



# Dixon Independent Voice

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SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

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AAAH. .



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This dog is a Vizsla breed that won a specialty ribbon for Hounds at a dog show. Although they are a good size, are loyal and also active, this breed is better suited to households with adults and older children. Photo by Lilly Witte

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - You can learn a lot about dogs and their training by attending a dog show. You might think that you'd hear a bunch of loud, noisy, barking dogs for example, but actually dog shows are quite silent.

That is probably the first thing you'll notice if you attend the Donner Trail Kennel Club's show this coming weekend at the Dixon May Fair, September 23 and 24, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Other than humans conversing, the show is mostly silent. The dogs respond to hand gestures to sit or stay and to tiny clicking noises or small, tasty treats to 'heel' or to get them to do tasks inside the rings where they are being judged.

Judges, who often come from different states, are professionally dressed matrons or older gentlemen with few exceptions. Even the "handlers," who are all ages, and run alongside the dogs to show them off inside the rings are usually wearing suits and dresses.

The fairgrounds will transform into an array of many pop-up tents selling dog supplies and will have a hundred or more recreational vehicles or vans with twice as many dog crates. Feet of white chains will create divisions in the lush green grass to create different 'rings' for various competitions. Certain breeds are to report at certain times throughout the day beginning at 8 a.m. over the course of the event.

In the rings, judges run their hands down the neck, back, and shoulders on the dogs and include observing bone structure and testing the poise of the dog when others touch it. By the way, this is why dog owners usually want you to pet their dog.

Attending a dog show can be particularly helpful if you are interested in a specific breed for a pet.

"I always encourage people that if they are going to buy a dog, they need to come to a dog show," said organizer Adrian Woodfork. "Most breeders are glad to talk to you and give the pros and cons. And those who I've talked to, almost all of them come back wanting a different dog because they had an opportunity to learn more and

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## DUSD Superintendent Dolan to Retire

MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - In his regular Dixon Unified School Board Message published on social media, School Superintendent Brian Dolan announced that he would retire at the end of this school year. This is the letter he posted:

Dear Dixon Unified Community,  
I wish to take the opportunity provided by the Weekly Update to make an announcement that is both tied to the business of the District, and very personal. I will be retiring from my career in education at the end of the current school year in June 2024.

I am currently in my 36th year as an educator, having worked at Vacaville and Vanden High Schools before coming to Dixon in 1998 to be the Dixon High Principal. I held the principal position for 8 years, and am now in my 18th year working from the District Office, with this being my 13th as Superintendent. I was fortunate to work in



After 36 years in education and the last 13 years being ever-present at graduations, DUSD Superintendent Brian Dolan announced he will be retiring at the end of this school year. Photo by Nicolas Brown

my previous districts, but Dixon certainly became my home very shortly after beginning my service here.

When I began my career as a teacher and coach at Vaca High in 1988, I never imagined the variety of roles and responsibilities

that I would accept. Even more so, there was no predicting meeting and getting to know the students, families, and staff that have been at the center of my time as an educator. While I am very grateful for what I have been allowed and

able to do, my deepest gratitude is for the thousands of people who have been part of my life over these years.

I was fortunate to be educated by Nuns and Brothers in catholic

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## Dixon Homecoming Soon

MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Homecoming festivities are soon and it's time to paint the town with Ram pride! Let's not let Dixon High School's Homecoming slip quietly by with just watching festivities during half-time. Let's see what store windows can light up the town and how many homes will post the green, white, and black colors during Dixon High School Homecoming Week October 2-7.

"The downtown Dixon Business Association and their merchants just can't hide our Dixon pride and look forward to celebrating homecoming week with posters and decorated store windows," said Jill Orr, Downtown Dixon Business Association President. "We'll be wishing congratulations to the Homecoming Court and hoping for a Dixon football win."

On DHS campus, most of the homecoming traditions have remained over the years but the one that involved the class floats parading through town is gone. However, the crazy fun of 'Spirit Week' continues.

The Associated Student Body leaders created this menu: Monday is Movie Monday; Tuesday is Toy Aisle Tuesday; then there is Western Wednesday; Thursday is Vintage Barbie Day; and Friday is Pink-Out Friday.

"We will have an outdoor, Malibu Barbie-themed rally on Friday, October 6, during the school day," said Melanie Sadorra-Torres, English teacher who is also the new Leadership/ASB Teacher and English Department Chair.

The Rams will try to wump the Woodland High School Wolves at the DHS stadium, Finney Field, with JV starting at 5 p.m. and Varsity at 7 p.m.

The parade that does remain is the one around the stadium with the fancy-dressed class-selected Homecoming Court; It is supposed to be during the Varsity game half time, said Sadorra-Torres.

After introductions, there will be the crowning of the Homecoming Queen and King - a faithful tradition for so many years that it was found in every yearbook at the Dixon History Museum.

What is also the same is the stadium filled with a zealous pep squad, lots of cheerleaders, the high school band, and hundreds of family and friends to cheer on the Dixon Rams football players.

There will also be a Homecoming dance with the theme Disco Barbie on

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# Life's too SHORT



## Older Americans Shaking Up the U.S.

By Debra Dingman

I come from a big family. That means we're all getting "mature" at the same time. It is interesting that all my siblings are very real about aging. We openly talk about our experiences and our plans for dying. Maybe it is because we have lost both our biological parents and our oldest brother in their early 70s and we watched them smoke and/or drink. I know I can speak for my siblings that we want to live longer than that. I still have grandchildren yet to be born so I am particularly striving for excellent health and vigor!

We signed up for memberships to AARP and have learned important things about our aging bodies, ideas for making our homes safer, resources for leisure, and great financial tips. But what I really appreciated this month was their cover story on 'How We Are Changing America – an aging population is shaking up our country. Why it's happening and what it means.'

It leads with the great news that finally, the evil of ageism is going away because we want or need to work and there is a labor shortage. Employers are inventing new ways to keep great employees by being flexible for remote work as well as having flexible work schedules.

Another great change is the mobile health units that are being created by larger companies – even like Walmart. For example, the article reported that Walmart's in-store health clinics would double in 2024.

Retailers have tapped into our desire to stay fit and healthy and are inventing treadmills, elliptical trainers, and weight

machines "designed for older exercisers." There's also been an "explosion" of fun new exercise programs like Zumba Gold.

I know there are some of you out there who enjoy not moving but think of my sister-in-law who is sitting in a wheelchair because of fractures on one foot and the other ankle sprained while one arm is wrapped and healing from fractures after a trip on concrete getting water to her dogs. She told me this morning she could feel her bottom getting fat because all she can do is sit. I encouraged her to focus on a month from now when all is healed, and she can start walking again.

I've learned from first-hand experiences, everything in my body seems to work better when hubby and I are faithfully walking the neighborhood! I drive on the outskirts of town toward Vacaville or Davis sometimes where my husband walks without me and after rolling down my window preparing to blow a kiss at him, but waved at strangers instead when it wasn't him. I'm surprised at how many men are out walking or bicycling on rural roads and they all seem to wear the same clothes. I told my husband I was going to buy him a fluorescent orange hat, so I'd know it was him.

The best paragraph in that article, though, was this, "one- to two-minute bursts of higher intensity activity a day – such as running after your grandchildren – lowered the risk for fatal heart disease and cancer for up to 40 percent." The study was huge and there was more on that, so you just have to read it even if you go to the library and sit quietly on your behind to take it all in. ★

# Dixon News Briefs



Dixon Fire Fighters Wade Norberg, Andrew Tomelloso, and Grant Haynie installed new fire and smoke detectors and got to visit with World War II Veteran Oakley Dexter during the Community Yard Cleanup at his home. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

### Parks & Recreation

Tuesday, September 26 at 7 p.m. will be the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at City Hall inside Council Chambers, at 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.

### Farmers Market

Thursday, September 28, will be the next Farmers Market in downtown Dixon. There will be only two more October 12 and 26. They start at 4 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. at the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park next to the public library. Call Susan Motley at the Downtown Dixon Business Association at (707) 678-8400 for more information.

### Pardi Concert

The Concerts in the Plaza continue on Thursday, September 28, and will feature Delbert Bump's Sazil. 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.

### Dixon Home Tour

Help support the Dixon Historical Society Home Tour and enjoy seeing beautifully preserved homes in downtown by purchasing your \$40 ticket soon. The tour is October 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes lunch served by Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy and the Young Ladies Institute of St. Peter's Catholic Church. Tickets may be purchased at the Dixon History Museum, at Dixon Florist, and online at: www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org

### Special Needs Team

Together Everyone Always Matters (TEAM) Dixon is going Country for special needs kids with a benefit concert featuring Buck Ford on Saturday, October 7, from 6 - 9 p.m. at 308 Main Street in Vacaville. There will be dinner, dancing, horseshoes, Cornhole, and a live auction. There will be truck offerings and a dance performance by the TEAM Dixon special needs kids and their buddies. Tickets are \$40 for ages 11 and up. Ages 10 and under are free. Ticket prices include entry into the concert and one

taco addition meal. Parking is \$5. For more information, contact Erica Hurtado at erica72hurtado@gmail.com. All proceeds will benefit the programs and children of TEAM Dixon.

### Ruhstaller Comedy

Seats fill up quick at the 4th Thursday Stand-up Ruhstaller Comedy Night at Ruhstaller Farm, September 28 that starts at 8 p.m. Time to laugh, folks! Make it a friends' night out. The brewery is located at 6686 Sievers Rd, Dixon.

### Traffic Studies

The Dixon Transportation Advisory Board meets every other month and the next one is set for Wednesday, October 18 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 600 East A Street. Agenda will be available online.

### Teen Halloween

Every Baking Moment offers a Teen Halloween mini cake class that looks like pumpkin, ghosts, or Frankenstein. It is planned for Friday, October 20, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. for \$35 per person and all supplies are provided. Sign up now spaces are limited. Call (707) 693-0112 or drop by the shop at 143 North First Street.

### Children's Mental Health

Dixon Unified School District provides social, emotional, and behavioral support through school-based mental health services. They provide counseling services to address school-based mental health needs. To qualify, the mental health concern being addressed must be negatively impacting the student's academic performance or behavior at school. Counseling sessions are generally 20 to 50 minutes. The services are free of charge and are limited to clinician availability. Check out your child's school Wellness Center. Every campus has one.

### Water Rate Meeting

The next Water Rate Advisory Ad Hoc Committee meeting will be Thursday, September 28, starting at 7 p.m. It will be in the Council Chambers, 600 east A Street. It is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to water rates. The goal of the committee is to provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding appropriate, new water rates. The Committee shall deliver a recommendation by January of 2024 but no later than April of 2024. The public is encouraged to attend. ★

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# DUSD Superintendent Dolan to Retire

*Continued from page 1*

schools who literally devoted themselves to their work – their students. As I come close now to wrapping up my career, I can honestly say that I have followed their inspiration and commitment by fully investing myself in the service of my students – my kids. What an honor and privilege it has been to be able to do so.

I am looking forward to the big changes coming my way that will allow me to create more time with family and friends, tend to my health more fully, and perhaps even start a hobby. And I'd like a puppy. And a grandchild. But in the opposite order. I am dreading not having regular contact with my kids at school, and not being a part of their growth and development in the ways that I have been. That I live in Dixon and cannot leave my home without seeing students, their families, or staff gives me comfort that I will be able to maintain my connections over time and find new ways to support people.

I have numerous individuals and groups to thank for their support and contributions over the years. Those moments will come later. For now, I will thank my family only, and assure them that I'm coming home!

The Governing Board will begin its work on establishing a selection process for the new Superintendent. The first step will be at its regular meeting next Thursday at 6:00 in the City Council Chambers. Additional information on ways for you to participate will be publicized as they are established.

I will be working on my job with the same effort, care, and responsibility until June that I have always had, and look forward to all of it. Some of it will be done with tears in my eyes and a handkerchief in my hand, only because of how much I love what I do and especially those for whom I do it.

Brian Dolan  
Superintendent

# Time to Update Community Resource Guide

*Story and photo by Debra Dingman*

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - It is now time to update the 1-year-old Community Resource Guide created by the Past Presidents of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club and other community leaders.

"We have a mission to have the message sent to everyone in Dixon that this is a valuable resource. We want people to get connected to our community and here is how," said DWIC Past President Jewel Fink. Now they need to get club leaders, new officers, and new staff to help them by sending in this year's new contact information, if any.

Each year, the new President of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club, an organization dedicated to enhancing the Dixon Community, gets to choose a project but this last one was so extensive, it spanned three Presidents.

Think: The Motley Fool of places one needs to know when just moving into town. Or, maybe someone who just had a new baby, maybe a parent whose children just got old enough to do sports or karate or start school or a parent whose mother is in need of a home health aid. All the resources one might need are in the 'Flip-Book,' the brainchild of the late Lorán Hoffmann, then passed onto Fink, then passed on to Carol Marshall.

Each President took the plan to a new level with



Carol Marshall of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club spearheaded getting a Community Resource Guide available to everyone free but now it needs to be updated by emailing [dixondwic@gmail.com](mailto:dixondwic@gmail.com). Photo by Debra Dingman

the help of about a dozen women in the club or in leadership. Hoffmann, for example, was thinking along the lines of a full-size welcome magazine. Fink, who is serving her second term on the Dixon Unified School Board, utilized her sources with the City of Dixon and involved Madeline Graf, Public Information Officer. Then Marshall, the 3rd President to have the project, learned quickly the information would have to be updated annually as many community volunteers, including Cubmasters, service club Presidents, 4-H Club leaders, etc. would change. They knew this would not be a one-year effort and committed to annually updating. With the help of DWIC volunteer Ashley Alvarez, Marshall was able to get all the information up on Flip-Book.

A flipbook is an interactive, HTML5 online publication that has the look and feel of a real, page-turning publication

(complete with page-turning sound effects, page shadows and more). Flipbooks are currently used to replace conventional digital PDFs and paper-based documents such as reports, presentations, magazines, and more. It looks and feels exactly like a printed publication with pages that can be flipped and turned – without the cost of printing.

"I was happy to be able to use the pictures that I've taken of Dixon that also presents not only the visual beauty but also the generosity of spirits that make up the resources of our town," said Marshall. There were dozens of hours spent on this project and all were volunteers for which the officers and past presidents are extremely grateful, she added.

To access the CRG just Google search for Dixon Community Resource Guide. Please send any new contact information to [dixondwic@gmail.com](mailto:dixondwic@gmail.com) or call (707) 678-9198. ★

# May Fair to Host Dog Show

*Continued from page 1*

it has changed their minds."

A specialty show of Dobermans will start at 9:30 a.m. on Friday and there will be 'Barn Hunts' during the day on Saturday and Sunday. A Barn Hunt is where dogs get to hunt through hay bales to find rats. They are live rats, but they are enclosed in tubes and hidden in the haystacks. Stuffed animals have also been used. The dog that finds the most in the allotted time wins.

"We also have junior showmanship

competitions on Saturday and Sunday. Youth are the future of the show," Woodfork said.

The group is out of Placer County, California, and they have 600 dogs registered at the May Fair competition for best of show and other awards. The public is welcome to attend.

Admission is free and the day of show parking is \$10. Only dogs entered in the shows are permitted on the grounds. The May Fair is at 655 South First Street. For more information, contact Woodfork at (916) 716-2369. ★

# Edward Jones Expands in Dixon



Jules Norton, financial advisor for Edward Jones in Dixon, Calif. Courtesy photo

**MPG Staff**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - After several years at an Edward Jones office in Davis, Jules Norton gets to stop commuting and work in the town where she lives: Dixon.

"I am excited to be opening a second Edward Jones office in Dixon," Norton said. "I know the people of this community have come to rely upon our firm to provide them with sound

investment advice that is geared toward individual investors. I will strive to continue our tradition of excellence here."

Two different offices have merged but have separate Financial Advisors: One is Brenda Walker and the other is Norton. They are in the business office located across from Northwest Park and Norton is particularly happy that she doesn't have to get on the I-80 freeway for work which gives her more time with her husband, Bubba, their two children, and their Labradoodle, she said.

"I love my location and looking out at Northwest Park during my lunch," she added. "I'm looking forward to serving the Spanish speaking community, too, as I'm bilingual." You can reach her at (707) 635-5126 or stop by the office at 805 North Lincoln Suite C.

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# Planners Approve Duplexes



Lewis Development Group of Companies focuses on developing mixed-use planned communities and residential subdivisions in California and Nevada, as well as building and owning rental communities, shopping centers, and office and industrial parks. It is developing a Rotten Robbie gas station and car wash on the corner of Vaughn and North Lincoln across from Tractor Supply and was approved by the Planning Commission to build 186 duplexes on the side and behind the Rotten Robbie site. Photo by Debra Dingman



This is the planned entrance from North First Street for a neighborhood of duplexes. Rendering courtesy of the City of Dixon

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - After a lengthy Planning Commission Meeting, Lewis Homes received approval with a 4-3 vote for their 'Independence in Dixon' development for property next to the Rotten Robbie currently under construction on North First Street.

The meeting had only one item but lasted about two and a half hours. There was the presentation of the development that had been approved by Planning then City Council in March of 2022 as 100 detached single family residential homes but developers, Lewis Homes, changed direction and applied for an amendment proposing modifications to the residential component of the project. The new plan allows the construction of 93 duplex buildings consisting of 186 2-story dwelling units and an amenity center and pool.

Each 2- or 3-bedroom home provides either 1-car or 2-car garage, private yards, a dog park, and open spaces.

There seemed to be much confusion to the audience as to whether the project was a 'glorified apartment complex with renters' or it was "condominiums with homeowners." By getting the zoning the way they did, they will be able to sell them individually at a later time if the market were to change and warrants it but it will be established more like an apartment complex with renters. It is something new in the housing industry.

"Because we have done so many, and taken resident surveys every year, we believe we know what people want," said Rob White, Vice President of Planned Communities for Lewis Management Corporation who brought several fellow employees to the presentation and who helped field questions from the commissioners. "You can see our projects in Natomas, Roseville, Vacaville, and Tracy," he said. "We have only sold 80 out of 12,000 units. We plan to hold this in our portfolio," he added.

They will have three full-time staff on site: a Maintenance Supervisor, a Maintenance Technician who will handle painting and landscaping, and a Resident Manager.

"I see too many negatives," said Commissioner Baudelio Diaz. "We're going to have electric cars and there's

not enough charging stations. There's no right-hand turn lane. There's a 45-mile per hour speed limit and I have worries about children. There's only a concrete backyard so there's no water absorbing [possibilities.] This is in short, transitional housing."

"I'd rather see people than commercial," said Commissioner Mark Cooley. Community Development Director and Assistant Engineer Scott Greeley pointed out that the entire complex is gated. There are two entries/exits: one on North Lincoln and the other on North First Street but the actual main entrance gates are set back into the entry to not back up any traffic on Highway 113. They have additional parking for guests and some spots for extra-long trucks.

There is also a "valet" trash collection that is picked up at residents' homes once a week and brought to a giant trash compactor, so the Recology trucks don't go through the streets. Landscaping is onsite and onsite utilities are privately owned, operated, and maintained so there are no ongoing City costs.

"This project brings in a housing type we don't have and will be attractive to those who may locate here who want to live in a professional residence. It's a little bit of a niche," Community Development Director for the City of Dixon Raffi Bolyan said. "But there is a huge need for rentals and people want a nicer place to live. I think it's one piece to having diversified housing."

"We do have some policy established with the general plan and as an observer, we've had more opposition than this," said Bolyan about the thorough Planning Commission meeting that involved residents' concerns.

"It will work itself out. I've been doing this for 25 years and in the early 2000s, every housing project that came in was where developers were building it, then renting the units for 10 years because of the construction liability claims on condos. They have more issues, and the developer would keep it for 10 years, then sell them. It is not an uncommon concept, but at the end of the day they are in businesses that are trying to build rentals," he added.

Agendas, minutes, and meeting videos are available at [cityofdixon.us](http://cityofdixon.us). ★

## 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.



### Sunday, September 17, 2023

**0120** Hours - Theft of tools from a motor vehicle in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Dr.  
**0147** Hours - Agency Assist for the Solano County Sheriff's Department in the 8600 block of Pedrick Road.  
**0852** - Non injury traffic accident in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.  
**1214** - Lost property report taken in the 1200 block of Pitt School Road.  
**1518** - Welfare check in the 600 block of South 1st Street resulted in the arrest of Terry Riddick (59) of Dixon for a misdemeanor warrant. He was cited and released with a new court date.  
**1644** - Death investigation in the 100 block of Heritage Lane.

### Saturday, September 16

**0128** - D.U.I arrest report was taken at the intersection of Porter St. at South Almond St. Officers contacted (S) Juan Carlos Medrano-Bautista (32) of Dixon. Juan showed objective signs of intoxication. Juan was later arrested. Juan was cited and released to a sober adult.  
**1150** - Fraud reported in the 300 block of Lynd Way  
**1637** - Stolen vehicle entered the city and was found unoccupied in 200 block of Dorset Drive.

### Friday, September 15

**0757** - Informational report taken in the 700 block of West D Street North.  
**1032** - Informational report taken in the 200 block of West Broadway Street.  
**1353** - Stolen trailer recovered in the area of I80 and Leisure Town.  
**2040** - A public intoxication arrest report was taken in the 1800 block of N. 1st St. Officers contacted (S) Don Anderson Jr. (43) of Pacheco showed objective signs of intoxication. Anderson was arrested for 647(f) P.C. and transported to the Solano County Jail.  
**0151** - Warrant arrest report taken at the intersection of N. 1st St. at Auction. Officers conducted a traffic stop and contacted (S) Fabian Luvian (19) from who was later determined to have a felony warrant out of Merced. Luvian was arrested and transported to the Solano County jail.

### Thursday, September 14

**1005** - Informational report taken in the 1500 block of Pembroke Way.  
**1640** - Two vehicle traffic collisions reported in the 300 block of North 1st Street.  
**2323** - Probation violation arrest report was taken in the 1300 block of Commercial Way. (S) Aaron Bard (27) of Dixon was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

### Wednesday, September 13

**1220** - Two-vehicle traffic collision in the 100 block of South 1st Street.  
**1320** - Informational report taken in the area of West H Street and Cahill Court.  
**2100** - Hours- Verbal fight between juveniles involving weapons in the 1000 block of Tulane Ct.  
**2137** - Hours- Nicholas Williams (32) of Dixon was arrested for misdemeanor domestic violence.

### Tuesday, September 12, 2023

**0015** - Hours- Lavance Brown (26) of Dixon was contacted in the area of Pitt School Road and Rehrmann and was arrested for two outstanding warrants and driving on a suspended license.  
**0500** - Hours- Documentation report in the 400 block of Ellesmere for a report of brandishing a firearm, victims were uncooperative.  
**0804** - Non injury traffic accident in the 400 block of North 2nd Street.  
**1058** - Report of trespassing at Hall Park.  
**1533** - Verbal domestic dispute in the 1500 block of Knight Court.

### Monday, September 11

**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

**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 and revealed Linares' driver's license was suspended. Linares was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.  
**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.

### Thursday, September 07

**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.  
**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.



At a Ram-Pride booth, DHS Principal Stephanie Marquez, Athletic Department Assistant Olivia Wasser, and Athletic Director Brett Peterson speak to Wasser's daughter at a recent Back-to-School event. Photo by Debra Dingman

## Dixon Homecoming Soon

Continued from page 1  
 Saturday, October 7, at the school, from 8 to 11 p.m., according to Olivia Wasser, the new Athletics Director

Department Assistant. For more info, contact Olivia.wasser@dixonusd.org. Dixon High School is located at 555 College Way. ★

# Food & Farm NEWS

## Hilary's Wake Leaves Huge Losses For Table Grape Growers

California table grape growers in Kern and Tulare counties suffered major crop losses last month when Tropical Storm Hilary slammed vineyards as they neared the peak of harvest season. With about a third of the crop harvested before the storm hit, California Table Grape Commission estimated the wind and rain damaged 35% of the grapes that remained on vines, or around 25 million boxes. The boxes hold about 21 pounds of grapes each. Western Ag Crop Insurance Services, which surveyed the damage to table grape crops, said more than 60 million boxes may have been destroyed.

## Farmers, Water Districts Seek Solutions In and Out of Court In Flows Fight

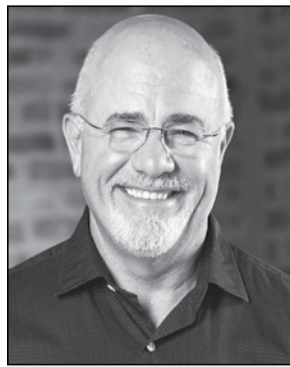
Central Valley water districts are working to achieve a more holistic approach for San Joaquin River fisheries through voluntary agreements, while also pursuing court challenges to a state plan on downstream flows for fish. Central to the issue is a plan adopted in 2018 by the California State Water Resources Control Board that requires affected water users to leave unimpaired flows of 30% to 50% in three San Joaquin tributaries, the Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced rivers. Water districts and farmers have protested the plan, saying it cuts water supplies while doing little to help fish.

## Farm Groups Say New 'Waters of the United States' Rule Remains Problematic

After the U.S. Supreme Court set boundaries for what bodies of water the federal government can regulate, some farm groups say they're disappointed a revised rule meant to conform to the court ruling fails to bring clarity and certainty to agricultural landowners. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a final, modified WOTUS rule last month. It took effect last week. Farm groups had hoped that the Biden administration would instead scrap its existing rule altogether and write a completely new one.

## California Almond, Walnut Exports Boosted As India Lifts Tariffs

India has formally removed retaliatory tariffs on some U.S. farm products that made almonds and walnuts from California less competitive. Duties on almonds, walnuts, apples, chickpeas and lentils were lifted Sept. 6. The tariffs were eliminated two days before President Joe Biden's meeting last week with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of the Group of 20 economic summit in New Delhi. Almond exports to India alone represent 46% of all U.S. agricultural exports. The Indian tariffs were a response to 2019 U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum. ★



## Dave Ramsey Says

you and their mom have worked hard, been smart with your money, and that's why you're in the position you're in.

We taught all our kids, from a very young age, just how important it is to work. Work equals money. When you do that, and kids see it in their parents' attitudes and actions, it makes a big impression. With little kids, it can start with simple things like cleaning up their rooms or clearing the table after dinner. And it should carry over into their teenage years, as well. Every able-bodied child should be working and earning money, whether it's their own entrepreneurial idea, at a fast food joint or babysitting.

nice things, but it's not all about fun. It's also about thoughtful giving and being generous.

As a parent, your job isn't to be a buddy to your kids. It's not to give them every little thing they want, and make sure they're running around carefree and playing every hour of the day. Your job is to teach them about the important things in life, and over time, mold them into mature, responsible human beings who can survive—and succeed—in the real world.

— 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. ★*

## Be Workers and Givers

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have been very fortunate in our careers. We both have six-figure incomes, and as a result we have a little over \$2 million in savings and investments. With this in mind, do you have any advice on how to make sure your kids aren't spoiled as they grow up in a family that's doing well financially?

— Gary

Dear Gary,

First, don't spoil them! Teach them to work, and teach them to be givers. Oh, and gently remind them every so often that it's you and your wife who are wealthy—not them. Yeah, I know. This probably sounds mean to some folks, but I'm talking about simply explaining to them how

Another thing we did was based in our faith. As Christians, we taught our kids that we don't really own anything. It all belongs to God, and one of our jobs is to wisely manage the things He entrusts to us. The first rule is to take care of your own household—the important stuff. After that, it's okay to have some

# Compromise Settles Dispute Over Status Of Franchises In Fast Food Industry



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

In some ways, the most interesting — and perhaps most significant — event of the 2023 legislative session's closing days was a compromise agreement on state oversight of the fast food industry.

Last year, unions pushed through legislation that would have created a new state commission to set wages and working conditions in the industry.

Inferentially, the legislation set aside the industry's franchise system and treated local outlets of as merely branches of their corporate franchisors.

While the wage increases that would have resulted garnered most of the media attention, erosion of the franchise model was most worrisome aspect to the fast-food corporations and their franchisees.

Immediately, big guns in the industry pledged tens of millions of dollars for a campaign to challenge the legislation via a referendum that qualified to go before voters in 2024.

The Legislature's response was entertaining another bill that would have doubled down on attacking the franchise model by making corporate franchisors legally responsible for labor law violations in their franchisees' fast-food outlets.

With the outcome of the referendum election in doubt, the long-warring factions began negotiating and last week a bargain was struck.

The 2022 legislation would be repealed, the 2023 legislation would be scuttled and a substitute for both would retain the fast-food council, but alter its membership slightly, limit its authority to set wages and working conditions, provide a new \$20 per hour minimum wage for fast food workers, prohibit local efforts to affect wages, and remove threats to the franchise model.

Like all legislative compromises, this one, written into Assembly Bill 1228, had something for everyone but didn't give every stakeholder everything it wanted.

"For the last decade, fast-food cooks, cashiers and baristas in California have been sounding the alarm on the poverty pay and unsafe working conditions plaguing our industry," Ingrid Vilorio, a fast-food union leader, said in a statement.

"We have always known that to solve these problems, we need a seat at the table with our employers and the power to help shape better rules across our industry."

"It provides meaningful wage increases for workers, while at the same time eliminates more significant — and potentially existential — threats, costs, and regulatory burdens targeting local restaurants in California," International Franchise Association CEO Matt Haller said in a statement.

Haller's statement hints that on balance, it appears that given the

circumstances, the fast-food industry's big players, such as McDonald's, came out ahead, although their franchisees will feel whatever financial pinch ensues.

The \$20 minimum wage is only slightly over what, on average, fast food workers are being paid now, the industry having boosted wages sharply in the last few years in an effort to fully staff the outlets. Current California fast food wages average \$19 an hour.

More significantly, the agreement protects the franchise system's assumption that the operators of fast-food outlets are independent businesspersons who invest their money and are fundamentally responsible for hiring, training, paying and sometimes firing their workers.

Had state regulation of fast-food wages and working conditions survived as originally proposed, with franchisees indirectly considered to be merely branch managers rather than entrepreneurs, it could have undermined franchising in other consumer industries.

Union leaders much prefer to deal with large scale sectors rather than individual employers in both organizing workers and negotiating contracts. The recently ratified labor contract affecting every West Coast port is an example of sector-wide negotiations, as is the current standoff over a new auto industry contract.

Cracking the fast-food franchise system would have been a big step in that direction.

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



## The Electric Car Sham

Joe Biden has seen the future, and it is electric cars. Lots of electric cars. Electric cars — or else.

Donald Trump has seen the future, and it is a backlash against the mandate for the mass adoption of electric cars. The former president is promising to "stop this Madness, IMMEDIATELY!"

Who wins this political argument may determine who has the upper hand in a state like Michigan in a 2024 rematch. Regardless, all-caps aside, Trump is right about the lunatic urgency across the Western world to use government coercion to render all-but-obsolete a popular, tested, highly efficient means of transportation.

The European Union wants to ban gas-powered cars in 2035. California and New Jersey are doing the same.

The goals here would make Soviet central planners blush. Last year, electric vehicle accounted for about 7% of U.S. sales, but according to the panjandrum at the Environmental Protection Agency, they'll have to be nearly 40% by 2027. A couple of years after that, they're supposed to be higher than 60%.

And why not? All that's missing is the charging capacity and supply and processing of the minerals necessary to build the 1,000-pound batteries, not to mention the con-

sumer demand.

For Biden and his allies, though, what kind of automobiles we drive is not a practical question but almost a theological one. Believing that electric cars are key to saving the planet, they bring all the flexibility to the question as the organizers of Albigenian Crusade.

Insofar a rush to electric cars throws us into the arms of Chinese manufacturers and suppliers, it should rightfully be thought of as an anti-industrial policy.

We foolishly haven't made adequate arrangements for mining or processing the minerals the batteries require, and it's hard to ramp up quickly. Fortunately, there's a country that's a leader this area. Unfortunately, it's China.

China is projected in the years ahead to maintain near total domination of the production of anode and cathode materials, key components of electric car batteries.

We've already begun to see how aggressive electric-vehicle mandates in Europe favor China, which makes serviceable electric cars. The Chinese have doubled their share of such vehicles sold in Europe since 2021, now up to 8%.

The U.S. has stiff tariffs against Chinese imports, but there's still the question of the supply chain. Morgan Stanley writes, "The path we're on now, despite existing legislation that attempts to incentivize onshoring, pushes rapid EV adoption which inherently increases reliance on a China-dominated battery supply chain."

It's not as though

there's anything inherently wrong with electric cars. If they are reliable, affordable, and valued by consumers — no problem. There's no slighting the engineering achievement of Tesla or its genuine appeal to high-end consumers.

As Mark Mills of the Manhattan Institute points out, electric cars are overwhelmingly part of the luxury market, and 90% of electric cars sold in the U.S. are second or third cars. What the U.S. government is insisting is that this niche market be imposed on the rest of the country.

It's as if the federal government wants everyone to start drinking craft beers when they prefer Modelo.

The sales of electric vehicles in the U.S. have been growing but appear to be plateauing. Electric vehicles were 8.6% of new light-duty vehicle sales in the first quarter of this year, basically flat compared to the last quarter of 2022, at 8.5%.

The climate case for forcing these numbers higher is not as strong as advertised. It's not clear exactly how much electric cars reduce emissions once all the inputs are factored in. On top of this, transportation accounts for less than 30% of U.S. emissions, and air and rail travel, as well as shipping, make a not-insignificant contribution.

Electric vehicles should be considered a nice, promising addition to the variety of the car market, not a quasi-holy obligation to be pursued at all costs.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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# Riley Reviews

“THE RETIREMENT PLAN” HEIST CAPER; “SPY OPS” DOCUSERIES

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“THE RETIREMENT PLAN”  
RATED R

Billing “The Retirement Plan” as an action comedy might be a stretch, but there is something quite amusing about the ineptness of so many henchmen of a crime lord unable to fulfill what seems an easy enough assignment.

As the story opens, a man and a woman are making a getaway from an apparent heist of what turns about to be the film’s MacGuffin, the object or device that serves merely as a trigger for the plot.

In this case, it happens to be a flash drive that belongs supposedly to Donnie (Jackie Earle Haley), a crime boss with a hair-trigger temper which might be the result of him having to report to his psychotic superior (Grace Byers).

Jimmy (Jordan Johnson-Hinds) and his wife Ashley (Ashley Greene) realize that they have just bought themselves a monumental pile of trouble with this theft and need an escape plan.

Ashley hides the flash drive in their young daughter Sarah’s (Thalia Campbell) backpack and puts her on a flight to the Cayman Islands with a note to locate a man named Matt (or Jim?), who turns out to be her estranged father (Nicolas Cage).

Holding Jimmy hostage, Donnie tells Sarah that she will be accompanied by his Shakespeare-loving henchman Bobo (Ron Perlman) and another thug to retrieve the flash drive unless someone or everyone will die.

Of course, Matt doesn’t realize that he has a granddaughter and he’s not well-equipped to take care of her since he’s retired from his government work and savors the beach bum lifestyle.

Unknown to Ashley when she arrives at her father’s beachside home with Bobo and the goon is that Matt has been hiding his special skills, namely that he’s a retired special forces soldier trained as an assassin.

When Donnie’s goon ends up dead, Bobo kidnaps Sarah, which leads to the unlikely formation of a bond when the young girl’s affinity for reading “Othello” triggers an interesting dynamic with her Shakespeare-quoting captor.

Aside from Matt easily killing Donnie’s successive wave of goons showing up in the Caymans, other characters involve Matt’s old boss (Lynn Whitfield) and her seemingly duplicitous right-hand (Joel David Moore) getting in on the action.

Even some political intrigue comes into view when a mysterious powerful figure (Rick Fox) has a great interest in the flash drive that may propel his political ambitions for high office.

In many respects, “The Retirement Plan” is quite conventional as an action

picture with Nicolas Cage channeling his inner rage in a most effective way of killing countless bad guys that would otherwise hurt his family.

At a nicely moving and relatively swift pace, this action film offers some welcome humor in unusual ways. Arguably, best of all is Bobo’s comically awkward phone calls with Donnie in which he’s always at a loss to explain how every attempt to kill Matt proves to be a failure.

If not easily found at a local cinema, “The Retirement Plan” seems almost certainly to end up on a streaming service in relatively short order. A pickup by Netflix or Amazon seems possible, and it will offer a fun diversion.

“SPY OPS” ON NETFLIX

An eight-part documentary series on Netflix, “Spy Ops” might be the thing for anyone interested in a perspective on real world events ranging from an assassination plot on Pope John Paul II to the initial intrusion into Afghanistan following the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

The first episode is “Operation Jawbreaker,” when CIA operatives land in the part of Afghanistan under the control of the Northern Alliance, the mortal enemies of the hated and ruthless Taliban.

The leader of the Northern Alliance is Ahmad Shah Massoud, the biggest enemy of the Taliban seen from archival footage since he meets an untimely death.

Narrator for a good part of the episode is the late Gary Schroen, the Jawbreaker Team Leader for the CIA. He reports that it was known that Osama bin Laden was the leader of al-Qaeda and hiding somewhere in Afghanistan.

An interesting part of this episode is the reminder that American withdrawal two years ago has resulted in the “horror of the Taliban enveloping the country” even more completely than it did before 9/11.

The second episode “Operation Just Cause” is the story of how America came to invade Panama in order to depose its strongman General Manuel Noriega, who was trafficking drugs and had once been on the CIA payroll for a long time.

Noriega, nicknamed “Pineapple Face” for his pockmarked facial features, is portrayed as a double-dealing opportunist working for the CIA and selling U.S. intelligence secrets to Cuba.

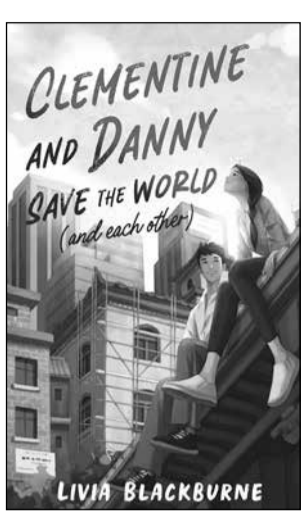
There’s a news clip of Dan Rather reporting on the United Nations General Assembly deploring the invasion of Panama as a “flagrant violation of international law.”

The “Operation Pimlico” tale of MI6 orchestrating the extraction of a Soviet double agent from Moscow is fascinating like a Jack Ryan or James Bond spy story.

## Clementine and Danny Save the World (and each other)

by Livia Blackburne

Clementine Chan loves sharing her thoughts, feelings, and opinions (especially about tea) but only as the pseudonym Hibiscus on her well-known blog, Babble Tea. Matching the perfect tea to her creative process, Clementine is always at work reviewing tea shops and restaurants. Everyone seems to love her reviews except for one particular reader, Bobaboy888. Bobaboy888 instantly gets under her skin and makes her hair stand on end every time he posts. He’s insufferable, opinionated, and always has something to say.



◆ Publisher: Quill Tree Books  
◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult  
◆ Release Date: July 18, 2023  
◆ Rating: ♥♥♥♥♥

In the best enemies-to-lovers story of the summer, readers will fall hard for Clementine and Danny, Hibiscus and Bobaboy888, and the beloved Chinatown they all want to save. Grab a cup of your favorite tea, but be careful on mixing cream and sugar in your oolong, and be prepared to fall in love. Livia Blackburne delivers a story with heart, meaning, and laughter along the way.

Blackburne delicately and beautifully takes a story of teenage love and angst while intertwining it with deeper issues that are currently happening today. It is a beautiful celebration of Chinese American culture, families, community, and, of course, tea. Both characters are equally strong-willed, loveable, realistic, and easy to identify with while also being very different.

With soft echoes of *You’ve Got Mail*, readers will instantly want to rewatch this 1998 classic movie with a cup of tea and a bouquet of newly sharpened pencils. *Clementine and Danny Save the World (and each other)* is the wholesome, heartwarming story readers have been searching for, with two characters readers won’t be able to help but root for. ★

love. But the more they find themselves working together for the same cause and falling for one another, there is still one thing they both don’t know: they are each other’s online nemesis. Just when Danny feels it’s time to reveal himself, everything goes wrong, horribly wrong, and Danny wonders if he will ever be able to come back from the damage that he caused. Now, through each of their unyielding strengths Clementine and Danny will have to face their greatest challenge ever, see each other in the full light of truth, or allow their secret identities destroy everything that they have become.

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# California Man Sentenced to Prison for Assaulting Law Enforcement During Jan. 6 Capitol Breach

## FBI News Release

WASHINGTON, DC (MPG) - A California man was sentenced in the District of Columbia on Thursday, September 7, 2023, on two felony charges related to his actions during the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. His actions and the actions of others disrupted a joint session of the U.S. Congress convened to ascertain and count the electoral votes related to the 2020 presidential election.

Sean Michael McHugh, 36, of Auburn, California, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge John D. Bates to 78 months in prison and 36 months of supervised release. Judge Bates also ordered McHugh to pay \$2,000 restitution and a \$5,000 fine. McHugh was found guilty of obstruction and assaulting, impeding, or interfering with law enforcement officers following a stipulated bench trial before Judge Bates in April 2023.

According to court documents and the stipulated evidence presented in court, prior to his arrival in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 6, 2021, McHugh told others that he was going to Washington, D.C., to "fight" and "storm Congress." He brought a canister of bear spray with him to Washington, D.C., and he carried it in a holster for ready access. The bear spray is 50 percent stronger than the pepper spray used by police. Before the riot, McHugh urged others to "march on Congress directly after Trump's speech."

McHugh was part of the initial breach of the Capitol grounds at the Peace Circle. Once he arrived at the Capitol, McHugh actively participated in at least four attempts to breach perimeters established by officers during the

riot. He was one of the initial rioters to breach a police line and enter the West Plaza. Afterward, McHugh wrestled with an officer for control of a barricade protecting access to the Capitol and assaulted a line of U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) officers on the West Plaza, hitting them with his bear spray, causing the officers to back away from the line, and preventing them from performing their official duties. Finally, McHugh helped other rioters to push a large metal sign into officers. In between these acts of aggression, McHugh used his megaphone to encourage other rioters to act against law enforcement.

After the riot, McHugh posted multiple messages on Facebook bragging about his actions during the riot and reveling in the violence against police, boasting, "...we stormed them and we took Congress."

This case was prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Department of Justice National Security Division's Counterterrorism Section. Valuable assistance was provided by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California.

This case was investigated by the FBI's Washington Field Office, as well as the Metropolitan Police Department, with significant assistance provided by the FBI's Sacramento Field Office.

In the 32 months since Jan. 6, 2021, more than 1,146 individuals have been arrested in nearly all 50 states for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including more than 398 individuals charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement.

Anyone with tips can call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) or visit tips.fbi.gov



By Kathy Craig Harteis

Nestled in the hills of Idaho is a unique little town called Lava Hot Springs.

The hot spring pools are readily available in town.

Our granddaughter Annika will be married there this weekend.

Tucked in the heart of town is a circa 1914 hotel Riverside Hot Springs Inn

# Aaah..

and Spa. That's where the Aaah comes in.

The hotel, may be a bit quirky and dated, but believe me it's a treat to stay here.

It's claim to fame is that President Theodore Roosevelt stayed here and the property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Although the hotel is not ADA accessible and there is no elevator it's still doable for older folks. The staff is attentive and kind and helpful in taking luggage's to upper floor rooms.

The rooms are not elegant and they are vintage. But that kind of adds to the adventure off it all.

I just got back from a massage. Again; Aaah.

My back was giving me problems, but for the moment I'm feeling a lot better.

This has been a treat. We may come again. Even Rocky dog can stay here.

I learned this morning that a longtime friend Ron Dryden has passed. He and his wife Pam we're dear friends indeed when we lived in Spokane. Luckily we visited them last year so I saw Ron one last time. Time moves on.

We have been blessed with a bevy of friends over the years. One day at a time we meet, come to love one another and far too often say goodbye. Goodbyes are hurtful but time together is a gift. Don't waste it.

Life is good today. ★

# CHP Focused on Safe, Secure Rides for Children

## CHP News Release

### SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is dedicating the third week of September to ensuring California's youngest motor vehicle passengers are safe and secure while traveling on the state's roadways.

CHP is celebrating National Child Passenger Safety Week. The week serves as an opportunity to educate and encourage parents and caregivers to make certain that every child is properly restrained for every trip, facing the correct direction, and in the correct safety seat for their age and size.

"Child safety seats, when correctly installed, afford the best protection for infants and young children," said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryc. "The CHP has trained Child Passenger Safety Technicians available in communities throughout the state, who offer parents and caregivers free, one-on-one instruction and car seat installation to help achieve the best fit for their child."

Motor vehicle traffic crashes are the leading cause of death of children in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2021, 711 child passengers ages 12 and younger were killed in motor vehicle crashes in the United States, and in 2020 more than 63,000



Every year, thousands of child passengers, ages 13 and younger, are injured or killed in motor vehicle crashes in California. Do your part to be a responsible parent or driver. Photo courtesy of the California Highway Patrol

were injured. Of the children who were killed in a crash, 36 percent were not buckled up. These deaths can be avoided. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, child safety seats have been shown to reduce fatal injury by 71% for infants (under the age of 1) and by 54% for toddlers (1-4 years old).

The CHP has trained thousands of uniformed and nonuniformed personnel to be Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Technicians since the program began in 1999. CHP CPS Technicians provide safety seat inspections, education, and hands-on training for parents and caregivers year-round.

If you are not confident how to properly secure your child in a safety seat, contact

your local CHP Area office, and ask to speak with a child passenger safety technician. Visit [www.chp.ca.gov/find-an-office](http://www.chp.ca.gov/find-an-office) to locate a local CHP Area office anywhere in California.

California law requires children under the age of two, weighing less than 40 pounds or below 40 inches tall, ride in a rear-facing car seat. All children under the age of eight must ride in the back seat in an age-appropriate safety seat. Additionally, it is recommended that all children 13 and under should ride in the back seat. For more information about child passenger safety, visit the CHP Child Safety Seat Programs.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security. ★

# Farm Bureau President Applauds Assembly Passage of SB 505

## California Farm Bureau News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson praised on August 24, 2023, the California Assembly for the passage of Senate Bill 505 to expand the insurance "clearinghouse" program of the California FAIR Plan, the state's insurer of last resort.

SB 505, by state Sen. Susan Rubio, D-Baldwin park, previously passed in the state Senate and now heads to Gov. Gavin Newsom for his signature.

California Farm Bureau and the California Department of Insurance co-sponsored the bill, which will allow commercial policies under the FAIR plan to move back to the competitive market with coverage protecting

farming and ranching operations.

"Farmers and ranchers have truly felt the pain of California's insurance crisis," Johansson said. "Many lost their insurance after devastating California wildfires. We earlier worked with Sen. Rubio to help them gain access to coverage under the FAIR plan. Now we thank her for her leadership on SB 505, which will help those farmers and ranchers - and all Californians - gain access to affordable residential and commercial property insurance."

"Our farmers and ranchers want to focus on producing America's food supply, not on trying to become experts in procuring what was once routine insurance coverage," Johansson added. "We urge Gov. Newsom to support them by signing this important legislation." ★

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001325 The following persons are doing business as: Fairfield Union 76, 1400 West Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. Gawfco Enterprises, Incorporated, 3669 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549. Date filed in Solano County: August 23, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 8/1/1993. This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 22, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023 FAIRFIELD 9-29-23

business as: Vacaville Union 76, 2000 Not Tree Road, Vacaville, CA 95687. Gawfco Enterprises, Incorporated, 3669 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549. Date filed in Solano County: August 16, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 5/1/2004. This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 15, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023 VACAVILLE 9-29-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001130 The following persons are doing business as: Suisun Union 76, 115 Sunset Avenue, Suisun, CA 94585. Gawfco Enterprises, Incorporated, 3669 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549. Date filed in Solano County: August 23, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 6/1/1995. This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 22, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023 SUISUN 9-29-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001331 The following persons are doing business as: West Texas Food and Food, 1740 West Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. Gawfco Enterprises, Incorporated, 3669 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549. Date filed in Solano County: August 24, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 11/1/2011. This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 23, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023 NASHVILLE 9-29-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001362 The following persons are doing business as: Cuevas Concrete, 855 Charter Way, Vacaville, CA 95687. Humberto Cuevas, 855 Charter Way, Vacaville, CA 95687. Date filed in Solano County: August 30, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 29, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET

SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023 WEST 9-29-23

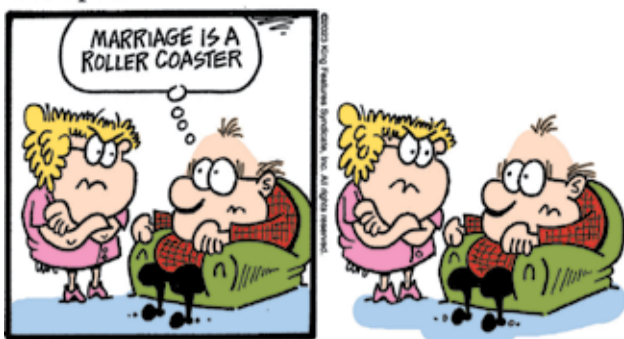
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001351 The following persons are doing business as: Bottom Line Notary, 2010-A Harbison Drive #654, Vacaville, CA 95687. Victoria Garrison, PO Box 1679, Sacramento, CA 95812. Date filed in Solano County: August 29, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 28, 2028. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: Sept 15, 22, 29, Oct 6, 2023 BOTTOM 10-6-23

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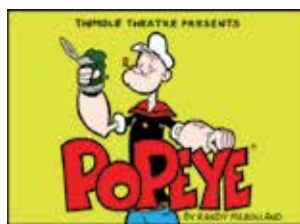
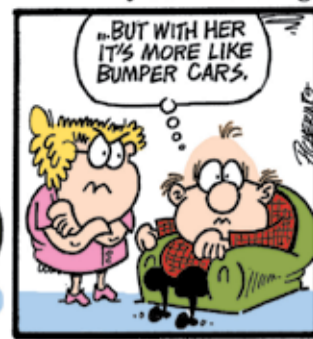


# COMICS & PUZZLES

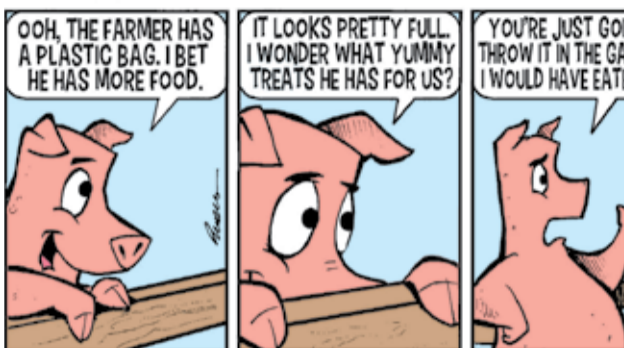
The Spats



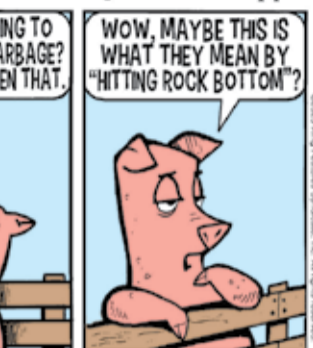
by Jeff Pickering



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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



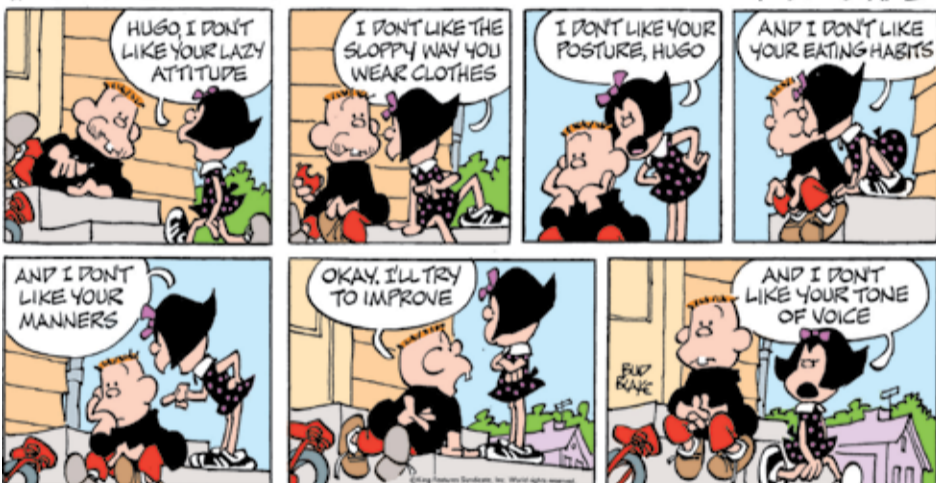
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by Gary Kopervas



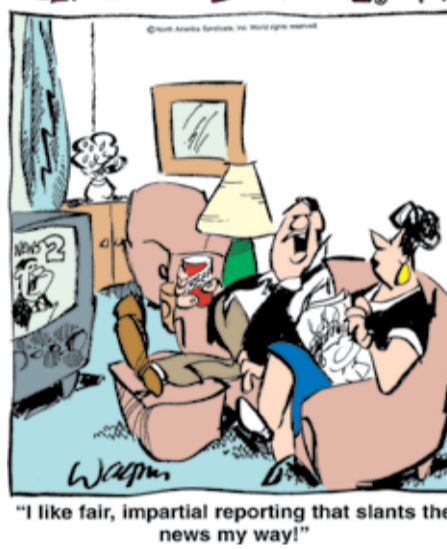
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# End Run Around the Rules

*California lawmakers: 'any flavor of affordable housing you could possibly want'*

By Ben Christopher, CALMatters.org

**CALMATTERS (MPG)** - You may not have seen the headlines (there weren't any). You may have missed the raucous debate (there wasn't much of one). But with the end of the legislative session last week, California is now on the verge of laying down a welcome mat for most major affordable housing projects across the state.

That's not because of a single bill, but a patchwork of current and former legislation that, taken together, "basically covers any flavor of affordable housing you could possibly want to build," said Linda Mandolini, president of Eden Housing, an affordable housing development nonprofit.

Homes designated for low-income occupants, like all housing projects, face a gauntlet of potential challenges and hold-ups that add to the already exorbitant cost of affordable housing in California. Those hurdles include lawsuits filed under the wide-ranging California Environmental Quality Act, extensive public hearings and other forms of opposition from local government.

Now, affordable housing projects — in most places and most of the time — may soon be exempt from all that, fitted out in a suit of procedural armor made up of some half a dozen bills and laws.

A bill now sitting on the governor's desk would cover up one of the last chinks in that armor. Assembly Bill 1449, authored by two Democratic Assemblymembers, David Alvarez of San Diego and Buffy Wicks of Oakland, would exempt certain affordable apartment developments from review under CEQA. To qualify, projects would have to be located in dense

urban areas, set aside each unit for someone earning less than 80% the area median income and abide by stricter labor standards, among other requirements.

Though modest and technical sounding, that's unusually broad for new construction in California.

"I do think it's gonna be very consequential but it's kind of flown under the radar," Alvarez said. His explanation why: "The politics of where Californians are and certainly where the Legislature is — we want to see results. We want to see housing being produced."

Taken together with a handful of other bills and current laws, said Mark Stivers, a lobbyist with the California Housing Partnership, which co-sponsored AB 1449, the new legislation "effectively make it possible for affordable housing providers to develop nearly all viable sites in California by-right and exempt from CEQA review."

Speeding up approval for these projects comes with a trade-off. Environmental justice organizations, labor unions and various opponents of new development see CEQA as a vital tool to weigh in on what gets built, where and under what terms.

"Our communities rely heavily on CEQA to be able to get more information about proposed developments that might be contributing to further pollution," said Grecia Orozco, a staff attorney with the nonprofit Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment.

Local activists also often flood the public meetings of city councils and planning boards to pressure elected officials to block unpopular projects or extract concessions from developers.

Whether AB 1449 and a handful of similar bills become law is now up to Gov. Gavin

Newsom. Supporters have reason to be optimistic. The Newsom administration is pushing local governments to approve an unprecedented 2.5 million additional homes by 2030, he called the CEQA process "broken" and in the spring he rolled out a package of bills aimed at speeding up environmental challenges to projects — though housing was not included.

He has until Oct. 14 to sign or veto the bills now sitting on his desk.

The Alvarez-Wicks bill isn't the first legislative effort to grease the skids for new affordable housing.

Two others, both authored by San Francisco Democratic Sen. Scott Wiener, would force local governments to automatically approve apartment buildings in housing-strapped parts of the state and most affordable housing projects on the properties of houses of worship and nonprofit colleges, so long as they comply with a list of zoning, affordability and labor requirements.

A third piece of legislation by San Jose Democratic Sen. Dave Cortese exempts the decision by local governments to fund affordable housing projects from environmental challenges, too. Newsom already signed it.

Still awaiting the governor's pen are a handful of bills that make it more difficult to stall housing projects through environmental lawsuits in general. That includes a bill by Sen. Nancy Skinner, a Berkeley Democrat, that would make it easier for courts to toss out environmental challenges they deem "frivolous" or "solely intended to cause unnecessary delay." Another by Assemblymember Phil Ting, a San Francisco Democrat, would give local officials a deadline by which to approve or deny a project's environmental review.

The Ting proposal was fiercely opposed by many environmental activists and the State Building and Construction Trades Council, an umbrella group that represents many unionized construction workers. The bill would also make it more difficult for courts to award legal fees to groups that sue to block projects through CEQA.

J.P. Rose, a staff attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity, which regularly brings such suits, called that provision "the largest weakening of CEQA in recent history."

The fact that this long list of bills passed the Legislature — some by healthy margins — amounts to a notable political shift, said Christopher Elmendorf, a law professor at UC Davis who advised Ting on the bill.

"I think it illustrates that a sea change is underfoot in how people are starting to think about these environmental review laws," he said, though he noted that the shift in California is still modest compared to those underway in other states.

Earlier this year, the Washington legislature nearly unanimously passed a law to exempt virtually all new urban housing from that state's environmental protection law.

Many of the California bills build on a law passed last year that streamlines affordable housing construction along commercial corridors.

In cobbling together the law, its author, Wicks, struck a compromise: In exempting certain housing projects from environmental challenge and other local hurdles, developers would pay workers a higher minimum wage, provide them with health care benefits and abide by other stricter labor standards. That trade was the key to winning the support of the state carpenters' union

and breaking up a legislative logjam that had stymied housing production bills for years.

It also provided a template for Wiener's two streamlining bills this year, along with the Alvarez-Wicks CEQA exemption proposal.

"That really laid the foundation for those of us who did work in the housing space this year," said Alvarez.

"Our communities rely heavily on CEQA to be able to get more information about proposed developments that might be contributing to further pollution."

Not every pro-housing advocate or CEQA critic is so content with the bargain.

"A lot of these bills help a little," said Jennifer Hernandez, a land use attorney at the law firm Holland & Knight, who has catalogued CEQA challenges to housing projects for years. But she notes that swapping out the threat of environmental litigation with higher payroll expenses just replaces one cost with another.

In practice, she said, these exemptions are only likely to clear the way for substantial new housing construction in higher cost areas where developers can make up the difference by charging higher rents to non-subsidized residents. "You really need premium rentals to pay for those higher labor standards," she said.

But for many affordable housing developers, it's still a trade worth making.

"You've got really strong laws, clear exemptions, and an attorney general who's willing to step up and say you got to build it," said Mandolini with Eden Housing, who has been working on housing in the state for more than two decades. "This is the best it has been in California...If this had all existed 20 years ago, we might have built a lot more housing a lot faster." ★

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