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— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., A TESTAMENT OF HOPE: THE ESSENTIAL WRITINGS AND SPEECHES



Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 2

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JANUARY 12, 2024

SEE INSIDE

CUEVAS-MEZA NAMED YOUNG WOMAN OF THE MONTH



PAGE 3

DIXON ACTION TEAM



PAGE 3

SNOW SURVEY BELOW AVERAGE CONDITIONS



PAGE 10



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CHP Celebrates 96 New Officers



The newest graduating class of the California Highway Patrol at last week's Sacramento ceremony. CHP Courtesy Photo

By MPG Editor
Debra Dingman

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Many people spend years begrudging the California Highway Patrol because they were pulled over by a CHP Officer for some reason they did not feel was warranted. But after attending one of the graduations at the California Highway Patrol Academy in Sacramento, one might easily hold feelings of respect and honor instead.

Every facet of the program was succinctly orchestrated from being directed where to park to lining up to enter the event. Guests were greeted professionally with a genuine smile by blue-shirted cadets. Hundreds of family members waited in anticipation.

Upon entering the huge gymnasium with rows and rows of seats, one saw an entire wall of 4 x 8-foot photos of pictures—each portraying a different division of the service including SWAT Team, Mounted Horse



A graduate is being officially pinned by a family member. CHP Courtesy Photo

Patrol, Academy Instruction, Road Patrol, Air Operations, Motor Officer, Motorcycle and Bicycle Patrols. What they didn't show was task force members, Headquarters and Division Personnel uniformed and Nonuniformed, Dispatchers, Auto Theft Task Forces, Commercial Enforcement Personnel, K-9s and more.

“There have been

thousands of officers in this place,” said Jim Ward, a retired CHP Officer who lives in Dixon. “But, it is far from routine. This is extraordinary. You are seeing less than 3-percent of those who actually apply.” Ward served for 16 years on the Santa Ana freeway before moving to northern California duties.

Soon after the families and friends were seated,

nearly 100 men and women marched into the California Highway Patrol Academy graduation ceremony with eyes straight ahead and showing serious faces wearing the traditional CHP uniform symbolizing authority and professionalism: the camel-colored pants, olive green jacket, and the cream-colored Trooper hat.

Commissioner Sean Duryee opened the ceremony and spoke about CHP training which is revered worldwide and consists of a regulated system of academics, exercise, diet, and self-discipline. Those honored had just completed the 6-month live-in Academy where their commitment meant missed birthdays, anniversaries, births of children, and holidays.

He told how they would receive their badge number and badge stating they would stay with them for life and talked about what each point of the star represents:

Continued on page 3

Grinch Active Over Christmas

By MPG Staff

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Grinch was loose on Christmas, stealing a bag of sports equipment from a locked storage shed at Dixon Montessori Charter School while students and staff were on Winter Break.

“We have about 40 cameras all around our school and we actually got it on camera,” said DMCS Executive Director Ben Ernest. “Someone walked in and cut off the locks off our storage. It was one person, and he took a bag of footballs, soccer balls, kickballs. I think it was on Christmas.” A police report was filed with Dixon Police Department.

The person looked to be between the age of 20 and 30 years old. The Department is looking at “all possible leads but have very limited information about the subject,” said Lt. Jenna Cameron.

“It was not a kid,” Ernest said. “Teachers do all kinds of character building in our classes but then there is always going to be some people...” The value of the playground loss is about \$500. Students have been on winter break and returned to school this past Monday, January 8.

Ernest looked through all the videos and noted with interest that while the unit was open, there were a couple families that allowed their children to get into the unit and play with the other equipment, but then the parents made the children put it back when they left.

Many of the balls are bright colors, like fluorescent green or orange, but all of the equipment is marked in large black permanent markers with ‘DMCS.’ One of those balls was seen in Northwest Park last weekend with the letters but the driver thought a student might have taken it home during break with approval. Ernest encouraged anyone in Dixon who sees the sports gear with these markings to call the Dixon Police at (707) 678-7080 or call the school at (707) 678-8953. ★

Serve the Community and Your Sweetie

Story by Debra Dingman,
photo by Binky Eason

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Don't think too hard about a Valentine's Day Dinner with your sweetie because the Dixon Women's Improvement Club members have a plan for you! Their Valentine's Dinner Fundraiser is set for Monday, February 12, at Bud's Pub & Grill, 100 South First St.

For more than a century, the Dixon Women's Improvement Club (DWIC) has supported projects that are in the best interests of the Dixon community, beginning with the establishment of the DWIC Park, followed by securing funding for the Dixon Carnegie Library that continues to serve Dixon to this day.

DWIC has provided funds in the past for disaster relief, senior citizen projects, community literacy, and well-baby clinics



Dixon Women's Improvement Club members, Ardath Wood, Martha Dukes, and Ashley Alvarez, pictured here at their holiday tea, know how to put the “fun” in fundraising, and are holding their annual Valentine's Dinner on Monday, February 12, that will benefit their Community Grants and Scholarship programs.

in addition to the college/training school scholarship program that was initiated in the 1980s for graduates from Dixon and Maine Prairie High Schools.

A community grant program was piloted by DWIC in 2018 which featured a fundraiser dinner at Bud's Pub & Grill and instantly became a delicious success.

Now, in its 7th year, the Community Grants and Scholarship Fundraiser is planned just in time for a Valentine's Day Dinner at

Continued on page 2



Life's too SHORT



Chamber Gets Contemporary Logo

By Debra Dingman

I was looking something up on the Chamber website and thought I had the wrong website up on my computer when I first saw it, but then realized I was on the right page and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce got a new logo!

Before I contacted the Chamber, I immediately wondered how long the older logo had been in place and would have picked up the phone to call Phyllis Quiring, a local long-timer who worked many years for the Chamber, but that precious friend has passed and I can only wish I could call her in Heaven.

I've spent some time trying to find a news story in archives, or find older residents who were active in the Chamber who might know, but I've discovered nothing in more detail. Shauna Manina, president/CEO of Dixon Chamber of Commerce, said it was a windmill at the original train station probably 100 years ago because she has a picture of it in the office. But someone put it on paper long ago to make it "official," and I can't help but wonder, who was that? Are they still alive and I could talk to him or her? If you are reading this and you know something more that would be interesting, please call me! My phone is (707) 678-8917.

I also wondered what the other options were presented to the Chamber, and what a wonderful interactive experience it would have been to involve the community...but in their defense I knew nothing about the process from which it came about.

So, I contacted Shauna Manina, who was happy to fill me in with this information on the new design from Robin Tully, immediate past chair of the board, with some input from Jennifer Huff, Chamber of Commerce Board director.

Manina said, "Since COVID, the Chamber has been working on coming up with new, fun and innovative ideas to help our local businesses and community thrive and grow."

"We've upped our game in terms of member benefits, fun and engaging mixers, the Concerts in the Park series, reviving the May Fair Parade after COVID, celebrating special members with the Annual Awards Dinner, adding a Trunk or Treat event for kids, supporting Day of the Dead, and other meaningful events and programs."

"In the past 3 years we've doubled our membership and also brought on more Ambassadors who have helped expand our outreach and volunteer program."

"We've focused on our mission to Connect, Communicate and Collaborate to bring businesses and the community together."

"As part of that revamping and rebranding, we realized that we needed a new logo to represent our movement forward into the future."

"Our 2023 Board Chair, Haley Andrews, helped lead the effort by creating new logo options which the Board carefully weighed in and voted on."

"Our new logo represents our vision of honoring Dixon's valued traditions while bringing forth new ideas for better outreach and member engagement. This new logo offers simplicity and versatility that translates well across a wide variety of platforms."

"We will continue to bring value to our members by promoting economic well-being through leadership, education, networking, and advocacy for business, industry, nonprofits, and tourism; and to develop, promote and protect the economic vitality of the community through a positive business environment and to foster a climate in which commerce, industry and agriculture will flourish." ★



Dixon News Briefs



Planter boxes will be lined with personalized bricks as part of the PTO Fundraiser. DHS PTO Courtesy Photo

MPG Staff

Last Day for Bricks!

Friday, January 12 is the last day to place an order to have your name or message forever immortalized in bricks that will line planter boxes in the Quad of Dixon High School. Did you have a child graduate here? (Birthday gift idea.) Do you serve in a club that wants to help and also be recognized in the effort? This is your last chance to get in your order. The bricks are \$100 each and if you want to buy one as a gift, you can pay \$10 more for a special certificate that will make a super gift. If you wonder how to support the staff, students, and teachers at Dixon High School, the customized, sandblasted bricks will be installed and will live on for years to come. Go to bricksrrus.com/donorsite/dhspto or email PTODixonHighSchool@gmail.com for more information.

Valentine's Singles Mingle

The Creative Space in Dixon will be holding a special event on Saturday, February 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 160 West A Street across from Frosty's. Tori Hunt, co-owner of The Creative Space said their first ever singles mingle is an opportunity to connect with other local singles in the area during a new version of speed dating. RSVP is required on their website at www.thecreativespacedixon.com under the classes and workshops tab. Casual attire. Open to all ages 18 and over. Hard and soft drinks plus refreshments will be available.

Books for Foster Children

The Dixon Rotary Club is helping garner donations for Joy Carlton with PaperPie who has organized a Foster Care Book Drive for 100 foster children with book bags, that include handpicked books for their success and enjoyment. A book bag is \$35 each and donations are matched 50%. If you would like to make a donation or would like more information, please contact Joy at Jdietz09@yahoo.com. Look for upcoming information about the Dixon Rotary Crab Feed on February 24, 2024.

Referees Wanted

Dixon Youth Basketball is looking for a few more referees this season! This is a great way for your teens to make spending cash. Please apply on dixon-youthbasketball.com by completing the referee application 2024. Dixon Youth Basketball is a non-profit organization. (The City of Dixon has a separate program.) The 2024 Dixon Youth Basketball season began January 1, 2024 and ends March 17th, 2024. Stay informed by liking our social media pages and sharing posts.

DWIC to Hear Senior Offerings

The Dixon Women's Improvement Club members will hear from Austin George, City of Dixon Recreation Manager and Dan Marshall, Senior Club President talk about the many activities that are part of the Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center in Dixon at their next meeting. It will be held on Wednesday, January 17, at 1 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at the B Street entrance. Guests are welcome.

Winter Sports

On Saturdays through March 9, Pickleball will be offered to all ages, adults and accompanying children under age 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through the City of Dixon. It's a pay-at-the-door basis, \$5 drop in, and is at John Knight Middle School. Also, youth sports, Futsal and dodgeball, designed for youth aged 6-13 years will also be offered from 1 and 2 p.m. With open play available, it's a great way to meet new people and stay in shape.

Hobo Beef Stew

The annual dinner and raffle at the Veterans memorial Hall at 1305 North First Street in Dixon will be on Saturday, January 20, 2024. There will be fun, friendship, and lots of raffle prizes. The bar opens at 4:30 and dinner starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Call Patti at (707) 592-0991 or inquire on Friday nights at the Veterans Hall. ★

Serve the Community and Your Sweetie

Continued from page 1

100 South First St. in downtown Dixon.

Entrée choices are prime rib or tri-tip, chicken, salmon, pasta, or vegetarian dish. They also will include dinner salad, garlic roasted red potatoes, and bread. Dinners can be eaten inside or taken home from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Call to pre-order at (707) 678-4745 after 4 p.m. on Monday, February 12, if you want to pick up.

In addition, club members have donated beautiful gift baskets that participants can purchase during the evening.

Dinner tickets are now on sale and are \$35 per person. They can be purchased

from any of the DWIC members or at the Dixon Independent Voice newspaper office at (707) 678-8917.

The DWIC was established in 1899. The founders were women from families that had settled in the Dixon area following the Gold Rush of 1849 and were interested in beautifying and improving the town of Dixon. The club is open to anyone who is interested in joining, and guests are welcome. From September through May, the club meets the third Wednesday of the month usually from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall at the Dixon United Methodist Church. ★



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CHP Celebrates 96 New Officers

Continued from page 1
character, integrity, judgment, loyalty, courtesy, honor, and knowledge.

"You've earned the right to wear it," he said. "That badge belongs to the people behind you. That badge represents the trust they have in you." He also spoke to the graduates about their futures. "The tragedies of others will become your daily routine. You will show empathy, take time to listen, give a shoulder to cry on, and show compassion.

Don't ever become cocky or arrogant. The moment you stop learning and growing, you start limiting your future."

Keynote speaker Barbara Rooney, California Office of Traffic Safety Director shared the wide variety of backgrounds that the graduates came from. There were a couple musicians, EMTs, and firefighters.

"Almost all branches of the military are represented here and 1st to 3rd and even 4th generations of officers in the family. There was a preschool teacher, marathon runner, private pilot, computer engineer, and even a juggler," she said. "Ten have received the Governor's Medal of Honor."

She reminded them they were all joining a 100-year-old agency created in 1929 to provide uniform traffic law enforcement throughout California, assuring the safe, convenient and efficient transportation of people and goods on its highway system.

"Now, there are 7,000 uniform personnel in our state with 40 million people," she said congratulating them.



Filing into their graduation ceremony, new CHP Officers were captured in photos by hundreds of proud families. Photo by Debra Dingman

The governor added his remarks through a televised message.

"I'm adding my voice to the chorus who honors you," said Governor Gavin Newsom. "We have the 5th largest law enforcement agency in the country and you have earned our respect and trust. We extend our gratitude, thanks, and welcome."

A video presentation of the extensive training followed and the audience saw situational experiences where cadets were drilled on how to fight criminals and save lives.

Special recognitions were given for class officers, marksmanship, outstanding athlete, and most inspirational cadet. Afterwards, they lined in front of the buildings for



Each CHP graduating class is immortalized on the walls of the Academy making an impressive display throughout the entire facility. Photo by Debra Dingman

the official 'badge pinning' while taking photos with proud spouses and family members. They will earn a generous base salary of \$109,248 during their first year plus full

health and dental benefits for themselves and their families.

The ceremony is one of three per year and was closed with the entire graduating class reciting the Code

of Honor with raised right hands swearing that they "would lay down their life rather than swerve from the line of duty."

Watch Soon

The CHP has just released to the public an inside look at its live-in training facility with this month's programming of the new reality series, Cadets. Premiering Jan. 17 on the CHP's YouTube page, the nine-part docuseries focuses on a cadet class navigating the six-month journey through the CHP Academy on the way to becoming officers.

The release of Cadets is part of the CHP's ongoing, multi-year recruitment campaign to recruit and hire 1,000 officers. A trailer for the series, produced entirely by CHP staff, is available online.

"Cadets is not just a series; it's a testament to the CHP's commitment to excellence, diversity, and the relentless pursuit of transforming individuals from all walks of life into dedicated officers ready to serve the community," said the Commissioner Duryee. "We are excited to offer a start-to-finish look inside our Academy as future law enforcement officers are brought to life."

Viewers will "ride along" with nine cadets as they overcome physical and mental adversity throughout the journey to earning their badge and becoming a CHP officer. The audience will also hear firsthand from the cadets as they speak candidly about their experience.

"By sharing their experiences, in their own words, we hope to inspire more service-minded individuals to follow in their footsteps and join us for a rewarding career in law enforcement," added Commissioner Duryee. ★

Local Awards and Honors Dixon Fire Department



Dixon Fire Chief Todd McNeal extended congratulations to DFD Captain Andrew Tomelloso for being selected by Congressman Mike Thompson to receive a Public Safety Excellence Award. A special recognition ceremony to honor first responders from the 4th congressional district will be held Sunday, January 14, in Vallejo.

"I am extremely proud of him and his tireless efforts in improving public fire safety education, and thankful for his continuous dedication to the City of Dixon and the greater community," Chief McNeal said. "Well done!" DFD courtesy photo

New Police Officers



Two new officers were sworn into the Dixon Police Department by Chief Robert Thompson at the last city council meeting, and welcomed by the mayor and city councilmen. "Natalie Martinez is our 2nd fully-sponsored police academy graduate who was born and raised here in Dixon. She is our first native Dixonite that we sent to the academy," said the chief. "We also welcome Officer Elison Tyson who was a Sierra County deputy sheriff who wanted to upgrade to a police officer." Photo by Debra Dingman

Dixon Action Team



Veteran Wayne Holland receives a check from Janette Barrango of Dixon's Action Team (Grillin' and Chillin') at the Veteran's Memorial Hall for American Legion Post 208 for \$2,500 in support of our Veterans. Barrango reminded folks to mark their calendar for Dixon's Grillin' and Chillin' event on Saturday, June 29, 2024. DAT courtesy photo

Ariana Cuevas-Meza Named Young Woman of the Month



Pictured are (L-R) President Brenda Walker, Amy Pretti, Ariana's mother, Delina Meza, Ariana Cuevas Meza and Dixon High School Teacher, Mrs. Sadorra Torres.

Soroptimist International Press Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Ariana Cuevas Meza was the SI Dixon Young Woman of the Month for November. She was nominated by Dixon High School English Teacher, Mrs. Sadorra Torres. Mrs. Sadorra Torres spoke about the qualities that make Ariana such an outstanding student. She is kind, caring, smart, outgoing, someone that her peers and teachers love.

Ariana is the daughter of Delina Meza. She has three older siblings Magaly, Ariselsy, and Jenny and two younger siblings Sage and Krystal. Ariana has grown up in Dixon and attended Anderson Elementary, C.A. Jacobs and now Dixon High School.

Representing Dixon and participating in the Varsity Spirit Pearl Harbor Day Parade in Honolulu, Hawaii and the Varsity Spirit Spectacular at Walt Disney World in Florida are accomplishments that Ariana is most proud of. Ariana has been cheering on the Dixon Rams since she was 6-years-old and hopes to continue cheerleading in college.

Ariana proudly started Club Unidos as not only a Hispanic appreciation club, but also a club with opportunities for community service. Club Unidos has been helping elementary and middle

schools in the area with student events, tutoring, and translating. Club Unidos is a strong presence in our Dixon schools.

Participation in Dixon High School clubs is very important to Ariana. She has been a member of Club Unidos, Academic Decathlon, FFA, Junior Varsity Cheer, Varsity Cheer, Dance Team and Team Dixon.

As well as participating in clubs, Ariana has held many offices. She was President of Dixon High Band Council and social media manager, President of Basketball Cheer Club and social media manager, and Co-President of Club Unidos.

When Ariana has some quiet time, she enjoys reading, dancing and is a big animal lover. She also loves her job at Hollister and is gearing up for the holiday season.

After high school graduation, Ariana plans include attending college, her first choice is Cal St. Fullerton, majoring in Kinesiology. She will apply to medical school to become a medicine physician after completing her undergraduate degree.

It was easy to see and feel the magic of Ariana Cuevas Meza. She is a young woman who no doubt will do amazing things in this world. Congratulations Ariana! ★

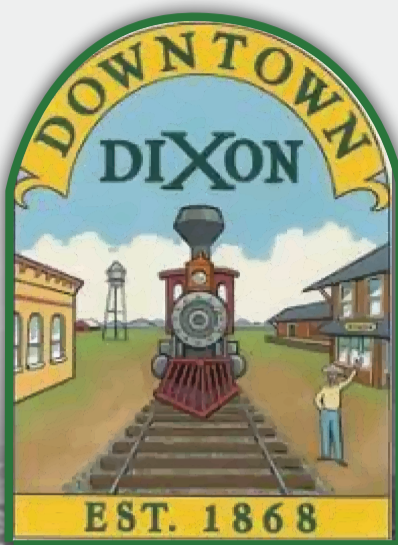


Discover Downtown Dixon - Shop, Dine, Explore!

A healthy community begins with a healthy downtown. They are the heartbeat of our communities and they are also key indicators of larger social and economical trends such as thriving businesses, engaged citizens, cultural events, and jobs.

The Downtown Dixon Business Association Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month inside local businesses.

Keep an eye on this space every month for information about all the fun and engaging events happening in Downtown Dixon.



Dixon Downtown Business Association Update

The Downtown Dixon Business Association held their annual Board Retreat this past Monday and will be announcing the new dates of upcoming activities on their website: downtowndixonca.com. The new calendar of meetings and events will also be posted on their Facebook page: Downtown Dixon Business Association DDBA. Old and new activities are slated to draw business and our citizenry to the downtown core! It will be an exciting year!

Our membership dues are now due for 2024. Business Owners are \$125 and if you are just one of those dedicated local citizens that loves to help out, the Associate Membership is only \$75. For the list of many benefits, go to the DDBA website and click on Membership. Payments are online. But also, check out the plethora of photos of all the downtown activities that happen!

They are also scheduling membership meeting hosts and topics. Last year, there were presentations on Crime Prevention, Preventing Bank Fraud, an Introduction to Train Day, Small Business Development Center Services, New Event and Publicity Requirements for the City of Dixon, and New Laws. Call (707) 678-8400 for more information.

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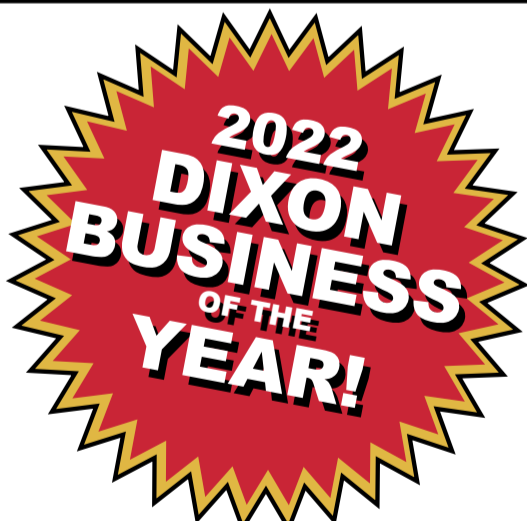
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Fairfield Resident Wins UC Davis Bumble Bee Contest

By Kathy Keatley Garvey

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Fairfield resident Nancy Hansen won the 4th annual Robbin Thorp Memorial First-Bumble-Bee-of-the-Year Contest with a video of a black-tailed bumble bee, *Bombus melanopygus* that she submitted to the sponsor, the Bohart Museum of Entomology, at 10:57 a.m., Monday, Jan. 1.

She took the video in her Madrone tree, *Arbutus menziesii*, in her backyard. See video on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/6JW84dCaUqc>.

Contest coordinator Lynn Kimsey, UC Davis distinguished professor of entomology and director of the Bohart Museum, applauded the winner as the earliest ever recipient, and the first from Solano County.

Contest rules state that the first person to photograph a bumble bee in either Yolo or Solano and email it to the sponsor, the Bohart Museum, will receive a coffee cup designed with the endangered Franklin's bumble bee, the bee that the legendary Robbin Thorp (1933-2019), a UC Davis distinguished emeritus professor and a 30-year member of the Department of Entomology and Nematology faculty, monitored for decades.

"I've lived in Fairfield since 1970 and I retired from Kaiser Medical Center Vallejo after 33 years," Hansen said. "I'm a long-time gardener and flower-aholic! I'm very interested in soil health, pollinators and in-soil microbes. I didn't plant the Madrone tree but I'm happy it provides food for pollinators most of the year. The first year we lived here, 2017, the tree was full of bees. Their buzz sounded like an airplane engine, but since then I've seen fewer and fewer bees."

"On Monday I was out back enjoying the bit of sunshine that had peaked through the clouds when I heard buzzing in my Madrone tree. I went over, looked and I saw a lot of honey bees, but then I looked up and saw the bumble bee. I ran to get my camera hoping I could catch his picture before he flew away."

Previous record-holders:

2023: Ria deGrassi of Davis, who photographed a *B. melanopygus* at 12:32, Jan. 8, on a ceanothus in her yard.

2022: Tie between Maureen Page, then a doctoral candidate in the lab of pollination ecologist Neal Williams, professor, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology; and Ellen Zagory of Davis, retired director of public horticulture for the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden. Each photographed a bumble bee on manzanita in the Arboretum at 2:30 p.m., Jan. 1. Page photographed a *B. melanopygus*, while Zagory captured an image of the yellow-faced bumble bee, *Bombus vosnesenskii*.

2021: UC Davis postdoctoral researcher Charlie Casey Nicholson, then of the Williams lab and the Elina Lastro Niño lab, photographed a *B. melanopygus* at 3:10 p.m., Jan. 14, in a manzanita patch in



This is an example of what the species *Bombus melanopygus* looks like. Its common name is black-tailed bumble bee. Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey



Nancy Hansen. Courtesy photo

the Arboretum.

The contest memorializes Professor Thorp, a global authority on bees and a UC Davis distinguished emeritus professor of entomology, who died June 7, 2019, at age 85. He retired in 1994 but continued working until several weeks before his death. Every year he looked forward to seeing the first bumble bee in the area.

Thorp, a tireless advocate of pollinator species protection and conservation, co-authored two books in 2014, during his retirement: *Bumble Bees of North America: An Identification Guide* (Princeton University,) and *California Bees and Blooms: A Guide for Gardeners and Naturalists* (Heyday). Every year he looked forward to finding or seeing the first bumble bee in the area.

Thorp co-taught The Bee Course from 2002 to 2019. An intensive nine-day workshop affiliated with the American Museum of Natural History and held annually at the Southwestern Research Station, Portal, Ariz., it draws participants from around the world, including conservation biologists, pollination ecologists, and other biologists who want to gain greater knowledge of the systematics and biology of bees.

For years, Thorp monitored Franklin's bumble bee, found only in a small range in Southern Oregon and Northern California, and now feared extinct. He last spotted it in 2006. ★

Solano Master Plan for Aging Charting Lifelong Livability

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County, in collaboration with the Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging and Innovative Health Solutions, is hosting a community meeting on January 30, 2024, to share their work on the Solano Master Plan for Aging (MPA), a strategic initiative addressing the evolving needs of older and disabled adults in Solano County and seek active input from community leaders and professionals. The meeting will cover the Solano MPA development, how to apply for the Solano MPA Advisory Committee, and how community members can get involved.

The Solano MPA is a response to the accelerated growth of the older adult population in Solano County and the State of California. In the next decade, Solano County's older adult population is expected to double, representing twenty percent of the county's population. Solano MPA will address five key challenges this population increase poses for the older and disabled adult community: housing for all ages and stages, health, inclusion and equity, caregiving, and affording aging. Addressing these

needs ensures all Solano County residents are engaged, valued, and afforded opportunities to thrive within their community.

Solano County, Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging and Innovative Health Solutions invites community leaders, professionals, and citizens to attend the kickoff Solano Master Plan for Aging community meeting on January 30, 2024, 9:30-11:30 am at the Solano County Events Center. Engagement with Solano MPA is key to creating a sustainable and equitable future for the rising population.

For further information on how to register for the community meeting and about the Solano Master Plan for Aging, visit the Solano MPA website at <https://mpasolano.org/>.

Innovative Health Solutions aims to connect public and private organizations to create healthy and equitable communities for all through collective policy, systems, and environmental community changes.

The Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging advocates for and enhances the quality of life, health, independence, and dignity of older and disabled adults in Napa and Solano counties. ★

Thompson Celebrates Success of Bipartisan Safer Communities Act

Congressman Mike Thompson Press Release

ST. HELENA, CA (MPG) - Today, Chair of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Mike Thompson (CA-04) applauded the Department of Justice (DOJ) announcement that over 500 illegal gun purchases by Americans under the age of 21 have been stopped thanks to the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

"The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act is the most significant law enacted in 30 years to keep our country safe from the epidemic of gun violence," said Thompson. "Today's announcement by the DOJ proves that this law is working and is keeping firearms out of the hands of people who are a danger to themselves or others. Preventing young people who have a criminal record or have been shown to be dangerous from

purchasing a firearm is helping to reduce suicide rates, stop domestic violence, and prevent mass shootings.

"We have a lot more to do to end the scourge of gun violence, but this announcement makes clear that we are moving in the right direction. House Republicans must stop playing political games and work with House Democrats to pass legislation that would help save lives and keep firearms out of the hands of people who are a danger to themselves or others."

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act provided enhanced background checks for people under 21. The law requires an investigative period to review juvenile and mental health records, including checks with state databases and local law enforcement, for buyers under 21 years of age, creating an enhanced, longer background check of up to ten days. ★



New Regulations Allow Water-Rights Reviews, Impose Truck-Emission Standards

New laws and regulations will affect agriculture in 2024. Senate Bill 389 gives the California State Water Resources Control Board authority to investigate whether rights of a water user are valid and impose sanctions for unauthorized diversions. Assembly Bill 1016 will modernize the certification process for farmers to use drones to spray pesticides and beneficial biological treatments on their farms. The Advanced Clean Fleets rule will phase out most diesel trucks in California over the next two decades, beginning this year.

Farmers in Scott, Shasta Watershed Face More Water Curtailments

Even though the clock doesn't run out on winter for another eight weeks, state water officials are bracing for another dry year for the Scott and Shasta rivers in Siskiyou County. At its Dec. 19 meeting, the California State Water Resources Control Board unanimously readopted an emergency drought regulation that curtails water rights in the Scott and Shasta rivers, affecting farmers and ranchers. The order limits surface-water diversions and groundwater pumping. It also prioritizes minimum flow recommendations to protect threatened coho and other fish.

Wet Season, Late Planting Impact California Rice Harvest

Winter and spring rains brought welcome drought relief in 2023, but they caused rice growers to get a late start planting, and the delay rippled through harvest. Add relatively cool weather in late summer and early fall, and many rice producers said their grain moisture levels appeared stuck or were slow to drop to the desirable 18% to 20% harvest levels. During an average year, the season from planting to harvest spans 145 to 150 days. In 2023, it was 152 days. California growers planted about 501,200 acres of rice in 2023, nearly double the amount in 2022's severe drought.

Study: California Farmworkers Earned Less After Passage of Agriculture Overtime Law

Since California's new overtime law for farm employees began taking effect in 2019, the state's farmworkers worked a total of 15,000 to 45,000 fewer hours and earned a total of \$6 million to \$9 million less on their weekly paychecks than they would have without this law in place. Those are findings of Alexandra Hill of the University of California Berkeley's Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Hill's study shows that, on average, there has been a decrease in worker hours and wages. The overtime law, Assembly Bill 1066, was passed in 2016. ★

Call for 60-Second Videos by Students

Solano Resource Conservation District

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) is now accepting entries from Solano County students in grades 6 through 12, and their sponsoring teachers, for the Water Agency's 14th Annual Video Contest. The winning entry will receive a \$1,500 prize.

The contest is soliciting original videos that express ideas related to this year's theme, Think Outside the Sink: Keeping the Rainfall in our Reservoir. Students are challenged with making a 60-second public service announcement to share innovative ways that people can make water conservation a way of life and keep water in our reservoirs after our recent wet year. Videos should tell compelling stories about the need for water conservation, while also including information about everyday actions people can take to limit water use both inside and outside of their home.

This year, SCWA will award prizes of \$1,500 to the first-place video, \$1,000 to the second-place video, and \$500 to the third-place video. Additionally, the

winning entry from each school with ten or more submissions will be awarded a \$100 gift card. The three teachers who generate the most student participation in the contest will each win a \$200 gift card.

Entries will be judged by a panel of water efficiency experts and community leaders for entertainment value and originality; videography, style and organization; audio/sound quality; and movie content, accuracy, and response to the assigned theme.

Complete information about the 2024 video contest, water conservation information, samples of past winning videos, and the 2024 entry packet is available at <https://sites.google.com/view/solanowatervideocontest/>.

Entries can be submitted through e-mail to Education@solanorcd.org, via Google Drive using the form found on the contest website, or on a USB flash drive via US mail, or in person to the Solano Resource Conservation District office in Dixon. Release forms and entry forms must accompany video submissions in order for them to be considered. All entries and paperwork must be received by Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 5 p.m. ★

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6. Certain tray content
9. Little bit, in Mexico
13. Ammo in a quiver, sing.
14. Geological Society of America
15. Young eel
16. Song of praise
17. Snowy ___ or great horned ___
18. Must-haves
19. *Strait between Russia and Alaska
21. *Smallest of the Great Lakes
23. Crime scene evidence
24. Peter the Great, e.g.
25. Consumer-protecting org.
28. Skiing helmet manufacturer
30. Mother-of-pearl, pl.
35. Type of sail, pl.
37. #29 Down anagram
39. Like Raphael's cherubs
40. Face shape
41. Tie with a morning coat
43. Dwarf buffalo
44. Short version
46. "At ____, soldier"
47. Supposed giant Himalayan
48. Drool
50. Swimming hole
52. D.C. V.I.P.
53. Jim Acosta's announcement
55. *Baltic ___
57. *0 latitude
61. *Bay east of India
64. Cuban dance
65. John Keats' "To Autumn," e.g.
67. Fortune teller's card
69. Jeered
70. China's drinkable export
71. Bird-related
72. Dick and Jane's dog
73. "Slippery" tree
74. Lean, past tense

DOWN
1. *Atlas page
2. Speedy steed
3. First Nation nation
4. Squirrel away
5. Possessing
6. Full of excitement
7. *Opposite of NNE
8. Saintry rings
9. Guilty, e.g.
10. Last word on walkie-talkie
11. Ghana money
12. Guestimate phrase (2 words)
15. Catch in a snare
20. Nigerian money
22. A Bobsey twin
24. Steel on boots, pl.
25. *Inlet in Norway
26. Abalone seeker
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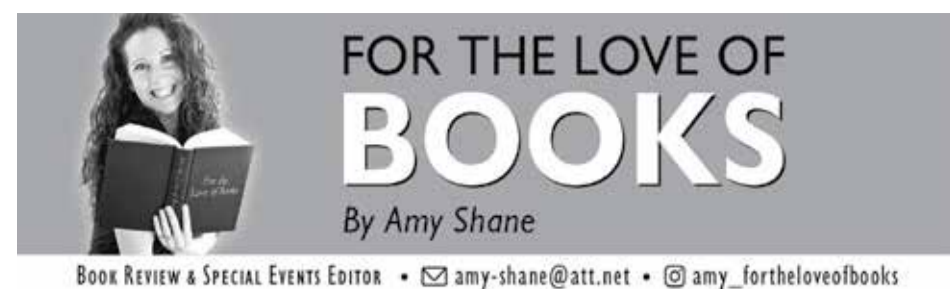
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Riley Reviews

“THE HOLDOVERS” BITTERSWEET DRAMEDY; LIFETIME MOVIE SLATE ON TV

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“THE HOLDOVERS” RATED R

Released late last October, “The Holdovers” achieved almost universal acclaim, and yet seemingly did not snare a wide audience. With possibly limited commercial appeal, the film may have been too thought-provoking to catch on in theaters.

Fortunately, “The Holdovers” is now streaming exclusively on Peacock, a platform that gives this wonderfully bittersweet holiday story more exposure. The film reunites “Sideways” director Alexander Payne and star Paul Giamatti.

The time is December 1970 at the Barton Academy boarding school in New England. Giamatti’s Paul Hunham, a stern taskmaster, teaches ancient history to privileged, disinterested students bored out of their minds with the subject matter.

Worse still, the pupils intensely dislike the curmudgeonly instructor, and not just because a good grade is hard to achieve. These pampered kids come from wealthy families, and their sense of entitlement is grating to someone like Hunham, even though he’s a Barton grad himself.

As the Christmas break approaches, the irascible teacher also finds himself out of favor with Headmaster Woodrup (Andrew Garman) for having the temerity to flunk the son of a senator, who just happens to be a major donor.

With four students, for various reasons, having to spend the holiday break staying on campus, Hunham is assigned the duty of babysitter, and you can be sure his charges are not thrilled to discover they are stuck in an educational detention camp.

Among the holiday hostages are the brash Teddy Kountze (Brady Hepner) and laidback jock Jason Smith (Michael Provost), and two younger students. Not long into the break, they are freed by Smith’s family for a ski trip.

Not so lucky is the last-minute addition of upperclassman Angus Tully (Dominic Sessa) as a holdover, because his remarried mother (Gillian Vigman) decided that a Caribbean vacation with her new husband would be better off without her son.

Failing to get parental permission to join the other students on a ski excursion, Angus is stuck with a teacher he despises and school cook Mary Lamb (Da’Vine Joy Randolph), a grieving mother whose son died in Vietnam.

An interesting dynamic emerges between the damaged, brainy troublemaker and the crusty teacher who seemingly has no life outside the boundaries of the school. An unlikely bond slowly forms when Angus needs medical care and they are both invited to a Christmas party.

The true beauty of “The Holdovers” is driven by sharp dialogue and meaningful character development. The film

proves to be a bittersweet dramedy with truly humorous touches. Paul Giamatti deserves a Best Actor Oscar.

JANUARY MOVIES ON THE LIFETIME CHANNEL

A “Ripped from the Headlines” movie, “Girl in the Video” examines the story of widowed mother Mo (Cush Jumbo) who is managing parenting two teens the best she can. Her daughter Krissy (Tia May Watts) has begun secretly chatting online with a boy she believes is a cute high school senior.

Krissy sneaks out one night to meet him at a party. When Mo discovers her daughter is missing the next morning, Mo and her son Robbie start an all-out search for her and alert local detectives.

As the case garners media attention, an anonymous tip reveals Krissy is being held captive and exploited in sexually abusive live streams for money on the dark web. Racing to find Krissy before she is murdered, Mo and Robbie track down every clue they can to try to bring her home.

Inspired by true events, “Dying in Plain Sight” tells the emotional story of overweight high school student Morgan Cruz (Raffa Virago) and her mother Kim (Nicola Correia-Damude), who both harbor dark secrets that lead to devastating circumstances.

When Kim leaves her cheating husband, she becomes so focused on “clean eating” that she doesn’t notice that Morgan has stopped eating altogether. While Morgan receives positive validation for her changing body, privately she begins to experience the terrible side effects of her disorder.

Morgan’s cries for help seem to fall on deaf ears until she’s hospitalized for life-threatening malnutrition, leading Kim to finally realize how her own disordered eating was a terrible influence on Morgan, pushing her to the brink of death.

Inspired by real stories, “Confessions of a Cam Girl” follows the eighteen-year-old fashion savant Kristen (Megan Best) who is set to become the first in her family to graduate from college.

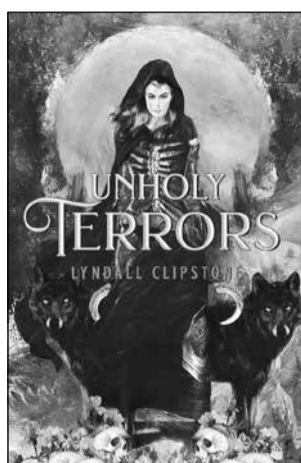
Her working-class parents are furious when she reveals a plan to attend fashion school instead of college. Her parents refuse to use her college fund for her far-fetched dream.

Determined to pay for fashion school herself, Kristen secretly creates an online explicit content page to raise \$10,000 for her dream program. Confident she can keep her side hustle under wraps, Kristen’s secret unravels and threatens not just her future, but the safety of her family as well.

The Lifetime Channel is known for its movies based on true stories, and some as the Internet will tell you are so outrageous that you won’t believe they are based on real life. There will be more to come. ★

Unholy Terrors

by Lyndall Clipstone



◆ Henry Holt
◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
◆ Release Date: Oct. 17, 2023

whatever it takes to save Lux.

But as night stretches out to days, Ravel’s fangs upon Everline’s neck awaken new feelings.

Now powerless against the darkness, Everline begins to fall, blurring the lines of the warden and monster with duty and desire, asking the question is she can ever return home again?

Lyndall Clipstone once again takes leads readers by the hand, leading them into the gentle lull of darkness. Unholy Terrors takes readers deep within the shadows of right and wrong, verses protector and monster.

Taking the trope of enemies to lovers even deeper, this book also explores the lines of sacrifice and duty with that of forbidden longing and desire. Written in a prose-type style, this story is dark, gothic, and full of rich imagery highlighting what Lyndall Clipstone is known for. The queen of monstrous love and dark fairytales, will take hold of her readers’ hearts, uncovering the desire to walk within the edges of the shadow and love that is forbidden. ★

to take over as Everline and the Vespertine, take the dangerous trek to the Thousandfold to rescue Lux. Where, hopefully, more than one truth will be unveiled. Everline grew up with stories of her mother abandoning her on the edge of the Thousandfold. Now, through this trek, Everline might finally be able to learn the truth of her mother’s magical hold, even if it is unholy.

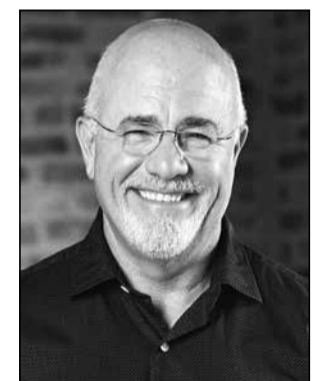
As Everline and the Vespertine Ravel trek through storm-swollen rivers, catacombs, and muddled grounds Everline’s reminds herself that she will do

In a world where wardens protect the boundaries, past the wall monsters rule the night. The very monsters told in stories with needle sharp claws and bared fangs known as the Vespertine.

Everline Blackthorn, a devoted warden, vowed to protect the boundary wall at any cost. But, when a series of omens threaten the very boundary, she was sworn to protect, Everline breaks protocol and ranks to investigate. With her faithful friends, Lux and Briar, at her side, Everline believes she is more powerful than any monster until she discovers what truly lies hidden in the shadows.

Then the unthinkable happens: lured out by the call of the Vespertine, Lux vanishes into the night. Now, Everline will do anything to bring her back, even if it means capturing and working with a monster. However, the price she will have to pay is more than she ever imagined. Vespertine magic needs blood, Everline’s blood, but the cost to save Lux is worth it.

As the days grow darker, the night begins



Dave Ramsey Says

you’re basically unemployed. On top of that, you have just \$40,000 with which to start a business. It’s time to rev up your engines and get to work, not spend a bunch of money vacationing. Trust me, there’ll be plenty of time to celebrate after you’ve won, maybe in even bigger and better ways, if you’ll just delay gratification and put in the dedication and hard work now.

When it comes to opening a new business, a good rule of thumb is this: Everything’s going to take twice as long to accomplish as you thought it would, and everything’s going to be twice as expensive as you thought it’d be. I’m sure you’re both smart people, but my guess is you’re not exceptions to this rule when it comes to opening and running a small business.

Think about it, every single dollar connected with your business could mean the difference between survival and going under. Like I said,

I kind of get your husband’s thought process, but it would be a very unwise idea right now. You’ve got to look at the big picture. You’re going to be heartbroken, and maybe in a real financial bind, if you have to close up shop in a few months because you ran out of money.

On the other hand, if you work hard now, stay smart and make this thing a success, you can take a vacation—and really celebrate—when the time is right!

—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 Ramsey Solutions ★

Dear Dave,

My husband and I bought a franchise recently, and we are opening our business in a couple of months. We’ve got \$40,000 saved up, but my husband wants us to take a two-week vacation before we open for business. He feels that the business will completely consume us for the next two or three years, and he wants to go into things relaxed and refreshed. How do you feel about this idea?

— Jill

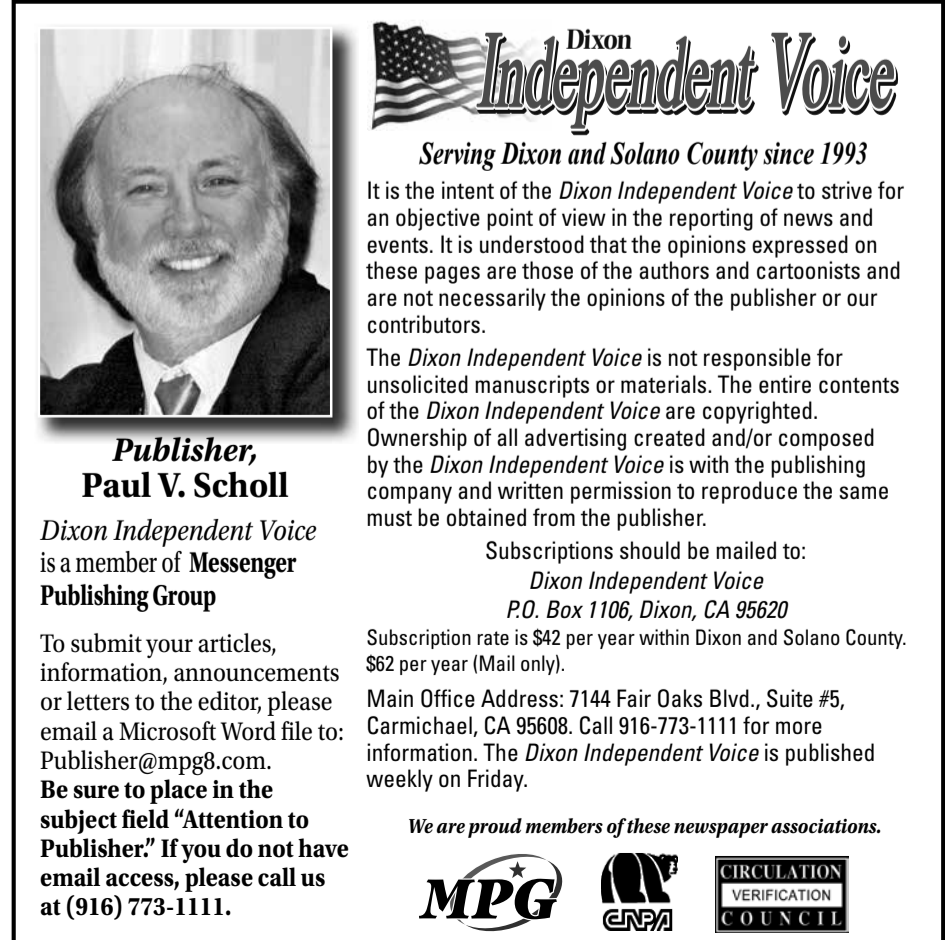
Dear Jill,

I understand where your husband’s coming from. A business is very time consuming, and to make it a success you’ll both have to eat, sleep and breathe it for a very long time.

But here’s the reality of your situation. Right now,



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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



If you turned off the TV last night or left the Golden One Center after the Kings' loss to the Charlotte Hornets ambivalent to the outcome, please don't call yourself a fan.

If, on the other hand, you woke up the following day with your stomach in knots, or you drove home from the game the night before in a fowl mood, count yourself someone with skin in the game.

I fully expected to be writing this column praising the Kings for a 2-1 road trip, and celebrating a three-game winning streak, as they dismantled the Charlotte Hornets the night before.

Well, that's not the case, and both players and coaches own this one.

Harrison Barnes was MIA once again, contributing a paltry three points and one rebound in 23 minutes of work. Really, Harrison? The classy veteran that got a 19-million-dollar per-year contract in the off season. Breaking news — we need a bigger contribution than what you're bringing every night. And, honestly, what is Barnes doing in the starting lineup?

Message to coach Brown. Wake up! Just removing Kevin Huerter from the starting lineup may be a step in the right direction, but a true shakeup is what is needed.

Harrison Barnes should be coming off the bench, and Trey Lyles needs to take over his spot in the starting lineup. Plain and simple. This is not about hurt feelings, or what you brought to the table 2 years ago, it's what have you done for me lately, and Harrison, you've been missing in action.

I liked the move putting Huerter on the bench, but Chris Duarte was the wrong choice to replace him.

As much as everyone loves the spark that Malik Monk gives the Kings off the bench, and talk of 6th man of the year, Malik is a qualified NBA starter, and its high time coach Brown starts accessing his talent a little better.

After relegating Davion Mitchell to basketball purgatory, suddenly he emerges again and helps the Kings win two consecutive road games over Atlanta and Memphis. This was a welcome sight, and something Kings fans have been waiting for. The same can be said for increased minutes in the same two games for Trey Lyles, who has been stellar off the bench, and in this writer's opinion has earned a shot at the starting lineup.

Will someone tell me what's wrong with a lineup of Sabonis, Fox, Monk, Lyles, and

Keegan Murray?

Granted, Murray is way too inconsistent, but I believe you ride with him as a second-year player, and work on the more obvious changes, like utilizing Huerter and Barnes coming off the bench.

Huerter has started every game, and still hasn't found his stroke. Barnes simply disappears for games at a time, with no apparent repercussions.

When I played basketball, you either performed or someone else on the team took over your minutes.

Last night's loss to the Hornets was an embarrassment, and with the team assembled today, there is no excuse for it.

Really bad coaching and 21 turnovers did the trick, and if immediate changes are not made, I sadly believe we are in for more of the same.

Without question, the Kentucky Wildcats know how to turn out NBA basketball players, and in the case of the Sacramento Kings — De'Aaron Fox, Malik Monk, and Trey Lyles should all be in the starting lineup. Let's see if Huerter, Barnes, Duarte, and others can provide a spark coming off the bench. Let Harrison Barnes bid for the 6th man award, and start earning some of his 19 million dollars per year.

Just filling in the correct lineup card sounds way too simplistic, and it is!

Basketball is played on both ends of the court, and the Kings defense this year has been tepid and inconsistent at best. That can change. It only starts with a shakeup in the starting lineup, but for sure having Davion Mitchell starting every game will give the Kings a better chance at setting a defensive tone from the outset.

Coach Brown earned Coach of the Year honors last season, and I celebrate his award. But that was last season, and just like his players, he needs to up his game.

Please, start winning some challenges, or even taking a chance by calling for a challenge. To some degree you have to trust your players on the floor when they are vociferously telling you to take a challenge. His record this year is abysmal, and making correct challenges is part of the NBA game. Coach Brown, you have to get better.

19-13 is not a bad record, and the sky isn't falling. Change is needed for certain though, and I hope the coaching staff is listening.

If you have thoughts, email me at vgarris@kingsfan.com.

Happy New Year Kings fans! ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-001943
 The following persons are doing business as: Mirador Construction, Mirador Energy, Mirador Solar, 1652 W Texas Street Suite 101A, Fairfield, CA 94533.
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act business under the above business name on: May 31, 2018
 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 ficti-

itious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 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: January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
 MIRADOR 1-26-24



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.



DIXON POLICE LOG

Friday, January 5, 2024

- 0209** - Vandalism arrest report was taken in the 800 block of North Adams St. Officers contacted (S) Sandra Jones (61). Jones was arrested and taken to the Solano County Jail.
- 0243** - Criminal threats arrest report was taken in the 7000 block of Schroeder Rd. (S) Prameet Harrian (36) of Vacaville was contacted and taken into custody. Harrian was taken to the Solano County Jail.
- 0802** - Information report in the DPD Lobby.
- 0901** - Vandalism reported in the 100 block of Bloom Drive.
- 1138** - Threats report taken in the 1900 block of Berry Ct.
- 1338** - Theft reported in the 2100 block of Stratford Avenue, wherein an unknown subject stole approximately \$700 worth of toothpaste on 1/3/24.

Thursday, January 4

- 1922** - Grand theft, possession of narcotics, and possession of drug paraphernalia arrest report was taken in the 2000 North 1st St. Officers contacted (S) Larry Armstrong (36) of Sacramento. Armstrong was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.
- 2039** - Domestic violence and assault with a deadly weapon report was taken in the 500 block of Alma Ct.
- 0210** - Assist Outside Agency report was taken on West A at North Lincoln.
- 0320** - Informational report was taken in the 1900 block of Berry Ct.
- 1349** - Information report taken at NorthBay Hospital in Fairfield for a non-criminal incident that occurred in the 400 block of Lynd Way.

Wednesday, January 3

- 1941** - Found wallet report was taken at the intersection of Rennert Wy. at Rehrmann Dr.
- 0240** - Burglary report was taken in the 1100 block of Pitt School Rd.
- 0759** - Informational report taken at the Dixon Police Department.
- 1022** - Found property turned into the Dixon Police Department.
- 1314** - Vandalism reported in the 1300 block of Hawthorne Court.
- 1455** - Theft reported in the 500 block of South 1st Street.

Tuesday, January 2

- 1800** - Petty theft report taken in the 2000 block of North 1st Street.
- 1820** - Agency assist with Dixon Fire Department in the 300 block of South Jefferson Street.
- 1840** - Report of domestic violence in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street resulted in the arrest of Nassir Derosier (18) of Dixon for misdemeanor domestic violence and vandalism. He was taken to county jail.
- 0426** - Burglary reported in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive resulted in the arrest of Juan Mendoza Hernandez (22) for burglary. He was taken to county jail.
- 1210** - Court Order Violation 200 block Diane Place.
- 1220** - Fraud report 1100 block Dawson Drive.
- 1437** - Follow up at the police department resulted in the arrest of Analeice Newey (18) of Dixon for extortion. She was transported to county jail.

Monday, January 1

- 1645** - Confidential Report 1300 block Stratford Ave. 1700 Found Property at Dixon PD.

Sunday, December 31

- 0000 Hours** - Domestic Violence investigation in the 800 block of Green Drive.
- 0300 Hours** - Domestic Violence investigation in the 600 block of Stratford Ave, led to the arrest of Daniel Cruz-Molina (32) of Dixon for domestic violence and DUI.
- 1645** - Confidential report 1900 block Folsom Fair Circle.

Saturday, December 30

- 1819** - Traffic collision report was taken at the intersection of Stratford Av at Pitt School Rd.
- 2202** - Failure to yield report was taken in the 1400 block of Ingrid Dr.
- 2229** - Threats report was taken in the 2000 block of Duncan St.
- 0038** - Informational report was taken in the 400 block of Ellesmere Dr.
- 0612** - Welfare check in the 500 block of Fulton Court.
- 0744** - Informational report taken in the 500 block of Fulton Court.
- 1309** - Verbal dispute in the 100 block of Heritage Lane.

Friday, December 29

- 2110** - Warrant arrest, possession of drug paraphernalia, probation violation, and possession of forged identification arrest report were taken at the intersection of West A St. at Estates Dr. Officers contacted (S) Tiler Zook (21) of Vacaville. Zook was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.
- 0900** - Industrial accident in the 600 block of Industrial Way.
- 1505** - Theft reported in the 200 block of East Walnut Street.

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The Spats by Jeff Pickering

POPEYE by EMILY MARLINO

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Differences: 1. Light is moved; 2. Nose is smaller; 3. Buttonholes are added; 4. Bricks are lower; 5. Headlight is missing; 6. Shirt is different.

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

CRIM & BIAR IT by Dave T. Phipps

"Good news! We're not in the obits today!"

TIGER by Bud Blake

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First Snow Survey of the Season Finds Below Average Conditions

DWR Special Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the first snow survey of the season on January 2, 2023, at Phillips Station. The manual survey recorded 7.5 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent of 3 inches, which is 30 percent of average for this location. The snow water equivalent measures the amount of water contained in the snowpack and is a key component of DWR's water supply forecast. Statewide the snowpack is 25 percent of average for this date.

After one of the largest snowpacks on record last season, the start of this water year has been dry despite some recent storms in the last weeks of December that provided a small boost in the snowpack. While state reservoirs are still above average for this time of year and strong El Niño conditions are present in the Pacific Ocean, the outlook for the rest of the winter remains highly uncertain.

"California saw firsthand last year how historic drought conditions can quickly give way to unprecedented, dangerous flooding," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. "Although El Niño does not guarantee an above average water year, California is preparing for the possibility of more extreme storms while increasing our climate resilience for the next drought."

DWR's electronic readings from 130 stations placed throughout the state indicate that the statewide snowpack's snow water equivalent is 2.5 inches, or 25 percent of average for this date, compared to 185 percent on



The Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the first snow survey of the season on January 2, 2023, at Phillips Station. The manual survey recorded 7.5 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent of 3 inches, which is 30 percent of average for this location. Photo courtesy of DWR

this date last year. "While we are glad the recent storms brought a small boost to the snowpack, the dry fall and below average conditions today shows how fast water conditions can change," said DWR's Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit Manager Sean de Guzman. "It's still far too early to say what kind of water year we will have, and it will be important for Californians to pay attention to their forecasts and

conserve water, rain or shine." Last year, California experienced climate whiplash when the driest three year-period on record ended with extreme storm events in January and March that caused damage and flooding across the state. These extreme weather events highlight the need for all Californians to prepare for flood risk. DWR is working with tribal, federal, state, and local partners to provide flood resources and training

to communities across the state. The State-Federal Flood Operations Center (FOC) has pre-positioned flood fight materials at more locations across the state and is starting this winter with more supplies on hand, including 2.2 million more sandbags. This fall, DWR coordinated pre-flood season meetings with emergency response agencies across the state and organized 38 flood-fight trainings for city,

county, state and tribal agencies to prepare for possible local emergencies.

One year ago, the January survey at the Phillips location showed a water content of 177 percent of average and was followed by a series of damaging atmospheric river storms in January and March that caused flood impacts across the state and produced one of the largest snowpacks on record.

In addition to deploying resources including over 1.9 million sandbags across the state last year, the FOC coordinated a joint state, federal and local response to snowmelt-driven flooding concerns and prepared for the historic snowmelt by providing hydraulic and hydrologic modeling and snowmelt forecasts that allowed agencies to deploy resources, reinforce levees and protect communities.

On average, the Sierra snowpack supplies about 30 percent of California's water needs. Its natural ability to store water is why the Sierra snowpack is often referred to as California's "frozen reservoir." Data from these snow surveys and forecasts produced by DWR's Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit are important factors in determining how DWR manages the state's water resources. Due to last year's above average conditions and historic snowpack, a total of 3.5 million acre-feet of water was captured in State Water Project (SWP) reservoirs. Lake Oroville, the SWP's largest reservoir, is currently at 130 percent of average to date and state water managers are prepared to capture and store as much water as possible. ★

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