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# Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 2

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

JANUARY 10, 2025

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## Hot Times for Winter Sports



The last day of late registration for Dixon Girls Softball is Jan. 15 for \$250. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - The New Year is officially in full swing, and with students back in school, many might be restless after a collective two weeks of free time. For the more athletically-oriented students, there are plenty of interesting and fun opportunities worth checking out.

Dixon Girls Softball is a nonprofit youth sports organization with a dedication to teaching softball fundamentals and life skills through sportsmanship, leadership, positive coaching and peer-to-parent communication. The nonprofit hosts regular clinics on pitching,



Beginning Jan. 4, Winter Indoor Pickleball will be available to interested parties from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday. Photo by Nicolas Brown

catching and slapping, as well as fundraisers at popular local restaurants to remain a fixture in the community while

supporting the talented young women.

Regular registration ended as of Jan. 1. The last day for late registration is

Jan. 15 for \$250. For more information, visit [dixon-girlssoftball.com](http://dixon-girlssoftball.com).

Established in 2006, Solo Rugby Club's primary objective is to develop players with strong character. The core values that these players should embody involve lessons of teamwork, commitment, loyalty, honor, integrity, pride, selflessness, self-sacrifice, hard work and personal responsibility. Formerly the Dixon Rugby Football Club, the organization now reaches youth throughout Solano and Yolo counties.

Two rugby camps were held Dec. 7 and 21, 2024, at Hall Park, 285 E Chestnut St. At no cost and

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## Solano County Water Agency Accepting Entries for Video Contest

**Solano Resource Conservation District News Release**

**SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG)**

The Solano County Water Agency is now accepting entries from Solano County students in grades 6 through 12 and their sponsoring teachers for the Water Agency's 15th annual video contest. Winning entries will receive up to \$1,500.

This year's theme is The Water Cycle: Why We Need to Think Outside the Sink. The contest is challenging students to explore the need for Solano County residents to think globally and act locally in order to conserve water.

Students should create a one-minute public service announcement video explaining how we can all work together to conserve water on a broad scale. In their PSAs, we encourage students to think about all the different ways people, industries, and institutions use water, and to offer creative conservation steps for individuals and our society at-large to take.

This year, the Solano County Water Agency will award prizes of \$1,500 to the first-place video, \$1,000 to the second-place video and \$500 to the third-place video. Additionally, the winning entry from each school with ten or more submissions will be awarded a \$100 gift card. The three teachers who generate the most student participation in the contest will each win a \$200 gift card.

Entries will be judged by a panel of water efficiency experts and community leaders for content, accuracy, and response to the assigned theme; entertainment value and originality; videography, style and organization; and audio/sound quality.

Complete information about the 2025 video contest, water conservation information, samples of past winning videos, and the 2025 entry packet is available at <https://sites.google.com/view/solanowatervideocontest/>.

Entries can be submitted through e-mail to [Education@solanorcd.org](mailto:Education@solanorcd.org), via Google Drive using the form found on the contest website, or on a USB flash drive via US mail or delivered in person to the Solano Resource Conservation District office in Dixon. Release forms and entry forms must accompany video submissions in order for them to be considered. All entries and paperwork must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 18.

Contact Shea Kinser at Solano Resource Conservation District at [shea.kinser@solanorcd.org](mailto:shea.kinser@solanorcd.org) with questions or for more information. ★

## Dixon Library Begins Read-a-Thon

Story and photos by Kendall Brown

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - January marks the beginning of Solano Reads 2025 for the Dixon Library.

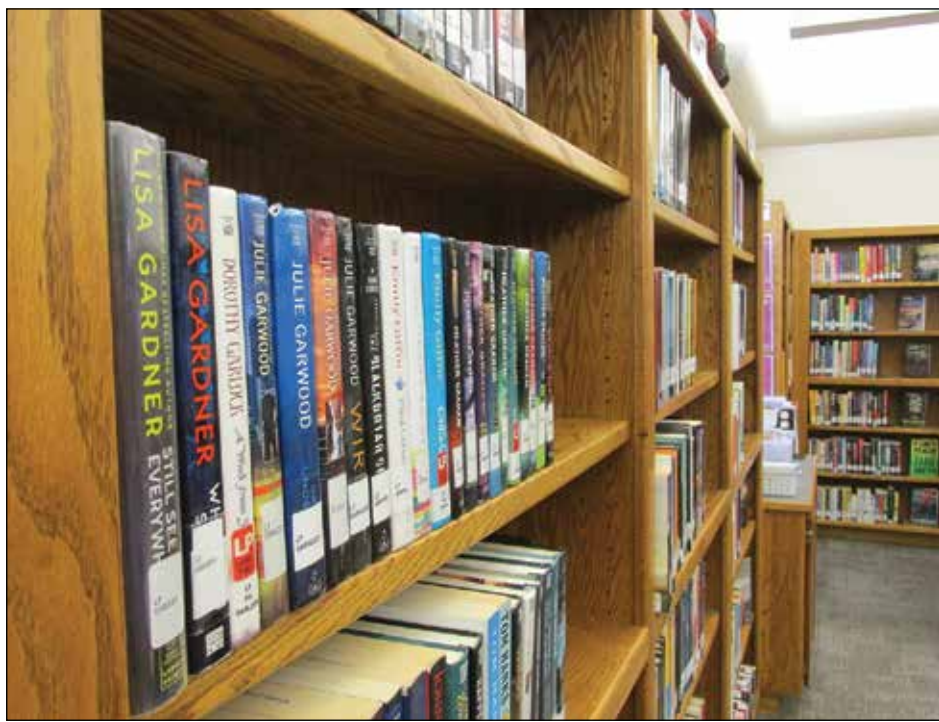
The event, an annual yearlong reading challenge, is open to all ages. Registration began Jan. 1 and participants will complete challenges by engaging with books, audiobooks or other narrative-based materials, and tracking their progress.

According to Randi Johnson, circulation lead at Dixon Library, the event is quite popular.

"For last year's, throughout the county, we had a little under 2,000 show up," Johnson said. "In Dixon, we had a little over 700."

Registration for the event is available either in person or online; both offer the same experience.

For digital participants, registration is available on the library's website at



Books, audiobooks and other narrative-based materials are eligible for use in the Read-a-thon. Dixon Library offers a wide selection of books and audiobooks to support anyone's reading journey.

[solanolibrary.com](http://solanolibrary.com); from there, they can efficiently track and record their progress.

In-person participants will sign up at the library, receiving a special game board that resembles a long

bending road. The game board is designed with a series of mile markers, each with a unique reading challenge, to inspire and guide every marathoner's reading journey. With a total of 12 reading

prompts overall, readers will be given options such as funny or sci-fi, nonfiction or historical fiction and thriller or romance.

"For a thriller, I would recommend anything by

*Continued on page 2*



# Dignity Health Woodland Memorial Hospital Welcomes Kara Estenson



Dignity Health Woodland Memorial Hospital announced the appointment of Kara Estenson as its new Chief Nursing Executive/Chief Operating Officer. Courtesy photo

## Dignity Health News Release

**WOODLAND, CA (MPG)** - Dignity Health Woodland Memorial Hospital announced the appointment of Kara Estenson as its new Chief Nursing Executive/Chief Operating Officer. Estenson replaces Lesley Wininger, who served as Interim Chief Nursing Executive/Chief Operating Officer since May 2024.

Estenson comes directly to Woodland Memorial from Adventist Health Sonora where she served as Chief Nursing Officer and Patient Care Executive since 2020. In that role, she oversaw the pharmacy, oncology, surgical services, emergency and ICU departments, among others.

"I am thrilled to join the exceptional team at Woodland Memorial Hospital and contribute

to the outstanding care this hospital is known for in Yolo County," Estenson said. "Together, we will continue to advance care, support our dedicated staff and make a lasting impact on the health of our community."

Prior to Adventist Health Sonora, Estenson was the Chief Nursing Officer at Palmdale Regional Medical Center. She has previously served as Chief Nursing Executive at Southwest General Hospital (Steward Healthcare) in San Antonio, Director of the Emergency Department at Kaiser in Redwood City and Renown Medical Center in Reno, and Critical Care Services Director at Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Walnut Creek.

"We are delighted to welcome Kara as our new Chief Nursing

Executive and Chief Operating Officer," said Gena Bravo, president and CEO at Woodland Memorial Hospital. "Her passion for patient-centered care, commitment to excellence, and strong leadership will be invaluable as we continue to elevate the care we provide now and into the future."

Estenson earned her Bachelor of Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing at the University of Phoenix, as well as her Doctor of Nursing Practice-Executive Leadership from American Sentential College in Denver.

## About Dignity Health

*Dignity Health is a multi-state nonprofit network of 10,000 physicians, more than 60,000 employees, 41 acute care hospitals and 400-plus care-centers, including community hospitals, urgent care, surgery and imaging centers, home health and primary care clinics in Arizona, California and Nevada. Dignity Health is dedicated to providing compassionate, high-quality, and affordable patient-centered care with special attention to the poor and underserved. Dignity Health is a part of CommonSpirit Health, a nonprofit health system committed to advancing health for all people and dedicated to serving the common good. For more information, visit online [www.DignityHealth.org](http://www.DignityHealth.org).* ★

# Dixon News Briefs



Dixon Chamber Connections Networking Group will meet from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 16 at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive. This will be the first networking opportunity of the new year. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By MPG Staff

## AI Lunchbreak

The Solano-Napa SBDC is hosting a 12-week training series on AI called 'AI Lunchbreak'. These trainings are designed for small business owners to learn about the benefits of utilizing Artificial Intelligence (AI). The 30-minute lunch break sessions, from 12 to 12:30 p.m., are exclusively online, and all twelve sessions can be registered at once. Listed sessions are Jan. 9, Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 13, Feb. 20, Feb. 27, Mar. 6, Mar. 13, Mar. 20 and Mar. 27.

For more information, or to register, visit [solanonapasbdc.org/events](http://solanonapasbdc.org/events)

## Community-Based Transportation Plan

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA), in partnership with the City of Dixon, would like to implement a community-based transportation plan to study and listen to transportation challenges facing Dixon Residents. The kick-off meeting to discuss the matter will be held at 4 p.m., Jan. 22; guests can complete the survey and attend in person at City Hall, 600 E A St., or via Zoom.

For more information, or to register, visit [solanomobility.org/dixoncbtp](http://solanomobility.org/dixoncbtp).

## Davis Chocolate Festival

Davis Odd Fellows Lodge, 415 Second St., Davis, is hosting the 6th Annual Davis Odd Fellows Chocolate Festival from 2 to 5 p.m. Feb. 2. Open to the general public for \$10 per person, guest will find many chocolate vendors from all over Northern California, offering chocolate candy, ice cream, pastries and drinks; even chocolate cocktails and a chocolate fountain will be available. Guests can also expect free chocolate demonstrations, live music and a cookie bake-off.

For more information, visit [davislodge.org](http://davislodge.org); to purchase tickets, visit [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).

## Ruhstaller Comedy Show

Ruhstaller Beer Farm, 6686 Sievers Road, is holding a series of comedy shows throughout 2025, the first of which occurs from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Jan. 23. Hosted by Comedian Eric Somers, for \$17.85 per person, guests will be treated to performances from Sydney Stigerts, Adam Tiller and Teddy Hull. The next iteration of the comedy show will occur at 8 p.m. Feb. 27; the performers have yet to be announced.

For more information, visit [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).

## Doubt: A Parable Performances

Winters Community Theatre, 13 Main St., invites guests to their first show of 2025, "Doubt: A Parable." The first showing, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Jan. 31, will explore moral conflict and the nature of

truth; adapted from the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play by John Patrick Shanley, the production is for mature audiences only. Tickets are \$17.85 per person.

For more information, visit [winterstheatre.org](http://winterstheatre.org), or call 530-795-4014.

## Senior Out to Lunch Bunch

The Senior Out to Lunch Bunch will be going to lunch at 11:30 a.m., Jan. 10. Those interested can stop by the Senior/Multi-use Center, 201 S. Fifth St., to sign up, or they can call 707-678-7022. Attendees have the option of either La Cocina Mexicana, 105 Dorset Dr. #A, or Denny's, 1250 Stratford Ave.

For more information, visit [cityofdixon-ca.gov](http://cityofdixon-ca.gov).

## Valentine Candy Class

Every Baking Moment, 143 N. First St., is hosting a Valentine's Day candy-making class from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 7. For a one-time payment of \$60 per person, guests will attend a 2-hour session, where all supplies will be provided.

For more information, visit [everybakingmoment.com](http://everybakingmoment.com), or call 707-693-0112 to register.

## MLK Jr. Day Event

The Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day event from 1 to 3 p.m. Jan. 20. All are welcome to come and be uplifted, inspired and rejuvenated. Enjoy live music, inspirational speakers, and plenty of vendors and food, all for free. Pre-registration is a requirement.

For more information, visit the Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce's Facebook Page.

## Dixon Alerts

Dixon Alerts, a new notification system, has been introduced to the general public by the City of Dixon. The alert system allows residents and visitors to sign up for notifications on traffic alerts, events and other urgent news. Alert Solano will still be used in urgent or life-threatening situations, but those interested can register for Dixon Alerts via text message by texting DIXON to 226787.

For more information, visit the City of Dixon, CA Facebook page.

## Dixon Chamber Connections Networking

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 16 at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Dr. This in-person event is a great opportunity to connect with local professionals, entrepreneurs and business owners. With such a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring plenty of business cards.

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

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# Dixon Library Begins Read-a-Thon

Continued from page 1

Riley Sager. For romance, anything by Emily Henry," Johnson said.

Solano Libraries began the Read-a-thon to encourage citizens to read more. According to the National Literacy Institute, as of 2024, 21% of adults in the United States are illiterate. Of the 79% of literate adults nationwide, 54% have literacy below a sixth-grade level.

"We are facing a nationwide literacy crisis," Johnson said. "Most adults read around two books a year; by participating in our marathon, we are hoping they will read at least 12 books. Reading is good for your brain and gets you away from a screen; the more adults read, the more our kids will read, allowing us to face illiteracy



Dixon Library offers a wide selection of books and audiobooks to support anyone's reading journey.

head-on."

Defeating illiteracy is not the only prize this marathon has to offer. Once all twelve-mile markers have been completed and accounted for, readers can visit the library to claim their exclusive Solano Reads medal as a token of their achievement. Although more attuned to

teens and adults, the Solano Reads Read-a-thon is sure to reignite literary interest throughout the county.

"If it has been a while, the library is always welcoming; we would love to get you started on your reading journey this year," Johnson said.

The Dixon Library is at 230 N. First St. ★



# Dixon Football Players Receive Leadership Award

**Story and Photo by Troy Fry, Head Peewee Football Coach**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - On Dec. 18, one Dixon Rams High School football player and five Dixon Rams youth football players were recognized as leaders and an example for others to follow on and off the field. Their character, leadership, courage, devotion to duty, self-sacrifice, and concern for their teams ahead of themselves has exemplified the character of Major Don Holleder, former West Point All-American football player who died in combat in Vietnam on Oct. 17, 1967 and the men of the Black Lions, the 28th Infantry Regiment, who died with him that day.

Each year, all across America, the Black Lion Award is presented by high school and youth football coaches to the players on their teams who best exemplifies the character of Major Don Holleder: leadership, courage, devotion to duty, self-sacrifice, and above all, an unselfish concern for the team ahead of him or herself.

In what was described as "Blaik's Folly," Don Holleder, a first team All-American end on the 1954 West Point football team, was converted to quarterback prior to his senior year. Holleder had never played in the



Dixon Rams high school and youth football players receive Black Lion Leadership Awards at Dixon VFW Post 8151-District 16.

backfield in high school or college. This decision meant that all chances of Holleder becoming a two-time All American were lost. Coach Blaik's faith in Holleder's leadership was confirmed when he led his Army team to victory over a heavily favored Navy squad.

Although drafted by the New York Giants, Holleder chose to follow the Army career for which West Point had prepared him. In Vietnam he carried the Bronze

Star, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart and two awards for valor, the Soldier's medal and America's second highest award for combat heroism, the Distinguished Service Cross.

On Oct. 17, 1967, Major Don Holleder sacrificed his life for others when he was cut down by enemy fire while racing onto an active battlefield in an attempt to evacuate wounded soldiers.

In 1985, Major Don Holleder

was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. In 1988, in his honor, West Point renamed its winter sports facility the Holleder Center. In 2011, Terry Tibbetts published "A Spartan Game," a biography of Major Don Holleder.

Major Don Holleder's name lives on in the Black Lion Award, established in memory of him and the men of the Black Lions that made the ultimate sacrifice for our great country. Major Don Holleder's family

graciously approved the Black Lion nominations submitted by Dixon Rams High School and Youth Football coaches. Dixon High School Football player Max Graef, Dixon Mighty Mite Football player Chase Scott, Peewee Players Mason James and Carli Besseghini, Junior Midget player Josh Besseghini, and Midget player Selemaia Katoa all received Black Lion Award honors, which included a certificate, and the same Black Lion squadron patch wore by our past American heroes. The West Point football team also awards one football player with this honor annually and they receive the same depicted Black Lion patch for their game jersey.

The Dixon Rams High School football and youth football and cheer organization are proud of the award recipients and honored to participate in the Black Lion Award program. Dixon football and cheer would like to thank the Holleder family, Black Lion Program Administer/ Coach Hugh Wyatt, Dixon Mayor Steve Bird, Solano County District Attorney Krishna Abrams, Army National Guardsmen Sterling Koliba and Dixon VFW Post 8151, District 16 Commander Cecil Dennings for their assistance in honoring our outstanding young men and women. ★

## California Farm Bureau Elects Three New Board Members

**California Farm Bureau News Release**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Three new members joined the California Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and another seven were re-elected, during the organization's 106th Annual Meeting in Monterey.

Richard Schmid, a beekeeper from Homeland, replaces Scott Hudson in serving District 2, representing Farm Bureau members in Inyo-Mono, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Schmid is the past president and a longtime member of Riverside County Farm Bureau. He has served on the California Farm Bureau Rural Health and Safety Committee for many years.

Steve Kafka, a forester from Avery, replaces Paul Sanguinetti in serving District 12, representing Farm Bureau members in Calaveras and San Joaquin counties. Kafka is a graduate of Leadership Farm Bureau, a longtime member and chairman of the Forestry/Public Lands Committee, and past president and a longtime board member of Calaveras County Farm Bureau.

Martin Spannaus, a hay farmer and cattle rancher from Corning, replaces Jim Morris in serving District 20, representing Farm Bureau members in Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity counties. He is a past president and current board member of Tehama County Farm Bureau.

Each will serve two-year terms.

Daniel Jones of Dixon was elected to a one-year term as chair of the Young Farmers & Ranchers State Committee.

He is a member of the American Farm Bureau YF&R Committee, a Leadership Farm Bureau graduate and a member of Solano County Farm Bureau. He works full time as an insurance adjuster and raises cattle, almonds, hay and olives.

Re-elected to two-year terms on the California Farm Bureau board were Kevin Merrill of Los Alamos in District 4 (Santa Barbara and Ventura counties); Roger Everett of Porterville in District 6 (Tulare County); April England of Hollister in District 8 (Monterey, San Benito and San Luis Obispo counties); Jan Garrod of Saratoga in District 10 (Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco and San Mateo counties); Joe Fischer of Auburn in District 14 (Amador, El Dorado, Placer and Sacramento counties); Garrett Driver of Woodland in District 16 (Colusa, Glenn and Yolo counties); and Daniel Suenram of Kelseyville in District 18 (Lake and Mendocino counties).

California Farm Bureau President Shannon Douglass and First Vice President Shaun Crook were elected to serve as delegates at next month's American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Convention in San Antonio. Second Vice President Ron Peterson and Mary Lou Coffelt of Hollister, San Benito County, were elected to serve as alternate delegates.

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of more than 26,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.8 million Farm Bureau members. ★

## Women Invited to Fashion Show



Fabiola Sizemore, owner of Tres Bandidas, will be one of the local merchants providing apparel for the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Fashion Show set for Jan. 15.

**Story and photo by Debra Dingman**

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Local boutiques will be lending their fashions to the Dixon Women's Improvement Club (DWIC) at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15 at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall for a spring fashion show.

The club plans to highlight apparel from Dixon stores Tres Bandidas, owned by Fabiola Sizemore, and Sophia Grace, owned by Lisa Newkirk; Davis boutiques including The Wardrobe, owned by Heather Caswell, and Peachy Lady, owned by Lisa Vang. There will also be styles from The Winters Collective, with clothing by Karen Lucchesi.

Jewel Fink is the event Chair and has reported that Mayor Steve Bird will be commentator. Dixon Women's Improvement Club members, including Ashley Alvarez, Teri Brown, Binky Eason, Marcine Edson, Jewel Fink and Cheryl Hughes are volunteering to model numerous outfits. The business meeting will follow the show.

This year's programs were developed from membership surveys with a goal to provide opportunities for learning interesting topics and enjoying creative activities for monthly meetings. Some of the future meetings will include a Heart Health talk on Feb. 19 with a top cardiologist from Kaiser Permanente, a Bingo game in March and cake decorating with Anne Marie Raymos

from Every Baking Moment in April. The programs are open to all members, and guests are welcome to attend.

In addition, the board and the committee chairs have selected an excursion to 8 Gables Goat Ranch in rural Vacaville, as well as a trip to High Hand Nursery in Loomis this spring.

The Dixon Women's Improvement Club was established in 1899 in Dixon. The founders were women from families who had settled in the Dixon area following the Gold Rush of 1849 and were interested in beautifying and improving the town of Dixon.

Their purpose is to operate a non-profit, charitable organization for the beautification, improvement and promotion of the best interests for the city of Dixon through club-directed projects and community activities.

The club is open to women who are interested in joining and guests are welcome. Dixon Women's Improvement Club meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. Light refreshments are served.

Meetings are held at the Fellowship Hall of the Dixon United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson St. To become an active member, a woman is required to make a payment of \$35 annual membership dues. For more information, call President Teri Brown at (916) 601-3371. ★

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# College Welcomes New Trustee Jacqui Nguyen

## Solano Community College News Release

**FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG)** - Solano Community College welcomes Jacqui Nguyen as the newest Solano Community College Governing Board member.

Trustee Nguyen brings a wealth of experience in public service, leadership and community advocacy to her new role. Nguyen's appointment marks a historic moment as she becomes the first Vietnamese American trustee to serve on Solano Community College's Governing Board.

Nguyen represents Area 7, which includes Dixon, Winters and part of Vacaville.

Nguyen's professional journey reflects a deep dedication to education, public service and her community.

From her beginnings as a broadcast journalist in San Diego and Palm Springs to her current role as California State Legislature press secretary, Nguyen has spent her career elevating voices and fostering meaningful connections. Her commitment to the Asian American community has been evident through her leadership roles with organizations such as the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association and the Asian Pacific State Employees Association.

"As immigrants, my parents have always emphasized to me that education is the foundation of economic mobility. Their words still ring true for me today as I am a lifelong learner and I believe a quality education enhances critical thinking skills and the



Solano Community College Trustee Jacqui Nguyen was sworn in by Solano County Supervisor Mitch Mashburn on Dec. 18. Courtesy photo

capacity to contribute positively to our community," Nguyen said. "I am honored to step into this new role as the first Vietnamese American trustee to serve on the Solano Community College Governing Board and am excited to work with my colleagues and President Butler to achieve great things for our vibrant communities."

Superintendent-President Dr. Kellie Sims Butler praised Nguyen.

"We are thrilled to welcome Trustee Nguyen to the Solano Community College Governing Board. Her deep dedication to education, equity and public service aligns seamlessly with our mission to provide access and opportunity to all students," Butler said. "Trustee Nguyen's wealth of experience and perspective will

undoubtedly help Solano Community College reach new heights."

Nguyen's background includes leadership roles in several community organizations, including her service as president of the Sacramento chapter of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association and as first vice-president of the Asian Pacific State Employees Association. Nguyen also serves on the Solano Commission for Women and Girls, bringing her experience in media, outreach and public service to her Solano Community College role.

Solano Community College remains focused on fostering student success, building strong partnerships and supporting its diverse community. ★

# New Law Inspired by Ex-Lawmaker's DUI Adds to Alcohol Education in California Schools

By Ryan Sabalow,  
CALMatters.org

California public school students will get additional coursework on the harms of alcohol in 2025, thanks to a new law from a former lawmaker whose drunken driving arrest inspired her legislation.

In September, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 2865 by former Los Angeles Democratic Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo, whose DUI last year helped derail her political career.

California schools are already required to provide instruction about alcohol, narcotics and other dangerous drugs. This bill would require that schools also provide instruction about the short- and long-term harms of excessive drinking — including alcohol's link to chronic diseases, mental health problems and deaths.

As she pitched her bill to her colleagues in 2024, Carrillo told them that it was important for students to learn about alcohol's consequences in the hopes they don't go down the path she did.

"I wish I would have known in high school what I know now," she said at one hearing. "I would have made different choices."

On Nov. 3, 2023, Carrillo crashed into parked cars in Northeast Los Angeles. Police said her blood-alcohol level was twice the legal limit, according to the Los Angeles Times. She ended up pleading no contest to the DUI in the middle of her race for Los Angeles City Council, which she lost. Because

she ran for city council, Carrillo left her Assembly seat this year.

Carrillo said her DUI was a wake up call for her. She said she started going to therapy and became sober. As she reflected on her life, she said her own struggles with booze began at an early age. And she was troubled by how prevalent alcohol is in society, despite its documented dangers.

## Alcohol is a National and Global Health Issue

According to federal health officials, alcohol-related diseases kill 178,000 people in the U.S. each year, and death rates are increasing. Noting that alcohol causes at least seven types of cancer, including bowel and breast cancers, the World Health Organization last year declared that "when it comes to alcohol consumption, there is no safe amount."

Carrillo testified that 54 Californians die each day from alcohol.

"I want young people to learn early how something that is so legally and easily accessible can do so much harm if not consumed with more knowledge and more responsibility," she told her colleagues.

Her bill passed without any lawmakers voting against it.

## What Law Will Do

Under the new law, school boards can decide which grades receive the new instruction. They can ask the state for reimbursements for the costs of instruction, training and updates to instructional materials, said Nicholas Filipas, a spokesperson for

the California Department of Education.

At the San Juan Unified School District in the Sacramento region, educators shouldn't have trouble rolling the bill's requirements into their schools' curriculum, said Raj Rai, a spokesperson for the district, which educates about 39,000 students.

"Alcohol education has been embedded into our high school health class curriculum for quite some time," Rai said in an email. "Our curriculum team will review the currently adopted health materials to see if anything additional is needed to meet the new requirements."

The district already has several programs that teach students grades six through 12 about the harms of alcohol and drugs with the goal of reducing or eliminating teen substance abuse.

The district's high schools also regularly participate in California's Highway Patrol's "Every 15 Minutes," Rai said.

The CHP describes the program as challenging teens to "think about drinking, driving, personal safety, the responsibility of making mature decisions and the impact their decisions have on family, friends, their community, and many others."

Ryan Sabalow is a Digital Democracy reporter for CalMatters. A graduate of Chico State University, he began his career covering local news for the Auburn Journal in Placer County and The Record Searchlight in Redding. ★

# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



What a difference a week makes! Yes, a lot can happen in a week, and the Sacramento Kings are living proof.

Gone is former coach of the year, Mike Brown, and interim head coach Doug Christie not only is riding a season high 4-game winning streak, he's riding a basketball juggernaut as well.

Wins over injury depleted Dallas Mavericks and Philadelphia 76ers were welcome wins, but to handily defeat the Memphis Grizzlies and archrival Golden State Warriors back-to-back was a sign that the Kings were truly on the road to recovery.

A horrid 6-game losing streak was the undoing of Mike Brown, and every pundit, newscaster and fan had a different opinion. The general consensus was that coach Brown had lost the locker room, and after a meltdown loss to the Detroit Pistons in which collectively the Kings and in particular DeAaron Fox guarded no one, the Pistons came away with an improbable 1-point win. 4-point plays to win a game are a rarity, and it's no fun to be on the losing end, but that's precisely where the Kings found themselves.

Whether coach Brown had truly lost his voice with the team is still open to conjecture, but from this writer's perspective, his lack of any consistency as it relates to playing time for players off the bench, led to overall sub-par productivity. Players from Keon Ellis, Alex Len, to Trey Lyles never knew from one game to the next if they would see significant minutes or no minutes at all.

Doug Christie was tapped on the shoulder and asked to take over the head coaching reigns, and so far, he's been a welcome addition to the head seat.

Some players have commented that Christie brings the mindset of a former player to the table, and thus far his voice is being heard. In particular the defensive end of the court has seen significant improvement, and the past four games have featured some of the best defensive basketball that fans have seen in memory.

A wire-to-wire victory over the Golden State Warriors in which Sacramento never allowed the Warriors any breathing room, was a glimpse of what the

Sactown boys are capable of, and Malik Monk had perhaps his finest game of the season. Malik matched Steph Curry with 26 points and added a season high 12 assists, but his defense was equally impressive. Domantas Sabonis had his usual stellar performance, adding 22 points and 13 rebounds while playing only three quarters.

Does coaching make a difference? You bet it does. Does that mean that winning four of five games since Mike Brown's departure, the Kings are headed to the playoffs.

Too early to tell Kings fans but take solace in seeing what your hometown boys are capable of doing. Not just playing tough teams and winning, but actually accomplishing blow-out wins.

Keon Ellis has returned to form and did a yeoman's job in filling in for an injured DeAaron Fox in the win over the Warriors. Keon has a big upside, as does Trey Lyles who is also showing signs of looking like his former self, playing solid basketball on both ends of the court.

Say hello to Devin Carter Kings fans, and this young rookie has game! Playing in just his 2nd NBA game, Devin broke into the scoring column with 13 points while adding an impressive seven rebounds. This youngster has been on the sidelines all season recovering from off-season shoulder surgery, and he looks eager to impress his fans and teammates alike. I like what I see in Devin, and his defense in particular on Stephon Curry was impressive to see. His debut has been a long time coming, and it could not have come at a more auspicious time. I look for coach Christie to give him all the playing time he can handle, and with the unfortunate departure of Davion Mitchell, another guard that can play ferocious defense is a welcome sight.

Stay tuned Kings fans and stay away from ugly trade rumors. Trades will invariably come, but let's just hope it doesn't involve the core members we've come to love!

All be best!

Your thoughts are always welcome at [vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com](mailto:vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com). ★

# Dixon Community Theater Announces Auditions for "Hamlet: Paranormal Activity"

Dixon Community Theater  
News Release

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Prepare to enter a world where Shakespeare meets the supernatural! Dixon Community Theater (DCT) is excited to announce open auditions for its season premiere, Hamlet: Paranormal Activity. This innovative, modern adaptation of Shakespeare's iconic tragedy promises an electrifying blend of timeless drama and eerie paranormal intrigue.

The audition dates are Monday, Jan. 13 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 14 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Auditions will take place at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 S. Fifth St., Dixon.

No experience is required! Dixon Community Theater encourages actors of all backgrounds to audition as part of its commitment to inclusive casting. Participants will read from the script and have time to prepare and review lines.

Available roles are listed below. Hamlet is devastated by his father's death, and he seeks answers in a world of uncertainty.

King Claudius is Hamlet's uncle and

the newly crowned King of Denmark.

Gertrude is Hamlet's mother, caught between her son and her new husband.

The Ghost is a spirit trapped between worlds, seeking to reveal the truth.

Polonius is the cunning chief advisor to the King.

Ophelia is Polonius's daughter, torn between love and loyalty.

This bold new production reimagines Hamlet with contemporary dialogue and retro-hip visuals, set against a haunting alternative music soundtrack. Audiences will experience the drama of Elsinore Castle like never before, where ghostly apparitions and chilling soundscapes blur the line between the living and the dead.

"This adaptation breathes fresh life into a classic story," said the Dixon Community Theater team. "It's Shakespeare for the modern age—accessible, thrilling, and unforgettable."

Don't miss this chance to be part of a groundbreaking theatrical event!

For more information, contact the director at [dixoncommunitytheater@gmail.com](mailto:dixoncommunitytheater@gmail.com) or call 707-903-8387. ★







**FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS**  
By Amy Shane  
BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📱 amy\_fortheloveofbooks

# House of Thorns

by Isabel Strychacz



◆ Publisher: Simon and Schuster  
◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult  
◆ Release Date: August 20, 2024

Lia Peartree feels like her life is defined by one moment. The moment her family fled from their ancestral home, Brier Hall. Lia's older sister went missing that night, as if she slipped between the walls, never to be heard from again. While her family fled that night, Lia felt like part of her still remained with Brier Hall. While it's been five years since that dreaded night, none of them can erase the trauma of what took place or losing Avery. Now, all Lia and her sister Ali can do is survive, but they aren't even doing that well. Ali hasn't found a bad idea that she won't say no to, and Lea is intent on being the perfect daughter, so perfect that she is losing herself in the meantime. But as the night of the five-year anniversary approaches, Lia quickly realizes she never truly left her home. Memoires of Brier Hall flood her mind, haunting her at every silent moment, and even worse, Lia sees her missing sister everywhere. Then she gets a phone call from Ali with words that haunt her to the core: "Don't follow me when I am gone,"

Fearful that Brier Hall was about to claim a second member of her family, Lia knew what she would have to do. But visiting Brier Hall meant more than just

revisiting old wounds. Lia would also have to confront the one person she left behind, Raff, her childhood friend and the only one who truly understood her. Now determined to uncover the truth and find her missing sisters, Lia will have to dive deeper than she ever has before. Deeper into her mind, heart, feelings, and Brier Hall. But will Lia be able to handle the haunting truth, or will Brier Hall claim another one as its own?

Hauntingly beautiful House of Thorns is a story that stays with its readers long past the last page. With echoes of Haunting of Hill House, Lia's story will wind through readers' hearts, making them part of Brier Hall's story as well. Isabel Strychacz delivers a powerful and provocative story, where she doesn't deliver the story or the ending on a silver platter but makes readers ponder the truth, and the motives fall longer than the last page.

While a story of a haunting and a house with a will of its own, House of Thorns also delves into the depths one must reach for healing and closure. This book is a perfect companion to the Netflix adaptation of The Haunting of Hill House, offering a moody read that's ideal for a dark, cold winter night. ★



# Riley Reviews

**ACTION THRILLER "CARRY-ON" ON FAMILIAR BUT EXCITING TURF**

**A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley**

**"CARRY-ON" ON NETFLIX**

With the holiday season now behind us, would debate over certain movies being called Christmas films result in a more dispassionate discussion? Argument has raged for some time about whether "Die Hard" is Yuletide entertainment.

Now we have Netflix's "Carry-On," similarly placed on Christmas Eve and involving redemption of the central character, to possibly raise, by comparison, the question about whether the Bruce Willis classic is holiday-centric entertainment.

The lead character in "Carry-On" is Taron Egerton's Ethan Kopek, a TSA agent at Los Angeles International Airport, who reports for duty on one of the busiest days for holiday travelers.

Reporting for work, Ethan must figure the spirit of the season might be a good time to ask for a promotion from his churlish superior, Phil Sarkowski (Dean Norris), only to get shot down from consideration.

His best friend at work, fellow TSA agent Jason (Sinqua Walls), points out to Ethan that he started the same job two months after him and has already had two promotions to his zero. In Jason's estimation, Ethan has been coasting on the job.

Ethan's live-in girlfriend Nora (Sofia Carson), pregnant with their first child, also works at the airport in a managerial position with fictional Northwind Airlines.

With fatherhood on the way, Ethan needs to step up his game. His aspiration to be a police officer has failed due to not getting beyond the entrance exam to the academy. Meanwhile, he hasn't shown much initiative to get on track for advancement in his current position.

Hoping to rectify his situation, Ethan pleads with his dubious boss for a more important assignment, such as working the security check-in to monitor bags as they pass through the X-ray machine instead of dwelling in the bowels of the terminal.

Getting his way to man the security station, his request to demonstrate fresh ambition will be something Ethan will soon regret when he gets targeted as second choice to look the other way when a certain piece of luggage gets scanned by a passenger wearing a red baseball cap.

Pulling the strings is a person only credited as the Traveler (Jason Bateman), who has done his homework on Ethan and his previous first choice to know their vulnerabilities related to their personal and professional lives.

For his part, Bateman is working against type; here he's truly an intimidating villain rather than showing his usual deadpan comedic delivery most evident in

a string of comedy films and the TV series "Arrested Development."

Bateman's Traveler, clad in dark clothes and black hat, exudes menace in his methodical approach to bullying Ethan to do his bidding. It all starts with an ear-piece Ethan is instructed by text to wear and follow every command lest Nora be killed.

What the Traveler tells the TSA agent is that all he needs to do is exactly nothing. Let the bag pass inspection through the machine without raising a red flag. He makes it all sound so simple.

But it's not that simple after all. The dilemma posed for Ethan in following through is that the love of his life will live, but hundreds more on an airplane will surely perish when the hidden device detonates mid-air.

Do you sacrifice the life of your partner if it means saving innocent lives? Under the watchful eye of the Traveler, how does Ethan resolve the dilemma when the anonymous criminal cohort (Theo Rossi) is an expert sniper who has Nora firmly within his sight?

Outside the airport, a subplot forms when Detective Elena Cole (Denielle Deadwyler) investigates a crime scene where there may be a link to what is transpiring with the terrorist plot unfolding at the airport.

Riding in a car with an FBI agent, the detective astutely figures out something wrong is afoot, and then the most spectacular action sequence occurs in the speeding sedan as Elena grapples with the driver while the careening vehicle smashes into various obstacles.

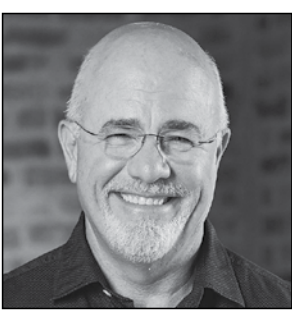
The subplot of a high-speed run on the freeway leads to the detective becoming part of an eventual denouement at the airport. We can sense that the plot will be averted, but getting there requires Ethan to outsmart the Traveler.

The challenge for Ethan is compounded by the knowledge that the Traveler is not bluffing for having already killed one of his TSA colleagues. Ethan has to become a hero, but how will he make it happen?

Director Jaume Collet-Serra has figured out how to deliver resolution while performing similar duties in the Liam Neeson films "The Commuter," "Run All Night," and "Non-Stop," the latter involving a terrorist plot on a transatlantic flight.

This film does not ask much from its audience other than to enjoy the thrill ride of a throwback to an era when movies like "Die Hard" flourished. For that matter, "Carry-On" runs in the same genre as several of the director's other films.

"Carry-On" is reliably entertaining despite its inherent predictability and the absence of plot logic when you start to think about what unfolds with a critical eye. ★



# Dave Ramsey Says

## The Game's Not for Everyone and The Safest Place?

Dear Dave,

I'm 38, and after looking and waiting for years, I think I've found a rental property scenario I like. My plan is to take \$30,000 out of my retirement account, and use it as a down payment on a property. My loan payment would be \$1,400 a month, but I could easily rent the place for \$1,800 a month. What are your thoughts?

– Colin

Dear Colin,

No offense, but I can tell you've never been a landlord before. Bringing in nearly \$1,800 a month, while paying out \$1,400 may seem like a nice place to be. But you've left one very important factor out of your equation—risk. Rental properties just sit there empty sometimes. And this happens to all rental properties. You'll also have repairs to contend with, renters who don't pay and other expenses. See what I'm saying? You won't be able to count

on an easy \$400 in your pocket every month.

Now, I love real estate. I understand the excitement and allure. But what you're really saying is you want to cash out part of your retirement, get hit with a penalty and take on debt, all to buy an investment property. This is not a good plan.

My advice is to save up, and pay cash for one small, decent rental property to see if the landlord game is really for you.

– Dave

**The Safest Place?**

Dear Dave,

Where is the best place to keep my savings?

– Angie

Dear Angie,

In my mind, when it comes to savings, the idea is to park the money in a safe place—like a money market account or basic savings account—and keep it separate from the rest of your cash, so you don't accidentally spend it on the wrong thing. I'm not really concerned

with making money in a savings scenario, so things like setting money aside for an emergency fund or vacations fall into this category.

Investing, on the other hand, is when you're going to leave the money alone for a bare minimum of five to 10 years in order to grow it. Things like college planning and retirement fall into this category. In these instances, I recommend good, growth-stock mutual funds that have stable track records of at least 10 years.

I hope this helps, Angie!

– 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.

CA 95687.
Benedict Restaurant Corporation,
1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville,
CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County:
December 18, 2024. The
Registrant commenced to trans-
act 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 pro-
vided 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.

vided 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 ficti-
tious 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.)

tious 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.)

professions code.)
Publish: January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
ROUND 1-31-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO
SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #CU24-09105
Jennifer Ann Munguia filed a peti-
tion with this court for a decree
changing names as follows: JAnn
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 peti-
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 peti-
tion should not be granted. If no writ-
ten objection is timely filed, the
court may grant the petition with-
out 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



Para más información sobre este aviso, por favor llame al número (707) 678-5928.
Notice of Public Forum (Public Participation Hearing) for California Water Service Company's Request to
Adjust Water Rates in their Dixon District for 2026-2028 (Application 24-07-003)
What is this, and how can I participate?
California Water Service Company (Cal Water) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) would
like to hear from you. You are invited to participate in a Public Forum, also called a Public Participation Hearing
(PPH), about Cal Water's 2024 Infrastructure Improvement Plan, also known as a General Rate Case (GRC),
application (A.24-07-003).
This Public Forum is part of a formal proceeding that will be documented and placed into the formal record so the
CPUC can make a decision about Cal Water's request. You can make comments and raise concerns to the CPUC
Administrative Law Judge overseeing this application. You can also provide written public comments at any time
during the proceeding at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/e/A2407003.
The Public Forums can be viewed online or listened to via phone with the information below. Your participation
by providing your thoughts on Cal Water's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.
Where and when will these Public Forums be held?
Date: January 23, 2025
Time: 1 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Location: Virtual
Toll-Free Phone Number: (800) 857-1917 Passcode: 6032788#
To make a public comment: Press \*1 to be added to the queue
Webcast link (View Only): www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc
Please note: If you need a language interpreter, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office using the
contact information at the end of this notice at least five business days before the Public Forums.
Why am I receiving this notice?
On July 8, 2024, California Water Service (Cal Water) filed its 2024 Infrastructure Improvement Plan, known as a
General Rate Case (GRC), Application (A.24-07-003) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).
As part of the application, Cal Water is requesting to increase rates to fund needed infrastructure improvements,
water system maintenance, water quality initiatives, safety measures, and business operations, as well as to adjust
for inflation. If the CPUC approves the application, forecasted costs will be recovered over a three-year period,
affecting your water bill no sooner than January 2026.
Why is Cal Water requesting this?
Cal Water is required to file an application with the CPUC every three years so that water rates accurately
reflect the cost of providing safe, clean, reliable tap water to customers.
This multi-year plan enables the utility to upgrade and modernize the water system through proactive
infrastructure improvements designed to keep water reliable for customers, prevent small problems from
getting bigger and more expensive to fix, increase sustainability, and provide high-quality service—both now
and in the future.
Some of the key projects Cal Water proposes in this cycle are: to replace approximately 3,135 feet of aging
water mains, add security enhancements to help protect the water system, and redesign system pressure for
reliability.
Cal Water is proposing to combine the rates of the Dixon and Livermore Districts into a new Diablo Ranch
Region to help improve affordability, take advantage of administrative efficiencies, and stabilize rates long-
term.
How could this affect my water bill?
With consolidation: If Cal Water's proposal for consolidation is approved by the CPUC as filed, beginning in
2026, the average residential bill in the Dixon District (with a 5/8"x3/4" meter and using 5,236 gallons, or 7 Ccf\*,
per month) would increase by approximately \$6.24, or 8.8%, per month. You may use more or less than the
average. These numbers do not include temporary surcharges and credits. More details, including proposed
changes for other meter sizes and usage tiers, are available at calwater.com/iip/resources. Over the course of the
review process, which could take 18 months or more, some projects may be deferred or costs adjusted. Final rates
approved may be lower than what was proposed.
\*1 Ccf = 748 gallons
Average Residential Customer Bill Increase With Consolidation
Customer Type Monthly Usage Current Bill Proposed 2026 Bill Change Proposed 2027 Bill Change Proposed 2028 Bill Change
Residential 7 Ccf (5,236 gallons) \$71.05 \$6.24 8.8% \$2.43 3.1% \$3.19 4.0%
Residential Enrolled in Customer Assistance Program 7 Ccf (5,236 gallons) \$45.63 \$4.85 10.6% \$1.86 3.7% \$2.23 4.3%
Without consolidation: If Cal Water's proposal for consolidation is not approved by the CPUC as filed, beginning in 2026,
the average residential bill in the Dixon District (with a 5/8"x3/4" meter and using 5,236 gallons, or 7 Ccf, per month) would
increase by approximately \$16.00, or 22.5%, per month. These numbers do not include temporary surcharges and credits.
Again, over the course of the 18-month review process, some projects may be deferred or costs adjusted. Final rates approved
may be lower than what was proposed.
Average Residential Customer Bill Increase Without Consolidation
Customer Type Monthly Usage Current Bill Proposed 2026 Bill Change Proposed 2027 Bill Change Proposed 2028 Bill Change
Residential 7 Ccf (5,236 gallons) \$71.05 \$16.00 22.5% \$6.56 7.5% \$7.54 8.1%
Residential Enrolled in Customer Assistance Program 7 Ccf (5,236 gallons) \$45.63 \$10.73 23.5% \$4.34 7.7% \$4.98 8.2%
How does the rest of this process work?
This application will be assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge, who will consider proposals and
evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed
decision that may adopt Cal Water's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an
alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed
and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.
Parties to the proceeding may review Cal Water's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an
independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for
service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information regarding the Public Advocates
Office, call (415) 703-1584, email PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov, or visit PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.
Where can I get more information?
Contact Cal Water:
Phone: (707) 678-5928
Email: InfoDIX@calwater.com
Mail: 1720 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95112
A copy of the application and any related documents may also be reviewed at calwater.com/iip.
Contact CPUC:
Please visit apps.cpuc.ca.gov/e/A2407003 to submit a comment about this proceeding on the CPUC Docket
Card. Here you can also view documents and other public comments related to this proceeding. Your participation
by providing your thoughts on Cal Water's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision. If you have
questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at:
Phone: (866) 849-8390
Email: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov
Mail: CPUC Public Advisor's Office
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
Please reference Cal Water's Application 24-07-003 in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding
this matter. CNSB # 3882968

Aviso de foro público (Audencia de participación pública) sobre la solicitud de California Water Service Company para
cambiar las tarifas de agua en el Distrito de Dixon para 2026-2028 (Aplicación 24-07-003)
¿Qué es esto y cómo puedo participar?
California Water Service Company (Cal Water) y la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de California (California Public Utilities
Commission, CPUC) desea oír sus comentarios. Se le invita a participar en un foro público o una Audiencia de participación
pública (PPH), sobre el Plan de mejoras de infraestructuras 2024 de Cal Water, también conocido como, caso de solicitud de
audiencia tarifaria (GRC), (A.24-07-003).
Este Foro público es parte de un procedimiento formal que se documentará y colocará en el registro formal para que la CPUC
pueda tomar una decisión sobre la solicitud de Cal Water. Puede hacer comentarios y plantear inquietudes al juez de derecho
administrativo de la CPUC que supervisa esta solicitud. También puede proporcionar comentarios públicos por escrito en
cualquier momento durante el procedimiento en apps.cpuc.ca.gov/e/A2407003.
Puede acceder a los Foros públicos en línea o escucharlos por teléfono con la información que se proporciona a continuación. Su
participación al dar a conocer sus ideas sobre la solicitud de Cal Water puede ayudar a la CPUC a tomar una decisión informada.
¿Dónde y cuándo se llevarán a cabo estos Foros públicos?
Fecha: enero 23, 2025
Hora: 1 p.m. y 6 p.m.
Lugar: Virtual
Número de teléfono gratuito: (800) 857-1917 Código de acceso: 6032788#
Para hacer un comentario público: Presione \*1 para ser añadido a la fila.
Enlace para la transmisión en línea (Solo Para Visualización):
www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc
Tenga en cuenta: Si necesita un intérprete de idioma, comuníquese con la Oficina del asesor público de CPUC utilizando la
información de contacto que se encuentra al final de este aviso, por lo menos cinco días hábiles antes de los Foros públicos.
¿Por qué recibo este aviso?
El 8 de julio de 2024, California Water Service (Cal Water) presentó ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de California
(CPUC) su Plan de Mejora de Infraestructuras para 2024, conocido como Solicitud de Audiencia Tarifaria General (GRC) (A.24-
07-003). Como parte de la solicitud, Cal Water pide el aumento de las tarifas para financiar ciertas mejoras necesarias en
infraestructura, el mantenimiento del sistema de agua, las iniciativas de calidad del agua, las medidas de seguridad y las
operaciones comerciales, y también para ajustar por la inflación. Si la CPUC aprueba la solicitud, los costos previstos se
recuperarán durante un período de tres años, lo que afectará su factura de agua no antes de enero de 2026.
¿Por qué Cal Water solicita esto?
Cal Water tiene la obligación de presentar una solicitud ante la CPUC cada tres años para que las tarifas del agua reflejen con
precisión el costo de proporcionar agua potable segura, limpia y confiable a los clientes.
Este plan plurianual permite a la empresa de servicios públicos mejorar y modernizar el sistema de agua a través de mejoras
proactivas en la infraestructura diseñadas para mantener la confiabilidad del agua para los clientes, evitar que los problemas
pequeños se hagan más grandes y más costosos de solucionar, aumentar la sostenibilidad, y proporcionar servicio de alta
calidad tanto ahora como en el futuro.
Algunos de los proyectos clave que Cal Water propone en este ciclo son: reemplazar aproximadamente 3,135 pies de tuberías
principales de agua antiguas, agregar mejoras de seguridad para ayudar a proteger el sistema de agua y rediseñar la presión
del sistema para brindar confiabilidad.
Cal Water propone combinar las tarifas de los distritos de Dixon y Livermore en una nueva región de Diablo Ranch para
ayudar a mejorar la asequibilidad, aprovechar las eficiencias administrativas y estabilizar las tarifas a largo plazo.
¿Cómo podría esto afectar mi factura de agua?
Con consolidación: Si la propuesta de consolidación de Cal Water recibe la aprobación de la CPUC como se presentó, a partir de
2026, la factura residencial promedio del distrito de Dixon (con un medidor de 5/8" x 3/4" y con un consumo de 5,236 galones, o
7 Ccf\*, al mes) aumentaría alrededor de \$6.24, o un 8.8%, al mes. Puede que consuma más o menos que la cantidad promedio.
Estos números no incluyen sobrecargos y créditos temporales. Puede encontrar más detalles, incluidos los cambios propuestos
para otros tamaños de medidores y tramos de consumo, en es.calwater.com/iip/resources. En el transcurso del proceso de
revisión, que podría durar 18 meses o más, es posible que algunos proyectos se aplacen o se ajusten los costos. Las tarifas finales
aprobadas pueden ser inferiores a las propuestas.
\*1 Ccf = 748 galones
Aumento en la factura promedio de los clientes residenciales con la consolidación
Tipo de cliente Consumo mensual Factura actual Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028 Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028 Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028
Residenciales 7 Ccf (5,236 galones) \$71.05 \$6.24 8.8% \$2.43 3.1% \$3.19 4.0%
Residenciales inscritos en el Programa de Atención al Cliente 7 Ccf (5,236 galones) \$45.63 \$4.85 10.6% \$1.86 3.7% \$2.23 4.3%
Sin consolidación: Si la CPUC no aprueba la propuesta de consolidación de la CPUC como se presentó, a partir de 2026, la
factura residencial promedio en el distrito de Dixon (con un medidor de 5/8" x 3/4" y con un consumo de 5,236 galones, o 7 Ccf,
al mes) aumentaría alrededor de \$16.00, o un 22.5%, al mes. Estos números no incluyen sobrecargos y créditos temporales. Una
vez más, en el transcurso del proceso de revisión de 18 meses, algunos proyectos pueden diferirse o ajustarse los costos. Las
tarifas finales aprobadas pueden ser inferiores a las propuestas.
Aumento en la factura promedio de los clientes residenciales sin la consolidación
Tipo de cliente Consumo mensual Factura actual Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028 Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028 Cambio de factura propuesto para 2028
Residenciales 7 Ccf (5,236 galones) \$71.05 \$16.00 22.5% \$6.56 7.5% \$7.54 8.1%
Residenciales inscritos en el Programa de Atención al Cliente 7 Ccf (5,236 galones) \$45.63 \$10.73 23.5% \$4.34 7.7% \$4.98 8.2%
¿Cómo funciona el resto de este proceso?
Esta solicitud se asignará a un juez de Ley Administrativa de la CPUC que considerará las propuestas y la evidencia presentada
durante el proceso de audiencia formal. El juez de Ley Administrativa propondrá una decisión que puede significar adoptar la
solicitud de Cal Water, modificarla o denegarla. Cualquiera de los comisionados de la CPUC podrá patrocinarse una decisión
alternativa con un resultado diferente. La decisión propuesta y toda decisión alternativa será analizada y sometida a votación por parte
de los comisionados de la CPUC en una reunión de votación de la CPUC.
Las partes del procedimiento podrán revisar la solicitud de Cal Water, entre ellas, la Oficina del Defensor Público, que es un
defensor del consumidor independiente dentro de la CPUC que representa a los clientes para obtener la tarifa de servicio más baja
posible conforme a niveles de servicio confiables y seguros. Para obtener más información sobre la Oficina del Defensor Público,
llame al (415) 703-1584, envíe un correo electrónico a PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov o visite
PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.
¿Dónde puedo obtener más información?
Contacto de Cal Water:
Teléfono: (707) 678-5928
Correo electrónico: InfoDIX@calwater.com
Postal: 1720 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95112
También puede acceder a una copia de la solicitud y a documentos relacionados en es.calwater.com/iip.
Contacto de la CPUC:
Vaya a apps.cpuc.ca.gov/e/A2407003 para enviar un comentario sobre este procedimiento en la tarjeta de expediente de la
CPUC. Aquí también puede ver documentos y otros comentarios públicos relacionados con este procedimiento. Su participación
al dar a conocer sus ideas sobre la solicitud de Cal Water puede ayudar a la CPUC a tomar una decisión informada. Si tiene
preguntas sobre los procesos de la CPUC, puede comunicarse con la Oficina del Asesor Público de la CPUC al siguiente contacto:
Teléfono: (866) 849-8390
Correo electrónico: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov
Postal: CPUC Public Advisor's Office
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
Haga referencia a la Solicitud de Cal Water 24-07-003 en toda comunicación que tenga con la CPUC en relación con este
asunto. CNSB # 3882971





# Hot Times for Winter Sports

Continued from page 1  
with no prior experience necessary, third- to 12th-grade boys and girls were able to learn the basics and have a great time. According to the organization's website, more rugby camps are on the way and regular

practices are in the scheduling process. For more information, visit soloyouthrugby.com or call Kelley Evans at 916-761-3467.

Until spring fully takes hold, the chill of winter will persist. For those looking for a new way

to stay active during the colder months, Winter Indoor Pickleball will be available every Saturday, from Jan. 4 to March 1. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., interested parties can visit John Knight Middle School, 455 E A St. and play on

any of the open courts for \$5 at the door. All ages are welcome but children under 14 should be accompanied by an adult. For more information, check out the City of Dixon Facebook page or email dixonrecreation@

cityofdixon.us. Basketball, wrestling, soccer and even dance are currently in season at the school level but for those who wish to try something new, these opportunities could become new hobbies. ★

# Local Classifieds

Advertise in your local community newspaper  
Call 916-773-1111

### Announcement

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

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**DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP.** 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 1-877-434-6852 (Cal-SCAN)

**GOT AN UNWANTED CAR???** DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-855-408-6546 (Cal-SCAN)

Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rápida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-855-408-7368 (24/7) (Cal-SCAN)

**We Support Our Military**

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### Autos Wanted

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-491-2884 today! (Cal-SCAN)

### Cellular Plans

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-Scan)

### Elder Care

GoGo. Live and age your way. Get help with rides, groceries, meals and more. Memberships start as low as \$1 per day. Available 24/7 nationwide. BBB Rated A+ Business. Call GoGo to get started. 1-855-476-0033 (Cal-SCAN)

### Financial

Struggling with debt? If you have over \$10,000 in debt we help you be debt free in as little as 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call Now: 1-877-435-4860 (Cal-SCAN)

### For Sale

V-8 (Cadillac Engine) in 1995 Oldsmobile Aurora. 64,000 original miles. Must take whole car. Transmission is no good. \$500 or best offer. Call 530-742-9144 and leave message. (TFN)

### Health/Wellness

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-888-256-9155 (Cal-SCAN)

JOIN FOR FREE - NO KITS OR QUOTES & FREE WEBSITE. CTFO (Changing The Future Outcome) Has the best CBD oil available. Products for health, beauty, weight or hair loss and even for your pets. Check out these products: canderson.mycfto.com (TFN)

### Insurance/Health

**DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-203-2677 www.dental50plus.com/calnews #6258 (Cal-SCAN)

### Home Remodel

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/29/24.) Call 1-833-985-4766 (Cal-SCAN)

### Home Warranty

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**RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, HANDYMAN, MANY FIELDS:** Irrigation (manual or automatic) installation or repair; cement, mow strips, masonry (walls & columns), retaining walls; fence installation (wood, vinyl, chain-link, iron); plumbing; mowing, edging, clean-up, hauling; pruning (all kinds of fruit or shade trees); tree removal, rock, bark or sod. Call Andy 530-701-8098. (TFN)

### Miscellaneous

**DID YOU KNOW** Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

### Home Repair

**WATER DAMAGE CLEAN-UP & RESTORATION:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-248-0815. Have zip code of service location ready when you call! (Cal-SCAN)

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### Miscellaneous

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(1/17/25)

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## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • SNOW DAY

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Larger-than-life
  - Capone's family
  - Wild swine
  - "You're not allowed," to a baby
  - Deal with it
  - Cunningly
  - Shower with affection
  - Allege
  - City in Belgium
  - "Snow Day exercise?"
  - Poet Pound
  - Ovine sign of the zodiac
  - Tasseled hat
  - All together (2 words)
  - Military College of South Carolina, with The
  - For every
  - a.k.a. association football
  - "All-day Snow Day garb?"
  - Delete
  - Crude fuel
  - Read-only disc
  - Good's counterpart
  - Popular flowering shrub
  - Female ancestor
  - Two heads are better than one, e.g.
  - Bering Strait state
  - Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
  - Light thick smoke
  - Fountain option
  - "No two are alike, sing.
  - Surround (2 words)
  - Tangerine plus grapefruit
  - "Like a river, with over
  - #51 Down, pl.
  - Heidi's "Magic Wooden Shoe"
  - Olufsen's partner
  - Sound of a bell
  - Not him
  - Surfer's stop
- DOWN**
- Odds' partners
  - Tubby little cubby
  - "He's Just Not That \_\_\_ You"
  - Of the same period
  - \*Popular Snow Day pastime
  - Some tournaments
  - Zugsptize, e.g.
  - \*Severe weather
  - Deed hearing
  - Algae, sing.
  - Marble bread
  - \_\_\_ Jack, English pirate
  - "As opposed to rain
  - Irregular
  - Type of conifer
  - Musketeers' swords
  - High-strung
  - Cerebellum location
  - Unit of life
  - Students' dwellings
  - \*Snow Day reading choice
  - Helping theorem
  - \*Like soft pi's
  - Intelligence org.
  - \*Slope fun
  - Shorter than California
  - Number of years

**CROSSWORD**

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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](http://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](http://www.dixonveterans.org/Legion).

**Anderson PTO** – Meets monthly at 7 p.m. at Anderson Elementary School, 415 East C St. Email [andersonroadrunnerspto@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:fivedages@sbcglobal.net) or president, James Fuller at 916-952-0167, [jamesfuller@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesfuller@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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.downtowndixonca.com), email [DDROAC@yahoo.com](mailto: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 4 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](http://www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org). Email [dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:pres.nsdc@gmail.com). Visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/northernolanodem/](http://www.facebook.com/northernolanodem/).

**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](mailto: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](http://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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# COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb



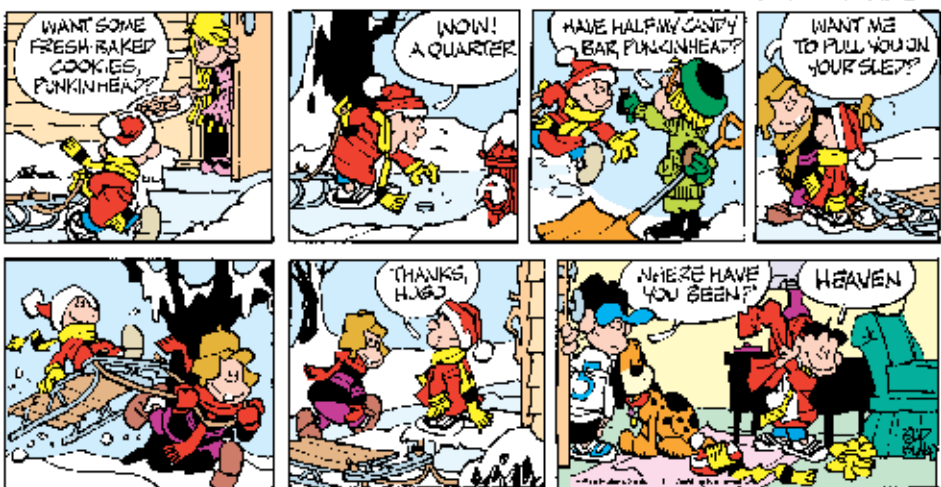
by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Tail is moved, 2. Window is different, 3. Fingers are not showing, 4. Ear is larger, 5. Blinds are added, 6. Laces are added to shoe.

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

CRIN and BEAR IT. Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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# Find First Cabbage White Butterfly, Win a Beer Pitcher

**Kathy Keatley Garvey,  
UC Davis Department  
of Entomology and  
Nematology**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MOG)** - Suds for a bug? A bug for some suds?

The annual "Beer for a Butterfly" contest, launched in 1972 by butterfly guru Art Shapiro, now a UC Davis distinguished professor emeritus, started on Jan. 1.

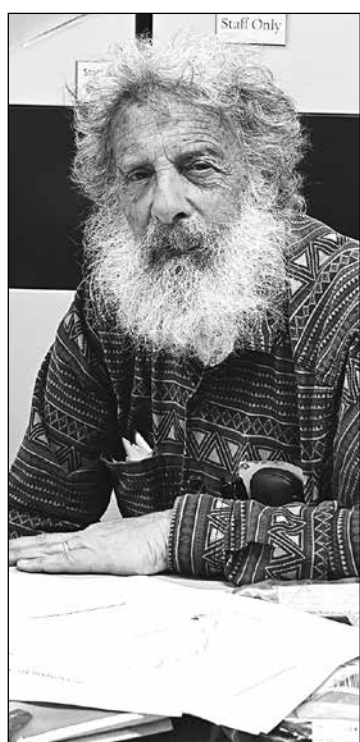
The first person to find the first live cabbage white butterfly, *Pieris rapae*, of the year in the three-county area of Sacramento, Yolo and Solano, and is declared the winner, will receive a pitcher of beer or its equivalent.

The contest's goal "is to get the earliest possible flight date for statistical purposes," said Shapiro, who has monitored butterfly populations in Central California since 1972 and maintains a research website at butterfly.ucdavis.edu. Shapiro's scientific research involves long-term studies of butterfly life cycles and climate change.

Assisting with the 2025 contest is the Bohart Museum of Entomology, directed by Professor Jason Bond, who is the Evert and Marion Schlinger Endowed Chair, University of California, Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology, and associate dean, UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

The 2025 contest rules stipulate that contestants must collect a live butterfly in the wild, video it and email the entry to the Bohart Museum at [bmuseum@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bmuseum@ucdavis.edu), listing the time, date and place. The insect must be an adult (no caterpillars or pupae) and must be captured outdoors, Shapiro said.

The professor also participates in the contest. In fact, Shapiro has been defeated only four times and those were by



**UC Davis distinguished emeritus professor Art Shapiro** Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey

UC Davis graduate students. Adam Porter won in 1983; Sherri Graves and Rick VanBuskirk each won in the late 1990s; and Jacob Montgomery won in 2016. The first three were his graduate students.

Shapiro won the 2024 contest, spotting a cabbage white at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 29 in West Sacramento, Yolo County, and saw the same one again at 11:40 a.m. He didn't capture it but recorded it in his notebook. No one else came forth to claim the prize.

The butterfly inhabits vacant lots, fields and gardens where its host plants, weedy mustards, grow. What does it look like? It's a white butterfly with black dots on the upperside (which might be faint or not visible in the early season). The male is white.

The female is often slightly buffy; the "underside of the hindwing and apex of the forewing may be distinctly yellow and normally have a gray cast," Shapiro said. "The black dots and apical spot on the upper side tend to be



**Cabbage white butterfly, *Pieris rapae*, was photographed in Vacaville.** Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey

faint or even to disappear really early in the season."

*P. rapae* is emerging earlier as the regional climate has warmed, Shapiro says.

"Since 1972, the first flight of the cabbage white butterfly has varied from Jan. 1 to Feb. 22, averaging about Jan. 20," said Shapiro.

In its caterpillar stage, *P. rapae* is a pest. (See [the UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program website](https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/Programs/Integrated_Pest_Management/Pest_Management_Program/Pages/Statewide-Integrated-Pest-Management-Program-Website.aspx).) Matthew Forister, the Foundation Professor, Trevor J. McMinn Endowed Research Professor in Biology at the University of Nevada, Reno, collaborates with Shapiro and annually creates a graph, using statistics from 1972 to the current year. Forister received his Ph.D. in ecology from University of California-Davis in 2004, studying with Shapiro.

In its larval stage, the cabbage white butterfly is a pest of cole crops, including cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli.

Most of the first-of-the-year butterflies were found in Yolo County, either in West Sacramento, University of California, Davis campus or nearby. The last winner from Solano County was near the Suisun Yacht Club, Suisun City, at 1:12 p.m. Jan. 25, 2019.

Recent Beer-for-a-Butterfly Contest statistics:

2024: Art Shapiro recorded the winner at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 29 in West Sacramento, Yolo County

2023: Shapiro recorded the winner at 11:22 a.m. Feb. 18 in West Sacramento.

2022: No official contest due to the COVID-19 pandemic but Shapiro recorded his first-of-the-year *P. rapae* at 1:25 p.m. Jan. 19 in West Sacramento

2021: No official contest due to the COVID-19 pandemic but Shapiro collected his first-of-the-year at 1:55 p.m. Jan. 16 on the UC Davis campus, Yolo County

2020: Shapiro recorded the winner in Winters, Yolo County at 11:16 a.m. Jan. 30 at the Putah

Creek Nature Park.

2019: Shapiro collected the winner near the Suisun Yacht Club, Suisun City, Solano County, at 1:12 p.m. Jan. 25.

2018: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento

2017: Jan. 19: Shapiro collected the winner on the UC Davis campus

2016: Jan. 16: Jacob Montgomery collected the winner in west Davis

2015: Jan. 26: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento

2014: Jan. 14: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento

2013: Jan. 21: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento

2012: Jan. 8: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento

2011: Jan. 31: Shapiro collected the winner in Suisun

2010: Jan. 27: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento. ★

# CHP Highlights New Laws for 2025

**California Highway Patrol  
News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)**

- As we head into the new year, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is highlighting the new public safety laws that were passed during this year's legislative session and signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom. Unless otherwise noted, the laws referenced below took effect on Jan. 1.

## **Combating Retail Theft**

Crimes: Organized Theft (SB 982, Wahab)

Senate Bill 982 makes the crime of organized retail theft permanent and strengthens measures to address retail crime. The bill eliminates the expiration date for specific provisions targeting organized retail theft, ensuring long-term tools for law enforcement to combat this issue.

Crimes: Fires (SB 1242, Min)

Senate Bill 1242 amends Penal Code Section 452 regarding the unlawful setting of fires. It updates penalties and legal language to clarify offenses, including circumstances involving organized retail theft.

Sentencing Enhancements: Sale, Exchange, Or Return of Stolen Property (SB 1416 Newman)

Senate Bill 1416 focuses on combating organized retail theft by increasing penalties for those involved in the resale of stolen goods, often referred to as "fencing." The bill, until January 1, 2030, creates sentencing enhancements for individuals who sell, exchange, or return stolen property for value, particularly when the property exceeds specific thresholds. Punishment increases from one year to four years based on a property value scale ranging from \$50,000 to over \$3 million.

Theft: Jurisdiction (AB 1779, Irwin)

Assembly Bill 1779 addresses

the issue of organized retail theft by streamlining the prosecution process. Specifically, it allows district attorneys to consolidate charges for theft offenses committed across multiple counties into a single trial, provided all affected county district attorneys agree.

Crimes: Organized Theft (AB 1802, Jones-Sawyer)

Assembly Bill 1802 ensures that the crime of organized retail theft remains permanently defined in state law and extends the CHP's Property Crimes Task Force indefinitely. This bill eliminates the "sunset" clause that would have allowed the statute and the task force to expire.

Regional Property Crimes Task Force (AB 1972, Alanis)

Assembly Bill 1972 expands the scope of the CHP's Regional Property Crimes Task Force to include cargo theft as a property crime for consideration and requires the task force to provide logistical and law enforcement support for railroad police.

This bill emphasizes cargo theft as a specific priority and aims to strengthen resources for law enforcement agencies to combat these issues. As an urgency statute, AB 1972 went into effect immediately upon its passage last August.

Crimes: Shoplifting (AB 2943, Zbur)

Assembly Bill 2943, also called the "California Retail Theft Reduction Act," strengthens measures to combat organized retail theft by creating a specific crime for serial retail theft, allowing the aggregation of property value for thefts committed within 90 days to qualify as grand theft. It empowers law enforcement to make arrests using video evidence or sworn statements, shields businesses from lawsuits for reporting crimes and promotes rehabilitation through diversion programs

for minor offenders. The bill aims to dismantle theft rings while balancing public safety and criminal justice reforms.

Crimes: Theft: Retail Theft Restraining Orders (AB 3209, Berman)

Assembly Bill 3209 creates a retail crime restraining order. A court can issue a restraining order when sentencing an individual for specific retail theft-related crimes, including vandalism of a retail store and assaulting a retail store employee.

## **Emergency Alert Information Sharing**

Electronic Toll Collection Systems: Information Sharing: Law Enforcement (AB 2645, Lackey)

Assembly Bill 2645 allows transportation agencies operating electronic toll collection systems to share real-time license plate data with law enforcement during active emergency alerts, such as AMBER, Ebony or Feather Alerts. This legislation eliminates the need for a search warrant in such situations, enabling quicker responses to locate suspect vehicles linked to emergencies, such as child abductions.

## **Tools to Address Reckless Driving and Sideshows**

Vehicles: Speed Contests (AB 1978, Sanchez)

Assembly Bill 1978 permits storing a vehicle when an individual is arrested but not taken into custody for obstructing or placing a barricade on a highway or off-street parking facility for purposes of aiding a speed contest or exhibition of speed.

Vehicles: Impoundment (AB 2186, Wallis)

Assembly Bill 2186 permits the arrest and custody of individuals engaged in an exhibition of speed in an off-street parking facility. It permits the impounding of the individual's vehicle for not more than 30 days.

Vehicles: Sideshows and

Street Takeovers (AB 2807, Villapudua)

Assembly Bill 2807 defines a "sideshow" and a "street takeover" as the same type of event.

Vehicles: Removal and Impoundment (AB 3085, Gipson)

Assembly Bill 3085 provides authority to seize and impound a vehicle with a warrant when the vehicle was used in violation of a speed contest or exhibition of speed (including aiding or abetting). This bill also permits electronic service of the notices of impoundment and storage hearings.

## **Electric Bicycle Safety**

Electric Bicycles, Powered Mobility Devices and Storage (SB 1271, Min)

Beginning Jan. 1, 2026, SB 1271 focuses on improving the safety standards for electric bicycles (e-bikes), powered mobility devices and related lithium-ion batteries. It requires these devices and their components, such as batteries and charging systems, to be tested by accredited laboratories to meet specific safety standards. The bill also mandates labeling these products to show compliance with safety regulations, ensuring consumers are informed. Furthermore, it prohibits distributing, selling or leasing e-bikes and related equipment unless they meet these standards, aiming to reduce risks such as fire hazards and electrical malfunctions. Beginning Jan. 1, 2028, the bill would prohibit a person from renting or offering for rental an electric bicycle, powered mobility device, charging system or storage battery unless it has been tested to the specified safety standard.

Vehicles: Electric Bicycles (AB 1774, Gipson)

Assembly Bill 1774 prohibits modifying an electric bicycle's

speed capability to an extent it no longer meets the definition of an electric bicycle.

## **Clean Air Vehicle Sticker Extension:**

Vehicles: High-Occupancy Vehicle Lanes (AB 2678, Wallis)

Assembly Bill 2678 permits vehicles with a Clean Air Vehicle decal to drive in High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes until Jan. 1, 2027, if federal law permits.

## **Autonomous Vehicles**

Vehicle Equipment: Driver Monitoring Defeat Devices (SB 1313, Ashby)

Senate Bill 1313 prohibits using, possessing or selling devices designed to interfere with driver monitoring systems in vehicles equipped with advanced driver assistance systems or autonomous technology. These systems monitor driver alertness and help ensure safety when automated features are used. Violating this law is classified as an infraction. Exceptions are provided for manufacturers testing new technology, vehicle repairs and updates compliant with safety standards or modifications for disability accommodations.

Autonomous Vehicles Interactions with First Responders and Traffic Violation Notices – AB 1777 (Ting)

Upon the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) adoption of necessary regulations, AB 1777 creates new authority for a law enforcement officer to issue a "notice of autonomous vehicle (AV) noncompliance" to an AV manufacturer for an alleged traffic violation committed by one of their vehicles. Beginning July 1, 2026, AB 1777 establishes additional requirements for how AVs that operate without a human operator in the vehicle interact with first responders, including a requirement for manufacturers to provide a two-way device in the vehicles to communicate with first responders. ★