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Dixon's Independent Voice

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BABY STEPS KEY TO RE-START AFTER COVID



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NEWSOM ANNOUNCES NEW POLICING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS



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Dixon's Graduation Parade a Success!



Above: The Dixon Community Performing Arts Center was decked out in green for the ceremony and each student was recognized in front of a huge balloon and banner display. Right: The Senior Car Procession sported Dixon High School green decorations was well executed despite the constantly changing Covid-19 and restrictions. Photos by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - It seemed like the anticipation was equal to that of the May Fair Parade—just more spread out. I'm talking about the streets lined with chairs, flags, blankets, and banners congratulating Dixon High School seniors last Saturday in our local pandemic-induced graduation ceremony.

Then there were cars...a couple hundred of them in various models, colors, and sizes from small to big rig—all adorned with pom-poms, streamers, and giant pictures of the graduate inside. Most cars were driven by proud parents with students ranging from the shy blushers to the boisterous, full-arm waving ones connecting with their extended families and friends on the sidewalks

as the cars drove through town.

Parade line up began at 7:30 am and started promptly as planned at 9 am with police escort. Each student was recognized in front of a huge balloon and banner display and congratulated by Principal Stephanie Marquez and retiring teacher Kim McGreevey along with a host of other teachers and school board representatives trying to keep six feet apart.

The last of 242 students recognized in their bold caps and gowns was about 1 pm and some families

could still be seen congregating on front lawns waiting for their graduates to return home. It may have been a long day but according to the many posts on Facebook later, it was a huge success and parents expressed lots of appreciation for coordinators. ★



City Council Meeting Postponed until Next Tuesday

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Due to the looting and violence around Dixon last week, the City Council meeting was cancelled thereby pushing agenda items into the next meeting on Tuesday, June 16, at 7 pm and is tentatively scheduled via Zoom, the online meeting source.

The biggest issue will be the discussion of the City's annual budget. Before the end of June, they must adopt a Joint Resolution approving and adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 for the City of Dixon, the Successor Agency of the City of Dixon, and the Dixon Public Financing Authority so that is likely to be the focus for the evening.

Another important issue to consider is a resolution affirming its commitment to fundamental rights of life, liberty, and property, and declaring the City of Dixon a Sanctuary City for all businesses.

What might get some excited attention is the council's direction to allow or disallow the annual 4th of July Independence Day fireworks display and the sale of safe and sane legal fireworks in the City of Dixon.

In perhaps minor issues, they may adopt a resolution authorizing staff to perform additional construction management, value engineering, and construction inspection services for the City Lots – Pond C – Pedrick Road Paving Project. And, adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a budget amendment for the Wastewater Treatment Facility for the Effluent Flow Meter Project for a total fiscal impact of \$7,819. ★

Getting Back to Business

Dining In Returns and Salons Reopen

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - While salons and barbershops may have been the latest to open in the COVID-19 Pandemic shutdown, they join the many other Dixon businesses struggling with getting back into the groove.

"We're so thankful to be back," said Linda Veatch of Sisters Salon in downtown that officially re-opened just as they hit their 3rd anniversary of being in business. The eight stylists had 30 to 100 clients each when the quarantine went into effect and they had to back track to when they closed. "We are all booked three and four months out now. I am happy," she said.

When they first shut down, Veatch wasn't happy at all.

"It was horrible. It was lonely," she said. "We



Jill Orr, Owner of Dawson's Bar & Grill in downtown Dixon, is trying to keep all the reopening rules for dining in and still have her restaurant thrive. Photo by Debra Dingman

lost all our personal contacts with our clients

and we know all about their children and their

grandchildren and their vacations..." Veatch has had some customers for 15 years so really pined over missing them and in an effort to stay busy, grew a garden. "All of us took on hobbies," she said.

Primos Barbershop on Porter Road got slammed on their first day open. The four barbers had already made appointments in advance but that didn't stop walk-ins.

"Our waiting area filled up fast and we had to give new appointments so there would not be too many people waiting," said Anabel Rodriguez. "We got more organized!" The barbershop is doing only appointments now.

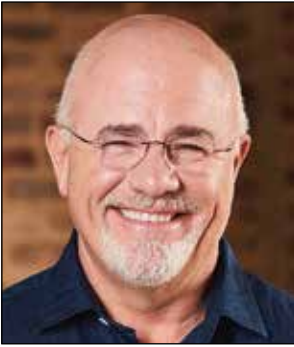
But not all salons have re-opened. If you're thinking about a manicure or pedicure, you'll have to wait a bit more. All Dixon

Continued on page 3

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Many Benefits To Budgeting

Dear Dave,
Some friends recently introduced me to your ideas for handling money. I've got to admit a lot of it makes sense, but I'm not sure why you're so adamant about budgeting. Can't you get a good idea of your finances by checking your accounts and balances online regularly?
- Parker

Dear Parker,
This is a great topic, especially for those who are new to the idea of getting serious about their finances and gaining control of their money. A lot of folks wonder why I'm so intense about budgeting on paper, on purpose, every month. Part of the

Dave Ramsey Says

reason is they don't understand all the benefits - financial and otherwise - that come with giving every dollar a name.
The financial benefit is a no-brainer, so it's the perfect place to start. I've been teaching people to live on a budget for many years. The reason? It never fails. People who make, and live by, a zero-based budget every month are much more likely to win with money over time. It's not always easy when you're first getting started, but it's worth it.
There's also an emotional benefit to consider. I can't think of many things more stressful than running out of money before the end of the month. If you don't keep a detailed accounting of every dollar that comes in, and where it goes, you're inviting an incredible amount of fear and uncertainty into your life.
Another benefit is where relationships are concerned. Money problems and fights over money

are the leading causes of divorce in America. I've seen how proper budgeting principles can bring a sense of healing, hope, and restoration to families. During budget meetings, couples learn to talk to each other like never before. They open up, share their dreams and fears, learn how to draw boundaries, and plan for the future. And this benefit isn't just for the married crowd. Folks who are single can develop more personal discipline, and find accountability, that has an impact on their relationships, too.
- Dave
Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 14 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey. ★

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pederson and Bird: Bad Duo

Citizens of District 1 were advised to not re-elect Councilman Pederson due to his penchant for bad financial decisions on behalf of the citizens of Dixon. Afterall, in his previous term he:
(1) Supported having City Attorney Doug White sue a citizen's group seeking a less expensive wastewater treatment solution. Your sewer bills doubled as a result of the option selected;
(2) Voted to use your tax dollars to provide City Manager Jim Lindley a sweetheart home loan using taxpayer dollars and being charged an interest rate of 1.9% that is far below market rates;
(3) Voted to give Lindley a generous 'golden parachute.' If dismissed, Lindley will receive 18 months of pay (nearly one third of a million dollars);
(4) Most importantly, he failed to request an audit of city attorney fees which more than doubled to nearly \$1 million nor did he request that the city look into reducing those fees or going with a different firm. Yet Pederson is a financial person, and this should have been a natural act for him.

Councilman Bird supported Pederson in these decisions.
These two have continued to make unwise use of your tax dollars and are making you pay up. They approved spending millions on a park downtown and continue to approve more expenditures (including just last month, another \$100,000) this despite a city park being one block away. They have continually supported the city attorney in refusing to settle legal cases and supported new legal cases, one of which goes after a local business just because this business criticizes their decisions...this is pettiness and vengefulness at our expense. Meanwhile the city's legal expenses continue to increase with the new proposed budget at nearly \$700,000.

There are more fees coming. Fees are just another means of collecting more money from you to cover their lack of prudence with funds. During the April 7, 2020 council meeting, Councilmen Pederson and Bird voted to increase city fees including residential re-roofing permits, kitchen & bathroom re-modeling permits, home siding permits, shed permits, furnace & AC permits, water heater replacement, to sewer line repairs, etc... Re-roofing permit is increasing from \$100 to \$328, kitchen remodel permit from \$0 to \$748, new AC permit from \$35 to \$211, bathroom remodel permit from \$0 to \$561, siding permit from \$0 to \$234. Fifty percent of the fee increase will occur Oct 7, 2020 and the remaining 50% will occur Dec 7, 2020 (right before Christmas). Was this spread of two months so we wouldn't get sticker shock on our home improvement projects? Better get the work done really quick!

For the average homeowner, the question in the first place is "why?" Why is there a kitchen or bathroom remodel fee? Why is it the city's business that

you decided to remodel your bathroom or kitchen? Is the city engineer going to be knocking on your door if he sees a contractor vehicle parked in the front of your house and check to ensure that you have your construction permit? What is the justification for a kitchen remodel fee of \$748? Is the city engineer going to be at your house every day to ensure your contractor is doing a good job on your kitchen remodel and that everything is up to code?
What is the justification for the \$228 increase in the re-roofing permit, so that it will be \$328? Is there a city roofing inspector and is he going to climb onto your roof to inspect and approve your new roof before and after construction? Even at \$80 an hour, I don't believe it takes four hours to inspect a roof. You deserve something for these absurd fees other than a stamped piece of paper that takes 10 seconds or could take two weeks if staff is on vacation. You pay property taxes and you pay sales taxes.

Along with the increase in permit fees, Councilmen Pederson and Bird voted to increase the COVID-19 first citation from \$100 to \$500. The second citation increased from \$500 to \$1,000 and then on the third citation, you get arrested.
The reason for these fee increases is because the city needs the money but that is because these leaders are not being good stewards of your tax dollars that they already get from you. How else are Councilmen Pederson and Bird going to be able to continuously reward the city manager and city attorney? Take note that despite these increases in fees, the city's healthy reserve is projected to be depleted in 2022 - 2023. In addition, it is projected that there will be significant budget deficits in subsequent years. The deficits will result in either a tax increase and cost reductions of some form to include furlough of city employees or a combination of the two. Unfortunately, Councilman Bird does not believe the City Finance Director's projections.

Here's how that works: If you're driving and see a car coming at you in your lane, do you immediately begin to take evasive action or do you wait and see if it's going to eventually move back to the correct lane? I wouldn't wait and believe to prepare for the worst and hope for the best. In this case, the Finance Director has advised that deficits are coming and by taking steps now the impacts can be reduced.

It is time for the citizens of Dixon to make Councilmen Pederson and Bird pay up by providing them with a one-way ticket out of public office via a recall of Pederson and not promoting Bird to mayor. Failure to do so will result in higher fees, higher taxes, and more city government oversight into your home, your business and your life.

David Dingman,
(Former City Treasurer - 9 years)
Homeowner, Dixon, CA



Klamath Farmers Face Early Water Shutoff

With their water supplies due to run dry by mid-June, farmers in the Klamath Basin say they face the "heartbreaking" prospect of watching crops wither. Farmers planted crops based on an April allocation from the federal Klamath Project - only to have the allocation cut sharply in May. After a dry winter, project operators reduced irrigation supplies out of concern for protected fish.

Usda Analyst Says Food System Remains Resilient

Despite the shocks the pandemic has delivered to the food system, the chief economist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture says people "can continue to rely on abundant food supplies." USDA economist Robert Johansson says food markets remain well-supplied, and describes disruptions as "temporary and limited." He says the food system has weathered impacts of the pandemic well, though it's hard to predict how conditions will evolve.

Pepper Growers See Robust Demand

On-farm prices for California-grown green bell peppers have been sharply higher than a year ago, but farmers say that has more to do with short crops in other regions than pandemic-related changes in demand. In the Coachella Valley, farmers say they're harvesting red and yellow bell peppers along with green bells. Fewer peppers than expected from Mexico have been reaching market, heightening demand for the California crops.

Agritourism Farms Adapt Their Operations

As farmers adjust to how the pandemic has changed markets, those who run agricultural tourism businesses modify their operations to fit the times. With school tours and other offerings suspended, agritourism farms have focused on farm stands, subscription services and drive-through markets. A Northern California farmer who runs a pumpkin patch says he'll start planting this month and still plans to open this fall, though with some changes. ★



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Getting Back to Business

Continued from page 1
nail salons are still closed and are not taking advanced appointments. They are slated to get COVID-19 Phase 3 released with proper safety precautions soon.
Kula's Boutique on West B Street, which offers sun tanning services, jewelry, and other accessories, is also now open but Robby's Department Store isn't. They are, however, doing appointment shopping.

Just as Dixon businesses were breathing a sigh of relief about getting to re-open, they got punched with the threat of protestors and potential violence of looters moving in from Fairfield and Sacramento. Although no violence erupted, there were dozens of protestors in the heart of downtown and several merchants closed early including Dawson's that had just got to open their dining area.

"It scared the heck out of me," said Owner Jill Orr. "I'm so upset at the racism in our country. First, we were scared from the virus and now we have this. "At this age and time in America, we should have overcome all of this. We closed at 2:30 in the afternoon. The hardest part of all of this is you never know what's going on. Every day it changes."

Orr thinks about the business constantly. "You have to figure out what is safe for your employees, what is safe for the customers, and how to keep the business alive. Just when I figure out the next step, there is something new to deal with," she said. When she went to pick up groceries and supplies recently, she discovered almost everything had doubled in price or were not available at all due to manufacturing plants closing down or working at half capacity due to COVID restrictions.

"I'm mentally, physically, and emotionally exhausted," she said. But, she has found a lot of help from the City of Dixon Economic Development Director Larry Burkhardt.

"He has tried to support us all the way through this and I cannot give him enough accolades," she said. Burkhardt has sent regular emails to the entire roster of Dixon businesses letting them know about resources, loans and special programs to help businesses during the shutdown.

"There has been an extreme loss of revenue," Burkhardt said. "The independent mom and pop businesses got nailed. Several local businesses took advantage of the Paycheck Protection Program and the forgiveness of that loan requires their personnel expense to return to what they were in January of this year by the end of June. Fortunately, Congress may extend that."

Orr is one of those and was hopeful they will see that extension while they continue to re-grow. Numerous patrons were in for lunch last week right after the dining room was opened. This was a very good sign.

Burkhardt reminds business owners to contact him at the City of Dixon for further resources, (707) 678-700, ext. 1126 for additional resources and information.

New Law - Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act (PPPFA) signed to relax PPP Rules

After the above article was written, the President signed a new law relaxing the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) rules. This includes changing the amount needed for payroll from 75% to 60%, extending time to use the funds from eight weeks to 24 weeks and pushes the June 30 deadline to rehire workers to December 31.

The US Chamber has a very helpful page on their website including eligibility and what lenders are looking for as well as other helpful information. That website is as follows:

www.uschamber.com/report/guide-small-business-covid-19-emergency-loans
The link to the SBA Coronavirus Relief Options page is as follows:
www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options

CONVERSATIONS

By Loran Hoffmann and Shirley Humphrey

Does Dixon Need an Independent Commission to Monitor Legal Fees?

Three Steps Could Balance Budget:
City Councilman Devon Minnema wrote an article with this title last week that he E-mailed to his constituents in District 4. Briefly, to solve the city of Dixon's budget problem, he suggested: 1. Keeping the city's reserves stable and untouched; 2. Reducing the City Attorney's budget; and, 3. implementing a 2 percent cut across all departments.

It appears that the other City Council members did not have a positive reaction to reducing the amount budgeted for the City Attorney, i.e. one exclaimed, "We can't control who sues us!"
This is an odd reaction.

The City Council should examine who is suing the city, the cost of each lawsuit, and the merits of the settling. The City Council has initiated legal action. The latest is that City Attorney Doug White and City Manager Jim Lindley--in the name of the City of Dixon--initiated a lawsuit in Solano Superior Court to try to take action on Dixon's Independent Voice, a newspaper of general circulation. Before spending taxpayer dollars filing their lawsuit, did the City Council ask themselves, "Would the average person on the street agree with this action?"

Is the council using the city attorney properly? At a recent city council meeting, the item regarding removing some responsibilities from city commissions was discussed. Attorney White led the discussion -- the City Manager sat silent during the City Council meeting. In fact, it was not clear how this item found its way to the agenda. There was no evidence that citizens asked the Council to limit the Commission's responsibility. When questioned by Mayor Thom Bogue, Attorney White said he wrote the proposed ordinance. But who initiated it? Was s/he part of the legislative or management branch? What was the cost of this action? The City Attorney is a well-paid consultant that works under the direction of the City Council.

Another example, the City Manager and the City Attorney initiated an investigation 'Quo Warranto' against a new city council person which the State Attorney General threw out as having no merit. Who initiated the action? Was it the City Manager? If so, does he have legislative authority or is he under the management area?

The City Manager has initiated proposed ordinances and changes to ordinances. Just one example is a camping ordinance that was being considered in the City of Sonoma where the City Attorney also works. The City Attorney proposed initiating such an ordinance for Dixon. Dixon had not had a camping problem so the city did not pursue such an ordinance. But we paid legal fees to the City Attorney. But, where did the legislative authority in Dixon come from?

Currently, every request for public records has to be sent to the City Attorney who charges and responds to all of these requests. There are very few things that are exempt under the Public Records Act. If the City Clerk is properly trained, there is no need for this review. If the City Clerk needs assistance, s/he should ask the City Manager. If needed, the city manager can forward a request to the city attorney. Public records should be part of the attorney's monthly retainer. Further, the City Attorney only has to tell the city clerk to respond or not. How much is being charged per hour?

The City Council does not routinely report to citizens lawsuits that they initiate or who initiates a lawsuit against the city. Over the years, one could gain the impression that the council members are not neutral—for example the former owner of Dixon's Independent Voice sued the city over the legal notices contract. Every year, despite that the newspaper's bid was 40% lower than the competition, and the distribution of the paper was at least twice that of the competitor, the Independent Voice was not awarded the contract.

Some of the council members were not neutral when they voted because they stated their opinion at a recorded meeting of the City Council. But, should our elected representatives let their actions be guided by their personal opinions when they are representing the taxpaying citizens? Our opinion is that their personal opinion, likes or dislikes should be irrelevant when acting on the citizen's behalf. Money from the taxpayers supports our city's first responders, public services, streets, transportation and recreation. It is painful for taxpayers to see their hard-earned dollars used to bolster the Councilmen's egos and contribute to personal vendettas against small businesses.

For eight years, Shirley and a UC specialist were equal opportunity counselors for the state because the organization that they worked for was partially funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. They were contacted by employees with their questions and grievances. Humphrey and Mussen were responsible for reviewing the complaint. Once the case report was submitted, it was submitted to a regional director, administration forwarded the case to the UC attorneys who worked with management. The attorneys evaluated the merits of the case, and the pros and cons of going forward. Reviews can be helpful to all concerned can be helpful by providing an unbiased opinion.

Citizens should consider working with their elected representatives to appoint a three-member commission who would review lawsuits, and the billing to determine if the actions were warranted and should the actions have been covered by the original fee. There should be a report to the people every month for all legal action. We should be told the basis for the case, its validity, cost to pursue, cost to settle, and make recommendations.

An alternative is to implement Councilman Minnema's idea and hire an in-house attorney.

New Homes To Be Under Construction Soon

Homebuilder D.R. Horton is moving ahead with plans to develop the first of its homes in Homestead's first phase. Initial construction will include two models and 13 homes on Meadowlark Lane, east of South Lincoln Street, with the models expected to open in September. D.R. Horton is a large developer headquartered in Arlington, Texas, that began in Fort Worth, Texas in 1978. They build homes suitable for first-time homebuyers to empty nesters. Since their inception they have built 755,000 homes across the nation in 29 states.

Besides Dixon, D.R. Horton has home development projects nearby in Vacaville, Woodland, North Natomas, and several in North Sacramento. Check out their website at www.DRHorton.com or sacramentoinfo@drhorton.com.

By Cheryl Clower,
Solano Court of California
County of Solano

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) -The 2019-2020 Solano County Grand Jury has released the following reports entitled:

Fairfield Measure P; Conditions at Solano County Animal Shelter; Juvenile Detention Facility Complex; Staff Retention Impacts Child Welfare ServicesC.

The Solano County Grand Jury is an

investigatory body and part of the judicial branch of government. The results of Grand Jury investigations are reported to public officials and to the general public through written reports, which contain the Jury's findings and recommendations. Public officials are required to respond to Grand Jury findings and recommendations within 60 or 90 days.

These reports are available on the Grand Jury website, which may be accessed at www.solano.courts.ca.gov by clicking on "Grand Jury Information."

Thank You

The family of Elmer Kitchen would like to express our sincerest appreciation for all of the support we've received during the illness and passing of our Husband, Dad, Grandpa and Great-Grandpa. It truly made all the difference during a time of such difficulty and sadness.

Thank you to all of our family, friends and neighbors of Sierra Drive. Your love, cards, flowers and food has meant everything to us all.

Sincerely,
Judy, Melinda, Glenda, Robert and Families.



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By Joshua Hoover,
Office of
Assemblymember
Kevin Kiley

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Assemblymembers Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin) and James Gallagher (R-Yuba City) issued the following statement in response to the failure of BYD's N-95 masks to receive federal safety certification:

"The predictable collapse of Gov. Newsom's secretly awarded \$1 billion BYD contract shows exactly why he must stop

acting unilaterally and start respecting our constitutional checks and balances. "On April 7, the Governor announced the BYD deal on national television before informing the Legislature. In the ensuing weeks, he refused bipartisan requests to see the contract. We repeatedly asked the Governor for assurances about quality control, which he ignored.

"This episode bears out the risks of concentrated power: unvetted decisions where obvious problems are missed; tunnel vision where

viable alternatives are neglected; undue influence of insiders with political ties to the decision-maker; extraneous motives, such as making national news, that color decision-making; a refusal to change course if it means admitting error."

"Despite bipartisan alarm about executive overreach, Gov. Newsom still refuses to entertain any limits on his extraordinary powers. It is time for the Legislature to move forward with ACR 196, the one tool at its disposal for reining in the Governor."



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For the Love of Books



By Amy Shane

Book Review & Special Events Editor

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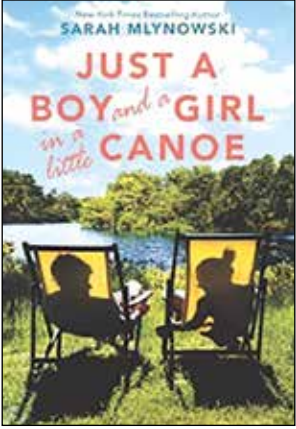
Just A Boy and a Girl in a Little Canoe

by Sarah Mlynowski

Sam never expected to spend her summer as a counselor at Camp Blue Springs, especially since she had such horrible memories of being there as a child. But she couldn't pass up the opportunity for a summer job, especially with her boyfriend Eli backpacking through Europe. Sam was determined to make her summer fun; after all, it was only seven weeks, and she will call Eli every day while he sends her postcards of his trip.

However, the moment Sam arrives at camp, all her perfect plans collapse. First, there is only cell phone reception in two spots on camp, and the strict camp schedule is going to fill every moment of her time, not to mention the cabin full of little girls that can't seem to do anything by themselves.

But as days pass, Sam realizes that she is loving camp, she is actually a great counselor, and the girls adore her. The other counselors are great, and there are so many fun events Sam barely even has the chance to think about Eli. As the phone calls become less and less, Sam realizes there is a new problem: Gavin, the tall, attractive, sailing instructor that everyone is swooning



- ◆ Publisher: Harper Teen
- ◆ Hardcover, 352 Pages
- ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
- ◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥

over. Even though he is also in a relationship, they both find themselves attracted to one another. Now, Sam must evaluate the strength of her and Eli's relationship while also weighing the new feelings that she is starting to feel. No matter what, Sam knows this will be a summer camp experience that she will never forget.

A coming of age book about decisions and choices, *Just A Boy and a Girl in a Little Canoe* explores the unforgettable days of summer camp. Sarah Mlynowski whisks her readers back to the days of summer and right in the middle of camp competitions, color wars, camp songs, frog hunting,

swimming, boating, and the discovery of oneself. A companion novel too, *I See London, I See France*, this book still stands as a perfect standalone, exploring the relationship between Sam and Eli.

In a story that plays out just like real life, readers will be taken on a camp experience complete with believable events that lead to real-life choices and consequences. There are physical relationships that maybe shouldn't happen, and everyone isn't friends; there is some name-calling, and not everyone makes the right choice. However, that is what makes this story believable. All the angles of the camp experience are explored from taking a more in-depth look inside the fear of confronting old painful memories while creating new, positive experiences; while also trying to navigate a wide range of new relationships between friends and coworkers.

Fast-paced and fun, *Just A Boy and a Girl in a Little Canoe* is a summer read that pairs perfectly with sunny days, sunscreen, and a pair of sunglasses proving that once again Sarah Mlynowski knows how to deliver a contemporary romantic read just in time for summer. ★



Riley Reviews

FOX TV IN THE FALL; "GOLIATH" QUIRKY LEGAL DRAMA

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

A QUESTION MARK FOR FOX TV AND NETWORKS FOR FALL SEASON

Readers of this column may recall past references to the television press tours that occur during the winter and summer to preview upcoming series in panel discussions with cast and production crew.

The Television Critics Association cancelled the 2020 summer tour that was scheduled to start at the end of July due to the uncertainty that attends the public gathering restrictions which remaining unabated.

An equal concern is that film and television production of new films and series, which have been on hold during the pandemic, may not be ready for the fall season.

First out of the box, the FOX network has already announced new series for the upcoming season, if such a thing is remotely possible at this moment. Savvier folks are betting that January 2021 is a likelier scenario for the networks.

Nevertheless, FOX may have an opportunity for new series only because some series were expected earlier this year as mid-season replacements or the product was already in the can or in the case of "L.A.'s Finest" it ran elsewhere.

From the universe of the Jerry Bruckheimer "Bad Boys" franchise, the one-hour series "L.A.'s Finest" has been a Spectrum Original, which means it probably hasn't tapped into the wider audience available on a network.

This series looks to be the female version of "Bad Boys," with Gabriel Union's Syd Burnett, moving on from taking down drug cartels in Miami to become an LAPD detective, and then pairing up with Jessica Alba's Nancy McKenna, a working mom with a complex history.

"Filthy Rich," a southern Gothic family soap in which wealth, power and religion collide, was thought to be a mid-season replacement. When the patriarch (Gerald McRaney) dies in a plane crash, his wife and family are stunned to learn he fathered three illegitimate children.

A thriller about rogue artificial intelligence, "NeXT" stars John Slattery as a Silicon Valley pioneer, who discovers one of his A.I. creations might spell global catastrophe, leading to teaming up with a cybercrime agent to fight a villain unlike anything seen before.

"GOLIATH" ON AMAZON PRIME

Recommendations from friends certainly come in handy to choose a streaming series to fill the void. This is the case with Amazon Prime's "Goliath," which is now in its third season. As with "Bosch," I have some catching up to do with this series.

As a legal drama, "Goliath" may not break any new ground in courtroom scenes,

except when you have Billy Bob Thornton's Billy McBride pulling tricks in a courtroom, where his exchanges startle with a gut punch.

Abundantly clear from the start, McBride is the David of this linear series, a once stellar lawyer who co-founded a major firm before descending to his present status of conducting business from a Santa Monica motel room across from the bar when he spends a great deal of time.

The Goliath is the Cooperman McBride law firm, to which the down-but-not-quite out lawyer's name is still attached and where his aggressively assertive ex-wife Michelle (Maria Bello) fits perfectly in a toxic corporate culture.

Arranging plea deals for petty criminals, McBride's low-rent legal practice allows him to spend more time at the Chez Jay bar or parking himself on the beach with a bottle in a paper bag.

The persons closest to McBride's orbit turn out to be his estranged teenage daughter Denise (Diana Hopper), who now hopes to set him straight, and his off-and-on legal assistant Brittany (Tania Raymonde), an attractive sex worker plying her trade on the side.

A big case comes McBride's way when the excitable, motor-mouthed Patty Solis-Papagian (Nina Arianda), a defense lawyer for DUI clients and real estate agent in the Valley, seeks to help her neighbor Rachel Kennedy (Ever Carradine) to sue for the wrongful death of her brother.

Not interested at first in the case, McBride changes his tune when learning Rachel's brother died in a boat explosion and the target for the wrongful death lawsuit is Borns Tech, a major client of the Cooperman McBride firm.

That there is plenty of ill will between McBride and his former partner Daniel Cooperman (William Hurt) turns out to be enough motivation for the David vs. Goliath legal battle to play out for the entire first season.

Cooperman, disfigured from facial burns, is an odd fellow and recluse hiding in his darkened office where he spies on his employees and monitors depositions and courtroom proceedings on surveillance cameras.

Taking a look at the Cooperman firm's legal team defending Borns Tech is all one needs to know about which side to root for, though that's hardly a challenge because Thornton's flawed McBride is the underdog that draws sympathy.

Rooting for McBride is easy when compared to Cooperman's lead attorney, Callie Senate (Molly Parker), an ice queen yet brilliant lawyer eager to skewer anyone in her path, even fellow colleagues.

"Goliath" rises above the conventional with the basic construct of Thornton and Arianda bringing quirkiness to adversarial courtroom theatrics. ★



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SCOE Recruiting for Youth to Address Racism and Equity



Solano Youth Coalition members represent each city in Solano County. Photo: SCOE



Lisette Estrella-Henderson

By Jennifer Leonard, Solano County Office of Education

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) - Solano County Office of Education's Solano Youth Coalition (SYC) is accepting applications for new members residing in Solano County, ages 14 to 21, who are attending school full time. Currently, SYC includes 20-25 youth members representing each city in Solano County, and SCOE hopes to expand the program to engage even more Solano youth.

The mission of the SYC is to raise community awareness of social and health issues facing teens. Through open conversations, proactive involvement, and collaboration among the next

generation of youth advocates, SYC members are instrumental in educating fellow youth and in advocating for positive change to better the lives of families in our communities.

In past years, SYC members chose to focus their efforts around issues related to alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention, mental health awareness, violence prevention, and healthy relationships. This coming year, the Solano Youth Coalition will also focus extensively on work to address racism and unconscious bias by fostering equity-minded leadership strategies, and cultural responsiveness. These efforts will include collaboration with local faith-based organizations as well and training and curricula development for educators and local youth.

"Aspects of the Solano Youth Coalition program like peer-to-peer discussion and collaboration, awareness and prevention campaigns, and service-learning projects, offer invaluable opportunities for our young people. The program provides teens with support and empowers them with

an outlet to lead other youth in creating positive changes in their own communities. Supporting impactful leadership in youth is critical to paving the way for a better way of life for future generations that are focused on mutual respect, understanding, and equity." Remarked Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Solano County Office of Education staff help SYC members develop leadership skills, examine their communities, and identify issues that need action. SYC members are supported in applying what they have learned to being advocates for policy change, cultural shifts, and helping others within their own community. SYC strives to build positive and healthy youth-adult partnerships as well as engage youth to be active leaders and resources.

Students interested in joining SYC should apply no later than Friday, July 10, 2020. To apply online visit <https://tinyurl.com/SYC20-21> or contact Johanna Nowak-Palmer at (707) 646-7608. ★

State Health Officials Release New Guidance, County Encourages Businesses to Develop Reopening Plans

Solano County Press Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) -The California Department of Public Health released new guidance June 5, 2020, giving Solano County Public Health officials authority to amend the County's stay-at-home health order to allow some additional business sectors to reopen starting on Friday, June 12.

According to the new guidance, certain business sectors in Solano County, including family entertainment centers, wineries and bars, zoos and museums, gyms and fitness centers, hotels for travel and tourism, cardrooms and racetracks, campgrounds and outdoor recreations areas, are permitted to reopen, pending approval by the County Public Health Officer, as long as they meet guidance criteria.

"As we work to amend the stay-at-home health order to reflect these new changes, we strongly encourage these business sectors to start reviewing the guidance documents right away," says Bela T. Matyas, M.D., M.P.H., Solano County Public Health Officer. "By implementing these guidelines, businesses are taking the steps necessary to ensure the safety of their employees and the public, helping reduce the spread of COVID-19 illness in Solano County."

Prior to reopening on June 12, businesses will be required to meet specific COVID-19 guidelines, including establishing a workplace specific plan, training employees, implementing screening and control measures, cleaning and disinfecting protocols and guidelines for social distancing best practices. These guidance documents can be found by visiting the California Department of Public Health

(CDPH) COVID-19 website at www.Covid19.Ca.Gov/Roadmap-Counties. Business owners are also encouraged to visit the Solano County website to download the required signage, located on the Roadmap to Reopening businesses page at www.SolanoCounty.com/COVID19.

As Solano County moves to relax its Stay-at-Home health order, we encourage all residents to continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, California Department of Public Health and Solano County Public Health social distancing best practices, including wearing a cloth face mask outside your home whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained, maintaining a physical distance of six-feet from others, practicing coughing and sneezing etiquette, using a hand sanitizer or washing your hands for at least 20 seconds and to stay at home if you're not feeling well. Businesses that are permitted to reopen must abide by the social distancing requirements in the County's and State's Orders.

Free covid-19 testing for anyone in Solano County

As more businesses begin to re-open, it is important to remember that you can be tested for COVID-19, regardless of symptoms. Testing is free and by appointment only. Sign up at www.Lhi.Care/CovidTesting and/or by calling (888) 634-1123.

For more information about Solano County's Roadmap to Recovery, social distancing protocol and frequently asked questions about the phased reopening, visit the Solano County website at www.SolanoCounty.com/COVID19 and on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SolanoCountyPH. ★

Baby Steps Key to Re-start after COVID



Holly Bleasdale, LCSW, talks on Post-COVID Quarantine issues to a group of Kiwanis Club members in Dixon and Sacramento area to inspire them to get back into life by taking baby steps. Photo by Debra Dingman

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - After weeks of quarantine, many people adequately morphed into new patterns of life—so much so that changing them again, no matter how beneficial, may be too much of a challenge. The helpful advice to getting started again is taking baby steps toward simple goals, according to LCSW Holly Bleasdale who recently spoke to a group of local and Sacramento Kiwanis Club members.

She works for UC Davis Medical Center with patients who have experienced traumatic injuries. From loss of an arm or leg to a brain injury where one has to learn how to eat and write all over again, Bleasdale is very familiar with helping people face change.

"The Pandemic has put people in a state of prolonged stress and made us imbalanced," she said. "We know we have to do things differently but weren't prepared for the change so some people get stuck. They're grieving a loss of routine. That can cause depression, irritability or grumpiness, may evoke bad eating or drinking habits and can cause you not to want to see anyone."

Some people are still concerned with safety and fear it may not be safe yet to go out to get groceries or go to meetings.

We need to see what balance looks like beginning with basics like eating better, sleeping well, and drinking lots of water, she said.

The goal is to get back in balance and the best way to start is taking baby steps. Ask yourself, "what are my barriers," then set a small goal even if it is a simple thing like just get to the mailbox, for example. Each day, you can add more steps.

"Build in strategies to embrace new found ways," she said. "When you go outside, wear a mask, wash your hands, stand six feet away from others." Another idea she shared was to consider what one did to cope before this quarantine.

"If you used to have coffee with a friend but can't now, change your frame of mind. Modify your coping strategy and have happy hour with a friend via Facetime," she said and encouraged people to visit the ocean, do stargazing, or go for a hike in the woods, getting in touch with nature. She also warned people to move forward slowly and be careful of negative self-talk.

"Be mindful of what comes out of your mouth," she said. "Set limits on things that are negative." She gave an example of a teenager who constantly complained. She asked the teen to spend the first 15 minutes after school to complain about everything she could think of but after that, the rest of the day had to be complain-free. It seemed to work and that student ultimately created a goal of finding happiness for 100 days.

"Find joy every day," said Bleasdale. "That goal helps you look daily and creates a presence and mindfulness. Take a picture of it!"

Bleasdale recommended the book, Bouncing Back: Rewiring Your Brain for Maximum Resilience and Well-Being by Linda Graham, MFT, for detailed information on getting one's life in balance in all the areas of life including spiritual. Participants also watched a brief YouTube video titled *The Time You Have*, which depicted the time of an average American lifespan via a number of jelly beans.

"She was a good speaker and the jelly bean video was inspirational," said Kirsten Ireton of Elk Grove. ★

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St. Peters Catholic Church News

This Sunday we celebrate the solemnity of Corpus Christi, the most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. We have been without this most beautiful gift, the Eucharist, for months because of this virus shutdown. And how grateful we are to return to attendance at Mass and this life-giving nourishment. In the Gospel of John 6:51-58, our Lord says, “I am the living bread that came down from heaven...the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the World.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1402) states the Church acclaims the mystery of the Eucharist...the sacred banquet in which Christ is renewed, the soul is filled with grace, and a pledge of the life to come is given to us...an anticipation of the heavenly glory. The Eucharist is the heart and summit of the Church’s life for in it Christ associates his Church and all her members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once and for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours

out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church (cc 1407). Is it any wonder that many, many miracles are associated with the Eucharist? (Look them up; you will be astonished and blessed). As it will help us on our pilgrim journey, following God’s command to love Him and one another.

St. Peters church plans to offer daily Mass at 8am (M-F; M and F Spanish; T, W, TR in English) Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm in English and 7pm in Spanish. Sunday 7am in Spanish, and 9 and 11am in English.; 1pm and 7pm Spanish. Confession: 4-5pm Saturday, 5-7pm Thursday, and 4:30-6pm on Friday. We will, of course, be following the safety guidelines of “social distancing”, etc. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues daily following Mass until 7pm. Please come and spend some time with Him!

For more information check www.stpeterschurchdixon.com.
God bless all!

FBI Seeks Information on Individuals Inciting Violence

FBI National Press Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - The FBI respects the rights of individuals to peacefully exercise their First Amendment rights. Our mission of protecting the American people and upholding the Constitution is dual and simultaneous, not contradictory. Accordingly, we are committed to apprehending and charging violent instigators who are exploiting legitimate, peaceful protests and engaging in violations of federal law. The continued violence, potential threat to life, and destruction of property across the United States interferes with the rights and safety of First Amendment-protected peaceful

demonstrators, as well as all other citizens. To help us identify actors who are actively instigating violence in the wake of Mr. George Floyd’s death, the FBI is accepting tips and digital media depicting violent encounters surrounding the civil unrest that is happening throughout the country. If you witness or have witnessed unlawful violent actions, we urge you to submit any information, photos, or videos that could be relevant to the case at fbi.gov/violence. You may also call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) to verbally report tips and/or information related to this investigation. ★

California Fairs in Trouble

By Suzanne Wright, El Dorado County Fair and Event Center

PLACERVILLE, CA (MPG) - Every county in our state has one. Every county in our state needs one.

But by the end of 2020, not every county in our state will have one – a local fairgrounds.

Your local Fairgrounds are the go-to place during disasters in your community – such as wildfires, floods, pandemics and other disasters. They are the hub of the community. In El Dorado County, the Sheriff utilized the fairgrounds for a press conference when Jaycee Lee Dugard was found. Domestic animals displaced by fire are housed here. Every year, local non-profits host their fundraisers, raising millions of dollars to serve our community at our fairgrounds. Hundreds of local residents walk their dogs at our fairgrounds. Local law and fire departments test and train here. The Speedway hosts races throughout the summer months, bringing fans from all over for a little clay track action. And there is our annual County Fair where local youth learn lessons that will last them a lifetime by raising and showing their livestock. Couples meet and fall in love. Longtime residents listen to the bands of their youth. Thousands of tacos are consumed. All of this could change due to the consequences of COVID-19.

In 2011, then Governor



But by the end of 2020, not every county in our state will have one - a local fairgrounds.

Jerry Brown eliminated ALL funding for California Fairs. For El Dorado County Fairgrounds, that constituted about 25 percent of the annual revenue. For some fairgrounds it was much more. Some fairgrounds have never recovered. El Dorado County Fairgrounds cut spending, created new methods of generating revenue, streamlined interim rentals, run a bar during the Fair and 4th of July, and created other events, such as the popular Crab and Chowder Gala. With the shutdown THESE ALL CEASED. As of this writing, the Fair Association has lost more than \$200,000 in interim rental revenue, and that will likely rise. If the Fair Association is not able to host the annual County Fair, it will be difficult to keep the gates open.

Here are some facts about California Fairs. Statewide, more than \$35 million is generated by non-profits for their community on fairgrounds.

Fairgrounds generate more than \$3.5 billion in annual economic impact while contributing over \$200 million in tax revenue to local and state government.

There is a movement within the California Fair Network to request emergency funding.

This is where you come in. The fair industry needs the public to show their support by urging their local politicians to support emergency fair funding. El Dorado County Fair has a sample letter on their website, eldoradocountyfair.org/contact.html or simply write your own, supporting emergency funding for fairgrounds throughout the state.

Please share this with your family and friends throughout the State and urge them to write letters as well.

It is important for ALL fairgrounds in ALL California communities!

Please act today to save your fairgrounds. Thank you. ★

Social Security Matters

How Do I Apply with Social Security Offices Closed?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am 64 years old and would like advice on how to move forward to apply for Social Security now instead of waiting until I am the “magic” age of 66.5 years. Signed: Ready for Retirement

Dear Ready for Retirement: All Social Security offices are currently closed to public visits, but they are still providing telephone services (although telephone wait times are usually longer these days). You can apply over the phone if you wish. However, the most efficient way to apply for your Social Security benefit, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, is to apply online. You will need to create your personal “My Social Security” account prior to applying online, but that is easy to do at www.ssa.gov/



myaccount. For information, Social Security uses a “two-factor” identification process for security purposes, usually by asking you to enter, in addition to your password, a special ID code sent to your cell phone (or email).. Once you have set up your personal account, you can use the online application process at www.ssa.gov/retire. Here is a link to a short video from Social Security which explains the online application process: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm. When you start the online process, be sure to write down the reentry code, which will allow you to save and re-enter your online application as many times as needed before you finally submit it. Once it is submitted, Social Security will call you or write you to get any additional information they need. A couple of things I want to be sure you are aware of: By claiming before your full retirement age (FRA) your benefit amount will

be permanently reduced. The reduction is about 0.556% per month prior to your FRA that you claim (at 64, a reduction of about 15%). Finally, if you are still working, you’ll be subject to Social Security’s earnings test until you reach your full retirement age. If you start benefits mid-year 2020, you’ll be subject to a monthly earnings limit of \$1520, and if you exceed that limit you won’t be eligible for benefits for that month. The following years you’ll be subject to an annual limit, until you reach your FRA when there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn. *This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisory@amacfoundation.org. ★*



Yes, Meet Rioters With Overwhelming Force

Restoring order to America’s cities isn’t a complicated proposition.

All it requires is resources and determination, and a firm rejection of the longstanding progressive fallacy that an overwhelming police presence is “provocative” and “escalatory” and must be avoided.

Out-of-control looting is almost always a failure of municipal resolve or police tactics, and we have seen plenty of just such cowardice and foolishness lately, most notably in Minneapolis, ground zero for this spasm of urban disorder.

In a display of sloppy wishful thinking at the worst possible time, the city’s leaders decided to vacate the 3rd police precinct. Mayor Jacob Frey explained that they believed this would be “a way to both help de-escalate and prevent hand-to-hand combat.” Instead, it allowed for a major escalation, as protestors gleefully torched the police building, in the worst symbol of official abdication of this crisis so far.

During the first

couple of nights of violence, Minneapolis barely managed to arrest anyone.

For his part, Gov. Tim Walz of Minnesota hesitated to mobilize the National Guard lest he seem “oppressive,” apparently unaware that his target audience wasn’t a social justice seminar at Oberlin College, but provocateurs and nihilists who were going to take every inch they were given and make it a mile of broken glass and looted goods.

President Donald Trump has been a steady fount of inflammatory and crude statements lately, but when he blasted the “total lack of leadership” in Minneapolis, he wasn’t wrong.

All state and municipal leaders need to know about controlling riots is obvious from a cursory review of the history.

Consider the worst disturbance in recent times, the L.A. riots. They began when about two dozen cops retreated before an angry crowd after the Rodney King verdicts, some of them literally running away. The mob descended on the intersection of Florence and Normandie, and began beating Anglo and Latino motorists, completely unmolested by the authorities for hours. Some police reported being ordered to leave the area – and then being ordered not to return.

The rest is history – days of violence, more than 60

people killed and 2,000 injured, and in excess of \$1 billion in property damage. By the end, thousands of federal troops were in the city.

Back in 1970, in his classic book on domestic unrest, “The Riotmakers,” Eugene Methvin identified police absence or pullback as the accelerant on riots. It was a huge factor in the Watts riots in 1965. The same dynamic held in a Philadelphia riot the year before. In Detroit in 1967, cops retreated and the authorities underestimated the forces they needed as a riot devastated the city.

It is simply not true that rioters will be quickly sated if they are allowed to break and burn things freely. Disorder feeds on itself. Looting one store, overturning one police car is never enough.

There is no alternative to imposing curfews, zealously enforcing them, arresting violators and calling out the National Guard if there’s not enough police manpower for the job. This doesn’t escalate the violence, it stops it.

Over the weekend, Minneapolis finally got more serious about policing itself and saw a drastic diminishment of destruction. Anyone who doesn’t want American cities to burn should take note.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Slim Randles’ HOME COUNTRY



Slim Randles

No one will admit knowing how Windy got permission to use the police car. All we know is, he did, and some dumb @\$% showed him how to work the loudspeaker. “Now you folks’r prolly wonderin’ who it is drivin’ ‘round makin’ sure everybody is bein’ safe today. Yep, it’s me, Windy Wilson, behind this year mask in the cop car. “The more ‘sperienced amongst us want to remind you to wash your hands, wear your mask, and stay away from them rock concerts, okay? Too many people. Ain’t safe.” Windy turned right to go

Some Communities just have Radio and Television for Entertainment

around the block. His voice faded a bit, but that was okay, because we’d been kinda wishing for that off and on for years. But it’s amazing how smart an old cowboy and camp cook can get when he has an audience.

“And ...” he continued as he passed the drug store ...” when we get all back to where it’s okay to visit with each other and go back to school and ever-thin,’ I have a tip for you. If you do perambulate yourself off to a rock concert, take along some hearin’ protection, ‘cuz them guys’ll blow out yer eardrums iffen you don’t. Why, don’t know for shore if I mentioned it before, but I went to a rock concert my ownself and saw that Starvin’ Chickens band. You talk about loud? Took me the best part of two

days to stop throbbin.’ “And that reminder-izes me of the time me ‘n ol’ Alberene Soapstone ... you know, the Lewis Crick songstress? Yep, the very same one’s singin’ up at the Sip ‘n Slump nightclub in the city. ‘Course, not sure if folks can go in there to listen at her ‘til this coronary virus gets straightened up, but ... hey, there! Doc is that you divin’ into that doorway with the mask on? Why, folks, here’s a guy who knows his way around your pesky virus. Why, I recomember the time me ‘n Doc” Some communities just have radio and television for entertainment. **Brought to you in honor of the police officers and firefighters who put their lives and health on the line for us each day. Thank you. ★**

Transportation Secretary Announces \$2M for City of Fairfield COVID-19 Response

By Angela Gates,
U.S. Department of Transportation

WASHINGTON, DC (MPG) - The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced a \$2 million grant award to the City of Fairfield in Solano County, California, as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, signed by President Donald J. Trump on March 27, 2020. The City of Fairfield will use the grant funds to support Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST) operations,

contract expenses, vehicle maintenance, fuel, cleaning supplies, security services and administrative leave for employees during the COVID-19 public health emergency. See FTA’s apportionment tables for the totals apportioned to each area. (This funding is based on the agency’s current request and may not represent the full amount the agency will receive.)

“This historic \$25 billion in grant funding will ensure our nation’s public transportation systems can continue to provide services to the millions of Americans who continue to depend on

them,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

“We know many of our nation’s public transportation systems are facing extraordinary challenges and these funds will go a long way to assisting our transit industry partners in battling COVID-19,” said FTA Acting Administrator K. Jane Williams. “These federal funds will support operating assistance to transit agencies of all sizes providing essential travel and supporting transit workers across the country who are unable to work because of the public health emergency.”

In addition to the CARES Act funding, FTA issued a Safety Advisory that prompts transit agencies to develop and implement policies and procedures regarding face coverings and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, physical separation, and hand hygiene consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidance. CARES Act funding can be used to cover 100 percent of these costs. ★

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Announcement

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Sen. Dodd, Asm. Gray Bill Advances to Legalize Sports Wagering

By Paul Payne,
Office of Senator Bill Dodd

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A proposal from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, and Assemblymember Adam Gray, D-Merced, to legalize sports betting in California, taking the practice out of the shadows and generating hundreds of millions of dollars for the state budget deficit, cleared a key committee.

“The legalization of sports wagering gives California an opportunity to provide much-needed revenue to our state during tough economic times,” Sen. Dodd said. “Because sports betting will continue to occur regardless of its legality. A vote for my bill is a vote to regulate the industry, to protect consumers and to ensure California gets its fair share. I’ll be working with stakeholders as we continue to refine and advance the measure through the legislative process.”

“Illegal sports wagering goes on every day unregulated and untaxed in California,” Assemblymember Gray said. “Legalized sports wagering will generate hundreds of millions of dollars for vital services in our most vulnerable communities.”

Under the proposal, tribal casinos and the state’s major racetracks would be authorized to operate sports wagering at their facilities and via mobile devices, with strict third-party age and identity verification. Estimates put illegal sports wagering in the United States at \$150 billion a year. The inclusion of mobile wagering is essential to convert a

substantial percentage of the illegal market and ensure the state realizes meaningful revenue increases.

Experts say the California Sports Wagering and Consumer Protection Act would generate \$500 million to \$700 million in a mature market with at least \$200 million expected in the first year. Revenue generated from legalization could support public education, infrastructure and other needs at a time when COVID-19 has caused a drastic reduction in revenue to state and local governments.

In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the federal ban on sports betting, permitting states to authorize the practice. 22 states have legalized sports wagering, and a majority of the remaining states are considering legislation. The constitutional amendment introduced by Sen. Dodd and Assemblymember Gray would require statewide voter approval before sports wagering would be allowed.

The bill, which is supported by local governments and sports leagues, passed the Senate Governmental Organization committee on Tuesday. It moves next to the Senate Appropriations Committee. The authors are aiming to put the measure to voters in the November 2020 election.

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. ★

Governor Newsom Announces New Policing and Criminal Justice Reforms



Governor Gavin Newsom
Newsom Press Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - After a week of engagement with civic leaders and law enforcement in the wake of the killing of George Floyd and demonstrations nationwide, Governor Newsom announced his support for new policing and criminal justice reforms. Governor Newsom will work toward a statewide standard for policing peaceful protests and ending the carotid hold. This announcement follows the work California did last year to enact the nation’s strongest standard for police use of deadly force.

“We have a unique and special responsibility here in California to meet this historic moment head-on,” said Governor Newsom. “We will not sit back passively

as a state. I am proud that California has advanced a new conversation about broader criminal justice reform, but we have an extraordinary amount of work left to do to manifest a cultural change and a deeper understanding of what it is that we’re working to advance. We will continue to lead in a direction that does justice to the message heard all across this state and nation.”

Governor Newsom called for the creation of new standards for crowd control and use of force in protests. Governor Newsom committed to working with the Legislature, including the California Legislative Black Caucus, the California Latino Legislative Caucus and other legislative leaders, in consultation with national experts, community leaders, law enforcement and journalists to develop those standards – much like the collaboration that produced AB 392 last year, California’s nation-leading use-of-force bill.

Additionally, he called for the end of the carotid hold and other like techniques in California, directing that the carotid hold be removed from the state police

training program and state training materials. He committed to working with the Legislature on a statewide ban that would apply to all police forces across the state.

Criminal justice reform has been a key priority of Governor Newsom’s first year in office. He placed a moratorium on the death penalty, citing racial and economic disparities in how it was applied. He proposed to close the Division of Juvenile Justice and proposed closing two state prisons. In his May Revision budget, Governor Newsom proposed expanding opportunities for rehabilitation and shortening prison time for offenders participating in treatment programs, in education programs and otherwise engaging in good behavior; as well as increasing access to higher education for young people who are incarcerated.

Governor Newsom acknowledged that more action is needed, and stated that additional reforms around police practices, educational equity, economic justice, health equity and more must be addressed with urgency. ★

Wildlife Center Fire Started from a Makeshift Grill

Suisun City Press Release

SUISUN CITY, CA (MPG) - On June 3rd, 2020 a fire broke out behind the Suisun Wildlife Center and quickly became a direct threat to the Suisun Wildlife Center and several houses along Maple Street and School Street. This fire was quickly elevated to a 4th alarm requesting mutual aid from regional agencies. Fire and law enforcement personnel worked quickly to evacuate the endangered area as mutual aid resources from across the county and region responded to help battle the fire.

The Suisun City Fire Department and other assets on scene worked diligently battling high temperatures in excess of 100 degrees and wind with gusts over 20 mph. The wind-driven fire was pushed towards the structures on Maple Street, resulting in the complete destruction of three homes with many more sustaining damage. Initial damage estimates are near two million dollars. The structures saved are estimated at over twenty-five million dollars.

Suisun Wildlife Center staff and firefighters attempted to save the animals housed within the center. The firefighters opened cages and released the animals to allow them to safely exit the path of the

fire. Most of the animals were able to escape, but two owls and some squirrels were lost in the fire. The Center sustained significant damage but the main structure was able to be saved.

The Suisun City Arson Division worked with the Suisun City Police Department and the Solano County Fire Investigation Unit to determine the cause and origin of the fire. The cause of the fire was determined to be an illegal open burning conducted in high vegetation on the privately-owned property behind the Suisun Wildlife Center. The fire originated from a makeshift grill constructed from two cinder blocks and metal grating sourced from local bee boxes.

The investigation is currently ongoing. Video footage is being collected and reviewed, possible suspects are being identified, witness interviews are being conducted, and additional evidence is being collected. At this point, the fire is deemed a reckless arson and is being pursued as such by the Suisun City Fire Department and Suisun City Police Department. Anyone with any information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Fire Department (707) 421-7205 to speak to an investigator or call the Suisun City Police Department non-emergency line (707) 421-7373. ★

Ask Toni Doctor’s Advice ... Get Traditional Medicare ... What’s That?



Toni King
Good Morning Toni:

Have been reading your column for over a year and now I need some Medicare help. I am retiring and turning 65 in October. I had a triple bi-pass in April of this year. Last week I talked with the office manager at my cardiologist’s office about me getting on Medicare and what I should do. She said for me to enroll in “Traditional Medicare”. I have no idea what “Traditional Medicare” is?

Could you please explain this and make it easy to understand? I do not want to enroll in the wrong plan and help me shape my Medicare.

~ Thank You, Samuel
Hello Samuel:

I will make this as simple as I can. I have consulted with confused Americans who have a PHD in higher education and understanding Medicare just frustrates them. It can make a grown man want to “cry”!

I sense confusion on this subject because doctor’s office managers advise current patients to enroll in “Traditional Medicare”. Let’s examine just what “Traditional Medicare” is and we will do this together.

Most healthcare professionals call Medicare,

“Traditional” Medicare, but Medicare refers to it as “Original” Medicare. You will not find “Traditional” Medicare anywhere in the medicare.gov website or in the Medicare & You handbook.

Original or Traditional Medicare consists of only Medicare Parts A and B, and not the rest of the alphabet soup such as Parts C or D. Original/Traditional Medicare is also known as your Medicare card or as many on Medicare refer it as the “red, white and blue card.”

There is not a network with “Original/Traditional” Medicare and this is very hard for those who have retired with employer group health insurance to understand, “NO Network”! If your hospital, doctor, or healthcare provider accepts Original Medicare or Medicare assignment, then they will accept Traditional Medicare because both are the same thing.

Original/Traditional Medicare... Parts A and B are explained below:

MEDICARE PART A (In-patient Hospital Insurance) comes at no cost. Part A is for an in-patient hospital stay. Part A deductible for 2020 is \$1,408 and has **6 deductibles** in a year. Yes, Part A has a benefit period of 60 days, so every 60 days; there is a new deductible of \$1408. Skilled nursing has a \$0 co pay for days 1-20, but from days 21-100, there is \$176 co pay per day. After day 100 in a skilled nursing facility, you pay the cost. Medicare Part A also includes hospice and home

healthcare with a \$0 co pay.

MEDICARE PART B (Medical Insurance) has a premium of \$144.60 which is based on income. One must enroll in Part B the correct way especially after turning 65 and “still working.” Part B covers “medically necessary” services such as doctor charges for office visits, surgery for inpatient or outpatient hospital stays, outpatient hospital care/services, tests, durable medical equipment and other medical services.

Part B has a yearly one-time deductible of \$198 for 2020. Medicare pays 80% of the Medicare approved amount and you or will pay 20% of the Medicare approved amount. A Medical provider may charge \$1,000.00 for a service, but Medicare may approve \$623.00, it is the \$623.00 that the 20% is applied to.

If you see a doctor who does not accept Medicare-approved amounts, you will pay more-possibly up to full cost for the doctor’s visit and care. Original/Traditional Medicare is expanded on in my Medicare Survival Guide® Advanced edition available at www.tonisays.com.

A Medicare Supplement works only with Original/Traditional Medicare and does have a monthly premium based on which Medicare Supplement plan one selects.

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


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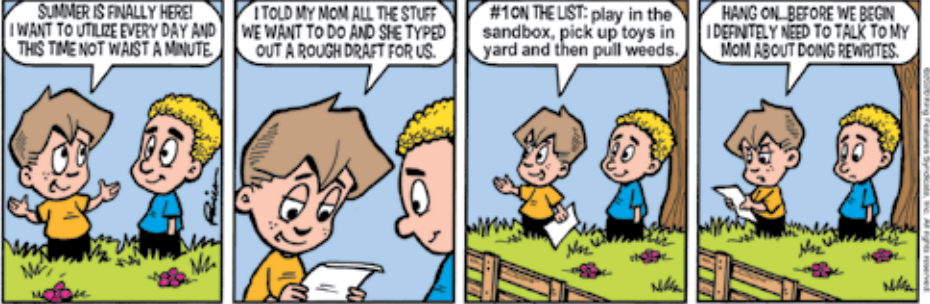
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WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



GRIN & BEAR IT



"Everything seems to be in order, Mr. Figby, except you have some money left."

LAFF-A-DAY



"Remember the good old days when we dreamed of owning all the things we're now making payments on?"

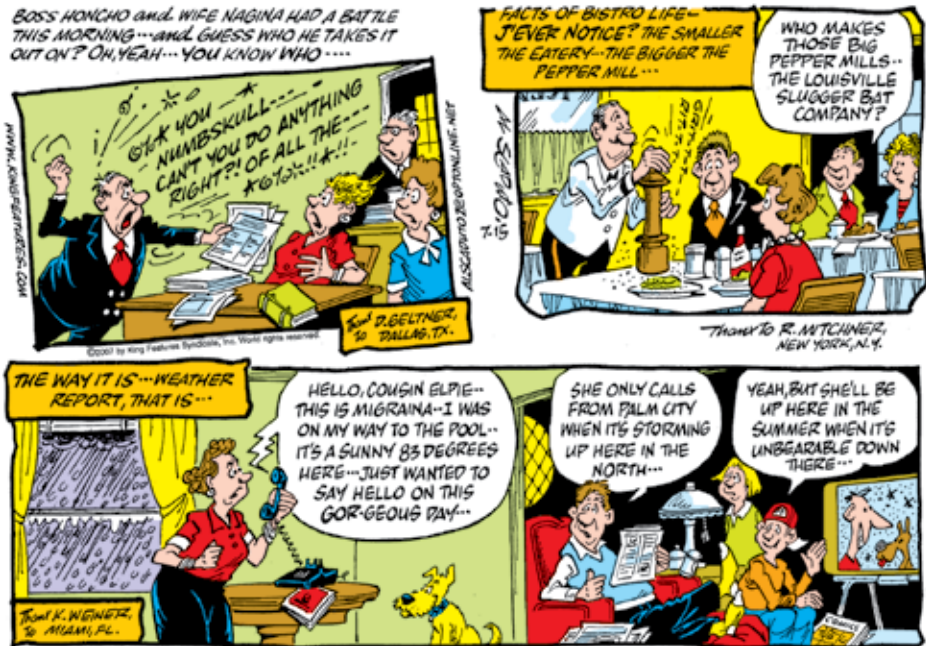
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTING



Differences: 1. Earning is missing. 2. Man's expression is different. 3. Tree is gone. 4. Shadow is cast on bush. 5. Blade handles are different. 6. Leaves are different.

Crossword Puzzle on Page 9

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

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Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 9

CLUES

ACROSS

- Sacred song
- Chowed down
- Acoustic repetition
- Capital of Vietnam
- 4 qts.
- Teamsters' group
- Affair, in Paris
- Bit of binary code
- Part of TNT
- "Sleeping under the stars"
- "Horticulturist's hangout"
- Articulate
- Combustible pile
- Joe Louis move
- Epiphany guests
- Forgo
- WWII side
- "Bonfire fodder"
- Royal topper
- Tiny river
- Pond buildup
- Miners' passage
- Best not mentioned
- "What seekers do"
- Fairytale beginning
- Same as "slow down"
- Upper hand
- Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
- Threads
- Pie ___ mode
- "a.k.a. shuttlecock"
- "Flying saucer"
- 2 halves of a diameter
- Pilot's deadline
- "Fire starter"
- Triangular road sign
- ___ Luis Bispo
- "Die Lorelei" poet
- Other than what is
- One laid
- Poker stakes

DOWN

- First-rate, slangily
- Ditto
- Soon, to a bard
- They are usually drunken
- Biblical prophethood
- Full of excitement
- "Sun kiss"
- Funereal lament
- "National Velvet" author ___
- Bagnold
- Give a ticket
- Sound warning
- Lennon's wife
- State of agitation
- African antelope
- "Who ___ we kidding?"
- a.k.a. toes
- "Banned lawn darts"
- Type of rotation
- "The Hobbit" hobbit
- "Played with a driver"
- Bye in Palermo
- Lacked, for short
- The oldest Goldberg sibling
- "Skier's turf"
- Snail-like
- "Volleyball turf"
- Painter Degas
- Beat the Joneses
- Interesting person, acronym
- Eli Manning's first name
- Ganders' companions
- Famous ski town
- Get-out-of-jail money
- ___ of March
- Make someone angry
- Jack London's "White ___"
- "Fisherman's supply"
- Marine eagle
- Augments
- Pastrami partner
- "You're it!" game

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 9

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

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SUDOKU

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

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

Solutions on Page 9

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.



Wednesday, June 3, 2020

0744 – Officers contacted the occupants of a vehicle in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive, and discovered the occupants to be on probation. A probation search of the vehicle revealed several stolen pharmaceutical items and drug paraphernalia. Vinson Hill (9/5/1985) and Bobby Hill (11/22/1988) of Ukiah were both arrested for possession of stolen property and violating the terms of their probation. Bobby was also charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. Both subjects were cited and released from DPD.

1000 – Vehicle collision in the area of South 1st Street at Heritage Lane. No injuries reported.

1130 – Sexual assault report in the DPD lobby.

1300 – Report of stolen vehicle in the 1300 block of North First Street.

Thursday, June 4, 2020

0945 – Lost property report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

1139 – Mission person report was taken in the 300 block of Sycamore Dr.

1209 – Confidential report was taken in the 300 block of Brians Ct.

Friday, June 5, 2020

0920 – Under the influence of an unknown narcotic arrest was taken in the 2500 block of N. 1st. Officers contacted (S) Frrah Khan (24) out of Sacramento. It was determined she was under the influence and couldn't care for herself. Khan was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

0637 – Possession of a stolen vehicle arrest report was taken in the 1300 block of N. Lincoln St. Officers contacted Humberto Avalos a transient out of Dixon. Avalos was transported to the Solano County Jail.

2228 – A Dixon Officer conducts a traffic stop on S Almond Street. The driver of the vehicle was on probation and was arrested for possession of narcotics and paraphernalia. The passenger had four outstanding warrants for his arrest. Both men were booked into the Solano County Jail.

Saturday, June 6, 2020

0716 – Officers responded to the 400 block of West Chestnut Street for a verbal altercation. The verbal altercation resulted in the arrest of Ismael Ugarte (26) for Domestic Violence.

2239 – Verbal dispute in the 500 block of Sierra Drive resulted in the arrest of Jason Dingman (34) of Dixon for public intoxication, vandalism, and brandishing a knife. He was taken to county jail.

Sunday, June 7, 2020

0535 – Attempted commercial burglary in the 1200 block of Stratford Ave.

0734 – Commercial Burglary in the 400 block of North Adams.

0912 – Report of Hit and Run in the 700 block of North Almond Street.

1145 – Report of Battery in the 800 block of Elm street, wherein Lori Rosenberger (8/23/1969) of Dixon was arrested, cited and released at DPD for misdemeanor Battery.

1200 – Report of non-injury traffic collision at North First Street at West E Street.

1352 – Fraud report in the 1000 block of North First Street.

1632 – Information report in the 1500 block of Valley Glen.

Monday, June 8, 2020

0100 – Domestic violence reported in the 1000 block of West F Street.

0953 – Information report in the 400 block of South Adams Street.

1455 – As a result of a proactive enforcement stop in the area of Folsom Fair Drive and Valley Glen, Officers arrested Robert Lee Denney (2/2/1989) of Sacramento for exhibition of speed, driving on a suspended license, and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. He was cited and released at DPD.

1901 – Stolen vehicle reported in the 1500 block of Dunn Lane.

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TYPE OF SOURCE	WHAT TO DO...
Leaking faucets and broken pipes:	Repair or replace defective parts immediately.
Water under buildings:	Install sump pump and provide drainage if possible.
Roof gutters:	Maintain roof gutters and down spouts clear of debris.
Septic tanks:	Seal and cover all openings and screen vents.
Impounded water:	Fill if possible or provide adequate drainage.
Flower pots:	Drain-off excess water or invert if not in use.
Swimming pools & Hot tubs:	Use filter and skimmer daily to remove egg rafts and larvae. Chlorine will not kill mosquito larvae. Provide drainage for filter and sump pumps. When not in use, cover tightly.
Wading pools:	Change water weekly. When not in use turn upside down.
Swimming pool covers:	Tighten cover to prevent sagging.
Ornamental ponds:	Stock with mosquito fish and remove excess vegetation such as leaves, and thin pond lilies occasionally. Maintain even water level. Screen inlet on recirculation pump. When cleaning pond, transfer to glass bowl - chlorine kills fish. If pond is no longer desired, make holes in bottom and fill with dirt or sand.
Bird baths:	Change water frequently, preferably every 2-3 days
Lawns:	Avoid over watering.
Tree holes:	Fill with a polymer such as Soil Moist or Broadleaf P4 granules which absorb water - can last for years, available at garden supply stores, sand or dirt, drain if possible - when in doubt, call a tree surgeon.
Water troughs:	Change water weekly or stock with mosquito fish.
Boats:	Use a water tight cover or store upside down.
Containers:	Dispose of all unused containers that can collect rain or irrigation water such as tin cans, jars, barrels, buckets, old tires and tubs. Gardening containers such as vases and buckets should be stored upside down.

Solano County Mosquito Abatement District
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