are Falling for Fall



This pumpkin-head football player was created by Debbie Davidson on 8th Street. The football jersey actually is the number of her father's football number while he played at Dixon High School in the 1950s. The jerseys were sold as part of a fundraiser for the Quarterback Club a few years ago. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The aroma of pumpkin pie may soon be in the air as more than 30 homes and businesses have decorated with pumpkins in the Dixon United Methodist Women and Dixon's Independent Voice Newspaper's Fall Decorating Endeavor, 'Falling for Fall.'

Even civic clubs and organizations have joined in including Rotary Club that plans a display in the Pardi site at First and A Streets and the Dixon Women's Improvement Club who is doing a display in their park next to the public library.

There was such a positive response that the map organizer Suzanne Galloway was creating looked more like a mottled mess than something readable the newspaper could print due to the numerous pumpkin icons marking the streets where there are participating residents or businesses. Here is the link instead: <https://cutt.ly/5gqYbCl>

If you can't do the link, just drive around, they are all over town.

"I heard this morning that there are four more decorations up," said Galloway. "I have added them all to my map. Some people who emailed us may still be working on theirs and should be done by next weekend."

Returning from a trip to the East Coast, Galloway, President of the church group, was inspired by the 'Pumpkin People' contest in Jackson, New Hampshire, a state in the New England area known for their astonishing array of colorful trees.

"They celebrate autumn really big back there," she said. "People come from far and wide to view the harvest season." The idea struck her that Dixon would probably have a lot of fun with this kind of thing with two pumpkin patches, Silveyville and Cool Patch, right here in town.

Individuals or families and businesses



This pretty fall display was found near C.A. Jacobs on Lynd Way. Photo by Debra Dingman

were invited to decorate in front of their house or business so the rest of Dixon's residents could drive by and see them while maintaining social distancing.

"I am pleased with the response we have gotten," Galloway said.

One of the more elaborate displays was found in the Valley Glen subdivision on Cherry Street. It was done by Leslie Sherlin.

"My inspiration for the decoration was a bohemian beach wedding I saw recently. About 80% of the materials I used were foraged locally with permission from landowners. For the remaining materials I worked with Cool Patch Pumpkins and Dixon Florist," she said. "I use seasonal and party decorating as a creative outlet. I work with numbers in project management as a career so the decorating is my balance," she added. It was her first large scale piece. Although the recent winds took much of it apart, Sherlin is looking forward to next year.

"I hope it becomes an annual event," she said. ★

Pastor Appreciation

Continued from page 1

encouraged helpers to wear gloves, bring weed-eaters and leaf blowers. The club will provide long extension cords. There are also plenty of windows to wash.

Reverend Virgil Robinson was very happy for the offer of help saying that most members of the congregation are vulnerable and there hasn't been anyone but himself who tried to maintain the property near the downtown train tracks.

Reverend Richard Smith and Pastor Virgil Robinson will be honored by their congregation the next morning for Pastor Appreciation Sunday so this will be perfect timing to spruce things up to the pre-pandemic look.

The Kiwanis Club was founded in 1915 in the U.S. and has grown to a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child at a time. It has 600,000 members and nearly 15,000 clubs in more than 90 nations.

Dixon Kiwanis meets on the fourth Monday of each month and hopefully if COVID restrictions continue to ease, there will be no problem meeting again for a no-host dinner at Bud's Pub and Grill in downtown Dixon inside the restaurant. The past several months, they have been meeting via Zoom. For more information, call Membership Chair Patti Sousa at (707) 635-3303 or email dixonkiwanis@hotmail.com ★

Grand Opening for Uptown Collective



Larissa Robinson waves hello at the new retail store downtown. They are holding their grand opening this Saturday, 10 am - 2 pm at 120 North First Street. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Have you seen "Uptown Collective," Dixon's new retail shopping store in Downtown Dixon? This Saturday would be a good day as their grand opening will feature artists and entrepreneurs curating handcrafted jewelry, new and vintage home decor, wellness beauty products, unique gifts and one-of-a-kind baby gifts.

Local residents, Recently several new

Rebecca Robinson and Becky Jacobs partnered up to create a vibrant shared business model in the midst of these challenging times.

The Collective has seven members with their individual stores including Crazy for Ewe, Hayson & Co. Home Decor, Vintique Marketplace, Country Charm, Vintage Affair, Uptown Chic and PurLuv Native Apothecary.

There will be a drawing for colorful fall holiday decorations and unique home décor. You can follow the new business on Instagram @uptowncollectivedixon to see the store's newest creations. The special event will be 10 to 2 pm at 120 North First Street. ★

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Matthew 5:9

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T, TH 8:00 am Spanish and Friday 7:30 pm
First Saturday
First Saturday Bilingual Mass at 8:00 am

Fr. Hector Monotya
Pastor
Deacons
Daniel Blanton, John Fio
Confessions
Thursday, Friday and Saturday
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Please call the office for more info.
www.StPetersChurchDixon.com

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VOTE

November 3

Restoring Downtown Dixon

Continued from page 1
Trucking to save up enough money to buy two Dixon duplexes. This was Adam’s first investment and he kept them as rentals, using the money to save up and buy two four-plexes.

“That was huge,” he said. “That’s when I could see that this could work. There was enough income to support us.”

In 1999, he purchased a 4,000 sq.ft. burned out commercial building, rebuilt it, and sold it with enough earnings to buy five more rentals. Soon after, in 2002, he married his college sweetheart.

“My wife does all the approvals of colors,” he said, and she’s always there when he needs support as no project ever runs completely smoothly. Yes, he sometimes goes home and is burned out.

Working the Plan

“I draw up all the plans by hand,” he said earnestly. “That sets me apart and because it’s all original, I am able to improve on the spot. There are always two or three guys on the site and we do everything ourselves,” he said.

“It’s just me and my crew and it feels good to have control. A project usually takes two and a half to three months which is really quick. But, we also go above and beyond on every project because it has my name on it.” Then he added, “I’m kind of a perfectionist.”

Unlike most projects of renovating, the Mayes and 2nd Street home was built from the ground up. It is a Craftsman style which has become Adam’s favorite.

“I want these homes to look like they’ve been here for a long time,” he explained as he took this writer on a tour of the 3-bedroom, 2-bath home complete with patio, backyard, and 2-car detached garage.

“This one was more challenging because it was a tiny lot compared to the typical larger lots of downtown,” he said. Craftsman style became popular at the end of the Victorian Era as the Industrial Revolution began in America.

Its sturdy look with a covered front porch supported by tapered columns quickly became the desired style created in the 1860s by William Morris. Only the wealthy in society could acquire art and craft productions but the design was simple, intelligent, and clean with no ornamentation.

Adam’s homes cater to entry-level home

buyers and almost all have been purchased by young couples or young families.

“I chose Dixon [for renovations and building] because I found my first opportunities here and just chose to stay in one town. I really love Dixon,” he said. “I can make more of an impact here.” Adam was one of a team that had originally bid in 2007 to build on the Pardi Market site and worked with the community extensively to create a town-center feel with retail on the bottom and apartments on the top with a central front that included a water fountain.

But, then the recession hit and the state confiscated Redevelopment Agency assets which included that site. Although, many in town believed there was animosity between the then-City Manager and one of the developers. The project never came to fruition and the team lost thousands of dollars on the preliminary work.

Future Plans

Adam says that there are no more homes to buy downtown that he can work on. City of Dixon permits have tripled now costing about \$50,000 plus requirements have also increased. Interestingly, and unlike other cities, there is no difference in fees between building a brand new home and renovating an older one (considered “in-fill”) despite that sewer, water, sidewalks, driveways already exist for the older home.

“I’d love to slow it down,” this father of three said. “But, there’s no stopping yet. First, I have to renovate the medical building and I’m excited about that.”

Adam also built the 2-story commercial building next to the Dixon Tribune that has apartments on the top floor and retail on the bottom. But on that property, he was basically given the blueprint by the City of Dixon to match the design of other buildings nearby so he felt a little short-changed in that design process.

“Then, because of all this experience I’ve learned in building, I want to build for myself,” he said. “I want to build something really cool for downtown Dixon. Downtown Dixon has a lot of potential.”

If anyone remembers the original plan for the Pardi Market site, or checks out the building across from Dixon Florist, one can only imagine what Adam is capable of dreaming of for our downtown. ★



Ascher’s homes are ideal for entry-level home buyers and are generally purchased by young couples or young families. Photo by Debra Dingman



Ascher outfits most of his homes with drought resistant yards allowing for low water consumption. Photo by Debra Dingman



Adam Ascher of Ascher Properties just finished this dark royal blue house, restoring the downtown Dixon neighborhood to its original style. Photo by Debra Dingman

October 2020

DTSC PUBLIC NOTICE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR DRAFT HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT RENEWAL, DK DIXON PERMIT

October 21, 2020 – December 16, 2020

DTSC invites the public to comment on the draft DK Dixon hazardous waste facility permit renewal (draft Permit). DK Dixon is located at 7300 Chevron Way, Dixon, California 95620.

DK Dixon (Facility) stores and transfers wastes in tanks and containers. These wastes include used oil, used antifreeze, oily water, and oily debris. These wastes and activities need a permit under California’s hazardous waste laws. If the draft Permit is approved, it will enable DK Dixon to existing operations for 10 more years, and:

- Increase the existing storage to 214,517 gallons of new storage and transfer area;
- Include up to 16,000 gallons of storage volume from tanker trucks,
- Transfer rejected wastes between trucks and containers,
- Rinse emptied containers in a miscellaneous unit,
- Manage spent aqueous parts washing solution and contaminated containers,
- Change the Facility’s name from DK Dixon to Advanced Environmental Inc. DBA World Oil Environmental Services – Dixon, and
- Update the Facility’s owner and operator’s information.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT: The California Environmental Quality Act calls for DTSC to decide if the permit may have any significant impacts on the environment. The County of Solano prepared a draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration in 2018. The Initial Study/Negative Declaration allows the Facility to operate the existing hazardous waste facility and construct new waste storage and transfer area in the county. DTSC was the commenting agency for the 2018 Initial Study/Negative Declaration. After the comment period ended, the County adopted the Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration into a Final document and filed a Notice of Determination. DTSC have decided that the 2018 Negative Declaration needs an Addendum to:

- Extend the permitted operational period of the facility for ten years, and
- Update air quality and greenhouse gas emissions modeling methodology,
- Add analysis for Energy, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Wildfire resulting from updates to the CEQA Guidelines not previously analyzed,
- Includes hazardous waste management activities, modifications and waste streams not previously evaluated, and update the facility name, owner and operator.

According to CEQA Guidelines [Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15164(c)], this Addendum will not be circulated for public review. However, DTSC’s policy is to post the Addendum with the Draft Permit Renewal request during the public review period. A Notice of Determination will be filed with the State of California Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, upon approval of the Permit Renewal. DTSC plans to file a Notice of Determination that the permit renewal would not have a significant effect on the environment. The filing will take place after DTSC’s final permit decision. The Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse keeps the filing record. The public comment period is from October 21, 2020 to December 16, 2020. You are invited to review the draft Permit for DK Dixon and send your comments by December 16, 2020 to Priscilla Chong, Project Manager, located at 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826 or Priscilla.Chong@dtsc.ca.gov. **A Public Hearing is not scheduled at this time:** Any person may request a public hearing. The request for a hearing must be in writing and state the nature of the issue to be raised in the hearing.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES: Documents related to the draft Permit and CEQA Initial Study / Negative Declaration are available at:

- Dixon Public Library, 230 N 1st Street, Dixon, California 95620, (707) 678-5447; Due to COVID-19, please call for an appointment
- DTSC File Room, 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, California 95826, (916) 255-3758; call for an appointment.

Or: www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp_profile_report?global_id=CAT080012602

Administrative Record may be viewed Monday – Friday between 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. by appointment at the DTSC Sacramento Regional Office (see address in the Information Repositories section).

DTSC CONTACTS

Priscilla Chong, Project Manager, (916) 255-6537 (voicemail only), Priscilla.Chong@dtsc.ca.gov

Tammy Pickens, Public Participation Specialist, (916) 255-3594, (866) 495-5651; Tammy.Pickens@dtsc.ca.gov.

For Media: Gamaliel Ortiz, Public Information Officer, (916) 327-4383, Gamaliel.Ortiz@dtsc.ca.gov.

Hearing impaired individuals may use the California Relay Service at 711 or 800-735-2929 TTY/VCO to voice.

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

Dixon Independent Voice 10-9-2020

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Sen. Dodd’s Insurance Claims Streamlining Bill Signed by Governor

By Paul Payne,
Office of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, to streamline the residential insurance claims process for victims of disasters including wildfires.

“Wildfires are causing incredible hardship and the last thing anyone needs is to be jerked around by their insurance company,” Sen. Dodd said. “In the future, when someone files a claim they won’t be buried under mountains of paperwork or suffer unnecessary delay. That isn’t right and this new law will put a stop to it. I thank Gov. Newsom for helping us make this important change.”

Senate Bill 872, sponsored by Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara, expands the definition of additional living expenses that must be paid to homeowners for losses incurred in a state of emergency. Upon submission of a claim, it requires an advance payment of no less than four months for costs such as housing, furniture rental and transportation. Also, it mandates an advance payment of no less than 25 percent of a policy limit for lost contents

without submission of an inventory form. The bill was signed into law Tuesday.

“SB 872 will give future wildfire survivors greater peace of mind because they will be guaranteed time and resources to assist their recovery,” said Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara. “I thank Gov. Newsom for recognizing the critical need for this legislation as so many parts of the state continue to be threatened by wildfires, and I thank Sen. Dodd for authoring this bill to protect residents and cut the red tape for accessing crucial insurance benefits.”

The bill, coauthored by Sen. Mike McGuire, D-Healdsburg, and Assemblymember Jim Wood, D-Santa Rosa, makes insurers give homeowners a 60-day grace period for payment of residential premiums after an emergency. Also, insurance companies will be barred from deducting the land value from payouts for those who build on new lots.

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

A Message from Dixon Family Services

Dear Friends,

Here are a few things people helped in the Covid-19 Basic Needs Program are saying about their experiences at Dixon Family Services:

“The person who helped me was very nice and attentive and deserves great respect. It is very nice that help like this exists for people right now who are in need.”

“DFS staff is doing a great job on helping and assisting people in need. I would recommend DFS to someone I know in need of assistance.”

“The services provided by DFS have made a big impact in my family’s wellbeing. Due to Covid we have been negatively affected economically and DFS helped us with paying bills. I would recommend DFS to others in need. We have always been treated with kindness and respect.”

“With over \$3,000 in help this month for our rent, PG&E and other bills from DFS and now being connected to some county benefits, thanks to our DFS case manager we will make it through. But I don’t know what we would have done without your help.”

The above statements are just a few from people we have helped in the spring and summer months of Covid-19. We have the opportunity now with support from many generous donors to help those affected by lost incomes, falling behind on bills, facing evictions and in need of additional food and household supplies.

In addition to paying some bills for people who have used up all their savings during the pandemic, living on less income than before, out of options, and at serious risk of losing their homes, we are connecting people with government and other benefit programs, assisting in the application processes that can often be very confusing and overwhelming.

We are now assisting people who have never had to ask for help before.

Our services have never been more vital than at this time and we welcome all partners who wish to make a difference for people who are struggling right now through no fault of their own.

Why would you want to partner with us in our efforts to provide temporary relief for some of Dixon’s most vulnerable households who are not doing so well at this time? Anyone who ever had to worry about their family’s basic needs understands how crucial our help is right now. No one saw this crisis coming, but everyone has been affected by it.

Together we can make our community stronger with a shared and cooperative vision of intervention, problem solving and financial support for people suffering due to a crisis that no one saw coming. By donating to Dixon Family Services you are assuring that people are getting what they need and getting it from experienced and caring human services staff members at DFS.

We foresee the need for our help continuing and increasing over the fall and winter

months and very probably into 2021. All donations, large and small are directly responsible for helping people live safer and healthier lives. We will remain open and helping at-risk families with basic needs services for as long as funding allows us the privilege to do so.

We also receive many positive comments from those who are sending in donations to help us do all this:

“Keep up the Good work! Cheers!”

“I hope this will help. There is so much need. I wish I could be there to make up those brown bags, like I used to do! Thank you”

“I know so many are struggling now. Hope this helps.”

“We wanted to thank you for all you do with this donation. We are a couple who brought Methodist Church donations of food to your pantry for many years. We will be moving to Idaho in a couple of weeks. It’s been very nice knowing you.”

“Thank you for all you do for those in our community that need your help. We will do what we can to support you! We hope you are all staying well and safe. Thank you for keeping us updated.”

“Here is a donation to help with restocking your food pantry.”

“Thank you for all you do to help people. You are a blessing to Dixon.”

“There are so many people in our community that are in need right now. We would like to donate some money to purchase food for these people, just a little help for our community.”

“Here is a donation for your food pantry program to help during the time so many are out of work.”

“Please use this check for help with families in our town who need assistance with food or other needs. Thank you for your services.”


“Please accept this check to help people in need during the Corona Virus pandemic.”

And there have been many other kind words of encouragement and support (both written and verbal) about the good work we do at DFS. The acknowledgments and blessings by so many wonderful people are also important to our ability to serve our community. In addition to providing us the means to help people struggling through this crisis, you are helping us stay positive during such a troubling time of uncertainty and anxiety.

“Essential” and Vital to the health and well-being of our community, DFS remains open and supportive of people at this time of great need thanks to our many supporters. Please consider joining this wonderful team if you are not already a member.

On behalf of the Dixon Family Services staff, board of directors, volunteers and especially the people we serve – **THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!**


Sincerely,
Cookie Powell



**Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl**

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




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St. Peters Catholic Church News

During the month of October the scriptures point to glorifying God through the words of Jesus, His holy angels and saints. The Blessed Mother Mary is THE saint among the saints, blessed above all others. She is the woman who rejoiced in the presence of God treasuring everything in her heart and who let herself be pierced by the sword (Luke 2:1-35). Over 100 years ago the Blessed Mother appeared to three obedient, humble children in Fatima, Portugal. They received instructions on prayer and how they were to live. Mary, called “the most beautiful woman ever seen”, by these precious children, revealed to them Heaven and Hell, and what lay ahead for the world. Much like our current situation today, their holiness, devotion to God and willingness to suffer for truth was scorned and mocked. The Blessed Mother spoke to them: “Say the Rosary everyday to bring peace to the world and an end of the war (WWI).” The authorities even went so far as to kidnap and imprison the three Fatima seers in August 1917. They were threatened with execution if they did not reveal what the Mother told them. They refused and were eventually released. Mary promised the children a miracle on the day of her appearance, October 13th, 1917. Word spread and people gathered together for an event some considered a hoax. Many thousands of people came to the site, which was muddy from a heavy rain storm. The children were able to view heavenly visions when the sun began to take on extraordinary color and began to spin in the sky. The sun seemed to plunge towards the earth. On site were newspaper reporters who recorded the event - Miracle of the Sun. Some of the warnings Mary gave and instructions are contained in the Fatima secrets. Two of the children Jacinta and Francisco died early on and Lucia lived into her 90’s, as foretold by Mary. All of this historical event can be found in the book *The True Story of Fatima* (www.fatima.org). The Rosary, the prayerful, powerful, recitation of prayers chronicling our Lord Jesus’ life is said before daily Mass (M-F) at 7:30am throughout October. Everyone is welcome. One of the assurances our Lady of Fatima gave was “Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.” God’s victory over evil!

St. Peters traditionally celebrates Our Lady of Fatima with Mass, a procession and dinner. This year only the Mass will be celebrated. Fortunately, Masses are back in our beautiful church. Please check www.stpeterschurchdixon.com for more information.

God bless all! ★



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DIXON POLICE LOG

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



Tuesday, September 29, 2020

0250 – A stolen vehicle recovery report was taken in the 2500 block of North 1st St.

0927 – Non injury traffic accident in the 1000 block of North Adams Street.

1240 – Identity theft report taken in the 1200 block of Dartmouth Circle.

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

0321 – A vandalism report was taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

0928 – Traffic enforcement stop in the 1000 block of North First Street. The driver and passenger were found to be on probation. Abel Oseguera (37), of Fairfield, was arrested for Making Fictitious Checks, Possession of Stolen Property, Possession of an Access Card with Intent to Defraud, Card, Driving on a Suspended License, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Probation Violation, and Possession of Marijuana while Driving. Chante Winn (37), of Vacaville, was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of an Access Card with Intent to Defraud, Possession of Marijuana, and Probation Violation. They were both transported to the Solano County Jail. 1443 Welfare check in the area of Porter Road and Pitt School Road. A 28-year-old male was placed in protective custody after he was found sitting on the train tracks.

1638 – Stolen Vehicle reported in the 400 block of North 1st Street.

Thursday, October 01, 2020

0201 – A domestic violence and criminal threats arrest report was taken in the 1000 block of Justin Wy. Officers contacted (S) Raul Laneros (65) of Dixon. Laneros was arrested for violation of domestic violence and criminal threats. Laneros was transported to the Solano County Jail and released to their custody.

0818 – Traffic enforcement stop in the 600 block of West F Street. Sara Sauerwein (24), of Vacaville, was arrested for Possession of Counterfeit Currency and Driving on a Suspended License. Preston Canela-Peck (26), of Citrus Heights, was arrested for Possession of Counterfeit Currency, Probation Violation, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Possession of a Controlled Substance.

0834 – Residential burglary reported in the 1800 block of Folsom Fair Circle.

1408 – Hit and Run reported in the area of West Mayes and South Jackson Street.

1440 – Found property reported in the 400 block of West B Street.

1953 – D.U.I, probation violation and driving with a suspended driver’s license arrest report was taken in the 2800 block of W. A. St. Officers contacted (S) Alejandro Ramos-Garcia Faustino (35) of Dixon. (S) Faustino was arrested for the above charges and later booked into the Solano County Jail.

Friday, October 02, 2020

0808 – 2-vehicle non-injury traffic collision in the area of North 1st Street and Dorset Drive.

0820 – Suspicious circumstance in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

0917 – Court order violation in the 1000 block of Justin Way.

1637 – Suspicious circumstance in the 100 block of East Dorset Drive. Austin Turner (25), of Fairfield, was contacted and found to have a warrant for Violation of Parole. He was taken into custody and transported to the Solano County Jail.

2313 – Warrant, probation violation arrest report was taken at the intersection of W. H. St. at N. Adams St. Officers contacted (S) Greysen Mestre (50) of Fairfield and (S) Katherine Crotzer (37) of Fairfield. They both had outstanding misdemeanor warrants and was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

PREPARING FOR A PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF

Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is a statewide effort to prevent wildfires by proactively turning off power to communities when severe winds and dry weather conditions are forecast. While turning off the power helps prevent wildfires, we also know it will disrupt lives and cause hardship for our customers. That’s why PG&E does not make this decision lightly and will only call a PSPS to help keep customers and communities safe.

HERE ARE 5 WAYS TO PREPARE FOR A PSPS:



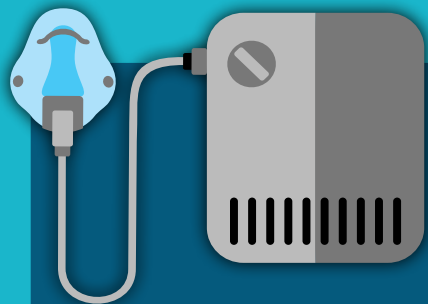
Make sure PG&E can reach you before a PSPS by updating your contact information at pge.com/mywildfirealerts.

1



Pack or restock your family’s emergency kit including food, water, batteries, masks, radio and a first aid kit.

2



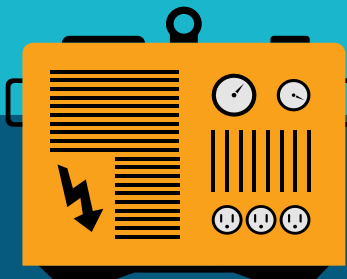
Make preparations for anyone in your family who depends on electricity for medical needs.

3



Practice manually opening your garage door (if you have a garage).

4



Ensure any backup power sources are ready and safe to operate.

5



For translated support in over 200 languages, please contact PG&E at 866-743-6589.



To learn more ways to prepare for a PSPS and any emergency, visit safetyactioncenter.pge.com

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FOR THE LOVE OF
BOOKS
By Amy Shane

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



Riley Reviews

“ENOLA HOLMES” DELIVERS IMMENSELY ENJOYABLE FAMILY PLEASURE

Five Total Strangers

by Natalie D. Richards

When Mira set out to fly home for the holidays, she never expected the snowstorm of the decade to ground her flight. Luckily, the girl flying next to Mira is in the same predicament; she has to get home, and spending Christmas in the airport in Philadelphia is not an option. Ignoring all the internal bells and whistles, Mira makes a split-second decision and joins Harper and three other travel companions willing to brave the elements in a car to get home. All too quickly, the five passengers realize that they made a huge mistake as they watch cars fly off the freeway, resulting in stranded vehicles in ditches and multi-car pile-ups. However, they have already started, and there is no going back.

If the roads weren't terrifying enough, their belongings start disappearing. First, it's just a misplaced wallet, then a phone, and a book, but everything isn't adding up. All five passengers wouldn't lose their most treasured items, and what about the strange traveler that seems to be at every stop that they make?



- ◆ Publisher: Sourcebooks Fire
- ◆ Hardcover, 305 pages
- ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
- ◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥

Within minutes it quickly becomes apparent that the other four travelers are keeping secrets and one if not all of them are lying. Is someone out to get them, or is that someone in the car? In a trip of life or death, Mira needs to discover the truth before the blizzard, or someone else takes her life.

A snowstorm, five strangers, and a trip that is determined to end their lives. In what can only be described as the most frightening holiday road trip, *Five Total Strangers* keeps readers on the edge

of their seats. Combining the sheer terror of a road trip in a blizzard, with a carload of complete strangers, and someone intent on sabotage, this book is the road trip that nightmares are made of. Natalie D. Richards leaves her readers reeling in every direction, weaving a story that will take them through every possible scenario and circle them right back again.

While readers might wonder how a story that takes place within a car can keep you flying through the pages, Natalie Richards does a masterful job of driving up the suspicion and keeping a thrilling tempo throughout the entire book. As the drama within the vehicle mounts, so does the bad decisions, perfectly crafting an intense storyline that will have readers hooked, and questioning everyone's motive. Suspicion grows even deeper with letters addressed to Mira, interlaced throughout the book. Is this person a secret admirer, or a killer? Is the person marked "Yours," following them, or within the vehicle? The only way to find out, is to make it to the end. ★

A Film and TV
Review by Tim Riley

“ENOLA HOLMES” ON NETFLIX

While the summer is now over and gone and Hollywood held back almost all of its major film releases during the prime season, entertaining family fun at the movies dwindled down to streaming service offerings.

Turning to Netflix, the choices weren't always that welcoming for families. Consider the controversy that erupted over eleven-year-old girls in a provocative dance crew twerking their moves in “Cuties.”

But now there is something for people of practically every age to enjoy on Netflix, and that would be “Enola Holmes,” starring the delightful Millie Bobby Brown as the titular character, the much younger sister of Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes.

Set in England's Victorian era of 1884, “Enola Holmes” delights as much with its gorgeous scenery of the countryside that contrasts with the urban jungle of bustling London as it does with appealing characters, of which Enola is the most engaging and charming.

Living far from England's capital city, Enola (who's name she reminds us often spells “alone” backwards) is a free-spirited independent living with her mother Eudoria (Helena Bonham Carter), where she's homeschooled on everything from great literature to self-defense.

She's never really known her older brothers who live and work in London. Sherlock (Henry Cavill), the famous detective, and the even older Mycroft (Sam Claflin), a government functionary, only appear on the scene after Eudoria goes missing.

On the morning of her sixteenth birthday, Enola wakes to find that her mother has disappeared, leaving behind an odd assortment of gifts and no immediately apparent reason as to where she's gone or why, and yet a few cryptic clues only a sleuth could figure are left behind.

Enola's unconventional upbringing is now uprooted when her siblings decide she'll be under the guardian care of the stiff, uncaring Mycroft, who decides what's best is placement of his sister in a girls' finishing school run by the austere Miss Harrison (Fiona Shaw).

Wanting to prove that she has innate detective skills and to express a thoroughly modern sentiment of feminism, Enola runs off to catch a train to London in search of her wayward mother.

Often breaking the fourth wall, Enola speaks directly to the audience in frequently comical self-aware declarations of her pursuits. After crashing her bicycle and

landing in the dirt, she dryly explains that “cycling is not one of my core strengths.”

What is certainly one of her strengths is a fearless willingness to confront adventure and danger with enormous self-confidence, such as rescuing fellow teenage train passenger Viscount Tewksbury (Louis Partridge) escaping an assassin.

A bond is formed between the young lord and the runaway budding sleuth, but romance is not what is on the mind of Enola. In fact, she seems initially to regard her new companion as more of a hindrance until realizing they share common interests.

Disguising herself on occasion in boyish clothes, Enola has no problem expressing a defiance of the existing social order of the Victorian period, and this will serve her well to navigate the treacherous pitfalls of the big city.

While focused on her primary mission to locate her mother, Enola gets caught up in the political turmoil that surrounds an upcoming critical vote in the House of Lords that would consider the granting of suffrage to women.

The mystery of why the life of the young aristocrat is in danger could be related to actions pending in Parliament. At this point, any political issues are just another subplot that may prove important to the story, or it's just another diversion.

Due to her uncanny ability to break codes and solve puzzles, Enola displays ingenuity by even going undercover as a widow and then later uncovering a secret underground group that might lead to the whereabouts of Eudoria.


Near the end, there is an element of violence that plays out at Tewksbury's mansion when the young Viscount is placed in mortal danger, which allows Enola to be as daring as she is resilient and adaptable to fierce challenges.

Courage is not the only virtue for the plucky Enola. Her wits and clever skills are particularly effective in outsmarting adults and the various bad guys. For that matter, her brainpower poses a real threat to the more experienced Sherlock.

Since “Enola Holmes” is based on the Nancy Springer young adult novel “The Case of the Missing Marquess,” the first installment in a series of mysteries, sequels could be on the horizon.

Keep in mind that Arthur Conan Doyle's original stories of literature's most famous detective did not include a spirited younger sister, perhaps because it would not fit with the expected propriety of the times.

As long as Millie Bobby Brown remains in the picture to carry on the Holmes tradition, Netflix would do well to continue adapting the Springer books. Sherlock's catchphrase “the game is afoot” should be the guide. ★



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 2020-001551

The following persons are doing business as: MYO FAMILY HEALTH

597 Rolling Oak Court Vacaville, Ca 95668

Amy Rondoni, 597 Rolling Oak Court Vacaville, CA 95688 and Matthew Rondoni, 597 Rolling Oak Court Vacaville, CA 95688

Date Filed in Solano County: September 9, 2020

The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is Conducted by: A Married Couple

NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration September 8, 2025. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code.)

Publish: September 18, 25, October 2, and 9, 2020 (The DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 2020-001436

The following persons are doing business as: AMERIPRINT

230 S 2nd Dixon, CA 95620

Saul Barzola, 230 S 2nd Street Dixon, CA 95620

Date Filed in Solano County: August 19, 2020

The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 30, 2020

This Business is Conducted by: Individual

NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 18, 2025. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code.)

Publish: September 25, October 2, 9, and 16, 2020 (The DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE)

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CANDIDATE FORUM

QUESTION 6: FOR ALL CANDIDATES EXCEPT TREASURER. “Residents say they want more transparency in City government and some local candidates have proclaimed that it is not about their personal beliefs, but what the voters want that is more important. What is your plan for keeping your constituents informed on city issues and how will you go about getting the necessary feedback to determine what the majority of your constituents want before placing your vote?”

QUESTION FOR THE CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER. “California Government Code Chapter 3. City Treasurer 41001-41007 outline the primary statutory duties of City Treasurers in general law cities. The majority of these duties have been removed from the Dixon City Treasurer by virtue of City of Dixon Ordinance 99-003. This ordinance significantly reduces the public trust in safeguarding public funds and assuring the fiscal security of Dixon. What, if anything, would you do to restore the City Treasurer position to one of transparency and oversight for the city’s accounts as well as for the city’s surplus funds?”



THOM BOGUE
Candidate for Dixon Mayor

First it should be pointed out, most people living in Dixon know where my shop is and my personal phone number (707)580-4955, almost everyday many come by my shop to address their concerns, with many of their concerns, later come before council for resolution. I can comfortably say I am the most accessible, transparent mayor ever. Shortly after becoming mayor I put before council

and with council approval all items the council wanted put on the agenda had to be done from the dias, this was to generate more transparency.

What transparency are you referring to, right now the public has all the same access as city council, and at the same time? All agenda items are posted on the city website along with attachments. Additionally, a hard copy is available at city hall in the waiting room and I believe at the city Library for any who want to view it. The use of the term transparency is vague, as there are many areas within city hall, with many people wanting different information to just say more transparency. So I ask, what area of transparency are we being asked about and what hasn't been given? We are transparent.



STEVE BIRD
Candidate for Dixon Mayor

Chose not to participate



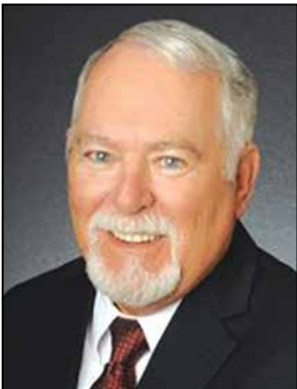
DEVON MINNEMA
Candidate for Dixon Mayor

I strongly believe in transparency and civic engagement. Over the last four years, while the council majority insisted on depending on newspaper ads alone for public notices, I used my own funds to set up an email listserv to send out notifications about council meetings to all registered voters who provided their email address to the Registrar of Voters. In addition to this, I have used social media to

publicize upcoming meetings and drive civic engagement.

When COVID-19 hit and our state and city went into lockdown mode, people were scared, confused, and desperately looking for not only information, but reassurance from our officials. When I realized this, I stepped up and did it myself. I converted that same email listserv and used it to send out COVID-19 updates.

I intend to continue to use these MODERN communication forms to get the word out to the general public about the issues facing our community. The small-town nature of Dixon leads many who get into public service to become complacent if not reticent to seek public engagement, but I believe it is an absolute fundamental to public service, and will to do my best continue informing the populace.



TED HICKMAN
Candidate for Dixon Mayor

Disqualified from participating



JERRY CASTANON
District 4 Council Candidate

Chose not to participate



LOGAN LEGG
District 4 Council Candidate

I do think there has been a notion historically, that elected officials aren't as accessible, transparent, or invested. With that being said, I do think that notion is substantiated as well. Far too often, those on the dais tend to not only become complacent but also they tend to make decisions that are superficially beneficial to constituents but the reality is there is very little substance to them. I want to address

how do we determine what the majority of constituents want; It starts with a codified breakdown of every decision. We need the prolix and legislative documentation so that everything is itemized and explicitly stated, however we also need a more colloquial documentation for every decision, one that is easily read and understood. These two versions will help constituents fully understand what's going on and where they stand, and subsequently when we have public forums, knocking on doors, emails, phone calls, etc. I know without a doubt, my decision will be representative of my constituents. Next and this is a big one is transparency. I can only speak for myself, but as someone who has no allegiance with an organization or business, every decision I make will be documented, itemized, and explained.



DON HENDERSHOT
District 4 Council Candidate

Chose not to participate



KEVIN JOHNSON
District 3 Council Candidate

Great question! There are three things that cannot be transparent in city government: litigation involving the city, personnel issues and contracts between private individuals. Everything else must be made available to our citizens. The City of Dixon NEEDS to be more transparent and has recently hired a Communications

Consultant to accomplish this with better communication about agenda items via Text, Email, and Facebook. This effort has just begun, and I will press for easily accessible and constant communication.

There is nothing more frustrating as a Citizen than to learn of a decision made 1-3 City Council meetings ago and not being alerted in advance. As I join the Council, I will be doing my best to personally connect with Community Leaders, Stakeholders and all Dixon's Citizens. Good communication with a sincere effort for more transparency will help the City Council earn trust from the Community. Community Trust will make so much more POSSIBLE!



JAMES P. WARD, JR.
Candidate for Treasurer

California Government Code Chapter 3 City Treasurer 41001-41007 outline primary statutory duties of City Treasurers in general law cities. What I intend to do in the position of the Dixon City Treasurer is do my elected responsibilities as the City Treasurer. The City Council, which some will be newly elected officials, can restore the responsibilities to the position that was

removed by City of Dixon Ordinance 99-003.

The ordinance did reduce public trust in the position as well as overall, the city staff and Council's transparency.

I hope to restore the Courage, Honesty, Transparency, Oversight and Professionalism to the position by being present at every City Council meeting and available to assist city staff in city accounts and city's surplus funds. All while working within the confines of the law.

Taxpayer Funded Campaign Outreach Contract Tied with Democrat Candidates

By Nghia Nguyen,
California State Senate

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Without legal authority and bypassing the state’s open bid contracting procedures, the California Secretary of State entered a \$35 million agreement with a partisan public relations firm to conduct “voter outreach.” These state funds were intended to help with the administration of local county elections.

“We write to you to express significant concerns with the Secretary of State’s (SOS) recently reported contract to spend \$35 million, ostensibly to provide voter outreach, through a firm widely known for its partisan history,” said Senator Patricia Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), the Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama), the Vice Chair of the Senate

Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, in their letter to decision makers. “This creates an obvious conflict of interest in the administration of these public funds, no matter the protestations from the SOS and the contracting firm that the money would be used in a nonpartisan manner.”

In a September 29 article from the Sacramento Bee, the Secretary of State’s office asserts that he is

spending money “on the counties’ behalf.”

The letter from Senators Bates and Nielsen continues, “This explanation raises significant legal questions as to how the SOS can unilaterally decide it will spend money on behalf of all 58 counties. Thus far, we have seen no indication from counties that any of them in fact did ask the SOS to engage in the contract on their behalf.”

To read the letter in its entirety, please see cssrc.us/sites/default/files/200929_SOS-Contract-Funding-Concern-Letter.pdf.

Senator Patricia Bates (R-Laguna Niguel) represents the 36th Senate District in the California Legislature, which covers South Orange County, North San Diego County, and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Follow her on Facebook, Twitter,

and Instagram.

Elected to the State Senate in January 2013, Senator Nielsen represents the Fourth Senate District, which includes the counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba. To contact Senator Jim Nielsen, please call him at 916.651.4004, or via email at senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov. Follow him @CASenatorJim ★

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

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

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CLUES

ACROSS
1. Capital of Ghana
6. Paris in Tour de France
9. Wild ox of India
13. Admiral's group
14. "Mele Kalikimaka" wreath
15. Julian Barnes' "The ____ of an Ending"
16. Telephone company
17. Acronym in a bottle
18. Birth-related
19. "Set briefly on fire"
21. "Separate solids from fat in melted butter"
23. "Crusty" dessert
24. "Uncouth person"
25. Westminster broadcaster, acr.
28. Coffee break spot
30. "Scald quickly in boiling water"
35. Like desert
37. Like Civil War reenactment battle
39. "Like old chips"
40. Delhi dress
41. Subculture language
43. "Good or bad it emanates from stoves"
44. "As the World ____"
46. Like Jekyll and Hyde's personality
47. This over matter?
48. Encryption device, a.k.a. ____ machine
50. Practice in the ring
52. Low-____ image
53. Competitive advantage
55. NBA coach "____" Rivers
57. "Dissolve browned food bits with liquids"
61. "Thicken by simmering"
64. Love, to Catherine Deneuve
65. Pigeon sound
67. Pianist's exercise
69. Resembling a fish
70. Hawaiian Mauna
71. Smart candy?
72. Tire swing holder
73. Bruin legend Bobby
74. "Yummy reward"

DOWN
1. Back of the boat
2. Staff symbol
3. Text messenger
4. Short version
5. Like number 1 to hydrogen
6. Besides
7. Opposite of paleo-
8. '70s music genre
9. Wheel in grandfather clock
10. ____-perspirant
11. Defender of skies
12. Count on
15. Growls angrily
20. What lighthouse does
22. Williams sister's return
24. On account of
25. "Turkey action"
26. Hitler's Eva
27. Wispy clouds
29. "Incorporate an ingredient"
31. Niels Bohr's study object
32. Rock bottom
33. Star Wars attacker
34. Shepherds' flocks
36. Sound at door
38. ____ sack
42. Clearing in the woods

45. Viscous
49. Wood-shaping tool
51. Capybara, e.g.
54. GEICO's mascot
56. Like a button, but more so
57. Cuckoo
58. Dubai dignitary
59. Departed
60. Debussy's "Clair de ____"
61. Serengeti sound
62. "Preserve by adding salt"
63. Old Norse texts
66. "____ the ramparts..."
68. D.C. time

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
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

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

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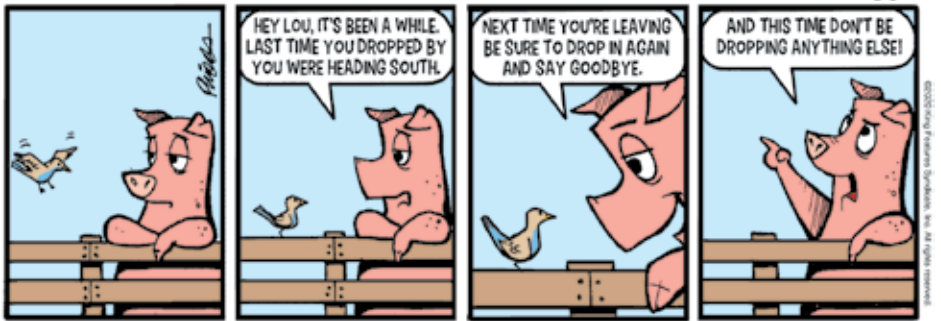
			5					
4	3						5	
			3		4	6	8	
6	5			2	8			4
			3		5			
9			4	7			1	5
8	7	2		4				
	9						8	7
				2				

Solutions on Page 8

WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



HEY LOU, IT'S BEEN A WHILE. LAST TIME YOU DROPPED BY YOU WERE HEADING SOUTH.

NEXT TIME YOU'RE LEAVING BE SURE TO DROP IN AGAIN AND SAY GOODBYE.

AND THIS TIME DON'T BE DROPPING ANYTHING ELSE!

Out on a Limb

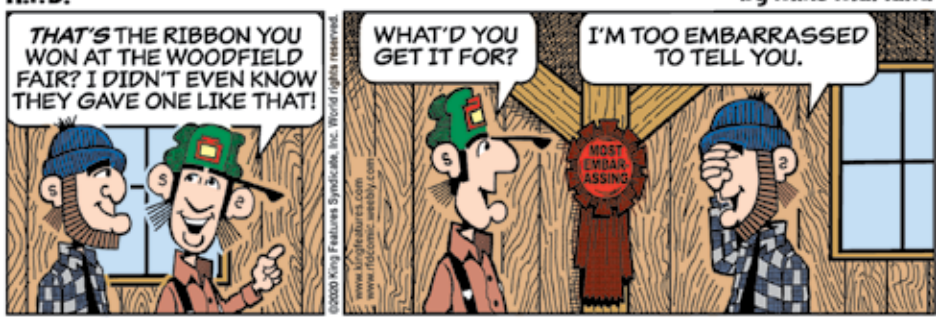
by Gary Kopervas



Two men are shown. One is wearing a yellow jacket and a yellow hat with 'F.D.' on it. The other is wearing a blue and white striped shirt and a red bandana. They are both holding birds on their hands.

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



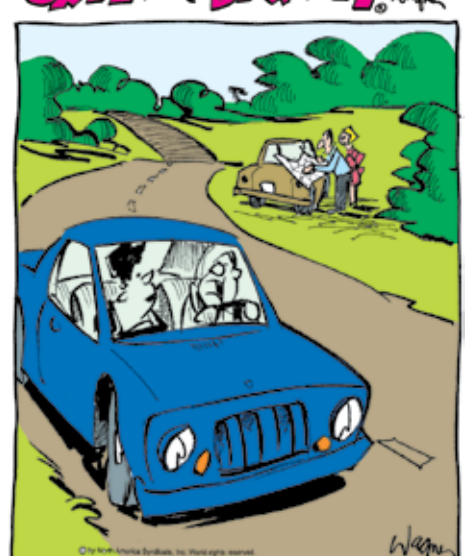
THAT'S THE RIBBON YOU WON AT THE WOODFIELD FAIR? I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THEY GAVE ONE LIKE THAT!

WHAT'D YOU GET IT FOR?

I'M TOO EMBARRASSED TO TELL YOU.

MOST EMBARRASSING

GRIN & BEAR IT



A blue car is driving on a road. In the background, a car is flipped over. A man is standing next to the flipped car.

"Well, I asked ... they were lost, too."

LAFF-A-DAY




A man in a blue uniform is walking towards a woman in a blue dress. The woman is holding a blue bag. The man is holding a blue bag.

"Hey, you forgot to mail my letter!"

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

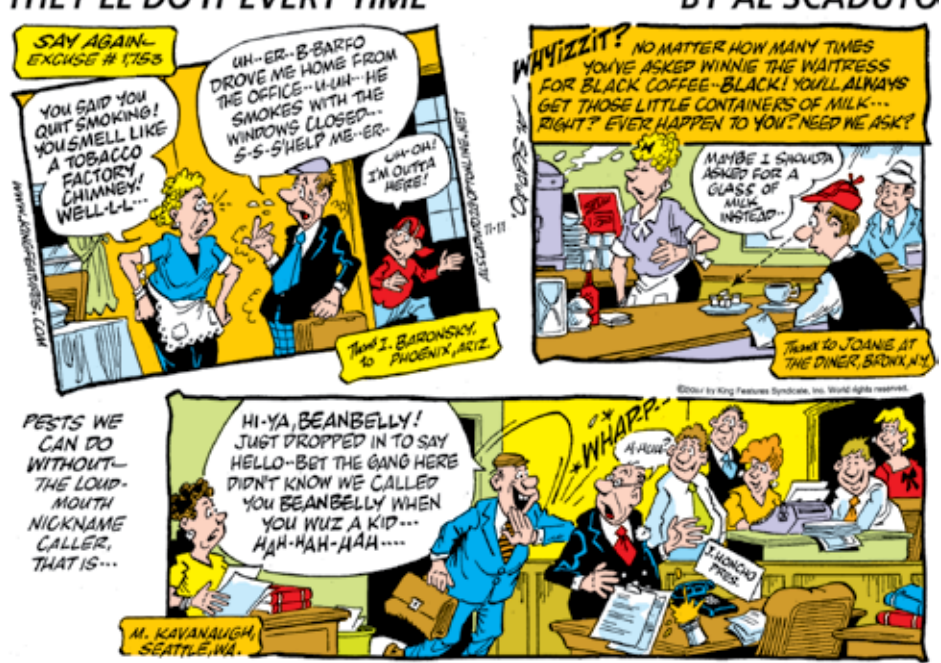


YEARS AGO THEY USED TO HAVE PAY TOILETS.

HOW MUCH DID THEY PAY?

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



SAY AGAIN-- EXCUSE # 1558

YOU SAID YOU QUIT SMOKING! YOU SMELL LIKE A TOBACCO FACTORY! CHIMNEY! WELL--LL--

WH--ER--B--BARFO DROVE ME HOME FROM THE OFFICE--U--UH-- HE DIDN'T KNOW WE CALLED THE WINDOWS CLOSED-- S--S--S--HELP ME--ER--

WH--OH! I'M OUTTA HERE!

WHYZZIT? NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU'VE ASKED WINNIE THE WAITRESS FOR BLACK COFFEE--BLACK! YOU'LL ALWAYS GET THOSE LITTLE CONTAINERS OF MILK-- RIGHT? EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? NEED WE ASK?

MAYBE I SHOULD ASK FOR A GLASS OF MILK INSTEAD.

THANKS TO JOANNE AT THE DINER, BARONSKY.

HI-YA, BEANBELLY! JUST DROPPED IN TO SAY HELLO--BET THE GAND HERE DIDN'T KNOW WE CALLED YOU BEANBELLY WHEN YOU WUZ A KID-- HAH-HAH-HAH--

PESTS WE CAN DO WITHOUT-- THE LOUD-MOUTH NICKNAME CALLER, THAT IS--

M. KAVANAUGH SEATTLE, WA.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

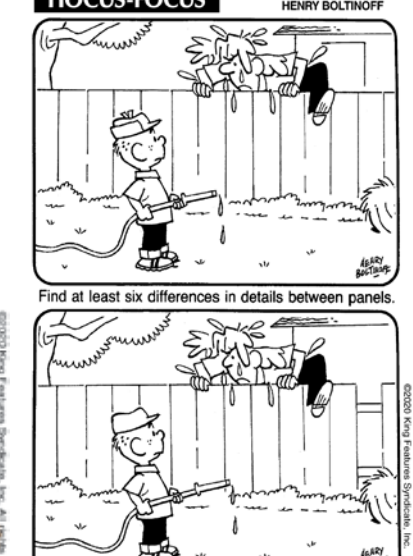
by Dave T. Phipps



FUNNY HOW THAT DOG BOWL IS HARD TO FIND WHEN WE'RE HAVING SALAD.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Boy's hat is different. 2. Fence board is missing. 3. Hose is longer. 4. Window is missing. 5. Tree is fuller. 6. Man's nose is different.

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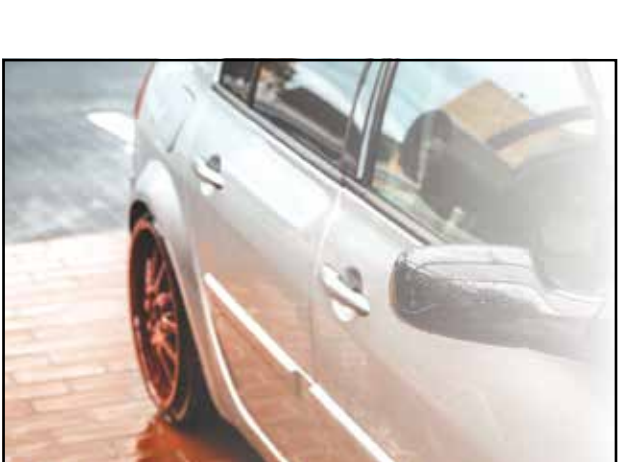
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Should We Have An Elected City Clerk? Analysis of Dixon’s Measure T

Commentary by Michael Ceremello

The arguments for and against making the City Clerk’s position elected instead of appointed have been available to the public for some time now at the County’s website. Rather than being emotional, let’s take a rational look at the realities of the recent past and the motives of those involved.

Those who signed the argument FOR are members of the Solano County Taxpayers Association. Despite what anyone feels about this group, they have consistently attempted to bring accountability and transparency to government. The public was hoodwinked when the city staff solicited the aid of a now jailed movie studio developer to insist the project wouldn’t proceed if the city adopted a Sunshine Ordinance the SCTA was behind.

Those who have publicly come out against Measure T are former staff members, a present and past councilman, and an ex-mayor. These are the same people who endorsed the last council’s removal of duties from the city treasurer position and the failed attempt to make the city treasurer an appointed position. The consistent theme of this group is the centralization of power among an ever smaller group of people under the control of an appointed city manager instead of allowing the potential for observation by a person with allegiances to the citizens.

“If it isn’t broken, why fix it?” My question is “what makes you think it isn’t broken?” The following are the arguments against changing, accompanied by the reality of Dixon.

So we haven’t had an elected city clerk in 70 years. The next emotional scare tactic is there are no guarantees that an elected person “will do a better job”. The elected person could make mistakes. Dixon would still need a full time person in that position.

A better job? Do you know what the California Public Records Act is? One of the primary duties of a city clerk is to provide public documents in a timely manner to the public. Public records are supposed to be available during normal business hours according to Government Code. Yet our city clerks have consistently delayed responses for 10 days which is reserved only for records which may need redaction. In addition, the last several poor excuses for city clerks have to run every request by the city attorney at great cost rather than being able to figure out whether or not something within a document can’t be released.

Mistakes? How about the City Clerk Suellen Johnston, who was trained by Janice Beaman who signed the argument against Measure T? She was persuaded by the city manager and the city attorney to release initiative petitions to them without the required court order. The city attorney either didn’t know the law or didn’t care and was reprimanded by the judge. What about Daryl Betancour who refused to allow the public to watch him count protest ballots for the water rate increase? Then there was Leticia Miguel whose only experience was as a clerk to a board of supervisors.

Full time? The city of Rio Vista had a part time city clerk. Suisun has one now. It can be done.

So now let’s take a look at why the proponents think a change is necessary and see how that holds up under the microscope. We can skip the points which repeat the above analysis. I see two major points.

“70 years ago, by a vote of 125 to 84, Dixon allowed for the appointment of the city clerk.”

Dixon is no longer a town of 2000

residents. Deals were made with a handshake back then. Dixon is not Bell, California and we don’t want it to be. There are now over 10,000 voters. They should have a say and it should be reflective of protecting their right to know how their government is functioning.

“By voting YES you require that the City Clerk LIVE in Dixon and be an INDEPENDENT public servant interested (in) serving ALL RESIDENTS while performing the important work of the office without fear or favor.”

The current city clerk lives in Dixon and has for all of her life. This is not as important a factor as performing the duties “without fear or favor. While the latter remains to be seen, the most important aspect is being “independent” and working for all of us.

Now on to points not within the pro and con arguments.

If our current city clerk is so well trained, why did the council take her election duties from her or whoever might be elected to fill this position? Maybe a better question is why this duty was never taken away before if, as their argument went, there was the potential for election misconduct? Considering that the city clerk does not handle ballots, the county does, why was this done?

As usual, it is all about power and control. The opponents of Measure T want to tell you it shouldn’t be a political office when everything is political to them.

How is it that Fairfield, Vacaville, and Suisun have elected city clerks but it shouldn’t be done here? The city clerk in Antioch is also elected, was a councilman before assuming the position with no experience, and both he and his deputy clerk were trained at the same time. Where are the complaints of malfeasance in these communities? Hearing one complaint of a clerk not completing or refusing to do her duties is quite different than being available to do them.

In answer to my question posed to an elected city clerk: Who did the job of city clerk while you were being “trained”?

“I did, as my Deputy City Clerk was also new to the job.” As such, we both became members of the City Clerks Association of California and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. We both attended “Nuts & Bolts” training which all newly appointed and elected City Clerks attend. We followed this by attend the four week-long “Technical Training for Clerks” which is held at the University of Riverside, the regional training and the annual City Clerk Association of California Annual Conference and the annual “New Law & Election Seminar.”

Does it make more sense or less to have an outsider watching our precious records? Considering that our present city manager somehow “lost” the vetting file on Carissa Carpenter when it was placed directly into his hands by a staff member who will swear to that, I think that question is answered.

I now know precisely what the city clerk’s duties are. A study of compensation for elected clerks should be done but no one should be expected to work for free or the \$89 per month a former elected city treasurer was making.

Perhaps my biggest reason for suggesting that the position be elected is I prefer more eyes and an additional brain looking for ways to move Dixon forward. Has spending millions on train stations and a worthless downtown park done that?

Why would you trust those who have wasted your money to give you advice on this important position? I don’t and won’t ...

New Commander Chosen for Solano CHP



Steve West, new Solano CHP Commander

By David Harvey,
California Highway Patrol

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - California Highway Patrol Chief Chris Costigan announced the selection of Captain Steve West as the new commander of the Solano Area office located in Fairfield. The Solano Area CHP is responsible for all of the unincorporated roadways and freeways in Solano County.

Captain West is a 21-year law enforcement veteran and replaces Captain Mark Headrick, who was selected to command the Department’s Air Operations Section in Sacramento.

Captain West has worked for the California Highway Patrol since 1999,

beginning as a patrol officer in the Marin Area.

He has served in several CHP Areas including the Solano Area, Castro Valley Area, and the Cordelia Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility (CVEF). West has worked on many task forces and committees and was selected to work in specialized units at both the CHP Academy and CHP Headquarters. In 2017, he was selected as the Commander of the CVEF. In 2018, he was selected for promotion to Captain of the Professional Training Section at CHP Headquarters in Sacramento.

Captain West attended Chapman University where he completed his Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice Degree. He has a Master of Arts Degree in Management from American Military University. Captain West is a 31-year military veteran, currently serving as a Chief Master Sergeant in the Reserves on the Headquarters Air Force Staff, Pentagon, Washington D.C. He is a longtime resident of Solano County with deep roots in the community.

“As a resident of Solano County for over 40 years, I’m honored to represent the CHP in this beloved county. I’m proud to work with such professional uniformed and non-uniformed staff that work tirelessly to improve public safety every day. As public servants, we work for you, and I look forward to building upon our strong community relationships, unified as we make this county the greatest place to live, travel, and work.”



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