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ndendent Voice

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Brinkerhoff Plaque Returned



The historic plaque was returned to the current residents of the Brinkerhoff home, the Cornejos, who have spent decades

Story by Kendall Brown, photos by Nicolas Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Brinkerhoff Home on E. A St., occupied by Maria and David Cornejo, is a piece of Dixon's history dating back hundreds of years.

On Jan. 28, the Dixon Historical Society at 125 W. A St. honored the Brinkherhoffs' contributions to Dixon's culture and the home itself by returning a plaque originally requested in 1930 by Ida B. Forward to commemorate her parents, John and Ruby Ann Brinkerhoff.

"Almost one-hundred years ago, this bronze plaque was installed in a drinking fountain in the newly-established



by Stephen Brinkerhoff.

Club Park in Dixon as a request for Mrs. John Brinkerhoff of her daughgathered for the occasion and praised the early pioneer families, such as the from the Dixon Public Library Historical Files, circa 1850, Isaac Brinkerhoff, originally from New York, was a farmer and early resident of Dixon when it was still referred to as 'Silveyville.' He and his wife, Mary Ann Geddes, raised several children in Dixon, including John Brinkerhoff and his brother, Stephen Brinkerhoff, who would construct the home in 1889.

The Cornejo family purchased the house in 1967 and spent more than 56 years restoring it to its former glory.

ters," said Pam Griffey, Brinkerhoffs, for their David Cornejo, the son patience, fortitude and of Maria Cornejo, was representing the Dixon able for pre-order. Historical Society. "In determination in settling raised in the house and the west." 1930, Mrs. Emma Timm appreciates the recognition addressed the crowd According to records Women's Improvement Continued on page 3

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Safe Routes to School Educates Students

Story by Kendall Brown, photos by Nicolas Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On Jan. 31, Solano Safe Routes to School hosted an event at Dixon High School, 555 College Way, to offer free bike repairs and education. According to Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) website, the initiative was launched by the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) in 2008 as a response to increased childhood obesity, air pollution and traffic congestion around schools.

Crystal Peacher, one of the two Solano Safe Routes to School program coordinators on Jan. 31, hopes to encourage stu-

dents through these events. "Our goal is to educate and encourage students to get to school by foot power with the goal of alleviating traffic congestion around school sites," said Peacher. "All our pro-

grams are offered to school

sites free of charge to the

school and the students."



and repair organization, partnered with Solano Safe Routes to School to do bike repairs and educate on bike upkeep. Services included brake, shifter and tire repair, and helmet-

Solano Safe Routes to School regularly works alongside city planners, traffic engineers, law enforcement, educators and parents to address the issue of bike safety throughout the county. At the Jan. 31 event, Solano Safe Routes to School partnered with Bay Area Bikemobile, a San

Francisco-based organization that hosts bike repair clinics at schools, libraries, recreation centers and community events. Bikemobile staff repaired shifters, tires and brakes while educating the students so they can make the same repairs themselves when necessary. Solano Safe Routes to

School has partnered with many schools throughout Solano County. In Dixon, programs have been conducted for Anderson Elementary (415 E. C St.), Dixon Montessori Charter School (355 N. Almond St.), Gretchen Higgins Elementary (1525 Pembroke Road), Neighborhood Christian School (955 E A St.) and now Dixon High.

According to Dixon High School Principal Angela Brown, the event marked the school's beginning partnership with Solano Safe Routes to School. "We're excited for this

partnership that allows us to continue to build secure relationships with the community," said Brown.

Solano Safe Routes to School intends to have more events in Dixon, championing a culture of active transportation and safety within Solano County. For more information, visit solanosr2s.

Celebrating Valentine's Day in Dixon

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) Valentine's Day is approaching fast on Feb. 14 and several businesses and organizations in Dixon and the wider Solano County community are hosting holiday events meant to give residents a day to remember.

For teens, Dixon Library at 230 N. First St. is hosting a Valentine's Day Cookie Decoration event from 2 to 3 p.m. Feb. 14. After school, tweens and teens ages 10 to 18 are invited to decorate free Valentine's Day cookies with toppings provided. All ages are welcome but children under 10 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Speaking of sweets, Solano Baking Company, 1160 Pitt School Road B, has specialty seasonal items that use naturally-available ingredients for limited arrangements. These items include chocolate-dipped strawberries (stylized as "stemberries"), iced cookie assortments, chocolate tarts and donut bouquets. In partnership with Noelle DeMartini Designs, (891 Alamo Drive, Vacaville), Solano Baking Company has added a handheld flower gift that comes with a coffee of choice and a custom bouquet; this "caffeinated floral experience" is avail-

For seniors, the Dixon Senior Club is hosting its Out to Lunch Bunch at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 14. Held at Bud's Pub & Grill, 100 S. First St., those interested are encouraged to call the office at 707-678-7000 or stop by the Senior/Multuse Center, 201 S. Fifth St. to sign up.

For couples, Rosemary's Farm to Fork at 140 N. Jackson St. is hosting a Valentine's Day Candle Lit Dinner with live music by Alex Garza and a pre-fixed menu by Rose Barbee and Hank Gerrero. The menu includes house-made sourdough, starters, a main course and dessert, all for \$75. Seating is limited, with only 13 tables for two and three larger tables for groups of four or more. To sign up, visit rosemarysfarmtofork.com or call 707-693-3200. Great Bear Vineyards

at 24800 County Road 101A, Davis, is hosting a full weekend of Valentine's Day activities. From 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 13 will be a Galentine's Day event and from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 14, love will be celebrated. From noon to 5 p.m. Feb. 15, a chocolate and wine pairing will be held, with a more intimate evening planned for 5 to 8 p.m. that night. The weekend caps Continued on page 3

www.IndependentVoice.com



Political Polarization Causes Stress

By Debra Dingman

We regularly get together with a group of people from a variety of work backgrounds and enjoy discussions about politics. There is decency and respect (so far) during these conversations but I've noticed an uptick in comments that polarize the group.

We have to stop utilizing the idea that all Democrats or all Republicans are responsible for anything because that simply is just not true. There is no such thing as "all." When we talk politics, those kinds of words put people in camps and usually shut down conversation or heighten arguments.

Polarization itself is typically understood as "a prominent division or conflict that forms between major groups in a society or political system and that is marked by the clustering and radicalization of views and beliefs at two distant and antagonistic poles."

Since I'm a registered Libertarian, I have a personal philosophy about a president who is elected that I did not vote for: "Well, let's see what he can do." I am not going to shout that the elections were rigged; stomp around and say that the world is now over as we know it; or never talk to my neighbors who posted signs in their yard. Nope, I'm going to keep working, going to church, volunteering, exercising and doing life in the best way that my body will allow. Because, if I don't, the stress could affect my health.

The National Institute of Health reported on a study of the harmful effects of partisan polarization on health that was published in the National Library of Medicine in March 2022. It reported that "partisan polarization significantly drives stress and anxiety among Americans, and recent aggregate-level studies suggest polarization may be shaping their health."

Yesterday, a man I was friends within high school shared a post that was really distasteful, something to the effect of all Republicans are evil and going to cause the downfall of democracy. It was mean-spirited and disgusting. Of course, I blocked "messages like this" immediately because I don't want that kind of incivility around me.

But it's not healthy to roll over and let people say crazy things, either. There is a reason to speak up; let me explain.

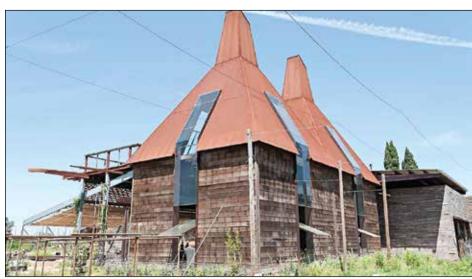
Picture a rock tumbler. If there are a bunch of rocks with jagged edges put into one container, as they roll around together, they become more polished and become smooth.

Speak up but not in a combative way. You can say, "That sounds pretty extreme" or "I don't agree with that" or "You need to look into that some more" or "You need to check your sources on that."

People need to add their comments, albeit tastefully, because if you don't have friction from the other rocks, you've taken yourself out of the tumbler entirely. With a good group of friends you converse with, you'll wind up moving closer together because there are no sharp edges.

Don't escalate but don't be quiet. Because we're polite and we don't cause any scene, that "tribe" can get whittled down and whittled down. It's good to engage outside your "community."

Dixon News Briefs



Ruhstaller Farms at 6686 Sievers Road is hosting line dancing from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By MPG Staff

Drop-in Play at Hall Park

Jim B. Stevens Arena, 450 Hall Park Drive, is now open for free drop-in play from 12 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday; Salaber All-Weather Synthetic Play Field, a turf field also located in Hall Park, is open for free drop-in play from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fridays. Attendees can show up during the specified time and use the athletic spaces for activities such as soccer, flag football and more.

For more information, visit the City of Dixon, CA Facebook page or call 707-678-7000.

Line Dancing at Ruhstaller

Ruhstaller Farms, 6686 Sievers Road, is hosting line dancing from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 6. In partnership with Yolo Line Dance, other sessions of line dancing will take place March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5. Dinner, served by Tapps Kitchen, will be available from 3 to 8 p.m. Attendees can donate and each month, donations will be given to a different nonprofit organization.

For more information, visit ruhstaller-farm.com/events or call 530-601-8240.

Dixon Scottish Cultural Association Burns Dinner

The Dixon Scottish Cultural Association is hosting a catered dinner in honor of Scottish poet and lyricist Robert Burns from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Feb. 8. Taking place at the Yolo Masonic Lodge, 1655 Davinci Court, Davis, attendees can expect a dinner of beef, chicken and haggis. Seating is available for \$60 for members and \$65 for non-members.

For more information, call 916-719-0573 or email dixonscottishgames@gamil.com.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser Moose Lodge

Dixon Moose Lodge number 1120, located at 180 W. B St., is hosting a spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 8. The Lodge is offering all-you-can-eat spaghetti for \$20 per person. Tickets are available to members and qualified guests and can be purchased in person at the Moose Lodge or by calling either 530-219-1653 or 530-867-1693.

For more information, visit dixonchamber.org.

"Bee Mine" Valentine Cookie Class

Every Baking Moment, 143 N. First St. is hosting a Valentine's Cookie Class from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 10. The two-hour class will teach participants how to bake and decorate bee-themed cookies shaped like bees and honeycombs, all in time for Valentine's Day on Feb. 14. All supplies are provided

and the class costs \$50 per person.

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

Spanish Readers Theater

Dixon Community Theater is inviting Spanish speakers of all ages and backgrounds to read and act out plays in Spanish. From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Feb. 11, the no-cost program offers acting and script-reading opportunities for Spanish speakers of all skill levels, from fluent speakers to beginners. The event will take place at the Dixon Library, 230 N. Jefferson St.

For more information, visit dixoncommunitytheater.com or call 707-903-8387.

Dixon Library Book Club

Dixon Library, 230 N. First St., is hosting its monthly morning book club meeting from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Feb. 13. The morning book club is a monthly, adult-oriented group that will be starting "The World Record Book of Racist Stories" by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar. Coffee and tea will be provided for attendees and the meeting will be in the front room of the library.

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

Dixon FFA Car Show

The Dixon Future Farmers of America (FFA) is hosting the second annual Dixon FFA Car Show at Dixon High School, 555 College Way. From 12 to 4 p.m. Feb. 15, the free public event allows both Dixon High School and residents the opportunity to showcase their cars to the public. Entry is also free and is available to Dixon High School students via applications in the ag building at school. Non-students can apply via a QR code on Instagram @DixonFFA.

For more information, visit the Dixon Calendar and Events Facebook page or contact maria.c.torres@dixonusd.org.

VFW Upcoming Meeting

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8151, will meet from 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 19. Meetings are held every third Wednesday at The Olde Vets Hall, 231 N First St. Official business meetings start at 7 p.m. but the hall opens for set-up and socializing at 6 p.m. Socializing will continue after the meeting's business portion.

For more information, visit vfw8151.org or call 209-395-8019.

Ten-Minute Play Festival

Winters Theatre Company, 13 Main St., Winters, is hosting its annual Ten-Minute Play Festival, beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 28, and March 1, 7 and 8. Tickets are available for \$20 per person (\$15 for seniors) and a brief description of the eight plays on offer is available online.

For more information, visit winterstheatre.org or call 530-795-4014. ★

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Celebrate Dixon and Showcase Your Business

Dixon Chamber of Commerce News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Chamber of Commerce 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 Ambassador of the Year, the Veteran of the Year and the Nonprofit of the Year. This year, we are adding Educator of the Year.

The event takes place on March 8 from 5 to 11 p.m. at Denverton Hall at the Dixon May Fairgrounds, located at 655 South First St. in Dixon.

Following the delicious dinner of tri-tip, chicken, potatoes and salads, the awards will be presented to deserving Dixon citizens, businesses and organizations who have made a significant impact on the quality of life in Dixon.

In addition, there will be raffle prizes

In addition, there will be raffle prizes and a silent auction, as well as a dessert auction, to help offset the costs of the event. All prior Citizens of the Year receive their tickets at no charge, as we continue to honor them for their past contributions to the community.

tributions to the community.

We would greatly appreciate your



assistance in making the raffle and/or silent auction and dessert auction a success. A donation of a nice raffle prize, auction item, or dessert would help us continue to present this traditional event, which is woven into the very fabric of what makes Dixon such a special community.

Please consider our request and let us

know if you have any questions. For tax purposes, we are a 501c6 nonprofit organization, Tax ID# 94-1011621. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law; please consult your tax professional.

For further information, call 707-678-2650 or email info@dixonchamber.org. ★

Brinkerhoff Plaque Returned



lda B. Forward, the daughter of John and Ruby Ann Brinkerhoff, requested the plaque in 1930 for a fountain in Women's Improvement Club Park in honor of her late parents.

Continued from page 1

it is getting. "It's a surprise. I really appreciate the historical society's appreciation for this. I used to walk by the water fountain during the 1960s, so it's very cool to have this presented," said Cornejo.

Today, the Brinkerhoffs stand as a

testament to Dixon's significant past. Their descendants married into the Pollard, Marten, Harkinson and Trafton

Dixon Historical Society member Pam Griffey thanks the City of Dixon "for their hard work in returning the plaque to its rightful home."

Celebrating Valentine's Day in Dixon

Continued from page 1 off with wine tasting from noon to 3 p.m. Feb. 16. Wine, charcuterie and dessert are offered at all events except the Feb. 16 event.

Regardless of how you spend the holiday, there are plenty of opportunities to have a great day.

Valentine's Day is on Feb. 14. Several organizations in Dixon are holding events that day, including Dixon Library (230 N. First St.), Solano Baking Company (1160 Pitt School Road B) and Rosemary's Farm to Fork (140 N. Jackson St.). Photo by



Community Theater Presents 'Hamlet: Paranormal Activity'

Dixon Community Theater News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Get ready for a theatrical experience like no other. Dixon Community Theater will present "Hamlet: Paranormal Activity," a bold and innovative modern adaptation of Shakespeare's classic tragedy. This West Coast premiere takes the timeless tale of betrayal, revenge and madness and gives it an eerie paranormal twist that's sure to leave audiences spellbound.

Adapted into contemporary language, this fresh retelling makes Hamlet accessible to all, while weaving in modern music to resonate with today's world. Prepare to be transported to the shadowy corridors of Elsinore Castle, where ghostly apparitions, chilling soundscapes and haunting visuals blur the line between the living and the dead.

The cast includes David Cripe, Olivia Smith, Daniel Rings, Yuliana Vasilenko, Joshua Benson, Chris Tan, Jennifer Rutherford, Stacy Allison, David Atkinson, Leanne Vroom and Sarah



This West Coast premiere of "Hamlet: Paranormal Activity" takes the timeless tale of betrayal, revenge and madness and gives it an eerie paranormal twist that's sure to leave audiences spellbound. Photo courtesy of Dixon Community Theater

"This adaptation breathes fresh life into a classic story," said director Abel Cornejo. "It's Shakespeare for the modern age: intense, immersive and unforgettable."

Whether you're a lifelong fan of the Bard or new to his work, "Hamlet: Paranormal Activity" offers Shakespeare reimagined, blending suspense, drama and the supernatural into an electrifying theatrical experience.

Performances are Friday,

Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 1 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 2 at 2 p.m. at the Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way, Dixon.

Tickets are \$12 general admission and \$6 students/ seniors and available online at dixoncommunitytheater. com or at the door.

For more information, email dixoncommunitytheater@gmail.com or call 707-903-8387.



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Kings Korner By V.G. Harris



Mark your calendars for March 7 in the friendly confines of Golden One Arena, as it should be a night to remember. Yes, on that night when the San Antonio Spurs arrive, you'll have the opportunity to once again witness the fastest man in the NBA, and you guessed it, none other than former King DeAaron Fox.

Emotions are running high right now as arguably the best overall player in Sacramento Kings history leaves the Sactown family to join the San Antonio

What do I think of that? Sad simply doesn't get it. There's a hole in my heart, but a gratitude for a player that turned back the clock when it comes to professionalism and fan involvement.

DeAaron has comported himself with a degree of elegance and grace seldom seen in professional athletes. I feel that Sacramento is not only losing an amazing athlete, but an amazing family as well. Make no mistake about it, the Foxes are a package, and they will steal your heart.

I fondly recall a moment earlier this season in which DeAaron took a hard fall at the edge of court where the baseline meets the sideline. He went head over heels, and as he rolled over to get up, who was there to assist but none other than his wife who was sitting on the front row with his son. It made me smile as DeAaron was helped to his feet by Recee, and then it was on with the game.

I will miss watching his young son clapping gleefully, and DeAaron streaking to the hoop and scoring baskets that would be beyond the capability of most

I won't forget his record setting 60-point performance against the Minnesota Timberwolves, albeit in an overtime loss, but it took nothing away from the highest scoring single game total in franchise history.

I can't help but smile and nod my head when I remember DeAaron taking several minutes to talk with my grandson and sign his treasured DeAaron Fox rookie card prior to a game last season. The photos of that moment along with the card itself will be something my grandson will never forget, and it simply is who DeAaron Fox really is.

Sunday Feb. 2 will be a day that most Kings fans will never forget, and as big a trade as the Luka Doncic for Anthony Davis was over the weekend, for those of us that love the Kings, it pales in comparison.

The nuts and bolts are that DeAaron Fox is going the San Antonio Spurs in a 3-team trade that also sends Jordan McLaughlin to the Spurs, and Keven Huerter to the Chicago Bulls.

What the Kings receive in return is 2-time all-star Zach Lavine who at age 29 is right in the heart of his prime. Zach was the longest tenured player on the Bulls squad, so like most Kings fans, Chicago is likely shedding tears. Lavine is scoring 24 points per game this season, which is just a hair below the scoring output of Fox.

Not to be ignored by any means in this blockbuster trade, are the 6 draft choices that come with the trade. The Kings receive 3 #1's and 3 #2's and it will be years before the Sacramento Kings and their fans are able to see the full comple-

Zach Lavine does not solve the missing component at the power forward position, but many believe that another move is coming prior to the trade deadline this week. Auspicious in all of this, is the remarkable 3-point shooting that Lavine brings with him. Currently shooting just over 44% ranks among the league leaders, and as Keven Huerter departs, leaving Sacramento as somewhat of a disappointment from beyond the arc, a 44% 3-point shooter is just what the doctor ordered. That combined with a field goal percentage of over 50% is notable for a guard in the NBA, so let's all take a deep breath, and a collective wait and

Will I miss DeAaron Fox? Do I believe he is the #1 overall best first round pick in the history of the Sacramento Kings? I say heartily, YES!

Godspeed DeAaron Fox and may you and your family thrive in San Antonio! You will be missed!

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

Social Security Matters

Social Security Benefits for Someone with Multiple Ex-spouses



AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: If a financially well-off individual had multiple ex-spouses, could it happen that the multiple ex-spouses could each be collecting Social Security based on their own financial situation as compared to their rich ex-spouses? Thus, multiple payouts by SS? Just curious, because there are probably many people in this situation as a result of the ever-increasing number of people involved in multiple marriages that each lasted more than ten years. Signed: Curious Ex-Spouse

D e a r Curious Ex-Spouse: A former spouse can only collect one SS benefit - either their own SS retirement amount, or an amount as an ex-spouse if the marriage lasted 10 years or more. And it is possible for multiple ex-spouses of a marriage to the same person to qualify for benefits from those unions, if each marriage lasted at least 10 years. But each ex-spouse can only qualify for one benefit payment - either their own earned SS benefit, or their benefit as an ex-spouse. In other words, someone with two (or more) ex-spouses might have their ex's collecting full benefits on their record, provided that each marriage lasted at least 10 years. But an ex-spouse can only get one benefit -their own SS retirement amount or an ex-spouse amount whichever is higher).

It's possible, also, that an ex-spouse can collect benefits from a former spouse at the same time as a current spouse is also collecting spouse benefits on the same record. And there is no detriment to either's amount because multiple spouses or ex-spouses are collecting on a one person's SS record (Social Security is, after all, a means for spouses, or ex-spouses, to avoid poverty). However, an ex-spouse's own SS retirement benefit (from their personal lifetime work record) must be less than any ex-spouse

benefit they are entitled to from a former spouse. Essentially, if the "10-years-married" rule is satisfied, ex-spouses are subject to the same benefit rules as a current

You are correct that we see some cases like this these days, but each eligible ex-spouse can only get one benefit, and their ex-spouse benefit is always offset by any personal SS retirement benefit the ex-spouse may also be entitled to on their own lifetime work record.

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California's Taxes on Wealth May Hinge on How Trump Treats Deductions



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California's state budget is inordinately dependent on taxing the incomes of wealthy residents.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposed 2025-26 budget assumes that the state will receive \$133.7 billion in personal income taxes, more than 60% of general fund revenues. Nearly half of that would be paid by the 1% of Californians sitting atop the taxable income ladder.

The downside risk of such dependency is that taxes on the rich tend to swing up and down more than taxes on ordinary wage earners, because earnings on investments are substantial portions of wealthy people's taxable incomes.

When the rich are getting richer, California sees multi-billion-dollar revenue windfalls. But downturns in their investments often result in sharp declines in tax receipts. In his budget, Newsom mentions the "swings in revenues and uncertainty that are a hallmark of California's volatile tax system."

The new budget cites a recent uptick in revenues that allowed Newsom's budget to expand some categories of spending, such as a big increase in tax subsidies for the beleaguered Southern California film and

The validity of the new budget's revenue assumptions is in doubt because of the wildfires that have afflicted Los Angeles County. But regardless of their impact, the state will continue to depend on volatile revenues from the

video industry, one of his pet tax returns to \$10,000.

The limit has the indirect effect of increasing federal levies on taxpayers who pay more than \$10,000 in SALT each year. Other aspects of the 2017 tax bill, signed by Trump, benefited the wealthy but even so, California's tax officials estimated that the net impact on California tax-



John Mahoney reviews a questionnaire for tax preparers in the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program, in Oakland on Jan. 23, 2019. Photo By Paul Chinn, The San Francisco Chronicle via Getty Images

lost their homes in Pacific Palisades and Malibu.

By happenstance, just as the new budget and the wildfires become prominent items on the Capitol's political agenda, something else is happening in Washington that could affect California's harvest of taxes on the rich.

With Donald Trump back in the White House, negotiations are underway on repeal or retention of a 2017 change in federal tax law that adversely affected states such as California and New York, whose budgets depend on taxing the incomes of the rich.

The change, part of a much larger overhaul of tax policy, limited deductions for state and local taxes – SALT in the politi-

cal vernacular - on federal

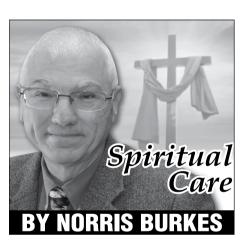
payers would be a \$12 billion annual increase in

their federal tax obligations. New York and California legislators and governors saw it as a deliberate hit by Republicans, including Trump, on blue state finances and have tried, on and off, to have it repealed ever since, to no avail. They worried aloud that the much-reduced SALT deduction would encourage wealthy taxpayers to move to states with low or no income taxes, such as Nevada, Texas and Florida.

Dan Walters is one of most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in wouldn't have named me Norris if California history, authorshe had intended for me to go by Ed. I ing a column four times a returned to Norris. week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social

and demographic trends. ★

You Never Even Call Me By My Name



During my adolescent years, I rarely introduced myself with verbal clarity. My soft introductions were hard to hear and communicated more doubt than any kind of confident identity.

I'd try to tell people that my name was Norris, but they'd often respond with a one-word question. "What?"

If I repeated my introduction, my inquisitors only became more frustrated. "What? Did you say Morris?"

Even if they heard "Norris," they might say, "Yes, but what's your first name?" The assumption was that Norris could only be a surname.

So, by the time I graduated from high school in 1975, I'd had enough of the confusion. I anticipated an opportunity to end it when I accepted a summer job at a church conference center outside Santa Fe, New Mexico.

A few weeks later, I entered the grounds ready for a change. The first person I met introduced himself and I responded with the first syllable of my middle name, "Ed." I was not only using my middle name, but I'd adopted the abbreviated version. I still remember his reply - "What?

Did you say Fred?"

It was quickly apparent that my lack of confidence was still causing me to mumble my name. "Ed" rolled off my "Norris."

tongue with no more clarity than did By the end of the summer, I'd already received a lot of grief from my mother who constantly reminded me that she

Out in Northern New Mexico, the name experiment seemed harmless enough. After all, it was only a summer job. Since I was headed for Baylor University in Texas, I resolved to leave my AKA-Ed life in New Mexico's high desert.

Not so fast. I wouldn't be the only staff member from the camp headed for

Imagine the surprise on the face of the freshman girl I escorted to the homecoming bonfire when we were greeted by two of my former New Mexico

coworkers who called me "Ed." In the weeks that followed, my old camp friends continually called me Ed, compounding the confusion among my new Baylor friends. My roommates were further puzzled when they brought in mail addressed to "Ed Burkes."

During my sophomore year, David Allen Coe's, "You Never Even Call Me by My Name," became a favorite song. By my senior year, I'd persuaded all of my friends to call me Norris once again - with only one exception.

That exception was the especially spirited blonde I'd met in that New Mexico camp named Becky. Through four years of college, my roommates teased me at every mail call. "Yoo-hoo, Ed!" they'd croon in a falsetto voice. "She wrote you another letter."

It took a lot of persuasion to get this girl to call me Norris. She preferred the name Ed and it seemed as though she'd never concede. However, at our wedding in 1980, she finally made a pledge to forever call me Norris.

"Norris," she said, "I take thee to be my wedded husband. To have and to hold, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part."

Happy 45th anniversary, sweetheart. You've always known who I am, even though I often lack a clue. Your love changes me because it honors the best It is a love for the person God cre-

ated me to be, not what I should, could or would have been. And in that love, I find the most cherished reminder of the And that is something Ed and Norris

SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

will cherish forever.



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

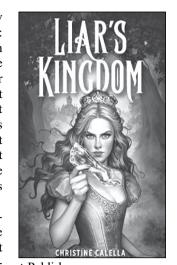
Liar's Kingdom

by Christine Calella

It's the familiar story everyone knows and loves: a young girl trapped in her home forced to care for her cruel stepmother and selfish stepsisters. But what if this story, is not the whole truth? That this time, there is a twist? What if Cinderella never went to the ball, and what if the story everyone knows is a lie?

Ell didn't mean to pretend to be the girl the Prince fell in love with at the ball, but when the slipper fit perfectly on her foot, Ell saw a way out of her humble existence. Before she knew it, Ell was being whisked to the castle, preparing to be a princess. The life Ell once knew was over, but that is not where the fairytale ends; for Ell, it is just the beginning.

Royalty is laden with its own set of problems, with the volatile King starving his villagers while preparing for war against magic. The Prince's best friend, the Duke, knows that Ell is lying, and he will do anything to expose her for the fraud she is, in order to advance himself. However, it isn't just the wedding



- Page Street ♦ Intended Audience:
- Young Adult
- ♦ Release Date: January 14, 2025

Ella needs to be worried about; it's after. With the King forbidding any magic in the Kingdom, Ell needs to quickly explain away her magical glass slippers while also trying to hide any ties to fairy existence. But add in her evil stepmother trying to expose her secret and her two selfish stepsisters and Ell truly has her world cut out for her.

With a war against anything magic on the horizon, a Prince with his own set of secrets, and a duke out to take the throne, Ell will have to fight for the life she stole in order to save herself, the Kingdom, and magic kind.

Liar's Kingdom is a creative spin on the classic fairytale. Blending an alternate start to the story with the highs and mainly lows of being royal. Christine Calella delivers a strong heroine fit to change the narrative and take power over her own life. With adventure, magic, love, and so many twists and turns, readers cannot help devour this story. However, what is a fairytale without a great love triangle? This story will tangle its readers up in knots as they root for Ell and Prince Bayard to finally discover who they are and who they are men to be with, while also trying to save a kingdom. Because happily ever after definitely doesn't start with I Do.

Liars Kingdom is a wonderful read for anyone who loves a great fairytale retelling, that delivers a fresh perspective and a twist that will leave readers wanting more.



Riley Reviews

"BACK IN ACTION" ON NETFLIX; "PUPPY BOWL XXI" FOR ANIMAL LOVERS

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

One thing to keep in mind is that we are in the middle of winter during the month of February, and our expectations for cinematic excellence must be kept in check until at least, hopefully, during the spring.

Meanwhile, Netflix makes it possible to stay in the comfort of home and indulge in either a guilty pleasure or mechanical popcorn entertainment that likely wouldn't survive more than a week at the local

That brings us to the espionage action comedy of "Back in Action," starring Jamie Foxx and Cameron Diaz as a married couple with two kids who are retired CIA spies pulled back into action when their secret identities are exposed. One mystery here is how did Glenn Close end up in this film?

Like most spy films, the action kicks off quickly when Foxx's Matt and Diaz's Emily are CIA operatives who attend the birthday party thrown by an Eastern European terrorist to break into a safe.

Having to fight their way out of the mansion, the duo soon finds themselves on an MI6 plane when they are ambushed by the crew, leading to an incredible crash landing somewhere in the snow-covered alps.

Jump to fifteen years later, Matt and Emily are now suburban parents with 12-year-old Leo (Rylan Jackson) and 14-year-old Alice (McKenna Roberts). A family affair at a nightclub leads to a video that reveals them as former spies.

While the children remain in the dark about their parents' identity, the family heads to London in search of a key that they hope to return to the CIA, but all sorts of bad people are anxious get their hands on it as well.

Once in England, the now-unretired spies show up at the estate of Emily's British mother (Glenn Close), who is also a former spy. This long overdue family reunion results in having to overcome a strained relationship.

One thing going for B-movie pleasure of "Back in Action" is that it has plenty of stunts, spectacular vehicular crashes, awesome fight skills, a powerboat chase, and even turning a gas station hose into a deadly flamethrower.

Aside from leaning into the action, "Back in Action" allows Jamie Foxx and Cameron Diaz to engage in plenty of enjoyable banter. To be sure, the plot is sufficiently ludicrous but what else can you can expect. Just go with the preposterous

"PUPPY BOWL XXI" ON ANIMAL PLANET

On Sunday, February 9th, Super Bowl LIX comes to the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans. As no California team will contend this year for the NFL's coveted Lombardi Trophy, maybe it's time to find an alternative game.

There is another Bowl game happening earlier in the day, and it won't have any two-legged competitors on the gridiron. This television event will be "Puppy Bowl XXI" featuring 142 rescue puppies from 80 shelters across 40 states and two countries.

With more puppies than ever before, Animal Planet's "Puppy Bowl XXI" will highlight their inspiring journeys from birth to adoption, as well as the tremendous dedication of the shelters that help animals find forever homes.

The game kicks off when Julep, the first-

ever St. Bernard mix, and Smoosh, the only Pekingese to compete in the games, will head up Team Fluff, while Mr. Pickles, a Pug-Chihuahua, and Tuani, a Chihuahua-German Shepherd from Nicaragua, will look to bring Team Ruff to victory. The two teams will meet on the gridiron

in hopes of bringing home the Walmart "Lombarky" trophy and see which puppy player has what it takes to be named the MVP (Most Valuable Puppy) and win the Subaru of America Underdog Award.

Eleven inspiring special needs dogs, including Jolene, an American Pit Bull terrier-mix competing in a wheelchair, and Sprinkle, a blind and hearing-impaired Australian shepherd-mix, will take the field, giving it their all and not letting their disabilities slow them down.

star matchups, and behind-the-scenes moments are the "Pup Close and Personal" segments, sharing the backstories of some of the all-star athletes. Dan Smyers, from superstar country duo

Interspersed with extended puppy love,

Dan + Shay, will bring a rescue puppy from Wags & Walks Nashville backstage at one of his concerts for some socialization and to boost their chances of being adopted.

Kansas City Chiefs defensive tackle Derrick Nnadi and his girlfriend, Nani, will visit the Humane Society of Greater Kansas City, where they'll meet Parsnip, a rescue Pit Bull-mix, and spend time training the dog to compete in the games.

In preparation of the big canine showdown, ten puppy prospects will engage in practice drills and show off their moves in the first ever Puppy Combine. Each pup will compete to be selected as the top pick in the Puppy Bowl Draft and join Team Ruff and Team Fluff rosters.

The popular annual event will be simulcast on Animal Planet, Discovery Channel, TBS, TruTV, Max and Discovery+, with the kickoff set to air at 10 a.m. Pacific Time. May the best pooch team carry home the trophy.



Dave Ramsev

Dear Dave,

How do I get my employees to buy-in to the company mission, and really get onboard with what I want to accomplish and the steps toward making it happen? I feel like I have a lot of good people working for me, but I'm not sure I'm getting the message across in terms what I expect and what it will take for them and the business to succeed.

Franklin

Dear Franklin,

It's a no-brainer that employee buy-in is great, even essential, for your business. But actually getting buy-in? That can be tough. But here are four steps I believe are essential to setting the stage for winning employees over and gaining their trust, their loyalty and their respect.

evaluate your leadership. Ask yourself, Would I follow the leader

Dave Ramsey Says

The Importance of Employee Buy-In

I am today? Great leaders are open to feedback, humble and willing to grow. They lead by serving. And most teams will level of trust you earn. follow a good example, so lead with confidence, focus and transparency.

Next, define your mission, vision and values. Your mission describes what you do and why it matters. Your vision paints a picture of what the future will look like when your mission is lived out, and your values declare what your company stands for and guide how you make decisions. Share these often, and be very clear when you do. If these principles aren't firmly in place and understood, you're asking your team to navigate without a map.

Also, communicate consistently and clearly. Your team members aren't a bunch of mind readers. Share all your expectations and goals frequently, along with the why behind your plans. Make time for questions and mentoring, too. Your ability to communicate well goes a long way

toward determining team satisfaction and retention, along with the quality of your relationships and the

Finally, have a solid strategic plan. Don't just relay a vague outline your company's destination, map out a clear path of how to get there with all your leaders. A strategic plan with actionable steps shows your team what winning looks like and what it'll take to succeed.

And when the plan is specific and achievable, your team will rally around it.

Dave

Leadership small-husiness expert Dave Ramsev is the CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored eight national bestselling books, including "EntreLeadership," and he hosts "The Ramsey Show" and "The EntreLeadership Podcast." He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS ThisMorning, Today, Fox News, CNN and Fox Business.

Seeking Businesses for Dixon High School Job Shadowing Program

Dixon Chamber of Commerce News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Chamber of

Commerce is seeking businesses that are interested in helping approximately 75 juniors and seniors at Dixon High School Public Service Academy by having them "job shadow" for either four or eight hours one day in the spring.

This is an incredible opportunity to have a positive impact on the students in our community, to show them what your business does and help influence them in making

If you are interested in participating, call

the chamber at 707-678-2650 or send an

email to info@dixonchamber.org. Dixon High School's appeal is: "Approximately 75 juniors and seniors in the Public Service Academy at Dixon High School will be going on individual field trips on March 27 to a job shadowing location of their choosing. Between now and then, our students will locate, contact and secure their placement, which we will then approve or deny based on a few factors. Once approved, they will secure either March 27 or a date during spring break. Students will then write a reflection and share their experience with their classmates on April 18."



Dairies Decry Draft Waste Discharge Rules

To reduce nitrates and ensure that people have access to safe drinking water, the state has proposed tighter water quality requirements for all California dairies that collect dairy waste and apply it to land. The draft order, if adopted as proposed, establishes new precedential groundwater quality protection requirements that would apply to all California dairies that apply their dairy waste to land, said Kari Fisher, senior director and counsel of legal advocacy at the California Farm Bureau.

California Drops 'Clean Fleets' Rule **Phasing Out Diesel Trucks**

California has dropped its landmark rule that would have phased out nearly all diesel trucks in the coming years, the California Air Resources Board announced earlier this month. The "first-in-the-world" rule, called Advanced Clean Fleets, was adopted in 2023 and was set to phase out the sale of new medium- and heavy-duty diesel trucks, including the big rigs that transport many agricultural products. State officials said this month they will not pursue that rule or another clean trucking rule after the Biden administration's Environmental Protection Agency failed to approve waivers for them before President Donald Trump took office.

Gene Editing Behind Two New Self-Pollinating Nonpareil Almond Varieties

Two California companies are in the final stretch of a multiyear marathon to bring farmers the world's first Nonpareil almond variety that can pollinate itself—a development that could help growers reduce the need for bees, lower production costs and increase their bottom line. The companies, Ohalo Genetics and Burchell Nursery, are on a similar timeline: They plan to begin nursery trials this year and to have limited supplies by late 2026 to allow growers to plant them for testing on a first-come basis. Both expect to begin commercial deliveries to growers in 2027.

Study Finds Skyrocketing Cost of Regulatory Compliance for California Lettuce Growers

The cost to California's lettuce growers of complying with the state's environmental, labor and food safety regulations has surged 63.7% over the past seven years, reaching \$1,600 per acre and accounting for more than 12% of their production costs, according to a study commissioned by the Monterey County Farm Bureau and prepared by two Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, professors. Since 2006, compliance costs have risen by 1,366%. Despite this, lettuce growers saw just a 0.37% increase in market prices for their products from 2017 to 2024, highlighting the growing financial strain on the sector.



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 andersonroad-runnerspto@gmail.com for dates.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth

Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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/northernsolanodems/.

NSDC Democrats in Action – Monthly lunch meet-

ing 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 Barbara Rigdon at 408-306-7390. Mail: P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA 95620.

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

36th District Agricultural Assn. - Board of Directors

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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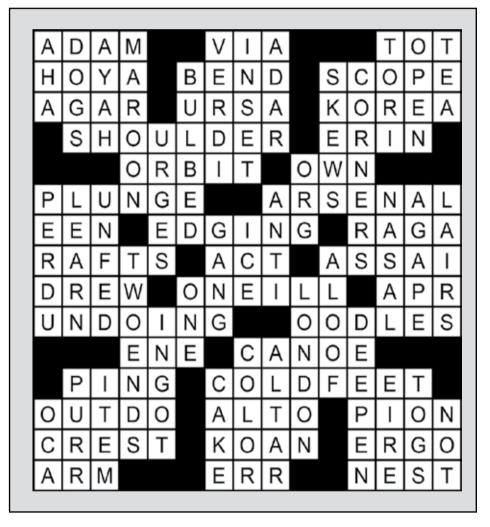
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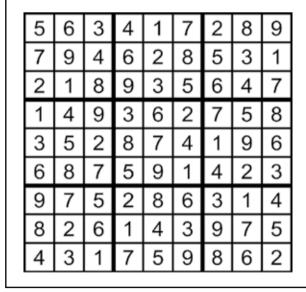


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63

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11. Oscar De La

13. Range 15. Petri dish gel

16. Celestial bear

20. Sportscaster

21. Outer space path

to marriage

30. Even, poetically 31. Trim

35 Kon-Tiki and such 37. Be in a cast

39. Actress Barrymore

May 43. Annulling

45. Loads

between NE and E

48. Dugout river ride

52. *Sign of nervous

56 Lowest female voice

antiquark 59. Toothpaste brand

60. Riddle without

63. Make a mistake

1. "Eureka!" 2. *They cause no prob-

3. Nursemaid, in India

4. ____ 5, band 5. "II Trovatore" composer

6. Garment insert

7. Month before Nisan

Word before sesame 10. *Cupful that's not for

everyone bulb

13. Distorts 14. *Cutting these leads to

22. Dot follower

23. Lost, in Provence

25. Hungry 26. Voting no

voice 28. Wide open

33. *Breaking it relieves

38. Remote in manner 40. Football's extra point

CLUES CROSSWORD

ACROSS

8 Rambino

12. *Do this backwards to try hard to please

17. K-pop home

18. *Cold one is offensive

Andrews

22. Hold title to 23. *Take this to commit

35

39

59

62

26. Bullet factory

34. Sitar music

38. Very, in music

40. "Long Day's Journey into Night" playwright 42. Between Mar. and

47. Compass point

50. Check-in via text

ness (2 words) 55. One up

57. One quark plus one

solution 61. Cogito ____ sui 62. *Leg's partner,

64. Robin's house

DOWN

lems when they sleep

12. Adjective derived from

poor results

19. Prods

24. Live's partner

27. Like Fran Drescher's

29. Bear digs 32. Group of buffaloes

tension 36. *When these meet, one can afford what they want

author 44. Gold bai 46. Dig further 48. One on artist's wheel 49. Communion table

41. "The Call of the Wild"

C StatePoint Media

50. Feline vibration 51. Unit on a list 52. *Easy piece

53. Ireland's other name

54. Duds

55. Edible tuber

58. 1990s negation

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Consumer

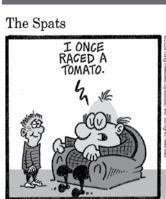
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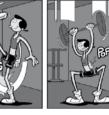




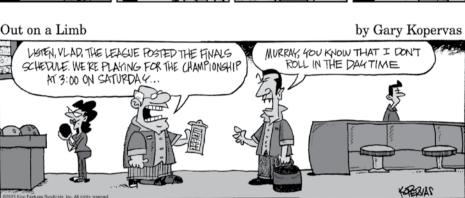




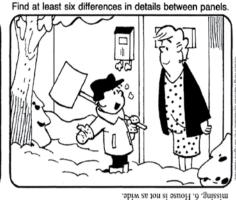












missing from mailbox. 4. Doorknob is missing. 5. Zipper is missing. 6. House is not as wide. Differences: I. Shovel is shorter. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Snow is











by BUD BLAKE

"The Donald Trump-Rosie O'Donnell fight



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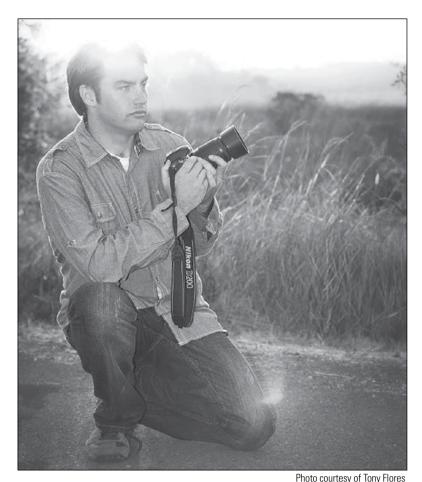
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR



I simply wanted to remember Dave Scholl as a nice guy of excellent character. Dave was dedicated to Dixon's well-being, and his kindness won't be forgotten. Dave gave me my first opportunity in photojournalism when he published photos of mine for various occasions and it's the reason, I'm still with the Dixon Independent Voice today. I'm still with the paper because he believed in me. I can't thank him enough for it. Thank you, Dave.

By Nicolas Brown

Legal Advertising Hotline 916-483-2299

LEGAL VERTISING

Dixon's Independent Voice Adjudicated For and By the County of Solano Adjudication No. FCS030046–November 24, 2008



FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-001918

The following persons are doing

business as: Benedict Restaurant

Corporation DBA Burger King,

1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687 Benedict Restaurant Corporation, 1939 B Peabody Road, Vacaville,

CA 95687 in Solano County: Date filed

December 23, 2024. Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 04/01/2012

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 22 December 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: Jan 24, 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025 KING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000069 The following persons are doing business as: Runge Road C.S.V 8290 Runge Road, Dixon, CA 95620

Viguie Farming LLC and Tremont Farms LLC, 8290 Runge Road, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: January 14, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. 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 13, 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.) Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 2025

2-21-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000112 The following persons are doing business as: University Hotel-Davis Area, 155 E Dorset Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.

CP Capital Group Inc., 155 E Dorset Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: January 21, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name

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 20, 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.)

Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 2025 2-21-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000108 following persons are The business as: Merchandising, 3452 Palo Alto Court, Fairfield, CA 94533. Demonstrate Excellence Manifest

Opportunity, 3452 Palo Alto Court. Fairfield, CA 94533. Date filed in Solano County:

January 21, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 21, 2025

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 20, 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.)

Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 2025 2-21-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000122 The following persons are doing business as: Western Machinery Inc./WME/Western Machinery/Western Machinery Electric/Optimal Energy, 340 W Channel Road, Suite A, Benicia, CA 94510. Western Machinery Electric Inc.,

340 W Channel Road, Suite A, Benicia, CA 94510.

Date filed in Solano County: January 23, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 22, 2025

conducted This Business is 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 22, 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.) Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 2025

WESTERN

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU24-10195

Charles Sanders filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Charles Sanders to Charles James Edward Patterson.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. March 19, 2025, 8:30 a.m. Department 12, Room 1, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533 Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer Dated: January 15, 2025 Publish: February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF FLORENCE LYNN STOW CASE NO. PR25-00034

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be othStow, Florence L. Stow, Florence L. Wadsworth. A Petition for Probate has been

erwise interested in the will or

estate, or both, of Florence Lynn

Soroptimist

News Release

DIXON.

International of Dixon

CA

- US Cryotherapy is a family-owned business founded by the Kramer family in 2011. The company is a pioneer in the cryotherapy industry, having built the first-of-its-kind wholebody wellness and recovery center in the United States. Linzie Kramer was a visionary entrepreneur passionate about helping people heal and improve their lives. His discovery of cryotherapy in Prague

inspired him to partner

with his sons, bringing this

innovative treatment to the

Megan and Stacey

Kramer (married to broth-

ers Kevin and Rob Kramer)

manage the Davis US

Cryotherapy location

which has been in opera-

tion since 2014, located at

2191 Cowell Blvd., C. The

duo took time to discuss the

health benefits cryotherapy

can offer to Soroptimist

International of Dixon

members on Jan. 23. They,

like their father-in-law, are

passionate about helping

"We invited them

people heal naturally.

United States.

(MPG)

filed by Jonathan Matthew Stow, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Jonathan Matthew Stow be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority

to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: February 21, 2025, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 10, Room 305; Superior Court of California. County of Solano, 600 Union Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting

of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other Californaia statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in

California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Yvonne F. Thrasher, Esq, 78 Cernon Street, Suite A, Vacaville, CA 95688; 707-447-1200

Publish: January 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025 STOW 2-14-25

TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 127154-CA APN: 0113-173-100 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORT-ANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DE-FAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 10/24/2014. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROP-ERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEED-ING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT Á LAW-YER On 3/17/2025 at 9:30

AM. CLEAR RECON CORP.

as duly appointed trustee un-

der and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 10/30/2014 as Instrument No. 201400083957 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Solano County, State of CAL-IFORNIA executed by: ANNIS HESLING, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN WILL SELL AT PUB-LIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CA-CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDER-AL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAV-ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AU-THORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; OUTSIDE OF SANTA CLARA STREET EN-TRANCE TO THE CITY HALL 555 SANTA CLARA STREET. VALLEJO, CA 94590 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 621 W D STREET S, DIXON, CA 95620 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$399,641.11 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located, NOTICE TO POTEN-TIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the



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try them to see the immedi-

and effective treatment that

can help people heal from

various conditions, includ-

ing chronic and acute pain

and inflammation, and can

improve sleep, mood and

Cryotherapy is a safe

ate effects."

Kramer) manage US Cryotherapy Davis, which has been in operation since 2014. Photo courtesy of Soroptimist International of Dixon

to speak because we skin. Cryotherapy works had members go to US by exposing the body to Cryotherapy that have seen extremely cold temperahealth benefits," said Amy tures for a short period, which triggers the body's Pretti, SI Dixon vice-president. "They brought out natural healing responses. several machines that help US Cryotherapy offers with joint pain and inflammation, and let members

a variety of treatments, including Whole-Body Cryotherapy, Localized Cryotherapy, Red Light Therapy, and Infrared Sauna. The Davis location also provides a range of other wellness services, such as massage therapy, body contouring and facials.

> Legal Advertising P.O. Box 1

Carmichael, CA 95609

before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contact-

ing the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this Internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 127154-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 127154-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and

bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (855) 313-

the address of the trustee.

Second, you must send a writ-

ten notice of intent to place a

Published 1/24/25, 1/31/25, 2/7/25 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE

3319 CLEAR RECON CORP

3333 Camino Del Rio South,

Suite 225 San Diego, Califor-

nia 92108

highest bidder at the auction,

you are or may be responsible

for paying off all liens senior

to the lien being auctioned off,



LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will conduct a Lien Sale Auction on FEB 24TH, 2025 at 9:30 AM. This is authorized by Division 8, Chapter 10 of the California Business and Professions Code. CASH ONLY. All items must be removed from the property immediately after sale.

DIXON SELF STORAGE 1410 REGENCY PKWY DIXON, CA 95620-4500

UNIT A012- Richard Davis- 7 totes with misc. items, water cooler, portable fan, ice cooler, guitar, tv, fishing art, archery equipment, coleman box, 3 plastic containers Bond # 0342850

Dixon Independent Voice 2-7 and 2-14-2025

Shapiro Does it Again: Wins Beer-for-a-Butterfly Contest

By Kathy Keatley Garvey

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -University of California, Davis distinguished professor emeritus Art Shapiro has done it again.

He won the 2025 Beer-fora-Butterfly Contest, a scientific research project he has sponsored since 1972 to seek the first cabbage white butterfly of the year in the three-county area of Sacramento, Yolo and Solano.

The person who collects the first live butterfly, Pieris rapae and is judged the winner, receives a pitcher of beer or its equivalent.

Shapiro, who works in the Department of Evolution and Ecology, College of Biological Sciences, will be drinking his own beer.

He collected the butterfly by hand along railroad tracks in West Sacramento at 12:13 p.m. Jan. 23. Shapiro brought it back to his Storer Hall campus office in a Big Blue soda bottle.

"When I collected it, I looked in my pocket for the little pill box to put it in," he said. "It was not there.'

What to do?

Nearby, Shapiro spotted a trashed Big Blue soda bottle at an unoccupied homeless encampment. He gingerly lowered the butterfly inside the bottle and wadded a paper towel to close the opening.

"I don't know what Big Blue is," he said Friday. "Never heard of it." (It's a soft drink bottled in Waco, Texas and is a popular Southern soft drink along with its older cousin, Big Red. Big Blue is reportedly three times sweeter than Big Red.)

In an email with the subject line, "Pop Goes the Weasel," to his posse of fellow scientists and butterfly enthusiasts, Shapiro wrote "The minute I arrived at my West Sac site---at noon--I KNEW rapae would be out. It was, A female showed up at 12,13 and I caught her visiting Raphanus three minutes later! She's in the fridge in my lab at Storer."

He had been looking for it since Jan. 1. On Jan. 15, he wrote: "West Sac has generated more first rapae than any other location, probably because much of the route is along the south-facing side of the railroad embankment. The forecast looked perfect, so I went there. 64F, clear, dead calm. The lack of rain this month has dried up all the mud and most of the puddles. The vegetation has if anything regressed; there is less in bloom now than last time-one Hirschfeldi (mustard family). three Raphanus (wild radish), and several each Melilotus alba (white sweetclover) and Sonchus (sow thistles). Five homeless, including a young woman with a dog that looks like a dingo and has its ribs showing. One butterfly--an antiopa (mourning cloak). No rapae. It sure felt like a rapae

day, though!" Collaborator and former doctoral student Matthew Forister, the McMinn biology professor at the University of Nevada, Reno, provides an annual graph.



location, probably because much of the route is along the south-facing side of the railroad embankment. Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey



University of California, Davis distinguished professor emeritus Art Shapiro puts the cabbage white butterfly in a Big Blue soda bottle. Photo by Kathy

prediction, as you can see by the position of the red dot (this year) a bit above the line," noted Forester, who received his Ph.D. in ecology from University of California, Davis in 2004.

Shapiro, who has monitored butterfly populations in Central California since 1972 and maintains a research website at http:// butterfly.ucdavis.edu/, said the contest's point "is to get the earliest possible flight date for statistical purposes." It's all part of his scientific research involving long-term studies of butterfly life cycles and climate change.

P. rapae is emerging earlier and earlier as the regional climate has warmed, Shapiro said: "Since 1972, the first flight of the cabbage white butterfly has varied from Jan. 1 to Feb. 22, averaging about Jan. 20."

Since 1972, Shapiro has been defeated only four times and those were by University of California, Davis graduate students. Adam Porter won in 1983: Sherri Graves and Rick VanBuskirk each won in the late 1990s; and Jacob Montgomery in 2016. The first three were his own graduate students.

Shapiro collected or recorded the last four winning butterflies at the same railroad site in West Sacramento. The dates and times were 11:30 a.m. Jan. 29, 2024; 11:22 a.m. Feb. 18, 2023; and 1:25 p.m. Jan. 19, 2022.

The butterfly inhabits vacant lots, fields and gardens where its host plants, weedy mustards, grow. It's a white butterfly with black dots on the upperside, which could be faint or not visible in the early season. The male is white. The female is often slightly buffy; the "underside of the hindwing and apex of the forewing may be distinctly yellow and normally have a gray cast," Shapiro said. "The black dots and apical spot on the upperside tend to be faint or even to disappear really early in the season.

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

Assisting with the 2025 contest was the Bohart Museum of Entomology, directed by professor Jason Bond. The 2025 alternative rules stipulated that contestants must collect a live butterfly in the wild, video it and email the entry to the Bohart Museum at bmuseum@ucdavis. edu, listing the time, date and place.

Statistics since 2010

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

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

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

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

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

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

2018: Shapiro collected the winner in West Sacramento.

2017: Jan. 19: Shapiro collected the winner on the University of California, Davis campus.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

