



Solano Community College Governing Board Sworn In

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Strokes aren't funny

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Dixon's Independent Voice

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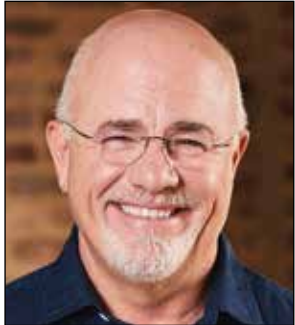
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AMY SHANE FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS



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GETTING READY FOR THE BABY STEPS



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Council Unanimously Approves Massive Water Rate Increase

By DIV Staff

DIXON, CA (DIV) - The Dixon City Council unanimously approved the proposed massive incremental water rate increase of over 300 percent increase for customers of the City water system. In comparison, Cal Water customers are only facing a 6 percent rate increase which will be discussed during a meeting at the city council chambers, on Thursday, January 24th.

The council meeting was well attended. Numerous individuals expressed their concerns about the City's proposed water rate increase during the Council's public comment period. Commenters represented a wide range of backgrounds and interests, including employees of other water systems and government agencies, retired persons on fixed incomes, and others. Ratepayer concerns included the magnitude and appropriateness of the rate increase and its dire consequences on home budgets, the need for an independent review of the City's system rehabilitation project list, questions about why relatively young wells need to be replaced, and



Remember when you could afford to wash your car? Stock photo

the city's failure to address many questions brought up by ratepayers.

Contrastingly, there were comments from a few Cal Water customers related to concerns that "they were, in effect, having to subsidize the City's water system through the City's General Fund". However, the

consultant's water rate study report approved by the city council at the November 13, 2018 meeting states: "The City Council approved Resolution 18-041 approving an up to \$500,000 inter-fund loan from the General Fund to the Water Operations and Maintenance Fund in

March 2018. To date, no draw has yet been made, thus repayment has been scheduled to begin in FY 2020."

Michael Nolan, President of the Solano County Taxpayers Association (SCTA) on behalf of the Dixon Chapter "respectfully, and adamantly"

requested that the City Council postpone the Proposition 218 Public Hearing by two weeks, or, "in the alternative, that the City begin anew and re-notice the Proposition 218 protest period."

The stated reasons for this request was that the
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What Do the New Water Laws Mean to Dixon Residents?

By Mike Floyd, retired Department of Water Resources, Jack Caldwell, Dixon Manager, California Water Service Company, Shirley Humphrey and Loran Hoffmann, Program Committee, Dixon Women's Improvement Club.

DIXON, CA (DIV) - Two new bills, SB 606 and AB 1668, were enacted in 2018 establishing new standards for efficient water use in California. These standards go beyond the 20 percent water use reduction goal (by year 2020), established by SB X7-7 which was enacted in 2009.

The two bills require water providers, such as the City of Dixon and California Water Service, to come up with targets for total water use (indoor and outdoor) by 2022. The targets will vary by city and county and must be approved by the State Water Resources Control Board. The purpose of the new bills is to create a permanent water conservation culture ("a way of life") so as to sustain the progress made



Members of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club learned more about new water legislation impacting California from Vicki Lake (in the center) from the Department of California Water Resources and Jack Caldwell (on the right), California Water Service, at their January 20th meeting at the United Methodist Church. President, Loran Hoffmann thanked the speakers for the informative presentation. Photo courtesy Dixon Women's Improvement Club

through emergency measures during California's recent five-year drought.

The program committee of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club recognizes that this new statewide legislation will impact Dixon residents and needs to be further explored. Are there actions that Dixon residents are taking now

that assist in the water conservation efforts? Other questions that immediately come to mind are - how much water do I use daily? If I take a shower, how many gallons of water will I use? How can I cut back if I use more than the indoor water us standard of 55 gallons per person per day (discussed

below)? If I have overnight guests and use more water, will I be fined or charged more? How will indoor water use be measured? Are the State's standards reasonable for an area like Dixon with an abundance of water in comparison compared to areas like Southern California?

To learn more about

these new laws, the program committee of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club invited Vicki Lake a Senior Environmental Scientist from the California Department of Water Resources, and Jack Caldwell, Manager of the Dixon California Water Service, to explain how these laws will affect us. Mike Floyd, recently retired DWR engineer from the Department of Water Resources, also provided information to the audience. The water experts met with the club members on Wednesday, January 16th at the general membership meeting at the Dixon Methodist Church.

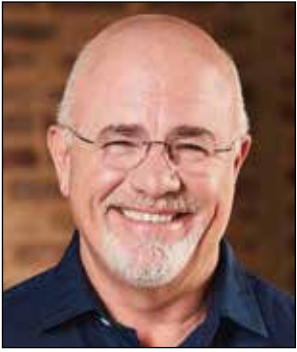
From now until 2025, local agencies and districts will be responsible to stay within the aggregate total indoor residential standard of 55 gallons per person per day. The standard then drops to not less than 52.5 gallons of indoor water per person, per day until 2025. Starting in 2030, the standard will be no less than 50 gallons of indoor water per person, per day. Ms. Lake stated that "the water agencies

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Dave Ramsey Says

Fight back against fraud

Dear Dave,

We recently learned that my wife's ex-husband used her social security number to establish several credit card accounts. We've written and called the credit card companies, and we're disputing the charges, but is there anything else we can do to protect ourselves and put an end to this?

— Ken

Dear Ken,

You bet there is! File a police report immediately, and if possible, have this guy arrested. He has committed criminal fraud, and it's not something you should take lightly. Also, put a fraud victim alert on your credit bureau reports today.

Don't stop with just alerting the credit card companies about this situation. You should be speaking with and communicating via email—plus snail mail, if necessary—directly with the fraud victim division at every credit card company involved. Make sure they understand this is a denial of responsibility and not simply a dispute.

Let them know you're sorry this happened, but explain that all these charges in your names are the result of a criminal act perpetrated against you. You may have to stand your ground with the credit card companies, because some of them might try to get you to pay it, anyway. Don't do it!

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 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey. ★

Getting ready for the Baby Steps

Dear Dave,

I like your plan, and I'm ready to get control of my finances. Should I catch up on past due bills before saving \$1,000 for the beginner emergency fund you recommend in Baby Step 1?

— Samantha

Dear Samantha,

This is a great question, because it gives me a chance to walk you all the way through the Baby Steps plan.

Make sure your necessities are taken care of first. I'm talking about food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and utilities. Then, get current on anything you owe or make payment arrangements for your past due bills. Once you have these things taken care of, it's time to take your first Baby Step.

You've already mentioned getting \$1,000 in the bank for a starter emergency fund.

That's Baby Step 1. After that, begin your debt snowball. That's Baby Step 2, and here you'll pay off all your debts from smallest to largest, except for your home. Attack the first balance on your list by paying as much as you can each month, while making minimum payments on your other debts. When you've paid off the first one, add what you were paying on it to the payment on your next debt and start attacking it. In Baby Step 3, you'll save up and increase your emergency fund from \$1,000 to a full three to six months of expenses. Trust me, you'll be surprised how quickly you can save money when you've got all that debt out of the way!

Once you reach this point, it's time to really start looking at the future. In Baby Step 4 you start investing 15 percent of your income for retirement. College funding for any little ones is next in Baby Step 5, and Baby Step 6 is a big one—pay off your house early.

But Baby Step 7 is the real deal. When you're able to build wealth and give with extreme generosity, you've reached the pinnacle of smart money management. Good luck, Samantha!

— Dave

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St. Peters Catholic Church News

By G. Wells

Our parish has entered into the new year. The beautiful Christmas decorations and the peaceful creche with replicas of baby Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are put away. It is with a certain sadness that we say goodbye to Christmas innocence, and yet, we must be on our way responding to the call to do His work.

The youth of St. Peters are working diligently in several areas. Many will be attending the Walk For Life West Coast on Saturday January 26th in San Francisco. It is an opportunity to witness the sanctity of life and defend the most vulnerable among us. Buses will depart after the 9am Mass and return by 6pm.

Please contact Robert Williams at (707) 301-1409 for details.

The St. Valentine's Day Banquet will be Saturday February 9th. This lovely, many course dinner which is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will benefit the St. Peters Youth Group. The young people help in preparing the food and serving. The no host bar is open at 5:30pm with 6:30pm dinner. Tickets are available for \$20 each from the youth committee and office staff. This is a popular event for families, special valentines, and friends. Don't miss it!

Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy is in full swing at St. Peters. Enrollment for

Fall is Open: TK-2nd Montessori elementary and 9th-11th grade Chesterton Academy. There will be a Preview Night on Monday February 11th from 6-8pm in St. Peters Religious Ed building. Meet the teachers, explore curriculum, and receive program information for the full-time elementary and high school, the Homeschool Co-op K-8th grade, and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd faith formation program for ages 3-12. For more information please visit valleyofthesacredheart.com or call (530) 574-0804. ★

God bless all!

INDEPENDENT FORUM

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING AT OUR CITY MEETINGS?

At the last Planning Commission meeting a former city councilman came forth spouting misinformation, exaggerations and making offensive remarks directed at another member of the public. Yet, he was allowed to continue unchecked. Then, at Tuesdays City Council meeting, the Mayor overreacted when a disabled gentleman who

was attempting to provide information and express his concerns about the proposed City water rate hike. The Chief of Police was called forth and stood within arm's reach of the gentleman in an intimidating manner. Unlike the former council member at the planning commission meeting, the gentleman before the city council meeting was neither disruptive nor

disrespectful. It is certainly evident that the City's guidelines for civility and conduct at meetings are not applied uniformly. This is nothing new on the part of our city leaders past and present. ★

Mary Zuniga-Savage

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Wish I had a kid that had a California Junior hunting license because the Dixon Game and Conservation Club is offering chances for youngsters, with a minimum of effort, to enter a drawing to win a "Lifetime" hunting license through the California Department of Fish and Game. In this day of enabled kids getting something for little or no effort this soars right to the top for outdoorsy families. All the kid has to do is write a letter to the club telling why he or she likes hunting or the out-of-doors and get it to the club by January 31, either by mail or it can be dropped off at the club house at 250 West Mayes Street, Dixon, CA 95620. The only qualification is that the person be 18 years old or younger and possess a California Junior Hunting License or proof of the completion of the state mandated hunter safety course.

Several of the lifetime licenses will be given away by drawing at the club's annual crab feed which will be held February 2, 2019. They are available to any resident of California showing proof of completion of hunter education training. Lifetime hunting licensees receive an annual hunting license each year for life. These are valuable prizes available to junior hunters with the club paying \$899.25 for youngsters' ages

10 through 18 and \$550 for ages 9 and under.

A certain age group will remember going on "snipe hunts" paper bags and all, and then being lead to believe there was no such thing. Sorry to disillusion you but snipes are real (unlike the plural of the word I just used) and are among the best eating of all game birds. They are little and very fast and are incapable of flying in a straight line and the limit is a generous 7 per day (yeah, right!). You think you are a decent duck or pheasant shooter, clay or trap, then try snipe hunting and you may find out you ain't all that great of a shot. They can make the best trap shooter look bad. It's a good sport when duck hunting and provides another table fare which can't be bought, and is a delicate tasting dark meat which is made for the bar-b-cue. The season ends next week and any pasture land with cattle and wet ground will probably hold a cadre of these little missiles if you want to try your luck.

City Council Story Delayed another week. Elected officials must be too busy to explain?

I've been trying to put together a news story on the city council's recent curious vote to award the highest bidder an annual contract worth thousands of dollars. This city has always had a given

bidder preference to any locally owned and operated business and a veteran's preference too. This council, as it did last year, awarded the newspaper legal advertising bid to the highest bidder, the Dixon Tribune even though its overall circulation is only a fraction of this paper's and is owned by a guy in Vallejo. The vote was 4-1 with new council member Ernest immediately showing how his votes will apparently go. His vote was apparently made going with personal feelings instead of a good business decision based on a low bid. The vote was 4-1 with only the junior member going in favor of the tax payers. Neither the city manager nor city attorney advised the council to go with the low bid; I've asked them why?

Working on this story I have communicated with all seven giving them the opportunity to explain their vote or action and gave them a week to respond. Now going into the second week I will run the story next week. I told them I would run their answers unedited and if they refused to respond I would put it just that way. There are those who think your elected officials need to explain why they would ignore a savings for the taxpayers and go for a higher priced bid with less copies on the streets. Look for story next week. ★

MUSINGS

By Mike Ceremello



You Lose ... Again

Mike Ceremello

Being a glutton for punishment, I attended not one but both of the clueless coffee-less clatches sponsored by the council phonies, Scott Pederson, Jim Ernest, and Steve Bird less than one week before the council meeting where the tripling of water rates protest counting occurred. Once again the mentally or physically lazy, or both, failed to come forward in sufficient numbers to stop this insanity. You all lost ... again.

Those who did show for the dog and phony show were again treated to Scat's half-truths and attempted defense of his inability to ask a pertinent question of city staff. Staff was there working hand in hand with Pederson and Ernest, in trying to convince citizens and rate payers of why there is only one way to fix the city's water system. Pederson goes one step further in taking any contrary opinion or fact, then asks staff to verify his position by throwing them a soft ball question which staff then answers by parroting their initial unverified statements.

Bird doesn't even go that far. This guy couldn't come to a valid conclusion if it was a PhD disputing his initial stance. How do you question the validity of a parcel list given to the taxpayers group by the city attorney as if it was the groups' instead of the city's?

The monumental waste of time of attending council meetings was not lost on attendees of either meeting. While many said they would be attending council meetings in the future, it was obvious from the crowd's uproar that they felt the individuals on the dais didn't listen to a thing they said. You lost ... again.

What bothers me the most is the continual bleat that there is no other way to do this or that. Considering that they want to replace three wells in 2022, one can only conclude there is no rush. If there is no rush, they could be paying cash for the project and saving two thirds on interest costs. Wasn't it this same lying staff telling us our roads would be undrivable in 2019 if we didn't pass a sales tax?

Again I question the necessity of many of the projects on their \$36 million ten year list. When you don't actually look at each individual item to see if it is necessary or its need at lower levels, you will always go along with the program no matter how much it costs others. I was approached by one gentleman who said he had to search high and low to find the consultant's engineering report and the report supplied insufficient proof as to its conclusions.

I finally have to agree with our worthless city manager who

doesn't want the city to be in the water business. I would go one step further and say I don't want the city to be in any business given its incompetence and poor managerial skills. How is it we are paying \$400 grand per year in PG&E costs for electricity to run our pumps and the city hasn't looked into or employed solar power? I suppose there are no grants available for that either?

Why do we have ten thousand dollars per year budgeted to a water master plan? According to the city, the State mandated we update the plan as a condition of taking over the system along with doing a rate study. Why is it this council can never seem to find a single thing to cut in this proposal?

Rather than repeating what has already been said about how they spent the money from the 110% rate increase of 2014, I would focus on the alternatives. I received an email detailing what happened in Alabama after a quadrupling of water and sewer rates. It is cheaper to rent a port-a-potty at \$14 per month than paying the sewer bill. It is cheaper to buy bottled water to take a hand towel bath than paying your city water bill.

The American people are ingenious at finding practical solutions for economic priorities. Eventually it comes down to keeping the power on, having enough money for food, or paying for running water and sewer. Moving from one city to another in California is a losing battle with liberal losers running local governments everywhere. You keep electing them and you keep losing your freedom and disposable income.

Don't believe that any of them care an iota for you despite what they say. Actions speak louder than words. Kicking the can down the road was never suggested by those opposing the rate increase. We simply want justification for doing projects at a high level when repairs and rehabilitation can be spread out over a more lengthy time. Instead of pissing rate increases away on subsidizing administrative salaries, try cutting expenses on every item. I was asked why I didn't take care of these rehab or capital costs when I was on the council. You didn't elect me as mayor when I ran in 2012. It was August of 2012 when three of us got rid of Solano Irrigation District. You left it to others and you lost ... again.

So what do we do now? Almost 1200 protests were turned in and just under 1400 were needed. Only 500 signatures are needed to do a referendum and place this rate increase on the ballot for a vote. I will not

be collecting signatures unless I rejoin the Solano County Taxpayers Association. It is time for someone else to step up and do this work anyway.

I suggested a citizens committee to come up with a logical and sane rate increase to do specific projects. The council would hate that as they would quickly be shown as the dummies they are. This isn't unsolvable at lower cost unless you either don't understand or can't think to find better ways beyond what has been offered.

The scenario I see occurring is lawns will disappear except at the homes of city employees who get their fat paychecks courtesy of the rest of us. Another minority of citizens will be irrigating with water from their own personally paid for and constructed shallow water wells.

Many will put their homes up for sale and leave. Water conservation will force additional rate increases to pay off bonds never should be issuing. Rates for electricity will also rise and this will force more out. We will see an increase in homelessness as well as vacant houses. Fewer and fewer will pay more and more because costs won't be reined in.

One final note on the idiocy that Cal Water users are subsidizing city water users because of a general fund loan. The general fund is comprised of money from real estate and sales taxes. As this is a loan, it could have been made from any fund. The argument that it won't be paid back is moot because either the citizens finally elect some people who will do real oversight and reduce costs or these same people will come up with a smaller rate increase to do some projects as well as repaying the loan.

This loan isn't any group's money. Once it is commingled, it is the city's. As the city borrowed money from the South Parkway Boulevard overpass remittals to fund the Jack Hole, did those in the Pulte subdivision "subsidize" this project? This is all a game where everyone loses by validating higher rates.

Cal Water is asking for another water rate increase. The looney logic has been "if I have to pay these high rates, so should those in the city's water district". It will be interesting to see who shows at the PUC meeting on Thursday at the council chambers. I am sure those who don't live in the city's district will tell the PUC they support the increase because they can find some city somewhere paying more than they are currently paying.

They will win and you, again, will lose. Welcome to Dixon. ★

... More Things for Thought!

*The wife as she's going out asked "Can you pick up the house?".... Me, strapping on a back brace, "I can try!"

*My granddaughter found a Disney Marathon on television this morning and I found Grey Goose in the freezer... life is all about balance.

*People just don't talk enough about clams... and frankly, I'm steamed about it.

*Waiter: you may choose between six chocolate desserts or carrot cake... me: the six chocolate desserts, please.

*Your fingers have fingertips but your toes don't have toetips... so why can you tip-toe but yet not tipfinger?

*My daughter-in-law talks to her houseplants all the time and they're thriving... she just got offered a part-time job at a marijuana grow-house.

*Without women, men would die of starvation.... and yet never know why.

*We ordered the table-side guacamole and I can't wait

to see which side of the table they put it on.....I hope it's the top.

*Ironically, right before she passed away my mother's last purchase at Bed, Bath, and Beyond.... was curtains.

*Sometimes I look at my adorable, playful cat and think... "If I were only 4 inches tall she'd rip me limb from limb just for sport."

*Well, that's the last time I put cocktail sauce in my cocktail.... glad I still have the receipt.

*Like my wife always tells me just because I've never seen it before and have no idea how to use it... doesn't mean I wasn't the one that lost it.

*When kids who reside in Beverly Hills do something bad... they're told they will be avocado toast when they get home.

*A childhood of watching cartoons taught me many things... not the least of which

is that the secret to never aging is wearing the same clothes every day.

*I've decided to get more fruits and vegetables into my diet... corn chips, salsa and margaritas should do it.

*If you enjoyed the time you supposedly wasted.... did you really waste it?

*I told my niece the bourbon I was drinking was apple juice... now she thinks 2 or 3 glasses of apple juice will make you sing "Walk like a Man" into a fork.

*I'm just one hit away from being a one-hit wonder.

*"Well, what's your favorite book?" he asked, attempting to make intelligent conversation. "Oh, I love '1984'," she replied... "OK, but just choose one."

*It's amazing how many people can hit pine trees and then just drive along with them hanging onto the roof of their car.....just like nothing happened. ★

Influenza Activity is Increasing throughout California

By Corey Egel, CDPH

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) today announced that influenza activity is increasing throughout California. Health officials encourage Californians to get vaccinated.

"It is important to get vaccinated now if you have not done so already," said CDPH Director and State Public Health Officer Dr. Karen Smith. "I encourage everyone six months of age and older to be vaccinated to help protect themselves and others from the dangers of flu."

Flu activity is occurring throughout every region of the state and above expected levels for this time of year. Although the severity of the flu season

cannot yet be determined, Californians should take precautions, including vaccination.

"Flu activity usually reaches its peak January and February, but typically continues to spread through the spring," said Dr. Smith. "With most of the flu season still to come, it's not too late to get vaccinated." Each year, the flu causes millions of illnesses, hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations and thousands or sometimes tens of thousands of deaths in the United States.

Common symptoms of the flu include fever or feeling feverish, a cough and/or sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, chills, fatigue and body aches. Children may also have nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

To stop the spread of flu

and other respiratory illnesses, CDPH recommends these steps: Stay home when sick; Cover a cough or sneeze with an elbow or tissue and throw the tissue in the trash; Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer; Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Californians should contact their health care provider, pharmacy or a clinic about obtaining the flu vaccine. Some local health departments may also offer low- or no-cost flu shots. For more information about the flu, including weekly updates on flu activity, visit the CDPH influenza web page. To find a vaccine location near you, visit HealthMap Vaccine Finder.

Source: www.cdph.ca.gov ★

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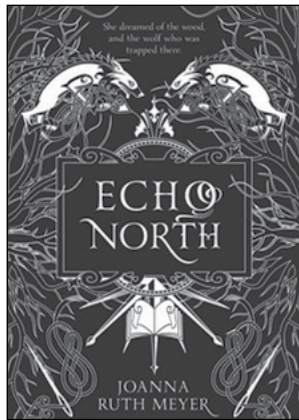
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Echo North by Joanna Ruth Meyer

Book Jacket:
Echo Alkaev's safe and carefully structured world falls apart after her father leaves for the city and mysteriously disappears. Believing he is lost forever, Echo is shocked to find him half-frozen in the winter forest six months later, guarded by a strange talking wolf—the same creature who attacked her as a child. The wolf presents Echo with an offer: for her to come and live with him for a year. But there is more to the wolf than Echo realizes.

In his enchanted house beneath a mountain, Echo discovers centuries-old secrets, a magical library full of books-turned-mirrors, and a young man named Hal who is trapped inside of them. As the year ticks by, Echo must solve the mystery of the wolf's enchantment before her time is up—otherwise Echo, the wolf, and Hal will be lost forever.

Review: From the beginning, it was only Echo and her father. Their life was quaint, but happy and filled with books. Until her life was shattered by the simple, fast, act of a white wolf, scarring her forever. However, Echo was strong, refusing to succumb to a life to be hidden behind scars. Yet, fate would have its hand in Echo's life again, this time in the form of a cruel stepmother, and a father that will do anything to please her. When her father goes missing, Echo knows she



◆ Publisher: Page Street Kids
◆ Hardcover, 400 pages
◆ Intended audience: Young Adult
◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥

must sacrifice everything to look for him, throwing her directly into the path of the white wolf. This time, when Echo encounters the white wolf, he speaks, presenting her with a trade that will spare her father's life.

In a moment of unyielding love and sacrifice, Echo follows the white wolf to his enchanted palace, ruled by the Wolf Queen. Hidden within the walls of the palace are the most amazing rooms filled with secrets and magic. The most magical of all is the library, where books are mirrors transporting the reader into the story. The mirrored stories are the only escape for Echo, where she happens upon, Hal who has spent centuries trapped within the stories. As the year comes to a close, Echo finds herself struggling to keep the magical enchantments of the palace from

unraveling, as each of the rooms mysteriously disappear. Now it is up to Echo, to try and solve the Wolf Queen's powerful hold on the wolf, in order to release him and Hal from their curse. However, everything is not as it seems, and Echo is left with defining how far she will sacrifice for love.

Wicked snow queens, white wolves, magical enchantments, and fighting for true love, this is a story you call fall into. Like a collection of fairytales scattered in the wind and put together like pieces of a puzzle, Echo North is a truly enchanting and magical read. With strong, valiant characters, hidden behind their scars, each one brings their own beauty to the pages.

Joanna Ruth Meyer takes readers into a world all of her own, into a cursed house filled with an agenda, and a wicked queen who plays by her own sets of rules. With a strong, bold, courageous girl the heroine of the story, her fierce heart teaches readers that love is our most powerful magic. A book where readers need to look past the story that is being presented, but into the beauty of the surrounding story, Joanna Ruth Meyer will hold you within her own enchantment that blends Russian, Norwegian and Scottish folklore, and classic fairytales; where the echo of this book's magical roots will surpass the last page. ★



Riley Reviews

"GLASS" SHATTERS INTO JUMBLED MESS;
"THE PASSAGE" ON TV

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"GLASS"
Rated PG

Writer and director M. Night Shyamalan might be a polarizing filmmaker in that his body of work engenders a range of emotions, pro and con. "Glass" is certain to draw mixed reactions from audiences to prove the point.

The hardcore fans of Shyamalan's films will tout "Unbreakable" as one of his masterpieces, along with films like "The Sixth Sense" and "Signs." Those same folks are more likely all in for "Glass."

Remembering "Unbreakable," released almost two decades ago, is essential to understanding "Glass," and the most recent "Split" fits into the equation as well. Both previous films provide key characters that complete an arguably botched trilogy.

Returning from the first film are Bruce Willis' David Dunn, lone survivor of a train wreck, and Samuel L. Jackson's Elijah Price, otherwise known as Mr. Glass given his brittle bones that shatter as easily as a porcelain dish.

In the present, David Dunn, who sells home security devices, roams the streets of Philadelphia as a vigilante fighting crime. He has an ability to divine a person's criminal bent by merely brushing up against someone. His supernatural power is backed up by physical attributes.

Meanwhile, James McAvoy's Kevin Wendell Crumb, established in "Split," suffers from dissociative identity disorder. The multiple identities that reside with him include The Beast, a fearsome creature that has imprisoned four teenage girls in an abandoned warehouse.

Wandering around in a hooded poncho, Dunn pursues the superhuman figure of The Beast in a series of escalating encounters that result in a fierce showdown that ends up

with both men being captured and detained at the Raven Hill Psychiatric Hospital.

Confined like prisoners, they come under the forced care of Dr. Ellie Staple (Sarah Paulson), who specializes in treating a specific type of delusion of grandeur, namely people who believe they are comic-book characters.

Kevin Crumb is the most puzzling character because he has about two dozen personalities, including a nine-year-old boy, a matronly British woman, and a sexual predator.

A long time patient of Raven Hill, Elijah Price now rests permanently in a wheelchair and is so heavily sedated that most of the time he just stares off into space, a shell of his former self.

Eventually, all three men are engaged in a battle of wills. For his part, Price awakens from his stupor and engages his brilliant mind to wreak havoc on the hospital's surveillance system to plot an escape.

As is his wont, Shyamalan contrives a scenario that focuses on the grand opening of the tallest new building in the City of Brotherly Love. The ensuing climactic battle falls far short of expectations.

The best thing about "Glass" is McAvoy's frenetic portrayal of a wildly unpredictable and frightening individual. The rest of the film is a slog through a jumbled mess of disappointments. "Glass" shatters upon closer scrutiny.

"THE PASSAGE"
ON FOX NETWORK

An adaptation of the best-selling trilogy by author Justin Cronin, "The Passage" focuses on Project Noah, a secret medical facility in Colorado where scientists are experimenting with a dangerous virus that could lead to the cure for all diseases.

But, of course, we know that tinkering with hazardous medical procedures could have a bad outcome, particularly when the opening gambit is an expedition into the Bolivian highlands to find a man supposedly 250

years old who turns out to be a vampire.

The most interesting thing about "The Passage" is the relationship that develops between 10-year-old Amy (Saniyya Sidney), an orphan chosen to be a test subject, and Federal agent Brad Wolgast (Mark-Paul Gosselaar), who is tasked with delivering her to Project Noah.

The tone of this series is set by Amy's narration. In the early going she notes that she didn't use to believe in monsters but has changed her opinion. Her declaration that this "is how the world ends" provides an emotional hook to get involved with the series.

On the trek from Memphis to Colorado, Agent Wolgast, troubled by the death of his own daughter and the dissolution of his marriage, ditches the mission and becomes in essence Amy's surrogate father.

They both go on the lam, dodging shootouts and high-speed car chases before seeking refuge at a Wisconsin farmhouse. Their safety turns out to be very elusive during an intensive manhunt.

Meanwhile, terrible things are happening at Project Noah where death row inmates have become guinea pigs in experiments that are not working out as planned. Dr. Fanning (Jamie McShane), infected in Bolivia, has become Patient Zero.

Fanning and other test subjects, including Shauna Babcock (Brianna Howey), manage to plant themselves into the nightmares of the project's staff, demonstrating a power beyond the typical vampire neck bites.

While the lead researcher, Dr. Jonas Lear (Henry Ian Cusick), begins to harbor ethical doubts and others get queasy, internal conflicts that could get interesting loom on the horizon.

The best reason to watch "The Passage" is the chemistry between Saniyya Sidney and Mark-Paul Gosselaar. We root for their survival. ★

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • SUPERBOWL

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
1. Hose hue
5. Flower precursor
8. Gershwin brother
11. Scottish valley
12. After hedge or mutual
13. Headquartered
15. "Cleats, helmet, pads"
16. Hip bones
17. Road-tripping guide
18. *Hometown of first Super Bowl winner
20. Big Bang's original matter
21. Be
22. Bygone bird
23. *Last year's Super Bowl champions
26. Came around the corner
30. 100%
31. Donate, 2 words
34. Salty drop
35. #50 Down, pl.
37. Mythical giant bird
38. Latin dance
39. A famous Amos
40. Packing a punch
42. In the know
43. Relating to River Styx
45. Sodium ___ or NaI
47. Needlefish
48. Beta's follower
50. Phishing attack
52. *NFL Trophy name
55. Completely or exactly
56. Adam and Eve's son
57. U, on the road
59. Casts a ballot
60. Barn top?
61. Do like exhaust pipe
62. *2019 Super Bowl broadcasting network
63. Tally
64. *Player's 40, e.g.
- DOWN**
1. Bird-to-be
2. Horsefly
3. Infantry's last rows
4. Unwind
5. Precursor to #5 Across, pl.
6. Uniate church member
7. June 6, 1944
8. Small island
9. Paper unit
10. *As entertaining as Super Bowl game?
12. Last line to cross
13. Louisiana swamp
14. *Home of Mercedes-Benz Stadium
19. *Goodell and such
22. "My" in French
23. Sunrise side, pl.
24. Give out
25. 1989 Civil War drama
26. *Player with most Super Bowl points scored
27. Capital territory of India
28. Alleviated
29. Window treatment
32. *Grid
33. Leprechaun's gold holder
36. *Popular Super Bowl nickname
38. Even in a leaf
40. Even ___ in golf
41. Jack be that!
44. Poetic feet
46. Flitted

For Solutions See Page 6

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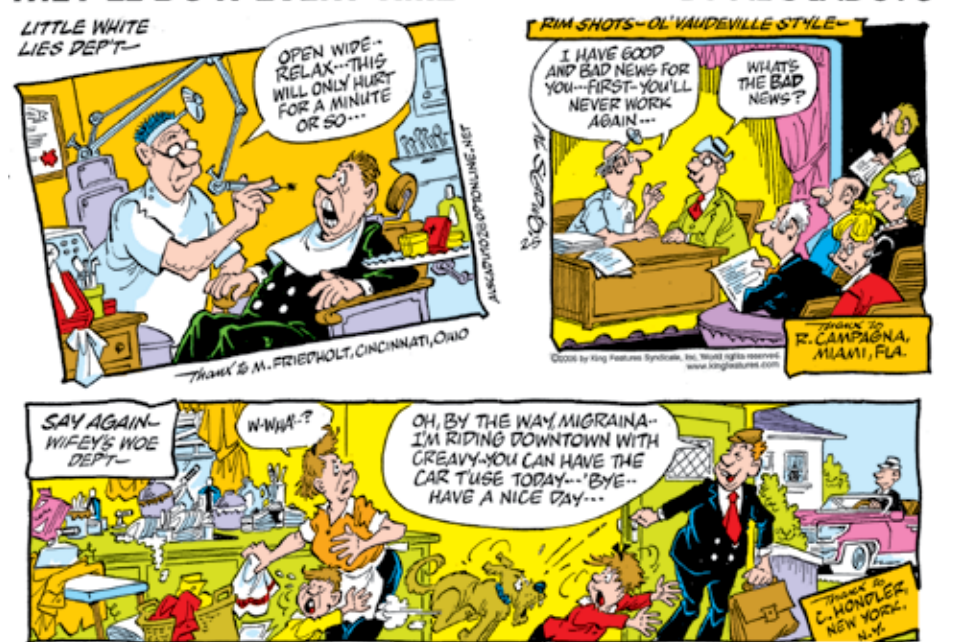
For Solutions See Page 6

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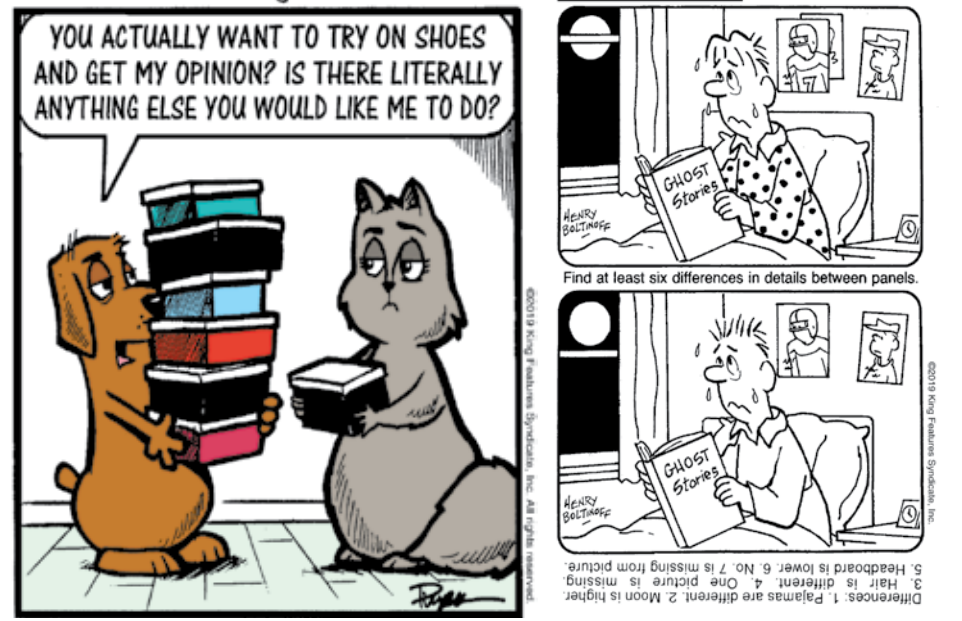
The Spats by Jeff Pickering



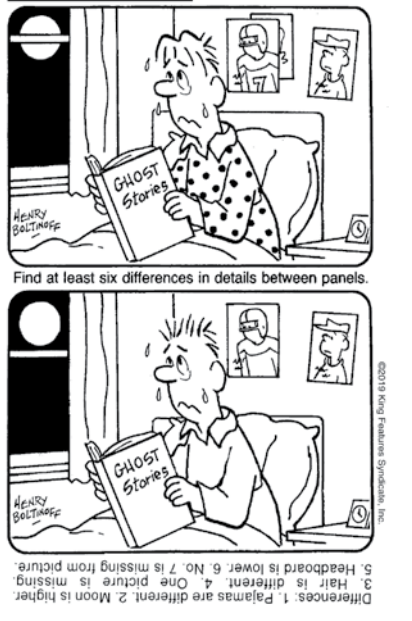
THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME BY AL SCADUTO



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



What Do the New Water Laws Mean to Dixon Residents?

Continued from page 1

will be responsible for meeting the total water use objective for their service area, not individual residents. Residents can do their part to help their service providers meet the objective.”

The State may take enforcement action if the total water use objective is not met. This includes the aggregated indoor, outdoor, and CII dedicated landscape meter objective, not just the aggregated indoor total water use.

So, what will be the impact of the two new bills? Surveys conducted by DWR and California Water Service show that, over the past five years, Dixon residents have met the conservation goal and reduced the number of gallons of water use by 35% below the 2020 target. In 2017 the current per capita use was 105 gallons (indoor and

outdoor) compared to a target use of 161 gallons per capita. Dixon Cal Water users are doing a great job and should be able to meet the new goals. The reduction came about through public education and incentive programs. Most California households are currently using less water indoors than the 2025 standard.

Standards for outdoor water use will be established by 2022 by the State Water Resources Control Board. Outdoor water use varies greatly from area to area, depending on individual landscaping choices and local climate. Outdoor water use standards will be established for each community to maintain existing landscapes and provide allowances for new development.

This article only provides a brief overview of the two bills and impacts. ★

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



Monday, January 14, 2019
 0100 On view traffic accident in the 700 block of West H Street resulted in the arrest of John Green (33) of Dixon for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was later cited and released to a sober friend.
 0400 Suspicious vehicle check in the 1400 block of Ary Lane resulted in the recovery of a GMC Yukon stolen out of Montana.
 0640 Stolen vehicle reported in the 100 block of Bloom Drive.
 0757 Theft from a vehicle in the 1000 block of Business Park Drive.
 1218 Burglary reported in the 700 block of North Adams Street.
 1359 Agency assist for Child Welfare Service in the 1000 block of Justin Way
 1359 During the above agency assist Edgar Bojorquez-Gastelum (62), of Dixon, was contacted and found to have 3 misdemeanor warrants out of Solano County for Failure to Appear. He was cited and released from the PD.
 1527 Missing person reported in the lobby of the Police Department.
 1500 Shoplifting reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive. Adam Brockwood (43), of Vacaville, was placed under arrest by LP. He was cited and released for Shoplifting, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Probation Violation.
 1614 Reckless driver reported in the 2200 block of Folsom Fair Circle. Francisivan Mallari (21), of Dixon, was cited and released for Reckless Driving.
 1641 Vandalism reported in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.
 1906 Burglary reported in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive.
 2019 Burglary reported in the 2000 block of North 1st Street.
Tuesday, January 15, 2019
 0225 Suspicious vehicle check near the area of Sievers Road and Pedrick road resulted in the arrest of Jaizaah Anthony (38) of Santa Rosa and Kaggin Glass (24) of Roseville for outstanding narcotics warrants. They were both taken to county jail.
 0811 Agency assist with Dixon Fire Department in the 200 block of East D Street.
 0809 Attempt burglary reported in the 2000 block of North 1st Street.
 1125 Fraud reported in the 300 block of Vasquez Court.
 2115 Vehicle burglary reported in the 100 block of Dorset Drive.
Wednesday, January 16, 2019
 1633 Abandoned vehicle reported in the 200 block of West Cherry.
 2000 Non-Injury traffic collision in the intersection of Pitt School Road and Ary Ln. 98.6 Thorburn, Cruz.
Thursday, January 17, 2019
 0228 Domestic Violence 1200 block Columbia Drive. S-Udaypal Singh (39) of Dixon was placed under arrest for domestic violence and transported to the Solano County Jail.
 0851 Robbery reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.
 1002 Abandoned vehicle 1800 block of Marguerite Drive. A green 1992 Toyota Corolla was towed.
 1330 Found property at the PD which was ultimately reunited with its owner.
 1700 Intoxicated driver 100 block West B Street. Brittany Hernandez (24) of Antioch was arrested for DUI and was booked into the Solano County Jail.
 2247 Dispute reported 500 block West D Street North. Melissa Holdener (53) of Dixon was arrested for domestic battery and booked into the Solano County Jail.
 2250 Hit and Run report 1400 block Ary Lane.
Friday, January 18, 2019
 0032 Death investigation 600 block South Almond Street.
 1500 Vandalism 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.
 1700 Vandalism 600 block of West D Street South.
 1830 Suspicious Circumstances via telephone.
Saturday, January 19, 2019
 0104 Disorderly subject 1400 block Ary Lane. Jack Catanese (59) of Redding was arrested for public intoxication and booked into the Solano County Jail.
 0149 Traffic Stop 100 block East C Street. Arianna Ernst (22) of Dixon was arrested for an outstanding bench warrant and booked into the Solano County Jail.
 1028 Vehicle tow in the 600 block of North Almond Street.
 1320 Grand Theft reported in the 600 block of Wiegand Way.
 1345 Vandalism in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue.
 1830 Warrant Service 600 block Martin Court. Erica Price was cited and released on an outstanding bench warrant.
 2230 Traffic Stop North First Street at East Dorset Drive. Kenneth Hoover (23) of Fairfield was cited and released for displaying false registration.
Sunday, January 20, 2019
 0827 Suspicious person Pitt School Road and 180. Chelsi Colter (27), Transient, was arrested for Possession of Stolen Property, Carrying a concealed Dirk/Dagger, Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Probation Violation. She was transported to the Solano County Jail.
 1027 Vehicle vandalism reported in the 400 block of South Adams Street.
 1032 Burglary reported in the 8500 block of Pedrick Road. Multiple tools and equipment were taken.
 1039 Court order violation reported in the 100 block of Jason Wade.
 1415 Theft reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive. Jagon Wade (36), of Transient, was placed under arrest by loss prevention for Shoplifting. He was also arrested for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Probation Violation. He was transported to the Solano County Jail.
 1810 Vehicle burglary reported in the 600 block of Hansen Court

DIXON FIRE LOG
 The Dixon Fire Department's mission is to proudly serve, protect, and enhance the safety of the community and our citizens.



January 14, 2019
 0143 Medical 193 Heritage Ln
 0811 Fire Alarm 241 West A
 1409 Illegal Control Burn Winters Rd/ Putah Creek
 1807 Medical 1925 Folsom Fair Ct
 1856 MA SF Vacaville
 1917 Public Assist 1325 West H
 2100 Lift Assist 575 South Jefferson
 2309 Traffic accident E80/ Kidwell
January 15, 2019
 0710 Lift assist 211 East D #513
 0721 Non-Inj MVA Pitt School @Midway
 0813 Medical 211 East D #311
 0825 Fire Alarm 8380 Pitt School Rd
 0855 MVA W80 / Dixon Ave
 0935 Medical Aid 575 So Jefferson St
 1230 Mutual Aid 1253 Alderwood Way
 1327 Medical Aid 406 La Esperanza Dr.
 1442 Lift Assist 193 Heritage Ln #314R
 1622 Medical 125 N Lincoln #6
January 16, 2019
 0150 Medical Aid 1550 Valley Glenn Dr. #315
 0943 Auto- Aid Traffic Accident E80@ NB113
 1019 Medical Alarm 1350 West H St Unit B
 1243 Medical Alarm 930 Weyand Way
 1300 Auto traffic Accident E80@ Meridian
 1941 Medical 711 East D St #413
January 17, 2019
 0111 Vehicle Accident E80/Old Davis
 1803 Medical Aid 575 South Jefferson
 2149 Medical Aid 4985 Midway Rd #30
January 18, 2019
 0050 Medical Aid 635 South Almond
 0727 Medical Aid 775 Evans Road
 0927 Medical Aid 455 W Chestnut St #51
 1434 Medical Aid 131 West A St
 1505 Medical Aid 880 Alexander Dr.
 1507 Medical Aid 7936 Maverick Ln
January 18, 2019 (Cont.)
 1735 Medical Aid WB-80 @ Meridian Rd
 1751 Medical Aid 420 Ellesmere Dr. #82
 1922 Medical Aid 7230 Leisure Town Dr.
 2151 Medical Aid 193 Heritage Ln #314R
January 19, 2019
 0049 Medical Aid 261 So. Jefferson St
 0848 Vehicle Accident WB-80 Pitt School Rd
 1248 Medical Aid 158 No. First St
 1401 Medical 1395 N. Lincoln #318
 1455 Medical Alarm 610 N Adams
January 20, 2019
 1301 Medical Aid 261 S. Jefferson St
 1518 Electrical Problem Weber Rd. @ Pitt School Rd
 1920 Medical Alarm 1395 N. Lincoln St #318
 1943 Fire Alarm 7200 Radio Station Rd
 1951 Medical Aid 4823 Midway Rd
 2059 Medical Aid 300 South 7 th
January 21, 2019
 0032 Lift Assist 1395 North Lincoln
 0245 Medical Aid 8665 Pedrick Rd
 0450 Medical Aid 261 S. Jefferson
 1026 Medical 1000 Vaughn Rd
 1652 Medical 880 Alexander Dr.
 1904 Medical 2120 Mariposa
 1916 Public Assist 461 Ellesmere
 2351 Medical 4985 Midway
January 22, 2019
 0001 Medical 7750 Loche Rd
 0026 Medical 5202 Winding Way
 0358 Public Assist 715 Wintun Ct
 0638 Fire Alarm 940 Griffith
 0718 Medical 8020 Meridian
 1338 Medical 555 College Way
 1827 Medical Arg Ln / Market Ln
 2031 Medical 1565 Hannah Ct.
January 23, 2019
 0140 Medical 415 415 McKenzie



Make It Fun and It Will Get Done!
The Secret to Being Organized
Pam Young's Corner
How to Use Your Imagination
to Have a Clean Home

Close your eyes just for a sec and imagine taking a bite from a chilled, ripe, juicy watermelon? Imagine your mouth filled with the sweet juice as you chew the imaginary fruit? Did your mouth water as you ran the thought through that beautiful mind of yours? If you swallowed, it's physiological proof that you have a great imagination and your body responded viscerally to the thought.

Think how powerful your imagination is! You can use this power to solve all kinds of problems, like this one, for an example. Say you want to make Wiener Schnitzel and most recipes call for one inch thick, boneless pork loins to be flattened to a quarter of an inch thick. What if you don't have one of those wooden hammers you see in fancy kitchens? What could you use?

When I was confronted with this problem, I actually had one of those hammers, so I took one of the loins and started pounding it to 1/4 inch. At the time I was writing a cookbook (*The Phony Gourmet*) with my sister and I wanted to be able to tell my readers correct times for my recipes, so I timed it—five minutes! If I'd continued the marathon pounding I would have had to say this particular dish (for four) would take 20 minutes of pounding time! Who has 20 minutes to whack at a bunch of pork before ever starting the recipe?

I got quiet and asked myself, what can I use instead of this stupid

decorator hammer? Five seconds later the answer came to me!

Use the car! Whoop whoop! I couldn't wait to try it. I put a loin in a zip-lock bag, put the bag under one of the back tires of my Ford (in front of the tire) and slowly rolled the car forward over the pork.

SCHPLOTT! the piece of meat cut through the bag and sailed out behind the car into the street! I looked to see if the meddlesome neighbor had her nose on the window but her blinds were closed so I peeled the pork off the pavement and went in the house to consult with my imagination, this time with more information.

I would need to find a way to keep the loin under the tire, but how? That's when it occurred to me I could put the meat in a zip-lock bag and wrap the bag in an old towel or rag. I found an old dishtowel in the rag bag and wrapped another victim up for the crunch. IT WORKED! The fabric kept the protein in place and the tire pressed that loin into a beautiful specimen for my Wiener Schnitzel.

Within minutes I realized I could use the Ford in place of my Cuisinart for making crumbs, crushed nuts, and to tenderize any tough cut of meat.* So how do you use your imagination for helping you get organized?

As you begin making a meal, imagine what you'd like the kitchen to look like when you're ready to sit down with your family

to eat. Would you like the kitchen counters clear of all ingredients, and utensils used for preparation? Would you like pots and pans to be soaking in a sink of hot sudsy water while you eat? Imagine it. Keep the vision in your head as you prepare the meal and watch what happens! You'll sit down with your family leaving a neat and tidy kitchen just waiting for the family to bring their dirty dishes in to put in the dishwasher and ready to help wash the soaking pots and pans.

***If considering this tip, use a mid-size car (no SUVs or Hummers) and make sure you don't have studded snow tires on the vehicle.**

If you liked what I did with the pork, I think you'll like *The Phony Gourmet Cookbook* (the recipe for that pork dish is called Weiner Schnitzel Michelin and it's in the book!). I've even got a clearance price and now this hardback book is just \$5 (down from its original price of \$15.00).

<http://shop.club-organized.com/everything-is-5-phony>

Happy Imagining,
 For more from Pam Young go to www.club-organized.com. You'll find many musings, videos of Pam in the kitchen preparing delicious meals, videos on how to get organized, lose weight and get your finances in order, all from a reformed SLOB's point of view. Pam's books are also available on Amazon. ★

Council Unanimously Approves Massive Water Rate Increase



Continued from page 1

City did not "comply with all procedural requirements of Article XIII D Section 6 of the Constitution (Proposition 218).

"The process employed by the City Administration falls short of the minimum standards required by law," the letter read.

It was pointed out that SCTA requested to receive the "label list" the city used to mail the Prop 218 Notice to the affected rate payers. This list has been provided to SCTA in the past. Instead of the interim city clerk providing this list he got the city attorney involved.

At the cost to the City of over \$2,000 by the City Attorney's office, SCTA was provided several parcel lists each with a different number of parcels. Because of this it was impossible to accurately know the exact number of protests needed to stop the proposed increase.

On January 17th the city attorney notified the taxpayers that the 2,812 number of parcels provided by the city clerk was incorrect. The new number is 2,727, the majority protest will be 1,364 and that's the number they used.

Verifying the protests received the Taxpayers discovered that more than 60 water customers were not included on the list provided by the City Attorney's Office. Following on their discovery Nolan said that "many persons whose parcels were NOT on the list emphatically told us that they never received a Proposition 218 Notice." Prop 218 specifically states "The parcels upon which a fee or charge is proposed for imposition shall be identified. The agency shall provide written notice by mail of the proposed fee or charge to the record owners of each identified parcel upon which the fee or charge is proposed for imposition..."

Nolan also told the council the interim city clerk advised ratepayers that third-party delivery of protests will not be accepted. This statement was reported and disseminated on social media sites, including "Dixon 411" and Facebook. This misinformation resulted in a significant amount of confusion among ratepayers; the City however, never attempted to broadly and thoroughly correct the inaccurate

information.

The SCTA concluded its statements by exhorting the council to either extend the rate increase protest period by a few weeks, or restart the process due to all of the city-generated problems and misinformation. The SCTA shared that any such extension would be allowable by law and that it could provide additional time for the city to address ratepayer concerns.

However, after a short recess to count the protests the city clerk announced that not enough protests were received to stop the increase. Total number submitted was 1,195 (830 were submitted by SCTA.) 105 Prop 218 Notices were returned by the Post Office as "undelivered." The Taxpayers observed the counting of the protests. The City had already counted the protests and were placed in envelopes bundled by 50 with a rubber band, however, the city clerk requested not to be asked any questions during the counting process. Immediately thereafter the council unanimously approved the water rate increase which will take effect in April 2018. ★

How to Get Your Finances in Order for the New Year

By **Evan Arnold-Gordon, Golden Gate Better Business Bureau**

A new year can mean a new start when it comes to your finances. It can be easier said than done, but improving your finances and increasing your savings can go a long way for having a successful 2019.

Consumer debt is more prevalent than ever as it has grown every year since 2012 and reached a new high of \$4 trillion at the end of 2018. Furthermore, according to the US Federal Reserve Center for Microeconomic Data, "total household debt rose by \$219 billion to reach \$13.51 trillion in the third quarter of 2018—an increase of 1.6 percent." It's never too late to start turning your finances around and with the right help and advice, you can begin the path to financial freedom.

Get 2019 off to a productive start by following these BBB tips on getting your finances organized:

•Take a closer look at your credit cards. Credit cards are known for their high interest rates, and this can waste a lot of money over time. See if you can use a balance transfer offer to switch to a card with a lower rate. Do your research on bbb.org first; consumers nationwide filed more than 11,500 complaints

against credit card companies in 2018. Make sure to read the terms and contract very carefully – there may be big penalties if you miss a payment. If you have multiple cards, decide which debt-paying strategy suits you. Some experts recommend paying off cards with the highest interest rates first, but others recommend paying off cards with the smallest balances first – figure out what works best for you. Additionally, try sending in payments throughout the month. Put the \$5 you would have spent on a morning coffee towards your debt instead.

• Don't waste money on unethical businesses or scams. When making a purchase or choosing a business, always check with BBB. Making careful decisions now can save you time, money, and headaches later. Research all companies at bbb.org, and check BBB Scam Tracker regularly to see what scams are happening in your area.

• Take advantage of free tools. There are many online tools that can help you manage and reduce your debt. A great place to start is the BBB Financial Building Blocks website, which helps consumers evaluate their finances, learn

how to stay debt-free, and protect themselves from scams and illegal collection calls. Additionally, you can use the free and easy-to-use debt solution tool to find options for managing your debt.

• Start budgeting. Creating a written budget and tracking your spending is one of the best ways to save money and stop spending more than you earn. First, figure out how much debt you have; you need an accurate picture before you can figure out your budget. Note the difference between fixed expenses, needs, and wants. If you have debt, include repayment goals in your budget. If you can, try to factor in retirement and emergency savings as well. Save money by giving up your morning coffee and cooking at home instead of getting takeout. Factor in any alternate income that you can think of, like selling unused items or part-time work in the gig economy.

Remember to always report scams. If you've been the target of a scam or suspect scam activity, report it to authorities and BBB Scam Tracker to warn others.

You can reach your BBB at info@bbemail.org or (510) 844-2000, or by visiting bbb.org ★

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CONVERSATIONS

By Loren Hoffmann and Shirley Humphrey

Happenings in the Area

Need Help in Filing your 2018 State and Federal Taxes?

Travis Credit Union at 1470 Ary Lane in Dixon will help residents complete their 2018 Tax forms beginning on February 4th through April 13th on Tuesdays and Wednesday from 10 am – 3 pm.

The tax filing fee is FREE for households with a 2018 Income of \$55k or less. Let someone else do work!

Card Making Workshop – Davis Senior Center

Tuesday, February 5, Valente Room.

The Davis Senior Center is offering a card making workshop on Tuesday, February 5 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. The workshop will be offered by Priscilla Ivler, center volunteer and avid card maker; she will teach how to make greeting cards using rubber stamps, ink, and paper. In this workshop, participants will create two cards to take home. Beginning and experienced card makers are welcome. Materials are provided with a \$5 fee paid to the instructor. Call 530/757-5696. Class size will be limited.

Chinese New Year 2019 - Year of the Pig

Chinese New Year is celebrated by more than 20% of the world and is the most important holiday in China. The New Year official begins on February 5th, 2019 and ends on February 19th with the Lantern Festival. There are many taboos during this period of time. Such as: Do not say words with negative connotations. i.e. death, sick, empty, pain, ghost, poor, break, kill, and etc. You will jinx yourself and your loved ones. Another is to not break glass or ceramics because it will break your connection to prosperity and fortune. If you do, wrap the broken plate or bowl in red paper and toss it in the river or lake after the "New Year" Also, during this time you are not to clean or sweep! You may sweep away good luck instead! Another Taboo is not to visit the wife's family on New Year's Day. It is okay to visit the wife's family on the second day and bring a modest gift. One last thing... you are suppose to give a New Year blessing. But let the recipient get up from bed first. Otherwise, they will be bedridden for the entire year!

The Davis Senior Center will hold its annual Chinese New Year celebration on Friday, February 8 at 1:00 p.m. This celebration will include a Lion Dance performance, Tai Chi a Kung Fu demonstrations and refreshments. The program is coordinated with the center's Chinese Culture Club. RSVP for this free, popular event.

Dixon Lions' Club BBQ Brisket Meal

Saturday, February 9th,

Dixon Lion's Club is holding a dinner "Drive Thru Scholarship Fundraiser" that will benefit Dixon High School students. Lion's club members are infamous around Dixon for their outstanding bar-b-que skills. They will be lighting up their bar-b-ques and grilling beef brisket and andouille sausage in the parking lot of Tractor Supply on Saturday, February 9th. Along with the brisket and sausage the dinners include potato salad, and bread all for a \$15 per dinner donation. Ticket holders can pick up their dinners from 4:00 – 8:00 pm in the parking lot. For tickets, call John McKinsey at 213-819-2625 or Scott Smith, 516-806-7451

Solano County Home and Garden Show Saturday and Sunday, February 9 & 10th Dixon Fairgrounds

Do you need to get someone to replace your siding, roof, or install whole house fan? Does your backyard need some "spritzing up" and your front yard some "curb appeal?" A great place to get ideas and to find professionals to do the job, visit the Home and Garden show that will be held in Dixon on February 9 & 10. From windows, to flooring, to organizing any space to be more user-friendly attend the show and talk to those folks that can answer your questions.

There are activities for the entire family at the event including your pet which will receive a "complimentary" treat for coming with you! Mark your calendar and more information will follow in the next few weeks.

Dixon Women's Improvement Club Scholarship Fund Raising Dinner at Bud's

Monday, February 11, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Tickets are available for the annual Scholarship Fundraising dinner that will be held on Monday, February 11th at Bud's Pub & Grill at 100 South First Street. Tickets are a \$25 donation to the Dixon Women's Improvement Club and a tip for Bud's service staff following your meal. Four entrees will be offered – Prime Rib or Tri-Tip, Salmon, Chicken, or a pasta/vegetarian dish, along with a house salad, garlic roasted red potatoes, bread, and coffee, tea, or soda. Dinners can be ordered to be PICKED UP

or DELIVERED, for those that choose to dine in their own home. For tickets you can visit Dixon Florist & Gifts, Cyndee's place, and B's Gallery. Also, you can get tickets by contacting Treasurer, Mary Lou Batchelor at 707-678-9317.

Valentine Wine Event

Tuesday, February 12, 5:30 to 7:00 pm

The Davis Senior Center is providing an evening of wine, food and conversation on Tuesday February 12. Center volunteers and wine buff Larry Chandler will talk a little about California wine and answer questions. Larry has been involved with wine for much of his career which includes running wine clubs, wine seminars, wine dinners, as well as talking about wine at every opportunity. \$11 tickets for the food and entertainment are available at the front desk or by calling 530-757-5696. The Davis Sunset Rotary Club will sell wine by the glass.

Dixon Chamber of Commerce Saturday, March 2, 5:00 to 9:30 Olde Vets Hall

"Back in Time" is the theme of the 2019 Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year recognition dinner sponsored by the Dixon Chamber of Commerce on March 2 at the Old Vets Hall. Applications for nominations of citizens and businesses will be available soon. Contact Carol Pruett at the Chamber office at 707-678-2650 for the forms and more information

Mark your calendar for this upcoming event. The Chamber is seeking table sponsorships. Tickets will be available soon.

Contentious Planning Commission Meeting

On last week's Planning Commission meeting was an item listed as a Design Review (18-07) Conditional Use Permit (18-08) and an Administrative Fence Review (18-01) which attracted a number of residents in the area. If you are interested in hearing the comments, you can go to the Planning Commission agenda and view the meeting: dixon.ca.granicus.com.

The Planning Commission was quite deferential to one speaker who spent around 12 minutes talking about the neighborhood situation as he saw it. His comments expressed his strong views, were slightly off topic at times, and some could be considered derogatory. No effort was made to limit the individual's time though the community development director and attorney did whisper to the chair of the planning commission while the presenter was talking.

Several residents expressed concern about the on-going situation involving the proposed project. Some residents were distressed because they invested their entire life saving in the neighborhood, it is now impossible to put trash cans on the street because of the large number of cars on the street, construction has occurred at odd hours, it is not clear how many units are being rented out, and city codes may not have been followed.

One of the later speakers commented saying he thought the applicant had done a good job of fixing up the property and terms such as "slumlord," "interloper," "evil doers" etc. were character assignments. The applicant's son expressed his opinion that mis-information was presented during the meeting and was disappointed in the lack of civility. Although he does not live in Dixon, his family invested \$90,000 in the property in Dixon, and hoped the city would be neutral in considering the application.

The meeting was contentious and there was a lot of emotion displayed. The Planning Commission was at a disadvantage because the item had been continued before the meeting so it was nearly impossible to know what was being considered, but by law, they had to open the hearing and listen to the comments.

The solution is not imposing time limits but providing adequate information and requiring civility. By law, in order to have a public hearing, notice must go out at least 10 days in advance. If the notice is sent out and a request is made to continue it, the public hearing must still be opened and comment allowed.

The answer is in not moving forward with a public hearing until the applicant has provided all of the needed information. Normally at the start of the public hearing the staff presentation is made, then the applicant is asked if s/he has additional information to present. This provides the audience with a clear understanding of what the hearing is about.

If the applicant cannot complete all of the paperwork required before the public notice is sent out, then the notice should be delayed. By not publically announcing the hearing until all of the paperwork is completed, all three interests can be considered--the petitioner who is proposing some kind of development or housing/zoning change. Neighborhood residents who may want to support or oppose the application will have adequate material on which to base comments, and the commission itself representing the community interests will have the necessary facts. ★

Solano Community College Governing Board Sworn In



Bottom Left: Denis Honeychurch and Judi Honeychurch. Bottom Right: A. Marie Young and Lisette Estrella-Henderson.



Bottom Left: Denis Honeychurch and Judi Honeychurch. Bottom Right: A. Marie Young and Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Jennifer Aries, SCC

FAIRFIELD, CA (DIV) - Four members of the Solano Community College Board of Trustees were sworn in for new four-year terms at the board's December 19, 2018 meeting.

Returning to the Board are Area 2 (Vallejo) Trustee A. Marie Young, Area 4 (Fairfield, Vacaville and Travis Air Force Base) Trustee Denis Honeychurch, J.D. and Area 6 (Vacaville) Trustee Dr. Sarah Chapman.

Newly elected Trustee Karimah Karah also took her oath of office at the meeting. Representing Area

1 (Vallejo west of Interstate 80 and Mare Island), Karah won her race to earn a board position. She is replacing Pam Keith who had served since 1994 and declined to run for reelection.

At the meeting, Solano Community College Trustee Michael Martin administered the oath of office to Karah. Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District Board Vice President Judi Honeychurch administered the oath to Trustee Denis Honeychurch, who in turn administered the oath to Trustee Sarah Chapman, and Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette

Estrella-Henderson administered the oath to A. Marie Young. Superintendent Estrella-Henderson is a graduate of Solano Community College and was a math student in one of Ms. Young's classes.

Terms for all four trustees will end in 2022. Board meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month, except in January and July, when the Board meets only on the third Wednesday. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Denis Honeychurch Board Room, Building 600, at Solano's Fairfield campus, 4000 Suisun Valley Road in Fairfield. ★



SPRING SEASON 23

Sacramento CHORAL SOCIETY & Orchestra

Donald Kendrick, Music Director

EUROPEAN MASTERWORKS

A German Requiem | Johannes Brahms
Serenade in E Minor | Edward Elgar
Five Mystical Songs | Ralph Vaughan Williams

Requiem for the Masses—with its German text and emphasis on consoling the living, Brahms' decidedly non-Latin Requiem was unlike anything that had come before it.

Elgar's most favorite *Serenade* is a prelude to Vaughan Williams' astonishing settings of poems of love and Resurrection.

Carrie Hennessey, Soprano
Trevor Scheunemann, Baritone

Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 8:00 pm
7:00 pm – Pre-concert talk
Sacramento Community Center Theater

Projected supertitle translations

Carrie Hennessey

Trevor Scheunemann

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LUX The Dawn from On High | Dan Forrest
Die Erste Walpurgisnacht | Felix Mendelssohn

Joshua Dennis, Tenor
Matt Hanscom, Baritone
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Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 8:00 pm
7:00 pm – Pre-concert talk
Sacramento Community Center Theater

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