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Dixon Independent Voice

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Women's Club Reawakens



This group of fun ladies will lead the Dixon Women's Improvement Club this year. They are (front) is Pat Inderbitzen; back L-R is Angela Remides, Cindy Heeney, Jewel Fink, Barbar Long, Debra Dingman, Pamela Marks, Teri Brown, and Binky Rowe. Not pictured are Rena Wood, Diane Schroeder, and Martha Dukes. Photo by David Dingman

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - After hibernating over the hot summer months, the Dixon Women's Improvement Club - a 100-year-old organization of local ladies - is ready to wake up and will kick off the 2023-2024 year with a presentation by Rose Loveall, Owner of Morning Sun Herb Farm in Vacaville on Wednesday, September 20 starting at noon.

Established in 1899, the founders of this group were women from families that settled in the Dixon area following the Gold Rush of 1849. They were interested in beautifying and improving their little town. Today's members, as strong and as empowering as their predecessors, are also about fun and have planned a year of interesting, monthly presentations along with pleasant trips to nearby shows, shopping, and

flower farms.

"I'm really excited about this year's programs and excursions," said DWIC President Debra Dingman. "Our first program celebrates working in your garden and we will learn how to attract bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies. Just in time for learning what herbs and spices are best for the approaching season of soups and chilis!"

Loveall will be sharing her vast knowledge with DWIC members and guests about pollinators and the plants that attract them. Morning Sun Herb Farm, located at 6137 Pleasants Valley Road in Vacaville, is a family-owned nursery with display gardens that has been in operation since 1995.

Over 500 species of herbs, vegetables, unusual and drought-tolerant perennials, and pollinator plants are grown at this nursery. They specialize

in a huge selection of lavenders, propagating over 45 varieties in their greenhouses. Their display gardens, located in their family walnut orchard, are wonderful teaching tools for gardeners, chefs, herbalists, and crafters.

Pollinator plants from the nursery will be on display and available for purchase after the presentation.

Other activities slated this year are building a pumpkin succulent centerpiece; hearing about where Dixon is growing from City of Dixon Community Development Director Raffi Boloyan; what the Senior Center is all about; and even rock painting to name a few.

The first meeting will start at noon with the Board and Committee Chairs providing members and guests with a salad luncheon and the presentation will follow. Other officers are *Continued on page 3*

On Tap: DDBA Brews Beer Event

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The giant wine bottles are being changed out for beer mugs along main intersections in anticipation of the next Downtown Dixon Business Association event, the Brewski Fest 2023, set for Saturday, October 14, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The Brewski Fest is going to be just as much fun as the Wine Stroll was," Downtown Dixon Business Association President Jill Orr said. "Our Wine & Art Stroll was back to pre-Covid success and we don't doubt the Brewski Fest will follow suit. People had a great time and our merchants loved showing off their businesses with the help of great wineries."

While the plans are still brewing, some of the breweries participating thus far are Heretic Brewing out of Fairfield, Out of Step Cider from Sonoma, Hooby's Brewing from Winters, and our local expert, Ruhstallers to name a few.

Businesses that are participating will include Rohwer's Insurance, Olimpia Campos State Farm, Jerry Bassler Real Estate, Frosty's, Nino's, Avila Flooring, and First Northern Bank.

There will be beer tasting, craft beers, music, appetizers, and a whole lot of hanging out with friends.

More downtown merchants are encouraged to get in on the fun and call DDBA today at (707) 678-8400.

On the day of the event, check in for special glasses and maps will take place at the Pardi Plaza at the corner of First and A Streets. One must be age 21 and over to participate and tickets are being sold in advance for \$30 at www.downtowndixonca.com or for \$35 on the day of the event.

To get ready for this and other fall activities downtown including the Halloween Treat Trail, DDBA members will be decorating downtown with fall foliage and a ton of pumpkins thanks to Matt Cooley and Mike Barrett Hay.

"Pumpkins from Cool Patch should come next week, and they've always been super supportive. The Cool Patch is a great neighbor of ours!" Jill said with enthusiasm. The Halloween Treat Trail will be Tuesday, October 31, starting at 1:30 to 4 p.m. and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Trunk or Treat will follow at 4 p.m. through the train tunnel and in the parking lot at 220 North Jefferson. ★

DDBA Members Hear New Event Rules

Story and photo by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - "It's about public peace, morals, and welfare. Because of other event catastrophes, we need to be clear about what we won't do and that is to allow the public to be at risk," said Police Chief Robert Thompson to a group of Downtown Dixon Business Association members. "If you're serving alcohol, we're going to be involved."

Chief was on hand to share about a new automated process for approving applications for events from large-scale festivals and grand openings to smaller events such as ribbon cuttings and mixers.

Organizers who would have more than 50 people on public property will have to "register" first online and armed with information from the questions answered, the form will go off to appropriate



Dixon Police Chief Robert Thompson and City Public Information Officer Madelyn Graf take a break for smiles during a discussion of new event rules at the last DDBA meeting.

sources. For example, if a person is going to have propane or commercial barbecues, that would trigger the look from the fire department or if there were street closures required, Public Works would review. If there is alcohol, that triggers the police department as well as the

Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) to review.

An event could need several approvals and could take weeks going from one department to another, but the new process will streamline it - and also keep the public safe. City Public Information Officer Madelyn Graf will "direct

[paperwork] traffic," having a checklist and will communicate with applicants. Details are still worked out as far as the permit process.

"It is quite a change and significantly more paperwork," said Chamber President/CEO Shauna *Continued on page 3*

Life's too SHORT



Water Weight Frustrations

By Debra Dingman

For a brief second, my crazy-rushed, nothing-going-right-Tuesday-after-a-holiday rush went completely dark. I sipped piping hot coffee – my favorite decaf with hazelnut creamer. My eyes closed, my heart slowed, my mouth came alive with the heat and flavor and suddenly the sky became blue and God ascended from Heaven to my heart.

I'm an easy please.

Now the fact that I charged my company phone overnight became a concern. When I unplugged it to leave for work, I took the time to check it and it started right up telling me it was happy. But, once I was at work, it died several times in a row while I moved from location to location, thinking it was those darn power lines that were causing it to short out...or something.

But, that didn't work – and then I had the right cube and charging cord for my personal cell but not the company phone. I must have taken it on vacation with me as I worked remotely. Where are those office secretaries who would run quick errands for a \$10 bill? I would have hired one to run back to my house and pick it up but instead, I called the main office and told them they might get some calls for Fictitious Business ads like I normally get because I wasn't going to go back home for a silly cord until lunchtime.

I returned to the task of getting the police log but there was no update. The morning was shaping up badly. I had already sifted through 10 pages of Ad-hoc Water Committee minutes and notes so that I could write a hard news story on Dixon's water mess but felt overwhelmed.

I've been trying to write that story for

two weeks, but I just kept getting more information that only complicated my brain even more. Too many facets between money, repairs, subcontractors, future concerns such as being able to handle Dixon's growth, etc., etc.

So you're not getting that story this week but I'm hopeful a local citizen who is a retired journalist might write it for us. Otherwise, you will have to do what you need to do: Attend the meeting yourself!

Or, you can attend via Zoom or watch via the Granicus system. What I will tell you is that having those meetings to watch are a Godsend because I will watch over and over to see if my brain can really understand what Finance Director Kate Zawadzki painstakingly reports. It is such a complicated issue that we started an official committee with RESIDENTS and COUNCILMEN and EXPERTS to help find solutions but only a handful of people actually attend. People are funny, they will ALL be out there in force when the rates are raised.

I may not be able to understand everything about this issue but I will tell you, we have an old system and we should have built a whole new water facility years ago like Vacaville did. The equipment was old ten years ago and I remember those meetings where spending the money to improve was put off but now equipment is failing and our billing is not supporting current costs.

I was thrilled when I received an email from someone who may know a lot about writing on this water topic – too bad I can't call him...yet.

For now, I'm drinking my coffee from my water cooler. ★

Key Club Officer Awarded Scholarship



Five-hundred-dollar scholarship recipient Emily Ventura, center, and her parents were recognized by Kiwanis Club President Mike Liu at a recent meeting. Photo by Jim Ward

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Emily Ventura, a past Dixon High School Key Club Treasurer and her parents, Luis Ventura and Eleodora Yantas, were honored at a recent Dixon Kiwanis Club meeting where Emily was awarded a \$500 scholarship. She plans to major in Psychology on her way to becoming a pediatrician. They are pictured with Kiwanis Club President Michel Liu.

"If you can teach youth to serve while they are

young, they will serve the rest of their lives," said past Kiwanis Club President Suzanne Lorente who was serving in 2013 when the high school club was chartered.

Key Club International, a service leadership program of Kiwanis International, is the oldest and largest service program for high school students, and gives its members opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership skills. Key Club attributes its success to the fact that it is a student-led organization

that teaches leadership through serving others.

DHS Senior Sarai Garcia is the new Key Club President. The club will be meeting twice monthly on campus during lunch. Karstin Stranger is the new Kiwanis Club Liaison.

To get in touch with Garcia, contact the school office and leave a message, or call Karstin at Almond Tree Mortgage at (707) 678-2800.

Please visit www.keyclub.org or call 1-800-549-2647 for more information. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Children's Librarian Corinne McCoy says to bring your Barbie and Ken dolls and use your creative imagination to bring Barbie's world to life at the Dixon Public Library on Thursdays at 3 p.m. For more information, visit solanolib.com/events. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

Pardi Concert

The Concerts in the Plaza continue Thursday, September 21, featuring the Alive Music Orchestra with Dixon's own Frank Salamone. The concerts are presented by the City of Dixon and Dixon Chamber of Commerce and are from 6 to 8:30 at the Pardi Plaza, at the corner of First and A Streets.

Indoor Garage Sale

Attention bargain hunters: the Senior Club's Indoor Garage Sale is set for Saturday, September 16, from 9 a.m. to noon at 201 South Fifth Street at the Senior/Multi-Purpose Center. Last year, it was a hit with a heavy flow of bargain hunters from children to white-haired men. The room will be filled with tables representing a wide variety of items including household items, wall art, homemade and hand-sewn items, collectibles, jewelry, books, clothing, knick-knacks and surely more!

New Solano County Rep

Congratulations to Dixon resident Miranda Barber, who is an attorney in Fairfield, for being appointed to the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) by Mayor Steve Bird this past month.

Spaghetti Feed

A Spaghetti Feed is being sponsored by the Veteran Riders of California on Sunday, September 17 at 1 p.m. to raise funds for Brent Robert's trip to Calgary, Canada, representing Team USA in the Martial Arts World Championships. Tickets are \$20. The event will be held at the Greg "Coach" Coppes Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 North First Street in Dixon.

Firefighter's Dinner

The Dixon Firefighter's Charitable Fund is holding a Prawn and Ravioli Dinner with all you eat prawns, raviolis, salad, and bread on Saturday, October 21, at the Dixon Fire Department, 205 Ford Way. It will start with cocktails at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m. Tickets

are \$55 and include entry into a cash door prize raffle. For tickets and event questions, please contact Ricky Rodarte at rodarte@cityofdixon.us.

Thank a Veteran

The American Legion Post 208 is doing a dinner and fundraiser with a Dessert Silent Auction on Saturday, September 23 at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 North First Street. The no host bar opens at 4 p.m. and the dinner will be at 5 p.m. The menu is either tri-tip or chicken with all the fixings plus dessert. Tickets are \$30 each or \$55 for two or \$220 for a table of eight.

Kiwanis Christmas

The Dixon Kiwanis Club has announced details confirmed for the annual Festival of Trees. It will be held on Saturday, December 9 but decorated trees will be required to be set up the day before, on Friday, December 8, inside the Veterans Memorial Hall at 1305 North First Street in Dixon. Any businesses looking to sponsor a tree can email DixonKiwanis@gmail.com and any club, organization, or private citizen interested in decorating one, can email dixonkiwanis@hotmail.com for more information. This event is the local club's premier fundraiser to help serve Dixon's children and their community.

City Council

Tuesday, September 19, at 7 p.m. will be the next Planning Commission meeting at City Hall inside the Council Chambers, 600 West A Street. Agendas for almost all city meetings come out the Thursday before and are available online at cityofdixon.us. Meetings can also be watched via Zoom. Access information can be found on the agenda.

Free Rides

Dixon seniors age 80 and up can receive a Golden Pass for a free ride for local trips only. All rides must be within City limits and can happen any time that Read-Ride is available and open. For more information, contact Dixon Read-Ride at 678- 5020 or Transit Supervisor, Vicki Jacobs, at 678-7442. ★



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Downtown Businesses Shuffle

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Downtown is experiencing changes in its business landscape once again.

The Barn and Pantry, the small restaurant specializing in organic foods at 151 West A Street, announced its closing on social media by owner Lindsay Hickman, who opened the business six years ago. He said a family member was ill and their last day was Memorial Day.

Matt Andrews, who owns the Frosty's next door, is planning to take the space over and serve breakfasts and dinners there but will also keep the Frosty's open. He was closed a couple days this past week so the parking lot could be worked on.

Both buildings and the adjoining parking lot were purchased by Ron Imram and facilitated by Jerry Bassler, the previous owner of the property. Imram owns other properties in Dixon, he said, and also owns Dixon Tire and Rims, a tire dealer and repair shop, at 628 North First Street where Ramtown Karate was first started. Imram said the first order of business was to get rid of "trip hazards," he said.

The entire lot was leveled and cleaned this past Monday and concrete was



This is the Silveyville Masons Lodge 201 built in 1884 and renovated by Rob Salaber. The building has new owners.

to be poured Tuesday, according to Junior Stanley of Vaca Valley Paving.

"This was a lawsuit waiting to happen," Imram said, pointing to uneven concrete and jagged metal pieces pulled out of the asphalt. "Downtown looks like we're still in the 1950s. People need to update their property." Imram lives in Dixon and would like to see more pride taken by some of the downtown property owners.

Much like what Rob Salaber did when he bought the Silveyville Masons Lodge 201 at 165 North First Street in downtown several years ago. It is beautiful inside and well cared for on the outside. That building was recently sold and is being purchased by the Masons in Vacaville, according to sources. Phone calls to that

group were not returned as of press time and thus could not be confirmed.

Contractor Jose Avila out of Fairfield has opened Avila Flooring in the former Uptown Collective commercial space at 120 North First Street.

Lastly, the Katrina Marsh of Busy Bee Yoga has relocated out of the downtown core to the corner of North Lincoln and Stratford where a gym has been located for several years next to Almond Tree Mortgage.

"Our new address is 1115 Stratford Avenue, Suite F, in Dixon, CA and we will be hosting a variety of yoga classes. You can book through our website busybeeyoga.com," Marsh posted on social media. "Keep an eye out for more classes coming very soon such as Pilates and Dance Cardio." ★

DDBA Members Hear New Event Rules

Continued from page 1
Manina, "But in the long run, it will standardize a lot of things and it will add to the safety of the public and the event organizers."

The DDBA hosts several events a year to draw attention and sales to the downtown core, reported DDBA President Jill Orr.

"We want you to have these events," Chief said. "We're here to help you, but we have to be better partners. We will need maps and applications 45 days before the event."

He also updated members on the new sidewalk vendor ordinance that becomes effective September 8 that requires vendors to have a business permit. The ordinance also gives the City of Dixon the authority to determine "no vendor" zones and require that permits are submitted for lawful operation.

"You cannot prohibit someone from standing on a public street," said the Chief. "But a City can create its own ordinance. He explained that the front of the Dixon May Fair or

along the streets during the May Fair parade are examples of where the City could create a no-vendor zone. Addressing questions about vendors in public parks, Chief responded, "Vendors are never allowed in neighborhoods ...and parks are zoned neighborhoods."

In other news, Orr shared about new Human Resource laws about lunches, breaks, and new rules in regard to unemployment tax that will be the topic of a DDBA meeting in the near future.

An increase in DDBA membership dues will be voted on at the next DDBA meeting. The dues are \$125 per Downtown area Business Owner or for a property owner member but if you are a property owner and a business owner, the dues will be \$200. A community Business Owner will be \$125 and an Associate member will remain at \$50.

"The support and contributions will enable us to continue to expand events

and activities that bring revenue creating opportunities to the businesses of not only Downtown, but all of Dixon," Orr told the group. "In addition, your dollars help the greater community with free events such as movies in the park, Halloween, and others that do not drive revenue. There are many expenses that are not thought of that happen behind the scenes such as signage, insurances, security, printing, etc."

She itemized the many benefits to members including advertisement on the DDBA Facebook site, live links to your business site on the DDBA website; highlights of shared business activities on all DDBA's social media sites; and monthly meetings that offer business tips and keynote speakers.

October's meeting will be held at Dixon Family Services, 155 North Second Street. For more information on DDBA, see their website downtown-dixonca.com or call (707) 678-8400. ★

Women's Club Reawakens

Continued from page 1

Vice President Rena Wood, Recording Secretary Teri Brown, Treasurer Cindy Heeney; Corresponding Secretary Barbara Long; Financial Reviewer Martha Dukes; and Past President Carol Marshall.

The Board receives additional help from the Committee Chairs who handle other operations of the organization. They are: Teri Brown for Community Grants and DWIC Rose Garden; Historian Pamela Marks, Membership Chairs Angela Remides and Binky Rowe; Parliamentarian Jewel Fink; Scholarships Diane Schroeder; and Sunshine/Phone Pat Inderbitzen.

The Club welcomes new members and hopes their variety of presentations this year appeal to all. Membership fee is \$35 per year and the group meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship



Rose Loveall is owner of Morning Sun Herb Farm in Vacaville, Calif. Courtesy photo

Hall of the Dixon United Methodist Church at 209 N. Jefferson.

If one enjoys the camaraderie of good friends

and is interested in joining, contact Membership Chairs Rowe at (707) 301-1673 or Remides at (707) 688-2704. ★

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Fong Family to Bring Memories



One of the fun pictures of John Fong inside his store, the Pardi Market, with young friends celebrating. DHS courtesy photo

By MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Do you remember the grocery store that was across the street from the Dixon Tribune and next to the Dixon Florist for many years? If you do, you probably grew up knowing the Fong family and would be interested in hearing about the Chinese-American family who ran Pardi Market at the next Dixon Historical Society meeting on October 15 at 2 p.m.

It's your opportunity to take a walk down memory lane and meet the John Fong family that owned and worked at Pardi Market and who were beloved members of our community. The Dixon Historical Society will meet at the Fellowship Hall of the Dixon

United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson. The presentation will be by Carl Fong and there will be refreshments afterwards.

"We would like to invite members of the Pardi Family to also attend and all the community to attend to share memories," said DHS President Kim Schroeder-Evans. "Carl Fong is looking forward to seeing everyone again!"

More information is available at www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org/ or one can stop by the Dixon History Museum at 125 West A Street. Hours are Fridays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the 4th Sunday of each month from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., and the 4th Thursdays of each month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Phone is (707) 693-3044. ★

Senior Club Indoor Garage Sale Saturday



Bargain hunters shop at last year's Senior Club Indoor Garage Sale. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Attention bargain hunters: the Senior Club's Indoor Garage Sale will be this Saturday, September 16, from 9 a.m. to noon at 201 South Fifth Street at the Senior/Multi-Purpose Center.

Last year, it was a hit with a heavy flow of bargain hunters of every kind from children to older gentlemen. The room will be

filled with tables representing a wide variety of items including household items, wall art, home-made and hand-sewn items, collectibles, jewelry, books, clothing, knick-knacks and more.

"There will be 20 tables of merchandise including typical garage sale bargains but also home-made craft items and work by artisans," said Event Coordinator Barbara Long

of the Senior Club.

"I have 15 different sellers, and several are new so I don't know what they're bringing - but Pam Franklin of Many Soles for Mini Souls will be fundraising with her home sewn and hand-crafted items," said Long. "I also know we'll have beanie babies and tools." Information is available by calling the Senior Center at (707) 678-7022. ★



MEMORIAL

BETTINA MAE GOODIN • 12/23/1960 — 7/8/2023


Bettina Mae Goodin passed away peacefully on the morning of September 8, 2023 with her family and friends by her side.

Bettina was born on December 23, 1960 in Woodland, CA. She was a lifelong resident of Dixon.

Bettina worked for the Dixon Unified School District for 35 years. She had just retired on July 1, 2023.

Bettina will be remembered for her quick wit, honest answers, making you laugh, generosity, kindness, being real and down to earth and was loved by so many.

Bettina lived her life fully and on her own terms. She had boundless love for her family and friends.



Bettina was an avid animal lover, rescuing and helping animals anyway she could.

Bettina is survived by sisters Cherie Fanning (Bud), Sue-San Lambright (Jim), Barbie Pinaglia (Don), brother Dyrk Goodin (Susie) and partner Arleen Kramer.

Nieces Brandy Hensley and Kirstyn Hairston. Great Nephews Isaiah Hensley, Brevin Hensley, Kaden Hensley, Lawson Hensley. Coleman Hensley, Cash Hairston and Great Niece Coco Hairston.


She was preceded in death by her parents Doug and Betty Mae Goodin.

A graveside service will be held at Silveyville Cemetery on Friday September 22, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. and a gathering following at The Olde Vets Hall, 231 North First Street.

In Lieu of flowers please make donations in her name to - Solano Ferret Cat Group, P. O. Box 1221 Suisun, CA. 94585 -SolanoFerals.org or SolanoKittenNetwork.com.

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, September 11, 2023

- 1059 Domestic violence report taken in the 700 block of Stratford Avenue.
- 1104 Confidential report taken at Dixon High School.
- 1116 Stolen vehicle located in the 200 block of North Lincoln Street.
- 1124 Fraud report taken in the 1800 block of Dailey Drive.
- 1351 Pedestrian stop in the 800 block of North Adams Street resulted in the arrest of Barbara Parlette (32) of Woodland for an outstanding felony warrant for kidnapping. She was taken to county jail.
- 2001 Hours- Steven Gentry (43) of Dixon was contacted in the 1200 block of Stratford Ave and later arrested for public intoxication, resisting arrest and brandishing.
- 2030 Hours- Rudolf Reid (64) of Dixon was arrested for misdemeanor domestic violence.

Sunday, September 10

- 0520 Hours- Stolen vehicle and vandalism to a vehicle report in the 300 block of North Adams Street.
- 1521 Vehicle tampering report taken in the 800 block of Elm Drive.

Saturday, September 09

- 1412 Grand theft from a vehicle in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.
- 2200 Hours- Reynaldo Cedillo (31) of Fairfield was contacted during a traffic stop in the 1300 Block of Stratford Ave and arrested for an outstanding warrant and driving on a suspended license.

Friday, September 08

- 0737 Vehicle burglary in the 1000 block of Heritage Court.
- 0842 Vandalism to a vehicle in the 1000 block of Heritage Court.
- 1110 Missing person reported in the 100 block of South 3rd Street. The MP was later located safe.
- 1414 Informational report taken in the 400 block of East A Street. 1854 Assault w/ deadly weapon, battery w/ serious bodily injuries and criminal threats report was taken in the 400 block of South Adams St. Officers contacted (S) William Ellsworth. It was determined that Williams was in violation. Williams was arrested and booked into the Solano County Jail.
- 2004 Found wallet report was taken at the intersection of West H St. at Pheasant Run Dr.
- 2143 Coroner's case was taken in the 1000 block of Weyand Wy.
- 0100 Warrant arrest and driving on a suspended license arrest report was taken in the 2800 block of West A St. An officer made an enforcement stop and contacted (S) Jose Linares (46) out of Richmond. A records check revealed Linares had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant out of Solano County. A records check revealed Linares' driver's license was suspended. Linares was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

Thursday, September 07

- 0808 Informational report taken in the 200 block of West A Street.
- 0936 Informational report taken in the 500 block of College Way.
- 1156 Battery reported in the 1300 block of West H Street. 1452 Counterfeit currency reported in the 900 block of North Adams Street.
- 1911 Warrant arrest, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance arrest report was taken in the 2000 block of North 1st St. Officers contacted (S) Joshua Rojas (38) of Fairfield. A records check revealed he had two outstanding warrants out of Solano County. A search incident to arrest yielded suspected methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia being found on his person. Rojas was transported to the Dixon Police Department and he was cited and released.
- 0014 Possession of drug paraphernalia arrest report was taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Dr. Officers contacted (S) Carlos Casillas (24) of Sacramento. Casillas was in possession of a drug paraphernalia. Officers were unable to obtain proper identification from him and he was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

Wednesday, September 06

- 0950 Stolen property report taken in the 1500 block of North 1st Street.
- 1340 Found property report taken in the PD lobby.
- 1352 Battery report taken in the 300 block of Archer Place.
- 1419 Non injury traffic accident in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.

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Despite delayed harvest, California pear growers are optimistic

California Bartlett pear growers say they are seeing a good crop of high-quality fruit, even though a cold spring and late bloom delayed harvest by about two weeks. Lake County pear grower Pat Scully, general manager and owner of Finley-based Scully Packing Co., which packs and ships 35% to 40% of the state's Bartlett crop, said he is pleased by the results he is seeing. He said the fruit is "sized nicely" and harvest looks promising. Harvest is ongoing in the state's two main growing regions, the Sacramento River Delta and Lake and Mendocino counties.

Vast rural land purchases in Solano County stir concerns at hearing

Farmers and their advocates say the state should seek to protect agricultural resources and open space amid concerns raised over a company buying large swaths of farmland in Solano County. At the state Capitol last week, the state Senate Agriculture Committee held a panel discussion on "navigating threats to California agriculture." The discussion was inspired by a venture known as Flannery Associates LLC. Since 2018, the group backed by Silicon Valley billionaires has amassed 400 parcels spanning nearly 55,000 acres of agricultural-zoned land near Travis Air Force Base.

Canning, Fresh Peaches See Production Increases

Harvest continues for the state's cling peaches for canning and freestone peaches for the fresh market, with estimates of good crops that will exceed last year's production. Rich Hudgins, chief executive officer of the Sacramento-based California Canning Peach Association, said this year's harvest will likely exceed the preseason estimate of 212,000 tons. That's up from 204,440 tons in 2022. In fresh-market peaches, the state's estimated freestone peach production is forecast to be 260,000 tons, up from 240,000 tons in 2022, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

California Senator Introduces Legislation To Expand Disaster Relief Access

U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla has announced legislation to improve disaster relief to help specialty crop farmers recover from catastrophic events. Along with the bill's co-author Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., Padilla introduced the Fair Access to Agriculture Disaster Programs Act. The legislation waives adjusted gross income restrictions that prevent some farmers from receiving disaster relief under U.S. Department of Agriculture programs. Padilla said the measure could help California growers who produce high-value specialty crops but are saddled with high land costs and escalating expenses. ★



Dave Ramsey Says

Life Insurance Isn't a Baby Step

Dear Dave,

I just discovered you and your teachings a couple of weeks ago. I'm already on Baby Step 2, and I was wondering if I should buy life insurance now or wait until I've finished paying off debt. I'm single with no children, and I owe a total of \$44,700. I have a \$25,000 company-funded life insurance policy through my employer. What do you think I should do??

– Elizabeth

Dear Elizabeth,

If you have a life insurance need, it's not a Baby Step. It's a necessity in your budget and something you need to put in place as soon as possible.

But from what you've told me, you don't have a great need for life insurance at this point. No one, except you, is depending on your income, and the \$25,000 policy you have through your employer is more than enough to take care of any final expenses if something happened to you.

The main purpose of life insurance is to take care of those you leave behind when you die. If someone is financially dependent on your income, I recommend having 10 to 12 times your annual income wrapped up in a good level term life insurance policy. That means if you make \$80,000 a year, you should have a policy worth anywhere from \$800,000 to \$960,000.

If I were you, I wouldn't buy another life insurance policy at all right now. If you get married or have kids somewhere down the road, then buy it immediately. In that case, both you and your spouse should have 15- to 20-year level term policies of 10

12 times your individual incomes. And never buy anything except level term life insurance. The reason? That covers you until you're out of debt—should a spouse bring some into the picture—and the two of you have so much cash piled up that you don't need to pay for a life insurance policy anymore. It's called being self-insured, and that's a great place to be.

Good question, Elizabeth!

– Dave

**Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of "The Ramsey Show." He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning," "Today," Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company Ramsey Solutions. ★*



No, We Aren't Rome

An op-ed in The New York Times warns, as the headline puts it, that "America is an empire in decline," and finds a precedent in imperial Rome.

The piece, written by the co-author of a new book, "Why Empires Fall: Rome, America, and the Future of the West," shows that the cottage industry in comparisons between the United States and Rome is as robust as ever.

It is an irresistible temptation to superimpose the history of Rome and especially its decline and fall – an enduring subject of fascination – on top of our own experience and future.

Both conservatives and progressives are prone to their own versions of this narrative, tending to emphasize either moral decline or imperial overstretch respectively.

But the most important thing to know about us and our supposed imperial forbear is that we aren't Rome and aren't experiencing any of the most direct, spectacular causes of its fall.

It's become fashionable among some scholars to argue that there was no fall. There were no barbarian invasions. There was no material decline. Nothing to see here – simply evolutionary change.

It is true that Rome's fall – a long, messy process – didn't unfold with the pleasing cinematic simplicity that the popular imagination might

believe; the extent of the barbarian population transfers has been exaggerated and the Eastern half of the empire lived on for another 1,000 years.

Still, the Western Roman Empire unquestionably fell, with disastrous consequences for a long time. It's just that dragging us into it is wildly off base.

Rome tore itself apart with constant assassinations, usurpations, and civil wars. It weakened itself economically and militarily, while confronting challenges from armed bands on its borders that it became incapable of handling as it steadily lost its territory and sources of financial support to barbarian groups.

At the same time, it had to grapple with the Persian Empire to the East.

Is this happening to the United States? Well, an armed contingent of Quebecers isn't (like the Visigoths) wandering throughout the United States, fighting periodic battles with the U.S. military and seeking subsidies from the U.S. Senate before besieging – and eventually sacking – Washington, D.C.

Migrants to the United States don't settle en masse in national groupings led by military leaders seeking power and preferment. They disperse throughout the country and take illegal jobs as busboys and the like.

U.S. presidents have to worry about declining poll numbers, a recalcitrant congressional opposition, and reelection campaigns.

They don't, like Roman emperors, need to think all the time about potential assassinations

and armed usurpers. They don't need to worry that if they assign a general to take over, say, CENTCOM, he will use the position to muster the troops and resources to challenge for power himself. They don't need to consider the positioning of military forces with an eye to checking internal enemies.

Jan. 6 was a disgraceful day but a blip hardly worth mentioning relative to the perpetual, large-scale internal disorder in imperial Rome.

The 1st Infantry Division isn't marching on Washington, D.C., from Fort Riley, Kansas, and fighting a pitched battle with the 4th Marine Division devastating to the countryside somewhere in Ohio.

TITLE: None of this is to deny that the United States and the West may have entered a period of what will ultimately prove to be terminal decline or that rivals, most notably China, are on the rise. It is to say that unless our representative democracy degenerates into an unelected dictatorship with no reliable means of succession and Canada and Mexico begin to eat away at our territory, the story of our decline is not going to track closely with that of Rome, a vastly different polity, at a different time.

By all means, study the history of Rome for its own sake and for the insights it affords into human nature and the roots of the Western world. But the moral of the story needn't be about 21st-century America.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Shipping Needs At Odds With California's Climate Goals



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

In retrospect, Southern California's political and civic leaders may have erred a half-century ago in deciding that the region's economic future would depend on developing a massive logistics industry centered on the twin ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Countless billions of public and private dollars were committed to upgrading the ports to handle ever-larger container ships, erecting dozens of warehouses and other facilities in San Bernardino and Riverside counties and improving rail and highway corridors linking them to the ports.

In macro terms, it paid off.

As shipment of goods from Asia — particularly China — blossomed, the twin ports eventually claimed as much as 40% of the nation's import traffic and logistics became, by some measures, Southern California's largest single generator of employment. It propped up the region's economy when another mainstay, aerospace, plummeted three decades ago after the Cold War ended.

That said, the industry may have peaked. Factors such as the enlargement of the Panama Canal, the emergence of India and other nations as suppliers of goods,

congestion in the twin ports and transportation corridors, labor conflicts, and growing local opposition to the environmental impacts of logistics pose potentially existential threats.

Recently, West Coast ports finally settled a long-running conflict with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union with a new six-year contract. However, during the dispute, wildcat work stoppages had tied up traffic through the twin ports and some shippers moved their business to East Coast and Gulf ports.

The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association says that the twin ports saw import volumes decline by nearly 25% in the first six months of 2023, not only due to labor unrest but a sharp downturn in the Chinese economy.

Gene Seroka, the Port of Los Angeles executive director, told the Wall Street Journal that retrieving the business "will be an uphill climb. Our job now is to be absolutely relentless in going after every pound of freight possible."

The machinery of logistics — ships to trucks to locomotives — produces tons of particulate emissions. They and the warehouses they serve also create traffic congestion and noise and over time the physical presence of logistics breeds resentment that, in turn, morphs into political and legal action.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District has steadily ramped up pressure on the industry to reduce polluting emissions by electrifying trucks and other equipment. The demands impose costs that, industry leaders say, make the region

less competitive with alternatives, particularly East Coast and Gulf of Mexico ports.

The SCAQMD is now on the verge of issuing an overall draft rule to limit pollution from the ports and last month, labor and management officials and a variety of business organizations sent letters to the mayors of Los Angeles and Long Beach raising alarm about what they regard as a potentially fatal blow to the ports' long-term viability.

"The initial SCAQMD staff proposal essentially establishes volume caps on port activities, which will restrict the delivery of critical imported goods including essential construction, manufacturing, and automobile components, as well as medical supplies and halt the export of California's manufactured goods and agricultural products to foreign markets," the coalition told the mayors.

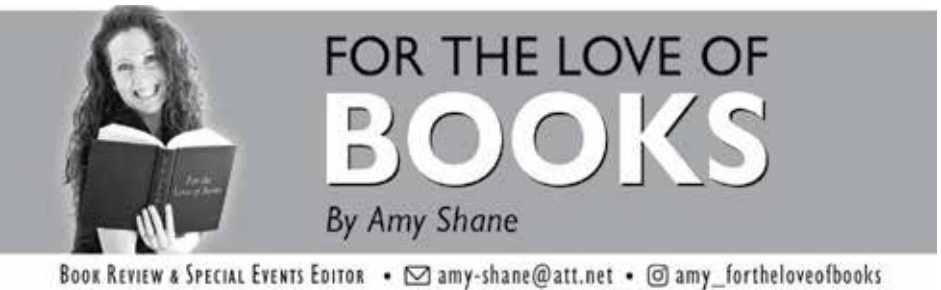
In August, as details of the proposed rule leaked out, the state Assembly's Select Committee on Ports and Goods Movement staged a hearing in which legislators decried the potential economic impact.

Southern California may have made a mistake when it put so many of its economic eggs in the logistics basket but it is now a test case whether California can manage the potentially immense economic fallout from converting itself into a net-zero emission society, as Gov. Gavin Newsom and other political figures pledge to do.

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

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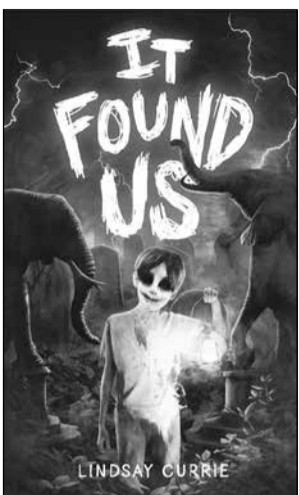
by Lindsay Currie

From the author who has delivered ghostly adventures around every bend comes a new haunting read, *It Found Us*.

Hazel Woods has always dreamed of being a detective; sleuthing is in her bones, and her town has plenty of mysteries to explore. After all, she has been hot on "The Night Pooper" case and is just about ready to crack it.

So, when Hazel overhears her brother, Den, planning to sneak out to the cemetery for a game of hide and seek, she seizes the opportunity to follow him. The cemetery is full of ghost stories, and Hazel just knows that this is the perfect time to investigate. She never expected her brother's best friend, Everett, to go missing, vanishing from thin air. Now, Hazel and Den are determined to find Everett at any cost.

But then strange things start to happen as they start their investigation. Eerie sounds begin to come from the cemetery, and Hazel swears she can hear someone scream. Then Hazel sees something, or someone, flash by her. Could she finally have the proof she needs? All Hazel knows is time is running out to



- ◆ Publisher: Sourcebooks YoungReaders
- ◆ Intended Audience: Middle Grade Ages 8 and up
- ◆ Release Date: September 4, 2023
- ◆ Rating: ★★★★★

find Everett, and there is definitely something going on in the cemetery. This case is about to take Hazel on a whole new set of clues leading her straight to the past, while also opening the door to a historical event that changed the lives of those buried there.

The queen of things that go bump in the night, Lindsay Currie, delivers her newest haunting ghost story, *It Found Us*. A story that takes the game of hide and seek and turns it into a ghostly mystery that will send chills down the reader's spine.

Lindsay Currie knows

how to deliver scary middle-grade reads and haunting urban legends that tie into real cemeteries and known historical events. With its chilling adventures and mysterious ghostly clues, this book is an excellent choice for any reader who loves haunting tales, ghost hunting, or would like to try reading a scary book. Lindsay Currie's strong writing style is full of atmosphere and heart, that relates perfectly to her young reading audience. With strong characters, real problems, and positive solutions to the issues that arise, this story explores more than your average ghost story.

Currie's ability to take a ghostly encounter and turn it into a mystery will have readers wanting to be detectives in training, and take on the mystery of Woodlawn Cemetery Showmen's Rest. With a list of clues, and a website link on the actual historical event, young detectives will be inspired to research more on their own, and try to crack the case first.

Check out Lindsay Currie's other ghostly tales for more haunting adventures inspired by actual events and legends. ★



Riley Reviews

"EQUALIZER 3" MARKS A TRIUMPHAL END FOR VIGILANTE HERO
"THE EQUALIZER 3" RATED R

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

The one thing to know about "The Equalizer" franchise is that Denzel Washington's Robert McCall is a retired government assassin who struggles with his past and seeks redemption as an avenging angel to provide justice on behalf of the oppressed.

"The Equalizer 3" opens with a bang, or more accurately the aftermath of a massacre of mobsters at a Sicilian winery, and the carnage of dead bodies is a bloody scene, including the gruesome shot of one with a hatchet planted smack in his forehead.

The winery is a front for a smuggling operation of dangerous drugs from Syria where the export from Italy of illicit contraband apparently goes undetected by the authorities.

Two gangsters show up with a child who remains in the Jeep (one can't start too young in the mafia family business). After surveying the damage, the mafiosos end up in a cellar where McCall is being held at gunpoint.

Has our former CIA agent/assassin come an ignominious end? You can probably guess the outcome from the trailer alone, when McCall tells his captors they have nine seconds to decide their fate.

A righteous vigilante, however, may not always escape unscathed, and in this case, McCall is shot in the back and turns up being treated at a doctor's home in a picturesque village on the Amalfi coast.

When the doctor asks McCall "Are you a good man or a bad man?," and the answer is "I don't know," it may be an admission that the assassin is conflicted that his life of violence may not have been the absolute right path.

The story takes a slower pace for a time while a now vulnerable McCall recovers and forges a friendship with the doctor, Enzo (Remo Girone), and gradually immerses himself in the laid-back lifestyle of Southern Italy.

Unfortunately, not everything is peaceful in the town of Altomonte (not to be confused with the real city of the same name in the province of Cosenza). The first sign of trouble is when a fish seller is beaten for not keeping up with protection payments.

As McCall gets back on his feet with the help of a cane, he starts to enjoy the local culture. A favorite spot is a café run by Aminah (Gaia Scodellaro), who is puzzled by the American's affinity for tea.

Aminah tells our favorite tough guy that tea is for old ladies and Englishmen, prompting him to eventually enjoy an espresso or cappuccino, or whatever is the local custom.

While McCall settles in to life in the tranquil coastal village, he decides

to go by the name of Roberto and becomes friendly with the townsfolk, and soon enough he takes a visceral dislike to the local mafia known as the Camorra.

The criminal element, run by brothers Vincent (Andrea Scarduzio) and Marco (Andrea Dodero) with a vicious streak that renders them easy targets for McCall's retribution, seek to decimate the town to further their dream of building a casino, among other enterprises.

Having been rescued from the shooting by kind police officer Gio Bonucci (Eugenio Mastrandrea), a loving family man not in the pocket of the gangsters, McCall takes note of the brave policeman's refusal to be threatened by the Camorra.

One night while having dinner at a local restaurant, McCall watches thugs harassing Gio in the presence of his wife and young daughter. At this point, McCall's solemn gaze draws attention from the volatile Vincent.

McCall has grown fond of the locals, befriending merchants and citizens, and even a priest. As a result, he puts the cynical, sneering Vincent on notice by a most painful grip of his hand that extortion and intimidation of his friends won't be tolerated.

A deadly beatdown of the mafia goons is inevitable, but a side plot emerges when McCall anonymously connects with CIA agent Emma Collins (Dakota Fanning) and enlists her help to deal with the broader conspiracy of the mafia's criminal enterprise.

Even as he had become welcomed by the citizenry of Altomonte, McCall remains a mysterious figure who resorts to brutal violence against the mafia in the shadows and mostly out of the public eye.

The villains are so irredeemably vicious and cruel that the vigilante spirit captures an audience lusting for revenge that McCall dishes out with no reservation and no apology.

"The Equalizer 3" is billed as the third and final chapter of the franchise, and there's no doubt that Denzel Washington has entered into the Liam Neeson realm of aging action figures who still pack a powerful punch.

The series may verge on the grindhouse territory favored by Quentin Tarantino, as director Antoine Fuqua has demonstrated a penchant for gritty crime thrillers, most notably in "Training Day," one of his earliest films.

What makes "The Equalizer 3" rise, in large measure, above a routine thriller with plenty of gore and mayhem is that Washington's charisma, toughness and earnest demeanor prove a winning combination. go hungry with more food choices than will ever be found at a ballpark. ★

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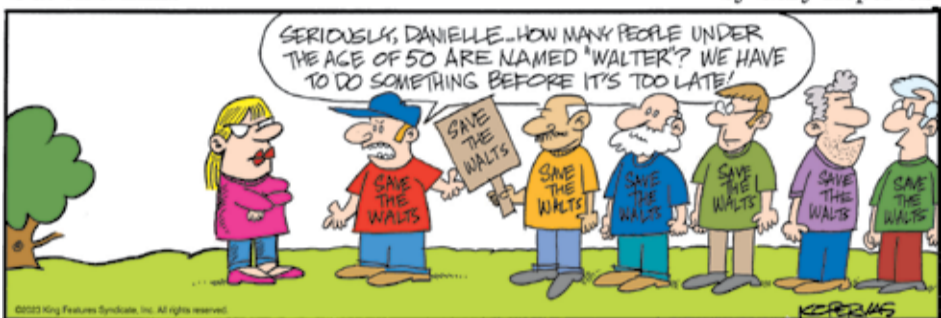
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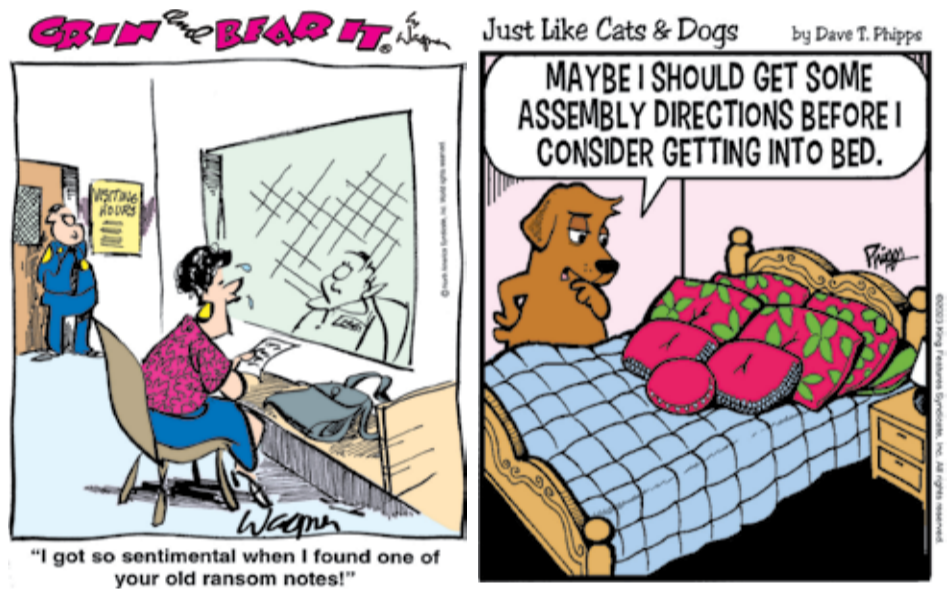
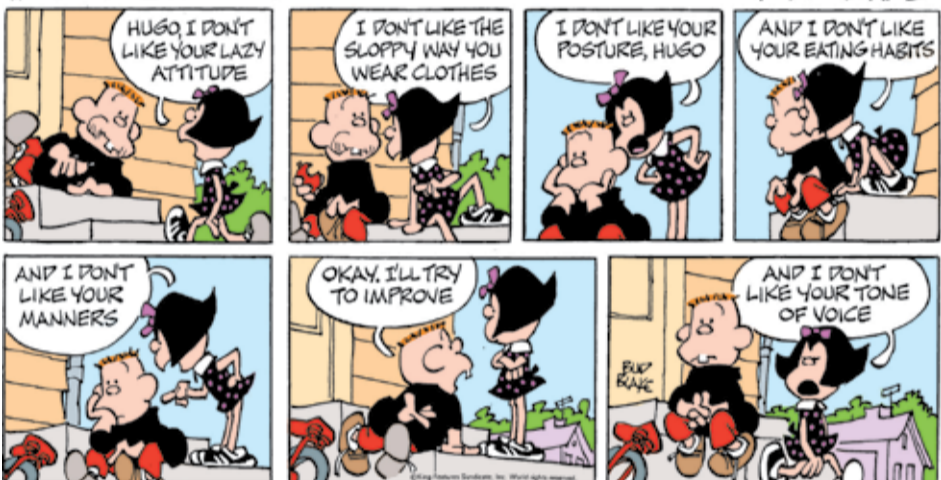
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Airshow Soars to New Heights

California Capital Airshow News Release

MATHER, CA (MPG) - The 17th annual California Capital Airshow, presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova, returns on September 23-24, 2023, at Mather Airport in Sacramento. The two-day event will feature performances from some of the world's most thrilling aircraft, featuring the renowned United States Air Force Thunderbirds jet demonstration team, and attendees will have the opportunity to explore 171 miles of aircraft displays and exhibits on the ground.

Gates to this massive aviation festival are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day with flying performances from 12-4 p.m. Exhilarating performances will include the US Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II Demonstration Team, the return of the US Air Force C-17 Globemaster Demonstration, US Navy F-18 Super Hornet, and an awe-inspiring lineup of world-class civilian aerobatic performers, including a selection of vintage World War II aircraft.

"The Airshow will offer an incredible lineup of aircraft and performers from all over the world," said Darcy Brewer, Executive Director of California Capital Airshow. "Our team works all year long to put on an event that the community will love, and



Watch the performance of the FA-18 E/F Super Hornet, a latest version of the F-18, displaying its spectrum of air superiority maneuvers. Photo courtesy of California Capital Airshow

we've added even more exhibits and experiences for attendees to enjoy this year."

In partnership with the Rancho Cordova Barrel District, the Airshow is debuting "The Hangar" Chalet, a ticketed area within the Airshow where attendees will receive a commemorative tasting glass and seven four-ounce pours from four local breweries, one hard kombucha, one meadery, and one distillery. The area will have seating, food trucks, and the option to purchase additional Barrel

District partner beverages throughout the event.

Also new this year is a free community

event to kick-off the Airshow weekend on Friday, September 22 from 6-8 PM at Village Green Park in Rancho Cordova. Attendees can meet airshow performers, including the USAF Thunderbirds, and enjoy live music, food trucks, activities provided by local organizations, and chances to win FREE Airshow tickets and swag.

Tickets for the Airshow are on sale now. The public can access discounted tickets and sign-up to receive festival updates as an Airshow Insider at www.californiacapitalairshow.com. No tickets will be available onsite Airshow weekend.

Established in 2004, the California Capital Airshow 501(c)3 plans and operates the exciting, family-friendly annual event designed to honor the Sacramento region's rich aviation heritage and veterans while using the power and magic of flight to inspire young people. CCA gives back to the community through scholarships, charitable group donations and exciting educational youth programming throughout the year.

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Bill Stein's Zivko Edge 540 will be displaying an array of competition style acrobatics at this year's California Capital Airshow at Mather Airport in Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Bill Stein/California Capital Airshow



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