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# Dixon's Independent Voice

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## Lightning Strikes

### Fire Evacuees, Livestock Pack Dixon Mayfair



Above: Fire from Silveyville Road looking toward Lake Berryessa. Photo by Tye McDaniel. Right: The Joe Feinhandler and Karstin (Hickerson) Feinhandler residence was completely destroyed by 3 am Wednesday morning. Courtesy photo Feinhandler family



By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The strange thunder and lightning we saw Sunday did far more than spark our interest, it also sparked multiple fires in the nearby hills of Lake Berryessa. Fueled by winds and record-breaking scorching heat, the fire has now charred more than 46,000 acres in Sonoma, Lake, Napa, and Solano counties.

The flames advanced on the ranches in Vacaville hills and on the countryside of Berryessa Tuesday night and into the predawn hours sending residents rushing to load up horses and flee. By press time Wednesday, the LNU

Lightning Complex Fire is sending hundreds of evacuees into Dixon.

Local business owners, Karstin and Joe Feinhandler, posted how they escaped with their animals and only the clothes on their backs as the fire approached quickly about 1 am. They were able to drive out a couple of their cars but not enough drivers for their teen's car which was pictured nearly disintegrated with tires melted.

They got to their office in Dixon and loaded

dogs in one office with cats in another. They tied the horses to the trees in the business parking lot and two sons, Cameron

and Tyler Hickerson, used the horse trailer to go back to help other neighbors.

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## Dixon Students to Start Tuesday, August 25

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - All Dixon Unified School District students will start school on Tuesday, August 25, according to the agreement reached through negotiations between the School Board and the Dixon Teacher's Association giving teachers every Monday to prepare lessons.

After DUSD delayed the start of school for local students by two weeks for additional teacher training, teachers are now feeling more ready to return to their classrooms to teach their students using 'Distance Learning'. This is now a familiar school term referring to students on computers in their individual homes while the teachers use online platforms to provide instruction.

"We did reach a Memorandum of Understanding,"

said Dixon Teacher's Association Co-Vice President Eleanor Pracht-Smith about last week's negotiations where the DTA was seeking the option for teachers to teach from inside their homes. Three different car rallies were organized and numerous vehicles bearing signs concerned with teachers safety circled the District Office in downtown Dixon honking horns all the while. There have been several days of negotiations since. "There were results showing 75% [of teachers] supported the MOU," said Pracht-Smith.

"When you have negotiations, it's supposed to be a compromise where both parties do not get fully satisfied on either side but it was good negotiations," said School board President Luke Foster.

Both parties agreed there is a one month trial for all involved. Teachers will spend each Monday planning the week and they can do that from home and are not required to be in the class on that day. They are to be in their classrooms, however, the other four days a week.

"Last Thursday, we voted on ratification of the distance learning contract which will be in place until students return to in-classroom learning," Pracht-Smith said. There are applications for accommodations through the school district for teachers who are at risk or who have children at risk and need to stay home daily.

Teachers are supposed to be in their class on their respective campuses Tuesday through Friday

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## Mural Memorializes Students, Teacher

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Artist Colleen Gnos grew up in Dixon and her family farms here. She painted in preschool here, grew up in Dixon schools, walked the halls of Dixon High School, drove the same streets, and even played in some of the same fields as the students she just finished painting a memorial mural for.

"This work has touched me most," the 1993 DHS graduate said as she began to put away her painting supplies on a bright summer day. "I usually don't spend that kind of time preparing and researching, but it resulted in the most important of my murals and it moved me deeply." Gnos was commissioned to do the mural by Colleen and Jim Schneider to honor their son, Jacob and his friend Jacob Hourmouzas. Both were DHS students tragically electrocuted in March 2019 when they stepped on a metal bridge



Dixon native Colleen Gnos finishes sealing the long mural she painted to honor three DHS students who had their lives cut short and a long-time teacher who died in a car accident. The parents of Jacob Schneider commissioned Gnos in hopes it would give students healing from the tragedies. Photo by Debra Dingman

trying to rescue their dog from a canal.

The Schneiders wanted a special place for students and donated several Adirondack chairs in the quad but also wanted a mural for students to reflect upon.

There would also be a tribute to Samantha

Bloom, a junior who died a month later after a three-year battle with a rare form of cancer. Ultimately, the mural would also memorialize Shawn Tutt, who died in a car accident this past spring. He had taught math and social studies for 23 years at the school.

"All the students were

affected," said Principal Stephanie Marquez. "This mural is so vivid, colorful and is rich with details, yet it blends peacefully. Every part of this touches me."

Gnos, the artist who owns a San Luis Obispo studio, felt a huge responsibility to portray the

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## COVID-19 Numbers Down

By Debra Dingman

It was quite surprising to see a rainbow sprouting from the edge of the hills outside my home office window Sunday morning because I know we are in a heatwave and I was unaware of anything but blazing hot weather for the next 10 days. It rained both Sunday and Monday mornings. Maybe it was a hopeful sign about the pandemic ending.

From July 29 to August 11, on ca.gov, our state of California website noted there was a nearly 20% DECREASE in COVID-19 hospitalizations over 14 days. In addition, there was a 16% DECREASE in ICU admissions over 14 days.

No matter what you see on various news media channels about other states and "COVID spreading," that is not true overall for OUR state as you can see from the actual statistics that are tucked away into various government sites and not always readily available for average Californians/computer users.

If you are computer literate, please get the facts – at least the best they are presented – from the COVID19.ca.gov or Solano County, or the Center of Disease Control.

### Heatwave Woes

In any years past, we would all be flocking to the movie theaters in this kind of heat to get relief.

I spent at least a half hour or more researching whether or not movie theaters could be open and not finding the info, and then calling both the Vacaville and Davis theaters to inquire if they were open but let me save you the trouble. No, Vacaville is not. I don't think Davis is either but could not confirm.

One online article said, "Cinemas have been closed across the country since March 20, because of the Coronavirus Pandemic" but another article said, "The state is requiring that theaters



**A Monkey Tree, national tree of Chile, develops 'pine cones' the size and weight of bowling balls. They are from a rare tree in downtown Dixon that produces the cones every two or three years. This is the year for the Dixon tree on Mayes Street and several of the cones can be seen in the Ferguson Alley outdoor eating area.** Photo by Debra Dingman

limit capacity to 25 percent, or no more than 100 people per auditorium, whichever is less, sources say."

Another day of confusion for me. I'm not a television person per se but with no choice but to stay inside in front of a fan, I'm watching some. I can only read so many books and can't stand that some people make Facebook their only source of life. (You know who you are).

Hubby and I are learning how to renovate cabins in the backwoods, choose between a remodel or purchasing a whole different house, and how to restore old automobiles. If anyone has found something a little more interesting, please let us know.

### No Garage Sales

Well, if you were wondering why so many people are choosing to just put piles of things out in their front yards and post a large "free" sign there, you might want to empathize. There just are too few places in Dixon to discard unwanted right now.

Goodwill is closed and I cannot get a hold of anyone even at the very top of the corporate ladder in regard to the Dixon location that has been closed for a few months now.

To make matters worse, not even local garage sales are permitted.

"We are not issuing permits," said Chief of Police Robert Thompson. He says that they cannot control people who might not keep social distancing or abide by other requirements for sanitation, etc.

Without the permit, according to municipal code, the garage sale owner cannot conduct the sale. This is the only way they can control the situation, he said. There is a Facebook site, however, called Dixon Deals that will help you get rid of things. Note: a "porch pick up" is where you put the item on your porch for pick up.

There are two green receptacles in Dixon that one can use for clothing and shoes. One is at the Safeway parking lot and the other is at Mayor Thom Bogue's business, First Choice Automotive, on the corner of Adams and A Streets.

My favorite spot for now is the very organized drop off available at the Goodwill, 1640 East 8th Street in Davis. No appointment necessary and quick.

### Monkey Tree Cones

A very unique evergreen tree is grown at the residence on the corner of 3rd and Mayes Streets that drops huge pine cone-type balls that take two to three years to mature. This is the year. Several were brought to Jill Orr at Dawson's Restaurant in downtown. They are placed around the pergola in the planter barrels outdoors.

These types of trees were living 200 million years ago and supposedly rubbed shoulders with the dinosaurs. We are not sure how long the one in Dixon has been around but it does tower above the very tall, 3-story home. You can check out the giant 'pinecones' it produces when you eat out in Ferguson Alley.

Debra Dingman, journalist and author is a 27-year Dixon resident. Her columns and articles have run in Solano County for nearly 37 years in Solano County. Her book *Learning A Living, Adventures & Rewards of a Mom Entrepreneur*, is published by WestBow Press and is available on Amazon. ★

## Mural Memorializes Students, Teacher

Continued from page 1

students and also felt very honored to be commissioned for the job. Her first task was to study the dimensions that would be 60-feet long and only 3-feet wide, an area that formed the back wall of the amphitheater in the quad at DHS. Almost immediately she saw a pathway in her mind, she said.

Then Gnos called and spoke with the families to get "a feel" for the youths and their interests.

"You feel like you get to know them when you learn about them," she said. She also watched the celebrations of their lives. "That was pretty tough," she said getting teary-eyed. "I have 16 and 14-year-old sons."

She also contacted some of their classmates and slowly, the path started to get more clear in her mind that would show a journey of the seasons, starting with snow in a Squaw Valley scene because both boys liked to snowboard. It would follow the snow melt down to Dixon to sunflowers, almond blossoms, and row crops, and ultimately end at Putah Creek where Jacob Schneider, an avid fisherman, liked to catch rainbow trout.

She and her husband Che Miller, the "mathematical/problem solver" part of the team, mapped out that it would take seven panels all together and what she envisioned was sketched out on a small pad in late January.

When the pandemic hit and her sons came home from school, she admits to getting a bit derailed but painted in the evenings when it was more quiet. It took her six months.

"I might not have gotten so much into the details if it weren't for the pandemic,"

she said. That included a pair of snowboards sticking up out of the snow drifts, Hedwig the Harry Potter Owl because Bloom was a Harry Potter fan, a pile of camping gear and sleeping bags because the boys loved to camp, and small details like a Dutch Bros. coffee cup because they were regulars at the new Dixon spot. Each item has special meaning including a Biology text book from Bloom's favorite class and teacher. Gnos said she liked hiding things into the mural so people would stare at it to find them.

There are images in the clouds in the sky surrounding the Milk Farm sign towering above the rest of the panels and even a red USC coffee mug is placed at the end to pay tribute to Tutt.

The original plan was to have it finished and installed by the end of this school year. When it was learned that students would not return to the school, it was bitter sweet. It allowed more time but the seniors would not get to see it finished.

"When the school closed, I mourned," said Principal Stephanie Marquez, who also had a senior at Dixon High this past year. "But, for the ones who have seen it, even to staff, it is a gift. I love that it is a mural of moving along. We will be back to normal. And I think when the students come back, they're going to love it." Gnos painted a last minute addition before installing the beautifully painted panels at Dixon High School: A murder hornet carrying the COVID virus. She sealed the mural this past week and says the painting should last for years to come.

"If I create something and it touches people, I'm very happy," Gnos said. She hopes it brings healing to those who knew them. ★

## Another Sign for the Times



This sign sends an uplifting message to drivers arriving at the corner of A and Almond Streets thanks to the owner of the corner property, Jeff Myers, the Pastor of Living Hope Church here in Dixon. "I felt like my job and the church's job right now--more than anything--is just to encourage the community," said Myers. "I thought it was an encouraging message to me and thought it would be to everybody else." Photo by Debra Dingman

## Dixon Churches Invite You To Worship


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 Matthew 5:9

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 Sunday  
 8:30 am and 10 am English  
 6:30 am and 7:30 pm Spanish  
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 M-T-F 8:00 am English  
 TH 8:00 am and 7:30 pm Spanish  
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## Dixon Students to Start Tuesday, August 25

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unless they've applied for special accommodations if they are at risk or if they have small children and don't want to put their young children at risk.

"If they aren't eligible for accommodations through the employer, some colleagues will have to make some tough decisions," Pracht-Smith said.

Most counties are following the recommendations of the governor and the CDC but there are variations in interpretations of those safety guidelines. The Yolo safety guidelines (Woodland,) for example are much stricter than Solano Counties and the public school districts have to make decisions based on the public health officer's guidelines.

"They have done a better job in the last two weeks preparing teachers and [the time] has allowed for teachers to do more training," she said. "Has it been comprehensive? No. But,



Sisters Jordan and Meadow Myers each have created their school workspaces for this year's 4th grade classes with a little help from Mom, Jamie Myers, who is also a music teacher. Photo by Debra Dingman

I think more teachers are feeling more ready to do distance learning."

The plan is for the first month only. Then, teachers will have an option to switch to go into their classrooms or to teach from home because "issues would be worked out by then," explained Foster. If parents complain about

a teacher's performance, there will be only one warning and the teachers readily agreed to this because Foster felt, it is, after all, both parties wanting the best education for the students.

"Or, if the virus situation changes, that will be a whole new situation," said Foster. ★



# Lightning Strikes



Fire raging on Wednesday, August 19, at 2 am on English Hills Rd. and Ciarlo Rd. Photo by Tye McDaniel



A torched vehicle succumbs during the recent fire at the Feinhandler residence. Courtesy Feinhandler family



Dixon does as Dixon does to protect their animals and livelihood. Many rescued animals were evacuated to the Dixon Mayfair grounds. Photos by Debra Dingman

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As soon as the post hit the screen, City Councilman Devon Minnema called Brian Buckhout of the California Office of Emergency Services to find out about opening the Mayfair for RVs and campers. The next call was to City Manager Jim Lindley for a letter requesting the Mayfair to open as an Evacuation Center, which Lindley promptly sent to CalOES.

The Mayfair had already been open for livestock and he reached out to find out what kind of animals they had and then coordinated donations of goat food and shavings for livestock bedding. Taking a drive out to the Walmart parking lot afterwards, Minnema, sporting a bull-horn, let evacuees know about the Mayfair.

There were also evacuees at Safeway and on Ary Lane. A woman with a truckload of pigs was delighted to hear the news and headed off to the Mayfair. ★

# CONVERSATIONS

By Loran Hoffmann and Shirley Humphrey

New residents and other local folks have asked questions about the Pardi Market Plaza site. The first phase was finished a few weeks ago. The next two phases are scheduled to be finished in the next few months.

The Dixon Historical Society is pleased to present the following information which will provide background on the plaza.

## Pardi Market

By Joan Pardi and Ardeth Riedel

The Pardi Market Plaza site is located at the most central intersection of Dixon's downtown. For more than 75 years, the corner lot was home to successful community businesses. Since the late 1970's, however, all vestiges of the past were removed, and the lot fell into use as an unimproved impromptu gravel parking lot – an eye sore at best, and certainly not the ideal use for the community's more important corner. To make matters even worse, the lot's chain link fencing long served as an unsightly sort of community bulletin board – with banners and poster promoting fundraisers, soccer team tryouts and other local events.

To provide you with some background on this location, George and Miriam Pardi lived in Vacaville in the early 1930's. Miriam worked as a nurse, and George ran a meat market. The couple moved to Dixon in the mid-1930's. George purchased a local meat market which he named "Pardi Neighborhood Market."

The site was once the location of a hotel (1895-1920) and Pardi Neighborhood Market (and service stations [1936-1978]). George opened Pardi Neighborhood Market in the mid-30's which he ran until the mid-1960's. Initially George ran the meat market side and Mitchell Grocery ran the grocery side. Later George Pardi bought out Michell. Claude Warren and a female checker worked in the small grocery store. The meat market was very popular with customers. When mothers or fathers brought their children with them, George treated the kids to a free hotdog.

John Fong purchased the store from the Pardi's in the mid-1960's. In the early 1970's the floors needed repairs, and because of the building's age and overall condition, the decision was made to close the store. Pardi Market was destroyed in the early 1990's.

As highways improved, residents started driving long distances to jobs out of town, and discount big-box stores and grocery

outlets were built 25 or 40 miles away that people got used to shopping at. In the 1970's folks started driving to big supermarkets in West Sacramento. Then large supermarkets like Safeway and Walmart located near Interstate 80.

In 1978, three underground gasoline storage tanks and one waste oil tank were removed. Subsequent soil borings revealed undetectable petroleum hydrocarbons and lead levels below environmental thresholds for commercial settings. Tige's Thompson's Shell Service Station was destroyed in the late 1970's.

For decades, several ideas were discussed about how to develop the property, but as of 2016, no ideas come to fruition. In March 2016 the Pardi Market Site Citizens Development Committee (PMSCDC) was formed to represent the general public and streamline the decision-making process. The result of this public process was a consensus to develop the property into a multi-use public plaza—one that could host public ceremonies, perhaps music and theater concerts, farmers markets, art shows and other activity generators, while also offering space for more quiet time for visiting with friends and neighbors.

The City of Dixon, which purchased the site through Redevelopment, has worked through an extensive design process, and has completed Phase one of the construction of the development. This phase focused on correcting long-standing drainage issues, the installation of pavers with several parking spots, a sound wall, ground cover and lighting. Phase two amenities will bring the area to life, adding a clock tower, raised stage, benches and landscaping. Funding for Phase two has been anticipated to include in the City's 2020/2021 fiscal budget, but the financial impacts of the pandemic have caused these plans to be delayed until such time as the city is assured that the local economy has adequately recovered. In the meantime, Phase 1 opened July 19, 2020. ★

# Dixon Candidates Confirmed; Three Uncontested

By MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Unless there are thousands of write-ins, three Dixon candidates are already winners. Planning Commissioner Kevin Johnson who is running for District 3, James P. Ward running for City Treasurer, and School Board Incumbent Lloyd McCabe who replaced a recently resigned Trustee are all uncontested.

The Mayor's race will be heated with four candidates including the incumbent Thom Bogue, two City Councilmembers Devon Minnema and Steve Bird, and former Councilman Ted Hickman.

District 4 will also have stiff competition between former Councilman Jerry Castanon, Planning Commissioner Don Hendershot, and ASUCD Policy Commissioner Logan Legg. District 4

includes downtown residents, the Country Fair and Valley Glen subdivisions, and the new developments across from the May Fair across from Dixon High School.

For the Dixon Unified School Board race, current Board President Luke Foster will be running for re-election along with incumbent Melissa Maseda and new challenger, David Bowen III, a high school mathematics teacher of 10 years and sports coach.

Candidates may place signs starting September 4, according to the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) stating 60 days before the election. This year and due to the pandemic, every registered voter will be receiving a mail-in ballot. The current Governor's order is that in-person polling will be available on election day, Tuesday, November 3.

To view a map of the four city council districts, there is no simple path at this time but you can go online to the City of Dixon and select Elections then scroll down to see an option to click on District Boundaries Map 2016. You can also go here: <https://www.ci.dixon.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/7224/Dixon-2016-Adopted-Map-lg-format?bidId=> Visit <https://www.ci.dixon.ca.us/378/Election-Information> for more information on offices, measures, and deadlines.

Be sure to read each Independent Voice Newspaper edition for the next several weeks leading up to voting day as we will be sharing the candidates' submissions to questions derived from various local residents. You can also go online to [IndependentVoice.com](http://IndependentVoice.com). ★

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# California's Crisis of Competence



By Dan Walters,  
Cal Matters

Year by year and article by article, Ralph Vartabedian has revealed to Californians the woeful shortcomings of the state's largest public works project, a north-south bullet train.

Vartabedian, a writer for the Los Angeles Times, has made a virtual career of uncovering the project's managerial, financial and political failings, lending factual credence to the conclusion that the wisest course would be to cut our losses and give it up.

Although the project enjoyed strong personal support from two previous governors, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jerry Brown, Gov. Gavin Newsom came very close to calling it quits when he took office 19 months ago — then backtracked and proposed a modified version that's still unrealistic.

Vartabedian's latest revelation in the Times underscores that fact, describing that "a series of errors by contractors and consultants on the California bullet train venture caused support cables to fail on a massive bridge, triggering an order to stop work that further delayed a project already years behind schedule..."

"Hundreds of pages of documents obtained by the Times under a public

records request show the steel supports snapped as a result of neglect, work damage, miscommunications and possible design problems."

"High-strength steel strands supporting the 636-foot-long structure began to snap on Oct. 22, one after another," Vartabedian wrote. "Ultimately, 23 of the strands, which are composed of seven individual wires each, broke unexpectedly, according to rail authority documents and officials. The order to stop work was issued Nov. 4.

"A forensic engineering analysis, obtained by the Times, found that the strands corroded from rainwater that had leaked into the internal structure of the bridge and then broke."

Vartabedian quotes Robert Bea, emeritus professor of civil engineering at UC Berkeley and co-founder of its Center for Catastrophic Risk Management, as calling it "a horrible sequence of mistakes."

Vartabedian's article not only once again demonstrates that the bullet train is a multi-billion-dollar boondoggle, but exemplifies why a vigorous and unshackled press is invaluable in overseeing the conduct of public officials.

Unfortunately, the failings of the bullet train that Vartabedian has so consistently and thoroughly revealed are also emblematic of a larger malaise: the erosion of competence in a state government that once prided itself on doing big things well.

California once built highways, bridges, university campuses, dams, canals and other public works quickly and efficiently. It even dispatched its crack highway

engineers to other nations to provide can-do advice.

Those days are long gone. For example, it took two decades, with huge cost overruns, to replace one-third of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge even though building the entire bridge originally took just four years in the 1930s.

The bullet train's managerial shortcomings are also reflected in recent meltdowns in the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Employment Development Department, largely due to managerial neglect of their outmoded information technology systems, a condition that plagues numerous other state agencies.

The underlying syndrome is the obsession among bureaucrats and their political overseers with short-term actions to get public attention while ignoring consequences and long-term issues.

The bullet train is a prime example. It was launched without a well-thought-out plan, without complete financing, without an effective organizational structure — and without a valid factual need. The folks in charge have been making it up as they go along and the result has been a disaster.

It's something to ponder every time a politician proposes some grand scheme, such as the universal health care system that Newsom often touts. Why should we believe it would be any more functional than the DMV, EDD or the bullet train?

Email: dan@calmatters.org  
Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★

## St. Peter's Catholic Church News

This Sunday, we celebrate the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time. This Sunday we continue in the Gospel of Mathew as Jesus asks His disciples who do people say He is, then directly asks the disciples, "But who do you say that I am" (Mathew 16:15, emphasis added). Of all the disciples, it is Peter who answers, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Mathew 16:16). This encounter with Peter defines his future role in the Church that differs from the other disciples in a distinct way. It is an encounter that later, through trials, denial, and restoration, that will prepare Peter to lead the Church as our first Pope after Jesus' ascension. Peter reveals that Jesus is not only the Christ, the savior foretold throughout the Old Testament, but that Jesus is the "Son of the living God" denoting a father-son relationship that fully acknowledges Jesus' divinity with God the Father. The Holy Spirit and the Trinitarian definition would not be clarified until much later (Catechism of the Catholic Church 246 and 247). However, Peter's answer is more on par with revelation than that of human knowledge. Jesus replies, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Mathew 16:17-19). That passage in this week's Gospel provides the basis for some tenants of the Church.

Jesus "blesses" Peter and elevates him to chief patriarch of the New Covenant and

Jesus' Church. The "keys to the kingdom" denote a place of authority, similar to the Davidic kingdom when the king appointed a prime minister only second to the king (1 Kings 4:1-6 and 2 Kings 18:37). Jesus changes Peter's name from Simon, just as Abraham's name was changed from Abram (Genesis 17:5). Just as Abraham received his divine mission (Genesis 12:1-3), Peter receives his mission as Jesus promises to build His Church on Peter the "rock," Petros or Kephas in Greek which means "rock." As holder of the "keys" Jesus will empower His Church with the power to "bind and loose" or to forgive sins. It will take perseverance and loving mercy for Peter to assume his future role when he will later deny Jesus not once, but three times, only to later be fully restored by Jesus resurrected (Mathew 26:69-74).

In this week's Gospel, Jesus directs His question not to just the disciples, but to us as well. Who do you say that Jesus is? Where do we direct our hearts and attention? If we hold Him as our Lord and savior, how do we respond? No response is still a response. Another point to meditate on is who does Jesus say that I am? Do I live in Jesus and Him in me? As baptized Christians we are called to serve to the least among us, and tasked to forgive others, "not seven but seventy-seven times" (Mathew 25:31-46 and 18:22). With Jesus as the "cornerstone" of His church, we are the "living stones" to carry forth His love to others through our acts of service and charity. Please check the Church's Facebook page at St. Peter Catholic Church or the Church website for more information at [www.stpeterschurchdixon.com](http://www.stpeterschurchdixon.com). ★

## Ninth Circuit Court Rules on 10 Plus Firearm Magazines

By Dave McCulloch, Capitol Media

WASHINGTON, DC (MPG) - The California Rifle & Pistol Association received the much-anticipated ruling in the long-fought Second Amendment case *Duncan v. Becerra*. This is the same case that led to "Freedom Week" where thousands of Californians were able to lawfully purchase standard capacity magazines much like the rest of the country.

CRPA has been fighting this case since the 30,000+ member-driven organization filed it in 2017, and has led the fight through the courts with the assistance of the National Rifle Association.

Initially won through a positive ruling by the United States District Court in San Diego, the state quickly appealed — and Judge Benitez was forced to stay his ruling to allow the purchase of magazines holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition until the appeal was made to the Ninth Circuit. CRPA's legal team quickly answered the State's appeal and presented oral arguments.

"Today's decision in *Duncan v. Becerra* is a major victory for the Second Amendment, both in California and across the country," said Chuck Michel, president and General Counsel of the California Rifle & Pistol Association.

In its case, CRPA demonstrated how prohibiting law-abiding citizens from manufacturing, obtaining, selling, transferring, or even possessing standard-issue magazines for firearms violates the constitution.

"After years of fighting, the Court decided in favor of our plaintiffs' challenge against

the state's ban on standard capacity magazines that hold more than 10 rounds," said Michel.

The court noted that the state's efforts to ban these magazines does not pass the strict scrutiny or intermediate scrutiny tests and is a heavy burden on the Second Amendment rights of Californians.

"This is a huge win specifically for the right to possess these valuable self-defense tools. But more generally, this case may present the Supreme Court with an opportunity to set things straight on the underlying issue of what the standard of review test should be when considering any Second Amendment challenge," Michel said. "The Supreme Court seems inclined to do away with the complicated subjective tests that many courts have wrongly applied in Second Amendment cases, in favor of a clearer more objective "originalist" approach that considers the text, history and tradition of a law to determine what infringements might be tolerated," he concluded.

CRPA continues to fight in nearly a dozen major court battles to protect and defend the Second Amendment in California.

Founded in 1875, the California Rifle & Pistol Association provides training in the safe, responsible, and enjoyable use of firearms; sanctions competitive shooting state championships; and fights for the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms for those who choose to own a gun in California for sport, hunting, or self-defense. For more information, visit [crpa.org](http://crpa.org). ★

## 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, August 11, 2020

**1216** – While officers were addressing code complaints in the 800 block of West Elm Street, a domestic violence incident was reported to them. As a result of their investigation, Lori Rosenberger (8/23/69) was arrested for misdemeanor Domestic Violence. She was transported to the Solano County Jail without incident.

### Wednesday, August 12, 2020

**0300** – Stolen vehicle recovered in the 200 block of North Adams Street.

**0700** – Report of petty theft in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

**1130** – Informational report in the 100 block Heritage Lane

**1330** – Report of lost property at the DPD lobby.

### Thursday, August 13, 2020

**0736** – A warrant arrest report was taken in the 1100 block of Pitt School Rd. Officers contacted (S) Richard Perez (37) out of Dixon. Perez was arrested for an outstanding misdemeanor warrant out of Contra Costa County. Perez was transported to the Dixon Police Department where he was cited and released.

**0909** – A found property report was taken in the 1400 block of Ary Ln.

**0925** – Two-Vehicle burglary reports were taken in 1300 block of North Lincoln St.

**1142** – A battery Report was taken in the 100 block of South 1st St.

**1346** – A warrant arrest and marijuana for sales arrest report was taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Ave. Officers contacted (S) John Wilson (30) out of Stockton. Wilson was arrested for an outstanding felony warrant out of San Joaquin County. He was also in possession of marijuana for sales. Wilson was transported to the Solano County Jail and released to their staff.

**1440** – A fraud report was taken in the lobby of the Dixon Police Department.

**2026** – Traffic enforcement stop at the intersection of Porter Road and South Almond Street led to the arrest of Sabrina Saitz (52), for possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Saitz was released from the Dixon Police Department with a Promise to Appear.

### Friday, August 14, 2020

**1200** – Violation of a court order violation report was taken in the 800 block of North Adams St.

**1245** – Trespassing report was taken in the 1700 W. H. block.

**1914** – A domestic violence incident occurred on the 1300 block of Commercial Way. Dixon Officers located the suspect on the 600 block of West F Street and arrested him. He was booked into the Solano County Jail.

### Saturday, August 15, 2020

**0010** – A traffic stop on the 1000 block on North First Street lead to an arrest for narcotics possession.

**0239** – Two men are looking into cars on the 1000 block of Newgate. Suspicious neighbors call the Police. DPD Officers respond and locate the two men. Both were arrested for a narcotics violation and booked into the Solano County Jail.

**0944** – Vandalism report was taken in the 700 block of Nudd Wy.

**1113** – Vandalism report was taken in the 900 block of West F. St.

### Sunday, August 16, 2020

**1259** – Informational report in the DPD lobby.

**1408** – Report of theft of a cell phone in the 1000 block of North Adams Street.

### Monday, August 17, 2020

**1259** – Informational report in the DPD lobby.

**1408** – Report of theft of a cell phone in the 1000 block of North Adams Street.



### USDA Expands Pandemic-Relief Program

As farmers and ranchers continue to struggle during the pandemic, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Tuesday it has made more crops and commodities eligible for relief under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. Farmers of 42 new fruit, vegetable and nut crops may now apply, along with producers of cut flowers and nursery crops, farmed fish and other products. USDA extended the application deadline to Sept. 11.

### Pandemic Alters Demand For Mushrooms

Mushroom farmers around California say they have reduced production as the pandemic cut demand from restaurants and other food-service customers. Shipments had hit record highs late last year, before customers began cutting orders as restaurants closed or reduced business. Several mushroom farmers say they have cut volumes as much as 30% as they adjust to see-saw markets.

California ranks second in the nation in mushroom production.

### State Senate Won't Hear Livestock-Feed Bill

A bill that could have reduced recycling of food waste to feed livestock has been pulled from consideration before a state Senate committee. The bill, to have been heard this week, would have prevented livestock producers from receiving food byproducts from restaurants, grocers and others. Farmers recycle and upcycle the food waste as livestock feed. Opponents say the bill would have forced more food waste into landfills rather than being used to feed animals.

### Researchers Report More Progress Against Citrus Disease

A few days after authorities said an insect carrying a deadly plant disease had been found for the first time in a California commercial citrus grove, University of California scientists described progress in possibly counteracting HLB disease. UC Riverside researchers say they created models of the bacterium that causes HLB, which could help manage it. Another UC Riverside team recently announced progress on a treatment. ★





# Is your family prepared for any EMERGENCY?

CREATE YOUR OWN PLAN TO STAY SAFE.

## Emergency supply kit checklist

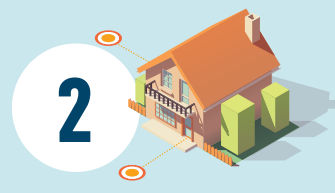
- Drinking water
- Radio
- Medication and eyeglasses
- Cash and credit cards
- Non-perishable food, including baby and pet food
- Flashlight
- Blankets and clothing
- Toiletries
- Tools and utensils
- First aid kit
- Children's activities
- Important documents
- Batteries
- Mobile phone and portable charger



1

### UPDATE YOUR INFO FOR OUTAGE ALERTS

Update your contact information at [pge.com/mywildfirealerts](https://www.pge.com/mywildfirealerts) so we can reach you in an emergency.



2

### CONFIRM YOUR EMERGENCY EXITS

from your home and establish a location where your family or roommates can reunite after evacuating.



3

### PLAN FOR YOUR PETS

by including them in practice drills and helping them get comfortable with a leash or carrier during stressful situations.



4

### LEARN HOW TO OPEN YOUR GARAGE DOOR MANUALLY

in the event the door is unable to open automatically during an outage.



5

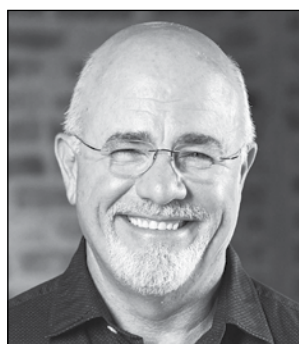
### CHECK YOUR STANDBY GENERATOR

and ensure that it is working properly because it can help avoid damage to personal property and keep emergency first responders safe.



To learn more ways to keep you and your community safe, visit [safetyactioncenter.pge.com](https://safetyactioncenter.pge.com).





**A Very Generous Offer**

Dear Dave,  
My in-laws have very generously offered my wife and I \$250,000 to help with a down payment on a home. I know the amount exceeds the IRS's yearly gift allowance, but they want to structure it as a family loan and have already told us they don't care if we pay it back. If we accept, we technically owe them a lot of money. If we say no, they may be offended. What do you think about this and how it might impact the relationship?

- James

Dear James

Well, it makes sense your wife would be onboard with the whole thing. It's her dad making the offer, so of course she would be a lot more comfortable with the idea than you are.

This is a big deal, and it's something you two should have a very serious conversation about. Get

# Dave Ramsey Says Social Security Matters

## The Virtues of Claiming Benefits Early

By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social



**Security Advisor**

**Dear Rusty:** It seems like we are always encouraged to wait until our full retirement age or age 70 to claim our Social Security. For me, benefits at age 62 were a good jump start to my retirement. How about listing the many benefits to early (age 62) retirement? And at what age does it become a liability, if ever? **Signed: Happily Retired at age 78**

**Dear Happily Retired:** You're correct that most financial advisors and Social Security Advisors, including me, frequently encourage people to delay claiming Social Security until at least their full retirement age (FRA). And that's because far too many claim their benefits as soon as they are available at age 62 "because it's there," without evaluating whether that's a smart move for them personally. There are many reasons why it's best to wait, but there are also some very good reasons for claiming benefits at age 62. Let's explore those.

Claiming at age 62 is exactly the right move if you are in poor health and don't expect to live a long life. Benefits taken age 62 are 25% less for those with a full retirement age (FRA) of 66, and 30% less if your FRA is 67. But those reductions become insignificant if you don't expect to live a long, healthy life from that point forward. If you wait until your FRA, it takes about 12 years to collect the same amount in



total benefits as if you had claimed at age 62.

Even if you are in decent health now, if your family history and your lifestyle suggest less than average longevity, claiming before your FRA, as early as 62, may be a prudent choice. By "lifestyle" I mean, for example, whether you exercise regularly, smoke or drink excessively or drive without a seatbelt. There are several life expectancy calculators available which can assist with predicting your life expectancy by evaluating your family history and lifestyle, including those available at this website: <https://socialsecurityreport.org/tools/life-expectancy-calculator/>. Just remember that no one can accurately forecast how long they will live but making an informed decision on when to claim should consider your estimated longevity, among other things.

If collecting your Social Security benefits early is needed to help pay for life's necessities, such as food, housing, and out-of-pocket medical costs, then claiming as early as age 62, or any other time before your FRA, could be exactly the right choice. In other words, the need for the money now is a driving force in deciding when to claim.

Which brings me to your point that claiming at age 62 was a "jump start" to your retirement, allowing you to begin enjoying your golden years much earlier than you might have otherwise been able to. There's a lot to be said for taking benefits early to fulfill your bucket list while you're

still young enough to enjoy it. And, from your signature, it looks like you've been putting that extra Social Security money to good use for many years now. Good for you! Now, at age 78, you've reached your "breakeven point" where, if you had waited until your FRA to claim, your cumulative lifetime benefits would hereafter be more than they will be because you claimed at 62. That may not, however, offset the many years of happy retirement you've been able to enjoy because you took your benefits early.

In the end, deciding when to claim Social Security should be done after carefully evaluating your personal situation. Anyone who claims benefits before their full retirement age must beware of Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn before your benefits are affected. But those who can afford to wait and who expect to live to a ripe old age would do well to consider delaying until their full retirement age, or even beyond, to claim their Social Security benefits. If their life expectancy is at least "average" they'll collect much more in cumulative lifetime benefits by doing so.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).* ★

# Newsom Exploits Health Crisis to Free Thousands of Convicted Felons

By Jacqui Nguyen, California Senate Republicans

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Senate Republican Leader Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield) released the following statement in response to Governor Newsom's expansion plan to release additional convicted felons from four separate correctional facilities. According to a recent article published in The San Francisco Chronicle, the Governor's early release plan could free at least 50,000 convicted felons which is nearly three times the original figure as reported in the media.

On March 4, Governor Newsom ordered the mandated shutdown of California. Under the guise of the crisis, the Governor has granted the early release of 18,000 convicted felons. He now has ordered the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to expand the early release program to include four additional correctional facilities.

Convicted felons serving their sentences for horrific crimes such as assault with a deadly weapon, throwing acid, vehicular manslaughter, armed robbery, and arson are among many of those on Newsom's lucky release list.

"Once again Governor Newsom and his liberal administration choose convicted felons over victims' families and law-abiding Californians. Governor Newsom has already released over ten thousand prisoners early and California's reentry system is already having trouble finding housing, food and other re-entry services for the released prisoners."

"Instead of focusing on releasing criminals from prison early and overwhelming communities with thousands of unhouse and dangerous felons, Governor Newsom should focus on securing the energy grid, stopping these rolling black-outs, and protecting our law-abiding citizens and families," said Senate Republican Leader Shannon Grove. ★

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FOR THE LOVE OF  
**BOOKS**  
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# Ghost Wood Song

by Erica Waters

Shady Grove's life has been filled with sorrow. So much sorrow that her life plays out like her namesake, a mournful bluegrass song filled with loss, fear, anger, and ghosts. After tragically losing her father only a few years back, Shady's only connection to him is how she plays her fiddle. Like the wind's rushing through the leaves of a shaded pine, her fiddle playing can creep into any space, lifting and encircling the air, wrapping itself around the hearts of those who hear her play. Shady still feels the pull of her father's death on her heartstrings, and when her step-father is murdered, all the loss whelms up around her. Shady knows the only way she will be able to navigate this world is through her fiddle.

Then, her brother Jesse is accused of the murder and put in jail. Unable to get a grasp on her life, Shady feels the pull of her father's fiddle, calling her from the depths of the forest. She knows the fiddle's power to raise ghosts from their grave, and that is exactly what she needs—answers, and the only way she is going to get them is by raising the dead. Now,



- ◆ Publisher: Harper Teen
- ◆ Hardcover, 362 Pages
- ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
- ◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥♥

trapped between the living and the dead, Shady must rely on those around her to help her solve the riddles that lie on the tongues of the ghosts she raises in order to learn the truth and free her brother. However, unearthing truths that the dead want to keep buried could pull her into a darkness that she will never be free from.

A delicate lyrical read that builds tempo like the crescendo of a deep, mournful bluegrass song; Ghost Wood Song will take its readers deep into the sweltering humidity of the Florida backwoods,

and delivers an eerie, lush, and delicate read. Gently heartfelt, and woeful this story should be read walking along a path of thick shaded pines. A story that exemplifies perseverance and strength, as the main character tries to discover who she loves, and who to trust while death surrounds her like a snug blanket.

Erica Waters delivers a dark and lush story, introducing readers to the beauty of fiddles, bluegrass music, and the backwoods of Florida, taking her readers on a journey that's path is thickly laid in pine needles, and lies.

Mysterious and beautiful, Ghost Wood Song would be better compared to a song than a scary movie. While the pretense sounds creepy and haunting, this book instead delivers spooky elements encased in truth, friendship, and love, leaving its readers to be reflective and at peace.

Ghost Wood Song is a definite read for anyone who wants to encapsulate the beauty of beautiful music, while also uncovering secrets that have buried a family for years. ★



# Riley Reviews

## DRUG-FUELED ACTION IN "PROJECT POWER;" CABLE FALL PREVIEW

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

### "PROJECT POWER" (Rated R) on NETFLIX

If not for the presence of streaming services, this summer would turn out bereft of action films that might loosely be described as superhero adventures. Netflix is filling the void, as it did recently with "The Old Guard" reviewed in this column.

The Netflix science-fiction crime drama action thriller "Project Power," rated R for violence, bloody images, drug content and some language, is set in New Orleans where a pill being peddled on the streets offers its users unpredictable superpowers.

The street drug, developed by a shadowy organization headed by Dr. Gardner (Amy Landecker), is a luminous capsule that unlocks different superpowers for its users that lasts only five minutes.

As with the use of any pharmaceutical, results may vary, and particularly with a drug harvested from multiple species to create what villainous distributor Biggie (Rodrigo Santoro) calls the "next evolution of the human species."

The Power pill presents a roll of the dice for the consumer. One might burst into flames and manage to burn down a tenement building during a chase. Another becomes invisible and stages a bank robbery that is more interesting during the pursuit.

Teenager Robin (Dominique Fishback) is dealing the drug to finance an operation for her mother. When ambushed by street punks for her stash, Robin is rescued by New Orleans detective Frank Shaver (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) with whom she has developed a professional relationship.

Frank relies on Robin for the powerful capsule because he's willing to buck the system and use the pill as a means to track down the cartel pushing a product that is turning his beloved city into a cesspool of crime.

Not surprisingly, Frank runs afoul of his Captain Craine (Courtney B. Vance), who asks for his badge and gun until Frank convinces his boss that cooperating with other government agents hasn't worked out very well for New Orleans.

To keep his job, Frank must pursue the distribution source, which just might be a former decorated soldier with PTSD and a personal agenda. That person is Art (Jamie Foxx), aka the Major, who is desperately searching for his missing daughter.

The paths of Frank, Robin and the Major soon cross, and these disparate characters form an uneasy alliance to rescue the Major's daughter who is being held hostage by Dr. Gardner on a cargo ship loaded with illicit product.

"Project Power" has plenty of explosive action, but the most dynamic aspect is the rapport between the Major and Robin,

which turns out to be the film's appealing emotional core.

### CABLE FALL PREVIEW – PART 2

During the remote summer television press tour, the new streaming service of the Peacock cable network, recently launched by its NBCUniversal parent company, held its first ever presentation of upcoming series in a formal setting.

The early 1990's high school comedy "Saved by the Bell" is being reimagined with an edgier mood and returning several veterans to Bayside High in regular and recurring roles.

Elizabeth Berkley's former class president Jessie Spano is now a guidance counselor at Bayside and mother of the school's football team captain. Mario Lopez's sensitive jock A.C. Slater is now the gym teacher.

Mark-Paul Gosselaar's Zack Morris has become governor of California who's in hot water for closing too many low-income high schools, so he proposes transfers of affected students to the highest performing schools in the state, including his alma mater of Bayside.

In a sign of the changing times, one of the leading student characters is that of the most popular girl and cheerleader Lexi (Josie Totah), who just happens to be transgender.

For many reasons, Bayside High is a different place than three decades ago.

"Rutherford Falls," a new comedy series, depicts a small town in upstate New York and the Native American reservation it borders, both of which are turned upside down when local legend and town namesake Nathan Rutherford (Ed Helms) fights the moving of a historical statue.

One's immediate thought is whether this comedy has anything to do with the wanton destruction of statues that have ranged from ones of the Founding Fathers to the abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

The cancel culture is not the issue in "Rutherford Falls." The statue in question is that of one of Nathan's ancestors who brokered a "fair and honest" deal with the local Native American tribe.

The problem is that the statue stands at the exact spot of the negotiated deal with the fictional Minneshonka tribe, but unfortunately the location is in the middle of a street, which creates a traffic hazard where drivers often crash into the pedestal.

The mayor of the town wants to move the statue from its precarious location, and Nathan Rutherford is resolute in his opposition to a relocation because doing so would be contrary to its historical significance.

That Nathan also runs the Rutherford Falls Heritage Museum, dedicated to the history of the town going back to the 17th century, only adds fuel to his fire to fight city hall tooth and nail. ★



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# Ask Toni

## Enrolled in Medicare Part B ...

### NOW I'm Receiving a Part D Penalty ... Why?



Toni King

Hello Toni:

Turned 65 in August 2018, continued to work full-time with company benefits, until I was laid off on May 10th and that is when my employer benefits ended. I have enrolled in a Medicare supplement plan G and a Part D prescription drug plan with a September 1 start date because that is when my Medicare Part B starts.

Now my troubles are beginning because I have received a notice from CMS (Medicare) saying they do not have record of me having prescription drug coverage that "met Medicare's minimum standards from 8/1/2018 when my Medicare Part A started to 9/1/2020 and I am receiving a Part D late enrollment penalty.

I do not understand why I am receiving a Medicare Part D penalty. I thought applying for Part B keep me from a Medicare penalty. What is the 63-day window that the Part D prescription drug plan is talking about?

I have been quarantined due to contracting coronavirus and was not able to explore my Medicare options. Is there a way that I can appeal this Part D penalty due to COVID-19 issues?

~ Thank You, Sydney from St. Louis, MO

Sydney:

Generally, when there are Medicare special enrollment problems due to weather issues, Medicare will give extra time for enrollment periods such as Medicare Annual Enrollment in October. My advice to you is to call Medicare at 1/800-633-4227 or the Medicare Part D plan which you have enrolled in and explain that you have been in quarantine due begin exposed to coronavirus. IRS extended the April 15 tax filing date due to COVID-19, so I would ask for an appeal to the penalty due to being unable to take care of your personal Medicare business because of being in quarantined.

Taking the "Request for Employment Information" form to Social Security to avoid the "famous" Medicare Part B penalty informs Medicare that you have had employer benefits since turning 65. The form does NOT inform Medicare that you had "creditable" prescription drug coverage. The Medicare & You handbook states: "Creditable prescription drug coverage could include drug coverage from a current or former employer or union, TRICARE, Indian Health Service, the VA or health insurance coverage. Your plan must tell you each year if your drug coverage is "creditable coverage." Keep this information because you may need it when or if you join a Medicare drug plan late.

Creditable drug coverage should "meet or exceed" what Medicare's Part D plan minimums are for that

current year.

Medicare does not regard discount prescription drug cards or low-cost generics programs such as GoodRX as "creditable coverage". These types of plans cannot keep you from the Late Enrollment Penalty.

Your Late Enrollment Period (LEP) does not begin from the day you lose or leave your company health plan, BUT from the month you turned 65 or began your Medicare or is based on when Part A of Medicare begins not Part B.

This LEP (Late Enrollment Period) penalty can be because:

- 1) You waited past 63 days without "creditable" prescription drug coverage when you are leaving company benefits and you are older than 65 years old and 90 days. (which technically is what you did, Sydney) Do not wait past 63 days to get Part D when leaving company health plans.
- 2) Your company prescription drug benefits (not health benefits) are not "creditable" as Medicare declares.
- 3) You simply never enrolled in Medicare Part D when you were first eligible and want to enroll.

Toni King, author of the Medicare Survival Guide® is giving a \$5 discount on the Medicare Survival Guide® Advanced book and bundle packages for the Toni Says® newspaper article readers at [www.tonisays.com](http://www.tonisays.com). Email [info@tonisays.com](mailto:info@tonisays.com) for Medicare questions. ★



### The Immortal Indianapolis

This summer marks the 75th anniversary of the worst disaster in the history of the United States Navy – the sinking of the USS Indianapolis.

Three hundred men died in the initial catastrophe on July 30, 1945, then the survivors cast into the sea suffered unimaginable horrors, abandoned for days without food or water in shark-infested waters.

As long as tales of the sea move human hearts, the story of the Indianapolis will shock and inspire.

She was a heavy cruiser, in between a larger battleship and smaller destroyer. Sleek, fast and elegant, she bristled with firepower – her 8-inch guns could fire a 250-pound shell 18 miles. Franklin Roosevelt made her his ship of state, and she became the flagship of the Navy's 5th Fleet.

During World War II, she saw significant action and suffered a debilitating kamikaze strike at Okinawa. Quickly repaired, she embarked on a secret mission to deliver components

of the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima. She then proceeded unaccompanied to Leyte in the Philippines.

A Japanese submarine stumbled upon her on a dark night. It fired six torpedoes, two of which struck the ship in quick succession right after midnight. The ship sank in 12 horrifying minutes.

Nine hundred men made it off, suddenly in the middle of the Philippine Sea at night with their home, their weapon, their mistress gone. Only about half had a life jacket or life vest. They were spread over miles. Many were wounded.

At first, they were hopeful about a rescue that didn't come for four excruciating days. The ship's SOS call was picked up at three places, but the message was ignored. A failure in the Navy's tracking system meant no one noticed when the Indianapolis didn't show up at Leyte. Day by day, hundreds more men died.

During the day, the sun tortured them. The salt water weakened them. Thirst agonized them. Their life jackets began to give out.

They died of exposure and exhaustion. They died from the nightmarish attacks of circling sharks. They died from the terrible temptation of drinking salt water. They died from madness. They died from sheer despair, giving up and sinking beneath the waves.

Still, somehow, at the

extreme edge of human endurance, 317 men survived when a plane on a surveillance mission finally came across them.

For Capt. Charles McVay, a new agony began. As the Indianapolis sank, he had considered going down with the ship before getting swept away by a wave. At first separated from his men, he had the horrifying thought that he alone might have survived.

The Navy court-martialed him for not having zigzagged to evade attack, even though his orders only made it mandatory during the day, even though the maneuver was of dubious effectiveness, even though the captain of the Japanese sub said he assuredly would have sunk the Indianapolis anyway.

There was a much stronger case that McVay had been let down by the Navy, since he wasn't apprised of reports of Japanese subs operating in his vicinity and the Navy, shockingly, lost track of his ship. Yet McVay was found guilty. A broken man, he took his own life in 1968, and the Navy didn't expunge his record of wrongdoing until 2001.

It's another tragedy associated with a ship whose drama, heartbreaking and astonishing, will never leave us.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
1. Delivery org.
  5. "U.N. workers' grp.
  8. Pressure unit
  11. Prune, previously
  12. Congregation's echo
  13. Lusitania's destroyer
  15. Samoan money
  16. Enthusiastic review
  17. Police informers
  18. \*More than 40 hours
  20. First Nation nation
  21. Not these
  22. Paper or plastic?
  23. Lads' girlfriends
  26. Meal
  29. Morsel
  30. \*Labor Day, always
  33. International Civil Aviation Org.
  35. She turned to stone, Greek mythology
  37. Quaker grain
  38. Same as gnarls
  39. Toothy wheel
  40. Capital of Canada
  42. Homer Simpson exclamation
  43. Russia's plain
  45. Zoroastrian archives
  47. Simon & Garfunkel member
  48. Sheikh's bevy
  50. Goes with sushi
  52. \*Part of labor force
  56. Jewish folklore creature
  57. European sea eagle
  58. Millimeter of mercury
  59. Impolite dinner sound
  60. "Dark" movie
  61. Armor chest plate
  62. Cupid's action
  63. Type of evidence
  64. "By \_\_\_ of" or "by means of"
- DOWN**
1. "\_\_\_ no good"
  2. Bohemian, e.g.
  3. Whimper
  4. "That \_\_\_!" and hurts
  5. Mosque officials
  6. Don McLean: "Drove my chevy to the \_\_\_"
  7. Comes before first Mississippi
  8. Minute opening
  9. "For Pete's \_\_\_!"
  10. Belonging to it
  12. Not aria nor recitative
  13. Open a beer bottle
  14. \*Union responsibility
  19. \*Labor Day is this puzzle's \_\_\_
  22. Beyoncé, a.k.a. Queen
  23. \*Like Labor Day weekend
  24. Ovine sign of the zodiac
  25. Type of weasel
  26. "Pro" follower
  27. Doodles
  28. Fortune-teller's card
  31. Sol, or la, or ti
  32. Digital audiotape, acr.
  34. \*Health and safety org.
  36. \*Strike \_\_\_
  38. Courtroom silencer
  40. Choose
  41. One who bends out of shape
  44. Groom one's feathers
  46. Used an emoji, technically
  48. Long-necked wader
  49. Embryo sacs
  50. One-pilot flight, pl.
  51. Reunion attendee
  53. Jellystone Park denizen
  54. Joanie of "Happy Days"
  55. At a previous time, archaic
  56. Geological Society of America
  57. \*Unofficial \_\_\_ of summer

**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						45	46			
					47				48	49			
											53	54	55
56							57				58		
59							60				61		
62							63				64		

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**Crossword Puzzle on Page 8**

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

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**Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8**

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

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

**Solutions on Page 8**



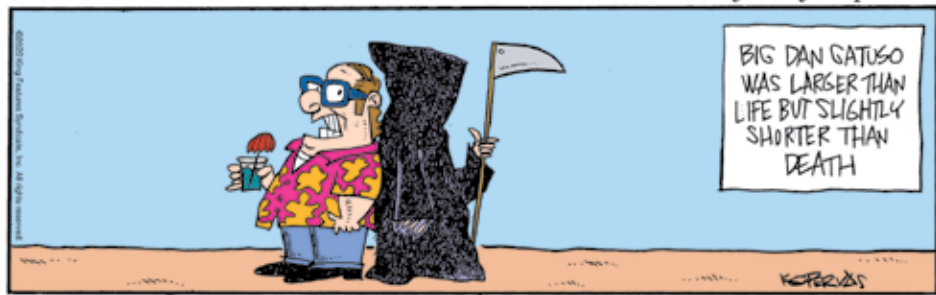
# WEEKLY COMICS

## Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

## Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

## R.F.D.



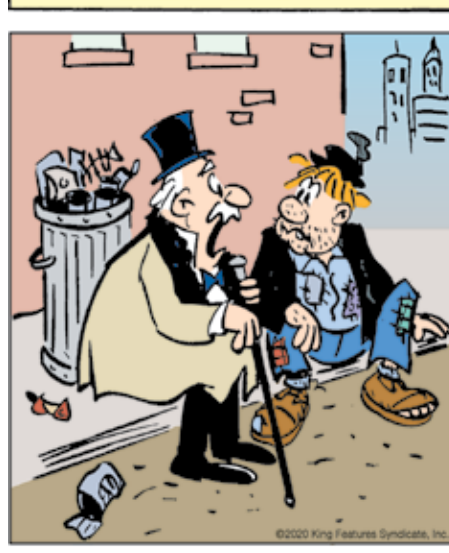
by Mike Marland

## GRIN & BEAR IT



"Can you hold a moment? I have another annoying call on the other line."

## LAFF-A-DAY



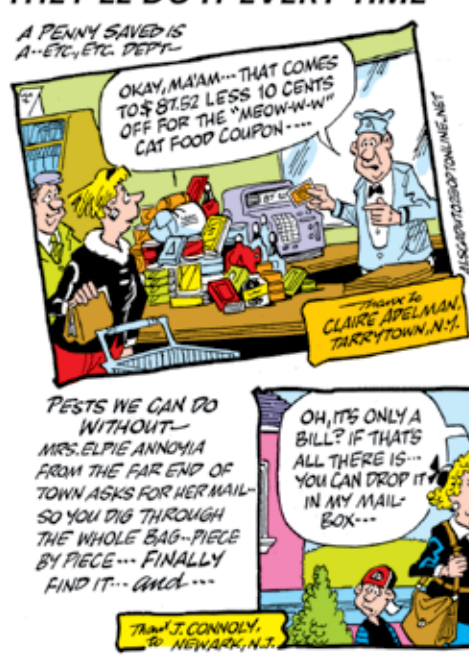
"You're broke before taxes and I'm broke after taxes!"

## The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



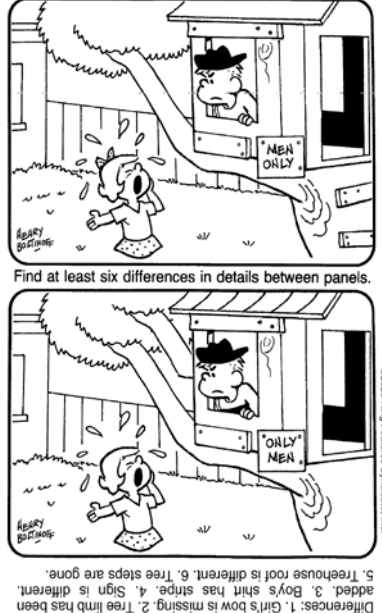
BY AL SCADUTO

## Just Like Cats & Dogs



by Dave T. Phipps

## HOCUS-FOCUS



BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.  
 Differences: 1. Girl's bow is missing. 2. Tree limb has been added. 3. Boy's shirt has stripe. 4. Sign is different. 5. Treehouse roof is different. 6. Tree steps are gone.

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# Kiwanis Club Awards Four DHS Graduates

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Thanks to the annual Festival of Trees, Kiwanis Club of Dixon is honoring four Dixon High School graduates with \$500 Scholarships each. They are Emily Aguirre, Stephanie Garcia, Alondra Herrera and Annabel Rubio.



Emily Aguirre

Aguirre will be attending Sacramento State University and majoring in Biochemistry with an ultimate goal to become an obstetrician and gynecologist. She will be the first in her family to pursue a degree as both her parents emigrated from Mexico to escape poverty.

"I want to help my community by educating women about their own reproductive health," Aguirre said. Impacted by an experience with her mother's health, she said, "I want to become a person involved in the community with helping women who have difficulties but can't afford consultations or checkups or not having knowledge about their bodies."

Aguirre is active in the Catholic Church and took a very difficult schedule of AP classes throughout high school while still participating in soccer, tennis, and track and field. She is bilingual.



Stephanie Garcia

Stephanie Garcia also wants to become a doctor but working in Pediatrics. When she was a sophomore, her 9-year-old cousin was diagnosed with a severe life-threatening condition and had to have several brain surgeries.

"When I visited her in the hospital, she had a team of neurologists helping her get better. Both my cousin and her doctors inspired me to pursue a medical career," Garcia said. She will be attending California State University Dominguez Hills to pursue Biochemistry.

Garcia was involved in the Key Club and has been an active volunteer in the community including collecting for victims in the recent Camp Fire and Tubb Fires.



Alondra Herrera

Alondra Herrera Mondragon will be living at home while she attends Woodland Community

College and after completing general education requirements, she'll pursue her nursing degree at Sacramento State University

When her grandfather was in the hospital, she noted that there were not enough bilingual nurses.

"Observing the nurses and their lack of resources made me realize I can make a difference. That language barrier made me feel I can make an immediate impact in helping other families and that would be very fulfilling to me," she said.

Mondragon made CSF honors and played on the Varsity Tennis Team all four years of high school. She volunteered at various community functions, tutored, and worked part time at Pedrick Produce.



Annabel Rubio

Annabel Rubio is also interested in Biochemistry as the starting path to becoming a doctor possibly in genetics. Rubio had a 4.3 GPA, was ranked 4th in her class, and is enrolled in Cal Berkeley's pre-med program. She will also be the first in her family to get a degree.

Rubio grew up watching television shows like Grey's Anatomy

and medical videos like Chubbyemu on YouTube videos. In her freshman year, she took Geometry, Computer Science, and US History at Solano College all while at Dixon High School taking honors classes and playing in the Dixon High School Band, competing on the swim team, and being involved in the Rotary Interact and 'Girls Who Code' clubs.

She enjoyed tutoring tough science subjects to younger students and gives credit to her mother for nurturing her passion for learning.

"If it weren't for my mother's sacrifice of being a stay-at-home mom, I don't think I would be the person I am today," she said. "She has provided me all the tools necessary to go out into the world and flourish mentally, physically, and emotionally."

Past recipients are: 2012 Devon Minnema; 2013 John Loarca; 2014 Camarina Augusto and Rebecca Immel; 2015 Stefany Pineda and Miranda Sanchez; 2016 Madelyn Larson and Cheyenne Shipley, 2017 Alyssa Ponce and Emily Ziegler; 2018 Bethany Bodine and Grace Lightfoot; 2019 Crystal Chien, Beau Carabajal, Mei-lin Hanna and Vadisha Patel.

The Kiwanis Club of Dixon is the parent organization of the DHS Key Club. For more information on the Dixon Kiwanis Club, email [dixonkiwanis@hotmail.com](mailto:dixonkiwanis@hotmail.com) or call (707) 676-5413. ★

# California Capital Airshow Cancels



The California Capital Airshow looks to the future after cancelling the 2020 event. Photo courtesy CCA

Special Release from CCA

After more than a year of planning the 2020 California Capital Airshow, presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova, it is with heavy hearts that we announce the cancellation of this year's event scheduled for October 3-4.

The safety of our guests, performers, exhibitors and volunteers is always our top priority. This is demonstrated by the safe and successful airshows we have hosted for the past 14 years.

We explored numerous options with our partners to provide a highly modified and socially distant event that would also work within established COVID-19 public health parameters. Unfortunately, we are not fully confident we can minimize the coronavirus risk to a level that meets our standards for health and safety. Please know we did not want to let you down - but ultimately, it is the right call for the safety of everyone.

The California Capital Airshow Board of Directors would like to thank ALL our partners at the state, county and local levels for helping us do everything possible to deliver a safe and responsible event. We all put in many hours towards a workable solution, and we are all deeply and equally saddened.

Despite this disappointing news, plans are well underway for the 2021 California Capital Airshow, which is scheduled for September 25-26 featuring the world-famous United States Air Force Thunderbirds!

Until then, as a nonprofit organization, we will turn our attention back to the mission of inspiring the next generation through free educational programs and scholarships, as well as honoring our region's rich aviation heritage.

We are tremendously grateful for your patience, support and encouragement during these trying times. Although we will miss our big and crazy airshow family, our team will use this time to make next year better than ever before. Can't wait to see you in 2021 - be ready to celebrate!

Stay safe,  
California Capital Airshow

For more information: [California Capital Airshow](http://CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com), see: [CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com](http://CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com) ★

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