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# Dixon Independent Voice

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

NOVEMBER 29, 2024

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## Scout Troop 152 Supports Community



Allison Latham, a member of Troop 152, prepares a Christmas Tree to be recycled. Photo courtesy of Boy Scouts of America Troop 152 and Jennifer McMillan

By Kendall Brown

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The Boy Scouts of America have a mission: to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices throughout their lifetime. These youths make an oath that they will honor their duty to God and country, help others at all times and keep themselves physically, mentally and morally strong, in adherence to the Scout's Law.

Dixon's Boy Scouts of America Troop 152 members work to live up to this oath with their community efforts.

Annually, Troop 152 hosts a Christmas Tree



Eli Espinoza, another member of Troop 152, smiles proudly after a job well done. Photo courtesy of Boy Scouts of America Troop 152 and Jennifer McMillan

Recycling event in late December at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce parking lot, 220 N.

Jefferson St., Dixon residents can have their Christmas trees recycled at 9 a.m. either Dec. 28 or Jan. 4 for a \$20 fee.

"Proceeds go directly to the troop to help defer costs for camp, equipment, annual registration fees and all Scout events that are done year-round," said Scoutmaster Matt Latham.

Latham became Scoutmaster of Troop 152 after his son crossed over from Dixon Cub Scout Pack 253; shortly after, Troop 152's Scoutmaster retired and Latham was offered the position.

Troop 152 will also hold troop elections from 7 to

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## Dixon City Council Welcomes New Police Officer

By Shaunna Boyd

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - At the Nov. 19 Dixon City Council meeting, Dixon Police Chief Robert Thompson introduced Police Academy graduate Kevin Guaraldi, who swore the oath of office and officially joined the Dixon Police Department.

City Council welcomed Guaraldi, who said, "I look forward to serving the community and the city."

Before the Consent Calendar was approved, a member of the public commented on Item 9.4—a contract with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for \$189,600 for the creation of a Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Master Plan, relating to an expansion of the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility. The resident asked why the project wasn't going out to bid.

"It seems like we use the same people over and over again. Maybe it's time we look at somebody else to do it. I think we'd at least want to take bids and see what other companies have to offer," the resident said.

Councilmember Thom Bogue said it would be prudent "to make sure we're getting the best bang for our tax dollars" and said he would like to see the project go out to bid.

Dixon City Manager Jim Lindley explained that Stantec "designed the original plan" for the city's existing Wastewater Treatment Facility.

"They have all the original drawings; they have all the original calculations. I believe it would be more expensive to get a bid from a firm that doesn't have all that existing information," said Lindley.

Councilmember Bogue said that the city should own all that information since they paid Stantec to develop it. But City Manager Lindley said that while the city owns the final plans, it is typical for engineering firms to retain ownership of the proprietary work that the plans are built upon.

Such contracts should be re-evaluated, Councilmember Bogue said. Councilmember Don Hendershot said he would support a future agenda item to review the bidding process.

City Council voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, including the Stantec contract.

The council then heard a preliminary report on the budget for Fiscal Year

*Continued on page 2*

## Vaults of Dixon Help Students

By Kendall Brown

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Fulfilling basic needs at times can be difficult; food, water, clothing, sleep and shelter are the bare necessities for survival. Yet, some lack or are deprived of these needs for one reason or another.

Maine Prairie High School, 200 N. Lincoln St., and Dixon High School, 555 College Way, hope to alleviate that strain.

"When I worked for Fairfield High School, I identified several issues in the student and staff population," said Dixon High School Principal Angela Brown. "At that moment, I decided to research opportunities to meet the needs of the school population. Every second since that moment, I stay alert to the needs of others and when I see the need, I jump into action."

Brown conceptualized the idea of a communal clothes and food pantry



Students excitedly gather snacks from Dixon High School's Ram's Vault. Photo Courtesy of Angela Brown

with community members, including Corrine Boicelli, whose mission and vision for supporting Dixon High School and the wider Dixon population perfectly aligned with her own.

Amber Drewnowski, the Dixon High School cheerleading coach, approached Brown with the name Ram's Vault, and the rest took shape from there.

"It is a perfect name

because a vault is used to keep everyone's most valuable assets safe, and the students are Dixon High School's most valuable assets," Brown said.

*Continued on page 3*

# Dixon City Council Welcomes New Police Officer

# Dixon News Briefs



Each holiday bough offered by the Wreath Project costs \$7 and will ensure that every grave site at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery is recognized and honored. Photo by Debra Dingman

By MPG Staff

530-669-3692.

## Pony Rides and Pictures with Santa

Serenity Saddles, 7776 Nunes Road, is hosting a fun afternoon for the family from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Dec. 1. Pony rides and photos with Santa, taken by Allyson Macke Photography, will both be on offer for \$5 per person. Attendees are also encouraged to bring unwrapped toys to donate to Toys for Tots.

For more information, visit Serenity Saddles' Facebook page, or call 203-392-4102.

## Christmas Down on the Farm

Lone Wulff Ranch, 26810 County Road 97D, Davis, is hosting the 2nd Annual Christmas Down on the Farm. From 12 to 6 p.m. Dec. 1, visit the historic ranch to enjoy hot cocoa, farm animals, a gingerbread house competition and even pictures with Santa. Tickets are available at \$23.18 for adults, and \$12.51 for kids 12-17; children under 12 get in free.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit lonewulffranch.com, or call 530-756-1115.

## City Meetings Agenda

The Dixon City Council, 600 E. A St., announced at its Nov. 19 meeting the upcoming board and commissions meeting dates throughout December. Chronologically, the City Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Dec. 3 and Dec. 17. The Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m. Dec. 10, followed by The Vacaville-Dixon Greenbelt Authority meeting at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 11. The final scheduled meeting of the month will be the Transportation Advisory Commission meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 18; the Parks and Recreation Commission's meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. Dec. 24, has been canceled due to the holidays.

For more information, visit cityofdixonca.gov, or call 707-678-7000.

## AI Lunchbreaks

The Solano-Napa Small Business Development Center is hosting two Artificial Intelligence-focused business events at noon on Dec. 4 and 11. The Dec. 4 event, subtitled 'Supercharge Your Social Media with AI,' is a 30-minute session that introduces guests to easy-to-use AI tools that can streamline their social media management; Dec. 11's event, subtitled 'Create Custom GPTs for your Business,' will teach attendees how to easily build a ChatGPT-based assistant to handle tasks like answering customer questions, streamlining workflow and assisting with marketing. Registration is free and both events are virtual, taking place over Zoom, so join in and elevate your business.

For more information, visit solanonapasbdc.org/events.

## Winter Wreath Workshop

Park Winters, a boutique inn and private event venue in Winters, is hosting a holiday wreath workshop that will brighten any home. Located at 27850 County Road 26, Winters, the event will educate guests on the use of foraged or gathered materials to assemble beautiful wreaths with a natural, rustic charm. Taking place from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 8, tickets are available for \$100 per person.

For more information, or to secure a ticket, visit parkwinters.com, or call

## Wrapping Paper Exchange

Dixon Public Library, 230 N. First St. is offering an opportunity to put all that extra wrapping paper to use. From 3 to 4 p.m., both Dec. 9 and 16, patrons can bring new or lightly used wrapping paper to exchange with the community; gift boxes, bows and ribbons will also be accepted. Entry is free to all, so stop by with the family, you never know what you will get.

For more information, visit solanolibrary.com, or call 1-866-572-7587.

## Small Business Grant Opportunity

In partnership with Verizon Small Business Digital Ready, the California Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is offering a \$10,000 grant opportunity for small business owners looking to unlock their full potential. Applying is free and gives applicants access to tailored resources to manage finances, improve marketing, and secure high-quality employees.

Those interested in the grant can apply by registering for Verizon Small Business Digital Ready, completing any combination of courses, coachings and events associated with the platform, and applying for the grant through the incentives tab before 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 13.

For more information, or to register, visit digitalready.verizonwireless.com

## The Wreath Project

The Wreath Project, in collaboration with RememberAVet.net, is securing donations for holiday boughs; each will go to a grave site at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, ensuring each grave is honored and recognized during this festive time. So far, they have maintained 100% coverage every year since 2006, making sure each headstone has an accompanying holiday bough; this year, they will need 35000 boughs purchased to reach their goal. Boughs cost \$7; if you would like to volunteer your time as well, the public is invited to help place the boughs starting at 7:30 a.m. on Dec. 14, rain or shine.

For more information, visit wreathproject.org, or call (707) 249-5852.

## Gretchen Higgins Food Drive

Gretchen Higgins Elementary, 1525 Pembroke Way, is hosting a canned food drive for those in need until Dec. 18. The school is asking donors to bring non-perishable canned goods, and to check the expiration date before donating; this event will, through community, raise awareness about hunger and provide food for the hungry.

For more information, visit Gretchen Higgins Elementary's Facebook Page, or call 707-693-6380.

## Dixon Chamber Connections Networking

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Dec. 19 at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Dr. This in-person event is a great opportunity to connect with local professionals, entrepreneurs and business owners. With such a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring plenty of business cards.

For more information, visit dixonchamber.org, or call 707-678-2650. ★

checks, Police Academy enrollment and field training. In that time, they occupy a police officer position in the department but those are positions without an active officer on duty, which limits the service that the community is receiving. And Thompson said sometimes recruits quit or fail during the process, which sets the Police Department back as they have to start all over with a new candidate.

Chief Thompson said the ability to over-hire would allow the department to hire other qualified candidates who are ready to work as full-time officers, while still investing in sending new recruits to the academy. This way, the department could "hedge our bets," Thompson said.

These temporary over-hire positions would be reviewed after 24 months to see if they are still necessary or if staffing at that time is sufficient. Thompson said it's important for the department to continue supporting new local candidates to go through the academy, because he hopes there will be less attrition if more officers have roots in the community.

City Council voted unanimously to approve the over-hire positions in the Dixon Police Department.

The next meeting of the Dixon City Council is scheduled for 7 p.m. Dec. 3. ★

# Dixon Students Making the Grade

MPG Staff

Lopez is in software engineering tech classes.

Sarah Cummings was named to Biola University's Dean's List for academic excellence. Cummings, a history major from Dixon, was one of approximately 1,500 students who were named to the dean's list in spring 2024.

Kia Carvalheira of Dixon was named to the Dean's List for the summer 2024 term at University of Maryland Global Campus. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at the university. ★

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Jessica Galles of Dixon earned a Master of Science in Cloud Computing Systems in the summer 2024 term and was named to the President's List at University of Maryland Global Campus.

Biola University is excited to welcome Jacob Russell of Dixon to the Biola community as they start their journey as an Eagle this fall. Biola is proud of Russell and their commitment to reach their goal of obtaining an undergraduate degree in Cinema and Media Arts.

The Oregon Tech Honors Program proudly welcomed Sam Lopez of Dixon during its Induction Ceremony Oct. 12.

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# Vaults of Dixon Help Students

# Scout Troop 152 Supports Community



Angelina Arias, the Maine Prairie High School principal, finishes preparations for the school's annual Thanksgiving feast, allowing students to participate in the holiday, regardless of financial or familial issues. Photo by Kendall Brown

Continued from page 1

Maine Prairie High School also has a vault; the Maine Prairie Vault, established around 2022, is a clothes closet and food pantry with a similar mission to the Ram's Vault: uplifting students, staff and Dixon as a whole.

"We work very closely with the Rotary Club of Dixon and the Chamber of Commerce," said Maine Prairie High School Principal Angelina Arias. "They are so supportive of our students; they donate backpacks, toiletries and clothing items. They have been very generous."

Maine Prairie's Vault is also supported by an organization called End 68 Hours of Hunger, which refers to the weekend, when many students might not have access to food at home. End 68 has supplied Maine Prairie for four years, providing 40 to 50 bags of nonperishable food to give to identified families and students in need. Food is dropped off at the school site on Fridays to be distributed. Maine Prairie High School also holds

an annual Thanksgiving Feast before the students go on break to make sure everyone gets to take part in the holiday, regardless of financial or familial issues.

The Ram's Vault and the Maine Prairie Vault both have been successful in their endeavors thus far, with daily drop-offs of clothing and food; Brown emphasizes the significance of these resources, as they are crucial for meeting students' basic needs, promoting their academic success, supporting their emotional well-being, fostering equity and encouraging community involvement.

Arias agreed, implying both schools are addressing the community's needs.

"These resources help create a supportive and inclusive school environment for all students," Brown said.

Both vaults allow for daily donations, either during work hours or after hours. For more information, contact Dixon High School at 707-693-6330 or Maine Prairie High School at 707-693-6340. ★

Continued from page 1

8:30 p.m. Dec. 3. Scouts will be elected to either troop or Patrol Leadership positions at the semi-annual elections, occurring every December and May. Joining Patrol Leadership is no small task, requiring leadership skills, good attendance at troop meetings and activities and, above all, dedication to the Scout's Oath and Law.

Scout's Law dictates that a Scout should be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. These 12 principles are necessary, as Patrol Leaders represent their patrol (normally six to eight Scouts), planning and leading patrol meetings, keeping patrol members informed and assigning specific duties per member.

Many Scouts have their reasons for joining the cause; the Collins brothers, Tyler (16) and Dylan (13), both joined for a love of outdoor activities and annual camping trips. After his time as a Cub Scout, Tyler Collins wished to do more as a Boy Scout.

"The best part about being a Scout is doing service projects for the community, monthly camping trips and attending high adventure camps like Philmont Scout Ranch," Collins said.

Jacob McMillan (12) shares a love of nature with the Collins brothers, enjoying the hikes, camping trips and just having fun in general.

According to Latham, being a Scout is a significant



Braxton Winchester and Kyle Latham pose triumphantly with several recycled trees. Photo courtesy of Boy Scouts of America Troop 152 and Jennifer McMillan

endeavor that goes beyond learning how to be safe and competent in the outdoors.

"Scouting teaches young people that they are part of many communities and their role in each community is important," Latham said. "Scouting is also a means to learn greater leadership skills that they will use throughout their lives."

Scouts Boy Scouts of America Troop 152, founded in 1953, remains a fixture in Dixon, continuing to interact with and support the community.

"We are creating the leaders of tomorrow," Latham said. "Whether it is learning how to cook in the backcountry of the High Sierra, snowshoeing in a

national park, placing flags on veterans' graves or collecting food for those in need, Scouting is focused on developing well-rounded young people that are prepared for adulthood."

Troop 152 is currently on the lookout for more capable adults to mentor and advise; according to Latham, every youth organization requires money to run and scouting is no different.

"Please reach out to the troop and we can discuss how you can be a part of the adventure. Thank you for supporting Dixon Troop 152," Latham said.

For more information, visit [troop152dixon.com](http://troop152dixon.com) or call 707-676-6152. ★



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# LETTER FROM BILL DODD

By Bill Dodd

exchange of power and checks and balances, while warning of partisanship and the need for every American to uphold ethical governance and the rule of law.

Today, many people are concerned what comes next. The reality is that there will be new challenges and opportunities, as there has been from the beginning. We can't just "resist" – we need to innovate and continue building toward the Golden State we deserve. From tackling the homelessness and affordable housing to securing economic opportunities, the road ahead will require continued dedication and courage. I know my successor, Christopher Cabaldon, will do a great job delivering for our district and moving California forward.

We cannot forget that what unites us is so much greater than what divides us. My advice to policymakers is to talk and work together. And to remember that rarely is there an issue that's truly black and white. I worked to improve bills that came before me and to vote no when needed. I've always tried to find common ground, understand others' perspectives and try to find solutions. I wasn't perfect, but I sure tried.

President Harry Truman said, "America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination, and unbeatable determination to do the job at hand." That's as true as ever, and it's doubly true for California. We have always been a state defined by resilience, innovation, and an unshakable spirit. I truly believe in our ability to meet the moment and overcome challenges.

After 25 years in elected office, I'll be enjoying more time with my wife Mary, our five grown children and our 13 grandchildren, who have been gracious enough to support my public service over the years. While I'm leaving elected office, I have no plans to retire. I'll stay active, and I expect to serve our state and community in different ways. Thank you for your support, partnership and allowing me to represent you.

Bill Dodd  
Senator, District 3

I decided to run for the state Legislature because California gave me so many opportunities, but I was concerned about the state we were leaving to our children and future generations. My mother taught me to leave a place better than I found it. And that's what I've tried to do over the last decade.

Term limits have me departing the Legislature after 10 years representing our region in the state Capitol and 25 years in elected public office, serving as a senator, Assembly member and county supervisor. It's an undeniably bittersweet moment. Serving in the California State Senate has been the greatest honor of my professional life, and I'm humbled by the opportunity and responsibility. Before leaving office, I want to reflect on the road we've traveled, and what lies ahead.

Despite catastrophic wildfires and the pandemic, we still managed to make progress together. I didn't start in the Legislature thinking I'd become a leader in wildfire issues, but the need demanded action. I'm proud that many of my laws are helping save lives, homes and livelihoods.

I've also tried to tackle any issue that needs attention -- from data privacy and generative AI to education, consumer protection and public safety to water resources.

We couldn't have accomplished what we did without my staff. I have had the best team in the Legislature, and I'm so proud of their work, led by my incredible chief of staff, Ezraha Chaaban. We passed 126 of my bills into law, cast 14,415 votes, secured nearly \$1.1 billion in wildfire prevention and emergency services funding, and brought over \$200 million back to the district through direct appropriations and grants. We helped 5,206 people from our district with casework, responded to 138,913 constituent emails and letters, hosted 83 community town halls.

Given the recent election, I've been reflecting on George Washington's farewell address which extolled the peaceful

# Networking with the Chamber of Commerce



From left are Alex Haynes, Herman Jackson, Charles Rafferty, Crystal Rico, Erin Johnston, Alisha Platt and Mary Clark, who were among the first to attend the Dixon Chamber Connections Network group on Nov. 21.

Story and photo by Kendall Brown

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The Dixon Chamber of Commerce hosted a Chamber Connections networking event on Nov. 21 to offer Dixonites the chance to meet and connect with local professionals, entrepreneurs and business owners. This dedication to preserving the community and empowering businesses is the reason that the Chamber of Commerce continues to provide such opportunities for the public. "This is our 11th one and I have been to all of them," said Alisha Platt, chamber secretary and Realtor for Keller Williams Realty. "I think it helps bring the community together and allows networking with other businesses in town. It helps with awareness of events; every time I come to one, I'm aware of new events around town."

The event at the Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, was a

friendly, relaxed and collaborative environment focused on like-minded individuals sharing their ideas, exchanging business cards and expanding their networks.

The event began with light conversation, a networking game to break the ice and a business spotlight. Platt led Nov. 21's edition, discussing her time as a Realtor. Attendees were also given the chance to share a professional victory they were proud of and were made aware of future events that the chamber is hosting.

Dixon Chamber Connection Networking Group occurs on the third Thursday of every month but is not the only consistent opportunity for professional connections that the Chamber of Commerce extends.

The Lunch Bunch and Mingle events are also prime networking experiences. The Lunch Bunch events, the last of which was held at Sourdough &

Co., 1450 Ary Lane A, is a more laidback endeavor, boasting a free no-host lunch, friendly conversation and plenty of significant connections to make. Lunch Bunch sessions are scheduled from 12 to 1:30 p.m. during weekdays, making them convenient occasions to experience.

The Mingle events, generally at The Pip Wine Bar & Shop, 116 N. First St. are also a worthwhile time investment, taking place later in the day from 5 to 7 p.m. The Mingles have a more jovial, potentially even celebratory air about them. Attendance, like the Lunch Bunch, is open to all for no admission fee and offers no-host food and bar, raffle prizes and the opportunity to make some new contacts and promote your business. The next Mingle will be a holiday-oriented affair from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 18.

For more information, visit [dixonchamber.org/en](http://dixonchamber.org/en) or call 707-678-2650. ★



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Virtual Fencing 'Game-Changer' for Ranchers Grazing Cattle

After the Caldor Fire destroyed 7 miles of fencing on their cattle ranch in 2021, Leisel Finley and her family needed to replace the fence. Finley, a sixth-generation rancher at Mount Echo Ranch in Amador County, learned about a pilot program for virtual fencing that uses GPS enabled collars to monitor each animal's location in near real time.

Farm Families Emphasize Importance of Mental Health

The Voice of California Agriculture podcast, produced by the California Farm Bureau, discussed the importance of mental health on farms. Tricia Stever Blattler, executive director of the Tulare County Farm Bureau, spoke with host Gary Sack about losing her husband, Robert, to suicide, and about the need to speak up about mental health in farming communities that face many stressors.

to president-elect Donald Trump and other newly elected leaders.

Port of Oakland Continues to be an Agricultural Export Powerhouse

The Port of Oakland continues to be one of the most important gateways for U.S. agricultural products. As of October, the port has exported nearly \$8.5 billion in agricultural commodities this year, ranking No. 1 in the nation in the volume of international refrigerated exports. "Agricultural exports are especially important commodities for our port's business," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes.

Consumers may have noticed a recent trend in food and beverage products labeled probiotic or prebiotic. The products often say they "support a healthy gut" or "boost your immune system" by providing good microbes that are often missing from people's diets. But how can consumers know if these products are really good for them? A new episode of the University of California, Davis, podcast Unfold took a closer look at the proliferation of probiotics and interviewed Maria Marco, a microbiologist and professor in the department of food science and technology at UC Davis. ★



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Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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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.

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

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.

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 6, 2025, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533 Judge of the Superior Court: Tim P. Kam Dated: November 22, 2024 Publish: Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20, 2024 REMIDES 12-20-24

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 de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos 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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Dixon Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the following:

PROJECT AMENDMENTS TO NORTHEAST QUADRANT SPECIFIC PLAN RELATED TO A VACANT 37.5 ACRE SITE ALONG PEDRICK RD [DIXON INNOVATION CENTER PROJECT] - Request for a series of amendments to the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan (NESP) focused on a 37.5 acre vacant lot zoned General Industrial (IG)- NESP Overlay, which is planned for future industrial development. The applicant has proposed amendments to the NESP which include:

- 1) Amendment to Figure 2-2, Land Use Element, to change the designation from CH ("Highway Commercial), to ML, Light Industrial to be in conformance with the existing Industrial General Plan land use designation and General Industrial - Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan (IG-NESP) zoning, and 2) Addition of comprehensive Industrial land use regulations and development standards to Specific Plan for the applicant's 37.5 acre site.

The project site is located generally southeast of I-80, along the west of Pedrick Road. The site is bounded by Pedrick Road and Solano County unincorporated agricultural lands to the east, agricultural lands to the south (the site of the proposed Dixon 257/The Campus project), and Interstate 80 to the west, and the TEC Equipment warehouse to the north. No development is proposed or included in this action and would be subject to separate consideration and action at a future date. APN: 0111-010-080; Zoning District: General Industrial (IG); PW Fund B Development, LLC, owner, Bret Hogge, Buzz Oates Construction, applicant; File No: PA22-028, SPA22-01

For the proposed amendments to the NESP, an Addendum to the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 92113073) has been prepared, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines provides that an Addendum to a previously adopted Environmental Impact Report may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions to the project are necessary or none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent Environmental Impact Report have occurred. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15164 and 15162, none of the conditions requiring preparation of a subsequent Environmental Impact Report have occurred, and the project would not result in any new significant impacts not analyzed or considered under the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan EIR

PUBLIC HEARING DATE & LOCATION: Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. This will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at http://www.zoom.us or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

MORE INFORMATION: You can view the project plans, CEQA document and other studies and application materials on the project page at www.cityofdixon.us/environmentalreviewdocuments under the heading of "Dixon Innovation Center." You may also contact Brian Millar, Contract Planner, by phone at (530) 902-9218 or by email at bmillar@cityofdixonca.gov.

You may also come to City Hall, 600 East A St., Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The staff report and agenda documents for the public hearing will be made available prior to the meeting at https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: The Planning Commission will review the proposed project, accept public comments, and provide a recommendation to the City Council, who will consider the project and take action at a future, noticed public hearing. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and are welcome to express opinions on the project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Prior to 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to PlanningCommission@cityofdixonca.gov, or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, 600 East A St., Dixon, CA 95620, and must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the study session. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the Planning Commission and will become part of the official record, but will not be read aloud at the meeting.

You may also attend the public meeting at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may: 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand," or 2) via teleconference press \*9.

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.







# COMICS & PUZZLES

**The Spats** by Jeff Pickering

**POPEYE** by Jeff Pickering

**Amber Waves** by Dave T. Phipps

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

**Out on a Limb** by Gary Kopervas

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Log is moved. 2. Scale is shorter. 3. Window is not as wide. 4. Cabinet is not as wide. 5. Sock is shorter. 6. Nurse's foot is moved.

**TIGER** by Bud Blake

**GRIN AND BEAR IT** by Dave T. Phipps

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## Children's Holiday Gift-Giving Guide from Abrams Publishing

With the Holidays quickly approaching Abrams Publishing has you in covered with this year's best, notable and most popular titles to add to any young reader's library.



### Knock Knock Merry Christmas

by Rob Hodgson

A giggly google-eyed knock-knock adventure will have readers laughing with each turn of the page. This board book with cutouts and google eyes is the perfect laugh-out-loud book for merriment during the holidays.

### In My Heart Deluxe Gift Edition

by Jo Witek,

illustrated by Christine Roussey.

A heart feels all types of feelings and big emotions. Sometimes, a heart is shiny, bright, and happy; sometimes, it can be angry, like a big boom. Sometimes, it is heavy like an elephant or quiet and shy.

This big book of emotions is not just a fun read, but also a valuable tool for toddlers to understand and express their feelings. The heart peek-a-boo cutout, paired with bright illustrations, guides children through a journey of emotional learning, making it a perfect addition to any library.

### Disney Princess Block

Princess Block book pairs Disney Princesses with strong values and traits, interactive lift-a-flap, and cutouts.

This storybook is a delightful combination of wonderful illustrations, a captivating story, and excellent interactive pages. The interactive lift-a-flap and cutouts featuring Disney Princesses with strong values and traits will keep any child engaged and entertained, making it a perfect gift for young readers.

### Things That Go

by Shannon Hale, Leuyen Pham

Kitty and Unicorn are back with a new board book adventure.

It's time to explore all things, from a tri-cycle to a space plane and everything in between. Every vehicle zooms, pedals, and even hovers its way across the page with a few little silly additions by Kitty.

This board book is the perfect addition to any library for fans of Kitty-Corn and ever those new to the adventures. Check out all the adventures of Kitty-Corn in their other picture books.

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### The Umbrella Academy Young Blood

by Alyssa Sheinmel

For fans of the Netflix series The Umbrella Academy comes the prequel fans have been waiting for. This book answers the questions fans have been asking while keeping the essence of the characters and the show. A wonderful gift for the Umbrella Academy comic or Netflix series fan on your list.

### Ada Twist, Scientist

by Andrea Beaty

and Dr Theanne Griffith

It's time to learn about sustainability with Ada. Young readers will learn everything about sustainability, conservation, and renewable and nonrenewable natural resources. There is so much to learn about recycling and natural energy, and with Ada, your budding scientist will be eager to join the quest to protect Earth. ★



# Riley Reviews

“GLADIATOR II” A SWEEPING SWORDS-AND-SANDALS EXTRAVAGANZA

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

### “GLADIATORS II” Rated R

English filmmaker Ridley Scott, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II two decades ago, also goes by the honorific “Sir Ridley Scott” conferred upon him in recognition of his contribution to the arts, joining other entertainment icons like Sean Connery, Elton John, and Mick Jagger.

Aside from a slew of other honors, Ridley Scott has distinguished himself for an eclectic style in film genres from science-fiction like “Blade Runner” and “Alien” to historical dramas such as last year’s “Napoleon.”

His resume encompasses a lot more than that, including directing the road trip crime drama “Thelma & Louise,” for which he was nominated for an Academy Award as Best Director, an honor also bestowed for his directing of “Black Hawk Down.”

Arguably, no bigger success came for the director than his work in the 2000 swords-and-sandals epic “Gladiator,” which won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and his second award nomination for directing.

Now more than two decades later, Scott returns to directing “Gladiator II,” a sequel to the story of Russell Crowe’s Maximus, a Roman general who runs afoul of Emperor Commodus (Joaquin Phoenix) and ends up enslaved to be a captive combatant.

Reviewing the quasi-historical story of Maximus’ quest for revenge against Commodus for the murder of his family and Marcus Aurelius (a historical figure of the time) would take up too much space here.

While the original film was set in 180 AD, “Gladiator II” appears to be only a couple of decades in the future where a prime character in the form of Lucius (Paul Mescal) turns out to be a heroic warrior against the Roman Empire in the name of strength and honor.

Amazing battle scenes on land and sea find the Romans led by General Marcus Acacius (Pedro Pascal) storming the fortress in Numidia where Lucius’s beloved wife Arishat (Yuval Gonen), a warrior in her own right, is killed by Acacius during a bloody siege.

On the losing end of battle, Lucius becomes a slave under the custody of Denzel Washington’s Macrinus, a former slave himself who became a Roman businessman who has amassed enormous wealth thanks to his acumen and brutal ambition.

Macrinus has a stable of gladiators, and he sees in Lucius a natural-born leader and great fighter, which he finds useful in many ways to make himself more powerful than he already is. He relies on his

vicious trainer Vigo (Lior Raz) to run his stable with an iron hand.

The Roman Empire is under the control of truly mad twin emperors Caracalla (Fred Hechinger) and Geta (Joseph Quinn), both self-indulgent and unscrupulous, with the former obsessed with a pet monkey perched on his shoulder.

Returning from battle a bit weary, Acacius is reunited with his partner Lucilla (Connie Nielsen, reprising her role from the original), and he’s less than thrilled with the tyrannical rule of the twin emperors who are bent on further conquest of distant lands.

The people of Rome expect the gladiator combat at the Colosseum to deliver thrills that keep them distracted from everyday troubles. They are ready to cheer for bloody carnage in any form.

The hero turns out to be Lucius whose maiden foray at the Colosseum, alongside other warriors, is fending off an attack by a pack of ferocious baboons, much to the delight of bloodthirsty spectators.

What Lucius thinks about, as he channels his rage and which pleases the crowd at the Colosseum, is how he’s going to eventually get to his mortal foe Acacius. Part of the problem may be complicated by the presence of Lucilla for reasons that may be surprising.

Like many sequels of blockbuster success stories, “Gladiator II” has the unenviable task of trying to top the original film which went on to become an iconic cultural touchstone for fans around the world.

The world of the Roman Empire and the unforgettable characters of “Gladiator” were so brilliantly crafted. Attempting to go for a grander scale was necessary, and certain aspects of the powerful battle scenes and the gripping action in the arena of the Colosseum deliver.

What appears lacking is the emotional core of the original film that involves the tragedy of a warrior bent on revenge that mirrors a basic theme repeated in the sequel.

Paul Mescal’s Lucius, though solidly physical in the role of reluctant gladiator, was given a challenging task of bringing the same gravitas and charisma to a warrior that Russell Crowe’s Maximus conveyed with visceral single-minded pursuit.

Arguably, Denzel Washington steals the show as a cunning manipulator who has achieved his station in the gilded milieu of the Roman power center, interacting with Roman senators and the emperor twins.

In the end, “Gladiator II,” playing loose with history, comes close enough to achieving its grandiose ambition of a grand spectacle of choreographed battles and gladiatorial combat such that not capturing the original film’s emotional intimacy can be overlooked. ★



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