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Dixon Independent Voice

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JANUARY 3, 2025

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Pedrick Serves the Community



Pedrick Produce manager Enrique Figueroa, having just clocked into work, prepares for another productive day on the clock.

Story and photos by Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Established in 1989, Pedrick Produce at 6850 Sievers Road has served Dixon for about 35 years, offering locally-grown produce, nuts and specialty items.

The family-owned market is run by farmers for farmers.

Enrique Figueroa, one of Pedrick Produce's managers, discussed his time working there with the Dixon Independent Voice.

"We provide a lot for our community, mostly through local farmers," Figueroa said. "We focus a lot on outsourcing in our area, we call it Agriculture Heaven; working closely with our farmers allows us to supply the best prices to our customers."



Pedrick Produce offers locally-grown produce, nuts and specialty items, including holiday boxes.

Figueroa has worked for Pedrick Produce for 17 years and is proud of the contribution he has made to the culture of Dixon. Pedrick Produce firmly believes in the "farm to fork" experience, Figueroa said, which is why farmers

that the business chooses to partner with are carefully selected from across the Sacramento Valley, "the heart of the richest agricultural land in California."

Selected growers are carefully evaluated, with key factors under

consideration such as soil biology, soil health and the grower's long-term commitment to sustainable, clean farming practices. In this regard, Pedrick can not only provide the best possible products for the area but also can preserve the land for present and future generations, according to Figueroa.

"Pedrick's a great job," Figueroa said. "We try and provide the building blocks of life for our employees, providing them teamwork, communication skills and great energy to help them when they get to college. We do not want them to be automated; when they go on to do other things, they will be great members of society."

Pedrick Produce is open seven days a week all year long. ★

CHP's Operation Holiday Watch Successful

California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - In the final shopping days before Christmas, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) conducted a successful enforcement operation targeting organized retail crime, promoting safe shopping experiences for communities throughout California.

The collaborative state-wide retail theft crackdown on Friday, Dec. 20, resulted in 117 arrests, the recovery of more than \$38,000 in stolen merchandise, the seizure of two illegal firearms and the recovery of three stolen vehicles. Charges range from petty theft, grand theft, organized retail crime, felon in possession of a firearm and auto theft.

"Through proactive enforcement operations and strong partnerships with local law enforcement and retailers, we were able to protect the state's businesses and consumers during one of the busiest times of the year," said CHP Commissioner Sean Durycie. "Our efforts send a clear message that retail theft in California will not be tolerated."

Key operation results were 117 arrests made for organized retail theft and related offenses; recovery of 767 stolen items, valued at \$38,290.70, including clothing, shoes and fragrances; enhanced collaboration among 10 California law enforcement agencies and 56 retail partners to improve in-store security and reporting; and increased law enforcement visibility in high-traffic shopping areas, deterring additional crimes.

The daylong operation was conducted in collaboration with the Hemet Police Department, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department, Glendale Police Department, Bakersfield Police Department, Woodland Police Department, Walnut Creek Police Department, Livermore Police Department and San Ramon Police Department.

As the holiday season winds down, the CHP will continue working with businesses and the community to prevent retail theft year-round. Anyone with information about organized retail theft operations is encouraged to contact the CHP at <https://www.chp.ca.gov/Notify-CHP/>.

Since the Organized Retail Crime Task Force's inception in 2019, the CHP has been involved in over 3,200 investigations, leading to the arrest of more than 3,500 suspects and the recovery of nearly 1.3 million stolen goods valued at \$51.3 million. ★

A Month of Remembrance

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - January is a month in which communication and connection are celebrated worldwide. Several pivotal holidays are recognized throughout the extent of the month, honoring the understanding and appreciation of various forms of expression, both religious and cultural.

World Braille Day, taking place Jan. 4, is an international holiday meant to highlight the significance of braille as a communication tool for the blind and visually impaired. Established by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018, the date of Jan. 4 was chosen due to it being the birthday of Louis Braille, who invented Braille when he was only 15 years old. Persons with disabilities are less likely to have access to health care, employment opportunities and community



Martin Luther King Jr. after meeting with President Johnson to discuss Civil Rights at the White House, 1963. Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress

participation; on the other hand, this population is more likely to live impoverished, experience high rates of violence, neglect, and abuse, and are among the most marginalized in any crisis-afflicted area. That's according to the United Nations. Overall, the annual observance raises awareness for the human rights of the blind

and partially sighted. When discussing unalienable human rights, one cannot help but consider Martin Luther King Jr. and his contribution to civil rights; Martin Luther King Jr. Day, occurring Jan. 20, honors the trials and tribulations of the civil rights leader and his contributions to creating a more equitable America.

MLK Jr., born Jan. 15, 1929, was a Baptist minister and social activist who worked alongside civil rights legends, such as Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers, to fight for the rights of minorities in the United States. Tragically, his fight for freedom ended with his assassination on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, *Continued on page 2*

Local Families Facing Interpersonal Violence Will Gain Resources

Solano and Contra Costa Family Justice Center News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Solano and Contra Costa Family Justice Center has won more than a million dollars in two new competitive federal grants to support children and families navigating the impacts of interpersonal violence (IPV) in Solano and Contra Costa counties.

Two new initiatives made possible by these grants will bring together seven Bay Area agencies to provide culturally appropriate, trauma-informed outreach to prevent violence and protect children and youth in underserved communities, launch a new Family Justice Center to extend one-stop, wraparound services to interpersonal violence survivors in South Contra Costa County and strengthen children's services provided at all Family Justice Center locations.

"Community partnerships are at the heart of the Family Justice Center's ability to help children and parents affected by domestic and interpersonal violence find immediate safety and long-term healing. When our community comes together, we expand what is possible for everyone. These new grants are a tribute to the success of our collaborative model," said Susun Kim, executive director of the Solano and Contra Costa Family Justice Center.

New community collaboration will prevent violence with hard-to-reach youth. The groundbreaking Supporting Kids & Youth (SKY) Project will build a collaboration of partner agencies to address the impacts of abuse and exposure to violence on children and youth from historically marginalized and underserved communities. All these organizations provide direct services to low-income Black, Latinx, South Asian and other BIPOC children and families in their homes, schools and community spaces.

Supporting Kids & Youth partner agencies will create a comprehensive plan to address the impacts of interpersonal

violence on children and youth in linguistically and culturally appropriate ways to effectively reach marginalized BIPOC and immigrant communities. Partners will adopt evidence-based practices on parenting education, teen dating, violence prevention and cognitive behavioral intervention.

A total of \$825,000 will support the three-year Supporting Kids & Youth Project (Oct. 1, 2024, to Sept. 30, 2027). Funding was awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Comprehensive Family Justice Center model focusing on children has been recognized

Each Family Justice Center is a warm and welcoming hub providing a full range of co-located, direct services for children, youth and adults affected by interpersonal violence, including domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and human trafficking. Family Justice Center Navigators provide a single, trusted point of contact, helping survivors plan for short and long-term safety, and get access to resources including physical and mental health care, legal services, and housing.

Children's services and the Solano Family Justice Center are supported by a one-year grant of \$382,500 (Oct. 1, 2024 to Sept. 30, 2025) from the U.S. Administration for Children and Families' Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services.

Solano and Contra Costa Family Justice Center serves children, youth and adults affected by interpersonal violence, including domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and human trafficking, by connecting them with the legal, medical, mental health and economic resources they need to survive and thrive. The Family Justice Center operates five warm and welcoming centers in Solano and Contra Costa counties.

For more information, go online to www.solanofamilyjustice.org. ★

Dixon News Briefs



American Legion Post 208 is hosting its annual Hobo Beef Stew Dinner and Raffle at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 18. Tickets are \$15 per person. Photo by Kendall Brown

By MPG Staff

Gum Paste and Fondant

Every Baking Moment, 143 N. First St., is hosting another baking experience from 6 to 8 p.m. beginning Jan. 8. At \$75 per person, the class educates guests on the finer points of working with fondant and gum paste, such as molding them into shapes, borders and flowers.

For more information, visit everybakingmoment.com, or call 707-693-0112.

Adult & Pediatric Medical Courses

American Red Cross is hosting an adult and pediatric CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED (automated external defibrillator) blended learning course from 5 to 8 p.m. Jan. 15. For \$105 per person, the course will include online learning and an on-site skills session where participants will practice skills and demonstrate competency. The event will be at the Senior/Multi-use Center, 201 S. 5th St.

For more information, visit dixon-chamber.org or contact dixonrecreation@cityofdixon.us; to enroll, visit anc.apm.activecommunities.com/cityofdixon.

American Legion Dinner and Raffle

American Legion Post 208 is hosting its annual Hobo Beef Stew Dinner and Raffle at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 18. Held at Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St., there will be a no-host bar, with dinner served at 6 p.m. for \$15 per person.

For more information, visit American Legion Post 208's Facebook page, or call 707-592-0991.

Hattie Craven and Friends

Winter's Theatre Company, 13 Main St., is hosting a live performance by the Hattie Craven Trio at 6 p.m. Jan. 17. Craven draws musical influence from Amy Winehouse, Joni Mitchell, James Brown and Louis Prima, giving her trio a truly imaginative sound. Tickets are available for \$23.18.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit winterstheatre.org, or call 530-795-4014.

CAASC 29th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser

The Chinese American Association of Solano County (CAASC) is hosting its annual event to celebrate the Lunar New Year and provide scholarships to local students at Ulatis Community Center, 1000 Ulatis Dr., Vacaville. From 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 8, guests will enjoy an authentic Chinese dinner, traditional lion dancers, cultural performances, scholarship awards, and recognition of community leaders and contributors; proceeds from the event directly benefit the scholarship program. General admission costs \$55.20 for those 14 and older, \$39.19 for children 3 to 13, and free children 2 and younger.

For more information, visit caasc707.com; to purchase tickets, visit eventbrite.com. ★

DHS Girls Varsity Basketball

The Dixon High School Rams will play their first game of 2025 at 7 p.m. Jan. 3. The Rams will be playing the Rio Linda High School Lady Knights at Home, 555 College Way. Come out and support your Dixon Rams.

For more information, dixonramsathletics.com, or call 707-693-6330.

Celebration of Life for Larry McCormack

The Tessman family has organized a special day filled with love, memories and honoring the well-lived life of Larry McCormack. From 1:30 to 5 p.m. Jan. 3, this free event will allow guests to celebrate and remember McCormack in a meaningful way. Beginning at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, 5810 Midway Road, prayers, military honors and a rifle volley will take place, giving those closest time to mourn; the memorial itself will take place at 2 p.m. at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St.

For more information, visit Eventbrite.com.

Davis Odd Fellows Installation & Awards Dinner

Davis Odd Fellows, 415 Second St., Davis, is hosting its annual installation and awards dinner from 5:15 to 9 p.m. Jan. 25. Although beer, wine and other beverages should be brought personally by guests, a dinner of beef or veggie bourguignon, roasted potatoes, roasted veggies, coleslaw, bread and dessert will be served. Attendees are encouraged to dress business casual to semi-formal, but the dress code is not mandatory. The event costs \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

For more information, visit davislodge.org; to purchase tickets, visit Eventbrite.com

Solano County Farm Bureau Meeting

The Solano County Farm Bureau is hosting its 107th Annual Meeting and Dinner at 5 p.m. on Jan. 18. The event, held at the Dixon May Fair, 655 S. First St., offers the opportunity to connect with members of the Bureau, enjoy delicious food and hear updates about the agricultural industry within Solano. Tickets are available for \$80 per adult, \$25 per child 5 to 12 and \$800 to reserve a table for 10; Agricultural members will be offered special pricing.

For more information, visit solanofarm-bureau.org, or call 707-449-8044.

2025 Dixon Rotary Crab Feed

The Rotary Club of Dixon is hosting its 21st annual crab feed at 6 p.m. Feb. 22. Enjoy fresh Dungeness crab, pasta, salad and bread. After dinner, dance the night away to the musical styling of The Time Bandits. There will also be raffle prizes and a silent auction in which guests can participate. General admission is \$81.88 per person.

For more information, visit Eventbrite.com, or call 916-240-0147. ★

A Month of Remembrance

Continued from page 1

Tennessee. The loss of King Jr. was a travesty but his legacy continues to the current day; like many other civil rights activists, King Jr. became a martyr for social change, refusing to allow his people to remain victims of a corrupt system.

African Americans are not the only group to have been significantly victimized throughout history. During World War 2, Nazi Germany targeted several populations of citizens they considered to be inferior, including Soviet prisoners of war, ethnic Poles, Roma, people with disabilities and, most significantly, those of the Jewish faith. Six- million Jewish

people died during the Holocaust, marking one of history's greatest tragedies. For these reasons, the United Nations established Jan. 27 as the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust or Holocaust Remembrance Day; the date was chosen because it is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest concentration and extermination camp in Nazi Germany.

Communication and connection will always be important to the human experience. As 2025 continues, never forget the survivors or sacrifices of those who came before. ★

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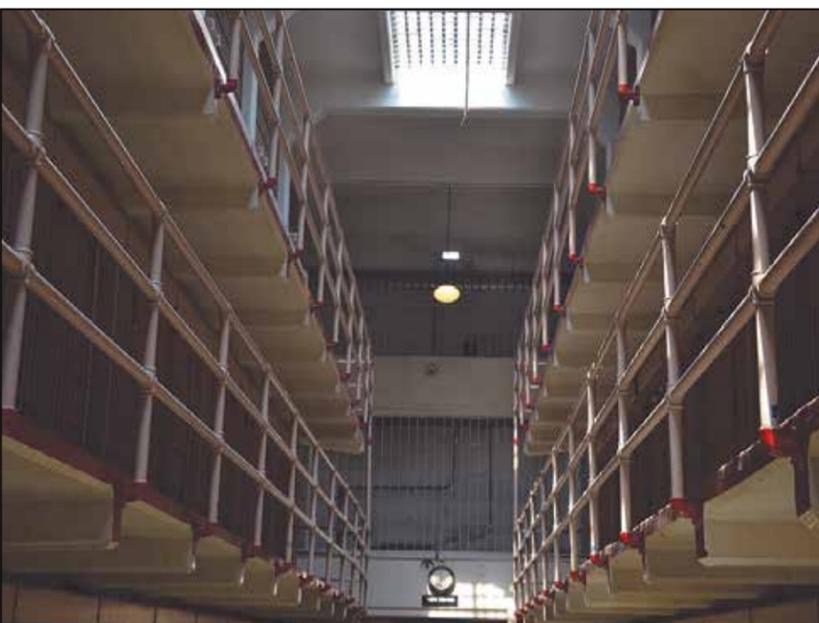
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Stiffened Penalties for Theft



Prop 36, approved by California voters in November, includes heavier consequences for petty theft and shoplifting offenses. Photo courtesy of Pixabay

By Cayla Mihalovich, CalMatters.org

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Californians accused of certain drug and retail theft crimes may already be facing stiffer penalties under an initiative voters passed this year, alongside related bills Gov. Gavin Newsom signed into law.

Voters this November overwhelmingly approved Proposition 36, which both modifies and adds key changes to California law.

That includes prosecutors being able to charge people convicted of various third-time drug offenses with a so-called treatment-mandated felony, which would direct them to substance use disorder or mental health treatment in lieu of up to three years in jail or prison.

Under the new law, courts are also obligated to warn people convicted of selling or providing certain drugs, such as fentanyl, that they could face murder charges for later distributing illegal drugs that kill someone.

And heavier consequences may also extend to petty theft and shoplifting offenses, including the possibility of up to three years in jail or prison if a person has already been twice convicted for certain theft offenses.

Several district attorneys and police departments announced arrests this month that they planned to charge under the new law, including in San Francisco, Solano and Shasta counties.

The measure partially reversed a different initiative voters approved a decade ago, which reduced penalties for certain lower-level drug and petty theft offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. The initiative, Proposition 47, was intended to develop new public safety strategies and reduce incarceration after the state's prison population exploded due to tough-on-crime policies dating back to the 1980s.

But prosecutors, law enforcement and large retailers who rallied in favor of Prop. 36 said those sentencing reforms went too far and created a revolving door for people to repeatedly commit crimes without being held accountable.

"It's a clear mandate from the public that we need to take a new approach on public safety issues, specifically hard

drugs, retail theft and fentanyl," said Jeff Reising, Yolo County District Attorney.

Those who opposed the measure warned that it will worsen homelessness, drug use and crime by cutting funding for treatment programs and increasing court and prison costs in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

Behavioral health experts across the state have voiced concern over the efficacy of a treatment-mandated felony, given that most California counties lack the resources needed to provide 'mass treatment' that has been promised by the measure's proponents.

"I believe that (proponents) have also received a mandate to embrace problem solving and supportive services for people who are struggling," said Cristine Soto DeBerry, executive director of the Prosecutors Alliance of California, a nonprofit organization that opposed Prop. 36.

"I don't believe the mandate was (to) put more people in prison. It was not what people believed they were voting for. I hope that people with the discretion to enforce this law will think very carefully about the communities they serve and what they were asking for in this moment," she said.

Gov. Gavin Newsom tried to keep Prop. 36 off of the fall ballot and for a time considered putting a competing crime measure before voters. Instead, he signed a package of 10 bills in August that will make it easier to prosecute retail and vehicle theft. Those laws go into effect on Jan. 1.

Although Gov. Newsom didn't put any money into fighting Prop. 36, he referred to the initiative as an "unfunded mandate" that will take California back to the war on drugs. Indeed, the measure included no new funding streams. But supporters like Reising voiced optimism that funding opportunities already exist in the law, pointing to a \$6.4 billion from the mental health bond voters approved in March.

"I hope that lawmakers and the governor embrace the mandate and work collaboratively to make sure that we're successful in delivering the promise of Prop. 36," Reising said. ★

Fire Department Prepares for Firework Lottery

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - As of 2011, the Dixon City Council voted to approve the sale, possession and usage of "safe and sane" fireworks within city limits from noon June 28 to noon July 6.

The Dixon Fire Department has made Fireworks Program Guidance for the new year available to the public. Beginning Dec. 20, any nonprofit groups from Dixon that want to operate a "safe and sane" fireworks sales stand must apply.

According to California Assembly Bill 1403, Section 12529, safe and sane fireworks are "any fireworks that have been approved by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission and that have been carefully examined and tested by the State Fire Marshal and determined by the State Fire Marshal to meet and comply with specified regulations."

Each approved firework will have the seal of the California State Fire Marshal on it, with the words "safe and sane" visible somewhere on the packaging. Fireworks that explode, shoot through the air and move along the ground (such as sky-rockets, bottle rockets, firecrackers and Roman candles) are illegal in California and can lead to a \$1,000 punitive fine or one year in jail.

Applications for firework sales are online at dixonfire.org and at City



As of Dec. 20, the Dixon Fire Department is taking applications for "safe and sane" fireworks sales stands in Dixon. Only six nonprofit organizations will be chosen for the privilege. Photo by Kendall Brown

Hall, 600 E. A St.

Applications, along with a \$25 filing fee, must be filed at City Hall no later than 5 p.m. Jan. 31. A permit lottery will be held at 2 p.m. March 20 to decide which nonprofit organizations can sell fireworks in 2025. A total of six permits will be awarded, including a permit for service clubs, faith-based organizations, veteran organizations, a last-chance option for any groups not already specified, and two permits for youth, sports and education organizations.

Previously, the six organizations were Living Hope Church of Dixon, Dixon Quarterback Club, Napa Solano Veteran Riders, Dixon Moose Lodge, Dixon Soccer Club and Dixon Montessori Charter School.

According to Dixon Fire Department officials, the use of fireworks is

always a concern because fireworks are responsible for numerous fires and injuries every year, even when used safely and legally, costing millions of dollars in property damage, physical injury and emotional trauma. According to Dixon Fire Department Battalion Chief Nick Warren, local fireworks issues tend to mostly be fires with the occasional injury.

Warren gave several safety tips for those hoping to use fireworks.

"Definitely use safe and sane fireworks as designated by the fire marshal," said Warren. "Have a bucket nearby and have a parent handy. Never light near dry grass, stay a reasonable distance away from structures and don't try to relight fireworks that didn't go off."

For more information, visit dixonfire.org or call 707-678-7060. ★

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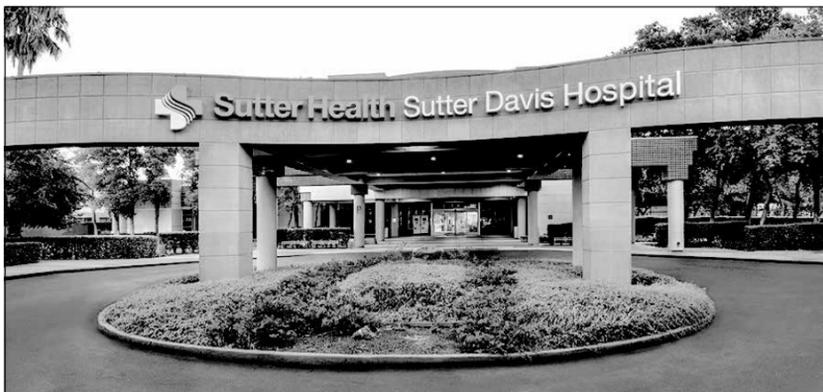
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Sutter Davis Hospital Named One of Nation's Top Hospitals by Leapfrog



Sutter Davis Hospital offers a technologically advanced acute-care hospital, outpatient services and community outreach programs. Photo courtesy of Sutter Health

Sutter Health News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Sutter Davis Hospital this week was named by The Leapfrog Group as one of the nation's Top Hospitals. Sutter Davis is one of only 36 hospitals nationally to receive the award in the Top General Hospitals category. The award is widely acknowledged as one of the most competitive awards that hospitals in the nation can receive, recognizing exceptional efforts and achievements in patient safety and quality.

A national watchdog organization of employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is known as the toughest standard-setters for healthcare safety and quality.

"This recognition as a Leapfrog Top General Hospital is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our entire team to providing exceptional care for our community," said Michael Cureton, CEO of Sutter Davis Hospital. "Earning this prestigious distinction reflects our commitment to the highest standards of safety and quality, and it inspires us to continue delivering the excellent care our patients deserve. I'm incredibly proud of our staff and physicians for their role in achieving this national honor."

Nearly 2,400 hospitals were considered for the award. Among those, Sutter Davis Hospital and its sister hospital, Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center of Santa Cruz, received a Top General distinction. A total of 134 Top Hospitals were selected, and they were announced and honored at the 2024 Leapfrog Annual

Meeting and Awards Dinner Tuesday in Washington, D.C. Among them were:

- 36 Top General Hospitals
- Eight Top Children's Hospitals
- 15 Top Rural Hospitals, and
- 75 Top Teaching Hospitals

The quality of patient care across many areas of hospital performance is considered in establishing the qualifications for the award, including infection rates, practices for safer surgery, maternity care and the hospital's capacity to prevent medication errors. The rigorous standards are defined in each year's Top Hospital Methodology.

To qualify for the distinction, hospitals must rank top among peers on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, which assesses hospital performance on the highest standards for quality and patient safety, and achieve top performance in their category. The full list of institutions honored as 2024 Top Hospitals can be seen at leapfroggroup.org/ratings-reports/top-hospitals.

Sutter Davis Hospital offers a technologically advanced acute-care hospital, outpatient services and community outreach programs. The 94,000-square-foot hospital and its programs provide care and support to the residents of Davis, Dixon, Winters, Woodland, West Sacramento, Vacaville and rural communities throughout Yolo and Eastern Solano counties.

Opened in 1994 and designed with the future in mind, Sutter Davis Hospital maintains the technical flexibility necessary to be on the leading edge of healthcare. It is a Baby-Friendly Hospital with a state-of-the-art birth center. ★

Tax Loopholes Cost California and its Cities \$107 Billion but Get Little Scrutiny



By Dan Walters,
CALMatters.org

Among the hundreds of bills introduced in every session of the California Legislature, a few deal with what state officials term "tax expenditures," which requires some explanation.

The term refers to provisions in personal and corporate income taxes and sales taxes that exempt specific financial transactions from levies that otherwise would be applied. They have exactly the same fiscal effect as direct appropriations in the budget, which is why they are dubbed "expenditures."

While many loopholes reflect a broad public and political consensus that they serve positive purposes — such as making prescriptions drugs and most grocery store foods tax-free — others provide subsidies to special interests with political clout.

My personal favorite among the latter was enacted about 35 years ago at the behest of Silicon Valley interests. It exempted custom computer programs from sales taxes, generally benefiting corporations willing to pay millions of dollars for such software, while continuing to tax off-the-shelf programs such as Quicken or TurboTax purchased by ordinary consumers.

It's certainly not California's largest tax loophole, costing state and local

governments \$119 million a year in lost revenue, but it exemplifies the narrow focus of many exemptions.

The software loophole estimate comes from an annual report issued by the state Department of Finance that gets scant public, media and political attention even though, as this year's version confirms, the accumulated effect on state and local government revenues is \$107 billion, counting only exemptions of \$5 million or more.

"The result: California's \$204 billion of estimated General Fund revenues (excluding transfers) in 2024-25 would be roughly 45% greater if there were no personal income, sales and use, or corporate income tax expenditures in state law," Jason Sisney, a fiscal consultant for the Legislature, says in an analysis of the data.

Over time, the number and size of tax expenditures has tended to increase because they often enjoy political support from their beneficiaries, while there's little or no pressure on governors or legislators to reduce or eliminate those with little or no rational basis, such as the custom software exemption.

The legislation creating it was carried by a Silicon Valley legislator, now deceased, known for his lamentations about the state's parsimonious attitudes toward vital education, health and social services.

What happened a couple of decades ago in the state Board of Equalization, which was then the collector of sales taxes, is another illustration. State law taxes hot prepared foods, such as those served in restaurants, or offered by delis, but exempts cold prepared foods — for reasons

lost in antiquity.

The owner of a theater chain asked the board to exempt popcorn from the hot food tax, arguing that while it may be warm when purchased, it's cold by the time theater patrons return to their seats. The board granted the exemption.

The new report lists the income tax exemptions for employer-provided medical care and pension contributions, totaling \$29 billion in reduced revenues, as California's two largest tax expenditures. Other personal income tax biggies are exemption of some Social Security benefits (\$5.5 billion) and capital gains on inherited properties (\$5 billion).

The largest corporate income tax provision, valued at \$3.1 billion, limits taxation on the revenues of multinational corporations, an issue that has kicked around the Capitol for at least 50 years with several iterations.

Among the newer items on the list are income and sales tax credits for motion picture and video production (\$213 million) and a sales tax exemption for menstrual products (\$28 million) and children's diapers (\$81 million).

Each year, the governor and the Legislature spend months negotiating thousands of items in the state budget. With \$107 billion at stake, perhaps they should spend some of that time reviewing off-budget tax expenditures.

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. ★

Man Who Murdered Girlfriend Sentenced 50 Years to Life

Solano County District Attorney's Office News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On Dec. 13, Honorable John B. Ellis sentenced Defendant Troy Austin to 50 years to life in the state prison. On Oct. 11, Honorable John B. Ellis found true that the defendant suffered a prior strike.

On Oct. 2, in Department 23 of the Solano County Superior Court, before the Honorable John B. Ellis Presiding, the jury found Defendant Troy Austin Guilty of First-Degree Murder.

On May 19, 2016, Defendant Troy Austin was arrested for the murder of his girlfriend, Samantha Rhone. The two had been in a dating relationship for approximately five years, during which time the victim had suffered other incidents of domestic violence. On the night of the murder, several civilians in the area of Wallace Avenue in Vallejo heard a female screaming out for help and what sounded like hitting noises. Two civilians looked out their second story windows and saw the defendant attacking Ms. Rhone. They saw him kick and stomp

on her upwards of 20 times as she lay there going in and out of consciousness.

All of these civilians called 911, Vallejo Police Officers arrived on scene, and the defendant fled. As officers arrived, Ms. Rhone continued to go in and out of consciousness but was able to tell the officers Troy Austin was the one who had beaten her. She was rushed to the hospital and emergency surgery was performed, but due to the extent of internal bleeding from the blunt force trauma, she unfortunately succumbed to her injuries.

The defendant was found hiding in a neighbor's backyard. Upon being arrested, he provided a false name. He later admitted he "went psycho" and beat up Ms. Rhone because "she did not listen."

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Ilana Shapiro and Robert Greenberg was the lead District Attorney Investigator.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of domestic violence and needs the assistance of an advocate, call 707-784-6827. If you have an emergency, call 911. ★

Solano County Man Sentenced for Murder

Solano County District Attorney's Office News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On Friday, Dec. 13, Solano Superior Court Judge John B. Ellis sentenced Defendant Mark Anthony Randle Jr. to state prison for a term of 25 years to Life for the Murder of Erica Brown.

On July 25, after hearing testimony for several weeks, the jury found the defendant Guilty of First-Degree Murder for this senseless and horrific act of violence.

On the night of August 20, 2023, the defendant physically assaulted his

girlfriend, Erica Brown, during an argument. Two hours later, Erica Brown was dead. The defendant disposed of her body, destroyed evidence of the crime, and went on the run. Erica Brown was never seen or heard from again. To this day, her body has never been located.

The case was investigated by Fairfield Police Detective Sean Spillner and prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys Mary Nguyen and Elaine Kuo. District Attorney Investigator Brandi Aguilar assisted throughout the trial. The District Attorney Victim Witness Unit was present throughout the trial to provide support. ★

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

Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024

- 1458 - Confidential report in the 300 block of Gateway Dr.
- 1856 - A theft of a license plate report was taken in the 800 block of Jan Ct.
- 2342 - A suspicious circumstance report was taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Ave.
- 0025 - A burglary report was taken in the 1900 block of North First St.

Friday, Dec. 20, 2024

- 1019 - Confidential report taken in the 200 block of West A St.
- 1207 - Grand theft report in the 1300 block of N Lincoln St.
- 1753 - An informational report was taken in the 300 block of S. Jackson St.
- 2020 - A grand theft and failure to yield case was taken in the 200 block of E. Dorset Dr.
- 2210 - An informational report was taken in the 1200 block of Amhurst Ave.

Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024

- 0755 - Petty theft report in the 200 block of E Dorset Dr.
- 0907 - Confidential reports in the 200 block of West A St.
- 1122vGrand theft report in the 2000 block of N First St.
- 1322vFound license plate report in the 2200 block of Commerce Way.
- 1730 - Theft report in the 1000 block of N First St.
- 1941 - A confidential report was taken in the 700 block of Stratford Ave.

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024

- 1452 - Missing person report from the 1300 block of N Lincoln St. The individual returned home later in the day.
- 1645 - Danielle Lamar (34) from Davis was arrested in the 500 block of Pitt School Road for driving under the influence. Lamar was cited from Dixon Police Department and released to a sober adult.
- 0049 - A D.U.I., arrest report was taken in the 1400 block of Goldfield Ln. Officers contacted (S) Jesse Ayala-Lira. Ayala-Lira showed objective signs of intoxication. Ayala-Lira failed FSTs and was arrested. Ayala-Lira was later released to a sober adult.

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024

- 0822 - Major injury traffic accident at West A St. and North Washington St.
- 1213 - Hit and run traffic accident in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road. Monday, Dec. 16, 2024
- 1002 - Info report taken in the 600 block of West D St. South regarding a student who was refusing to go to school.
- 1415 - Report of an abandoned vehicle in the 100 block of Pegord Ave.
- 2130 - Female juvenile placed on mental health hold.

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024

- 2215 - Carlos Garcia (24) of Springfield was contacted in the 1300 block of Commercial Way and later arrested for public intoxication.

Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024

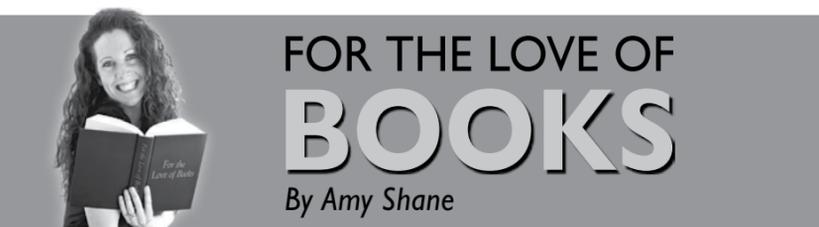
- 0851 - Non-injury traffic collision report in the 1400 block of Stonecrop Ln.
- 1040 - Hit & run report in the 800 block of West A St. At an unknown time overnight, an unknown vehicle collided with a parked vehicle and a fence.
- 1135 - Report of a stolen vehicle in the 1300 block of N. Lincoln St.
- 1525 Information report in the 500 block of Devonshire Dr.

Friday, Dec. 13, 2024

- 0732 - Vandalism report in the 100 block of Heritage Ln.
- 1000 - Information report in the 600 block of S. First St.
- 1113 - Grand theft report in the 200 block of E. Dorset Dr.
- 1311 - Confidential report in the 200 block of West A. St.
- 2318 - A D.U.I. arrest report was taken in the 400 block of West H. St. Officers arrived and contacted (S) Cristihan Ceja. Ceja showed objective signs of intoxication and was arrested for being in violation of 23152(a) V.C. Ceja was later cited and released to a sober adult.

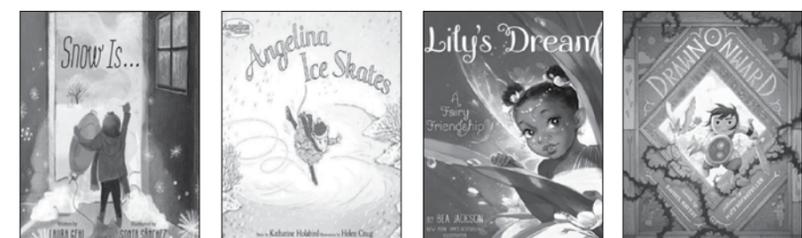
Thursday, Dec. 12, 2024

- 0808 - Confidential report in the 200 block of West A St.
- 0843 - Burglary report in the 600 block of Industrial Way.



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

Ring in the New Year With These Cozy Winter Reads



Snow Is...

by Laura Gehl, Illustrated by Sonia Sanchez, Simon and Schuster

Look out the window, step out the door because snow is here. Snow is all the feelings and moments that make you excited and happy. It's the joy of building a snowman, the thrill of sledding down a hill, and the warmth of a cozy fire after a day of winter fun.

Celebrate the changing of the season with a fresh blanket of snow and pure excitement from the eye of a child. Experience snow through the awe and wonder of snowflakes landing on your tongue, the plop and squish of walking in the snow, and snuggling up warm and tight after a fun-filled day.

Angelina Ice Skates

by Katharine Holabird, illustrated by Helen Craig, Little Simon

It's almost New Year's Eve and everyone in the village is getting ready for the special ice-skating show. Angelina, of course, can't wait. As Angelina and her friends begin to practice, they face numerous challenges. A group of boys are intent on teasing Angelina and her friends, but they don't give up. Despite the setbacks, they continue to practice and their determination leads to a heartwarming surprise at the New Year's Eve show.

Fans of Angelina will adore this new Angelina story while also celebrating the pure joy of celebrating a New Year.

Lily's Dream: A Fairy Friendship

by Bea Jackson, Aladdin

Lily has always dreamed of flying, but even though she tried with all her might, she just couldn't find her wings. One day, as she walked off in despair, Lily discovered the

most beautiful fairy house. Lily was absolutely delighted until she heard a quiet human voice. When Lily went back the next day, the human girl was waiting to help her. Soon, Lily and Willow forged a friendship where Lily worked on learning to fly every day, quickly learning that friendship is the best magic of all.

Celebrate the magic of friendship with Lily and Willow. This enchanting tale celebrates the joy and wonder of discovering your own magic. Lily's Dream is a stunning array of artistic talent that lifts right off the pages. Each page will take readers straight into a fairytale world of wonder and discovery, encouraging little readers to find their own special magic. The beginning of a new series, this fairy friendship is one to watch.

Drawn Onward

by Daniel Nayeri,

pictures by Matt Rockefeller, Harper Alley

A little boy lost in heartache and loss, enters a journey to see if all is really lost.

A beautiful, lush, fanciful world opens up to a story about a little boy looking for answers in the form of a journey. The little boy goes deeper into the woods than he has ever gone before, where great obstacles challenge him to his very core. Is he brave enough? Will he learn the answers his heart is yearning to know?

Heartbreaks turn into anger and then adventure in this illustrated masterpiece, a storybook graphic novel. With just one sentence per page, the illustrations burst through the pages, opening up the readers to heartfelt thought and imagination. ★



Riley Reviews

“THE AGENCY” ESPIONAGE THRILLER; LIFETIME’S SATURDAY FILMS

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“THE AGENCY” ON SHOWTIME AND PARAMOUNT+

Don't expect the type of action, spectacular stunts, and use of outlandish gadgets associated with the exhaustive franchise of “James Bond” films, where the secret agent is an action hero working often in the rarefied atmosphere of exotic locales.

Showtime's “The Agency,” starring Michael Fassbender as a CIA agent codenamed “Martian” who is abruptly recalled to London after six years from his assignment as an operative in Ethiopia working under the cover name of Paul Lewis.

Pulled back to the CIA's London station, Martian reports to deputy Station Chief Henry Ogletree (Jeffrey Wright), his immediate superior. Why was the operative pulled out of Africa so suddenly?

During this assignment, he became romantically involved with the married Dr. Samia Zahir (Jodie Turner-Smith). One has to wonder if Samia is more than just the spy's love interest, and that may cause one to wonder if this entanglement was problematic to his handlers.

“The Agency” thrives in a murky environment. Upon his return to London, Martian finds himself subject to a process called “airlock,” where he's followed constantly by two agents as if he posed a threat.

He resides in a utilitarian apartment with all the charm of a hotel suite, except that it comes with a raft of bugging devices that even a novice spy would easily detect. Anyway, what's with all this subterfuge?

Under the direction of the CIA London Station Chief Bosko (Richard Gere), the most pressing matter at hand is the abduction of an agent named Coyote (Alex Reznik), a recovering alcoholic who might be a weak link if he relapses, willingly or not.

The disappearance of Coyote in Eastern Europe is resulting in plenty of chaos and consternation at the London office, which underscores the weighty psychological mayhem inherent with the job of a spy tossed into high-risk missions.

“The Agency,” found on Paramount+ and Showtime, is a convoluted stew of paranoia and compromising situations that leads to all kinds of trouble, and that might be enough to keep one engaged to see how it will all play out over the course of ten episodes.

The mental intensity of this thriller is not what you ordinarily find in action-oriented espionage films like the “Mission: Impossible” or Jason Bourne films, and yet there are still some powerful action scenes to deliver thrills.

The acting is what holds the greatest interest even when certain scenes may be perplexing. Harriet Sansom Harris does a fine turn as a psychologist evaluating various agents, while Katherine Waterston

and John Magaro are engaging as CIA analysts helping field agents.

As one with few emotions beyond his love for Samia and his daughter, Michael Fassbender's Martian comes close to being a Jason Bourne-like conflicted agent, while Richard Gere brings a sense of gravitas to his role of a strong-willed station chief.

LIFETIME SATURDAY NIGHT MOVIES IN JANUARY

The Lifetime Channel reliably carries a lot of films based on true crime stories, and starting off the new year brings more of the same, but first comes a fictional account in “Vanished Out of Sight.”

Starring Annalise Basso as blind woman Claire Lewis, “Vanished Out of Sight” is the story of a young girl that goes missing on Christmas Day and an anxious mother's search.

When six-year-old Briar (Avalon Reign) disappears, Claire faces her worst nightmare and sets out in the darkness to find her. How the search gets resolved is the crux of the mystery.

Based on a true story, “Terror Comes Knocking: The Marcela Borges Story” finds the titular character (Dascha Polanco) and her growing family's idyllic weekend turning into every family's worst nightmare when masked gunmen barge into their Florida suburban home.

With gunshots piercing their walls, a newly pregnant Marcela, her husband, and their young son are left with no choice but to comply with their captors' demands: surrender \$200,000 or their lives.

But with no means of accessing that sort of money, Marcela faces insurmountable odds to protect her family from their violent captors and must make the life and death decisions to keep her family safe.

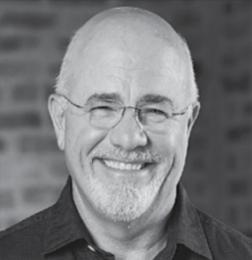
Another true story movie is “Girl in the Garage: The Laura Cowan Story.” After her husband Shabazz (Brad James) is arrested, Laura Cowan (Audrey-Marie Hurd) finds herself struggling to make ends meet.

When family friend Musa (Stephen Bishop) offers to move her and her children into his home temporarily with his family, Laura lets out a sigh of relief, believing this act of kindness will give her time to get back on her feet.

Overnight, this blessing turns into a nightmare when Laura and her children endure extensive mental and physical abuse and are forced into dehumanizing conditions.

Laura is repeatedly sexually assaulted by Musa and eventually held captive with her children in a garage. She later discovers she is not the only one he is tormenting.

Despite the dark conditions surrounding her, Laura manages to keep her faith and documents her ordeal until she sneaks a note to the outside world, leading authorities to her eventual rescue. ★



Dave Ramsey Says

Your Goals Means Planning Your Goals

Dear Dave,

Do you have any advice for sticking with your goals and New Year's resolutions? I always have great things in mind to shoot for in December, but then they always seem to fall by the wayside before spring.

– Rae

Dear Rae,

Believe it or not, setting goals and making them happen is easier than most people think. You just need to keep a few guidelines in mind at the beginning of the process.

The first guideline is to be specific. What do you want to achieve? And be super specific when you answer that question. Things like “eat healthier” or “read more” are too vague. Instead, try something like “cut eating out to twice a week” or “read for at least 30 minutes every night before bed.” Also, look out for any roadblocks that could keep you from reaching your goal, and make a plan to knock them out of the way.

Number two, make your goals measurable. A goal

like “lose weight” has no target attached to it. But “lose 20 pounds” has a clear finish line. You can also break your goal setting into bite-size chunks. Give yourself daily, weekly and monthly steps to take. Focus on those, and when you accomplish one, tackle the next.

Three, set a time limit. You need a finish line, so take your goal, create a plan and break it all the way down into daily activities. Then, give yourself a deadline. You might say, “I want to lose 25 pounds by December 31, 2025.” To lose those 25 pounds by your deadline, figure out things like how many times you need to work out each week and how many calories to eat in a day.

Number four, make sure the goals are yours. Trying to achieve someone else's goals for your life never works. Why? Because working hard is hard work. You won't have the drive to stick with it if it's something you aren't not passionate about.

Finally, set your goals down in writing. Something special happens when you write down specific

goals. Seeing them plainly in front of you hammers it home in a way nothing else will. There's a reason God said, “Write the vision, and make it plain,” in Habakkuk 2:2 (KJV). Get those goals down on paper, along with all the steps it'll take to make them happen.

And hey, don't beat yourself up if you get a little off track, Rae. Keep your chin up and your eyes on the prize. As long as you stay focused on the end goal and keep taking steps—even small ones in the right direction—you'll eventually turn those goals into reality!

– 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. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001889
The following persons are doing business as: Benedict Restaurant Corporation, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687. Benedict Restaurant Corporation, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 04/01/2012
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 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: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK18871 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001890
The following persons are doing business as: Burger King #18871, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687. Benedict Restaurant Corporation, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 08/22/2012
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant

to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 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: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK18871 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001891
The following persons are doing business as: Burger King #5723, 1350 Startford Avenue, Dixon, CA 95620. Benedict Restaurant Corporation, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 04/01/2012
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 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: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK5723 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001892
The following persons are doing business as: Burger King #21657, 171 Crocker Drive, Vacaville, CA 95688. Benedict Restaurant Corporation, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 12/28/2015

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 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: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK21657 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001893
The following persons are doing business as: Old Time Lawn and Pool Service, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687. John Benedict and Maria Benedict, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 10/01/1991
This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. 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 December 18, 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: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
SERVICE 1-17-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU24-09104
Araceli Bounds filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Araceli Bounds to Sally Araceli Bounds. 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 pe-

tion 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. February 26, 2025, 8:30 a.m. Department 12, Room 1, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old

Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer
Dated: December 4, 2024
Publish: Dec 13, 20, 27, Jan 3, 2025
BOUNDS 1-3-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU24-09105
Jennifer Ann Munguia filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jennifer Ann Munguia to Jennifer

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission will hold a hybrid **PUBLIC HEARING** to consider the following project:

PROJECT: **1320 Business Park Drive (Cardinal Glass)** - Request for Design Review (DR) approval to erect solar carports within the existing front parking lot, rooftop solar, and a battery energy storage system to be located on the Cardinal Glass (formerly Milgard) property. Other site improvements include new landscaping primarily along the northern and southern sides of the property; APN: 0115-130-380; Zoning District: General Industrial (IG); Jay Kaminski, applicant; Cardinal CT Company, owner. File No: PA24-34, DR 24-04.

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. It has been determined that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and no environmental review will be completed. This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption from the provisions of the CEQA Guidelines under 14 CRR Section 15303, [Class 3; New Structures]. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 7:00 pm.** This meeting 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: Contact **Scott Greeley, Associate Planner at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115** or sgreeley@cityofdixonca.gov. You can 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. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposed application. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the Planning Commission prior to making any decision on the application.

The meeting will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding masking and social distancing in City Council chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Prior to 4:30pm 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, Planning Commission, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. 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 hearing 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.

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

Appeals of decisions by the Planning Commission to the City Council shall be made in person at Dixon City Hall by completing the appeal application and submitting the required fee, within 10 calendar days of a decision (Dixon Municipal Code Sections 17.01.050 or 18.40).

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 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 1-3-2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission will hold a hybrid **PUBLIC HEARING** to consider the following project:

PROJECT: **2600 Plaza Court (Golden Market)** - Request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to establish a liquor store. In addition, a CUP is also required to consider a Public Convenience or Necessity (PCN) determination to allow a proposed liquor store to have a Type 21 alcohol license which would permit the sale of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for off-site consumption; APN: 0113-490-140; Zoning District: Regional Commercial (CR); Kamalpreet Kaur, applicant; Gratlen and Marie Etchebehere, owner. File No: PA24-33, UP 24-08

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. It has been determined that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and no environmental review will be completed. This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption from the provisions of the CEQA Guidelines under 14 CRR Section 15301, [Class 1; Existing Facilities]. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 7:00 pm.** This meeting 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: Contact **Scott Greeley, Associate Planner at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115** or sgreeley@cityofdixonca.gov. You can 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. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposed application. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the Planning Commission prior to making any decision on the application.

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You may also attend the public hearing 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.

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

Appeals of decisions by the Planning Commission to the City Council shall be made in person at Dixon City Hall by completing the appeal application and submitting the required fee, within 10 calendar days of a decision (Dixon Municipal Code Sections 17.01.050 or 18.40).

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 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 1-3-2025

NOTICE OF STUDY SESSIONS OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission and City Council will hold separate hybrid **STUDY SESSIONS** to receive an introduction to and provide feedback on the following project:

PROJECT **Harvest at Dixon** – Study Session of an application that includes application for a General Plan update, Pre-Zoning, Annexation, Design Review, and Development Agreement for the proposed project area, located southeast of Dixon. The land is currently outside the City limits and City sphere of influence and would require Solano County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approval to be annexed into the City.

The project proposes a new, approximately 836.62-acre Master Planned Community consisting of 239.6 acres of low density residential development, approximately 291.9 acres of medium density residential development, approximately 47.7 acres of mixed use development, approximately 15.6 acres of public facilities (i.e., potential elementary school/ church/ daycare/ community center), approximately 140.8 acres of parks and open space, and approximately 10102 acres of roadways; APN's: 0112-040-030, 0112-040-040, 0112-040-060, 0112-040-140, 0112-040-160, 0112-040-170, 0112-080-030, 0116-020-050; Zoning District: Not Applicable; Karlshoej and LJP Dixon Development (LJP), owners, LJP Dixon, applicant; File No's: PLAPP24-0117, GPA24-0122, PDZR24-0119, ANNX24-0118, DR24-0123, DA24-0120

The Harvest project master plan area also includes City-owned and operated Drainage Basin C (approximately 40.0 acres). Development activity is proposed to begin near Parkway Boulevard and proceed southerly as buildout occurs. These developments include building parks, a retail center, and a majority of the backbone infrastructure required by the project in the initial phases of development. It is expected that project buildout will be completed in 5 to 8 phases, depending on market conditions and housing demand. This translates to a buildout program of about 6,000 homes, developed at a projected rate of 300 homes per year over approximately 20 to 25 years.

The Planning Commission and City Council will hold separate study sessions, prior to their regular meetings on the following dates/times:

MEETING DATE: **Planning Commission - Tuesday, January 14, 2025, from 5pm-7pm**
City Council - Tuesday, January 21, 2025, from 5pm-7pm

MEETING LOCATION: Both meetings will be held at Dixon City Hall, City Council Chambers, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620.

These meetings will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meetings 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: Contact **Steve Peterson, Contract Planner at (916) 306-5209** or speterson@cityofdixon.us.

You can also view the project materials received to date on the City website at www.cityofdixonca.gov/harvestatdixon. You can also view the staff report that will be prepared for this item 72 hours before each meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: These meetings are study sessions to allow the Planning Commission and City Council to receive an introduction to the project and discuss and explore the above new application. There will be no decisions or official action made at these meetings. The study sessions will allow the Planning Commission and City Council an opportunity to be introduced to the applications that have been filed, ask questions, and provide preliminary high-level comments. The study sessions are public meetings, and the public is invited to attend to observe and provide any preliminary input.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing, in person or remotely to learn about the application and express any opinions. The meetings will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding masking and social distancing in City Council chambers.

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

You may also attend the public hearing 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.

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

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) (TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 1-3-2025

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

Ann Enoch.
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 27, 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: December 4, 2024
Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
ENOCH 1-10-25

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • SYNONYMS

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Half of half-and-half
 - *Gratuity
 - Remain unsettled
 - Pita, alt. sp.
 - Uncle Sam wants whom?
 - Played violin, e.g.
 - "Encore!"
 - Young canine
 - Amber warning
 - *Entice
 - *Agreement
 - "___ Te Ching"
 - Goose egg
 - Antonym of keep
 - *Affection
 - Open wine, e.g.
 - Frosts a cake
 - Leave in a bucket
 - *Parlor
 - Coating of aurum
 - Like many bathroom floors?
 - Border pass
 - Full of emotion (2 words)
 - Opposite of talker?
 - Tel ___ , Israel
 - Auto ___ website
 - *Module
 - Compass point between NE and E
 - *Insane
 - Old-fashioned before
 - *Prevent
 - *"Ditch"
 - Peninsula of 38th parallel fame
 - Single-___ plastics
 - Donkey + horse, pl.
 - All told (2 words)
 - '80s band "___ At Work"
 - Bay window
 - Chapter 11 issue
 - Mouse turf
 - Email option
- DOWN**
- Tax pro, acr.
 - Capital of Latvia
 - Bibliographical abbr.
 - Not upright
 - Instructions handbook
 - Use an Underwood
 - Prossy note letters
 - Cocoon dwellers
 - Horse and mallet sport
 - *Pitcher
 - One ridiculed for studiousness
 - Banned insecticide, acr.
 - Kevin ___ and Sir Francis
 - Resting spot for a chicken
 - French vineyard
 - *Avid
 - *Correct
 - *Slipperier
 - 27th letter of Greek alphabet
 - *Nothingness
 - Spanish sparkling wine
 - Martini garnish
 - Violinist's pine resin
 - *Rogue
 - Wall support
 - It often precedes "eye"
 - Laundry room appliance
 - Correspondence friend
 - Feel remorse
 - Seismic shake
 - Card game move
 - Accustom
 - *Sharpen
 - A in UAE

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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 <https://scotsindixon.us/>.

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. ★

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State Water Project Allocation Increases

California Department of Water Resources News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- On Dec. 23, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced an update to the State Water Project allocation forecast for 2025. The allocation has increased to 15 percent of requested supplies, up from the initial allocation forecast of 5 percent announced in December. The State Water Project provides water to 29 public water agencies that serve 27-million Californians.

Strong storms in late November and early December have helped boost statewide precipitation to just above average for this time of year. Reservoir levels have also increased because of the storms. The initial allocation forecast announced on Dec. 2 had not accounted for these storms because the data was not yet available to water managers. Prior to the second half of November, the start of the water year had been dry and warm.

"The past several weeks has brought welcome rain and snow to Northern California and these improved conditions have allowed the State Water Project to increase the allocation forecast to the benefit of millions of Californians," said Department of Water Resources Director Karla Nemeth. "While we typically



Above average precipitation and snowpack allow for an increase in planned water deliveries for 2025. Photo courtesy California Department of Water Resources

wait to provide an update until January, we felt it important to let our state water contractors know of the increase as soon as possible to allow them to better plan their water supply for the year ahead."

State water managers will continue to monitor precipitation and snowpack conditions, as well as account for dry soils that might soak up some of the spring runoff following record heat this past summer. Additionally, Southern

California remains very dry and has not benefited from the atmospheric rivers experienced so far this season.

"California is still in the early months of our wet season and as recent history has shown, conditions can change quickly," said Dr. Michael Anderson, state climatologist. "While Northern California has benefitted from early season storms, dry conditions in the new year can leave us with below

average totals when warmer weather arrives."

Each year, the Department of Water Resources provides State Water Project allocation forecasts based on available water storage, projected water supply and water demands. Allocations are updated monthly as snowpack, rainfall and runoff information is assessed, with a final allocation typically determined in May or June. As the winter progresses, if California

sees an increase in rain and snowfall, the allocation forecast might increase. The next update will likely come this month and will use information from the season's first snow surveys.

The allocation forecast notice to state water contractors and historical data on State Water Project allocations are available online at water.ca.gov/programs/state-water-project/management/swp-water-contractors. ★

Average Farm Loses \$19,734 per Year to Natural Hazards



Drought is the most common cause of economic loss in the agriculture industry. Image by Siggly Nowak from Pixabay

Trace One News Release

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (MPG) - High grocery prices have been a defining economic story in recent years, driven by a combination of factors including pandemic-related supply chain breakdowns and labor shortages. However, an increasingly critical driver of food price inflation has been the impact of natural disasters—such as droughts, floods, and hurricanes—on the nation's agricultural output.

In Florida, a devastating combination of hurricanes and disease has sharply reduced orange harvests over the past several years, leading to soaring costs for citrus. Prolonged droughts in critical agricultural regions like the Midwest and California have curtailed the supply of grains, contributing to higher prices. In Texas, episodes of extreme heat have stressed livestock, decreasing productivity and raising costs for dairy and meat products.

The increased frequency of natural hazards has created a challenging environment for farmers. However, the effects of climate- and weather-related disasters are not uniform, varying greatly depending on location. To pinpoint where these events are having the greatest impact on farmers and the nation's food supply, researchers at Trace One—a company specializing in regulatory compliance for the food and beverage industry—conducted an in-depth analysis of the latest data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Here's what they found.

Annual Agriculture Loss Due to Natural Hazards

Drought is the most common cause of economic loss in the agriculture industry.

According to estimates from FEMA, natural hazards cause an average of \$3.4 billion in agricultural losses annually, with drought being the single largest contributor. Drought alone accounts for more than half of these losses, averaging \$1.8 billion per year. The financial impact of drought underscores its threat to farmers, particularly in regions reliant on water-intensive crops.

Other significant contributors to agricultural losses include hurricanes, which cause \$471 million in annual losses, along with flooding (\$424 million) and cold waves

(\$278 million). Events such as hailstorms, strong winds, and heat waves collectively add hundreds of millions in losses to the yearly toll. While less frequent, disasters like tornadoes, wildfires, and winter weather also contribute economic strain in certain regions.

Expected Annual Losses by Region

California farms are facing the largest losses due to natural hazards.

Natural disasters impacting agriculture vary significantly across U.S. regions due to differing climates and geographic vulnerabilities. Drought is a persistent challenge on the West Coast, particularly in California, as well as the Southwest and parts of the Southern Plains, where water scarcity hampers crop yields and livestock production. Hurricanes have the most severe impact in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions, where states like Florida and North Carolina frequently experience storm surges and high winds that devastate crops and infrastructure. Riverine flooding is most problematic in the Mississippi River Basin and its extensive tributary networks, as well as in the Pacific Northwest. Cold waves are most prominent in the Midwest and Mountain West, where freezing temperatures can damage crops and livestock operations.

Taken together, California leads the nation in agricultural losses due to natural hazards, with farms in the state incurring an estimated \$1.2 billion in losses annually. This figure dwarfs losses in other states, with drought being the most significant hazard affecting California's vast agricultural sector. On a per-farm basis, California reports an average loss of \$19,734—the highest of any state—reflecting its reliance on high-value crops such as fruits, nuts, and vegetables, which are particularly vulnerable to water shortages.

By comparison, Texas, which ranks second, faces an expected annual loss of \$199 million, with droughts again being the primary driver. Iowa, North Carolina, and Florida round out the top five, each suffering from a combination of droughts and hurricanes, though with lower total and per-farm losses than California.

At the county level, California continues to dominate the rankings, with Santa Barbara County reporting the

largest expected losses at \$238 million annually. Drought is the principal hazard here, impacting high-value crops like strawberries, vegetables, and wine grapes. Other California counties, such as Yolo, Napa, Sutter and Colusa, also rank highly, with annual losses ranging from \$68 million to \$112 million. These counties experience some of the highest loss rates per farm, with those in Santa Barbara County and Yolo County losing an estimated \$175,120 and \$140,459 each year, respectively.

Here is a summary of the data for California:

Total expected annual loss: \$1,245,887,089

Expected annual loss per farm: \$19,734

Expected annual loss rate: 2.19%

Total farms: 63,134

Total agriculture value: \$56,797,402,704

Worst natural hazard for agriculture: Drought

For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:

Total expected annual loss: \$3,380,082,197

Expected annual loss per farm: \$1,779

Expected annual loss rate: 0.69%

Total farms: 1,900,487

Total agriculture value: \$488,704,132,158

Worst natural hazard for agriculture: Drought

Methodology

The data used in this study is from FEMA's National Risk Index and the USDA's Census of Agriculture. To identify locations where natural hazards have the greatest impact on the nation's food supply, researchers at Trace One analyzed and ranked locations based on their average annual economic loss (expected annual loss) in 2024 dollars within the agricultural sector. This metric accounts for damages caused by natural hazards such as cold waves, hail, heat waves, hurricanes, riverine flooding, strong winds, tornadoes, wildfires, and winter weather events, using data collected since 1996. In the event of a tie, locations with greater expected annual losses per farm were ranked higher. The analysis also incorporated the expected annual loss rate, calculated as the expected annual loss divided by the total annual value of the agricultural sector for each location. Additionally, researchers identified the worst natural hazard for agriculture in each location, which is the hazard contributing the largest share of the expected annual loss. ★