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July 4 Offers All-Ages Fun

SEE INSIDE LOW INCOME HOUSING TO THRIVE IN DIXON



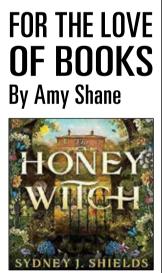
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TEEN CHALK ART ON THE SIDEWALK



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Northern California band Helios will play at the annual Dixon July 4 event, a day filled with food, swimming, pickleball and more. Photo courtesy of the City of Dixon

By Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The celebration of America's birthday is one of the country's greatest traditions.

Big or small, cities throughout the country light fireworks and hold parades and concerts to celebrate hundreds of years of freedom, and Dixon is no different.

"The Fourth of July



The last Dixon July 4 event featured a live orchestra band

badminton. From 4 to 8 p.m. at Hall Park, residents in groups from two to four can enjoy the fast-growing sports in a court temporarily set up. There will be three rounds: two open play and instruction and one pickle ball round robin.

For residents who prefer water sports and play, Dixon is also opening the city pool for the event from 4 to 8 p.m.

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Applications Being Accepted for Solano Youth Leadership Institute

Solano County Office of Education News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County Office of Education and Touro University California (TUC) have partnered together to host another Solano Youth Leadership Institute for Solano high school students during the week of Aug. 5.

The institute is a five-day intensive youth advocate training that will be led by experts in the field of youth development, peer education, public health, and environmental prevention. The Solano Youth Leadership Institute was developed to encourage the next generation of public health leaders.

The Solano Youth Leadership Institute focuses on health equity, using Positive Youth Development and Youthled Participatory Action Research principles. Youthled Participatory Action Research trains young people in social justice-based research to improve their communities and institutions. Positive Youth

Fireworks Show has been a tradition in Dixon for years," Dixon public information officer Madeline Graf said. "Our Fourth of July event, like all community events in Dixon, provides an opportunity for the community to come playing for patrons in Hall Park. Photo courtesy of the City of Dixon

together and share in an experience."

Like many other Fourth of July events, the tradition has grown over time.

"In the past few years, we have added recreation activities, food trucks and a concert in the park," Graf said.

This year's activities include pickleball, the popular craze that combines ping-pong, tennis and "Recreational swim offers a place to cool off and have some fun in the sun before the fireworks show begins," Graf said.

Like any other Fourth of July celebration, Dixon officials assure residents *Continued on page 3* Development engages youth in learning how to constructively participate in their communities, schools and families.

Part of the leadership institute includes a visit to the State Capitol, where Solano students will meet with leaders and decision-makers to discuss community issues and learn about policy development. The program concludes with a graduation ceremony where participants receive certificates of completion and recognition from local and state elected officials.

"This institute not only empowers young people but also creates an opportunity for their important perspectives and ideas to be included in local governance and decision-making processes. By bridging the gap between youth and policymakers, we are supporting the next generation of informed and active citizens," said Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

For more information about the Summer Youth Leadership Institute, visit the event website at https://sites.google. com/scoe-schools.net/ syli-2024?usp=sharing. Students wanting to attend must apply online before June 28.



Grillin' and Chillin' Gets New Leaders

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Downtown Dixon's fullscale street fair, Grillin' and Chillin,' on Saturday June 29 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. isn't run by a wellpaid executive and never has been but next week will mark its 14th annual event, thanks to the dedicated Dixon Action Team volunteers.

Started by long-time residents Mike Hamilton and Jill Orr in 2010, alongside a dozen Downtown Dixon Business Association's dedicated volunteers, the popular party has stayed a rock-solid summer celebration since, with Hamilton and friends launching its own nonprofit, the Dixon Action Team shortly after.

Hamilton, who was raised in Dixon, was clearly the backbone with his many business contacts necessary to coordinate street closures, electrical power for vendors, and even security.



Grills get fired up for hotdogs, chili and other delectables at the downtown street fair.

He was also able to garner huge financial support from others who shared his vision to give back to the community.

"I didn't make Grillin' & Chillin;' the team did it. I just had my experience I put into it," said an unusually humble Hamilton. "I have to give kudos to the City of Dixon and the city workers because the council has always been behind it. We also have great, great, great sponsors. But when I had my [last] stroke, the doctor said 'you gotta get some of this pressure off you or you're not going to live. The stress is going to kill you.' I had 100-plus calls the day before the event

and the day of the event. I had almost 200 calls."

Hamilton met Allan and Meagan Nieto, a power couple with two children who moved to Dixon from Fairfield/Vacaville a few years ago. They visited at the local Denny's where the Nietos caught Hamilton's enthusiasm and *Continued on page 3*

www.IndependentVoice.com

Pedro's Cocing Dixon



Falling Into the Ocean

By Debra Dingman

Since I'm out of the office now and only writing a couple things a week, hubby and I decided to get away for a few days and used VRBO (Vacation Rental by Owner) to find a beautiful cabin in the woods next to the ocean. It was affordable, which is the main thing hubby looks for and I was thrilled with his take-charge spirit.

What I failed to contemplate was how we'd get there. He showed me the route knowing I don't like driving on Highway 1 but there was an alternate route through the mountains that I was willing to travel.

I took a bunch of books and newspapers to read so I would not watch his driving and there would be peace so wasn't paying attention through Napa, etc. although I vaguely heard him say we should never travel on Sunday. Before I knew it, we were re-routed to—you guessed it— Highway 1.

Dear God, when was the last time you took that road? We were driving on a long and winding part that that as wide as a toothpick when I saw a sign that said, "Share the Road."

"With what?" I thought to myself. "A carrot stick?" Of course, as soon as I thought that, there was a suicidal bicyclist getting passed by the RV in front of us. Then, in the middle of nowhere, there was a large winery that offered a 'Tasting Room." Instantly, I thought of tasting blood out of the side of my bit tongue.

The extra-wide RV stayed in front of us through miles of road work that looked like bulldozers were about to drop in the ocean. They were adding a new road jetting out from the side of a cliff when we passed another sign that read "Rockslide Area." I asked my hubby a little hysterically, "Why?! Wouldn't it be easier to just find a different route? Who thinks this is a good idea??"

"We can cross off Bodega Bay for the next couple years," he responded.

"We could cross it off forever," I said as I was frantically checking GPS for a way to get back to Dixon. We then had sheer cliffs leading to the ocean on our left and mountains that went straight up on our right when we crossed a cattle guard. I was incredulous now.

"What's a cattle guard doing here?" I asked. Hubby says maybe it's a drain or in case a cow walks... "Unless a cow is rolling down that mountain, it's worthless," I began to laugh at the image in my mind.

We pass a road marked for Cazadero and I recall the trip feature I proofed for the newspaper a week ago and feel some sense of relief that someone else did this trip and lived to tell about it. My head was throbbing, and my butt cheeks were cramping from them trying to grip the seat. I was really done with 20 mph hairpin turns and rocks inches from my car window.

I look away and start cleaning up the car. I stress eat so it looks like the back of a supermarket: empty granola bar wrappers, empty water bottles, empty peanut bags, an apple core, mandarin orange peels, an empty box of Chezits, and one empty Pringle can. By the time we get there, I'm sure I'll weigh 20 pounds more.





Dixon News Briefs



Teen Chalk Art on the Sidewalk takes place Bring your best karaoke attitude to Pedro's Wednesday, June 26, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Dixon on Fridays and Sundays. Public Library.

MPG Staff

Dixon Education Committee Meeting

Dixon's Education Committee will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Dixon Chamber of Commerce, 220 N Jefferson St.

Gifts B Cause Arts & Crafts Show

Come and join us on Saturday, June 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for our Summer Craft Show with local businesses, artisans, unique crafters, food, music and more! Dixon May Fairgrounds, 655 S. 1st. St.

Farmer's Market

Come and enjoy organic fruits and veggies, fresh baked bread, nuts, homemade salsa and tamales, hummus, olive oil, hot food and more. From 5 p.m. to 7:30 pm every Thursday from June 6 through Sept. 26 at Women's Improvement Club Park, 230 N. 1st Street in downtown Dixon

Grillin' & Chillin'

Gather your friends and family and fire up your grillin' skills because Dixon's largest event is back! Downtown Dixon is about to transform into a hub of activities and excitement to engage and benefit the community. This all-day event features something for everyone to enjoy. Witness a huge Car & Truck show with automobiles of every style; compete with your neighbors and grill the best meat in the crowd-favorite Rib Cook-Off; and browse the booths of tons of small businesses offering unique gifts, crafts, and delicious food. Your little ones will also be able to run and play in the kids' zone! This special event, organized by Dixon's Action Team, supports community organizations and groups around Dixon and Solano County. Saturday, June 29, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is free. Downtown Dixon.

Teen Chalk Art on the Sidewalk

Express your snazzy style and creativity using colorful chalk to create awesome art on the sidewalk. Wednesday, June 26 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for tweens and teens, ages 10-18. For more information, visit www.solanolibrary.com/events.

Karaoke at Pedro's Cocina

Tell us your favorite karaoke song. We probably have it. If not, we'll come up with something. Join us for Karaoke on Fridays, 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. and Sundays, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. 1425 Market Ln, (707) 678-4633.

B-I-N-G-O!

Is played every Monday and Wednesday at the Senior/Multi-Use Center. 201 S. 5th St., beginning at noon. Call (707) 678-7022 for more information.

Comedy Night Courtesy of Dixon Family Services

Save the date! Saturday, September 28. We are in the early stage of planning, and we are looking for a few good people who would like to help in this short-term project. Please call (707) 678-0442 if you would like more information, or to volunteer. ★



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Grillin' and Chillin' Gets New Leaders



Grillin' & Chillin' brings 60-plus dynamic displays of cars and trucks

Continued from page 1 signed on to be part of the Dixon Action Team and are now considered family by Hamilton.

"My wife and I are the same; we just get it done," said Allan Nieto who had first experienced being a vendor at the event. "We've always been the type to take on a lot more than we should, but we always know we can make it happen so when Mike ended up in the hospital we said, 'Mike, it's time to let go a little.""

But letting go for experienced leaders can be difficult.

"A lot of people do the talk but don't do the walk," Hamilton admitted about the event taking eight months of pre-planning, which is a lot for any volunteer.

Said longtime Dixon Action Team leader Leah Marlin "I know it's been hard on Mike. I think it took a minute but he found good people. Allan and Meagan have the Dixon heart,". "Mike has held meetings with them and filled them in and told them tricks of the trade and the dos and don'ts of having an event downtown. Plus, the team meets monthly and texts or calls each other all the time."

And Allan Nieto said, "So now that we're all in and we're in the deep end of it, we're seeing what Mike had to go through.



The Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park will be filled with children's activities and cool shade at the June 29 annual downtown street fair.

I don't think a lot of people realize how much goes on in pre-planning, and there is a whole lot to it, but once he went into the hospital, we told him, 'Mike, you got to let us take this one.' We've thrown smaller events ourselves and this one is obviously a lot more complex, and we've had to overcome a lot of hurdles..."

The team has all their own areas that they excel in now, including Marlin handling the nonprofits in the park, the car show run by Rich and Janette Barrango who were part of the original team, Meagan and Allan Neito handling the crafters, food and rib cook-off and the Dixon Leon Soccer parents handling the kids' park and the beer booth.

"When you have enough

helpers, the whole event gets better," said Marlin. "When you have a smaller or one specific area to control and plenty of help, you can take it to new heights. Mike should be proud because he started it and he trained Meagan and Allan and me and it will carry on because of them."

"Handing over the vision was simple because the two people we handed it over to had the same vision of helping the vets and the kids, which was our vision since day one and they will carry the torch," said a relaxed-sounding Hamilton. "I'm going to go down there and sit on my butt and drink a beer and have a plate of ribs and not worry about anything else, just be the retired old dog. I think I'll step back and say wow!" *



July 4 Offers All-Ages Fun



Dixon Hall Park is filled with hundreds of residents gathered to celebrate the city's annual 4th of July celebration. Photo courtesy of the City of Dixon

Continued from page 1

will have a full stomach before watching the sky light up.

"Food trucks will be open in the aquatic center parking lot at 6 p.m.," Graf said. "We partner with local food trucks to provide a variety of options to the attendees and promote local businesses."

As the day winds down, the notable Northern California band Helios will take the stage for a Fourth of July concert at Hall Park. The five-member band specializes in Top 40 music and classic rock from the '50s through the '90s. "We are grateful to the Dixon Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring the band and making this concert possible," Graf said of the group with more than 75 years of collective music experience.

City officials are already prepping for the party in a few weeks, ensuring that Dixon has one of America's best smalltown birthday celebrations since 1776.

"We look forward to celebrating with the community this Fourth of July," Graf said. "The celebration in Hall Park provides a safe, family-friendly way for the community to celebrate the holiday together."

Dodd Appreciates Commissioner Lara's Insurance Proposal

Office of Senator Bill Dodd News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On June 12, Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, made the following statement in response to Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara's announcement of newly proposed regulations to promote insurance coverage:

"We all know the status quo in the insurance market isn't acceptable. I appreciate Commissioner Lara's thoughtful leadership and partnership to protect consumers while ensuring insurance availability and affordability throughout California. We've got to attack this problem from multiple angles by reducing wildfire risk and addressing the impacts of inflation and ratemaking on the insurance market. Advancing and refining these proposed regulations is another piece of the puzzle for creating a functional, fair, sustainable insurance system in California. As the state achieves needed reforms, we need to hold insurers accountable for stepping up and offering insurance, and these regulations would help do that."

insurers that use new catastrophe modeling to write more policies in distressed areas, with larger insurance companies required to insure properties in distressed areas equaling at least 85% of the insurer's statewide market share.

As part of the June 12 announcement, the Department of Insurance released a statewide map showing areas where wildfire risk and FAIR Plan policies are concentrated. With this map, insurance companies know where they need to write more policies in the state to utilize catastrophe modeling in their rates that are subject to department approval. The draft regulations are part of the commissioner's Sustainable Insurance Strategy, a package of reforms to strengthen California's marketplace and maintain strong consumer protections.

Lara's announcement can be found

The draft regulations would require that

at https://www.insurance.ca.gov/0400news/0100-press-releases/2024/ release023-2024.cfm.

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







There's Nothing **Passive About Real Estate**

Dear Dave,

We sold our rental property recently. When we bought it, we thought it would be a good source of passive income. But owning it wasn't passive at all. It got to the point where the work and hassle became too much. We have \$240,000 from the sale, and we're debt-free except for our home. We owe \$140,000 on our house, and could pay it off instantly, but part of me wants to invest the proceeds from the sale of the rental property. Is it better to become completely debt-free at this point, or should we invest it so we can have even more money for retirement?

– Anthony

Dear Anthony

You mean you had to actively manage your rental property? Listen, anyone who tells you real estate is passive income is full of crap. It's a natural extension of the garbage people spout about how it's okay to go into debt to buy real estate,

Dave Ramsey Says

because the renter is making your payments. No, it's your payment. And when the renter doesn't pay, or it sits empty, guess what? You have to pay it.

If you want passive income, buy an S&P 500 index fund. Set it and forget it. You won't have to fix a leaky roof, replace worn out appliances or try to collect from deadbeat tenants. Real estate is a great way to invest, if you do it the right way. I love it. It's anything but passive, though.

Let me ask you this about your situation. If you had a paid-for house, would you borrow \$140,000 against it to invest? Of course not. It's pretty much the same thing, and that would be dumb. Pay off your home, brother. Just pay it off. You'll be debt-free, and you'll still have six figures to invest.

I love that you're thinking about the future, Anthony. And I know the compound interest you're visualizing down the road is really tempting. Your compound interest calculator will tell you some amazing things, but what it's leaving out is risk. It also can't tell you about the carefree way you'll walk, and how it'll feel like a huge weight has been lifted off your shoulders when you don't have a house payment. You'll be able to live life on your terms, and all the decisions you make will come from a completely different point of view-one that isn't burdened by the weight of bankers hovering around, waiting for you to give them what's theirs.

The borrower is always a slave to the lender. Think about it. Only one implication of slavery is mathematical. All the rest are spiritual, physical, relational, emotional and mental. Being debt-free changes your life from the inside-out. Not only does it make your life better, but it allows you to give with incredibly generosity, and be an agent for positive change in the lives of others.

Pay off the house!

- Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-No. 1 national time 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.



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

In "1984," George Orwell's novel about a dystopian future, he describes "newspeak," a propagandistic language of euphemisms and inversions used by officialdom to mask the reality of their meaning.

We got a dose of California-style newspeak last week when state Sen. Bill Dodd, a Napa Democrat, introduced Senate Bill 1524. It would exempt restaurants from his previous legislation, SB 478, which requires businesses to fully include extra fees in their prices, rather than tacking them on after services or goods have been delivered.

Dodd declared his proposed new legislation would 'enhance consumer protection" for restaurant patrons by "clarifying state law" on how fees and other service charges should be disclosed.

"Restaurant customers shouldn't be surprised when they get their checks by a slew of extra charges they were not expecting," Dodd said. "Many restaurants are up-front with their business practices but too many aren't, necessitating action."

In fact, Dodd's original legislation, passed last year and due to take effect on July 1, was aimed at eliminating "a slew of extra charges" on restaurant bills and other consumer transactions. But SB 1524 would

reduce consumer protection by allowing restaurants to avoid full disclosure of their prices by burying the notices of extra fees within their menus, where customers are least likely to notice them.

California Restaurants Now Want an Exemption

The deceptive descriptions of Dodd's new legislation accompany assertions by bill sponsors in the restaurant industry and their unions that if surcharges are included in food prices, they would somehow lead to pay reductions.

"Cutting the pay of banquet servers and ballpark workers was never the intention of SB 478, as the bill's authors have made clear," said Mario Yedidia, western political director for UNITE HERE, a union that represents some food service workers.

"This will enable restaurants to continue to support increased pay equity and to make contributions to worker health care and other employee benefits," added Matthew Sutton, senior vice president of the California Restaurant Association.

There is absolutely nothing in the current law that prevents restaurants from raising their prices as much as they desire to increase their workers' pay and benefits. That's simply business as usual throughout the economy.

Nor is requiring restaurants and other businesses to list their full prices before consumers decide whether to make transactions such a novel idea.

Take, for instance, gasoline prices.

If you pay \$5 for a gallon of gas, it includes about \$1.50 in state and federal taxes and other surcharges. The full prices are displayed on signs and on the gas pumps themselves. Gas stations cannot advertise fuel for \$3.50 and then tack on the extra fees and taxes after you've already filled your tank.

Before you buy a house and take on a mortgage, state law requires you to be informed of transaction fees before signing the final papers. Same applies for buying a new car.

When SB 478 was going through the Legislature last year, somehow those in the restaurant business assumed that it would not compel them to list full prices in their menus, even though there was nothing in the bill itself to support that assumption.

Uncertainty about SB 478's effect on restaurants led Attorney General Rob Bonta to declare recently that they would be subject to the new law, generating a strong backlash from those in the industry and pressure on Dodd and other legislators to grant an exemption.

We shouldn't be fooled by the newspeak descriptions of SB 1524. It does not "enhance consumer protection." It would purposely undermine consumer protection by allowing restaurants to resume their bait-andswitch tactics - giving patrons menu prices that don't fully reflect what their final bills will be.

Dan Walters is one of most widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and demographic trends. He began covering California politics in 1975, just as Jerry Brown began his first stint as governor, and began writing his column in 1981. He has been *at CalMatters since 2017.* ★

Dare to Live Without Limits by Bryan Golden The Battle Inside You Part 3

In the previous column (part 2), I discussed the positive emotions of joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, and humility. Part 1 reviewed the negative emotions of anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, superiority, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, and ego.

This column will finish with the remaining positive emotions of kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith.

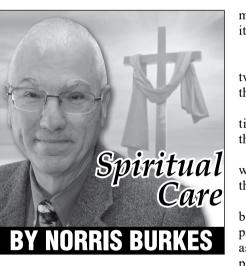
is to contrast the positive and negative forces that we all have inside. Our that you can get anything in life you lives are shaped, and our future influenced, by the emotions we cultivate. You have the power to choose which forces form your character. It's normal to experience conflicting emotions. Often negative feelings are the first response to problems and adversity. Understanding the consequences of giving in to them will motivate you to select a positive path. Here are the rest of the positive emotions. Being benevolent and treating people with kindness has many benefits. Those you interact with feel good. You feel good. And you create a positive energy that attracts good things. Furthermore, you will never regret, or have to apologize for, your behavior. Anyone can be kind when they are happy. However, when you feel bad, it's difficult to be kind. But this is when you need to be the most thoughtful, as it will help you feel better. Not everyone will appreciate your kindness, but it doesn't matter, enough people will. You won't feel like being kind to anyone who treats you poorly. That's OK. You are better off spending little or no time with them rather than being mean. You don't want to allow others to pull you down to their low level of behavior.

experiencing. If you want to and it's appropriate, be compassionate by offering to help.

There are many ways to offer assistance. You can give your time, expertise, share how you overcame obstacles, and be there to listen. Many times, it is a big help when another person knows you care.

Too many people view the world as everyone for themselves. In reality, generous people are much happier and The purpose of these three columns more successful than their self-focused counterparts. The principle at work is want by helping enough others get what they want.

A Mickey Mouse Prayer



mind long before Mr. Disney could draw it, right?"

"But JE . . ." Mrs. O. was wavering.

Show empathy and compassion rather than feeling sorry for someone else's situation. Empathy is an understanding of what another person is

Being generous does not mean self-sacrifice. You can take care of your own well being while showing generosity to others. If you haven't already done so, try being more charitable. I'm sure you will be pleased with the results.

Truthfulness is far more potent than deception. Trickery may have the illusion of being a shortcut to success. There may even be short-term gains. Ultimately, a life of lies invariably leads to unhappiness and despair.

There are limitless options for honest attainment of success. There is no secret, all you have to do is be of service to others or solve problems. Effort is part of life. The path of less resistance yields few if any rewards.

Have faith in yourself and your abilities. Have faith that when you are a good person and do good things, you will attract positive things. Have faith that you can overcome obstacles and solve problems.

You have the power to decide the outcome of the battle within you. You can't lose by always choosing positive emotions and actions.

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



Disneyworld opens a new ride this month to replace the decades-old Splash Mountain attraction. The ride called, Tiana's Bayou Adventure, is promised to California's Disneyland by end of the year.

For me, the ride can never match the magic I felt on my first visit to Disneyland decades ago. I'd come to the World of Mouse with my church youth group, led by our volunteer leader, James (JE) Newman.

As we waited for opening gates, JE suggested it might be a good time to voice a prayer of thanks.

I remember his prayer going something like this:

"Dear God, thank you for safe travel today and our wonderful youth group. But most of all thank you for putting Disneyland here just for us! Amen."

It was a short prayer, but before any of us had time to blink, the other youth sponsor, Mrs. Obenshain, blurted her astonishment. "JE! Why would you say that? God didn't make Disneyland. Mr. Disney did."

Knowing JE as we did, we knew to expect a well-thought answer. JE was a Ford auto mechanic who had some practical ideas about God. He didn't claim to know how this universe worked, but he could easily identify the things that did work.

"Sure he did!" JE insisted. "God created Mr. Disney's mind, right?"

"Well, yes, but JE, honestly," declared Mrs. O, "you can't really conclude that ...'

JE was undeterred. "If God made Mr. Disney's mind, then God must have created the picture of Disneyland in his

"Look," JE said in his Oklahoma twang, "don't the Bible say, 'All good things come from God?""

Mrs. O. was slack-jawed, so JE continued. "And ain't Disneyland a good thing?"

Deterred by logic too simple to be wrong, Mrs. O. simply muttered something like, "Well, I guess so."

I remember JE's theology largely because I've heard it from a lot of patients over the years. They spoke with assurance that God made a certain hospital just for them. Or they believed that God placed a certain doctor or medicine to specifically help them.

I once heard a father tell me how a surgeon was going to reach into the center of his 2-year-old daughter's brain and pull out a tumor.

And this was his theology: "God put this surgeon here for my daughter."

His declaration, like JE's, sounded at first more self-centered than God-centered.

Yet maybe not.

What I found astounding about both men was how they relied on an innate understanding of the works of God. Neither had graduated from a theological or philosophical school, yet they easily identified "goodness" as one of the most important attributes of God.

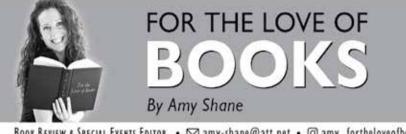
The father didn't need to be a philosopher to acknowledge his good fortune at finding such a talented surgeon. Neither did JE have to be a Bible professor to recognize that Disneyland might provide one of many tools he could use to mentor and instruct our youth group in God's wavs.

We often search far and wide to understand God. We read so much and attend every sort of lecture. Yet, I believe most of the time God continues to manifest his goodness in those people and things he's placed directly in our paths.

In the end, Mrs. O. couldn't refute JE's theology.

Finally, she managed to mumble, "Do you have our tickets, JE?"

Her request signaled the end of the theological debate, and we rushed to get in line for Splash Mountain. For like JE, we all knew goodness when we saw it. \star



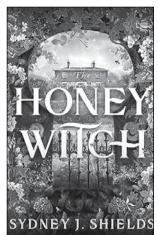
BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • 🖾 amy-shane@att.net • 🖾 amy_fortheloveofbooks

The Honey Witch by Sydney J. Shields

Marigold Claude always knew she was slightly different. While her siblings spent their days dreaming of the perfect suitor, Marigold was perfectly happy with the spirits that danced within the woods. Feeling the pressure of finding a suitor, Marigold jumps at the chance to move to her grandmother's family cottage, Innisfree, training as the next Honey Witch.

To Marigold's surprise, Innisfree is dripping with magic. The type of magic she has felt her whole life. Beautiful magic that is alive with the hum of bees and encapsulated within the tinted orange glow of their honey. However, magic comes at a price, and Marigold is now cursed because no one can fall in love with a Honey Which. And while Marigold feels the love of bees and magic is all she needs. She will soon discover just how much of a curse it really is.

After a year of being alone on the island, Marigold is thrilled to have visitors, her best friend August, and the horrible skeptic Lottie. While August is there for help to mend his broken



Publisher: Redhook
Intended Audience: Adult
Release Date: May 14, 2024

heart, Lottie is only there to judge and criticize Marigold's magic, which only makes Marigold even more determined to prove her wrong. The longer they stay, the more the tempting bloom of affection begins to blossom, and with that, a darker magic awakens. With a new threat determined to take everything Marigold holds dear, she soon realizes there is more to fear than just losing her magic; she could lose her heart as well.

The Honey Witch is the perfect read for the season, paired with warm summer wind and the delicate, sweet taste of honey on the tongue. It is a story for grandmothers and

granddaughters and those who love the tempting bloom of magic and true love.

Sydney J. Shields captures the beauty of honey magic and finding oneself. This cozy, cottage-core read that drips with honey is a story of awakening, not just magic but love. The slower-paced storyline and soft prose are perfect for sitting on a porch swing on a hot, summer afternoon. Interlaced with characters that are unapologetically real, with their flaws, sharp tongues, and personal trauma, only lends to a stronger storyline. The unique storyline will whisk readers back to the 1800s but in an altered cottage core setting while adding delightful bee facts and spells made from the finest ingredients in nature.

This story delves into many different themes, but it particularly emphasizes the beauty of opposites: honey and ash, life and death, love and heartache, and enemies to lovers. Each theme has its own purpose and its own given place. With all its delightful nods and turns, The Honey Witch is sure to enchant its readers. ★



Riley Reviews

"HIT MAN" MODERN TAKE ON FILM NOIR; ABC LAUNCHES A SUMMER LINEUP

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"HIT MAN" RATED R on NETFLIX

Streaming on Netflix, "Hit Man" has the feel of film noir with a decidedly modern twist where the central character is a mild-mannered college professor who moonlights doing undercover work for the New Orleans Police Department.

When rogue cop Jasper (Austin Amelio) is put on suspension, Glen Powell's professor Gary Johnson is pressed into service as a fake hitman who goes undercover to ensnare murder-for-hire suspects.

At first, Gary seems a most unlikely candidate to pose as a hitman, considering his solitary lifestyle living with cats and being an avid bird watcher. But he quickly proves to be a most effective chameleon, adapting to every situation with all kinds of disguises.

Gary's ability to convince potential clients he's the real deal seemingly comes from his background as a professor of sociology and psychology, which lends itself to understanding the human psyche.

Of course, in the world of film noir, even a fake bad guy would be burdened by a weakness, which usually arrives in the form of seduction by a sexy and enticing femme fatale.

That day comes when Madison (Adria Arjona), an irresistible beauty, seeks out Gary to kill her abusive husband Ray (Evan Holtzman). Yielding to immediate attraction, Gary dissuades her from hiring his services so that she won't get arrested.

His police handlers are disappointed that Gary didn't close the contract deal, and the duplicitous Jasper sees an opening to getting his job back, especially after a series of circumstances result in the gunshot slaying of Madison's husband.

Meanwhile, Gary first met Madison under the name of "Ron," a sexy and charismatic charmer, as opposed to being a rather unassuming guy. Falling hard for each other, an inevitable dilemma arises to how long "Ron" can keep up the charade.

"Hit Man" works on several levels, from thrilling tension in the police work to an illicit romance fraught with explosive chemistry, with a pleasant backdrop of plot twists and screwball dialogue that doesn't fail to entertain.

ABC NETWORK ANNOUNCES ITS SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Claiming to lead the television season for the fifth consecutive year as the number one network in the coveted adults 18 to 49-age demographic, ABC heads into summer with a lineup of fan favorites and an all-new game show.

Jenn Tran, Asian-American physician assistant student from Miami, will make "Bachelor" franchise history when her journey to love begins on the upcoming 21st season of "The Bachelorette" beginning Monday, July 8th. bubbly personality on Joey Graziadei's season of "The Bachelor," the 26-year-old fan favorite will begin handing out roses when the series returns this summer.

The day after "The Bachelorette" the celebration of the tenth anniversary and 100 episodes of "Celebrity Family Feud" will kick off with special "Family Feud: Decades of Laughs," honoring 50 years of the iconic game show.

Hosted by stand-up comedian, actor and author Steve Harvey, "Celebrity Family Feud" game show features celebrities, along with their family members or their extended TV families, going head-to-head in a contest to name the most popular responses to survey-type questions for a chance to win \$25,000 for charity.

Wednesday, July 10th brings a new season of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," with host Jimmy Kimmel. This iteration will feature a new twist with two celebrity contestants playing together with the hope of winning \$1 million for the charity of their choice.

On the same night of July 10th, "Claim to Fame," hosted by Kevin and Franklin Jonas, challenges relatives of celebrities to live together under one roof and conceal their identity and lineage for their own fame and fortune.

They will compete in challenges, form strategic partnerships and play DNA detective in hopes of avoiding elimination, winning the coveted \$100,000 prize.

Winning the contest would allow the lucky champion to step out of their famous family member's shadow by staking their own "Claim to Fame." Season three will bring nail-biting competition, drama and more.

With a series premiere on July 18th, "Lucky 13," hosted by Shaquille O'Neal and actress Gina Rodriguez, is a highstakes game show that will have viewers on the edge of their seats while shouting answers at the screen.

From the creative team behind "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," "Lucky 13" tests contestants' knowledge of 13 true-orfalse trivia questions but with a cunning twist.

Just how well do they know what they know, and just as importantly, how well do they know what they don't know. If they can accurately predict how successfully they've answered 13 questions, they could take home a \$1 million cash jackpot.

Returning the following week on July 16th, "Judge Steve Harvey," the onehour unscripted courtroom comedy series, where the eponymous host stars as the judge and jury dealing with a variety of conflicts and characters. The courtroom cases range from small claims to big disputes and everything in-between. Judge Harvey plays by his own rules, basing his courtroom on his own life experiences and some good old common sense.





Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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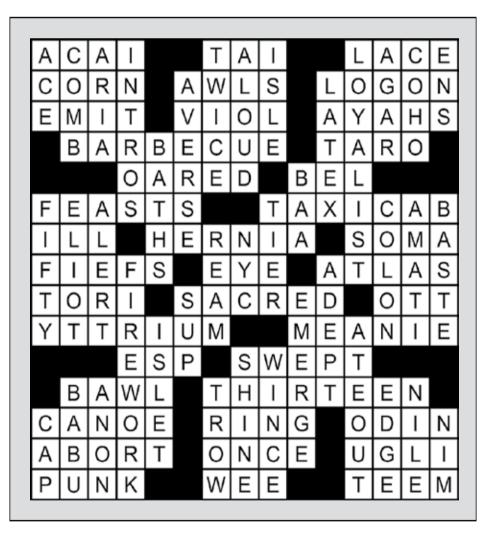
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Officials Address Brians Way Speeding

By Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - More than 40 pages of documented speeds on Brians Way show miles per hour faster than city officials prefer.

Dixon city engineer Chris Fong presented the Dixon City Council with a Brians Way update at the June 4 meeting. On Feb. 20, Councilmember Kevin Johnson asked the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) to address Brians Way, which resulted in the Dixon Engineering Department monitoring speeds and traffic volumes for three days between March 5 and 7.

According to the traffic study, Brians Way "serves mainly residential uses and Patwin Park" near Tremont Elementary School. Residents report drivers use it as a thoroughfare to avoid adjacent intersections.

Due to the "unsafe speeds," residents asked city officials for traffic calming improvements on Brians Way to reduce speeds through a petition signed by 37 residents. Based on the 2017 amendment to the 2004 Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, allowing for Residential Speed Hump Guidelines, city officials contracted transportation engineering firm OKS & Associates to conduct a study.

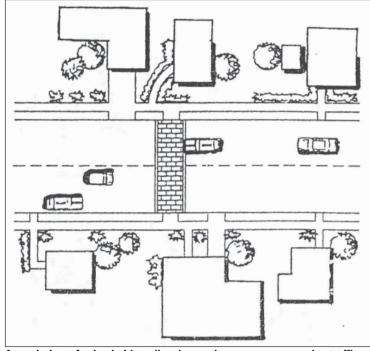
Resident Anna Reily called into the meeting during public comment to tell officials her dog was killed on Brians Way.

"I want to thank the city and the police department for paying attention to this issue," Reily said, adding while it is a cost to the city, price does not matter. "And it is only going to take one car to hit another pet or a child."

The study states the same:



After a thorough traffic study, it was found that the proposed speed bumps did not meet the criteria, taking into consideration the community's concerns about traffic safety. Image courtesy of City of Dixon



A rendering of raised sidewalks shows the measure can calm traffic on Brians Way, where a dog was killed, and school-age children are at risk. Image courtesy of City of Dixon

"near misses with children playing in adjacent Patwin Park, and vehicles losing control and landing on a resident's property."

LEGA

"It is noted that many children walk along Brians Way near Seqouia Way to either play or walk to Tremont Elementary School," according to the study.

Dixon's Independent Voice Adjudicated For and By the County of Solano

Adjudication No. FCS030046–November 24, 2008

"Residents have also brought up speeding concerns in the morning, which impacts their ability to reverse out of their driveway."

Even with the danger noted, OKS & Associates reported Brians Way does not meet speed bump criteria; however, the road does meet the threshold for traffic calming measures. The Dixon City Engineering Department proposed up to four solutions with varying components: education and enforcement, operational improvements, and minor and major construction upgrades.

Education and enforcement include, but are not limited to, watching meetings and police enforcement. Operational improvements include rumble strips and speed limit signs and markings. Minor and major construction upgrades include, but are not limited to, raised crosswalks, diagonal diverters, and a center island narrowing to one-way streets.

Fong gave a rough estimate

TISING

cost for three speed-cushion installations.

"Just for construction, around 45 thousand dollars," Fong said. "So, it is a significant cost to install."

Fong said that edge line striping is "more affordable," citing an \$8,000 cost. Speaking of striping, Councilmember Jim Ernest noted that traffic on North Lincoln "was outrageous" when it came to speeding until striping was placed.

"They changed the striping, so it made it more narrow in a way," Ernest said. "And when you do that, surprisingly, the traffic speed goes down a lot."

Fong informed officials that "the most bang for your buck is a speed feedback sign and possibly some rumble or physical reminder to the drivers."

Councilmember Don Hendershot liked the idea of small rumble strips and the "solar feedback sign" mentioned by Councilmember Kevin Johnson.

"My understanding from the neighbors is kids congregate in the middle of the turn, and that needs to be changed as well," Hendershot said, adding officials may have to work with the Dixon Unified School District to enforce. "It's important for us to acknowledge kids are going to be kids."

Mayor Steve Bird wanted to know more about the solar feedback sign, asking if it would flash and warn drivers to slow down, which, according to Fong, it will. The mayor also brought up an "illusionary"speedbump option, which Fong confirmed is ineffective.

Fong will report to officials within the month with more definitive options.

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

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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 Administration Independent 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 820 ALHAMBRA OFFICES BLVD. SACRAMENTO CA 95816 Telephone (916) 290-7560 6/21, 6/28/24 CNS 6/14 3821426#

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grant the authority.

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U Save Laundries LLC, 1227 Tabor Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Date filed in Solano County: June 12, 2024. The Registrant com-

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 violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: June 21, 28, July 5, 12, 2024 USAVE 7-12-24

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF DIXON CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL AMENDING CHAPTER 12.04 (RULES FOR STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING) OF TITLE 12 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE DIXON MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD SECTION 12.04.110 (OVERNIGHT PARKING PROHIBITED)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Dixon ("City") City Council will conduct a public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., to consider the adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 12.04 (Rules for stopping, standing and parking) of Title 12 of the Dixon Municipal Code to add section 12.04.110 (Overnight parking prohibited).

The proposed ordinance would prohibit overnight parking by vehicles of any type in parking lots owned by the City of Dixon, with limited exceptions.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES are invited to attend the Tuesday, July 2, 2024, public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the approval of the ordinance. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the ordinance. This meeting will not be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting via video conference and teleconference. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Interested individuals will be given an opportunity to speak in favor or opposition to the above proposed action. Written comments are also accepted prior to the meeting by mail at 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Information regarding the meeting is on file and may be provided to interested individuals upon request. If a challenge to the above proposed action is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City before the meeting.

Copies of the proposed ordinance will be available, upon request. If you have any questions, please call the City at (707) 678-7000.

Dixon Independent Voice 6-21-2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ONLINE STORAGE AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Atkinson Self Storage at 1800 N. First Street / 150 Atkinson Ct, Dixon, CA 95620 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, known as the "California Self Service Storage Facilities Act", Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and Provisions of the Civil Code.

The Auction will be conducted online at www.Bid13.com starting Friday, June 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. and ending on Monday, July 1, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. If there are no bidders, the property will be donated or disposed of accordingly.

Property to be sold as follows:

| #1 – Robert Spicer | #5 – Amanda Barber | #9 – Candice Willis |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| #2 – Robert Scott | #6 – Robin Davis | #10 – Deandra Dibene |
| #3 – Curtis Shannon | #7 – Sherri Gray | #11 – Heidi Hirt |
| #4 – Gary Lord | #8 – Joshua Hatfield | #12 – Christopher McKinney |

All purchased items sold AS IS, WHERE IS, and must be paid for and removed within 72 hrs. of the end of the sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Atkinson Self Storage 1800 N. First Street / 150 Atkinson Ct, Dixon, CA 95620 707-693-9200

Dixon Independent Voice 6-21-2024

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





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Student Loan Relief Deadline Approaching for 300,000 California Borrowers



Students walk along the bridge leading into campus on Scholars Lane at the University of California Merced campus on Nov. 4, 2022. Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

By Mikhail Zinshteyn CALMatters.org

As many as 300,000 Californians have until June 30 to take advantage of a one-time offer to qualify for faster student loan forgiveness, lower monthly payments or outright forgiveness for federal loans borrowed according to the department.

The student loan landscape is notoriously complicated. A National Public Radio reporter whose investigation exposed how borrowers placed in the wrong repayment category lost the ability to gain credit toward loan forgiveness, quipped that if none of this makes sense, You're not alone. To meet the June 30 deadline, borrowers must submit applications to consolidate their loans into so-called direct consolidation loans. Only loans in the direct program are eligible for loan forgiveness after 10 or 20 years of payments, depending on a borrower's employment situation. Direct loans also qualify for lower monthly payments. Some borrowers may see no reason to consolidate, but for many others, meeting the June 30 deadline will be a life-changer. To apply, a borrower needs to create an account with the Federal Student Aid office and then complete the consolidation application, which itself takes about 30 minutes.

The Student Loan Empowerment Network will offer California borrowers in-person or phone consultations to handle their student loan quandaries, including issues surrounding private student loans that are governed by a different set of rules.

"It was created really to just have somewhere for borrowers to go and provide more help than I can provide," Damian said. Until last week, she was the only person in state government doing this work. Between March 20 and May 1, Damian communicated by phone or email with 1,400 borrowers after her office sent an email to Californians who'd likely benefit from loan consolidation. Some borrowers didn't realize they possessed federal loans that were eligible for any loan forgiveness, Damian said. The borrowers instead thought they were repaying private loans. Others thought her agency's outreach was initially a scam. "So they would reach out and say, 'Is this real? I thought there was no option for me," she recounted. Damian stressed that a growing number of California borrowers are senior citizens who may struggle to complete the federal online application. "The oldest one I spoke to was about 83, 84", she said. "These are loans they took out in the '90s." Several times borrowers nearly gave up trying to apply, so she told them to complete the paper version of the application and email her photos of their paperwork. She then collated their photos into

a PDF document and submitted the paperwork to the U.S. Department of Education on their behalf.

How Did We Get Here?

Federal Family Education Loans were common loans issued by private lenders but guaranteed by the federal government. In 2010, these loans were discontinued and the federal government began issuing student loans directly.

perk through 2025. Things to Consider for

Student Loan Forgiveness A key benefit of consolidation: Borrowers can choose to be placed on the SAVE repayment plan, which bases monthly payments on current income and offers loan forgiveness for any income level after 20 or 25 years.

before 2010.

The U.S. Department of Education's June 30 deadline is a big deal because borrowers who submit their applications would become eligible to receive credit for past years of repayment that previously didn't qualify for student loan forgiveness.

The department's one-time "adjustment" will largely help borrowers who took out federal student loans before 2010 called Federal Family Education Loans — as well as borrowers with two other types of loans.

Why is the department doing this? To "remedy years of administrative failures that effectively denied the promise of loan forgiveness to certain borrowers," said Education Secretary Miguel Cardona in a 2022 press release. The deadline for this remedy has been extended several times, but student loan advocates believe June 30 will be the final opportunity for this one-time benefit.

Nationally, about half of borrowers 60 and older have been repaying their student loans for more than 15 years, a key reason why debt among this population has skyrocketed.

By May, more than 1 million Americans have already gotten \$51 billion in debt relief through this adjustment program,

California State Agency Tries to Help

Most Californians with loans that aren't in the direct program should apply to consolidate, said Celina Damian, the state's first Student Loan Servicing Ombudsperson.

This week California is also debuting a network of 14 nonprofit organizations that collectively received \$7 million in state grants to help California borrowers navigate the maze of student loan policies, hurdles and deadlines. The old loans qualify for federal loan forgiveness programs with less generous repayment plans and require more years of repayment.

These loans are also ineligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness, a loan program for government and nonprofit workers that forgives federal undergraduate and graduate student loan debt after 10 years of payments. The only way to qualify for that loan forgiveness is by repaying direct loans which borrowers with Federal Family Education Loans can do if they consolidate by June 30. Once their consolidation goes through, borrowers will need to apply for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, but they will have inherited past credit already through the steps they took to consolidate.

Borrowers need to only apply for consolidation by the June 30 deadline. The department's actual review process will take at least 60 days.

Borrowers who are found to have made at least 20 years of payments for undergraduate loans or 25 years for graduate loans will see their loans fully forgiven — a tax-free The SAVE plan also doesn't charge interest as long borrowers make regular payments.

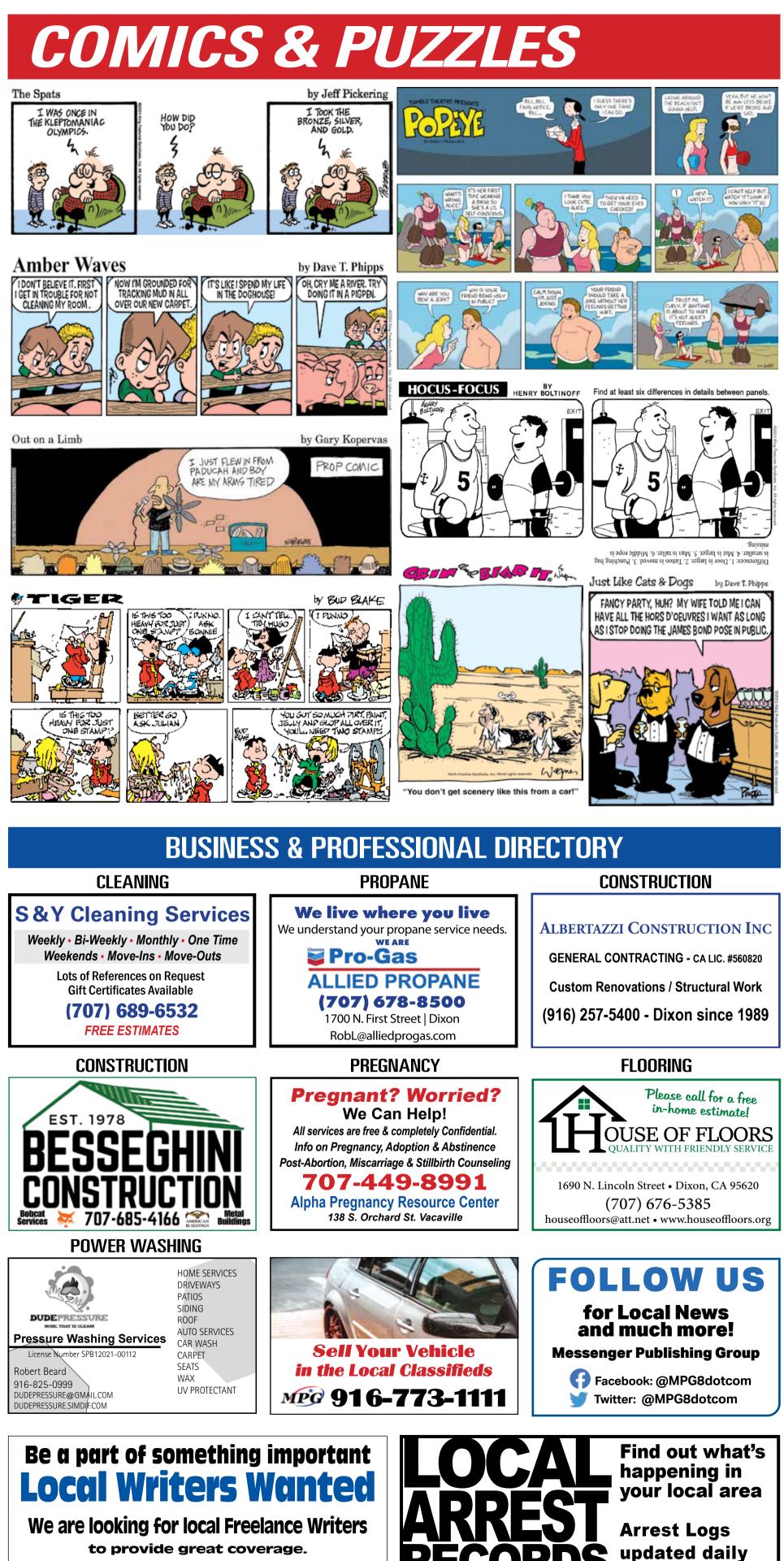
Not all periods of repayment will count toward one's loan credit under the federal government's one-time program. Any time spent in default won't count.

Loans in periods of deferment will count, but only before 2013. If loans were deferred because a borrower re-entered college, such as to complete a bachelor's or earn a master's degree, that time won't count toward the borrower's credit.

If borrowers have older loans and Parent PLUS loans that they took out on behalf of their children, they should weigh their options, Damian said. Parent PLUS loans are eligible for only one type of loan forgiveness plan that's less generous, and consolidating those loans with other loans will block the borrower from the newer repayment plans.

Consolidation may not be for everyone. Borrowers with high incomes, a low loan balance and a discounted interest rate from their lender may not necessarily benefit from this, said Betsy Mayotte, president and founder of The Institute of Student Loan Advisors, a nonprofit group. "But for just about everybody else, there isn't going to be a downside."







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INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM

Low Income Housing to Thrive in Dixon



The dirt flew thanks to these groundbreakers

Story and photo by Scott Mullins

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Prospera and The Silvey Villas Apartments held a ribbon cutting and groundbreaking ceremony on June 12 at 2105 Mourning Dove Drive in Dixon.

The ceremony celebrated the construction of Prospera at Homestead and the near completion of Silvey Villas at Homestead. Prospera at Homestead will create 108 affordable homes for individuals and families earning 60% area median income or less. Silvey Villas at Homestead will create 72 affordable homes for seniors (55-plus) earning 60% area median income or less.

While waiting for the festivities to begin, the Dixon Independent Voice spoke to Linda Sutter. She was excited at the prospect of being one of Silvey Villas' first residents. Sutter signed her interest letter as soon as she heard about these new residences. They will have amenities including a dog park, clubhouse and pool when completed. The first to open is the Silvey Villas Apartments which will begin housing residents in August. The homes in Prospera will be move-in ready in 2025.

So why is this property called Prospera? Prospera translates to "it thrives" in Spanish, according to Greg Gossard, president of Hampstead Companies. He opened the ceremonies and thanked those who helped to make this project happen. He said he and the Hampstead Company are happy to provide the foundation for families to focus less on their housing situation and more on their careers, their family and friends.

"This is an important milestone to provide affordable housing in Dixon," said the next guest speaker, Dixon Mayor Steve Bird. "All residents should have access to safe housing."

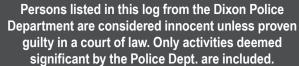
Bird looks forward to the positive impact that Prospera and Silvey Villas will have on Dixon and thanked all of those who were responsible.

When originally proposed, the \$3.2-million budget seemed excessive to Solano County Supervisor, District 4, John Vasquez, who spoke during the ceremony. After further reflection, he said, "This is the people's money. This is what we need to do."

He also noted that Solano County plans to look for more projects similar to Prospera and Silvey Villa Apartments.

After the speeches concluded, it was time for the groundbreaking and ribbon cutting, followed by light refreshments.

For more information about Prospera at Homestead or Silvey Villas at Homestead, email silveyvillas.info@fpimgt.com or call 530-759-3324.



DIXON POLICE LOG



Tuesday, June 4

- **09:30** Theft report in the area of Plaza Court and Gateway Drive.
- 09:30 Confidential Report.
- 10:00 Confidential Report.
- **11:26** Confidential Report
- **12:50** Violation of a court order report.
- **14:00** Vehicle Towed in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Dr.
- 15:00 Domestic Violence incident in the 1100 block of Newgate Way.
- **15:30** Serious Injury Report in the 2500 block of Duncan Drive.
- **18:00** Fraud report taken in the 500 block of Kings Court.

19:33 - Hit and run accident reported in the 600 block of North 2nd Street resulted in the arrest of Joseph Donato (21) of Vacaville for driving under the influence of alcohol and hit and run. He was later cited from the PD.

- 19:38 Non injury traffic accident at Hall Park near the little league fields.
- 21:20 Vandalism report taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.
- 01:49 Battery reported in the 800 block of Newgate Way.

Wednesday, June 5

- 09:06 SRO report was taken at John Knight Middle School
- 13:00 Found property report was taken in the 1200 block of Linford Ln.
- 13:58 A vandalism report was taken in the 300 block of North Almond St.
- 20:44 Vandalism report in the 1400 block of Ary Ln.

Thursday, June 6

21:38 - Johni Martinez (37) was arrested for charges of involuntary manslaughter and transport/sales of a controlled substance. Martinez was booked into the Solano County Jail without incident.

Friday, June 7

13:55 - Report to document inappropriate text messages to minors.

14:22 - Burglary of a residence under construction in the 400 block of Vanderbilt Drive.

14:25 - Burglary to a residence under construction in the 400 block of Vanderbilt Drive.

17:46 - After a traffic collision investigation, Javan Rodriguez (30) was arrested for felony driving under the influence at the intersection of Pitt School Rd with Ary. Rodriguez became uncooperative and was arrested for resisting arrest. Rodriguez was booked at the Solano County Jail.

23:40 - Felony vandalism report in the 600 block of N Almond St

00:55 - Oscar Chavez (52) was arrested for domestic battery in the 1100 block of Mulberry Ln. Chavez was transported and booked at the Solano County Jail without incident.

04:50 - Information report in the 100 block of N 1st St

Saturday, June 8

09:36 - A restraining order violation report was taken in the 200 block of South 7th St.

11:59 - A Domestic Violence arrest report was taken in the 1100 block of Mulberry Ln. Officers contacted (S) Oscar Chavez of Dixon. Chavez was arrested and transported to the jail.

14:24 - A resisting arrest report was taken at the intersection of Newgate Way at Stratford Ave. Officers contacted Pedro Santana. Santana was taken into custody.

20:13 - Criminal threats report in the 1800 block of Gold St.

Sunday, June 9

09:30 - Flag down in the 2000 block of North 1st Street regarding threats. James Price (35), of Michigan was arrested for Criminal Threats and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He was transported to the Solano County Jail.

13:30 - Lost/Stolen license plate reported in the 500 block of West F Street.

18:00 Hours - A lost juvenile was located at Northwest Park.

00:50 Hours - Suspicious Circumstance report taken in the 100 block of Heritage Lane.

Monday, June 10

10:32 Informational report taken at the Dixon PD.

16:14 - Confidential report taken at Dixon PD.

16:18 - Theft reported in the 1500 block of Sword Street

20:10 - Pedro Nunez-Ferreyra (39) of Napa was contacted in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road and later arrested for DUI.

20:20 - Alina Castillo (27) of Dixon was contacted in the 1200 block of Charity Lane and arrested for a felony warrant.





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