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Dixon

# Independent Voice

VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 29

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

JULY 19, 2024

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INSIDE**

**EVERYTHING IS  
DIFFERENT NOW**



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**WE MUST  
PROTECT  
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**GRILLIN'  
AND CHILLIN'**



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# 25 Years of 'Flagging' Dixon



Part of this year's flagging crew: Linda Barrett, center, is flanked to her left by her mom, Leah, and her two sisters, Jennifer Barrett, and Sheila Barrett-McCabe. To her left is Linda's daughter Amee with baby and Jennifer's daughter, Carisse. Courtesy photo

By Debra Dingman

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - When Linda Barrett of Barrett-Leber Realty was a child, the Fourth of July was a big deal with her family. “We’d close down the streets, have a parade, and have fireworks. It was all about family and America and honoring our military. My dad served in World War II,” she said. Patriotism was deeply embedded, so when you see those American flags lining the streets of all of Dixon this month, you now know where the long tradition started. “We started in 1999 covering about 3,000 homes with my husband, Greg



To flag something means to draw attention to it and with “flagging” Dixon, a working crew of 40 helped to build patriotism in the Dixon community. Photo by Debra Dingman

(now deceased) and our friends were involved so we had this little crew working on it. It was fun,” she said. “Then it grew...” Back then, if Barrett had

a client that didn’t live in the area they covered, she would make sure they got them for over the years, it just kept expanding. “About 10 years ago was the first time I covered the whole town,” she added. This year marks the 25th time and there were about 40 people helping, including her mom and sisters and nieces. Volunteers often come back for the task because of the good feelings it gives them to decorate the town with American flags. “My kids are now circling back around. Friends of some of their friends that flagged for me in high school have come back and

*Continued on page 3*

## Vacaville Officer from Dixon Killed



Officer Matthew Bowen, who was a Dixon resident, died while serving in the line of duty. Courtesy photo

By MPG Staff

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Vacaville Police Officer, Matthew Bowen, who was a Dixon resident, was killed last week in a tragic accident at Leisure Town Road. He is survived by his wife, two young sons, parents and brother. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) in Solano reported that at approximately 10:24 a.m. Thursday, July 11, CHP officers were notified of a crash involving a Vacaville Police Department motorcycle officer that occurred in the intersection of Leisure Town Road and Orange Drive in Vacaville. Once on scene, CHP officers learned that a Vacaville Police Department motorcycle officer was conducting a traffic stop when he was struck from behind by another vehicle. The officer began receiving medical aid on scene and was transported to a local hospital for treatment where he succumbed to his injuries. The driver of the vehicle that struck the officer allegedly attempted to flee the scene on foot; however, she was detained by bystanders who witnessed the crash. CHP investigators contacted the driver, 24-year-old Serena C.J. Rodriguez of Auburn, and determined she was driving her vehicle while under the influence of drugs. Rodriguez was taken into custody and booked into Solano County Jail on charges of homicide and driving under the influence causing injury and/or death. A CHP report read, “On behalf of the California Highway Patrol, we offer our most sincere condolences to the Vacaville Police Department and the family and friends of Officer Matthew Bowen. Officer Bowen’s sacrifice will never be forgotten, and we will continue to hold those closest to him in our hearts. It is with profound sadness that the City of Vacaville Police Department confirms the tragic passing of Officer Matthew Bowen, who was killed this morning in the line of duty.” Bowen started with the City of Vacaville on June 13, 2023. He previously

*Continued on page 3*

# State Fair in Full Swing



The California State Fair is making sure all the food served meets health requirements. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

MPG Staff

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Question: How are the Beach Boys and Flo Rida, Sacramento, a variety of fun competitions and exhibits, and a carnival connected? Answer: They’re all part of the 170th California State Fair, which is open 10 more days this month. The California State Fair opened July 12 and runs

through July 28. Special days include Tuesdays at the Fair with free admission for children 12 and under. Plus all ages pay \$2 per carnival ride on Tuesdays. Fridays are Senior Savings Day with anyone 62 and older pay \$10 admission. On July 19 and July 20, professional chefs will use a mystery ingredient to prepare a three-course, restaurant-quality meal at

the Save Mart California’s Kitchen. The prelims are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. July 19. Finals are from 6 to 8 p.m. July 20. Fairgoers can enter an old-fashioned pie eating contest at 2 p.m. July 23 featuring cream pies from Save Mart Supermarkets at the Promenade Stage. Contestants can expect to have their faces covered in cream and crumbs by the

end of the contest. Appreciation Day for military, veteran and first responders on July 24 shows gratitude and celebrates the individuals and organizations that keep the country and communities safe. It’s free admission for active duty, reserve and veteran personnel from all military branches; active members of law enforcement, firefighters and first

*Continued on page 3*





# Motorized Scooter Riders Must Be Licensed

By Debra Dingman

When I recently confronted a male youth about “the pool rules,” which are posted in three different places around our neighborhood pool, he responded that I couldn’t expect youth to go around reading signs.

So, based on that possibility, we cannot leave it up to youth to read the laws on scooters either, although we should be able to expect they want to stay alive. This is my second column about scooters racing down Dixon streets with youth oblivious to laws, so I am imploring parents to take the lead in knowing that all motorized scooters and motorized bikes have all the same laws that other moving vehicles have. City Councilman Kevin Johnson is also asking for parent’s help.

California state law requires a driver’s license to operate an e-scooter. This means children younger than 16 cannot legally ride one. You can if you have a learner’s permit. In addition, helmets are mandatory for electric scooter riders under the age of 18.

“It’s shocking how many of them don’t have helmets on,” he said.

According to the Dixon Police Department, there have been accidents involving young people on electric scooters, some resulting in injuries. To help prevent further incidents and ensure everyone’s safety, they are urging all electric scooter riders and their families to familiarize themselves with California’s electric scooter laws and safety guidelines (see California Vehicle Code, section 21235.)

Age and helmet requirements: riders must be 16 or older. Ensure that riders are at least 16 years old. Riders under 18

years old must wear a helmet at all times. The speed limit is 15 mph maximum. Electric scooters should not exceed 15 miles per hour. Riding at higher speeds increases the risk of accidents and injuries.

Road usage in designated areas: Ride scooters in bike lanes, paths, or trails. Avoid riding on sidewalks to prevent collisions with pedestrians.

Road restrictions: Scooters are allowed on roads with speed limits of 25 mph or less unless there is a designated bike lane available.

Park scooters in designated areas where they do not obstruct pedestrian pathways, driveways, curb ramps, fire hydrants, or bus stops.

Riders must possess a valid driver’s license or learner’s permit.

Equipment: functional brakes: Ensure your scooter has working brakes and lights and reflectors. If riding at night, scooters must be equipped with front and rear lights and reflectors for visibility.

Single Rider Only - No passengers! Electric scooters are designed for single riders only. Carrying passengers is not allowed and can lead to loss of control.

Straight from the Dixon Police Department:

Parents, please discuss these safety guidelines with your children to ensure they understand the importance of riding responsibly. Riders should always be alert, follow traffic rules, and respect the safety of others.

Be proactive: report hazards. If you see any hazards on the road or bike lanes, report them to the local authorities to prevent accidents. Stay informed: Stay updated on local regulations and safety tips. ★

# Dixon News Briefs



“Conductor” Michael Gloege anxiously awaits Railroad Days 2024. Photo by Debra Dingman

MPG Staff

## Family Storytime at Dixon Public Library

Looking for a fun, engaging and educational activity for the whole family? Join us at the Dixon Public Library on Tuesday, July 23, 10 to 11 a.m. Come and be a part of our vibrant storytime community. Bond with your kids while promoting a love for reading. 230 North 1st Street.

## Tortilla Making 101

Learn how to make homemade tortillas with local experts from La Familia Tortilla. This event is for teens and adults and will take place at the Dixon Public Library, located at 230 North First Street. Tuesday, July 23, from 4 to 6 p.m.

## Complimentary Impactful Leadership Training Offered in Solano County

The L.E.A.D. Supervisor Certification Course returns to Solano County in August! Back by popular demand, this interactive certification program is being offered to Solano County business owners and supervisors at no-charge through a partnership with the Workforce Development Board of Solano County, the California Employers Association and the Solano-Napa SBDC.

Sponsored by the Workforce Development Board of Solano County. Space is limited; must be an Employer located in Solano County to register and attend.

The L.E.A.D. Supervisor Certification Course helps supervisors gain the skills needed for success. This certification program is interactive and participatory. Classes will be held virtually, once a week, every Tuesday, for six consecutive weeks beginning Aug. 6 and ending Sept. 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time).

Trainers will provide new supervisors and seasoned managers with the tools they need to be successful and impactful leaders. This is a great opportunity to educate, support, and empower new supervisors.

The Course Curriculum covers everything a new supervisor should know:

- Class 1: Know Your Organization and Your Role as a Leader  
Tuesday, Aug. 6 | 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Class 2: StrengthsFinder Assessment to Build Strong and Engaged Teams  
Tuesday, Aug. 13 | 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Class 3: Communicate Effectively/Manage Conflict  
Tuesday, Aug. 20 | 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Class 4: Performance Management/Leading Changes  
Tuesday, Aug. 27 | 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Class 5: Coach for Results/Delegate and Empower  
Tuesday, Sept. 3 | 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Class 6: Creating a More Inclusive Work Culture: Your Role as a Supervisor Review  
Tuesday, Sept. 10 | 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
For more information, please call (800) 399-5331.

## New Dixon Railroad Days Dates announced.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Railroad Days will now be held September 14th and 15th. Please mark your calendars. Since this will be a whole weekend event geared towards family and kids, it was decided a little later in the year would provide an opportunity for cooler weather so everyone can enjoy full days of fun. This year will continue to bring education and fun to the community and all who attend.

## Your Dixon Farmer’s Market Awaits

Every Thursday, the Downtown Dixon Farmer’s Market takes place. You can indulge in organic fruits and vegetables, fresh baked bread, nuts, homemade salsa, tamales, hummus, olive oil, sweets, and more. The market runs from 5 to 7:30 p.m. until Sept. 26 at Women’s Improvement Club Park, 230 North First Street.

## Veterans Dinner

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy will be featured on the menu for Friday, July 19, around 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$12 per person. The hall is located at 1305 North First Street and helps support veterans.

## Feria Artisanal

An Arts & Craft Fair will be held Sunday, July 28, at the St. Peter’s Catholic Church parking area at 105 South Second Street from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Shop from over 20 vendors. Please come visit this unique shopping experience.

## Soroptimist International (SI) of Dixon Names New President and Board of Directors

Congratulations to the new 2024-25 President, Barbara Rigdon and new Board of Directors. The Board of Directors are President Barbara Rigdon, Vice President Amy Pretti, General Fund Treasurer Mary Anderson, Service Fund Treasurer Denise Raycraft, Allison Batchelor Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary Lynda Jones, Directors Brenda Walker and Colleen Schneider, Delegates Patti Crotzer and Kathy Archer.

SI Dixon is a global volunteer service for women. We are women working to help other women to be their best. If you would like to learn more about SI Dixon, contact Linda Green at lkgable@aol.com or Mary Lou Batchelor at jr0904@sbc-global.net. ★



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# 25 Years of 'Flagging' Dixon

Kids' Park hours are 1 to 11 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and



For more information about the California State Fair, go online to

Health inspectors will work throughout the duration of the fair doing unannounced inspections, investigating food-related complaints, and providing education to vendors. Some of what inspectors will look for are preparation of fresh food every day and keeping hot food hot and cold food cold. No cooling of food for the next day use is allowed. Also looked for are proper handwashing procedures, and ensuring there are safe water supplies and proper sewage disposal. ★

The California Highway Patrol is conducting an investigation and a fundraiser for the family has been posted on social media. ★

After “flagging,” the crew is traditionally treated to breakfast—this year, it was

"The thank you cards I get are so sweet," she added. "One note to me included a needle point on a handkerchief." ★

**Photo by Scott Mullins**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - “Thank you so much for making Grillin’ and Chillin’ 2024 an incredible event! We are thankful to provide our community with such an enjoyable and impactful day!” said

It was a fun-filled day for all, the ribs were fall-off-the-bone amazing, the cars and trucks were top-notch and abundant, and the community showed up in droves. ★



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# New Parking Law in Effect



Police Chief Robert Thompson explained at length the importance of passing a new parking ordinance, which directly affects public safety and the quality of life here.

Story and photos  
by Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Long-term parking in a city-owned lot will cost you.

The City of Dixon passed an ordinance on July 2 enforcing overnight parking rules between 2:30 and 6 a.m., specifically for park-and-ride lots.

Why? According to a City Council summary report, the ordinance will “address multiple concerns that have emerged over time” regarding unauthorized public property parking.

Those concerns include an increased number of people living in cars, abandoned vehicles, extended vehicle storage, public safety and overall quality of life. Land use attorney Josh Varinsky explained to officials the few restrictions, including city, emergency and vehicles authorized by Police Chief Robert Thompson.

The White Brenner LLP lawyer explained that the new law comes with consequences, including citations and towing. Chief Thompson detailed why the law was implemented in the first place, beginning with extended vehicle storage, which he calls a “nuisance concern.”

Current regulations allow vehicles to be parked for up to three days, which, according to the city summary report, “has led to the misuse of public parking facilities for long-term storage, reducing the availability of parking for legitimate short-term use by residents and visitors.”

“We are seeing an increase in people using them as



Attorney Josh Varinsky advised Mayor Steve Bird and the Dixon council members of the new ordinance that no longer allows parking in city-owned lots between certain hours, specifically for people living out of or around abandoned vehicles.

campsites, effectively setting up shop,” Thompson said of at least three locations citywide.

One instance involved a vehicle behind a restaurant, which the business owners were allowing people to live in.

“Every two days, they would push it into neutral and move it to a new spot,” Thompson said, eventually adding tarps and chairs accompanying the abandoned vehicles, causing some residents to feel unsafe.

According to the chief, more pressing than storing vehicles are abandoned cars, including more than one RV left in the city last year, which cost “excess of a thousand dollars a shot” to remove.

The new law allows law enforcement to bypass the 72 hours if it’s deemed necessary, specifically for derelict vehicles that cannot be driven away and must be towed. According to the city summary report, derelict “vehicles contribute to public blight, obstruct proper maintenance of public areas, and can become havens for illegal

activity.”

“In this ordinance, you can do a myriad of things: you can issue a warning, you can make referrals to social services, you can tow the car if you have to,” Thompson said. “It’s about options, which is what I have heard over the years from you; you want us to have tools and options.”

The chief confirmed the ordinance only pertains to city parking lots and not big box outlets, including Walmart, which he said at times is “a nomadic campground” on private property.

Lastly, the City Council summary report details how parking violations detriment quality of life.

“Unauthorized camping in public lots negatively impacts the aesthetic appeal and safety of these areas,” according to the report, and “this reduction will enhance the ability of police officers to monitor suspicious activities and ensure public safety more effectively.”

Councilmember Thom Bogue objected to passing the law, which passed and is now in effect. ★

# Planning Commission Considers Environment

Story and photos  
by Angela Underwood

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Planning Commission is considering environmental concerns over a massive, proposed project.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) was the focus of the July 9 Planning Commission meeting, during which contract planner Brian Millar detailed a 260-acre campus mixed-use project south of Pedrick Road and north of Vaughn Road.

Millar began detailing the 47-acre technical campus, which includes approximately 660,000 square feet of space for the Dixon Opportunity Center at the west end of the site along Pedrick Road. Two acres of commercial space are also within the campus, which is mixed with high- and medium-density housing.

The proposal includes up to 10 acres of high-density housing with 225 residential units next to the campus and 142 acres of low-to medium density housing, with 816 residential units south of the campus.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report included a 45-day public comment period, during which comments were received from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Caltrans, and Napa Residents for Responsible Development, among others.

Before taking public and commission questions and comments, De Novo Planning Group consultant Christina Erwin said the Draft Environmental Impact Report’s “fact-finding and analysis” strictly concerns measures to reduce potential adverse environmental impacts, but it does not advocate for the project.

“The purpose of tonight’s meeting is to provide a summary and accept comments from the public,” Erwin explained before detailing the lengthy review process in full.

Erwin listed up to 17 technical areas of the Draft Environmental Impact Report mandated under state guidelines, beginning with aesthetics.

“We also addressed mandatory findings of significance, analyzed cumulative impact for each of these



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 720 President Jeremy Peconom informs Planning Commission members that the local union should be able to get the contract with the developer so that local workers can labor close to home.



Alicia Mijares, a representative for Sheet Metal Workers 104, asks officials to advocate on behalf of the local apprenticeship who could benefit from assisting in the construction.

topical areas, and looked at potential project alternatives that would reduce the environmental impact of the project,” Erwin said.

Five significant environmental effects can be mitigated for less impact: aesthetics, biological resources, geology and soils, cultural and tribal resources, and land use.

However, three effects cannot. According to Erwin, agricultural resources, transportation and air quality are all unavoidable concerns.

“With air quality, we have some potential impacts because of construction,” Erwin said.

Commissioner Randy Davis was concerned about land use, saying, “At the very least, the DEIR should reflect the reality when it comes to park acreage,” based on the Parks Master Plan northeast quadrant layout.

“The two are different,” Davis said.

Commissioner Baudelio Diaz shared transportation concerns, specifically increased traffic, and asked that Caltrans (California Department of Transportation) conduct an impact study in the region around the project.

Two residents brought up issues not presented in the PowerPoint presentation: local labor.

Alicia Mijares, representative for Sheet Metal Workers 104, took the podium on “behalf of 2,000 workers”

with her union.

“Our members are your neighbors who might not get the opportunity to work on this project if it gets approved,” said Mijares. “Local hire and apprenticeship opportunities benefit the community.”

If locals do not get hired, who will be, Mijares asked.

“Our hope is that you ask the developer to address our community members’ concerns when creating pathways to the trades into the middle class,” Mijares said, adding, “Projects without developer commitments for local hires “perpetuate gridlock, pollution, and local workers spending more time away from their families because of the commute.”

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 720 President Jeremy Peconom also advocated for his union’s participation in the project.

“I know all about Dixon. I grew up here in 45 years,” Peconom said, adding that if you can’t stop growth, maintain it for locals.

Although Peconom “can afford to live in one of these fancy houses you are about to build, who knows if the next generation can.”

The Draft Environmental Impact Report review lasted more than an hour, with the Planning Commission moving it to the next phase, planning the final Draft Environmental Impact Report, which is available for review on the city website. ★



He Needs  
to be Reminded

Dear Dave,

My husband and I both work outside the home, and he has come up with an idea for our fun money. He wants us to set up an account where we both put 5% of our earnings for discretionary spending. The issue in my mind is that he would have a lot more to spend, because he makes much more money than I do. He says he feels he should be able to spend more since he makes more. I’m not a greedy person, and I don’t spend money on a lot of frivolous things, but I do think things should be even. I feel we should each put in the same dollar amount—one that’s fair to both of us—if we’re going to do this. What do you think?

– Val

Dear Val

This isn’t a good plan. I’m sure your husband

## Dave Ramsey Says

means well, and that he’s really a good guy overall, but it sounds to me like he probably hasn’t thought this whole thing through. As they stand now, the details of his idea play out as pretty immature and selfish. And something tells me you wouldn’t marry a man like that.

Think about it this way. There are plenty of families out there where only one person works outside the home and generates an actual income. Would it be fair to say that whoever brings home the paycheck is the only one who can have fun spending once in a while? Of course, not! In most cases, spouses who don’t work outside the home take on tons of responsibility and accomplish several things every single day—especially if the couple has kids. If you put a monetary amount on all that, it’d wind up being a pretty nice income dollars-wise.

Remember back when you two got married? If it were anything close to a traditional ceremony, I’ll bet the preacher pronounced you two “as

one.” As in every thing and every way. That means you have one income, a combined income, and it’s our income. If you own a home, it’s our home. It’s not more his home just because he makes more money than you. Our kids, our marriage our everything. Get the picture?

Marriage is not a me proposition. It should always be a we thing. Your husband needs to be reminded of that.

– 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.* ★

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

Tuesday, July 2

07:20 - Vehicle accident with injuries in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.

23:36 - Confidential report taken in the 1600 block of Blossom Way.

Wednesday, July 3

11:10 - A confidential report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

13:22 - A fraud report was taken in the 200 block of South 7th Street.

15:08 - A violation of a court order report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

16:29 - A theft report was taken in the 200 block of East D Street.

18:00 - An auto burglary report in the 1400 block of Market Lane.

18:13 - An auto burglary report in the 2600 block of Plaza Court.

23:27 - Jeffrey Carlson (36) was arrested in the 1400 block of Ary Lane for trespassing and probation violation. Carlson was booked at the Solano County Jail without incident.

Thursday, July 4

13:38 - An informational report was taken in the 1300 block of Commercial Way.

23:10 - Information report in the 1500 block of Eisenhower Street

Friday, July 5

09:21 - A vandalism report was taken at Northwest Park.

10:11 - Informational report was taken in the 700 block of Greenview Court.

10:36 - A violation of a restraining order arrest report was taken in the 800 block of Elm Drive. Lori Rosenberger was arrested and taken to the Solano County jail.

13:35 - Providing a false name and warrant arrest report was taken at the intersection of West A Street at North Jackson Street. Officers contacted Graham Trujillo out of Yolo County. A records check revealed he had a felony warrant out of Yolo County. Trujillo was arrested and transported to the Solano County jail.

16:45 - Stolen Vehicle Recovery 1500 block Valley Glen Drive.

Saturday, July 6

12:50 - Verbal argument 400 block La Esperanza Drive.

12:53 - Hit and run collision 1200 block Stratford Avenue.

19:08 - Information report in the 1300 block of Dogwood Court.

19:58 - Cristian Moreno Contreras (31) was arrested in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive for felony vandalism and probation violation and booked at Solano County jail.


Sunday, July 7

08:17 - Vehicle Accident investigation on the Currey Road overpass led to the arrest of Lila Buenvenida (41) of Davis for a misdemeanor warrant.

09:45 - Burglary report to a locked vehicle in the 600 block of Alwin Drive.

22:57 - Confidential report taken in the 400 block of Stratford Avenue.





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BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy\_fortheloveofbooks

# It Came from the Trees

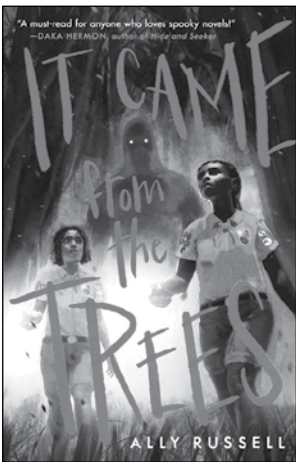
by Ally Russell

Are You Afraid of the Dark and Goosebumps collide in this summer’s break out middle-grade debut, *It Came from the Trees*. Ally Russell delivers all the creeps and chills to make anyone think twice about heading into the woods.

Jenna loved the idea of a three-day summer camping trip with her Scout Troop. After all, the outdoors was in her blood. Jenna even convinced her best friend Reese to join the Owlet Scouts so she could also come along. Even though Jenna knew the Owlet Survival guide by heart, nothing could prepare her for the night something ripped Reese right from their tent. A creature that looked just like Bigfoot.

To make matters worse, no one believes Jenna. Between her parents, the media, and the police, everyone is convinced Reese ran away. The only one who knows the truth is Jenna, and it is up to her to get Reese back.

So, Jenna does the only thing she can think of: join a new troop and go back into the woods. Almost instantly, everything comes rushing back,



- ◆ Publisher: Delacorte Press
- ◆ Intended Audience: Middle Grade ages 8-12
- ◆ Release Date: July 30, 2024

but when the troop discovers a giant footprint, Jenna knows the creature is still out there. Then she hears a distant and familiar thump, branches breaking, and a guttural sound that chills her to the bone. The creature is there, and it might be after her. With her new friends and a troop leader who might actually listen, Jenna must make a decision—trust them and tell them what happened or take on this creature alone.

Calling Bigfoot fans of all generations, this scary story will send shivers down your spine and reawaken the legend. *It Came from the Trees* is a

chilling new spin on the legendary tale of Bigfoot for middle-grade readers ready to be scared.

Ally Russell is one to watch as she delivers the perfect recipe for spine-tingling tales and things that go bump in the night. Geared for the middle-grade reader, Russell is a strong new voice for a genre we need more of: middle-grade horror. With a strong, resilient main character and a story that tackles age-appropriate middle-grade themes, this book highlights the delicate place between childhood and adulthood where one desires to be seen and heard.

As an added bonus, the scary campfire story told in the book is one for the ages and is destined to be retold on camping trips and sleepovers for years to come. Whether you are a fan of scary stories, monster creatures, or even cryptozoology, this story is age-appropriately scary but also scary enough to have readers pull the blankets over their heads and finish reading with a flashlight. This book is a must-read, perfectly paired with a full moon, flashlight, and a good old-fashioned s'more. ★



## Riley Reviews

NBC FALL LOOKING FOR MORE LAUGHS AND RETURN OF FAN FAVORITES

### A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

The NBC network is boasting that its fall schedule highlights fan-favorite franchise dramas, two nights of laughs, huge unscripted hits and the biggest and best live specials and holiday programming.

Three new series include “Brilliant Minds” is inspired by the life and work of world-famous author and physician Oliver Sacks, and stars Zachary Quinto as the larger-than-life neurologist and his team of interns exploring the last great frontier of the human mind.

“St. Denis Medical,” which stars Wendi McLendon-Covey, Allison Tolman and David Alan Grier, brings the laughs with a mockumentary about an underfunded, understaffed Oregon hospital where the dedicated doctors and nurses try their best to treat patients while maintaining their own sanity.

There’s much more to Reba McEntire than a country singer who was dubbed the “Queen of Country Music” for all the singles on the “Billboard” magazine chart of “Hot Country Songs.”

As an actress, Reba has appeared in numerous TV movies and series, most notably starring in the eponymous sitcom “Reba” as a single mom of three, navigating life in a Houston suburb for six seasons on network television.

Reba McEntire returns to comedy with multi-camera “Happy’s Place,” in which her character inherits her father’s bar and is less than thrilled to discover that she has a new business partner in the half-sister she never knew she had.

Best-known for the “Law & Order” franchise, producer and writer Dick Wolf remains the King of the NBC schedule, with his series taking almost the entirety of two nights.

Thursday night is network television’s top-rated evening with the flagship “Law & Order” returning for its fiftieth (okay it just seems like that) season, followed by “Law & Order: SVU.” Concluding the night is the return of “Found.”

Dick Wolf’s “#OneChicago” franchise lineup takes up the entire Wednesday night, kicking off with “Chicago Med,” followed by “Chicago Fire” and concluding with “Chicago P.D.” All the first responders are covered, except there is no “Chicago Medical Examiner.”

Come to think of it, we should pitch the idea of a medical examiner or coroner series to Wolf. Jack Klugman had a nice run with “Quincy, M.E.,” for which he earned four Primetime Emmy Award nominations.

A series on the Los Angeles County Coroner could be good because of celebrity cases. After all, Thomas Noguchi was known as the “coroner to the stars” for high profile autopsies on Robert F. Kennedy, Natalie Wood, Sharon Tate, John Belushi, and Marilyn Monroe, among many others. ★

A new drama series set for midseason is “The Hunting Party,” a high-concept crime procedural about a small team of investigators who are assembled to track down criminals.

The targets for the sleuths are the most dangerous killers our country has ever seen, all of whom have just escaped from a top-secret prison that’s not supposed to exist. As of now, the only announced cast member is Melissa Roxburgh.

A new series also not on the fall schedule is “The Americas,” an epic 10-part tentpole event series that marks the first-time acclaimed actor, producer and writer Tom Hanks will narrate an unscripted entertainment series.

Featuring music by Oscar winner Hans Zimmer, “The Americas” will employ revolutionary filmmaking technology to showcase the wonders, secrets and fragilities of the Americas – Earth’s largest landmass and the only one to stretch between both poles, revealing untold wildlife stories.

“Destination X” merges fantasy with reality in a larger-than-life adventure competition series. Viewers will follow contestants as they embark on the road trip of a lifetime but have no idea of their location.

In order to win, the contestants must figure out their mystery locations. Once they’re on the blacked-out Destination X bus, the journey transforms into a real-life game board, with challenges designed to offer clever clues to their location, along with a few misdirects to keep them guessing.

At the end of each episode, the contestant who places an X on a map furthest from the actual location packs their bags. The first participant to reach Destination X will be crowned the winner. With high stakes and spectacular gameplay, the series will keep viewers engaged and playing along on all screens.

A holiday special arrives with “Defying Gravity: The Curtain Rises on Wicked,” which will be a celebration of the cinematic event of the year with Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande.

The international superstars lead an all-star cast in a journey through a dazzling new vision of Oz, created for Universal Pictures’ upcoming film “Wicked,” as they unveil some of the most spectacular sets ever created for film.

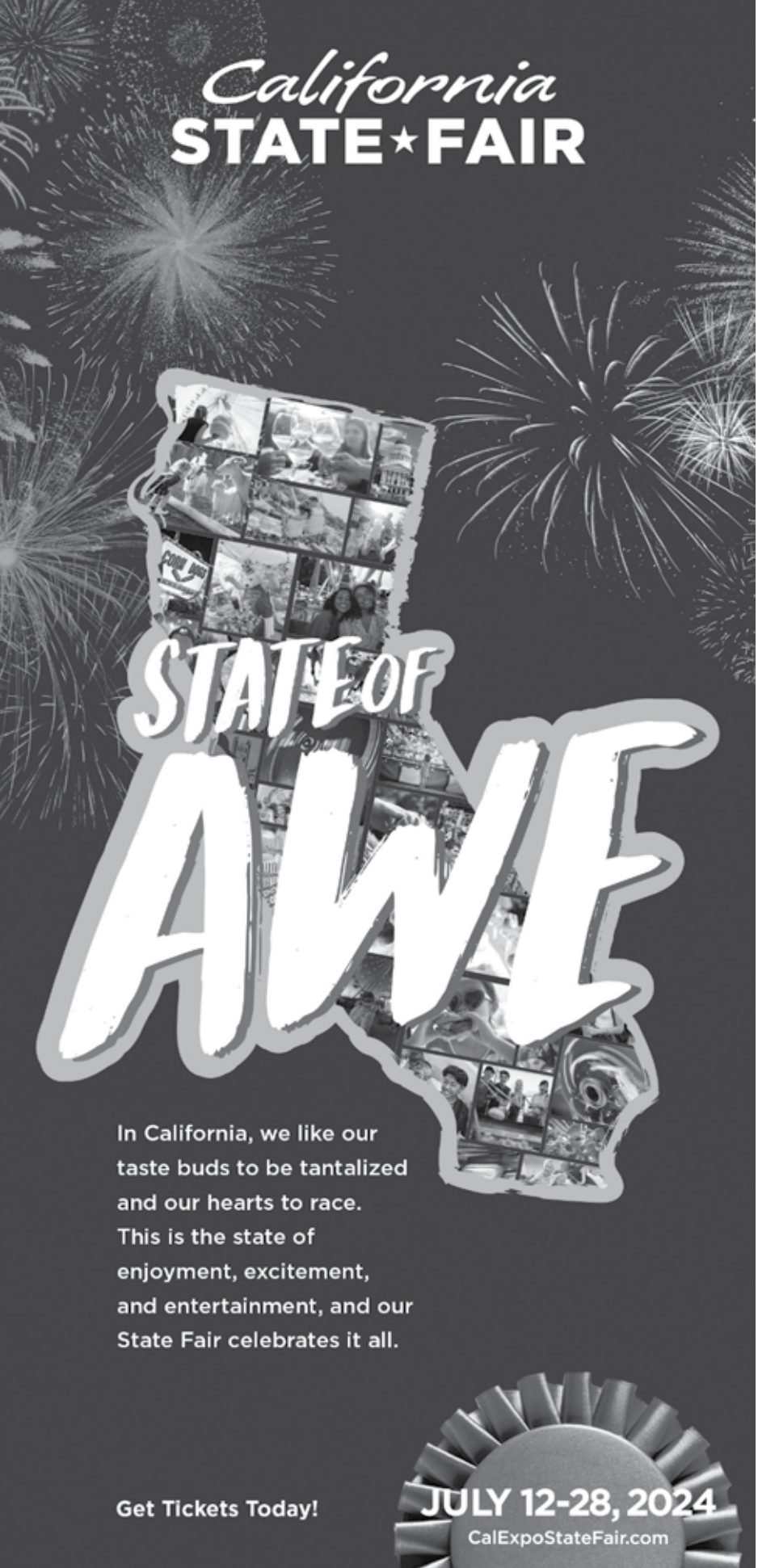
The “Wicked” stars are joined by Michelle Yeoh, Jeff Goldblum, Jonathan Bailey and more to host this thrilling behind-the-scenes special, sharing their personal memories, intimate video diaries and secrets of the making of “Wicked.”

For the second year in a row, NBC comes to the Opry, now featuring a new master of ceremonies with “Little Big Town’s Christmas at the Opry,” a festive two-hour music special from the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, with country music group Little Big Town. ★



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# Everything is Different Now

## California Lawmakers’ Safety Gets New Attention After Trump Shooting

By Lynn La  
*CALMatters.org*

Former President Donald Trump evaded serious injury, or death, by mere centimeters after a bullet struck his upper right ear during a campaign rally July 13 in Pennsylvania. The Republican presidential candidate pumped his fist, his face bloodied, as Secret Service agents hustled him off the stage following the shooting. But one spectator was killed, two were critically injured and the Secret Service killed the suspected shooter, identified by the FBI as a 20-year-old Pennsylvania man.

Saturday’s mayhem is the most recent known assassination attempt of a president or presidential candidate since the 1981 shooting of President Ronald Reagan, and renewed conversations about the country’s deep partisan divide, gun safety and dangerous political rhetoric — especially violent threats toward officials and candidates.

So it’s no wonder that beefing up personal security has been a priority for some lawmakers. As explained earlier by CalMatters Capitol reporter Sameea Kamal, the Secretary of the Senate and chief administrative officer of the Assembly said that there has been heightened concern about political violence in recent years, and a bill is underway to protect California lawmakers and candidates from rampant threats.

The measure, Assembly Bill 2041, would allow candidates and elected officials to use more campaign funds for personal security for themselves, family members and staff. Democratic Assemblymember Mia Bonta of Oakland is carrying the bill and said she hopes to “see it across the finish line for the safety of candidates across the state.” If passed, Bonta’s measure could be enacted in time for the November election.

Bonta, in a statement: “(Saturday’s) events show that political violence continues to plague our democracy. ... This bill has had bipartisan support because people on both sides of the aisle recognize the safety needs in this charged political climate.”

Gov. Gavin Newsom, whose office did not immediately reply to a request for comment, vetoed similar legislation last year, saying that the bill did not clearly define “security

expenses.” Bonta’s newest bill, however, has been amended to specify what’s considered a security expense, as well as clarifies disclosure requirements for transparency.

The bill sailed through the Assembly this year and is expected to be up for a floor vote in the Senate shortly after the Legislature returns from summer recess in August, according to Bonta’s office. It has received no vote in opposition so far, though three Republican senators voted against last year’s bill. During a March hearing in the Assembly’s elections committee, Republican Assemblymember Tom Lackey of Palmdale raised concerns about the “broad potential interpretation of security expenses.”

California is no stranger to shootings tied to the Oval Office. In 1975, a member of the Manson family cult attempted to shoot President Gerald Ford near the state Capitol in Sacramento while Ford was en route to meet then-Gov. Jerry Brown. And in 1968, U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy died shortly after being shot at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles while running for the Democratic presidential nomination.

On July 14, Newsom said he has deployed 61 Highway Patrol and police officers to assist local, state and federal law enforcement during the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, which kicks off July 15. “Public safety transcends party lines,” said Newsom in a statement. The plan to send these officers has been in the works since May. ★



## CA Leaders Condemn Attempt on Trump’s Life

*CALMatters.org*

California’s elected leaders — Republicans and Democrats alike — quickly condemned the attempted assassination of Trump, the latest violent turn in current politics and a grim reminder of America’s history of political killings.

Gov. Newsom promptly posted on social media that “violence has NO place in our democracy,” a reaction echoed by Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas.

Assembly GOP leader James Gallagher said in an initial statement that “we must completely shut down those who would use violence to snuff out their political opponents.” July 14, he followed up with a post asserting that “calling Trump a modern-day Hitler and making crazed assertions about the end of democracy has not been helpful to the chaos that we now find ourselves in.”

In a statement, Senate Republican leader Brian Jones urged “Americans to take a

step back and acknowledge the need for common ground, rather than seeing politics as a polarizing exercise.”

And former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, whose husband Paul was struck in the head with a hammer by an assailant in their San Francisco home, posted on social media: “I know firsthand that political violence of any kind has no place in our society. I thank God that former President Trump is safe.”

Saturday’s chilling incident comes at a key point in the 2024 presidential race.

Democrats have been divided over whether to rally behind Biden — or to find a way to push him off the 2024 ticket. Republicans, on the other hand, were already in lockstep behind Trump as they gather in Milwaukee to officially nominate him — and see him reveal his running mate.

California is sending the biggest delegation to the convention — and thanks to the state GOP changing its rules for a winner-take-all primary in March, all 169 are pledged to Trump. It’s only one sign of how firmly Trump controls the California party.

And while Biden — or any Democrat — is the odds-on favorite to secure California’s 54 electoral votes in November (of the 270 needed to win), Republicans hope Trump’s coattails and Biden’s troubles, fueled by his weak performance in the June 27 debate, will help them add to the dozen congressional seats they now hold (compared to 40 for Democrats).

“We resolve political differences at the ballot box, through activism and by participating in political discourse,” said California Secretary of State Shirley Weber in a statement. “There is absolutely no room for political violence.” ★

## CA Secretary of State Issues Statement on Trump Shooting Incident

*California Secretary of State News Release*

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D., issued the following statement in response to the July 13 shooting incident in Pennsylvania at Former President Trump’s event:

“Over my lifetime, I have witnessed too many acts of political violence in America. Going back decades, too many people have been harmed or killed for what they believe. We resolve political differences at the ballot box, through activism and by participating in political discourse.” There is absolutely no room for political violence.

“My heart goes out to the victims and their

families of this terrible tragedy. We are praying for the former president and those who were injured for a rapid recovery. We will keep those who have lost their lives and their families in our prayers.”

“As your Secretary of State, I am committed to making sure everyone feels safe in participating in every aspect of the political process. Everyone has a right to express their political views, have their voices heard, attend rallies, hold signs, participate as election workers, and vote. We must work together to protect the integrity of our democratic system and the safety of our communities.”

“My office continues to work closely with local, state, and federal officials to ensure our elections are safe.” ★

## FBI Investigation Encourages Tips from the Public

*FBI News Release*

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG)** - The FBI continues to investigate the shooting incident at the July 13 rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, which resulted in one victim's death and injuries to former President Trump and other spectators, as an assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump and as potential domestic terrorism.

The investigation is still in the early stages, and the FBI is providing the following updates, as of 12:05 p.m. July 15:

FBI technical specialists successfully gained access to alleged shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks’ phone and they continue to analyze his electronic devices.

The searches of the subject's residence and vehicle are complete.

The FBI has conducted nearly 100 interviews with law enforcement personnel, event attendees and other witnesses. That work continues.

While the investigative work continues, FBI victim services personnel have offered assistance to the victims of Saturday's incident.

While the investigation to date indicates the shooter acted alone, the FBI continues to conduct logical

investigative activity to determine if there were any co-conspirators associated with this attack. At this time, there are no current public safety concerns.

The FBI has not identified a motive for the shooter’s actions but is working to determine the sequence of events and the shooter’s movements prior to the shooting, collecting and reviewing evidence, conducting interviews and following up on all leads. The shooter’s telephone was obtained for examination.

Suspicious devices found at both locations have been rendered safe by bomb technicians and are being evaluated at the FBI Laboratory.

The firearm used in the shooting was purchased legally.

The shooter was not known to the FBI prior to this incident.

The FBI has received hundreds of digital media tips, which include photos and videos taken at the scene, and continues to review incoming tips. Anyone with information that might assist with the ongoing investigation is encouraged to submit it online at [tips.fbi.gov](https://tips.fbi.gov) or call 1-800-CALL-FBI.

Previous official statements about this incident can be found at [fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-statement-on-incident-in-butler-pennsylvania](https://fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-statement-on-incident-in-butler-pennsylvania). ★

## LaMalfa Wants All Shooter’s Details Made Public

*Office of Congressman Doug LaMalfa News Release*

**RICHVALE, CA (MPG)** - Congressman Doug LaMalfa released the following statement on July 13:

“I am very grateful that President Trump’s life was spared today. He was centimeters from being killed. The Lord looked over him today, for that we should all be grateful. The loss of life and injury of those in the crowd is heartbreaking, for families and all Americans. Knowing President Trump, he will be even stronger and undaunted after today. We saw his poise and resolute temperament to stand up and rally after just taking a gunshot to the ear.

Media, political commentators, elected officials, and activists have been calling President Trump a ‘threat to democracy’ for years. Supposedly serious people have compared him to some of history’s worst dictators and murderers. That same media has spent hours casting this attempted assassination as anything but what it was, and that’s sickening, even laying it off as “loud noises” disrupt the rally. It’s difficult to even believe that given the level of threats towards him, that a shooter was able to scale a building within 150 meters of his speech and fire multiple rounds. A full and serious investigation needs to be launched into how this failure in security happened. Every single detail about the shooter needs to be public, now.” ★

## Gallagher Statement on Attempted Assassination of President Trump

*Assembly Republicans News Release*

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On July 13, Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher (Yuba City) issued the following statement on the attempted assassination of

President Trump:

“Today’s senseless attack was a shocking and horrific act. We must completely shut down those who would use violence to snuff out their political opponents. Janna and I are praying for President Trump, and everyone impacted by this violence.” ★

*Office of Congressman Mike Thompson News Release*

**ST. HELENA, CA (MPG)** - Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Chairman Mike Thompson released the following statement on the apparent shots fired at former President Trump’s rally in Butler, Pennsylvania on July 13:

“While we await more information on today’s events, one thing remains clear:

Gun violence of any kind is unacceptable. I unequivocally condemn today’s act of political violence against the former president, and I am grateful to hear he is safe. My thoughts remain with the former president and those in attendance. I urge my colleagues who are speaking out in horror to join the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force in its efforts to pass the commonsense laws that help prevent these threats.” ★



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If no incumbent has filed a declaration of candidacy by the filing deadline, the deadline for non-incumbents to file declarations of candidacy shall be extended until 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2024.

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18. \*Famous Olympics basketball team (2 words)  
20. 90 degrees on compass  
21. Like Al Yankovic  
22. Popular deciduous tree  
23. College treasurer  
26. Balaclava (2 words)  
30. Compass point between E and NE  
31. Nullify  
34. Diva's delivery  
35. Smart ones?  
37. Two halves  
38. That is, in Latin  
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40. What ivy does  
42. \_\_\_\_ chi  
43. Hindered  
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47. Band aid  
48. Diet inspired by prehistory  
50. European eruptor  
52. \*Michael Phelps predecessor  
56. "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard \_\_\_\_  
57. Black and white killer?  
58. U.S. lake  
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6. Homer's classic  
7. Accepted behavior  
8. \*a.k.a. Cassius, 1960 gold medal winner  
9. Greek H's  
10. Landlord's due  
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29. \*Swimmer Ledecky  
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33. "Wheel of Fortune" request (2 words)  
36. \*Nadia of perfect 10 fame  
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44. Mental portrait  
46. Trotters  
48. \*2024 Olympics host city  
49. Formed a curve  
50. Sportscaster Andrews  
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STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-000985  
The following persons are doing business as: Powered Collaborations, 320 Bam Owl Lane, Dixon, CA 95620.  
Laurie Power, P.O. Box 983, Dixon, CA 95620.  
Date filed in Solano County: June 20, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 19, 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: July 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024  
POWERED 7-26-24  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001053  
The following persons are doing business as: Guacho's Moving Service, 870 E. Travis Boulevard Suite 1, Fairfield, CA 94533.  
Joaquin Hernandez Castillo, 870 E. Travis Boulevard Suite 1, Fairfield, CA 94533.  
Date filed in Solano County: July 2, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 1, 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: July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 2024  
GUACHOS 8-2-24  
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE  
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JULIETA L. MAYORAL  
CASE NO. PR24-00340  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Julieta L. Mayoral. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Elizabeth Dean, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Elizabeth Dean be appointed as personal representative(s) 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 executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have 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: July 25, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 10; Superior Court of California, County of Solano, 600 Union Street, 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 deceased, 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 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. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Angela C. Thompson, 1555 River Park Drive, Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95815; 916-920-5983  
Publish: July 5, 12, 19, 2024  
MAYORAL 7-19-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

Para más información sobre este aviso, por favor llame al número (707) 678-5928.

Notification of Application Filed by California Water Service to Increase Rates in 2026-2028 for the Dixon District (Application 24-07-003)

Why am I receiving this notice?

On July 8, 2024, California Water Service (Cal Water) filed its 2024 Infrastructure Improvement Plan, known as a General Rate Case (GRC), Application (A.24-07-003) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). As part of the application, Cal Water is requesting to increase rates to fund needed infrastructure improvements, water system maintenance, water quality initiatives, safety measures, and business operations, as well as to adjust for inflation. If the CPUC approves the application, forecasted costs will be recovered over a three-year period, affecting your water bill no sooner than January 2026.

Why is Cal Water requesting this?

- Cal Water is required to file an application with the CPUC every three years so that water rates accurately reflect the cost of providing safe, clean, reliable tap water to customers.
- This multi-year plan enables the utility to upgrade and modernize the water system through proactive infrastructure improvements designed to keep water reliable for customers, make its communities safer, prevent small problems from getting bigger and more expensive to fix, increase sustainability, and provide high-quality service—both now and in the future.
- Some of the key projects Cal Water proposes in this cycle are to: replace approximately 3,135 feet of aging water mains, add security enhancements to help protect the water system, and redesign system pressure for reliability.
- Cal Water is proposing to combine the rates of the Dixon and Livermore Districts into a new Diablo Ranch Region to help improve affordability, take advantage of administrative efficiencies, and stabilize rates long-term.

How could this affect my water bill?

With consolidation: If Cal Water's proposal for consolidation is approved by the CPUC as filed, beginning in 2026, the average residential bill in the Dixon District (with a 5/8"x3/4" meter and using 5,236 gallons, or 7 Ccf\*, per month) would increase by approximately \$6.24, or 8.8%, per month. These numbers do not include temporary surcharges and credits. Over the course of the review process, which could take 18 months or more, some projects may be deferred or costs adjusted. Final rates approved may be lower than what was proposed.  
\*1 Ccf = 748 gallons

Average Residential Customer Bill Increase With Consolidation

Customer Type	Monthly Usage	Current Bill	Proposed 2026 Bill Change	Proposed 2027 Bill Change	Proposed 2028 Bill Change
Residential	7 Ccf (5,236 gallons)	\$71.05	\$6.24 8.8%	\$2.43 3.1%	\$3.19 4.0%
Residential enrolled in Customer Assistance Program	7 Ccf (5,236 gallons)	\$45.63	\$4.85 10.6%	\$1.86 3.7%	\$2.23 4.3%

These adjustments to rates would allow for district revenue increases of -\$61,101 in 2026, \$262,106 in 2027, and \$290,518 in 2028, which will offset the additional cost of needed infrastructure improvements, water system maintenance, water quality initiatives, safety measures, business operations, and to adjust for inflation.

Proposed Revenue Request by Customer Type With Consolidation\*\*

Type of Service Provided	Current Revenue Requirement	Proposed 2026 Revenue Increase	Proposed 2027 Revenue Increase	Proposed 2028 Revenue Increase
Residential Metered Service	\$ 3,904,594	\$ 1,278,140 32.7%	\$ 196,424 0.0%	\$ 225,762 0.0%
Nonresidential Metered Service*	\$ 1,107,771	\$ 363,536 32.8%	\$ 64,448 17.7%	\$ 63,464 14.8%

\*Nonresidential Metered Service applies to all customer classes that are not residential (such as business, multi-family, and public authority customers) and do not have a separate tariff. \*\*The sum of residential and nonresidential revenues will not equal total revenue due to other revenue sources such as construction meter charges, fire protection services, and recycled water.

Without consolidation: If Cal Water's proposal for consolidation is not approved by the CPUC as filed, beginning in 2026, the average residential bill in the Dixon District (with a 5/8"x3/4" meter and using 5,236 gallons, or 7 Ccf, per month) would increase by approximately \$16.00, or 22.5%, per month. These numbers do not include temporary surcharges and credits. Again, over the course of the 18-month review process, some projects may be deferred or costs adjusted. Final rates approved may be lower than what was proposed.

Average Residential Customer Bill Increase Without Consolidation

Customer Type	Monthly Usage	Current Bill	Proposed 2026 Bill Change	Proposed 2027 Bill Change	Proposed 2028 Bill Change
Residential	7 Ccf (5,236 gallons)	\$71.05	\$16.00 22.5%	\$6.56 7.5%	\$7.54 8.1%
Residential enrolled in Customer Assistance Program	7 Ccf (5,236 gallons)	\$45.63	\$10.73 23.5%	\$4.34 7.7%	\$4.98 8.2%

These adjustments to rates would allow for district revenue increases of \$182,503 in 2026, \$564,536 in 2027, and \$648,702 in 2028, which will offset the additional cost of needed infrastructure improvements, water system maintenance, water quality initiatives, safety measures, business operations, and to adjust for inflation.

Proposed Revenue Request by Customer Type Without Consolidation\*\*

Type of Service Provided	Current Revenue Requirement	Proposed 2026 Revenue Increase	Proposed 2027 Revenue Increase	Proposed 2028 Revenue Increase
Residential Metered Service	\$ 3,904,594	\$ 1,468,555 37.6%	\$ 440,534 30.0%	\$ 506,099 26.5%
Nonresidential Metered Service*	\$ 1,107,771	\$ 416,667 37.6%	\$ 122,845 29.5%	\$ 141,312 26.5%

\*Nonresidential Metered Service applies to all customer classes that are not residential (such as business, multi-family, and public authority customers) and do not have a separate tariff. \*\*The sum of residential and nonresidential revenues will not equal total revenue due to other revenue sources such as construction meter charges, fire protection services, and recycled water.

How does the rest of this process work?

This application will be assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge, who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt Cal Water's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding may review Cal Water's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information regarding the Public Advocates Office, call (415) 703-1584, email PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov, or visit PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.

Where can I get more information?

Contact Cal Water:  
Phone: (707) 678-5928  
Email: InfoDIX@calwater.com  
Mail: 1720 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95112  
A copy of the application and any related documents may also be reviewed at [calwater.com/iip](https://calwater.com/iip).

Contact CPUC:  
Please visit [apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2407003](https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2407003) to submit a comment about this proceeding on the CPUC Docket Card. Here you can also view documents and other public comments related to this proceeding. Your participation by providing your thoughts on Cal Water's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision. If you have questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at:  
Phone: (866) 849-8390  
Email: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov  
Mail: CPUC Public Advisor's Office  
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102  
Please reference **Cal Water's Application 24-07-003** in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.

CNSB#3833271

PUBLIC NOTICE

Para obtener más información sobre este aviso, llame al número (707) 678-5928.

Notificación de la solicitud presentada por California Water Service para aumentar las tarifas en 2026-2028 correspondientes al distrito de Dixon (solicitud n.º 24-07-003)

¿Por qué recibo este aviso?

El 8 de julio de 2024, California Water Service (Cal Water) presentó ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de California (CPUC) su Plan de Mejora de Infraestructuras para 2024, conocido como Solicitud de Audiencia Tarifaria General (GRC) (A.24-07-003). Como parte de la solicitud, Cal Water pide el aumento de las tarifas para financiar ciertas mejoras necesarias en infraestructura, el mantenimiento del sistema de agua, las iniciativas de calidad del agua, las medidas de seguridad y las operaciones comerciales, y también para ajustar por la inflación. Si la CPUC aprueba la solicitud, los costos previstos se recuperarán durante un período de tres años, lo que afectará su factura de agua no antes de enero de 2026.

¿Por qué Cal Water solicita esto?

- Cal Water tiene la obligación de presentar una solicitud ante la CPUC cada tres años para que las tarifas del agua reflejen con precisión el costo de proporcionar agua potable segura, limpia y confiable a los clientes.
- Este plan plurianual permite a la empresa de servicios públicos mejorar y modernizar el sistema de agua a través de mejoras proactivas en la infraestructura diseñadas para mantener la confiabilidad del agua para los clientes, hacer que sus comunidades sean más seguras, evitar que los problemas pequeños se hagan más grandes y más costosos de solucionar, aumentar la sostenibilidad, y proporcionar servicio de alta calidad tanto ahora como en el futuro.
- Algunos de los proyectos clave que Cal Water propone en este ciclo son reemplazar aproximadamente 3,135 pies de tuberías principales de agua antiguas, agregar mejoras de seguridad para ayudar a proteger el sistema de agua y rediseñar la presión del sistema para brindar confiabilidad.
- Cal Water propone combinar las tarifas de los distritos de Dixon y Livermore en una nueva región de Diablo Ranch para ayudar a mejorar la asequibilidad, aprovechar las eficiencias administrativas y estabilizar las tarifas a largo plazo.

¿Cómo podría esto afectar mi factura de agua?

Con consolidación: Si la propuesta de consolidación de Cal Water **recibe la aprobación** de la CPUC como se presentó, a partir de 2026, la factura residencial promedio del distrito de Dixon (con un medidor de 5/8" x 3/4" y con un consumo de 5,236 galones, o 7 Ccf\*, al mes) aumentaría alrededor de \$6.24, o un 8.8%, al mes. Estos números no incluyen sobrecargos y créditos temporales. En el transcurso del proceso de revisión, que podría durar 18 meses o más, es posible que algunos proyectos se aplacen o se ajusten los costos. Las tarifas finales aprobadas pueden ser inferiores a las propuestas.  
\*1 Ccf = 748 galones

Aumento en la factura promedio de los clientes residenciales con la consolidación

Tipo de cliente	Consumo mensual	Factura actual	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2026	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2027	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028
Residenciales	7 Ccf (5,236 galones)	\$71.05	\$6.24 8.8%	\$2.43 3.1%	\$3.19 4.0%
Residenciales inscritos en el Programa de Atención al Cliente	7 Ccf (5,236 galones)	\$45.63	\$4.85 10.6%	\$1.86 3.7%	\$2.23 4.3%

Estos ajustes en las tarifas permitirán aumentos en los ingresos del distrito de -\$61,101 en 2026, \$262,106 en 2027 y \$290,518 en 2028, lo que compensará el costo adicional de las mejoras necesarias en infraestructura, el mantenimiento del sistema de agua, las iniciativas de calidad del agua, las medidas de seguridad, las operaciones comerciales, y ayudará a afrontar la inflación.

Solicitud de ingresos propuestos según el tipo de cliente **con** la consolidación\*\*

Tipo de servicio suministrado	Requisito de ingresos actuales	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2026	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2027	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028
Servicio medido residencial	\$ 3,904,594	\$ 1,278,140 32.7%	\$ 196,424 0.0%	\$ 225,762 0.0%
Servicio de medidor no residencial*	\$ 1,107,771	\$ 363,536 32.8%	\$ 64,448 17.7%	\$ 63,464 14.8%

\*El servicio de medidor no residencial se aplica a todas las clases de clientes que no son residenciales (como negocios, viviendas multifamiliares y clientes de la autoridad pública) y no tienen una tarifa separada. \*\*La suma de los ingresos residenciales y no residenciales no será igual al total, debido a otras fuentes de ingresos, como cargos del medidor de construcción, servicios de protección contra incendios y agua reciclada.

Sin consolidación: Si la CPUC **no aprueba** la propuesta de consolidación de la CPUC como se presentó, a partir de 2026, la factura residencial promedio en el distrito de Dixon (con un medidor de 5/8" x 3/4" y con un consumo de 5,236 galones, o 7 Ccf, al mes) aumentaría alrededor de \$16.00, o un 22.5%, al mes. Estos números no incluyen sobrecargos y créditos temporales. Una vez más, en el transcurso del proceso de revisión de 18 meses, algunos proyectos pueden diferirse o ajustarse los costos. Las tarifas finales aprobadas pueden ser inferiores a las propuestas.

Aumento en la factura promedio de los clientes residenciales **sin** la consolidación

Tipo de cliente	Consumo mensual	Factura actual	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2026	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2027	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028
Residenciales	7 Ccf (5,236 galones)	\$71.05	\$16.00 22.5%	\$6.56 7.5%	\$7.54 8.1%
Residenciales inscritos en el Programa de Atención al Cliente	7 Ccf (5,236 galones)	\$45.63	\$10.73 23.5%	\$4.34 7.7%	\$4.98 8.2%

Estos ajustes en las tarifas permitirán aumentos en los ingresos del distrito de \$182,503 en 2026, \$564,536 en 2027 y \$648,702 en 2028, lo que compensará el costo adicional de las mejoras necesarias en infraestructura, el mantenimiento del sistema de agua, las iniciativas de calidad del agua, las medidas de seguridad y las operaciones comerciales, y ayudará a afrontar a la inflación.

Solicitud de ingresos propuestos según el tipo de cliente **sin** la consolidación\*\*

Tipo de servicio suministrado	Requisito de ingresos actuales	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2026	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2027	Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028
Servicio medido residencial	\$ 3,904,594	\$1,468,555 37.6%	\$440,534 30.0%	\$506,099 26.5%
Servicio de medidor no residencial*	\$ 1,107,771	\$416,667 37.6%	\$122,845 29.5%	\$141,312 26.2%

\*El servicio de medidor no residencial se aplica a todas las clases de clientes que no son residenciales (como negocios, viviendas multifamiliares y clientes de la autoridad pública) y no tienen una tarifa separada. \*\*La suma de los ingresos residenciales y no residenciales no será igual al total, debido a otras fuentes de ingresos, como cargos del medidor de construcción, servicios de protección contra incendios y agua reciclada.

¿Cómo funciona el resto de este proceso?

Esta solicitud se asignará a un juez de Ley Administrativa de la CPUC que considerará las propuestas y la evidencia presentada durante el proceso de audiencia formal. El juez de Ley Administrativa propondrá una decisión que puede significar adoptar la solicitud de Cal Water, modificarla o denegarla. Cualquiera de los comisionados de la CPUC podrá patrocinar una decisión alterna con un resultado diferente. La decisión propuesta y toda decisión alterna será analizada y sometida a votación por parte de los comisionados de la CPUC en una reunión de votación de la CPUC.

Las partes del procedimiento podrán revisar la solicitud de Cal Water, entre ellas, la Oficina del Defensor Público, que es un defensor del consumidor independiente dentro de la CPUC que representa a los clientes para obtener la tarifa de servicio más baja posible conforme a niveles de servicio confiables y seguros. Para obtener más información sobre la Oficina del Defensor Público, llame al (415) 703-1584, envíe un correo electrónico a PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov o visite PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.

¿Dónde puedo obtener más información?

Contacto de Cal Water:  
Teléfono: (707) 678-5928  
Correo electrónico: InfoDIX@calwater.com  
Postal: 1720 North First Street, San Jose, CA, 95112  
También puede acceder a una copia de la solicitud y a documentos relacionados en [es.calwater.com/iip](https://es.calwater.com/iip).

Contacto de la CPUC:  
Vaya a [apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2407003](https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2407003) para enviar un comentario sobre este procedimiento en la tarjeta de expediente de la CPUC. Aquí también puede ver documentos y otros comentarios públicos relacionados con este procedimiento. Su participación al dar a conocer sus ideas sobre la solicitud de Cal Water puede ayudar a la CPUC a tomar una decisión informada. Si tiene preguntas sobre los procesos de la CPUC, puede comunicarse con la Oficina del Asesor Público de la CPUC al siguiente contacto:  
Teléfono: (866) 849-8390  
Correo electrónico: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov  
Postal: CPUC Public Advisor's Office  
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

Haga referencia a la **Solicitud de Cal Water 24-07-003** en toda comunicación que tenga con la CPUC en relación con este asunto.

CNSB#3833276



# COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

TIGER by Bud Blake

POPEYE by Emily Pralagus

HOCUS-FOCUS by Henry Boltinoff

GRIN and BEAR IT by Dave T. Phipps

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# We Must Protect Veterans' Access to Mental Health Treatments



Anthony Principi served as Secretary of Veterans Affairs from 2001-2005. Photo courtesy United States Department of Veterans Affairs

### Commentary by Anthony J. Principi

As a nation, we have a sacred duty to support the men and women who put their lives on the line to defend our freedoms. That responsibility doesn't end when their service does. Once military members return home, we must ensure they have the health care they need to live their best lives -- including treatments for mental health conditions.

Bipartisan majorities in Congress have made a priority of this issue, notably with their overwhelming support for the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019.

Unfortunately, though, a single provision in the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act threatens to undermine this progress. The law is inadvertently discouraging the development of next-generation psychiatric medications that could benefit countless veterans. The good news is that an easy, bipartisan fix is now in the works.

Mental health challenges

remain heartbreakingly common among our nation's heroes. Rates of PTSD are higher among veterans than civilians. Sadly, it is estimated that 17 veterans die by suicide every day, and over half of veterans living with mental illness aren't receiving treatment.

These painful statistics reflect the unique stresses and traumas of military life. Combat exposure, family separation, reintegration into civilian life -- each can take a heavy psychological toll.

Drug researchers have responded to mental illness with an expanding arsenal of treatment options. The United States is currently responsible for about half of all new medications developed worldwide.

But affordability is also an important issue. To address it, the IRA gave Medicare the authority to negotiate with drug makers for lower prices. To help ensure pharmaceutical developers have time to recoup their investment costs, lawmakers wisely granted newly approved medicines a period of exemption from price negotiations.

But oddly, this exemption period isn't the same for all drug types. Under the law, new "large molecule" biologic medicines are exempt from government price negotiations for 13 years after FDA approval, whereas small-molecule drugs receive only nine years of exemption.

Unsurprisingly, this disparity is already leading drug companies to deprioritize or abandon

small-molecule treatments. In a recent survey of over two dozen prominent biopharmaceutical firms, 63% said they plan to shift investment away from small molecules because of the IRA.

This alarming trend could have serious consequences for veterans seeking treatment options for mental illness. Small molecules have a key advantage when it comes to treating mental health conditions: they're tiny enough to cross the blood-brain barrier. That's why small molecules make up virtually all psychiatric medications, from antipsychotics to antidepressants.

The IRA's bias against small molecules will also worsen existing inequities in care access. Small-molecule medications usually come as easy-to-use pills, while biologics typically require injections or IVs administered by a healthcare professional.

Thankfully, a straightforward, bipartisan fix has already emerged. The Ensuring Pathways to Innovative Cures (EPIC) Act would align price negotiation timelines for small molecules and biologics, giving each category 13 years of post-approval protection.

As millions of veterans struggle with mental health or behavioral conditions, we need to protect their access to innovative therapies. That starts with passing the EPIC Act.

Anthony Principi served as Secretary of Veterans Affairs from 2001-2005. This column first appeared in Stars and Stripes. ★

# Nominate Solano County Female Leaders for Recognition

### Solano Commission for Women and Girls News Release

**SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - The Friends of the Solano Commission for Women and Girls (FSCWG) and the Solano Commission for Women and Girls (SCWG) are seeking nominees to be recognized at their Women Leadership Gala, which will be held on Friday, Oct. 18 at the Bella Verdi Rancho Solano Golf Course.

The celebratory event will also commemorate the sixth anniversary of the Solano Commission for Women and Girls. To mark this milestone, the Friends and Solano Commission for Women and Girls will recognize five deserving Solano County women leaders and celebrate that evening with the honorees, elected officials, VIPs, and community leaders. Each of the five honorees will be presented with the Woman of the Year award.

The Friends is the financial arm of the Solano Commission for Women and Girls and in partnership, both organizations are collaborating on the fundraising event as donations will finance several core programs and projects to benefit underserved women, girls, and families in Solano County.

"Our organizing committee is excited to mark such an amazing milestone in the history of Solano County as we will celebrate the sixth anniversary of the Solano Commission for Women and Girls," said Jacqui Nguyen, chair of the Women Leadership Gala. "As a commissioner, I am so proud of our many accomplishments and since our inception in 2018, we have worked tirelessly to uplift the lives of women and girls in Solano County and will continue to build on our work. We hope the community will support our efforts and see the value of the work that we put in to help those in need."

If you are interested in nominating an outstanding woman leader in Solano County, visit <https://www.solanocommissionwomensgirls.com/gala-2024> to learn

more about the requirements and fill out the nomination application. The nomination period starts on July 15 and will go through Aug. 23.

"Solano County is a wonderful place to live and raise a family," said Sabine Goerke-Shrode, president of Friends of the Solano Commission for Women and Girls. "We have a lot of movers and shakers who call Solano County home. They are innovative entrepreneurs, elected officials and appointees, moms, grandmothers, and community leaders. Should you know of a deserving woman leader, please nominate her."

The Solano Commission for Women and Girls is not funded with tax dollars, but rather through the generous donations from the community. The fundraising event will allow the commissioners to continue their work. Below is a list of projects that are supported by Solano Commission for Women and Girls and the Friends.

**Women and Money Conference**

This is a partnership with financial professionals that presents interactive workshops to provide critical financial knowledge for women and girls of all ages.

**You Matter. Period**

A menstrual hygiene project that addresses a major issue faced by unhoused women in Solano County who lack critical menstrual hygiene products. Solano Commission for Women and Girls has partnered with Touro University School of Medicine's Chapter of the American Medical Women's Association to organize this program. In the past year, more than 200 packets were distributed.


**Birth Justice, Maternal Care, and Birth Rights for Women of Color**

In Solano County, Black and Latina women infant mortality rates are 5.6% higher than those of White women so Solano Commission for Women and Girls' one-day workshop serves to provide resources and information available to assist with healthy birth outcomes. ★



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