



Dixon
Independent Voice

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Hall of Fame Honors Alumni



Class of 1915's Juanita Mills was the first inductee of the night; her award was accepted on her behalf by a family member.

Story by Kendall Brown and photos by Nicolas Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Athletic Association hosted the Dixon High School Hall of Fame Nov. 9, commemorating the talented athletes that have graced Dixon High School's hallowed halls over the decades. The event saw the honoring and inducting of Juanita Mills (Class of 1915), Frank Lopes (Class of 1945), Pete Wadsworth (Class of 1957), Bradd Brown (Class of 1964), Danny Cerna (Class of 1971), Sergio Martinez (Class of 1983), Tina Johnston (Class of 1993), Mary Murray (Class of 2000) and Jaida Aikens



Rick and Scotty Stacey, both Hall of Fame inductees for their contributions to the 1974 Championship Football Team, bask in the glow of their accomplishments.

(Class of 2013). "I think it's a great honor, something I never really expected," said Danny Cerna, the Class of 1917 pick, for his dual sport status, being a three-year letterman in football and soccer. "I'm not really an accolades kind of

person and I didn't realize what I accomplished until I saw it on paper." In high school alone, Cerna was captain of the Varsity soccer team and had earned Athlete of the Week twice as a senior; one of these titles was earned by completing 27 tackles in a single game. Each inductee, while separated by eras, shares similarly impressive accomplishments, on and off the field. Coach Gene Thomas, known for coaching varsity football, freshman basketball, junior varsity and varsity baseball and track, was also honored, alongside special contributor Del Holly; Holly is part of the

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Ramtown Karate Tournament Success

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Ramtown Karate, 1680 N. Lincoln St., saw great success Nov. 2 at the 23rd Annual Ryukyukan International Karate and Kobudo Tournament. Three hundred and seventy competitors, over 50 of which were Ramtown students, participated in the largest tournament Ramtown has ever run, and the largest karate competition in the area. Athletes across California, Nevada, North Carolina and Washington competed in Kata (a system of training exercises for martial arts practitioners), sparring and weapons. Sensei Jim Ernest, chief instructor of Ramtown Karate and City of Dixon Councilman, could not be prouder of the tournament's turnout. "We have received letters from the other schools that they had a great time in Dixon and will be back next year," Ernest said. "This was a great tournament because the schools that joined us brought a high level of competition this year. Our own Ramtown athletes did very well. We would have to say that this tournament was a great success." Ernest, a former top ten collegiate wrestler in the Northeast, moved to Boston, where he fell in love with karate, choosing to train in Shotokan Karate under Kazumi Tabata, an eighth-degree Grand Master in Shotokan. A year later, Ernest moved to Connecticut to continue his training; this is when he met his wife, Sensei Kathy Ernest, the President of Ramtown Karate Inc. and another instructor. "When he returned to Connecticut, he continued training, and I joined him in one of his classes and we have never stopped since then," Kathy Ernest said. "For Jim, it was another combat sport that he excelled at. For me, it was self-defense training to start, and then competitions and finally a love for teaching." The Ernests' passion and drive have created some of the most talented martial arts practitioners in Northern California, such as William Kuykendall and Lazer Ingram, who recently earned their first-degree black belts, or Lucky Cruz and John Ingram, who earned their second-degree black belts. "All Ryukyukan students are taught and expected to follow the rules of good manners, helpfulness and honesty," Ernest said.

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Visit Holiday Open House

Story and photos by Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Downtown Dixon's annual Holiday Open House is back and merchants are ready to help you do your holiday shopping without ever hitting a freeway. Staying in town saves you gas, time, money and supports local merchants. You also support our local economy. Several downtown stores and services will be kicking off the holiday season beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 23 until closing. "We are all very excited about the upcoming Holiday Shopping & Dining Day in Downtown Dixon," said Rebecca Robinson of the Downtown Dixon Business Association, who recently re-opened her Uptown Collective boutique. "Several of the merchants will be offering treats and



Rebecca Robinson re-opened the Uptown Collective Boutique and will help you make Christmas gift selections easy at her downtown store.

drawings for prizes. There will be unique, creative, and key vintage finds for downtown shoppers." From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Cynde's Place Salon and Boutique you can enjoy Christmas refreshments while you shop through this salon full of retail, not just for hair products but also clothing, accessories, and home decor. They have a large gift selection of jewelry, purses, Christmas decorations, scarves, hats, and mittens, at 201

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NorthBay Health Opens New Urgent Care Clinic



NorthBay Health representatives cut the ribbon at the clinic's grand opening. Photo courtesy of NorthBay Health

NorthBay Health News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - NorthBay Health, a leading healthcare system providing advanced and compassionate care to address critical, unmet healthcare needs throughout California's North Bay, announced the opening of

a new urgent care clinic in Dixon. Conveniently located off Interstate 80 and within NorthBay's existing primary care clinic at 1305 Stratford Ave., this new clinic will bring critical, urgent, and after-hour services to the community. "With its close proximity

to major interstates, the airport, and educational institutions, the City of Dixon is a key community where we think we can meet and surpass patients' demands for high-quality, compassionate care that is more accessible and convenient," said Mark Behl, Chief Executive Officer of NorthBay Health.

"We're thrilled to be expanding our footprint in Dixon to include urgent care services and to be one step closer to becoming the healthcare partner of choice for the region." The opening of the Dixon facility marks NorthBay's fourth urgent care clinic and third in Solano County, following the recent opening of a new urgent care clinic in American Canyon in September. Additionally, NorthBay has announced plans to open new facilities in Rio Vista and Winters, continuing its expansion across the region.

These achievements are part of NorthBay's multi-year, \$250 million investment plan to build and open up to 10 new primary care and urgent care offices to address the lack of medical resources and build healthier and revitalized communities. "At NorthBay, we believe in providing our patients with the right care at the right time and meeting them where they are. Today, we're honoring this commitment by expanding our services to include urgent care in Dixon," said Dr. Blake H. Cleveland, MD. "This clinic

will benefit patients by providing immediate care for non-life-threatening conditions around their hectic family, work, and school schedules - improving access to care and alleviating a significant burden on the broader healthcare system." Learn more about NorthBay Health's Ambulatory Network Strategy and Vision 2030, our promise to meet the evolving needs of our community. For PR contact, please reach out to NorthBayComms@fticon-sulting.com. ★

Dixon News Briefs

By MPG Staff

The Angel Tree

Dixon Chamber of Commerce, 220 N. Jefferson St., offers a donation opportunity, just in time for the holiday season. The Angel Tree, located at the Chamber of Commerce, is adorned with paper ornaments that guests can select for a donation, which benefits the Dixon Rams Vault, 555 College Way, and the Maine Prairie Vault, 200 N. Lincoln St. No donation is too small. Still, this limited time offer only lasts from Nov. 4 to Dec. 15. For more information, visit The Dixon Chamber of Commerce at 220 N. Jefferson St., or call 707-678-2650.

Annual Christmas Car Parade

The Fish Family will host Dixon's Annual Christmas Car Parade at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 14; the lineup begins at 4:30 p.m. on E. Pkwy Blvd. This year's event will be avoiding neighborhoods and sticking exclusively the Dixon's main streets to keep everything moving as smoothly as possible. All food and toys donated go straight to Dixon Family Services. For more information, visit Dixon's Annual Christmas Car Parade Facebook Page, or call 707-628-9771.

Cars and Toys 2024

Bradley Morin, a Vacaville Realtor, will host Cars and Toys 2024, a car show toy drive. The event, at 300 County Airport Road from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 8, will have food trucks, a full bar, games for kids, awards, live music, live Sunday Football and plenty of cars to check out. All proceeds and toys go to the Vacaville Boys and Girls Club; spectators' tickets are available for free, but car show entry is \$28.52 and car show and wrap entry is \$33.85.

For more information, visit www.eventbrite.com, or call 707-301-0905.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

The Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 7 p.m. on Nov. 26 for their regular meeting, the fourth Tuesday of every month. Held at the City Hall Council Chambers, 700 E. A. St., this advisory body to the City Council discusses matters pertaining to recreation programs and park facilities. The meeting is open to the public, but agendas, minutes, and meeting videos are available for those incapable of attending in person. For more information, visit www.cityofdixonca.gov, or call 707-678-7000.



Erin Johnston (left) and Crystal Rico (right) stand proudly alongside the Angel Tree at Dixon Chamber of Commerce, 220 N. Jefferson St. Photo by Kendall Brown

Build It! Construction Club

Dixon Public Library, 200 N. First St., hosts a weekly construction club every Friday afternoon for kids, ages 8 to 14, to build and create. Because of Thanksgiving on Nov. 28, the library will be closed Nov. 29, so from 2 to 4 p.m. Nov. 22 will be the final time this month the kids can attend. Each week features different building challenges, from recycled materials to Legos, so you will not want to miss out on the fun. For more information, visit www.solanolibary.com, or call 866-572-7587.

Thanksgiving Centerpiece

The Enlightened Loft, 622 Webster St, Fairfield, is hosting an Autumn craft workshop to be thankful for. Learn how to design a beautiful Thanksgiving floral centerpiece using seasonal pumpkins and fall flowers from 2 to 4 p.m. on Nov. 23; general admission is \$49.87. For more information, or to reserve tickets, visit www.eventbrite.com, or call 707-631-6483.

Downtown Dixon's Tree Lighting Festival

The Downtown Dixon Business Association, 165 E. A. St., is hosting another afternoon and evening of yuletide fun. The annual festival, from 4 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 5, will have activities such as visiting Santa, attending Story Hour, riding the train, hitting the photo booth and even arts and crafts. The Christmas Tree lighting itself will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Women's Improvement Park, 230 N. First St. For more information, visit www.downtowndixonca.com, or call 707-678-8400.

Every Baking Moment Christmas Classes

Every Baking Moment, 143 N. First St., has several baking classes coming up to prepare you for the

holiday season. The two most popular classes at this time are the Christmas Cookie Class and the Grinch Cookie Class, both of which have most of their sessions already sold out. For those interested, the Christmas Candy Class is from 12 to 2 p.m. Dec. 7 (\$60 per person) and the Grinch Cookie Class is from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Dec. 22 (\$50 per person).

There is also a kids' class available at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 11; for \$12, families can either choose to take the class in person or purchase a take-home cake decoration kit. Take-home kits can be picked up anytime between 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 11, but kits must be reserved by 5 p.m. on Dec. 10. For more information, visit www.everybakingmoment.com, or call 707-693-0112.

Yolo County Mid-Winter Cabaret

The Center for Spiritual Living Yolo, 201 Main St., Winters, is hosting its 4th annual holiday cabaret from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 8. Step into a world of holiday magic, featuring festive drinks, tasty treats and live music, led by Music Director Billy Larkin; Larkin is an award-winning pianist, composer and arranger out of Davis. Tickets are currently on pre-sale for \$25 per person but will be \$30 per person at the door; attendees are encouraged to bring canned or shelf-stable food items, all of which will go toward supporting the Yolo Food Bank. For more information, or to purchase a ticket, visit www.eventbrite.com, or call 530-302-5798.

American Legion Meatloaf Dinner

American Legion Post 208, 1305 N. First St., is hosting another eventful Legion Dinner from 4 to 8 p.m. Nov. 22. The \$10 meal comes with a hearty slab of meatloaf and sides and is open to the public; a full no-host bar is also available. All proceeds go toward supporting local veterans. For more information, visit www.alpost208.com, or call 707-678-6308. ★



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Hall of Fame Honors Alumni



The Dixon High School 2024 Hall of Fame inductees enjoy dinner together, in preparation for the awards ceremony.

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Rohwer family, who has the most Hall of Fame inductions in Dixon history. Holly excelled at coaching linemen and had particular success with smaller, scrappier players. He coached the 1974 DHS Championship Football Team alongside Head Coach Ira Finney.

Many of the duo's former players were in attendance, including Alex Granillo and Rick Stacey. In the first round of playoffs, Granillo had 19 carries for 221 yards, giving him a 12.2 average with three touchdowns; Stacey, on the other hand, was recognized as an All-League Honorable mention, alongside his teammates Curtis Alexander, David Bradley, Dan Braga, Marty Garton, Art Lopez, Jim McLaughlin and Robert Parkhurst.

“This year was really

something else cause they won the championship on my birthday,” said Scott Stacey, brother of Rick Stacey and 2014 Inductee (Special Contributor). “That night, every time we scored, I rang the bell.”

Said John Rowe, a Dixon Hall of Fame Board member, “I did a lot of bios on the players and looked people up. I was in high school when a lot of these guys were, I was two years ahead of them. I coached in Dixon for about 15 years.” One of the teams he coached during that time was the 1974 Championship football team.

That night, VIPs, such as past and present inductees, family members and staff made their way to Madden Hall at the Dixon May Fair, 655 S. First St., where they were greeted with a Ram-colored wonderland.

Large prints of the 2024 inductees adorned the walls, supported by green drapes. Every corner of the room was filled with historical pieces honoring Dixon High School’s athletic history. A table with era-appropriate newspapers lauding the inductees’ accomplishments lay against the far wall, opposite the entrance; displays of classic Ram jerseys and cheerleading outfits were spread around the room.

Attendees were encouraged to socialize and enjoy the no-host bar, manned by the Dixon Lions Club. Dinner began at 6:45 p.m. and was catered by Dixon Odd Fellows; the meal was comprised of a starter salad, steak with cheesy scallops and broccoli (with a vegetarian option) and a hearty slice of chocolate cake for dessert.

Organizing an event like this

would not have been possible without the support of so many Dixonites; special thanks is given to First Northern Bank, the Lozano Family, Nickum Holdings Inc. and the Bulkley Family as sponsors. Sheila Barrett-McCabe, who presided over the event, thanked Bud’s Pub and Grill, Noah Carter, Dixon Florist and Gift Shop, the Dixon High Schoolcheerleaders, KEI2 Sound and Tech, as well as Amy Grabish of The Pip Wine Bar, The Printing Shop of Dixon, Doug Sutherland of D-sign Grafix and Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy for their contributions. The Finney Family, the Rowe Family, J.A. Taylor Foundation, Robbins Department Store, RPM Fisher, Dennis Braga and Silveyville Christmas Tree Farm also made appearances and were given

honorable mentions.

The official induction ceremony began at 8:30 p.m., seeing Juanita Mills as the first inductee; one of her family members accepted on her behalf.

The Dixon High School Annual Hall of Fame maintains its significance as it continues to bring the community together to celebrate those who have honored Dixon High School.

Lindsey Dunn, secretary to the Dixon Hall of Fame Board, agreed.

“This is my first time working this event but I’m learning, as people come into town, this event is important, especially for the older generation to be honored for what they’ve done in high school,” Dunn said. “It’s great to give them this opportunity to reminisce and relive their high school days.” ★

Thompson Announces New Staff Serving Solano County

Office of Rep. Mike Thompson News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On Nov. 20, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) announced that Will Duncan has joined his team to serve as a field representative covering Solano County, including Dixon, Vacaville and Rio Vista.

“I’m excited to have Will join our team to serve the people of Solano County,” said Thompson. “Will’s passion for public

service, local history, and familiarity with our community will be invaluable to our team and I know he will provide excellent service to our district as Team Thompson’s ‘eyes and ears’ of Solano County.”

Will Duncan grew up in Vacaville and attended Laurel Creek Elementary School, Foxboro Elementary School and Golden West Middle School before graduating from Vanden High School. Will attended Solano Community College before graduating from Sacramento State

University where he earned a bachelor’s degree in political science. Will interned with Assembly Member Jim Frazier and worked at Lucky as the Service Deli Department Manager. Will is a Navy veteran and his parents and sister still live in Vacaville. He will serve California’s Fourth District as a Field Representative for Solano County.

Rep. Thompson and his staff support Fourth District residents in communicating with federal agencies and

accessing federal resources and benefits. Constituents are encouraged to contact Rep. Thompson’s team with questions regarding Social Security and Medicare benefits, immigration matters, federal worker injury compensation, tax issues and IRS services, small business concerns, federal grant applications, student loans, military academy applications, military awards and commendations, veterans’ benefits, or any other issue facing themselves or their community. ★

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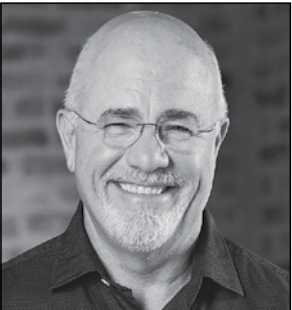
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Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,

I'm 20-years old, and I'm in a bad spot. I've been a jerk for the last year, not listening to my parents about anything. Now, I've got over \$10,000 in debt from running up bills on credit cards and writing some bad checks. Two weeks ago, I also lost my job and totaled my car. I'm about to lose my apartment, too, because I don't have the money for rent. A friend of mine said I could stay with him for a while, but I'm really scared. My parents say I created this situation all by myself, and I need to figure out a solution all by myself. Would you please give me some advice? I don't even know where to start.

– Justin

Dear Justin,

It sounds like you're about as close to rock bottom as a person can get. I know it's a scary situation, especially for a young person. I've done stupid stuff, too. And the

Dave Ramsey Says When You Hit Rock Bottom

stupid things I did had lots more zeroes on the end than you're looking at right now. So, I've got some good news for you. There's hope! The simple fact that you're looking for help, and have realized the way you've been living is stupid, means you want to change. That's a good thing.

Still, when you do stupid things, you've got to pay what I call "stupid tax." I'm talking about the consequences of your actions. It sounds like you're going to have get two or three jobs, and find a really cheap car that will get you around for a while. If you do this for maybe 12 to 18 months, and live on a very strict monthly budget, you'll probably be able to pay off all that stupid tax you've accumulated.

I think you've also recognized the fact that you left your integrity and self-respect on the sidelines for way too long. That means doing the right things really needs to be a priority from now on. The cool thing about the practical issues you mentioned—finding an-

other permanent place to live, something to drive and paying off the debt—is that all this will get better because you've made a conscious decision to be better.

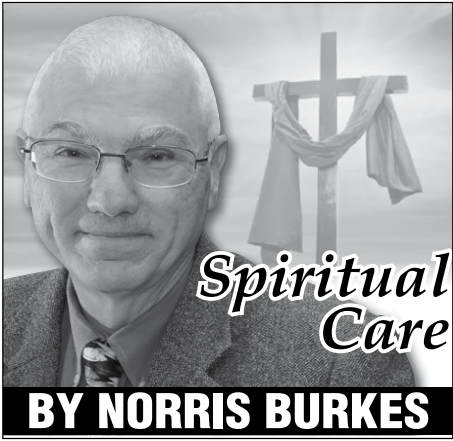
You might want to think about finding and regularly attending a good church, too. Any understanding and caring pastor would be honored to pray with you, and walk with you as you get your life back together and headed in the right direction.

God bless you, Justin. You can do this!

– Dave

Dave Ramsey is a 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. ★

Retirement, Really?



BY NORRIS BURKLES

"Do you think you'll ever fully retire?" my wife, Becky asks a few times a month.

"Definitely!"

"Mostly."

"Maybe?" I say, adding an I-dunno-know for good measure.

She asks, because she knows I struggle sometimes to write this weekly syndicated column, travel to speak in different venues, and pastor a small church.

Trying to explain my reticence, I simply say, "I'm just not sure of the best timing."

In past years, you readers have sent me many emails with quick and sound responses to my writings. You've rolled out the red carpet for me during our dozen+ years together, hosting me for speeches in your colleges, hospitals, churches and civic organizations.

You've traveled with me to Honduras for Chispa Project, the charity my daughter Sara began for establishing libraries in Honduran elementary schools. Many of you are generous, regular donors.

When I think of full retirement, I'm struck with a sudden case of FOMO. "Fear of Missing Out." I don't want to miss out on more wonderful exchanges, meetings, and friendships this writing ministry has brought to me.

But alas, I've come up with a compromised writing retirement, giving us at least two ways to stay in touch no matter when I fully retire.

First, I'd like you to sign up to get my weekly column by email. You can do this by sending me a quick email to comment@thechaplain.net.

Or even easier, sign up for my weekly email at www.thechaplain.net/newsletter. The website also contains everything I've ever written or will write. Check out the audio versions of past columns too. Remember to spell chaplain correctly, not

chaplin. We've talked about this.

Second, while you're on my website, consider ordering one or more of the four books I've written. These books are a compilation of my columns from the past twenty years. And of course, I'll autograph them.

Keep the book on your nightstand or reading rack so you can read one 700-word story each time you crack open the book. You can read the books in any order and jump around between stories.

"No Small Miracles" contain stories I wrote as a pediatric hospital chaplain. "Hero's Highway" recounts my deployment to a combat hospital in Iraq.

"Thriving Beyond Surviving" is a compilation book of the columns I wrote about faith, family, fun and forgiveness. And my most recent book, "Tell it to the Chaplain" recalls my chaplain experiences in the hospital, hospice, and the military.

The last section of "Tell it to the Chaplain" tells the story of Chispa Project, so I especially hope you'll read that one. Thanks to readers like you, we've reached over 22,000 kids in Honduras get their first books by creating school libraries with my daughter's charity.

To say thank you, and "spark" you into action one more time, my family and I will be matching all reader donations up to \$5,000 postmarked between now and Giving Tuesday on December 3. I hope you'll take up my challenge for this ambitious goal. You can donate online at www.chispaproject.org/chaplain or send a check made to "Chispa Project" to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602.

Every \$100 gives 4 kids a school library, training their teachers and parents, and providing books, shelves and colorful, painted murals. There are no words that can completely describe the joy that fills a child's face when they hold their first picture book. It's why I go back year after year to volunteer. (Details for 2025 volunteer trips at www.chispaproject.org/volunteer)

Finally, know that I'm not completely retired. I remain the pastor of Community Church, Nevada City, CA. It's a little country church of two dozen in California's Sierra Gold Country. They've been patient with me, but they miss me when I travel at least 8 Sundays a year as grandkids and foreign adventures keep calling.

Keep me in your prayers and thoughts, as I will for you. Thank you, for your faithful reading and support. ★

California's Transition Off Carbon Fuels Could Upset Gasoline Supply, Prices



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California motorists buy and consume a billion gallons of gasoline each month and are very sensitive about pump prices, which are markedly higher than those in other states. Naturally, they are a political football.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has repeatedly characterized refiners as price gougers, even though most of the differences are caused by taxes, fees and regulatory mandates. Recently, he persuaded the Legislature to pass a watered-down version of his proposal requiring refiners to maintain higher reserves to avoid price spikes.

However the gasoline situation is far more complicated than Newsom's approach, and California may be facing a period of volatility on both supply and price as it attempts to wean itself from combustion-powered transportation, its largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions.

The California Air Resources Board is on the verge of expanding its program of reducing the amount of carbon in the current gasoline recipe, regarded as an interim step before completely converting vehicles to electricity or some other non-polluting power.

Last year, CARB published an analysis of the proposed Low Carbon Fuel

Standard to provide "the economic incentives to produce cleaner fuels like electricity, hydrogen and biofuels that are needed to displace fossil fuels and reduce transportation sector emissions."

The report estimated that adoption could immediately increase gas prices by 47 cents a gallon and then, "on average, from 2031 through 2046 the proposed amendments are projected to potentially increase the price of gasoline by \$1.15 per gallon, the price of diesel by \$1.50 per gallon and fossil jet fuel by \$1.21 per gallon."

The cost estimate generated a storm of media and political attention and CARB backed off, continuing the adoption process but refusing to put a number on the potential pump price. Last week, the board's top official conducted an electronic press conference in which he stressed positive impacts, but continued to sidestep questions about consumer impacts.

"It's a win-win," executive officer Steven Cliff insisted. "We get public health benefits, we reduce health costs, we see lower costs of driving and we help turbocharge those investments in clean energy infrastructure that helps drive our zero emissions future."

CARB now intends to act on the policy three days after Election Day, without offering any estimate of consumer costs — a potential signal that those costs will be hefty.

While Newsom wants to be remembered as someone who tried to reduce gasoline prices, his governorship probably will be one that substantially increased them.

The other uncertainty is whether California will have

enough gasoline, even a variety with less carbon, over the next two decades as it transitions away from carbon fuels altogether.

California once had dozens of refineries producing the state's unique fuel blend, but in recent years just nine. After the Legislature gave Newsom the new laws on gasoline reserves, one refiner, Phillips 66, announced that it would shutter its plant in Southern California that's no longer profitable. The company said the closure had nothing to do with politics.

Very quickly, Valero, which has two refineries in the state, hinted that it may follow suit. CEO Lane Riggs said during a conference call that "all options are on the table" for the company's two California refineries, one in Benicia and the other in Wilmington, because of increasing state regulation of operations.

"Clearly the California regulatory environment is putting pressure on operators out there and how they might think about going forward with their operations," Riggs said.

Transitioning transportation to non-carbon power — while maintaining sufficient and reasonably priced supplies for gas-powered cars until they're replaced — was destined to be a fraught process.

If poorly managed, it could be a monumental disaster.

Dan Walters is one of most decorated and 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. ★

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Ramtown Karate Tournament Success

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“This is a team effort with our families. To achieve discipline and motivation, we practice private reprimand and public praise. Students are expected to perform; they learn to handle the bumps and bruises that come with a combat sport. Our instructors teach by example and our students are motivated by the quality of our instructors.”

Karate master and president of the Okinawa Karatedo Shorinryu Ryukyukan and the All Ryukyu’s Full Contact Karatedo Federation, Sensei Koei Nohara, gave a seminar to the Ramtown students Nov. 3, signing each student’s belt in Japanese Kanji; Ernest met Nohara in the early 90’s, choosing to join his Ryukyukan Okinawan Karate Organization soon after meeting him. The seminar was followed by a Testing Ceremony for students who had earned their black belts or higher. Alongside the previously mentioned four, Kiera Mackenzie Lake, a member of the Team USA Karate Team, earned her third-degree black belt; she will be joined on Team USA by Anna Anderson, who has earned her first-degree black



From left to right, Mario Leon, Kathy Ernest, Jim Ernest and Kiera MacKenzie Lake stand alongside Koei Nohara, President of Ryukyukan Federation, after a successful Testing Ceremony. Photo courtesy of Sarah Hersman



Sensei Jim Ernest announces the winners of the Knockdown Divisions at the 23rd Annual Ryukyukan International Karate and Kobudo Tournament, Nov. 2. Photo courtesy of Sarah Hersman

belt. Anderson will also be an instructor soon, joining Fernando

Valenzuela and Mario Leon, who was awarded his fourth-degree

black belt.

“So many of our students who

come to visit us from college, or the military have told us that they were asked to lead teams,” Mrs. Ernest said. “They stand out as leaders and know how to build a team of hard workers. Jim is a leader in our community and as a City Councilman, he works to keep Dixon a great place to live. As we ask of our students, we strive to contribute to our communities... Karate has helped us all to push ourselves to be the best we can be.”

Sensei Jim Ernest also earned his eighth-degree black belt, making him the only eighth-degree black belt in the Ryukyukan organization.

A potluck with Ramtown’s staff and students was held immediately following the Testing Ceremony; the student body surprised the

Ernests with a commemorative plaque, honoring their 30 years of service operating Ramtown Karate; originally founded as the Ernest School of Self Defense in 1978, the name and structure of the school evolved into Ramtown Karate over time.

Jim and Kathy Ernest intend to continue to foster leaders and have awarded 56 black belts since Ramtown’s establishment in August of 1994. The impact of the couple’s legacy cannot be understated.

“Kathy and I continue to teach and mentor, but plan to take a little more time to see the world,” Ernest said in closing.

For more information, or to sign up for classes, visit www.ramtownkarate.com, or call 707-678-4899. ★

Visit Holiday Open House

Continued from page 1

North First St. Phone is (707) 693-1105. Cynde's Salon will offer 20% off Saturday retail purchases.

The Farmer’s Tan is owned by Jesika and Tyler Randall who bought out Kula’s but still offers many of the same services such as tanning beds and spray tans and massage therapy by Rose Cook. They added licensed esthetician Hanna Gillis and Beauty Sculpt by Tracy who offers body contouring solutions. Barber Andy Penunuri works there as well, they said, providing haircuts for children, youth and both men and women.

“We painted the yellow door to black and did a huge remodel,” said Tyler. “It is a completely brand-new place inside from floor to paint to doorknob. I built a desk that welcomes customers right from the front door.” The couple knew the former owners and were excited to re-start the business.

They are located at 120 West B St. For more information, call (707) 678-2633. They will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Most service businesses offer gift certificates for your Christmas shopping ease.

Fabiola Sizemore has relocated her Tres Bandidas western boutique of new and vintage boots, clothing and accessories ranging in size from S to 3XL, inside The Farmer’s Tan. Text her at (831) 325-5265 to schedule off-hour appointments.

Taking over her previous retail location is Rebecca Robinson with Uptown Collective, who offers a variety of home décor, clothing, and accessories that can complete anyone’s holiday shopping list.

The Pip Wine Bar & Shop will offer 20% off all retail wine and gift items on Saturday,

according to owner Amy Grabish, but as always, her gift cards always make great gifts. The wine bar is located at 116 North First St. and is open from 2 to 9 p.m. on Saturday.

Don’t forget to check out her business neighbors at 106 North First Street, Bobtail Apparel, owned by the women who host the annual Truck Show at the Dixon fairgrounds. They have a variety of custom-designed T-shirts, outerwear for both men and women plus accessories. See more at <http://bobtailapparel.com/>.

Around the corner from that is ‘Sophia Grace’ where Lisa Newkirk offers a line of beautiful women’s winter clothing and accessories at 115 East A St. across from the Pardi Plaza.

The Dixon History Museum sells Dixon memorabilia which make perfect gifts such as Milk



Lisa Newkirk, owner of Sophia Grace, will help you dress warm and wonderfully this holiday season with selections from her clothing boutique.



This large and fun selection of Christmas decor is displayed at Cynde's Salon & Spa, another great stop for holiday shoppers.

Farm ceramic coffee mugs, water bottles, baseball hats with the Milk Farm logo on the front in green or black, magnets, and more. Their hot items are the Milk Farm sweatshirts in pull-overs or zip up. They will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 116 North First St.

Some of the other retail businesses in the downtown core that will be open with a variety of gift ideas, or one can purchase gift certificates are: Dixon Florist, Every Baking Moment, Robben’s Department Store and Sister’s Salon.

“We have really grown our retail downtown, and it will be lots of fun,” said Jill Orr, Downtown Dixon Business Association president and owner of Dawson’s Bar and Grill. “Someone can complete their entire gift shopping right here with quality gift items and a choice of several restaurant gift certificates,” she added. ★



Sonoma County Farmers Celebrate Measure J Defeat

The defeat of a Sonoma County ballot measure last week brought relief for farmers in the county. As of Friday, more than 85% of voters had voted against Measure J, which within three years would have banned large dairies and poultry farms in the county. The measure would have capped the number of animals each farm can raise, banning large farms or forcing them to downsize. Doug Beretta, owner of Beretta Family Dairy in Santa Rosa and president of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau, said he was “ecstatic” so many voters had sided with the county’s farmers. “The community came together to fight for agriculture,” Beretta said. “When those results came in, it really showed.”

Brussels Sprouts Nab More Acreage as Demand Grows

As Brussels sprouts have become trendy on social media and restaurant menus during the past several years, California farmers have been able to cash in on the vegetable’s popularity. “The market’s really grown, especially the fresh market, and a lot of that has to do with the food shows on TV and chefs’ artistic abilities,” said Monterey County-based vegetable grower Jeff Hitchcock. “It’s really put Brussels sprouts on the map.” U.S. per capita consumption of Brussels sprouts increased from 0.33 pounds in 2011 to 0.78 pounds in 2019, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics.

Agencies Identify Organized Farm Equipment Theft Ring

As part of a monthslong investigation known as Operation Tractor Pull, California law enforcement agencies have uncovered an organized agriculture equipment theft ring that targeted San Joaquin Valley farms. After conducting extensive surveillance operations throughout the San Joaquin Valley, authorities said evidence collected accounted for 24 pieces of stolen equipment valued at more than \$2.25 million. Authorities recovered \$1.3 million worth of equipment. “This is a large-scale theft ring impacting our farmers, our ranchers and our agricultural community,” said Tulare County Sheriff Mike Boudreaux during an Oct. 29 press conference.

Turkey Supplies Ample Heading into Thanksgiving

The Voice of California Agriculture podcast, produced by the California Farm Bureau, discussed turkey supplies heading into the Thanksgiving holiday season. Bill Mattos, president of the California Poultry Federation, said on the podcast that despite millions of turkeys being lost to bird flu across the country during the past two years, “I think you’ll find plenty of turkeys for Thanksgiving,” including fresh California turkeys. Mattos said prices may be slightly higher on average this year, but that many grocery stores offer steep discounts on Thanksgiving turkeys to get shoppers into their stores. The episode also covered the efficiency of autonomous sprayers, water flow standards for the Scott and Shasta rivers, and crop damage estimates resulting from hurricanes in Florida and North Carolina.



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Adjudication No. FCS030046–November 24, 2008

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001669
The following persons are doing business as: X Ray Vision Business Support, 1830 Wilson Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Albert Ray Cortez, 1830 Wilson Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: November 1, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 9/1/2024
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 October 31, 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: Nov 15, 22, 29, Dec 6, 2024
RAY 12-6-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001532
The following persons are doing business as: Child’s Lead Speech and Language Therapy, 479 Mountain Meadows Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534. Ma Cristina Peralta, 479 Mountain Meadows Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534. Date filed in Solano County: October 7, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 02/24/2024
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 October 6, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section

14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Nov 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
CHILDS 12-13-24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #CU24-08459
Bridgette Heidi Gifford filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Auriella Evelyn Penisten to Auriella Evelyn Gifford. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. January 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department 10, Room 305, Hall of Justice, 600 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533. Judge of the Superior Court: Christine Donovan
Dated: November 4, 2024
Publish: Nov 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
GIFFORD 12-13-24

SUMMONS

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO): CU23-05432

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): CELIA LOPEZ, AN INDIVIDUAL; and Does 1 through 10, INCLUSIVE, YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): AXOS BANK, A CORPORATION
NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest

you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court’s lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio

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



- Monday, Nov. 4**
08:42 - School informational report taken at Dixon High School.
09:47 - School informational report taken at Maine Prairie High School.
10:56 - Late domestic violence report taken at Kaiser Vacaville.
11:35 - School information report taken at John Knight Middle School.
04:00 - Traffic accident in the area of Pitt School Road and West H Street. Driver placed on mental health hold.
Sunday, Nov. 3
06:37 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 500 block of Sierra Drive.
09:43 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 600 block of Amesbury Drive.
13:21 - Traffic stop in the 300 block of Industrial Way.
Saturday, Nov. 2
23:10 - Nicolas Reviere (39) of Dixon was arrested for domestic violence and resisting arrest.
05:20 - Theft from a vehicle in the 1500 block of Marenda Drive.
Friday, Nov. 1
07:41 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 400 block of East C Street.
09:18 - Welfare check in the 1400 block of Stonecrop Lane.
12:50 - Informational report in the 200 block of West A Street.
Thursday, Oct. 31
07:42 - Informational report taken in the 1100 block of Bello Drive.
22:10 - Administration citation to residence for loud party in the 200 block of North Lincoln Street.
00:23 - Justin Vomacka (36) of Dixon was arrested for domestic violence and probation violation in the 100 block of South 3rd Street.
06:00 - Vehicle accident report on private property.
Wednesday, Oct. 30
09:47 - Battery report taken at the Police Department.
12:34 - Late report of domestic violence in the 1200 block of Watson Ranch Way.
12:28 - School information report taken in the 400 block of East A Street.
16:20 - Theft report in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.
16:21 - Found cell phone report at the Police Department. City Hall forwarded two found cell phones.
18:00 - Lost wallet in the 400 block of South 7th Street.
21:30 - Female placed on a mental health hold.
04:30 - Incident report in the 200 block of Cedar Place.
Tuesday, Oct. 29
08:32 - Investigations report at the Police Department.
09:07 - Information report taken in the 700 block of West H Street.
19:20 - Damage to a mailbox report in the area of Wiegand Way and Austin Drive.
Monday, Oct. 28
09:22 - School Resource Officer report taken in the 400 block of Hillcrest Circle.
10:43 - Restraining order service in the Police Department lobby.
22:30 - Edith Stewart (75) of Dixon was contacted during an enforcement stop in the 1900 block of North First Street and later arrested for DUI.
Sunday, Oct. 27
08:47 - Hit and run reported in the 300 block of West Chestnut Street.
09:34 - Vandalism reported in the 1700 block of Gold Street.
19:00 - Battery report in the 400 block of Georgetown Place.
Saturday, Oct. 26
08:12 - Traffic collision reported in the area of North Almond Street and West H Street.
08:14 - Suspicious circumstance in the 400 block of North Lincoln Street.
08:54 - Welfare check in the 200 block of East Mayes Street.

de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos extras por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.
The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SOLANO, 580 TEXAS STREET FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA 94533
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff’s attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is TODD F. HAINES, Esq. (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Law Offices of Todd F. Haines, 30495 Canwood Street, Ste. 100, Agoura Hills, CA 91301 606-8 (818) 597-2240
DATE (Fecha): NOV 16, 2023
Clerk (Secretario), by S. BRACK, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL)
11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13/24
CNS-3870724#
DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 12-13-24

TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No.: 2024-10324-CA
APN: 0116-130-190
Property Address: 260 HERITAGE LN, DIXON, CA 95620
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/8/2021. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.
A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier’s check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the herein-after described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s),

advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale.
Trustor: JOHN E. LONG and JENNIFER N. LONG, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS COMMUNITY PROPERTY WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP
Duly Appointed Trustee: Nestor Solutions, LLC
Deed of Trust Recorded 10/15/2021 as Instrument No. 202100107274 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California
Date of Sale: 12/2/2024 at 9:30 AM
Place of Sale: At the Santa Clara Street entrance to the City Hall at 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590
Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$475,308.86
Street Address or other common designation of real property: 260 HERITAGE LN DIXON, CA 95620 A.P.N.: 0116-130-190
The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale.
NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property.
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the

mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call or (888) 902-3989 or visit these internet websites or www.nestortrustee.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2024-10324-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.
NOTICE TO TENANTS: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an “eligible tenant buyer,” you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call or (888) 902-3989 or visit these internet websites or www.nestortrustee.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2024-10324-CA to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an “eligible tenant buyer” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.
Date: 10/28/2024 Nestor Solutions, LLC
214 5th Street, Suite 205
Huntington Beach, California 92648
Sale Line: (888) 902-3989
Giovanna Nicholson, Sr. Trustee Sale Officer
EPP 41573 11/8, 11/15, 11/22/2024
DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 11-22-24



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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • MANIAS AND PHOBIAS

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Figaro's solo, e.g.
5. Not sin, as in math
8. Designer Laroche
11. Pi-meson
12. Cut, like a log
13. *Telephobia, or fear of this device
15. "He's Just Not That You", movie
16. 2D measurement
17. Gives a helping hand
18. *Ludomania, obsession with ____
20. Therefore
21. Poetic feast
22. Accident
23. * ____ mania, obsession with wealth and power
26. Type of throw, in baseball
30. Miner's load
31. Member of Round Table
34. Quartet minus one
35. Spacious
37. Last word of "America the Beautiful"
38. Young chicken
39. Cocoyam
40. Largest Asian antelope
42. Haute couture gala location, with The
43. Slimy phlebotomists
45. * ____ phobia, fear of public speaking
47. Took the bait
48. Tempter
50. Dumbstruck
52. *Gamophobia, fear of ____
55. September stone
56. Cantina cooker
57. Apple leftover
59. Lakes, in Scotland
60. ____ gin
61. "On a ____," or carefree
62. * ____ mania, obsession with oneself
63. Cough syrup amt.
64. Additional

DOWN

1. * ____ phobia, fear of bees
2. Bananaphone preceder
3. Itty bit
4. Language disfunction
5. Indigenous person of Lesser Antilles
6. Track and field star, 1936 Olympics
7. Tear in pantyhose
8. Struck with a mallet
9. Back arrow key
10. Indeed
12. Against the stream swimmer
13. Say "pretty please"
14. * ____ phobia, fear of snakes and crocodiles
19. Uncooperative, like a mule
22. "Battleship" success
23. Kind of mushroom
24. Grind down
25. Glimmery stone
26. Carpet style
27. Lily genus, pl.
28. Angers
29. "All for one and one for all," to Musketeers
32. Egyptian goddess of fertility
33. Hair raiser

36. * ____ effect, or compulsive handwashing
38. Pileus, pl.
40. Entomologist's catcher, sometimes
41. Agora, plural
44. Tannery supply, pl.
46. Delphi talker
48. Room partitions
49. Lowest deck on a ship
50. Full of excitement
51. Home to Baylor University
52. Delphi's share
53. Hockey score
54. Commits a faux pas
55. A in IPA
58. Increase

CROSSWORD

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From Teaching to Tabletops

Local Moms Start Arcade in Dixon

By Rhodes Bautista

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Local moms, Jené Owens and Jamie Myers unveiled their latest passion project: Joystick Gaming Lounge, a family-run arcade in their hometown of Dixon.

The arcade, located at 420 Gateway Drive, Suite C, will provide a variety of entertainment for all ages to enjoy, including claw machines, air hockey, Mario Kart and much more.

“Phase one includes the arcade, birthday/event room, PC gaming area, board games and a Mini-Bar featuring unique and elevated single-serve snacks, candies and beverages,” Owens said. “When the Owens and Myers started this venture, we had plans for a kitchen, cereal bar, milkshakes, pizza, nachos, etc. However, in

the two years it took us to find an appropriate building space, our buildout costs nearly doubled, so we decided to open in phases.”

While the arcade may be in its first phase, Owens and Myers have devoted hours of planning to ensure that Joystick is distinct from other facilities. The main attraction is the bright and exciting arcade machines, which provide hours of entertainment for kids and adults alike, but the owners wanted to consider those with quieter pursuits as well.

“As we worked on our business plan, we thought about what we loved and disliked about other similar businesses. For example, I hated going to birthday parties at arcades because they were too loud and dirty, and the carpet smelled awful,” Owens said with a laugh. “So, we decided to create

a quieter area for board games, puzzles, and just relaxing where parents can know their kids are safe.”

Alongside the electronic and traditional games, a private party room is available at prices that are competitive and vary by package, with options that include cupcakes, decorations, free game time and Joystick merchandise.

Before settling into business ownership, Owens and Myers were teachers at Neighborhood and Vacaville Christian Schools as well as Dixon Montessori Charter School.

“In 2022, Jené and I were looking for a new adventure,” Myers explained. “We met with our husbands to discuss a variety of ideas. In the end, we felt that Dixon really needed a place for friends and families to gather,

build relationships, and make memories.”

Owens and Myers then spent the next two years brainstorming, funding, and developing the idea that became Joystick Gaming Lounge. The two moms already have big plans for the business, aiming to work with and support their local community.

“We are excited to partner with a few philanthropic groups in Dixon, including the collective youth group, Innerstate 180, which serves youth 6-12th grade. We are also looking forward to a party with Team Dixon, a non-profit organization established to enrich the lives of special needs children and their families,” Owens said. “Our families want Joystick to be a career for us, yes, but also a light and blessing to our community.”

The arcade promises a clean, affordable, and friendly place for people of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy. Accommodations for those with special needs will be provided upon request to ensure that everyone is included.

Joystick is slated for a soft open after press time, with a grand opening event soon to follow.

“We are looking forward to a time when we can add a kitchen/cafe, but for now we are so happy to start with what is in front of us. It’s really shaping into something bigger and more wonderful than we’d imagined. We are so excited to see the community come and enjoy what we’ve created for them!”

For more information, visit <https://joystickdixon.com/>. ★

Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

Regular Meetings:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth

Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Dixon Historical Society – Meets quarterly on the third Sunday of Feb., Apr., Aug., and Oct. from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall located at 209 N. Jefferson St. in Dixon. Meetings include a historical representation and announcements of upcoming events. Anyone interested in the history of Dixon, and its surrounding areas, is welcome! You do not need to be a member to attend, and all presentations are free to the community. The Dixon History Museum is open for visits, Thursdays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fridays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For further information, please contact us at www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org. Email dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or call 707-693-3044.

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

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

Dixon Rotary Club – Meets on most Wednesdays at noon at The Creative Space, 160 West A. St., Dixon. Rotary is the world’s first and oldest service club organization with over 1.4 million members working locally and internationally to improve health and sanitation, combat hunger, provide education, and promote peace. For more information and meeting confirmation, contact Rotary President Marlene Vega at 707-678-9368.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dry Dock – This Alcoholics Anonymous group meets Mondays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. at Dixon United Methodist Church, corner of B and N. Jefferson St.

Fairfield/Suisun Bass Reapers – Meets first Tuesday of each month at RoundTable Pizza, 5085 Fairfield Business Center Drive. For more info, call 707-429-3239.

Friends of the Dixon Public Library – Meets at the library on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. For more information, call 707-678-5447.

Gretchen Higgins Parent Teacher Organization – We meet the second Monday of each month in the library at our school. Email ohpto1525@gmail.com for more information.

Independent Order of Oddfellows Montezuma Lodge #172 – Meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 111 West A. St., Dixon above Bud’s. For more info, call Jason 530-400-0281 or Ed 916-837-6865.

Lambtown Committee – Meets third Monday each month at 6 p.m. at Veteran’s Hall. Email John Knight at johnknightpto@gmail.com

Living With Cancer – Support Group for people who have or have had cancer meets the first, third, and fifth Tuesday of every month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Dining conference room at Woodland Memorial Hospital, 1325 Cottonwood St., Woodland. Free.

Narcotics Anonymous – Open meetings are held every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Dixon United Methodist, 209 N. Jefferson St. (Corner of West B and N. Jefferson). For helpline information and other meetings, go to www.napasolanona.org.

Northern Solano Democratic Club (NSDC) – Meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at IBEW, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville (behind Home Depot). For more information, contact Jeanie White 615-260-7896 or email pres.nsdc@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northernsolanodem/.

NSDC Democrats in Action – Monthly lunch meeting is every fourth Thursday at noon at Fuso Italian Restaurant at 535 Main St., Vacaville. Meet to discuss actions that can be taken towards local, state, and national political issues. See above for contacts.

Promises AA Group – Meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

Sexual Assault Support Group – Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345.

Solano County Mental Health Education – Monthly presentations on various topics will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 2101 Courage Dr., Fairfield. Call Rachel Ford at 707-784-8362 for more information and monthly topic.

Sons of the American Legion – Meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Dixon American Legion Post 208 Hall. For information, call Wayne Holland at 707-301-0941.

Soroptimist International of Dixon – Meets Thursdays at noon at the Dixon United Methodist Church (20 N. Jefferson). Call President Brenda Walker at 707-688-1367. Mail: P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA 95620.

36th District Agricultural Assn. – Board of Directors meet the second Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. in the board room located at 655 S. First St. (Dixon May Fair)

Tremont Teachers and Parents Association – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Tremont School. For more information contact 678-9533.

Toastmasters – Meets every other Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. Contact Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or email her at mendezlynda55@yahoo.com

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) – Dixon Post 8151 meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St. For information, contact Cecil Dennings (Commander) at 209-395-8019. Also visit us online at m.facebook.com/DixonVFW.

Young Ladies Institute of Dixon – Meets the third Thursday of the month at St. Peter’s Parish Hall, 105 S. 2nd St. All Catholic women are invited to attend. For more information, call Virginia Fletcher at 678-5145. ★

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

POPEYE

by EMMY HILKIND

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Out on a Limb

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The Lies of Alma Blackwell

by Amanda Glaze

Get swept up in family history of mystery, ghosts, and hidden secrets.

Nev grew up knowing that one day she would have to take the "Vow" to become the town's protector. Her grandmother is currently the one who has vowed to protect Hollow Cliff, but with her ailing health, Nev's time to step in is growing quickly. While Nev wants to do anything but take the Vow and be bound by the town's borders, she knows that others will die without Blackwell's bloodline taking the Vow. A blood oath is all she needs to give, and if she doesn't do it soon, more townspeople will die.

Once Nev arrives at her grandmother's large estate, she jumps right into work, giving tours of their famous estate while sharing her family's legacy. But even more scary than the ghosts that haunt the town is the fact that her grandmother is sicker than she thought, and she will have to take the Vow as soon as possible.

To make matters even more on edge, a strange boy named Cal enters the gift shop looking for a job,



- ◆ Publisher: Union Square
- ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
- ◆ Release Date: December 07, 2021

and while there is something off about him, she can't help but offer him the job. While Cal may seem untrustworthy, the things that happen when she is around him are even more unsettling. Now, she is even more anxious, as Cal causes her to doubt and question everything she knows about her past. Even more unsettling is the fact that he has keys to her past to start unlocking more than the truth, but lies shielding the truth from

being known.

As Nev delves deeper into uncovering her past, she begins to see Cal in a different light. He might be the only person she can truly trust, the only one who can help her unlock the secrets that have been buried for so long. Their journey together becomes a crucial part of Nev's quest for truth.

In a story of hidden pasts, ghosts, and family, the Lies of Alma Blackwell will take its readers to the California coast, a city controlled by a curse and one girl who holds the key to unlock it. This dark, gothic city has all the atmospheric vibes readers are looking for at the brink of winter; while also leaving readers with the desire to tour the Winchester Mystery House and unlock its many hidden mysteries. Amanda Glaze once again delivers a story that takes her readers deep into a storyline that will leave them flying through the story and looking for answers. Filled with family magic, flashbacks, secrets, and some detective work, this story is a perfect holiday escape. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The Sacramento Kings were 2-2 in the past week, but that doesn't begin to tell the tale.

Beginning with a disappointing 116-96 loss to the San Antonio Spurs and concluding with a thrilling 121-117 win over the Utah Jazz, the Sac Town ballers had an up and down week that ended on a high note.

Sadly, injuries played a role, sidelining big man Domantas Sabonis and newcomer all-star DeMar DeRozan, both with lower back issues.

In between the Spurs and the Jazz, saw the Kings take a tough overtime loss to a talented Minnesota Timberwolves team, and win decisively over the Phoenix Suns by the score of 127-104.

The real story of the week was none other than the offensive show put on by point guard DeAaron Fox, who scored a total of 109 points in back-to-back games against the Timberwolves and the Utah Jazz.

Setting a Sacramento Kings scoring record, DeAaron put the team on his back against the Timberwolves, scoring 60 points and shattering his previous personal record. Just one game later, with Malik Monk, DeMar DeRozan, and Domantas Sabonis sidelined with injuries, Fox backed up his 60-point performance with 49 more, this time in a win over the Jazz.

Thanks to the offensive explosion of DeAaron Fox, the Kings now have a player in the top ten in scoring. DeAaron is currently #6 in the NBA in scoring, and remarkably the Kings are the only team in the NBA to feature three players with a scoring average of 20 points or higher per game.

In addition to raising his scoring average, DeAaron is fifth in the league in steals, averaging 1.8 per game. I look for Fox to challenge the top spot in steals as the season wears on.

Overall, the Kings are off to an 8-6 start, and most pundits and fans alike are well aware that their record could be decidedly better.

It took a few games for DeRozan to become completely comfortable with his teammates, and that should be taken for granted.

Since the first few games, DeMar has been the perfect fit, and teams are having

a difficult time trying to figure out who the go-to player is going to be. The Kings are spreading the boy to everyone on the court including Keegan Murray, who has had an up and down start to the season as it relates to scoring.

Keegan has made a noticeable move forward as he has focused on rebounding and improving his defensive efficiency.

Domantas continues to rebound with ferocity, and the rebounding champion of the past two seasons, is currently #2 in the NBA behind big man Nikola Jokic.

Nursing a sore back, Sabonis is on the sidelines, and with nothing definite coming from the Kings organization, Domantas is day to day.

So, what kind of a report card should the Kings receive as they play in their 15th game against the Atlanta Hawks on Monday night.

I give the team a solid B, considering the addition of DeMar DeRozan and understanding it takes time for a starting five to jell.

Let's not forget the energy and scoring punch that Malik Monk brings to this team, and the sooner we see Malik back in action, the better off the Kings will be. Reportedly, Malik has a week to go before he'll be ready for any hardwood action.

Sadly, after witnessing what I consider to be one of the worst officiating seasons in the past 50 years last season, the zebras were back to their old ways Saturday night and were it not for Kings ability to challenge two horrific calls by the referees, the Kings would have likely lost to the Utah Jazz.

I have no answer for what the NBA needs to do, but clearly the officiating is sadly lacking in quality, and this has not always been the case.

I credit the NBA with putting challenges into the mix, but there is still more that needs to be done.

Meanwhile, keep the faith Kings fans. This team is showing a lot of bright spots, so let's get everyone healthy and see if the Sac Town boys can get on a winning streak!

All the best Kings fans!
Your thoughts are always welcome at
vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com. ★

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