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of the
Russian River**
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Father's Day!**



Dixon Independent Voice

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Joy Abounds at Graduation



Graduating seniors are visibly excited for their future.

**Story and photos
by Scott Mullins**

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Although the Dixon Rams Class of 2024 high school experience started off unconventionally, it ended with a bang on Finney Field on the morning of Saturday, June 8. The class of 280 proudly walked in their colorful decorated caps and gowns to their seats to the traditional ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ while waving and searching for their family and friends in the bleachers.

Dixon High School Principal Stephanie Marquez thanked and welcomed the graduating class and their families, the



You did it! Excited family and friends wait for the Dixon High School ceremony to begin.

Dixon High School faculty, staff, marching band and the many friends and guests in attendance. A moment of silence was held next for those who could not attend and would

be missed.

Dixon High School acknowledges not just one (like a traditional valedictorian) but all 24 students who achieved a 4.0 grade average, according to Principal Marquez. These students were announced as the Distinguished Scholar recipients and they are Nargis Azfali, Esmeralda Almejo Chavez, Natalia Barcenaz, Raymon Carrillo, Miranda Cline, Camryn Elliot, Sierra Fong, Aubrey Fries, Sarai Garcia, Jimena Garcia Salazar, Audrey Graham, Caitlyn Hendershot, Matthew Lazaro, Ismael Lepe, Julissa Lerma, Max Loffgren, Ingeborg Mide, Alexander Morales Gonzalez, Kristi Ortiz, Kaylee Ramirez, Aemonn Rosenberger, John Santos, Easton Silva and Ann Marie Tetteh.

Marquez then announced

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Dixon Passes Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget



Kate Zawadzki presents the annual budget to officials on June 4 before it was adopted by Mayor Steve Bird and City Council.

**Story and photo
by Angela Underwood**

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon City Finance Director Kate Zawadzki took to the podium one last time to present the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 budget.

The proposed 2024-25 budget includes revenues and transfers of \$69.3 million and appropriations of \$54.5 million for all funds, according to the 42-page document adopted June 4. The document notes that "existing balances within the fund will be used for any fund in which proposed expenditures exceed projected revenues."

The General Fund's proposed budget includes \$28.6 million in revenues and \$31.1 million in expenditures.

"This document is largely unchanged from the budget study session that we did on May 6," Zawadzki said.

In March, Zawadzki reported a \$605,000 increase in the 2023-24 budget. The finance director said that "slight changes were made" to workshopped figures and "we are asking for some fiscal changes for the Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget."

According to the budget document, the fiscal impact of "the proposed 2023-24 General Fund budget projects expenditures exceeding revenues by \$1.9 million, and these excess expenditures will reduce the projected fund balance reserve from 42.5% in FY 2023-24 to 34.96% in FY 2024-25."

The budget details dividends, which "are budgeted at \$0.59 million in FY 2024-25, an increase of 14%, but still below pre-pandemic levels."

Sales tax remains unchanged, with Fiscal Year 2024-25 tax receipts bringing in approximately \$11.5 million, according to HdI Companies, city analysts. Based on the budget figures, property taxes are expected to increase to 7% in Fiscal Year 2024-25 due to residential growth.

Additionally, the budget reports that Transient Occupancy Taxes decreased in Fiscal Year 2023-24 by 2% for total

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Largest MPHS Class Graduates

**Story and photos
by Debra Dingman**

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Other than one unhappy baby that cried loudly through half of the Maine Prairie High School graduation ceremony, everyone else in the entire Dixon Community Performing Arts Center was jubilant. The 41 members of the Class of 2024 filed into the traditional ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ amidst large bouquets of balloons and loud cheers.

Principal Angelina Arias welcomed the families, guests, and teachers in the packed auditorium and began with appreciation to the Dixon Unified School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Brian Dolan who is retiring this school year. She also acknowledged devoted ‘friends’ of the school including Adrienne Laughter, Shawntel McCammon, and Phil Lockwood. She noted that



Family and friends mingled after the graduation ceremony for the Maine Prairie High School Class of 2024.

she had an all-bilingual staff and referred to them as her ‘Dream Team.’

“Never let your diversity define you,” she advised the graduates in her speech that acknowledged each had come with struggles or obstacles, but all had overcome them. “Never underestimate the power of your voice to affect change.”

She reiterated the speech in Spanish and closed with “May your dreams be big, and your hearts be filled with joy.”

Graduation speeches by students were given by Jasmine Canchola, Kaylee Escobar, Rylee Manny and Jacqueline Silva.

“Being from an immigrant family is not easy. I was failing in all my

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Stinky Sensationalism

By Debra Dingman

Sometimes I just have to sadly shake my head at my profession. I think to myself, surely they are too young to understand what they are doing when they publish three or four-inch headlines but then I realize, no; young people do not own newspapers or television outlets. Older, wiser people do so that means only one thing: they’ve lost their senses!

There is an old adage in the news world: “There is no such thing as bad press.” The notion behind that saying is that putting a name in the press—whether it be bad or good news—is still giving publicity.

So, I fully expected the guilty verdict that I heard on the nightly news on Trump was going to make headlines the next day in the Vacaville Reporter, but when I saw that they made it a three- or four-inch font and filled the front page, I was just sickened. It’s obvious stinky sensationalism. The publisher obviously doesn’t realize a revolt—or at least a huge amount of anger--could be instigated by their bold print.

I’m not a brilliant-minded person but I can tell you with common sense and logic that half this country is for Trump — regardless of his shenanigans, misbehavior, inappropriate actions, etc. or legal findings.

That half usually keeps their mouths shut because one is considered a ‘bad’ person by those who don’t keep their mouths shut. But I assure you, there is a huge amount of quiet Trump supporters, and the press just made it more obvious of how slanted news can be...and could actually foster the Trumpsters claims that ‘the justice system is rigged.’

The same could be said about almost all other media bias that is knocking us

on the heads on the news channels daily. Knowing there is going to be tons of press from now until elections about this situation just sickens me for the sake of our nation because it separates good-thinking Americans into separate camps.

According to Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, “At this dangerously divided moment in our history, all leaders, regardless of party, must not pour fuel on the fire with more toxic partisanship.”

On a side note to this, I want to thank the students at Dixon Montessori Charter School for spending time studying journalism. There is no better time in our country for young people to learn the importance of fair and accurate reporting.

We used to have journalists we could trust (like Walter Cronkite) and only three major broadcasts systems (ABC, CBS and NBC) but the internet opened avenues, doors and online media in ways no one could foresee and now there are many avenues to choose from for getting the news -with a slant.

We have plenty of sources reporting on various factions which make it more difficult to come to an intelligent conclusion. There are extreme Democrats, extreme Republicans and extreme Liberals and one would have to hear or see them all to adequately decipher a solid conclusion.

If younger generations just turn it off altogether and older generations can’t figure out how to use a Roku, one wonders who actually is paying attention to our country? I do know one thing for sure, social media such as Facebook, Instagram, etc., are not helping. We need every American to be astute about politics and I’m especially proud and grateful of those young students learning to have a good understanding of the press. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Strange Brew will perform at the June 20 Pardi Plaza Chamber Concert night. Courtesy photo

MPG Staff

Parent/Tot Swimming

Attention parents with little people ages 6 months to 35 months. A new water exploration and introductory swim skills class will be offered this summer. There will be safety practices, songs, games and fun. Call the Dixon Recreation Department at (707) 678-7022 for more information.

City Council

The Dixon City Council will meet on Tuesday, June 18, at City Hall, 600 East A St. This meeting will be physically open to the public and all members of the public are invited to participate via video conferencing or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128. More information is on the city website and is listed in detail on the agenda under the government tab after going to cityofdixon.us.

Farmers Market

Support our local farmers! Downtown Dixon Business Association continues to host a weekly Farmers Market every Thursday at the Women’s Improvement Club Park next to the Public Library from 5 to 7:30 p.m. There are not only fresh fruits and vegetables locally grown but also beautiful bouquets of fresh cut flowers, herb remedies, home-made delectables and music.

Father’s Day Fun

Join Freedom Church for a special Father’s Day Service this June 16, starting at 10 a.m. The service will be packed with music, worship, dance and an inspiring message straight from the Word of God. Afterward, the fun continues with an outdoor family bash at Hall Park. The address is 470 E H St.

Concerts in the Plaza

Join Strange Brew when they perform on June 20, for Concerts in the Plaza from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Bring folding chairs or a picnic blanket and a picnic dinner or order takeout from one of the many excellent downtown restaurants. Pardi Plaza, Corner of 1st and A streets.

Scooters on the Loose!

You might have noticed the pick -up of scooter users all over town lately as soon as the good weather hit. That’s why the city is reminding everyone that there are laws on e-scooters (CVC 21235) for riders to wear helmets, have a valid driver’s license or instruction permit, must be ridden on the road or in bike lanes. They are not permitted on sidewalks and the maximum speed limit is 15 mph.

Fish Fry Friday

The menu at the Veteran’s Hall for Friday, June 14, will be a Fish Fry-including fries, hush puppies, and coleslaw. Dinner starts around 5:30 and costs \$12. The hall is open to everyone at 1305 North First St. and proceeds help the local veterans. For more information, contact the American Legion Post 208, visit Facebook or stop by the hall on Friday evenings.

4th of July

On Thursday, July 4, there will be a concert by Helios from 6 to 9 p.m. sponsored by the Dixon Chamber of Commerce and fireworks show starting about 9:15 p.m. There will also be recreational swimming at the Pat Granucci Aquatics Center from 4 to 8 p.m. and pickleball in Hall Park. That will be for open play and instruction from 4:30 to 5:30; then round robin play, then from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. open play and instruction again. There will also be food trucks for your dining pleasure. ★

Thompson, Aguiar-Curry Honor 2024 Student Leadership Council Graduates



Congressman Mike Thompson stands with the Student Leadership Council graduates at the end-of-year ceremony. Photo courtesy of the Office of Congressman Mike Thompson

Office of Congressman Mike Thompson News Release

ROHNERT PARK, CA (MPG) - On June 9, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) and Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry recognized the 2024 Student Leadership Council graduates at an end-of-year town hall ceremony hosted at Sonoma State University. The event featured special guest speakers and a panel discussion on the issue of climate change. Rep. Thompson presented graduating students with certificates marking

their achievement serving on the Council.

“I am so proud of each of the young leaders graduating from Assembly Majority Leader Aguiar-Curry’s and my 2023-2024 Student Leadership Council,” said Rep. Thompson. “From combating the climate crisis to strengthening our democracy, this year’s student leaders are at the forefront of their generation’s most critical policy work. To our 2024 graduating student leaders: Congratulations, I cannot wait to see all you accomplish for our community and our country.”

“I am incredibly proud of the collaboration

with Congressman Thompson to give our future leaders an opportunity to experience the inner workings of government and learn how to become successful community members. Congratulations to all the students who are completing this program. I hope it has broadened their horizons and sparked their curiosity, inspiring them to dedicate their lives to improving their communities,” said Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.

Rep. Thompson and Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry’s Student Leadership Council allows local students

to work directly with their elected officials and staff to develop leadership skills, learn how government works, and engage with our community. The Council is open to all high school students who live in California’s Fourth Congressional District or California’s Fourth Assembly District. Selected students meet several times a month over the course of a semester.

Learn more about the Student Leadership Council at <https://mikethompson.house.gov/services/congressional-student-leadership-council>. ★

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Dixon Passes Fiscal Year Budget

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projected revenues of \$0.52 million.
The General Fund's proposed budget includes \$31.1 million in expenditures, of which \$0.3 million is needed for one-time expenses and capital purchases. More than half of the General Fund goes to public safety, with the police department at 30% and fire personnel at 23%. The rest is split between eight other departments, ranging from general government at 15% to human resources at 2%.
The Enterprise Funds portion reports steady projected revenues at \$5.1 million from Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Funds.
"Revenues in the Water Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Fund are projected to increase slightly from 2.1 million to \$2.2 million due to increased residential

growth," according to the budget document, adding that the Water Operating Reserve Fund funds' working capital is equal to 32% of the ongoing operating expenses.
Vice-Mayor Kevin Johnson said Zawadski's team brought some budget innovation, explicitly noting the "creative component as far as the needs for grant writing."
"Thank you for being creative on how we can parcel out that workload but yet still get some impact for grants in the economic development component," Johnson said.
There was no public comment on the budget's adoption.
Zawadski will stand before officials again for the Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2-23-24 update in September. ★

Largest MPHS Class Graduates



The largest graduating class from Maine Prairie High School last week saw 41 graduates.

Continued from page 1
classes. I had straight F's," started Silva adding that she did this for her mom. "I'm grateful this school gave me opportunities," she closed.
Following the speakers that included many accolades for their teachers and families, there was a charming slideshow with baby pictures next to the student's senior portraits which elicited hollers from each of the families in the audience.

Then the traditional talks about each student by one of their teachers began. Teachers told stories or listed positive characteristics of the students but also cited career goals.
Math teacher Andrea Ferguson spoke about Irvin Limon Reynaga, for example.
"He was the strongest math student that I've ever had, and he has two goals: Play soccer and get into mechanical engineering," she said.
Andrew Algood wants to become a professional chef. Nassir Derossier will go to a vocational school to become an electrician. So will Silverio Rosales. A couple young women want to become ultrasound techs.
"Xiomara Inzunza completed all three of her classes in half the time," said one teacher. "That's never been done before and I'm so proud of her. She



Smile for the camera! Photos galore of happy Maine Prairie graduates took place outside the Dixon Community Performing Arts Center.

plans to go to UC Davis and study medicine. I have no doubt she'll be successful."
Celine Higby is working as a certified caregiver for her great grandmother but has a goal of attending a fire academy because she wants to be a First Responder. She got straight A's. Angela Gomez will attend cosmetology school. Fred Ellsworth seeks a career in HVAC. One student, Eric Novoa, has a goal to be a professional bull rider. The audience listened intently to each presentation and teachers were often seen wiping their eyes.
Some will head off to Solano Community College, others to Woodland Community College and others to vocational schools but all had

plans of some kind to achieve their goals.
Principal Arias closed by thanking her mentor, Yvette Ramos, who retired last year after a long career as Maine Prairie High School principal and lastly gave honor to Superintendent Brian Dolan.
"This is the largest class Maine Prairie's ever had and for the new campus, all the new [staff and equipment,] and the glowing support, this is the man that made it happen," Arias said. She then instructed the graduates to stand and cross their tassels to the other side of their graduation caps. All headed outdoors for photos where floral bouquets and balloons intermingled with boisterous students, proud parents and a happy baby. ★

Joy Abounds at Graduation Ceremony



Dixon High School Assistant Principal Brian Welborn leads graduating seniors to their seats.

Continued from page 1
the 14 students who were being recognized with the State Seal of Biliteracy distinction. These recipients received the distinction for California Academic Proficiency in two or more languages. They are Diego Alvarado Zaragoza, Nahomi Monserrath Carrillo, Ariana Giselle Cuevas Meza, Jimena Garcia Salazar, Alondra Hernandez, Andres Luciano Mendieta Lezama, Abbie Lynn Ming, Alexander Morales Gonzalez, Citalli Moreida, Haley Natalie Oscanoa Yantas, Kaylee Coral Ramirez, Enoc Pedro Robles, Alberto Alejandro Rodriguez Carbajal and Joana Tejada.
Awards for the High School Hall of Fame and Student Athletes of the year were then announced and congratulated by Marquez.
The commencement address followed, and Marquez shared the stage with 2024 graduating senior and predicted rocket

scientist, Kaylee Ramirez. They reminded the students that although their high school experience did not begin the way it should have due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they certainly made up for lost time and brought life back to Dixon High School late in their first semester.
"You are extraordinary!" said Marquez. "You've brought joy back to this community."
Next, ASB President Kirsten Donovan reminded her classmates that "Today is our day" and encouraged them to take advantage of all the opportunities that wait for them.
This was followed by the presentation of diplomas, many more encouraging words and finally the certification of the class and finally a traditional recessional.
Overall, it was an inspiring ceremony for all and the Dixon Independent Voice wish these graduates the best in their future activities. ★

More Pedestrian Safety Surrounding School Added

By Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Pedestrian safety improvements are figuratively and literally around the corner from John Knight Middle School.
Dixon received \$250,000 in California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for four intersections surrounding the school: East Mayes Street and South 4th Street, East A Street and 4th Street, East B Street and North 4th Street, and East A Street and South 7th Street.
Junior engineer Carlos Santos said that at the time of the Highway Safety Improvement Program Cycle 10 application, staff estimated that it would cost a quarter million to fully update the pedestrian crossings around the school.
"The HSIP program was created to assist public agencies in increasing various aspects of public safety for pedestrians and bicyclists that utilize public facilities," Santos said. "These four locations were chosen due to their proximity to the recently reopened John Knight Middle School."
Santos said that with the school reopening, the adjacent area experiences increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic, "warranting an update to the surrounding crosswalks to be up to modern Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices standards."
Zara Construction was the highest bid for the project at \$330,000; however, MCE Corporation was the most responsible and lowest bidder at \$222,000. Additionally, the project comes with a construction contingency fee of \$22,000, which Santos said is par for the course.
"Standard practice for developing budgets

for construction projects is to include approximately 10% of the construction cost as additional contingency funds, which are primarily used for but not limited to construction cost increases, changes in project scope, unforeseen issues encountered in the field," Santos said.
But before the contract was approved at the June 4 meeting, Vice-Mayor Kevin Johnson pulled the item for discussion. While Johnson said he was "OK with the item," he wanted to comment on East A Street speeding.
"I do not want this one to go by without bringing that concern that I have back up again," Johnson said. "We have no stops of any kind between Bedrock Road and our downtown center, and at the same time, halfway through there, not only does it pass City Hall, but it passes our middle school."
Former Mayor and Councilman Thom Bogue concurred.
"After our last council meeting, we stood out there and watched one vehicle flying by, passing another vehicle right out front here," Bogue said. "It does seem to be an ongoing situation, and people are going faster and faster."
Upon adopting the resolution, Johnson said, "I know that we are making changes at four different intersections regarding this item and we have a grant that there is a clock ticking on and I certainly agree that I do not want to lose the opportunity to utilize those funds but I am going to continue to be concerned."
While construction begins on the four intersections, Santos said, "city staff is currently working with Caltrans and our on-call Traffic Engineering Consultants on an HSIP Cycle 11 project to continue to improve pedestrian crossings around schools." ★

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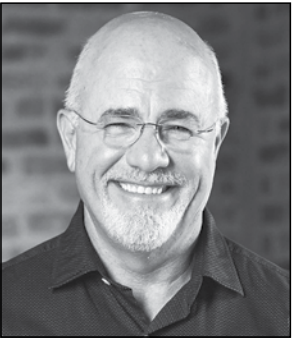
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Think, Pray and Find Your Calling

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have been very blessed financially over the course of our lives. We make a little over \$200,000 a year combined, and we currently have a net worth of around \$4 million. But what do you do when you're not motivated by that kind of thing anymore? How do you find and live out God's purpose for your life, when you've already had a better life than you ever expected?

—Amanda

Dear Amanda

I can't tell you what your calling is, but I can say this. There's a lot of fulfillment and joy to be found when you're doing something that serves the people and things in your life that matter most.

If you've studied psychology a bit, you may remember something called Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Basically, it says once your physiological and safety needs have been

Dave Ramsey Says

met, you begin to feel the need to find other things to motivate you. It sounds like you're both hard-working, performance-driven people. I am, too. And people like us get our relaxation, and even fulfillment, away from work in different ways than most people.

If I were in your shoes, I'd start trying to think about ways you can serve other people or causes you care about. Maybe there were dreams you had a long time ago, and you put them aside for your career. What really speaks to you right now, at this stage of your life? For you, if you have kids in the house, it might mean becoming a stay-at-home mom and really pouring yourself into them. It might mean starting an animal shelter, or providing meals for people who are homebound. Everyone has dreams, and everyone's dreams are different.

It sounds like you've been thinking about this for a while, so here's my advice to you. Take a day, or even a weekend, all to yourself. Get away from everything and everyone—and all outside distractions—and think about your future self. Bring along things to eat and drink, a bunch of notepads, pencils and a

Bible. Then, before you do anything else, take a deep breath, relax and pray.

From that point on, be completely honest with God and with yourself. Open up your heart and mind to things you care about and all the possibilities. You have to have a goal that's worthy in mind, and that's the one thing that's missing. But a time of thoughtful prayer—and yes, even daydreaming—may just put you closer to an answer than you've ever been before.

Congratulations on your success, Amanda. You and your husband truly have been blessed. But now, it may be the time to become a blessing to others!

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time No. 1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions. ★

Get Involved; Run for City Office

Story and photo by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The low rumble of those considering a run for public office has begun and there is a lot to consider for one's time and money but there are rewards with recognition, with ability to affect change, and yes, some financial compensation.

The City Candidate Nomination Filing Period for those who want to run for public office officially begins on Monday, July 15 and runs through Aug. 9.

For those Dixonites interested in serving their community as an elected city official, there are five elected offices available in 2024 and will be on the November 2024 ballot. The office terms are for four years each and they are: (1) City Mayor; (2) Councilmember District 3 (Tremont Elementary et. Al.) (3) Councilmember District 4 (Valley Glen et.al.; (4) City Treasurer; and (5) Elected City Clerk.

The exact boundaries of Council District 3 and District 4 can be found on the City of Dixon's website or by visiting City Hall while the other offices are city wide.

Per Ordinance No. 14-015 Revised Per Resolution 22-215; with Council Action on June 7, 2022, stipends for the elected mayor will receive \$630 per month and elected councilmembers shall receive \$535.50 per month. They also "may" receive a 5% pay increase per year.

As per Article II, Section 3 of the Dixon Public Financing Authority By-laws, the mayor and councilmembers are also



Here's the City of Dixon welcome sign on Highway 113 and Parkway Boulevard.

entitled to receive compensation of \$50 for each regular meeting attended." Note: The newspaper was not able to confirm by press time which exact meetings this clause referenced.

But the biggest benefit might be for someone who needs medical coverage.

The mayor and councilmembers are eligible to participate in the city's Health and Welfare Benefits program where the city makes a monthly contribution to the individual's account. The amount is based on a tier program and requires enrollment in a plan plus dependent status verification.

These figures are:

Employee only - \$900 or 70% of Kaiser (Bay Area) Employee Only rate, whichever is greater.

Employee + one (1) - 70% of the Kaiser (Region 1) Employee plus one rate is currently \$1,430 (that the City will pay towards the plan.)

Employee plus two or more (family) - 70% of the Kaiser (Region) Employee plus two or more (family rate) which is currently \$1,859 (that the city will pay towards the plan.)

If no medical plan is chosen, each elected


official will receive \$600 per month to be deposited in a city-sponsored Deferred Compensation Plan.

Elected officials can also participate in the currently offered dental or vision plans using the balance of the Monthly Benefit Allowance or premiums to be deducted from the salaries above or will be required to make payments to the city to cover the remainder of the balance.

Council members may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred by them in the performance of official duties for the city.

The compensation for the city treasurer's post is \$200 and the elected city clerk is \$250.

Interested individuals can go to Dixon City Hall, meet with the city clerk and get the specifics on what paperwork is required along with any regulations in regard to fund raising, posting of signs, campaign forms required, dates that forms have to be turned, donation limits, etc. More information can be obtained by calling the City Clerk at City Hall at 707-678-7000. ★




Dare to Live Without Limits

by Bryan Golden

The Battle Inside You

Part 2



In the last column, I discussed the negative emotions of anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, superiority, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, and ego. This column and the next, will look at the positive emotions of joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith.

Within each of us is the battle between positive and negative forces. We have the power to pick which force dominates. It is normal to feel conflicts. The character of a person is determined by the decisions we ultimately make, not the internal battles we experience.

Positive energy creates more happiness, attracts good things, and draws other positive people to you. Since you do have a choice, why not choose the good feelings?

You can find joy by paying attention to all the good that exists. Even when the world appears to be filled with turmoil, there is still a lot of good many people overlook. Don't immerse yourself in the negative. Overexposure to negative news and people will smother your joy.

Finding joy takes more effort than finding problems. If you habitually take the path of least resistance, joy will be elusive. People are not joyous by accident, they consciously choose it. It's hard to stay full of joy if you spend a lot of time with those who aren't.

Although most people want peace and serenity, they ironically embrace conflict. They seek out problems in every situation. You can't feel at peace when you have constant conflict. So instead of looking for problems, seek solutions.

There is a solution for every problem. Just the realization of this should provide some peace and relaxation. Being at ease enables you to more readily identify solutions. As you become adept at solving problems, you take them more in stride. As a result, you feel more peaceful.

Love is touted as an elusive emotion that has the potential to solve all of mankind's problems. The fact is, there are people you don't like and there are those who don't like you. Even so, it's important to be able to love yourself. This means you are happy with who you are and constantly strive to improve.

When you feel good about yourself, you are more likely to treat others well. Individuals who are mean, typically are not happy with who they are. Although love won't solve all problems, it will make life much more pleasant.

Hope keeps you going when the going gets tough. If you give up hope, you prevent yourself from solving problems. Hope works best when you take a proactive approach. Those who sit and wait, are not proponents of hope,

Happy people are always filled with hope. They smile, laugh, and are pleasant to be around. People who drag themselves around, don't have hope. Hope is a cause, not a result. Action is what makes hope work. Hope for what you want. Then take the necessary steps to get it.

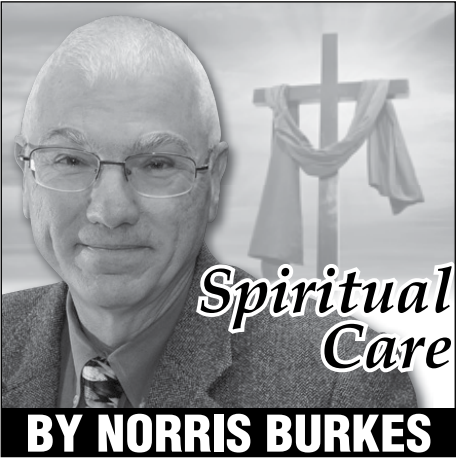
Self-confident people exhibit humility. They don't have to prove anything, nor do they attempt to boost their own stature by putting others down. Humble people are content with who they are. They have no need to boast.

Humility is a quality that makes one comfortable to be around. No one likes to associate with an egocentric person. Those with humility always take an interest in others. Additionally, they are always respectful and considerate.

The next column will continue with kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith.

NOW AVAILABLE: "Dare to Live Without Limits," the book. Visit www.BryanGolden.com or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com or write him c/o this paper. ©2024 Bryan Golden ★

A Recovering Christian and the Catholic Church



ByDane Dowell

In my teens, I grew up in the Methodist church. I sang in choir, played handbells, joined the youth group and sat on the finance committee. I was a "Christian."

In my 20s, I moved to Denver and started traveling the world. Experiencing other cultures, I began to question my faith. I learned to embrace my authentic self and rewrite my beliefs according to my lived experience. I called myself a "former Christian."

In my 30s, I began a spiritual journey learning to acknowledge my inner light. Organized religion seemed to emphasize the external God. Through my spiritual studies, I began to also see our inner divinity. Christians believe God is Love.

Though not necessarily aligned with any one faith, I believe Love is God. Given my upbringing, I began to use the term "recovering Christian."

Now in my 40's (all of two months), I took a trip last month to Honduras with Chispa Project, and I am now calling myself a "catholic." Not Catholic like the religion, but rather catholic in the true meaning of the word: the universal, undivided church.

The mission of Chispa Project is to partner with schools throughout Honduras to install libraries and bring books into classrooms.

Books empower kids with words. Children learn to tell stories. They read about different subjects. They learn critical thinking and engage their imaginations. Mostly run by Hondurans, the project is occasionally assisted by groups of volunteers who help local staff inaugurate a new school library.

In April, I joined the Chispa Project along with almost 20 other volunteers for one week. I met up with the group at the newly modernized Comayagua International Airport. We were an odd-looking bunch, but I was curious to hear everyone's story.

After two hours of driving through lush green hills, we arrived at our destination close to Lago Yojoa. Honduras is a beautiful country where plants thrive, and life cannot help but burst forth everywhere. It felt symbolic of the abounding presence of life I hoped to experience that week in Honduras.

Gathered in a circle, we introduced ourselves. Within minutes, it became clear that we were a diverse group—diverse in terms of hometowns, ages, jobs, faith, sexualities, political ideologies and our lived experiences.

Back home, it would have been easy to draw lines and self-segregate. Instead, in Honduras, we spent a week volunteering together, and what a beautiful week it was.

I painted walls with Robert from Colorado, stickered books with Melissa from Florida, assembled bookshelves with Bob from South Carolina and organized classroom activities with Marianne from Tennessee. Throughout the week, I was afforded glimpses into the lives of more than 20 unique individuals.

Yes, we were incredibly different. Yet as volunteers, we became united in our actions as one collective family. There were many moments of levity and laughter and moments of sincere depth. Spending a week with these people, I came to see how we are all more alike than we are different. We all had an inner light: the Christ within.

In the rural countryside of Honduras, I was reminded of a line from the Apostle's Creed:

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church...." Truly, that week kindness and generosity united us all; we were each connected by the spirit of love. Though a stranger in foreign lands, I found a family; though a "recovering Christian" among diverse beliefs, I found a new home in the "catholic church." ★

I've asked Dane Dowell to guest-write my column today because Dane recently volunteered for Chispa Project. He is a life coach who loves to explore the confluence of spirituality, psychology and culture. He is also the author of an upcoming book, "The Light That Beckons." Based in Denver, he's often on adventures exploring the world. You can learn more about him at www.danedowell.com.




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Get Swept Away With These Epic Summer Adventures



Summer is the perfect time to dive into a new world of fantasy. **Five Broken Blades** by Mai Corland and **Heaven Breaker** by Sara Wolf, published by Red Tower Books, offer unique and thrilling adventures that will transport any adult reader to unexplored realms. These two epic fantasies, now available.

“Only one can take the Crown.” Five Broken Blades, is a tale of treason, betrayal, murder, and a power struggle for the crown. Five of the most dangerous assassins are brought together under one common goal: to kill the god king. His rule has been merciless, where those less fortunate are imprisoned or sold, while he and those of noble hand around him profit. While the cause is united, the assassins are not. Each is known for their own particular skill and craft, and forming alliances is not their strong suit. But in order to survive, they must find a way to come together, even though only one will be triumphant. Let the best assassin win.

Fall for this unlikely band of untrustworthy killers coming together for the good of the people. While each might have tainted or violent pasts, they are unique, intense, and unpredictable. Filled with deep character development, story plot, and the journey of five unlikely people coming together for one purpose. Pick this book up for the adventure, but stay for

the unpredictable twists and turns, multiple points of view, subplots, romance, and downright unexpected uniqueness of this story, sure to distract any reader from the world around them.

“Bravery isn’t what you do. It’s what you endure.” In a world of space stations, nobility, and assassination, HeavenBreaker is here for the summer sci-fi adventure. The Duke of Hauteclare was the first to die, but that was just the beginning. Synali is out to make sure that everyone responsible for her mother’s assassination has the favor returned. But in order to make this happen, Synali will have to score wins in the Supernova Cup. And to win, she needs to learn to ride. However, she will do anything to see bloodshed.

A science fiction adventure like never before. Combining the world of space stations, nobility, riding tournaments, and AI, one woman is out for revenge and will do it at all costs. Readers will be taken on a full-out ride. Full of rage and politics, and one woman out to level the playing field. While this storyline might be a little complex, there is a strong story living under its surface. However, don’t pull this one off the shelf for romance; the focus is pure revenge, riding, the effects of artificial intelligence, with a few undercurrents of romance. ★



Riley Reviews

“CLIPPED” CAMPY MELODRAMA; LIFETIME CRIME MOVIES CONTINUE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“CLIPPED” ON FX NETWORK

Donald Sterling, if remembered at all, was at the center of scandal that gripped the NBA when TMZ released the tape of a conversation between the owner of the Los Angeles Clippers and his mistress/assistant V. Stiviano.

Despite Stiviano being part African-American herself, Sterling was recorded on a racist rant against black people when he’s quoted asking her why she was associating with minorities.

FX Network’s miniseries “Clipped” takes one back to 2014 when the private chat went viral, and the NBA, under the leadership of commissioner Adam Silver, banned Sterling from the league for life on top of a \$2.5 million fine.

An entire series season could be devoted solely to the legal battles that Sterling had not just with the NBA but even with his wife Shelly, when in her position as a co-owner of the Clippers, tried to sell the team after the NBA-imposed ban.

Starting his career as an independent lawyer, Sterling soon became a real estate mogul buying up apartment buildings, before acquiring the San Diego Clippers in 1979 and then moving them to Los Angeles two years later.

Beyond the business squabbles, Sterling was subject to sexual harassment lawsuits from women who had worked in one capacity or another in property management for his apartment buildings. It’s obvious that Sterling was not exactly a person of “sterling” character.

More interesting in “Clipped” than Sterling (Ed O’Neill), an erratic miser and a bully, is the role of legendary coach Doc Rivers (Laurence Fishburne) taking the helm of the Clippers team with the notion of turning perennial losers into champions.

Abrasive and driven, Rivers arrives as the coach knowing that he has the building blocks to win the franchise’s first title, even if he knows that Sterling may be an impediment due in no small measure to his being oblivious to boundaries.

Knowing he’s dealing with a dysfunctional organization as well as even less functional marriage in which Sterling’s wife (Jacki Weaver) throws in her two cents, Rivers feels he can rise above the toxic environment until V Stiviano (Cleopatra Coleman) tosses the racist stink bomb.

For her part, Coleman’s V is somewhat enigmatic. How does she tolerate a boss who texts “Don’t Bring Black People to My Games?” When the scandal breaks, she seems to relish the attention, as if she strives to be an ersatz Kardashian.

What should be a short-hand description of “Clipped?” A sports drama rooting for an underdog team to succeed in the

playoffs as a vindication for Doc Rivers? Yes, partially. Is it a grand soap opera of sleaze and duplicity? There’s that too.

Gina Welch, writer and executive producer, may have nailed it at the winter press tour, observing that the essence of the show is the “sort of costs of living and working and trying to thrive under the power of a racist incompetent buffoon who’s abusing the power.”

“Clipped” is a campy melodrama of deviation from societal norms, sometimes humorous and other times sordid.

MORE LIFETIME CRIME MOVIES FOR END OF JUNE

Premiering on June 23rd, in the “Devil on Campus: The Larry Ray Story” ex-convict Larry Ray (Billy Zane) unexpectedly moves into his daughter’s (Tedra Rogers) dorm, enthralling her friends with talk of promises to help them with personal transformations by preying on their insecurities and fears.

Under Ray’s influence, the students recover false memories of childhood trauma that Ray uses to further alienate them from their families. As the students continue to fall under Ray’s control, he begins to target their friends and family.

Extending his reach of emotional, financial, sexual abuse and mental persuasion, Ray becomes increasingly manipulative. As the students get pulled deeper into the cult, Ray’s control moves from emotional and mental to sexual as well, creating a web of lies and deceit.

Interestingly, the story of Larry Ray was previously told by the Law & Crime Network in “Devil in the Dorm,” which chronicled the criminal’s sway over college girls at the prestigious Sarah Lawrence College.


“The Killer Inside: The Ruth Finley Story,” premiering on the last Saturday in June, is a truly bizarre case that occurred in Wichita, Kansas during the infamous BTK Strangler killing spree gripped with city with sheer sense of foreboding.

Middle-aged Ruth (Teri Hatcher) and her husband Ed (Tahmoh Penikett) found their tranquil life suddenly turned upside down when Ed suffered a heart attack. As Ed fights for his life in the hospital, Ruth starts to receive mysterious threats, leaving her in a state of panic.

With the city held hostage by the BTK killer’s reign of terror, Ruth finds herself enveloped in paranoia, convinced she will be the next victim, as the menacing phone calls escalate into chilling letters.

Amidst the frenzy of police pursuit of BTK, Ruth is abducted, sending shockwaves through the community. Yet her sudden reappearance leaves investigators baffled and scrambling for answers.


As suspicion mounts and new evidence comes to light, the authorities entertain the unsettling notion that the perpetrator may be someone intimately connected to Ruth. ★



**Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl**

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Molten rock in earth's crust

6. Scarlett Johansson's 2013 voice only role

9. Jezebel's idol

13. Not silently

14. Pro vote

15. Italian bowling

16. Proclaimed as true without proof

17. Rob Manfred's org.

18. Savory taste sensation

19. *Tom Cruise's 1986 blockbuster

21. "It featured the song "What Was I Made For?"

23. Wrath, e.g.

24. Milton Bradley's "The Game of

25. General Post Office

28. A woodwind

30. Group of trained professionals, pl.

35. Icy precipitation

37. Concert units

39. Charles Dickens' Heep

40. Scandinavian capital

41. Rebroadcasted

43. Khrushchev's domain, acr.

44. *What the gang did in 1988's "A Fish Called Wanda"

46. Exploding star

47. Clarified butter

48. Airport surface

50. Highway hauler

52. Breed

53. Miss Muffet's repast

55. Not flow

57. *Tim Burton's 1989 and 1992 title character

60. "It featured the song "Summer Lovin'"

63. Popular fashion magazine

64. Road in Rome

66. Comment to the audience

68. Deposit the ashes

69. Giant Hall-of-Famer Mel _____

70. Canine skin infection

71. Humble and docile

72. Name badges, acr.

73. Streamlined

DOWN

1. Bonkers

2. Sir Mix-_____

3. Kind of boots in the '60s

4. One M in MMR vaccine

5. Slowly and gracefully, in music

6. Mass number

7. Snake-like reef dweller

8. Teacher of Torah

9. **"Openheimer" subject

10. Popular smoothie berry

11. Pinnacle

12. Hula dancer's necklace

15. B in FBI

20. Open up

22. Half of NFL

24. a.k.a. Hansen's disease

25. *1990 Swayze/Moore blockbuster

26. Trattoria staple

27. Petroleum tanker

29. *It premiered in the U.K. on 6/6/76, with The

31. Chemical cure

32. Revered Hindu

33. Drawing support

34. *2001 blockbuster ogre

36. Type of rich soil

38. "Keep this information" button

42. Name-chooser

45. Wyatt Earp and such

49. Cuban dance syllable

51. Letter-resembling supports

54. End of a poem

56. Primary

57. Like certain china

58. Malaria symptom

59. Ankara native

60. Gangster's pistols

61. Cosine's buddy

62. U2 member

63. Vigor's partner

65. It would

67. Comic book cry of horror

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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

Wednesday, May 29

08:00 - Threats reported in the 1100 block of Weyand Way.

15:30 - Theft of bicycle report occurred on or about 05-27-2024 in the 1400 block of Ary Lane.

19:29 - Theft report taken in the 1600 block of North 1st Street.

22:47 - Report of a disturbance in the 1100 block of Columbia Drive.

Thursday, May 30

12:06 - An informational report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

12:11 - An informational report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

17:59 - Officers responded to the 800 block of N Adams St for the report of two males in a physical fight. Suspect Jason Dingman (37) from Dixon was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon and booked at the Solano County Jail without incident.

20:42 - A traffic stop was attempted at the intersection of N 1st St with Vaughn Rd for a vehicle that was traveling at an estimated 60 mph in a 25-mph zone. However, the driver fled the traffic stop. The suspect vehicle was later abandoned with front-end damage and towed from the scene.

Friday, May 31

05:50 - A domestic violence, delay officers of their duty, vandalism, false imprisonment arrest report was taken in the 200 block of Broadway St. Officers contacted (S) Jaden Englebrecht (24) of Dixon. Englebrecht was arrested and taken to the Solano County Jail.

06:45 - A traffic collision report was taken at the intersection of South 1st St. at East Parkway Bl.

09:18 - A battery report was taken at 700 Humboldt Dr.

13:42 - An identity theft report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

15:19 - A criminal threat and vandalism arrest report was taken in the 100 block of East Dorset Dr. Officers contacted (S) Kris Rude. Rude was transported to the Solano County Jail.

15:53 - A domestic violence report was taken in the 600 block of Cypress St.

19:29 - Hector Aguilera (37) was arrested in the 500 block of Cypress St for charges of felony vandalism. Aguilera was booked at Solano County Jail without further incident.

20:44 - Jorge DeLaTorre (41) was arrested in the 200 block of W A St for charges of felony evading and booked at Solano County Jail without further incident.

01:14 - Keith Dantonio (55) was contacted during a traffic stop in the 100 block of Dorset Dr and found to have an outstanding cite-only out of county bench warrant. Dantonio was cited and released from Dixon PD.

02:51 - Information report in the 1500 block of N 1st St.

Saturday, June 1

11:53 - An informational report was taken in the 600 block of Ferguson Ct.

13:25 - An informational report was taken in the 600 block of Ferguson Ct.

20:36 - Hit and run accident reported in the 200 block of Dorset Court.

Sunday, June 2

09:00 - Burglary of a business in the 1000 block of Pitt School Road.

10:00 - Domestic Violence Investigation.

12:30 - Threats Report in the 2500 block of West A Street.

13:00 - Found Wallet turned into the Police Department.


Monday, June 3

10:00 - Found Property Report regarding a cell phone.

10:30 - Confidential Report.

10:30 - Confidential Report.

12:30 - Female placed on mental health hold.



Dodd Declares June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month

Bill Dodd

Office of Sen. Bill Dodd News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On June 4, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, announced a resolution designating June as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month in recognition of a serious and growing crisis in California that was worsened by the coronavirus pandemic and continues to threaten the state’s most vulnerable, especially the homeless.

“Turning a spotlight on the tragic nature of this problem as well as the warning signs are critical steps toward prevention,” Sen. Dodd said. “It is critical that we pay particular attention to how this crisis is affecting the homeless. Because unfortunately, not a day goes by without reports of horrific cases of abuse or exploitation of the elderly or adults with disabilities.”

Senate Concurrent Resolution 153 comes

as California’s population continues to age. It’s estimated that the number of those over 60 will increase 166% by 2060 with more than half of the 58 counties experiencing a 100% increase in this demographic.

At the same time, 10% of Americans 60 or older experience abuse. One in every nine people over 65 are living with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia and up to 25% experience mild cognitive impairment. During the COVID-19 pandemic, seniors experienced an increase in stress and isolation, both of which have been shown to be highly detrimental to health.

There are 6 million cases of elder abuse nationwide with 11% of all cases in California, according to the National Center on Elder Abuse. Another report from the National Council on Aging shows only 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse are ever reported to authorities. Over the past five years, Alzheimer’s disease and dementia deaths increased by 16% as resources and caregivers were stretched to the limits.

The death rate of older homeless adults is five times greater than the rate for housed adults, according to the California Commission on Aging.

Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month is recognized globally during the month of June. Throughout his tenure in the Legislature, Sen. Dodd has written multiple awareness month bills, mirroring national and international recognition of the problem.

“We wish to acknowledge and thank Sen. Dodd for authoring Senate Concurrent Resolution 153, and for his ongoing leadership and commitment to improving the lives of California’s most vulnerable communities,” said Leza Coleman, legislative director for California Commission on Aging, a resolution supporter. “This resolution reinforces the Legislature’s commitment to implementation of Gov. Newsom’s 2019 Executive Order calling for the development of a 10-year Master Plan for Aging by specifically addressing the current and growing crisis of abuse committed against our most vulnerable population.”

Sen. Bill Dodd represents the 3rd Senate District, which includes all or portions of Napa, Yolo, Sonoma, Solano, Sacramento and Contra Costa counties. More information on Senator Bill Dodd can be found at www.senate.ca.gov/dodd. ★

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Adjudication No. FCS030046–November 24, 2008

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000754
The following persons are doing business as: Suisun Fast Fill Market, 115 Sunset Avenue, Suisun City, CA 94585.
Gawfco Enterprises, Incorporated, 3669 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549.
Date filed in Solano County: May 7, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: May 8, 2024
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 May 6, 2029. 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 May 24, 31, June 7, 14, 2024
SUISUN 6-14-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WALTER F. MELLOR CASE NO. PR24- 00304 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of WALTER F. MELLOR. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LEE SCOTT MELLOR in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LEE SCOTT MELLOR be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or

consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 07/12/24 at 9:00AM in Dept. 10 located at 600 Union Ave., Fairfield, CA 94533 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner JACK KLOSEK – SBN 297914 KLOSEK LAW OFFICES 820 ALHAMBRA BLVD. SACRAMENTO CA 95816 Telephone (916) 290-7560 6/14, 6/21, 6/28/24 CNS-3821426# DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 6-28-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: KENNETH J. HOLLOWAY CASE NO. PR24-00308 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of KENNETH J. HOLLOWAY. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JENNIFER A. HOLLOWAY in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that

JENNIFER A. HOLLOWAY be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 07/12/24 at 9:00AM in Dept. 10 located at 600 Union Ave., Fairfield, CA 94533 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner

MATTHEW C. YU, ESQ. - SBN 256235 THE LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW C. YU 3620 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY #200 TORRANCE CA 90505 Telephone (310) 891-0016 6/14, 6/21, 6/28/24 CNS-3821760# DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 6-28-24

TRUSTEE SALE

File No.: 23-10738 APN: 0114-191-100 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER VILLAGE GREEN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION (ASSOCIATION) COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS AND A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT (LIEN) DATED 05-24-2023. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 07-10-2024 at 9:30 AM, Outside the Santa Clara Street entrance to the City Hall located at 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590, ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES (Trustee), 1601 Response Road, Suite 390, Sacramento, CA 95815, (877) 282-4991, under and pursuant to Lien, recorded 05-25-2023 as Instrument 202300022325 Book - - Page - - of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of SOLANO County, CA, WILL CAUSE TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check/cash equivalent or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale) the property owned by CHRISTINA SMITH, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE JOYCE A CUEVAS REVOCABLE TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 8, 2010, situated in said County, describing the land therein: APN: 0114-191-100 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1251 REDWOOD COURT , DIXON, CA 95620 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to satisfy the sums due under the Lien. The estimated total unpaid balance at the time of the initial publication of this Notice

of Trustee's Sale is \$13,581.20. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE 90-DAY POST-SALE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION AS SET FORTH IN CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 5715(B). THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION BEGINS WHEN THE SALE IS FINALIZED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 2924m. Association heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default. The undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located, and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. REPLACEMENT OF WINNING BIDDER CHECKS: Winning bid checks received at the public auction sale not payable directly to Allied Trustee Services (i.e. containing third-party endorsements) must be replaced within five business days after the sale. The winning bidder will be contacted at the phone number and/or email address provided for further instructions. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the Association, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section

2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 477-7869, or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM for information, using the file number assigned to this case: 23-10738. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an 'eligible tenant buyer,' you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an 'eligible bidder,' you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (844) 477-7869, or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM for information, using the file number assigned to this case: 23-10738 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an 'eligible tenant buyer' or 'eligible bidder,' you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. DATE: May 24, 2024 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES, Trustee TANYA HALL, Authorized Signature Publish 6/14, 6/21, 6/28/2024 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 6-28-24

www.IndependentVoice.com

Curiosities of the Russian River



A peaceful and cool ocean is in view.

**Story and photos
by Dannah Nielsen,
MPG Travel Correspondent**

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The vibes of the Russian River stretch over 115 miles- from inland Mendocino County to out flowing through Sonoma County into the Pacific Ocean, but for the purpose of this travel research, we opted to hone our adventure to the Sonoma coastal region.

It’s here along the slow and meandering Highway 116 that it seems residents came for that summer timeshare of the 1980’s and never left, staking claim over the soul of the Russian River. The eclectic small towns that line the veins of these waterways work in unison, sharing happy hours and social clubs, festivals and special events. So much so, that at times it felt we were consistently late to the party- one that started decades ago with your parents, their best friends and their scattering of floatation devices. Everywhere we arrived was bustling with people who likely already knew all of the details.

This could definitely be a choose-your-own adventure. Are you here for the hiking trails? Are you here for the wine? Are you here for the arts? Are you here to float your cares away? For this particular trip, we’ll highlight retail therapy and the abundance of bakeries, but by all means we encourage every kind of exploration. Starting from Jenner and working inland, here are a few highlights of our stay:

Cafe Aquatica, Jenner. Come for the made-in-house pastries but stay for the live music and ocean breeze. This is where the mouth of the Russian meets the Pacific.

The Shops at Duncans Mills Village, Duncans Mills. Seemingly popping up out of nowhere, this small cluster of businesses boasts a little something for everyone. Across the highway is also Gold Coast Coffee & Bakery, another well worth stop to enjoy a snack and eavesdrop on more hints and travel tips from other patrons.

Raymond’s Bakery, Cazadero. So, at this point you might be thinking this is a carb-loading marathon weekend, not retail therapy but hold on just a minute: we were in the area for three days, so scouts honor we paced ourselves with all this fooding around. Because we were staying in Cazadero (more on this shortly) we were treated to a Friday Pizza night shindig at Raymond’s, and it was the chef’s kiss to our entire weekend. Pro-tip: you MUST order ahead to avoid a long wait.

Monte Rio Theatre, Monte Rio. This is just a quick stop for a fun photo op, but it’s a must if you’re in the mood for some pink charm--the theatre is currently decked out in Barbie paraphernalia and is the small town’s crown jewel. Across from the theatre entrance is one of the

few public entrances to the river itself.

Also on Main Street, Monte Rio is the Lightwave Coffee and Kitchen- a surprisingly tasty hidden gem with a park, trail & community garden to stroll. Lightwave, and its staff, have created the feeling of being at your best friend’s home, and wanting to overstay your welcome.

Main Street, Occidental. There definitely are glimpses of a revival in progress with Occidental, although one could argue a revival has never been needed- the tree lined road has been carefully manicured and maintained with small shop curiosities for decades. But the trees alone set the vibe that any season is the perfect season to visit, and we picked up souvenirs from Boho Bungalow and Cypress gallery.

And P.S., stop and check out the brightly painted yellow shack on the side of the road outside of town for some adorable decorative ceramics by Cindy Searles!

Lastly, Main Street, Guerneville is just shy of 5,000 residents and serves as the main artery of the Russian River lifestyle here. A gateway to Armstrong Redwoods, Austin Creek Recreation Area and a popular launching point to set yourself adrift in the water, Guerneville has the liveliest downtown to meet the needs of average weekend warriors. On this particular Friday, we stumbled upon three different live music restaurants, two different impromptu street fairs with craft vendors, and a hula hooping flash mob. We were told by one local that this was a quiet weekend turnout.

What truly sealed this trip with our stamp of approval, however, was our two-night stay at The Crow’s Nest in Cazadero. This was an Airbnb experience unlike anything we’ve ever had before due to its prime location, gorgeous design and hospitality that was unmatched.

After a short and winding drive up a private mountain, you are greeted by a true “cabin in the woods” but with a clearing so that you have entirely unobstructed views of the weather- which is the best part. If you’ve never watched rolling fog crawl over mountain peaks, you can do it from this perch with a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, or both. Interestingly, both sunsets we enjoyed with this view were just what was needed to turn down the volume of a wild couple of days soaking in this river life.

The Crow’s Nest also has all the luxuries you might not expect from a such a secluded location- hot water AND great water pressure, Wi-Fi, satellite TV, working gate codes, precisely detailed out manuals, etc. but had the Airbnb even lacked a single amenity, the bay window views alone can easily make you forget any of your troubles and remind you of what we all need to hear: life is beautiful. ★



The Cazadero General Store is a rustic treat.



Cafe Aquatica in Jenner offers live music.



There is an artistic sitting area in Sonoma.



There is a clean, rustic, and relaxing Crow's Nest in Cazadero.



Majestic views found on the Russian River Road Trip.

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

POPEYE

by Dave T. Phipps

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

GRIN & BEAR IT

by Dave T. Phipps

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Dixon Community Calendar

ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

Alcoholics Anonymous – If you want to drink that’s your business. If you want to stop drinking, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous at 800-970-9040 for either local meeting information or to speak to someone.

American Legion Dinners – Every Friday night at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. Prices range from \$12 to \$17 depending on menu. Live music every Friday. Live band first and third Fridays.

Bingo – Is played every Monday & Wednesday at the Senior/Multi-Use Center, 201 S. 5th St., beginning at 12 p.m. Call 707-678-7022 for more information.

Friendship Services of Solano County – Do you spend a lot of time alone? Would you like a telephone companion? Call Friendship Service at 707-644-9062 x242 or 707-644-8909 and ask Cyndi about becoming a client. It’s free. A program of Catholic Social Services. A provider of the Napa-Solano Area Agency on Aging. Email: friendship@css-solano.org.

Meals on Wheels – Homebound seniors can receive meals delivered to their homes by calling 707-425-0638. Lunch also served at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 South 5th St. at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Reservations required – call 707-425-0638 one day in advance.

REGULAR MEETINGS:

Al-Anon – Family and friends of alcoholics can get support through Al-Anon, which meets Mondays, 7-8 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

American Legion – Dixon Post 208 meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First Street. For information call 707-678-6308. Also visit us online at www.dixonveterans.org/Legion.

American Legion Auxiliary – Dixon Post 208 meets at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First Street. For information, contact Pat Holland (President) at 707-678-3685 or Leah Marlin (Vice President) at 530-304-5385. Visit us online at www.dixonveterans.org/Legion.

Anderson PTO – Meets monthly at 7 p.m. at Anderson Elementary School, 415 East C Street. Email andersonroadrunnerspto@gmail.com for dates.

Bids For Kids – Is a volunteer organization created to promote and foster youth participation in agriculture. Anyone interested in this endeavor is welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meeting. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact secretary, Lisa Dage at 707-246-5623, fivedages@sbeglobal.net or president, James Fuller at 916-952-0167, jameskfuller@yahoo.com.

Boy Scout Troop 152 – Meets Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Social Hall at United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson. Scouts is for boys 11-18 years old. Contact John at 707-678-9693 or email Scoutmaster152@gmail.com for more information. Check us out on the web: <http://www.troop152dixon.com>.

Chief Solano Kennel Club, Inc. Meetings – Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday at the Elmira Fire Station. Call Linda at phone below to RSVP. Open to everyone. No July meeting. For info call 446-7492 or visit www.chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

Chief Solano Kennel Club, Inc. Classes – Puppy Socialization 6:20-6:50 p.m. (4 to 12 months), Beginning Obedience 7:00-7:40 p.m. (4 months and older) indoor training classes on Wednesdays at the Elmira Fire Station, as well as Conformation classes at 7:50-8:30 p.m. for those who show dogs or are interested in showing their dogs. Classes are open to everyone and their canine companions. Classes are not appropriate for aggression issues. Discounts for Seniors 55 & over, Juniors under 16, & those who have adopted a dog from the Humane Society, a breed rescue group, or your local shelter. Bring adoption certificate when you register. Visit www.chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

CITY OF DIXON: The following meetings are held in the Council Chamber at 600 East A St. The agendas are available before meetings at www.ci.dixon.ca.us. For further information, call 707-678-7000 and ask for the City Clerk’s office, Planning Dept., Parks & Recreation Dept., or Transportation Dept.

City Council – Meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Commission – Meets the third Wednesday of every even month at 7 p.m.

Dixon Adult Literacy Program – Solano County Library Adult Literacy Services is seeking volunteers to help an adult with their reading, writing, or English-speaking skills at the Dixon Public Library. No experience necessary, flexible hours. All training and materials are provided. Contact: Literacy@solanocounty.com or 707-784-1526.

Dixon Boat Club – Meets first Thursday of the month. For more information, call Butch at 707-678-3622.

Dixon Downtown Business Association – Dedicated to enhancing the business environment and promoting the revitalization of downtown Dixon as the cultural center of the community. Merchant meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at various locations. Log onto www.downtowndixonca.com, email DDROAC@yahoo.com, or call 707-678-8400 for more information.

Dixon Game & Conservation Club – Meetings on second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Game Club Building on East Mayes. For more information, contact John Kett at 916-284-4683.

Dixon Historical Society – Meets quarterly on the third Sunday of February, April, August, and October from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall located at 209 N. Jefferson St. in Dixon. Meetings include a historical representation and announcements of upcoming events. Anyone interested in the history of Dixon, and its surrounding areas, is welcome! You do not need to be a member to attend, and all presentations are free to the community. The Dixon History Museum is open for visits, Fridays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the 4th Thursday of each month 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and the fourth Sunday of each month 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. For further information, please contact us at www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org. Email dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or call 707-693-3044.

Dixon Kiwanis Club – an International civic organization serving the community through enhancing children’s lives meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Conference Room. Call Kristin Janisch at 918-840-0785 for more information.

Dixon Lions Club – Since 1954, the Dixon Lions Club is a group of local people who identify needs within our Dixon community and work together to fulfill those needs. Internationally our 45,867 clubs & more than 1,347,322 members make us the world’s largest service club organization. We meet first/third Wednesdays at Bud’s Pub & Grill from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Website: <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/dixonca>. Facebook page: Dixon Lions Club.

Dixon Rotary Club – Meets on most Wednesdays at noon at The Creative Space, 160 West A. Street, Dixon. Rotary is the world’s first and oldest service club organization with over 1.4 million members working locally and internationally to improve health and sanitation, combat hunger, provide education, and promote peace. For more information and meeting confirmation, contact Marianne MacDonald, 2023-2024 Rotary President, at 707-696-3384.

Dixon Scottish Cultural Association – Open to anyone who is interested in celebrating Scottish culture. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St. For details, visit www.scotsindixon.org.

Dixon Senior Club – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dixon Senior Multi-Use Center, 201 S. Fifth St. For more info, call 678-7022.

Dixon Toastmasters/Public Speaking Club – Need to speak in front of people? Want to improve your communication skills? Want to have fun learning? Check us out! We meet on Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Living Hope Church. For more info, call or text Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or Rose Cooke at 707-297-0918.

Dixon Women’s Improvement Club – From September through May of each year, the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club dedicated to the betterment of Dixon, meets on the third Wednesday of the month for stimulating presentations, activities, and friendships. Meetings are held at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Call 707-678-9198 for more information.

Dixon Youth Soccer Board Meetings – The board will meet the third Tuesday of each month, except for December, at the Sutter West Medical Center Conference Room, at 7 p.m.

Domestic Violence Support Group – Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345. ★



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