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Dixon Independent Voice

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JANUARY 17, 2025

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Joystick Spreads Joy



A family enjoys a game of Super Mario 2 on a classic Nintendo Entertainment System from 1985. Joystick Gaming Lounge at 420 Gateway Drive offers a multitude of gaming options, including board games, PC games, arcade games and even retro gaming consoles.

Story by Kendall Brown, photos by Nicolas Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Joystick Gaming Lounge, a video arcade with a focus on family-friendly entertainment and community; officially opened its doors on Nov. 15 at 420 Gateway Drive. The business venture is owned by Dixon residents Jamie Myers and Jené Owens.

"We are both moms, teachers and long-time Dixon residents who love our community," Myers said. "We felt there was a real need for family-friendly entertainment in Dixon and the surrounding areas. We discussed all the things we liked and disliked about family



Jamie Myers and Jené Owens said that Dixon had a need for a clean, comfortable and family-friendly entertainment space. The co-owners are mothers, teachers and long-time Dixon residents.

entertainment centers we've experienced in the past and we were inspired to create a business plan that addressed these issues."

The burgeoning business offers a multitude of entertainment opportunities,

including a PC gaming space, rentable game rooms and tables for board games, and, of course, the arcade machines and game consoles.

"For myself, I love the retro feel of the arcade and

console games," Owens said. "There's nothing like the experience of 'core memory unlocked.' I also really love the party room. I love organizing a birthday the kids will always remember or a great private game set up where people can have a memorable time with friends and family."

As mothers, the duo wanted a calm, relaxing space to enjoy while their children played in the arcade, so they intentionally built a café space separate from the arcade area for parents and others to gather, connect and relax.

"We dislike dirty, smelly spaces so we're very intentional about cleaning not

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Handyperson Exemption Increases to \$1,000



Assembly Bill 2622, effective Jan. 1, allows an unlicensed person to complete small projects up to \$1,000 without obtaining a contractor's license. Photo courtesy Pixabay

Contractors State License Board News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A new law will raise the threshold for work requiring a contractor's license from \$500 to \$1,000.

Assembly Bill 2622 (Carrillo, Chapter 240, Statutes of 2024), effective Jan. 1, allows an unlicensed person to complete small projects up to \$1,000 without obtaining a contractor's license if they do not hire workers and no building permits are needed. If a consumer's project under \$1,000 requires workers or permits, a contractor's license in the appropriate license classification is required.

The new law states that a person who is not licensed can advertise for construction work if the total contract price for labor, materials and all other items on a project is less than \$1,000. The \$1,000 includes all costs associated with the project. The advertisement must state that the person is not licensed.

As with any home-improvement construction project, Contractors State License Board cautions that a down payment should not exceed 10 percent of the contract price and any subsequent payments should not exceed the value of the work completed or the materials delivered.

If an unlicensed person provides a bid greater than \$1,000, performs work requiring a permit or employs any workers, that person is subject to legal action. Penalties for unlicensed contracting include administrative fines of up to \$15,000, jail sentences of up to six months and fines up to \$5,000. Repeat offenders can face a mandatory 90-day jail sentence and a fine of \$5,000 or 20 percent of the contract price, whichever is greater.

Contractors State License Board operates under the Department of Consumer Affairs' umbrella and licenses and regulates about 285,000 contractors in California. ★

Nominations Wanted for 'Celebrate Dixon'

Dixon Chamber of Commerce News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Chamber of Commerce, 220 N. Jefferson St., is proud to present "Celebrate Dixon," where we will honor the 62nd Annual Citizen of the Year, the 29th Annual Business of the Year, the second annual Nonprofit of the Year, the Ambassador of the Year and the Veteran of the Year.

This year, we will also be honoring Educator of the Year, Police Officer of the Year and Firefighter of the Year.

The event takes place from 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday, March 8 at Denver Hall at the Dixon May Fairgrounds, located at 655 S. First St. Following the delicious dinner of tri-tip, chicken, potatoes and salads, the awards will be presented to deserving Dixon citizens, businesses, organizations and individuals who have made a significant impact on the quality of life in Dixon.

We are seeking nominations from the community for the Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year and Nonprofit of the Year.

It's easy to nominate - simply write a letter signed and dated. All nominations must be received at the

Chamber of Commerce office no later than noon on Thursday, Feb. 6. You can mail, email or drop off your nomination to the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 159, 220 N. Jefferson St., Dixon, CA 95620 or info@dixonchamber.org. Call 707-678-2650 with any questions.

Please review the information below and submit nominations by the deadline. For more information, call Shauna at 707-678-2650.

Citizen of the Year

Nominees must live in Dixon and have evidence of participation in all-around community activities and civic enterprise. There must also be evidence of a lasting contribution to community welfare and leadership ability. Cooperation with individuals and civic organizations, as well as unselfish devotion and contribution without thought to personal gain, will also be considered. Nominees cannot be prior Citizen of the Year winners, and their contributions and community activities must have taken place within the City of Dixon.

Letters of recommendation should be submitted, explaining why the nominee is worthy of this award. The nominee's past activities should be listed as completely as possible, as the award is based on an individual's

cumulative service to the community; the nominee's involvement with business, professional, civic, and/or religious committees and any offices held should be included.

The recipient of this award will be chosen based on the criteria above, not on the number of nominations received. Petitions will not be accepted. Nominees must be nominated by an individual.

The following information must be included for nomination consideration: nominee's name, address, phone number, spouse's name, years of residency in Dixon and occupation and the nominator's name, address and phone number; all letters submitted must be signed and dated. This award is traditionally a surprise to the recipient. Therefore, nominees should not be aware that their name has been submitted.

Business of the Year

The nominee business must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce and located in Dixon; the business must offer monetary giving or volunteerism in the community, outstanding customer service and must have involvement in Dixon community events. Nominees cannot be a Business of the Year winner from

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Joystick Spreads Joy

Dixon News Briefs

By MPG Staff

Dog Safety Guidelines

Dixon Library, 230 N. First St., is hosting a basic informational session on dog safety from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Jan. 17. Facilitated by officers from Solano County Animal Control, the event is open to all ages and will have a guest appearance from Aurora the dog. For more information, visit solanolibrary.com, or call 1-866-572-7587.

Solano County Farm Bureau Meeting

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

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

American Legion Dinner and Raffle

American Legion Post 208 is hosting its annual Hobo Beef Stew Dinner and Raffle at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 18. Held at Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St., there will be a no-host bar, with dinner served at 6 p.m. for \$15 per person. For more information, visit American Legion Post 208's Facebook page or call 707-592-0991.

Lunch Buch at Dawson's

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting another lunch bunch networking event from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 21. At Dawson's Bar and Grill, 105 N. First St., guests can expect a no-host lunch, plenty of new friends, and networking opportunities. For more information, visit dixonchamber.org, or call 707-678-2650.

Community Blood Drive

A Dixon Community Blood Drive is being held from 2 to 6 p.m. Jan. 27. Vitalant, the sponsor of the event, is having a "Thrive in '25" giveaway, in which those who donate blood sometime between Jan. 8 to 31 are eligible to potentially win a \$10,000 gift card. The Bloodmobile will be in town on Jan. 27, and walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. For more information, visit dixonchamber.org, or call 707-678-2650.

Swim Team Early Registration

Early Bird Registration is open for the Dixon Dolphin Swim Team. Returning swimmers have priority until Jan. 15 for \$215, then regular registration will begin, upping the price to \$350. Volunteer spots are also available for registration, but securing required volunteer hours is first come, first served. Practices are held Monday through Thursday evening during spring, but the official schedule will be posted soon. For more information, visit dixondolphinswimtopia.com, or email dixondolphinsinfo@gmail.com.

Senior Club Dues are Due

It is that time of year again. Senior Club membership dues are due every January and will remain \$10 per person if paid before Mar. 31. The Senior Club have several events coming up, including Bingo at noon, Jan. 27, Bunco at 10 a.m. Jan. 21 (for \$2 per person, and a senior health screening from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 23.



Solano County Animal Control, alongside Aurora the Dog, will educate guests of all ages on dog safety at the Dixon Library, 230 N. First St. Photo by Rali Garcia

All of these will be held at the Senior/Multi-use Center, 201 S. Fifth St. For more information, visit cityofdixonca.gov, or call 707-678-7022.

Polar Bear Run

Iron Steed Harley-Davidson, Northern California's premier motorcycle dealership, is hosting the 16th annual Polar Bear Run from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Jan. 25. The run, at \$20 per person, will see participants make three stops: Iron Steed Harley-Davidson (100 Auto Center Dr., Vacaville), Ruhstaller Farms (6686 Sievers Road) and Road Trip Bar and Grill (24989 CA-16, Capay). The First 50 entrants pre-registered will get the annual run shot glass and a patch commemorating the run; two tickets to Arizona Bike Week and \$800 in travel cash will also be raffled at the event for \$1 per ticket, or \$20 for 6 feet of ticket. For more information, visit the Iron Steed Harley-Davidson Facebook Page; to register, visit eventbrite.com.

Benefit Concert for Meals on Wheels Yolo County

Winters Theatre Company, 13 Main St., Winters, is hosting a benefit concert for Meals on Wheels Yolo County at 6 p.m. Jan. 25. Guests will enjoy an evening of free refreshments, provided by Meals on Wheels, and music by the Davis-based musician and recording artist Dave Nachmanoff, with the Usual Culprits. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available for purchase, and tickets go for \$30 if purchased in advance and \$35 if purchased at the door. This concert, sponsored by Sarah and Tom Pattison, will see all proceeds going to Meals on Wheels Yolo County. For more information, visit winterstheatre.org, or call 530-795-4014.

Good Character Youth Awards

Organized by the Fairfield-Suisun Rotary Club, and presented by NorthBay Health, the 10th Annual Good Character Youth Awards will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Feb. 5 at Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, 586 East Wigeon Way, Suisun City. Join community leaders, educators, parents and others to honor 25 high school students who have demonstrated truthfulness, fairness, kindness and helpfulness in their daily lives. This free, feel-good event will have snacks, refreshments and a keynote speaker. For more information, visit fsrotary.org, or email fsrotaryclub@gmail.com. ★



A family enjoys a game of Super Mario 2 on a classic Nintendo Entertainment System from 1985. Joystick Gaming Lounge at 420 Gateway Drive offers a multitude of gaming options, including board games, PC games, arcade games and even retro gaming consoles.

to the lounge, such as the sale of Pokémon cards and merchandise, special events such as Dungeons and Dragons sessions, New Year's Eve parties with group games and arcade and board game tournaments.

"We're excited to announce our grand opening event on Saturday, March 1 from noon to 11 p.m.," Myers said. "In addition to our regular arcade, board games and PC gaming, the community can expect food trucks, face painting, free console gaming, DnD activities, Pokémon battles, a photo booth and big free door prize giveaways that include a Nintendo switch

lite, birthday party package, two hours of board game time and two hours of PC gaming!"

According to Myers, she and Owens love their community and have a desire to bring residents together, offer some fun to brighten their day and go above and beyond to see a smile.

"I will add, one of my favorite aspects of this business is having the ability to bless someone when they least expect it and Joystick has presented a lot of those opportunities in the short time that we've been open" Owens said. "As Jamie said, we're excited for the future and more opportunities to bless our community." ★

Continued from page 1
only the restrooms and tables but the machines multiple times per day to prevent the spread of germs," Myers said. "We always appreciate a safe space for our tweens/teens to hang out and therefore have created an environment where parents feel comfortable dropping off their older children for a couple of hours."

For Owens and Myers, the greatest challenge initially faced was the time it took to find a facility and get approval from the city to build, open and operate.

"We're grateful for all the help we received," Myers said. "Since we've opened, our challenge is to keep prices as reasonable as possible but also ensure our profit is solid so we can continue to offer our community the best experience possible. One of Joystick's key values is the recognition that everyone deserves a little fun in their life - and in this economy, we want to offer that at a price anyone can afford. That includes board games with the family, PC gaming, arcade time and even birthday parties starting as low as \$100."

Since opening, Joystick Gaming Lounge has been introducing new elements

MEMORIAL

PATSY J. KNAPP • 03/02/1940 - 01/05/2025

Patsy was born to parents Raymond and Sylvia Christensen in Rapid City, SD on Mar 2, 1940. She and Charles Knapp married Nov 8, 1958. They spent 20 plus years in the U.S. Air Force. Patsy was an outstanding military wife,

mother to three children and always a very inspirational and wonderful person. On sept 1974, she and her family settled in Dixon, CA. On Nov 8, 2024, they celebrated 66 years of a very loving life. She will be sincerely missed. Patsy

is survived by one son, two daughters, 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Visitation will be held on Feb 4, 2025 (4 to 7pm) at Milton Carpenter Funeral Home in Dixon. Her funeral will be at 9:30 AM on Feb 5, 2025.



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\$25 Million Granted for Completing Parkway Overpass



Here is the proposed picture of an overhead parkway that the city has been working on to create safer access for pedestrians, bikers and residents who live near rail lines. Photo courtesy of the City of Dixon

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - "God is on our side," said Dixon City Manager Jim Lindley upon receiving the news from Congressman (CA-04) Mike Thompson's office of a \$25,221,639 Federal Railroad Administration grant for the long-awaited Parkway Boulevard Overpass.

That is also good news for hundreds of parents and their children who have been stuck in long lines of morning traffic while they drove to numerous schools on the east-side of town. Those schools are Neighborhood Christian School, John Knight Middle School, Valley of the Sacred Heart Catholic School, Anderson Elementary and Dixon High School.

"It will take at least one-third if not half of the traffic off First Street," said District 3 Council Representative Kevin Johnson.

"Six years ago, it was at the top of my list. Many people told us it would never happen. Jim Lindley called me and asked me, 'What is something big that you'd like to see happen' and honestly, I didn't even think of that. We've worked so hard on this and we've been carrying it on our backs for so long... People had lost trust in us. Now, they will have a little more trust that we're working for them."

District 1 Council Representative Jim Ernest shared the news via phone from Lindley's office.

"We owe a lot to (Congressman) Mike Thompson for this because he is the one that really pulled for us," Ernest said. "It has been so long and we've worked so hard, even prior councils."

Prior to serving in Congress, Thompson represented California's 2nd District in the California State Senate where he chaired the

Budget Committee.

It has been nearly two decades since the Parkway Boulevard rail safety overcrossing idea was conceived. The timeline that began in 2004 authorizing a preliminary design, environmental documentation and other procedures was projected to end in 2025, with the final construction completed.

Numerous steps had already been accomplished beginning in 2008, despite delays in 2016 due to Union Pacific Railroad changes in requirements that sent plans back to a starting point.

According to a 2022 engineering report, and in a Dixon Independent Voice newspaper article on March 13, 2024, city officials were committed in 2024 to seek federal and state funds for the project based on the community's multiple needs.

There was a significant basis for planning the overpass with the

main one being Dixon's growing population. One report showed that there would be an additional 1,600 homes with units for up to 5,000 residents by 2025.

Because Dixon had no existing grade-separating rail crossings, the city has a history of rail safety issues with Dixon recording fatalities over the past 10 years. In addition, there were serious safety issues with the 40 fast-speeding trains threatening residential areas by limiting restricted emergency access and evacuation routes to downtown.

Decreased fatalities, improved emergency response time and safe rail crossing for bikes and pedestrians are a few of the project benefits, according to a city report. The project will also close an existing at-grade crossing at Pitt School Road while supporting Capital Corridor improvements and future

high-speed rail lines.

To complete the project by 2023, an estimated \$34.5 million more was needed. At that time, the city committed \$6.3 million in Local Transportation Impact fees and \$3.8 million in Regional Transportation Impact fees, totaling \$9.8 million. That left a need for \$24.7 million.

City of Dixon senior civil engineer Brandon Rodriguez reported then that the financial figures had changed slightly but based on the current design, if awarded the grant, the construction cost shortfall was approximately \$25 million.

Final construction is planned to start this year.

"The Parkway Boulevard overcrossing will be a huge benefit to our community by increasing safety and helping to relieve traffic congestion," Councilman Johnson said. ★

Nominations Wanted for 'Celebrate Dixon'

Continued from page 1

the prior five years or nominate themselves. Nonprofit clubs and organizations are ineligible for this award.

Letters of recommendation should be submitted, explaining why the nominee is worthy of this award. The recipient of this award will be chosen based on the criteria above, not on the number of nominations received. Nominees must be nominated by an individual.

The following information must be included for nomination consideration: the nominated business's name, address, phone number and owner or manager, as well as the nominator's name, address and phone number; all letters submitted must be signed and dated. This award should be a surprise to the recipient. Therefore, nominees should not be aware that their business has been nominated.

Nonprofit of the Year

The nominee organization must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce; nonprofit organizations include service clubs, civic groups, churches, veterans' organizations, social service organizations, educational organizations, animal rescue organizations and cultural organizations.

Nominee nonprofits must be located in Dixon or provide key services in Dixon. Nominees should also have a positive impact in the Dixon community and/or to those that they serve, demonstrate outstanding dedication to their nonprofit mission and have involvement in community events and programs. Nominees cannot be a prior Nonprofit of the Year winner or nominate themselves; for more information as to which groups qualify, contact the Chamber at 707-678-2650 or info@dixonchamber.org.

Letters of recommendation should be submitted, explaining why the nominee is worthy of this award. The recipient of this award will be chosen based on the criteria above, not on the number of nominations received.

The following information must be included for nomination consideration: the nominated nonprofit's name, address, phone number, and director or president, as well as the nominator's name, address and phone number; all letters submitted must be signed and dated. This award should be a surprise to the recipient. Therefore, nominees should not be aware that their nonprofit has been nominated. ★



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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



A team in search of an identity. That's all we've heard from the pundits all year. The Kings don't have an identity. They can't figure out who they are.

A six-game losing streak and falling six games below 500 cost coach Mike Brown his job.

Monte McNair and Vivek Ranadive were roundly criticized and vociferously so from columnists and even talk show hosts from Kings radio station 1140 AM.

Even the hiring of Doug Christie was met with raised eyebrows as he leap frogged over other assistant coaches with more experience.

Winners of seven out of eight games since Christie took over, including an eye popping seven straight wins, has fans and pundits singing an entirely different tune.

Winning five straight home games was amazing to be sure, but we were all prepared for what the inevitable would be when the Kings entered the Boston Garden. World Champs from last year and playing some of the best basketball in the NBA, the Celtics take no prisoners on their home court.

All that the Kings did was hand Boston their worst defeat of the season and win by an overwhelming 17 points! Platitudes alone don't tell the story. This was the Sacramento Kings at their finest hour, playing frenetic and inspired defense that Sactown fans had been dreaming of. Oh, did I mention that Kings leading scorer and point guard DeAaron Fox sat this one out with a hip injury?

It's time to get on your feet Sacramento and put your hands together, because this unit of basketball players deserves a standing ovation.

Sunday, DeMar DeRozan went into Chicago with his teammates riding a 6-game winning streak, and the game was a see-saw event with a total of 28 lead changes. Zach LaVine looked as though he was a one-man wrecking crew, and regardless of who the Kings put on him, LaVine did pretty much what he wanted. Add to that an inspired game by Lonzo Ball and this contest had all the makings of a game where winning streaks die.

The Kings played a style of defense once again that we have rarely seen, and

at crunch time took care of the ball, all the while making timely baskets. DeRozan was there to remind his former teammates why he was a 6-time all-star, and his 21 points were crucial to the Kings victory.

Domantas Sabonis continued his torrid streak with another stellar game, scoring 22 and adding 15 huge boards. His eight assists were only eclipsed only by Malik Monk nine, but in this victory, everyone played a part.

Admittedly the Kings are on a roll, and this team is fun to watch.

So, what's changed? If you ask the players, they will say that since Doug Christie took over, they are playing loose and having fun. The results don't lie, but why couldn't former coach Mike Brown achieve the same results.

Part of the answer lies in his desire to experiment with his bench on a constant basis, to the point that no one knew from game-to-game whether they would get significant minutes or no playing time at all. This type of coaching smacks a player's confidence, and it showed in bench players and starters alike.

There is no question that being a former NBA player brings a different perspective to a basketball team, and Doug Christie has their attention in a very positive way.

At this point, fans are taking a completely different attitude, and after giving the Celtics their worst defeat of the season and being only one of two teams to hold the world champs to under 100 points, anything looks possible.

So, how has this affected the Kings and their organization? Well, it quells crazy trade rumors and puts Sacramento in a much better bargaining position as it relates to players that might bolster the front court and give Sabonis some support.

The desultory play of the past is just that, past. This team is bent on showing DeAaron Fox why being a King for life is the ticket to happiness, and nothing would make me happier than to see DeAaron Fox in a Kings uniform for the next 10 years!

Stay tuned Kings fans because this is just heating up, and the best is yet to come!

All be best!

Your thoughts are always welcome at vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com. ★

Social Security Matters

About Investing Social Security Money in the Stock Market



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: For most folks collecting Social Security, you get back what you put in within 3-5 years, so for those that scream - "SS is not an entitlement, it is my money" - that is not entirely accurate beyond 3-5 years. For me personally 4.4 years is the number. But had I been able to invest that money over the 43 years I worked at a modest 6% interest, I expect the amount would have been a lot more. And of course, the stock market averaged 9.5% over that time. Perhaps Social Security should invest in the stock market instead of U.S. Government treasury bonds. **Signed: Interested Observer**

Dear Observer: You bring up a point we frequently hear - that if, instead of paying into Social Security, I had invested the same money in the stock market I would have gotten more. That, of course, might be the case if you had the unwavering discipline to religiously invest the equivalent amount in the market, avoiding the temptation to use that

investment for any other reason. And life is full of good reasons - financial emergencies, for example, or the simple temptation to buy something desperately needed, or just occasionally skipping a month to pay bills. Also, the stock market is notoriously volatile, which can create substantial angst for investors who are faint of heart. The fact is that Social Security provides guaranteed financial growth from the age of eligibility (normally 62), up to age 70 when the maximum benefit is attained. Benefits claimed at one's full retirement age are about 24% - 32% more than if taken at age 62 (depending on full retirement age), and benefits taken at age 70 are about 75% more than benefits taken at age 62. And that is guaranteed growth for those with the patience to wait longer to claim.

You may recall that the idea of investing Social Security reserves in the stock market has been floated a few times in previous years, but accompanying risks made Congress essentially unwilling to even entertain the idea. It has always been a political "hot potato" and those who suggest it are usually castigated for wanting to "give SS money to Wall Street," so I expect it is unlikely to happen. Guess we'll need to be satisfied with the interest on those Special Issue Government Bonds (which, by the way, returned about

\$67 billion to the Social Security Trust Fund in 2023). FYI, average interest rate for new deposits to the Trust Fund in 2023 was 4.1%, and the overall effective rate of return on all Trust Fund assets was 2.4%.

Social Security has some issues and will face some financial difficulty in less than a decade unless Congress enacts program reform soon. But it is a program which most seniors rely on for a major part of their retirement income and one which keeps over 22 million Americans out of poverty. Here at the AMAC Foundation, we strongly advocate for sensible Social Security reform and we're very optimistic about the program's future. But Congress needs to act soon to avoid a cut to everyone's Social Security amount in about 2033.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★

Newsom and California Museum Induct 18th Class of California Hall of Fame

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On Dec. 19, Governor Gavin Newsom, First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom and the California Museum inducted the 18th class of the California Hall of Fame, consisting of trailblazers in athletics, civil rights, culinary arts, entertainment and more.

For the first time in the history of the California Hall of Fame, this class is entirely comprised of women in a meaningful recognition of women's achievements, which have historically been underrepresented in California's history. The posthumous class was inducted on Thursday, Dec. 19 in a virtual ceremony.

The California Hall of Fame 18th Class inductees are Julia Child, a cook, author, television personality; Ina Donna Coolbrith, California's first poet laureate; Vicki Manalo Draves, an Olympic gold medalist; Mitsuye Endo, a civil rights activist; Dian Fossey, a primatologist, gorilla conservationist; Alice Piper, a civil rights hero; and Tina Turner, a singer and performer.

"We are very proud to induct the California Hall of Fame's 18th class. This all-female cohort consists of powerful women who remain beloved cultural icons and civil rights luminaries today, truly embodying the California spirit," said

Governor Gavin Newsom.

"We are thrilled to announce the induction of the first all-women class of honorees into the California Hall of Fame. These trailblazing women have shattered barriers, challenged societal norms, and driven progress that has transformed California and the world. By celebrating their extraordinary and lasting accomplishments, we are moving closer to truly honoring the rich diversity that defines our great state," said First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom.

"The California Museum is honored to be the home of the California Hall of Fame, celebrating remarkable individuals who have shaped our state and nation," said Anne Marie Petrie, Chair of the California Museum Board of Trustees. "The 18th class highlights the inspirational achievements of women who overcame obstacles, making indelible contributions to our culture and influencing the path of history. We are proud to play a part in recognizing their enduring legacies."

Launched in 2006, the California Hall of Fame honors history-making Californians who embody the state's spirit of innovation and have changed the state, the nation, and the world. Inductees are selected annually by the Governor and First Partner for achievements in arts, business and labor, entertainment, food and wine, literature, music, public service, science and sports. ★

Los Angeles County Wildfires Underscore California's Growing Threat of Disaster



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Hollywood thrives on depictions of desperate battles against overwhelming forces of destruction.

A real life version, the equal of any cinematic disaster film, is raging today. Wildfires, driven by fierce Santa Ana winds blowing off the desert, are sweeping through Los Angeles County neighborhoods, most prominently and destructively in Pacific Palisades, home to many film industry stars.

Thousands of residents have fled as thousands of acres of lavish, multimillion-dollar homes and lush foliage have been scorched, with at least five deaths reported so far.

As of noon, the fires were uncontrolled and firefighters were reporting that many water hydrants were unusable due to a shortage of water.

"We woke up to a dark cloud over all of Los Angeles, but it is darkest for those who are most intimately impacted by these fires," said LA County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath.

No one knows how far the fires will reach before being controlled. Movies come to a climactic end, but the outcome of this catastrophe is as dark as the Southland skies.

Just a few days earlier, Gov. Gavin Newsom released a very upbeat video looking back at 2024 in California.

But today he was on scene in Southern California, praising outgoing President Joe Biden for immediately offering aid with "no politics, no handwringing."

However, Biden's successor, Donald Trump, who will take office in less than a fortnight, didn't sympathize with California. Instead, he issued another blast at Newsom, one of his fiercest critics and a potential 2028 presidential candidate.

"Governor Gavin Newsom refused to sign the water restoration declaration put before him that would have allowed millions of gallons of water, from excess rain and snow melt from the north to flow daily into many parts of California, including the areas that are currently burning in a virtually apocalyptic way," Trump posted on his Truth Social website, mentioning a declaration that apparently doesn't exist. "He wanted to protect an essentially worthless fish called a smelt, by giving it less water (it didn't work), but didn't care about the people of California."

Will a President Trump be as generous with firefighting and reconstruction aid as Biden? He was quite helpful - and drew praise from Newsom - when the Camp Fire destroyed the town of Paradise in 2018. But that was before Newsom began building a national political image as a harsh critic.

Politics aside, Southern California's disaster again demonstrates that while wildfires were once mostly confined to rural timbered areas during summer and fall months, a warming climate means they can and do strike anywhere and anytime, including residential

neighborhoods in the middle of winter.

While Northern California has experienced strong winter rain and snow storms of late, Southern California has been bone dry, making it extremely vulnerable when Santa Ana winds stream from the region's deserts during winter months. Local authorities had warned that the lack of rain and the onset of Santa Anas posed a particularly high threat of disaster and their nightmares became reality.

There is one more aspect of the catastrophe that will be persist long after the fires are extinguished - whenever that happens.

Fire insurance payouts will be particularly heavy due to the value of the homes being consumed, bolstering the insurance industry's growing unwillingness to write policies in California under the current regulatory system. Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara, with support from Newsom, has proposed a major overhaul that would allow insurers to include projections of future losses and the cost of reinsurance in their premiums if they agree to continue writing policies in fire-prone areas.

If implemented, the new regulations would very likely lead to premium increases, which draws the ire of some consumer activists. But having such insurance is not optional in the real world, and without it, the residential real estate market could be doomed.

Dan Walters is one of most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and demographic trends. ★

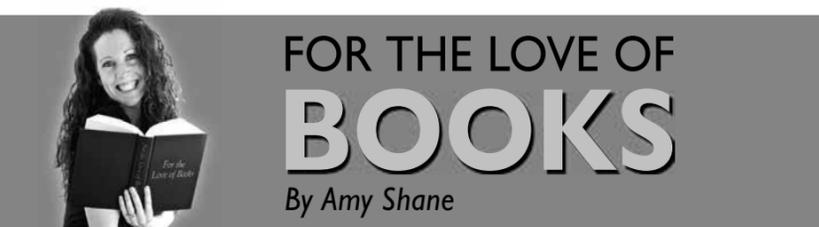


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BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • @amy_fortheloveofbooks

Taking a moment to interview Lindsay Currie author of over eight middle grade books and the recent NYT bestseller –

The Mystery of Locked Rooms

Lindsay thank you for taking the time to talk with us, you please tell us a little bit about the genre of books you write and why The Mystery of Locked Rooms is a little different?

LC: Hello! Thank you for hosting me! I'm a huge fan of mysteries. Growing up, I imagined being just like Nancy Drew and I'm pretty sure I carried a flashlight around our house for a while, just in case the power went out and I needed to investigate. So not surprisingly, most of the books I've written are mysteries with a paranormal edge, and many of them include bits and pieces of real history related to the setting. But with *The Mystery of Locked Rooms*, I went a different direction. Yes, there is still a mystery at its heart, but the story itself is much more adventurous and less ghostly. I wanted to recreate the vibe of 80's adventure stories I loved like *The Goonies*, and find a way to incorporate my love of puzzles, riddles, and escape rooms!

The *Mystery of Locked Rooms* was selected as the Barnes and Noble Young Reader Pick for January, could you tell us a little bit about TMOLR, and the main characters Sarah, West, and Hannah?

LC: Yes! What an honor that has been! *The Mystery of Locked Rooms* features three best friends, who, despite their different personalities, happen to work very well as a team. So well, actually, that they call themselves the Deltas and there isn't an escape room they haven't conquered. Sarah is obsessed with odds and probabilities, so she is the unofficial decision maker of the team. West has an incredible memory, so he's handy when it comes



Lindsay Currie author of over eight middle grade books and the recent NYT bestseller – *The Mystery of Locked Rooms* Courtesy Photo

to patterns, routes, and other challenges that require memorization. And Hannah is fearless! She's always the first volunteer for anything that seems risky, and her energy is contagious

Would you share some of the inspiration behind writing TMOLR?

LC: This is something I love talking about because it ties in so well to my advice for young or aspiring writers. I'm always saying that I know writing can be hard. It can be scary to share your words with others, and in that vein, it can

be very scary as an established author, to try something new. But trying new things can be good, and as someone who writes things I wish I'd been able to read as a kid, I never want to let my fear of failure stop me from trying. So, when the idea for a non-spooky mystery that featured escape rooms popped into my head, I didn't hold back. I wrote the story my heart was telling me to write and I'm so glad I did.

Being a Barnes and Noble pick is a tremendous honor -What is next?

LC: Wow. Yes, this has been the honor of a lifetime. Besides soaking up all the joy from this experience, I'm also focusing on the two books I have releasing in 2025. Up next is a book called *It's Watching*, releasing February 4th from Delacorte Press. And then in October, book two in the *Delta Games* series - *The House with No Keys*, is coming! Yes! More of Sarah, West, and Hannah, and even bigger, harder escape rooms to tackle.

For more about Lindsay's books as well as the next adventures of Sarah, West and Hannah head to www.lindsaycurrie.com. Long live the Deltas! ★



Dave Ramsey Says Honor Your Obligations

of situations.

You know, lots of times when people say they can't afford something, what they're really saying is they don't want to give up fun stuff in order to honor their obligations. If that's the case, I'm not the guy you need to be talking to or want on your team. You accepted the responsibilities that came with borrowing money. That means if you don't get to eat in restaurants, go on vacation or buy cool new gadgets until you repay the debt, that that's how it is.

However, if you're already living on a crazy-tight, rice and beans budget, and \$20 is literally all you can squeeze out, then give them \$20 a month. That way, at the very least, you're trying to honor your obligation. And you can tell them with a clean conscience it really is all you can afford.

But there's a bright spot in all this. If you're

already scrimping and saving and paying all the money you have—first toward running your household, then secondly to your creditors—you'll find an amazing thing starts to happen. Your dollars start to stretch a little bit further. This will help you clean up your student loan mess and enable you to have a little better life in the process. Good luck, Sydney. You can do this!

– Dave

Dave Ramsey is a national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions. ★



Riley Reviews

”SAINTS AND SINNERS” ACTION DRAMA; CRIME SHOWS ON A&E NETWORK

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“IN THE LAND OF SAINTS AND SINNERS” Rated R

Released in theaters last year with little notice, “In the Land of Saints and Sinners,” now on Amazon Prime, is a Liam Neeson film that fits into the canon of his late-career action pictures, albeit with a variance from such fare as “Taken” and “The Commuter.”

Set in the 1970s Northern Ireland during the times of The Troubles (conflict driven by nationalist and sectarian divisions), the violence of the time centered on bombings mostly in major urban areas.

Here, Liam Neeson’s Finbar Murphy is an aging hitman seeking the quiet life in a sleepy Irish coastal village when he’s pulled out of retirement for one last job for underworld boss Robert McQue (Colm Meaney).

Finbar may be an amoral hired killer but he’s developing a conscience, spurred somewhat by the conversation of his last victim forced to dig his own grave who suggests that the assassin should consider a different path in life.

The film opens with IRA firebrand Doireann McCann (Kerry Condon) and her cohorts planting a bomb in Belfast that results in the death of innocent children. The terrorist leader and her gang decide to go on the lam in the same little village that Finbar calls home.

The small town is picked because Doireann’s sister lives there in a trailer with her young daughter. The child ends up being abused by IRA member Curtis (Desmond Eastwood), and Finbar takes great offense to this maltreatment of the little girl.

As you can guess, Finbar won’t be reporting the offender to the authorities. His moral compass dictates what you can expect, if you’re aware of Neeson’s method of delivering vigilante justice.

Taking up gardening with the help of his neighbor, Finbar likes to spend time at the local pub and often meets up with friend Vincent O’Shea (Ciaran Hinds), a member of the local constabulary seemingly unaware of Finbar’s profession.

It turns out that Doireann is quite perturbed that harm comes for her cohort. She’s intensely fierce and determined to exact revenge, inevitably leading to a collision course with Finbar, who reverts to his past ways even without compensation.

While resorting to an expectedly climatic violent showdown at the local pub, “In the Land of Saints and Sinners” is more about human drama than action-packed thrills, and this leads to a fascinating story.

CRIME SHOWS ON A&E NETWORK

The A&E Network, like other cable channels, has its own share of crime series.



New Year Marks Start of New Laws and Regulations

The start of another year has brought with it new laws and regulations that affect agricultural production in California. As of Jan. 1, new policies related to water, labor, air quality, endangered species and other issues that impact farmers have taken effect.

Leopold Conservation Award Finalists Show Personalized Approaches to Conservation

For 166 years, the Bowles and Lawrence families have nurtured the land and ecosystem of Bowles Farming Co. in Los Banos. Bowles Farming Co.’s sustainability efforts earned it the 2024 Leopold Conservation Award, which honors farmers and ranchers who practice outstanding environmental stewardship. The company’s wide reach includes 640 acres of natural wetlands, providing an ideal forage habitat for native pollinators and migratory birds.

The new year brings original series that delve into various facets of law enforcement, enhancing its lineup of crime and investigative programming.

Kicking of the slate is “Homicide Squad New Orleans,” which is produced in part by Dick Wolf’s company, whose prodigious amount of crime shows includes the “Law & Order” franchise and “Chicago P.D.”

To safeguard their streets, the New Orleans Police Department boasts a dedicated team of homicide detectives, many of whom are natives of the legendary city known for its “laissez les bon temps rouler” attitude.

“Homicide Squad New Orleans” chronicles the harrowing work of this committed group of men and women united against the odds to protect their city and home.

In each one-hour episode, the team will be faced with a new case and tasked with putting together the evidence to catch the perpetrator and find answers for the victims’ loved ones.

“Fugitive Hunters Mexico” brings viewers along as an elite Mexican task force pursues American fugitives hiding south of the border. Every year, hundreds of wanted Americans flee to Mexico to evade justice, thinking once they’ve crossed the border, they’re home free.

What these fugitives don’t realize is that there’s an elite Mexican police unit whose sole mission is to catch them. In this groundbreaking new series, viewers follow this undercover unit as they investigate, track, and capture outlaws.

With intel from American and Mexican authorities, this exclusive task force apprehends the runaways hiding out in Mexico to hand them over to law enforcement in the United States to face justice.

The summer season at Missouri’s Lake of the Ozarks is fertile grounds for a tourist invasion. The other nine months of the year are a peaceful home to just a few thousand residents.

“Ozark Law” follows two small police departments working to maintain order during the height of the tourist season, when millions flock to the area, seeking fun on the water and vibrant nightlife in the bars. This surge puts extra pressure on local law enforcement.

Narrated by actor Keith David, “Cold Case Files: Murder in the Bayou” features stories that the swamp threatened to swallow forever, but detectives managed to drag out into the light. No sin stays secret endlessly, no matter how deep in the muck it’s buried.

One episode, “The Devil in Hammond,” tells the story of a young mother found murdered in her car. Detectives in the small Louisiana town turn over every rock in search of her killer; her case languishes for more than 30 years before justice is finally served. ★

Photo Contest Winners Capture the Magic of Agriculture

Photographers who submitted their images to the 43rd annual California Farm Bureau Photo Contest captured inspiring moments last year on California farms, such as the birth of a calf, the beauty of almond bloom and the dedication of an overnight harvest crew. Rachel Ramey of Kern County took first place for her photo of a newborn calf at Adamscows Dairy in Laton.

Field Report Offers Insight on California Chestnut Crop

Stanislaus County chestnut farmer Joe Avila told Ag Alert earlier this month about the chestnut crop he harvested in the fall. “The crop was a little bit light,” Avila said. “We had a hot summer. The beginning of October was so hot in Modesto that it dried a lot of the chestnuts on the tree. When we picked them up mechanically, we were cracking a lot of them because they were so dry.” ★

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SCOE Offering Mini Grants for Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Prevention Projects

Solano County Office of Education News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is excited to announce the launch of a new mini-grant program aimed at empowering teachers and youth programs to lead impactful prevention projects that address alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) misuse.

These mini-grants, available in amounts up to \$500 per project, are designed to support

creative, student-driven initiatives that build awareness and offer prevention strategies within Solano County communities. Solano County Office of Education is accepting grant applications through January, or until all available funds have been allocated. Educators and youth leaders are encouraged to apply soon.

ATOD projects may focus on peer education, community outreach, and advocacy, allowing students to take an active role in creating positive

change. Eligible project ideas include, but are not limited to, prevention-themed public service announcements, youth-led presentations, awareness campaigns, art and media projects, and other innovative efforts to combat ATOD misuse and promote wellness among peers.

“Student-led prevention work not only empowers young people to make healthier choices, it also fosters a culture of leadership, and community responsibility,” said Solano Superintendent of Schools

Lisette Estrella-Henderson. “Through these mini grants, we aim to support educators and youth leaders in engaging students in creating healthy change in their schools and communities.”

For more information on the application process and eligibility criteria, please visit our webpage at <https://www.solanocoe.net> or contact Johanna Nowak-Palmer at (707) 646-7608 or jnowak@solanocoe.net.

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides

leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 60,000 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools, Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state. ★

California's Tax Filing Season Begins SMF Secures Loan for Growth



The California Franchise Tax Board kicked off the 2025 tax filing season on Jan. 7. Photo by Pixabay

Franchise Tax Board News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The California Franchise Tax Board (FTB) kicked off the 2025 tax filing season on Jan. 7 by providing taxpayers with vital information regarding cash-back tax credits, disaster loss relief, and the advantages of filing and making payments electronically. Taxpayers must pay any taxes owed by April 15 to avoid penalties.

“I encourage all California taxpayers to file their taxes early to take advantage of valuable tax credits that can provide essential financial resources to themselves and their families,” said State Controller and FTB Chair Malia M. Cohen. “I also invite Californians to make the most of FTB’s online services, including e-filing and selecting

direct deposit to a bank account, which can significantly expedite their refunds.”

E-file for faster and secure refunds. File your taxes for free using the IRS Direct File and the Franchise Tax Board’s CalFile. CalFile allows most Californians to e-file their state tax returns quickly, easily and for free. Eligible Californians can file their federal taxes online using Direct File and then they will be directed to CalFile to complete their state return. Direct File provides a simple way to file federal tax returns securely and accurately.

For information about Direct File eligibility, visit www.directfile.irs.gov.

Find your answers online. Taxpayers are encouraged to use Franchise Tax Board’s 24/7 online self-service options to avoid potentially long delays when

file and viewing processing and wait times.

In California, taxpayers can access free tax assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. To find a list of free tax assistance program locations, visit ftb.ca.gov/vita. For additional free tax filing options, visit ftb.ca.gov/efile.

Taxpayers should be vigilant against scams and take steps to protect themselves. Scammers often impersonate the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or Franchise Tax Board employees to trick taxpayers into sending money or providing personal information, which they can use to file fraudulent returns and steal refunds. If you receive a suspicious letter from the Franchise Tax Board or the IRS, contact the Franchise Tax Board at 800-852-5711 or the IRS at 800-829-1040. ★



Colin Bettis, County Debt Officer; Phil Serna, County Supervisor; and Chris Wimsatt, Assistant Director of Airports sign loan documents Jan. 7 in Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County Department of Airports

Sacramento County Department of Airports News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Build America Bureau has officially executed a Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan with Sacramento International Airport (SMF), marking the first time funding for an airport project has been secured under the program. The loan will provide critical financing for the new pedestrian walkway, offering significant cost savings and supporting long-term infrastructure improvements.

“We are grateful to our elected officials for assisting us in securing this loan on multiple fronts,” said Cindy Nichol, Sacramento County’s Director of Airports.

Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA, District 6) and Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA, District 7) supported the pursuit of this loan. Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA, District 8) championed the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act’s expansion to airport projects. The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors was instrumental in the effort to achieve this financing.

The Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act is a federal program offering low-interest loans to large-scale infrastructure projects historically focused on surface transportation. Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, signed by President Biden in 2021, Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act eligibility was expanded to

include airport projects.

The Build America Bureau, as part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, offers expertise and guidance to access federal funding for qualified infrastructure projects.

“Being the first airport to close a TIFIA loan offers an incredible opportunity to improve infrastructure while keeping costs low for our airport and community,” said Nichol. “The combination of our rural qualification and TIFIA’s flexible terms made pursuing this financing a clear choice.”

Sacramento International Airport will benefit from the program’s flexible terms, including low fixed interest rates, deferred repayments, and up to a 35-year repayment period. The \$36.1 million Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan is projected to save SMF more than \$15 million compared to traditional financing methods.

“The Pedestrian Walkway is part of the \$1.3-billion SMForward capital campaign to modernize and enhance infrastructure,” said Chris Wimsatt, Assistant Director of Airports for Sacramento County. “Ensuring SMF’s ability to meet the needs of the traveling public today and in the future. The TIFIA program offers an innovative financing solution that allows us to modernize our facilities while keeping costs low.”

Following the loan’s execution, Sacramento International Airport intends to pursue additional Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act financing for future projects. ★

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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.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 04/01/2012
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BENEDICT 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001890
The following persons are doing business as: Burger King #18871, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 08/22/2012
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK18871 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001892
The following persons are doing business as: Burger King #21657, 171 Crocker Drive, Vacaville, CA 95688.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 04/01/2012
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Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK5723 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001893
The following persons are doing business as: Old Time Lawn and Pool Service, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: December 18, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 12/28/2015
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration December 18, 2029. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
BK21657 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000001
The following persons are doing business as: Round Table Pizza #1294, 825 N Adams Street, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: January 2, 2025. The Registrant

commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 1, 2030. 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.)
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- ALCS counterpart
- Winter Olympics participant
- IX minus II
- Drum roll sound
- Front of building, pl.
- Get it wrong
- Upholstery choice
- Reflect deeply
- Raccoon's cousin
- "____ the fields we go"
- Binary digits code
- Capital on a ford
- Isaac of science fiction fame
- Consumed
- Within shortest distance
- *100-year-old Grammy Award nominee
- Beer faucet
- Corpulent
- Self-satisfied
- *2025 Grammy nominated former band, with The
- Twist and distort
- Bank's provision
- Flock's response
- Ranee's wrap
- Elvers
- *2003 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient ____ Puenta
- Like some wines
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- Formerly, formerly

DOWN

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- Discarded cards in cribbage
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- Enclose in a cyst
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- Motion Picture Association of America, e.g.
- Certain tray content
- *Former multiple time Grammy host Andy ____
- Related to ear
- RPMS
- Before, in verse
- Predatory fish
- Gin's partner
- Giraffe's striped-leg cousin
- *1995 "Have I Told You Lately That I Love You" winner ____ Morrison
- Scout's mission
- What phoenix did
- ____-la
- Non-negotiable
- Old European coin
- Last 8 in college basketball
- More than sly
- *Nominated artist Post Malone's actual last name
- Hula dancer's necklace
- *Taylor Swift's "The ____ Poets Department"
- Nautical "Stop!"
- Nile viper
- *Grammy winners Frank and Billy
- Top scout
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Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

Regular Meetings:

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

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

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

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

Bids For Kids – Is a volunteer organization created to promote and foster youth participation in agriculture. Anyone interested in this endeavor is welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meeting. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact secretary, Lisa Dage at 707-246-5623, fivedages@sbcglobal.net or president, James Fuller at 916-952-0167, 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 for more information. Check us out on the web: <http://www.troop152dixon.com>.

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

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

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

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

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

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth

Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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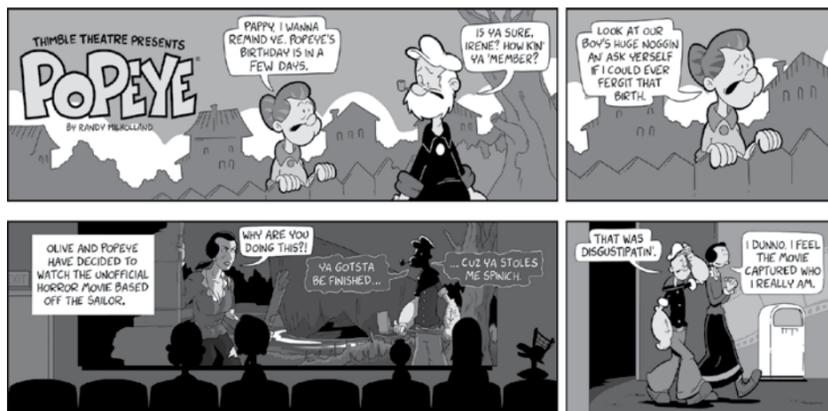
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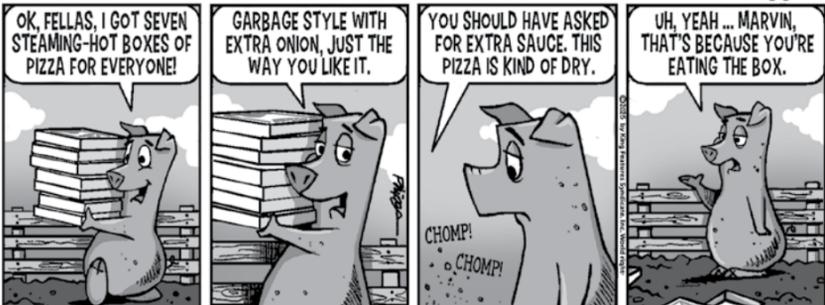
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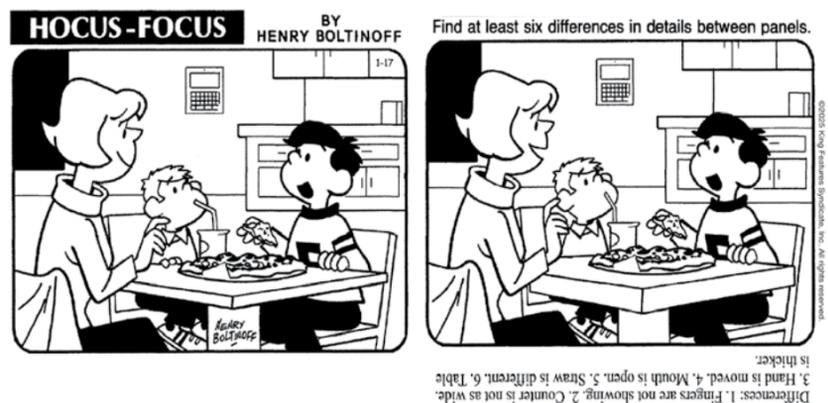
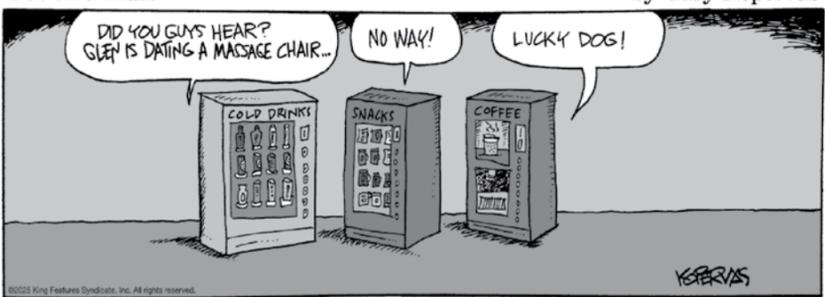
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Council Tables Discussion About Fairgrounds' No Parking Zone

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon City Councilmember Thom Bogue pulled Item 9.5 from the Consent Calendar for discussion at the Jan. 7 City Council meeting. The item was an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget to increase the amount allowed for consultant services for fire plan reviews and inspections, primarily needed for new developments. The new not-to-exceed limit would be \$237,600 (an increase of \$135,000).

Bogue said that the annual salary of a fire inspector is approximately \$82,000, so he questioned whether funding would be better spent on hiring a dedicated inspector to serve the city, especially "considering all the development we have coming in for at least the next 20 years."

Bogue asked if one inspector would be able to handle the workload.

"They could not at the level of development we have going on right now," City Manager Jim Lindley said.

The city might need up to three fire inspectors to handle the work, according to Lindley. However, he said, the city is looking into updating the fee schedule to ensure that developers are covering the associated costs of these inspections. Those proposed updates could come to council for consideration as part of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget.

City Council voted unanimously to approve the budget amendment.

Council also considered an

amendment to the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan (NQSP) for a 37.5-acre site along Pedrick Road.

The Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan guides land use and policies for the future development of 643 acres in the northeast corner of the city, mostly undeveloped agricultural land. In 2021, the City of Dixon updated the General Plan to change the site designation from Highway Commercial to General Industrial and then the Zoning Code was also updated to match.

But at that time, the city did not undertake the work of updating the designation in the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan, leaving property owners to request site-specific amendments when planning for development.

The applicant, Buzz Oates Construction, is not planning any development at this time but this amendment is the first step toward future site improvements. They requested that the 37.5-acre site be designated Light Industrial, to conform with the City's General Plan and Zoning Code.

The applicant intends to pursue phased development of the site for light industrial, research and development, and office uses, likely to commence in the next few years, dependent upon market demand. Any future development proposals on this site would be subject to separate city review and approvals.

Development project manager Bret Hogge with Buzz Oates Construction spoke to City Council about the application, explaining there are "many steps we need to take before we can

develop out here. This is the first one." Other necessary improvements include getting water and sewer to the site.

"It's a great idea. And we want to support development and want to open things up and get things so they're easily processed," said Councilmember Jim Ernest.

But Ernest brought up a concern about industrial sites attracting businesses such as storage facilities, which don't generate many jobs or sales tax revenue. Staff clarified that there is a Fee in Lieu of Taxes policy in the Zoning Code requiring warehouses of a certain size negotiate a fee to compensate for a lack of jobs or sales tax generation. Language can be added to the amendment so that future developers are informed of that policy.

City Council voted unanimously to approve the Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan amendment, with the addition of language pointing to the applicable Zoning Code policy.

Council then considered the installation of a red curb No Parking Zone for the Dixon May Fairgrounds at Gate A, near 180 East Chestnut St.

Fairgrounds staff reported that the gate is used as an exit and evacuation route, and also as an entrance for emergency vehicles. When there are events, an encroachment permit must be requested from the city to establish a temporary no parking zone at that gate. But on some occasions, attendees have ignored those temporary signs and parked there anyway, blocking the gate. So the fairgrounds staff is requesting that the curb be painted red and the area officially

designated as a No Parking Zone.

This request was reviewed by the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC), which recommended approval by the City Council. The request was also supported by the City of Dixon Emergency Services personnel, the Solano County Sheriff's Office and the California Highway Patrol.

A fairgrounds representative said it's important to have that gate accessible if emergency services are needed on that side of the property. That gate is also needed when other vehicles have to be moved in or out of the property during events, because it's not safe to drive through the fair when it is full of attendees.

During Public Comment, a resident who lives on that street said he has never seen an emergency vehicle go through the gate but he has seen the gate used by bands performing during weekend events. He said they often leave trash and debris on the street and have caused damage to vehicles parked on the street.

"They're not good neighbors," the resident said. "You guys don't live there. You don't have to put up with the garbage on the street."

Another resident said that painting the curb red will result in a significant loss of street parking. While he supports the use of the gate for emergency vehicles during events, he suggested that the fairgrounds "should just continue requesting encroachment permits when needed."

The request was "misleading and disingenuous," Councilmember Bogue said, because while the request states

that the gate is primarily intended for use by emergency vehicles, the "ulterior purpose" is to allow vendors to use that gate.

Vice-Mayor Kevin Johnson said he understands the importance of having easy access for emergency vehicles when needed and that it would save time and paperwork for the fairgrounds staff not to have to request an encroachment permit for every event. But he was concerned about taking away a significant amount of street parking, since that gate is only used for a limited number of events each year.

Councilmember Don Hendershot agreed.

"It's a Dixon city street. It should be shared," Hendershot said.

Mayor Steven Bird wondered what the fairgrounds staff are supposed to do when their no parking signs are ignored and the gate is blocked when they need it.

Vice-Mayor Johnson said the police will have to enforce the temporary no-parking zone during an event. Johnson said he would like to see other options, such as an allowance for the fairgrounds to submit one request for an encroachment permit each year, so that all the event dates could be approved at once. In addition, Johnson suggested that locking posts could be installed to prevent drivers from parking in front of the gate.

City Council agreed to table the issue and have staff bring back other options for consideration.

The next Dixon City Council meeting is scheduled for Jan. 21. ★

Visit Dixon Fairgrounds Regularly



The Dixon May Fair will take place from 4 to 10 p.m. May 8, noon to 11 p.m. May 9, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. May 10 and noon to 10 p.m. May 11. Ticket sales will cease one hour before closing with no entrance at that time. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon May Fair is the longest-running parade in California, according to the Dixon Historical Society. Established in 1875, the event's goal has been to attract visitors from near and far and to promote a sense of community.

In 2025, the May Fair tradition will continue, beginning May 8 at 655 S. First St. Before then, though, several other worthwhile events are occurring at the historic fairgrounds.

In February, there will be two crab feed opportunities. The first, from 6 to 10 p.m. Feb. 1, is hosted by the Dixon Game Conservation Club, an organization dedicated to preserving fish and wildlife. The second, from 6 to 11:30 p.m. Feb. 22, is hosted by the Rotary Club of Dixon.

The Rotary Club event is the 21st annual Crab Feed, which for \$75 per guest, includes a no-host bar, live music performed by the Time Bandits and a meal of crab, pasta, salad and bread. Dancing begins at 8:30 p.m. and requires an additional charge of \$20. For more information or to buy tickets, visit the Dixon Calendar and Events Facebook page or Eventbrite.com. There is only online registration.

In March, the Solano Home and Garden Show will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., both March 22 and 23. The event, a tradition since 2015, offers attendees the opportunity to meet with home improvement specialists, enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and peruse a multitude of handcrafted gifts and home décor items. Tickets will be sold at the gate for \$8 per person, whereas guests 12 and under get in free. There is also a senior and military discount for \$5 per ticket. For more

information, visit solanohomeshow.com.

On March 15, Dixon Montessori Charter School at 355 N. Almond St. will host its Dragonfly Dinner and Auction event from 5 to 10 p.m. For \$60 per person, guests can expect music, food, drinks and a raffle.

"We are excited to invite all of our stakeholders and the wider Dixon community to this event," said Ben Ernest, executive director of Dixon Montessori Charter School. "It's a great way to meet people from our school."

The final event before the May Fair will be on April 5 and 6. The Haute Dawgs Agility Group, an organization with a focus on dog competitions, specifically agility and nose work, will host a Spring Fling showcase. The Tilting and Tournaments classes are considered official United States Dog Agility Association (USDAA) events. Anyone interested in getting into the sport will learn a great deal.

After the 148th annual May Fair from May 8 to 11, there are many more events at the fairgrounds, including the All-British Motoring Show and Swap Meet from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 18, the Fort Sutter Antique Motorcycle Association showcase from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both June 13 and 14 and the Lambtown Festival, beginning at 9 a.m. on both Oct. 4 and 5. The fairgrounds are also available to rent out for private events.

"Just contact the fairgrounds, speak to our staff and we will be happy to help," said Patricia Conkling, the Dixon May Fair 36th District Agrilcultural Association CEO. "We book most events a year in advance."

For more information, visit dixonmayfair.com. ★

SCOE Accepting Nominations for Solano Early Childhood Educator of the Year

Solano County Office of Education News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), in partnership with the Solano Child Care Planning Council and other community organizations, will proudly host the third annual Solano Early Childhood Educator of the Year awards luncheon on Friday, May 16.

The event recognizes early childhood educators who exemplify integrity and a deep commitment to excellence in nurturing and educating Solano County's youngest learners.

Solano County Office of Education encourages parents, educators, administrators, business owners, and adults who live or work in Solano County to

nominate early childhood educators who have made a difference in their community. Any Solano County early learning and care provider serving children ages infant to preschool, including teachers, assistants, paraeducators, food service, transportation, school site administrators and family childcare owner/directors, may be nominated for this honorable recognition.

The nomination period will be open Jan. 6 through 5 p.m. Feb. 7. Nomination forms can be found online at www.solanocoe.net or by contacting Solano County Office of Education at (707)-399-4400.

For more information about nominations, please contact Juanita Morales, Early Learning Liaison, at jmorales@solanocoe.net or (707) 399-4452. ★

Open Enrollment at Dixon Montessori Charter School

Dixon Montessori Charter School Press Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Montessori Charter School (DMCS) is excited to announce that Open Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year will take place from Jan. 7 through Jan. 31.

During this special year, Dixon Montessori Charter School is proud to celebrate its 20th year of operation, marking two decades of providing an exceptional, student-centered education to the Dixon community.

Families interested in applying are encouraged to visit the Dixon Montessori Charter School website at www.dixonmontessori.org for more information about the application process, school programs, and upcoming events. Tours and informational sessions are available in January to help families experience firsthand the opportunities Dixon Montessori Charter School offers.

The 2024-2025 school year has been one for the books at Dixon Montessori Charter School, as the school has received multiple prestigious recognitions.

The school received the award of California High Performing Charter School. California has recognized Dixon Montessori as one of the

top-performing schools for the second consecutive year. To earn this award Dixon Montessori scored higher than the city, county, and state averages in reading, writing, math and science.

Dixon Montessori also was recognized as having Top-Rated Elementary Teachers in Solano County, recognized by Niche as the best teachers in Solano County out of 57 elementary schools.

It was a Top-Rated Middle School Teachers in Solano County, ranked first among 27 middle schools in Solano County.

US News and World Report rated Dixon Montessori as a Best Middle School by US News and World Report for the first time in 2025.

"We are incredibly proud of our students, our families and our staff," said Ben Ernest, executive director of Dixon Montessori Charter School. "As we celebrate 20 years of educational excellence, we remain committed to fostering a love of learning and a sense of community in all our students."

Seats are limited, so don't miss your chance to join our thriving school community. Apply during Open Enrollment for the best chance to secure your child's spot for the 2025-2026 school year. Open enrollment closes on Jan. 31 this year. ★