

There's Still Time to Get **Cookies** PAGE 3





VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 10

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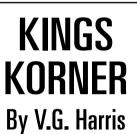
TEAM Dixon Supports Special Needs

MARCH 7, 2025

SEE INSIDE **TICKETS ON SALE** FOR THE CAPITAL



PAGE 6







DIXON, CA (MPG) - TEAM Dixon, or Together Everyone Always Matters, is a nonprofit organization founded in 2014 by Erica Hurtado. The organization exists to bridge the gap for children and teens with special needs and disabilities by offering social experiences and opportunities generally unavailable to this demographic. As the parent of a son with special needs, as well as three typically developing children, Hurtado wanted more opportunities for her son, Ryan, to be included in activities and events with his peers. "The significance of TEAM Dixon can be seen during any of our events or



TEAM Dixon is kicking off its 11th season of Challenger Baseball, with practices already underway. Games are typically at 6 p.m. Fridays. Photo courtesy of TEAM Dixon

By Kendall Brown

from being included while enriching the lives of those who step up to help."

Additionally, through her other three children, Hurtado recognized there are a lot of children looking to make a positive change. TEAM Dixon's buddy program offers this opportunity while giving them the opportunity to learn about the Neurodiverse world. "When looking for buddies... Well, they usually find us. There is a certain caliber of teen seeking out the opportunity to make a difference like our TEAM Dixon buddies do. Typically, we require they be 12 years or older and have a heart for helping

\$3 Million **Available Through Air District Grant**

Programs



Yolo-Solano Air **Quality Management District News Release**

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION, CA (MPG) - The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District is now accepting applications for nearly \$3 million in funding to reduce emissions across the region.

Through the district's Clean Air Funds program and its 2025 Solicitation for grant funding, financial support is available for projects focused on clean vehicle upgrades, alternative transportation, and public education.

"We're excited to kick off the 2025-2026 funding cycle and continue

our efforts to improve air

quality within the dis-

trict," Yolo-Solano Air

Quality Management

District Executive Director

Gretchen Bennitt said.

"These grants empower

communities to reduce

emissions and help raise

awareness on the impor-

The Clean Air Funds

program encourages pri-

vate businesses, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies to implement

cost-effective projects that

tance of clean air."



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Buddies act as encouragers, friends and guides, safely supporting members through TEAM Dixon's inclusive activities and adaptive sports. Photo courtesy of TEAM Dixon

activities," said Hurtado. "It is kindness in action, which proves there are still a lot of good things

going on in our world. We believe in removing the barriers that keep our special needs community

Continued on page 9



reduce mobile source pollution within the district. There are four qualifying project categories: Clean Vehicle Technology, Alternative Transportation, Transit Services, and Public Education. Previous funded projects include EV charging infrastructure in Vacaville, a zero-emission police motorcycle in Winters, a

sidewalk extension in Rio Vista and a bike fleet for The Bike Campaign's Bike Skills Training Program in Woodland schools.

For the district's 2025 Clean Air Funds Grant program, there is \$439,000 available for projects. The program is highly competitive and grants are awarded by the district's Board of Directors. The application deadline for the 2025-2026 Clean Air Funds Program is 4 p.m. on April 18. To apply, visit ysaqmd.org/ CAF.

The district has more than \$2.3 million available in funding for Continued on page 9

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon is growing and more proof of that is in the numbers of pint-sized to near adolescent baseball players this year. There were 132 youths in Hall Park this last Saturday to celebrate the Dixon Little League's 55th year on their opening day.

"We have record numbers this year when it comes to attendance especially in our T-Ball which are 4-, 5- and 6-yearolds where we have 12 teams," said Little League President Casey Willard who welcomed the children, their parents and their grandparents. "Dixon has never had those numbers. We have 35 teams all together. It's a really good year."

Dixon is one of approximately 6,500 leagues throughout the United States and in more than



Little League's opening season was ushered in by blue skies and energized boys this past Saturday where Luke Barnhart had the honor of throwing the first pitch. Courtesy photo One happy camper, Luke Barnhart, a third-year Little League player on the New York Mets team, threw the first pitch on Opening Day due to selling the most tickets to raise money for the League. Photo of Crystal Dvorak Barnhart

80 countries. It was founded by Carl E. Stotz in Pennsylvania in 1939 and is the world's first organized youth sports program.

Everyone took off their baseball caps as the American flag was run

around the field at the start of the ceremony while the Star-Spangled Banner played over the loudspeaker.

The first pitch was by Luke Barnhart, a thirdyear League player on the New York Mets team who

received the honor due to selling the most tickets to raise money for the League.

"I made him work for (that honor)," said his mother, Crystal Barnhart with a laugh. "We did old *Continued on page 9*

www.IndependentVoice.com



Amazing Amazon Boxes

By Debra Dingman

The Amazon box that was 5 feet by 3 feet perched against our hall wall after we had unloaded a queen-size headboard out of it. I bet you didn't know you could order such large things from Amazon. Well, in the rainy and wet weather, I discovered that I could.

Hubby got ready with the box cutter to break it down for the trash when I told him, "No! Don't destroy it!" He gave me that look. "It's just a box," he said. "No, it isn't. It's a tent and the boys are coming over Thursday."

Any parent or grandparent sees the potential of the box. There are even books written about the box: books such as "Christian Katerina and The Box," "Boxitects," "What to Do with a Box" and "The Cardboard Box Book."

I think that the Dixon Public Library should have a box contest and see how creative children can get. They can even divide the competition into age categories to be fair and have prizes for each one.

I looked forward to the boys and told them all about this great box while driving them across town to our home.

Well, Thursday was my birthday and it became cold and wet outside so we baked and decorated birthday cupcakes, put together puzzles, played with Dominoes and watched that silly bear cartoon on Netflix, "Grizzy and the Lemmings." (They are a complete riot!)

When the sun came out on Friday, the 4- and 7-year-old grandsons went outside in the backyard. I placed the box in an upside-down V, making the perfect pup tent for them. Hubby embellished the plan with a brown, former dog blanket on the ground.

They both fought over who was going in first and the 4 year old stayed inside for the next hour playing with his little toys in peace. The other one and I discovered that the long strips of Styrofoam made great swords so we battled it out until they were nubs. Then we took the broken strips and had a contest to see who could build the highest structure with them. He won.

Then there were giant flat sheets of Styrofoam left and I had the idea that I wanted to make older grandson No. 2 and youngest grandson No. 2 so I could remember them when they were not here and stand them up in the Nana-room. The older one happily went first and laid down with his muscleman pose and I embellished the arm muscle a bit while outlining him with a really fat black marker. Then they colored in a few details such as hair and eyeballs. One could easily see the developmental progress of each of the boys. The older one added a stylish haircut and made almond-shaped eyes. He asked me how to make the eyebrows, so they looked determined, you know, like Superman.

The younger one made large red circles with pin-sized dots in the middle. They were adorable. They are now protected behind the Nana-room door.

We wrapped everything up in time to head home with a plate of cupcakes.

If you're wondering what to do with those Amazon boxes you get, there are after-school programs at almost every elementary school in Dixon offering fertile ground for creative fun!





Dixon News Briefs



Dixon High School, 555 College Way, invited a group of Buffalo Soldiers to present their history to students during lunchtime on Feb. 27. The event was put together by Dixon High School's first ever Black Student Union, led by BSU President and Dixon High School Student Madison Wartson. Photo courtesy of Isabella Quiniola

By MPG Staff

Successful Aging Takes a Plan

Elder Care Management, a home health care service for aging adults, is hosting a presentation at 10 a.m. on March 26. Held at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, the presentation will cover topics on planning for the future, such as whether to live at home or in a care facility, the costs involved and preparation for unexpected roadblocks or tragedies. According to Elder Care, having a successful care plan can reduce stress and help prevent a crisis.

For more information visit eldercm. com/calendar or call 707-678-5060 to register.

Young Frankenstein

The Davis Musical Theatre Company is hosting an upcoming stage production of the Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein. The musical, held at the Jean Henderson Performing Arts Center, 607 Pena Drive, Davis, premieres at 7:30 p.m. on March 7 and plays through March 30. Friday and Saturday showings begin at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday showings begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at \$20 for general admission and \$18 for Students and Seniors (55 and up). There is a \$2 facility fee added per ticket.

For more information or to purchase tickets call 530-756-3682 or visit dmtc.org.

Dixon Moose Lodge Fish Fry

Dixon Moose Lodge, 180 W. B St., is hosting fish fry fundraiser from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 8. For \$25 per person, the Lodge is serving two pieces of fish, French fries, coleslaw and tartar sauce. The fish will be prepared by the Lodge's long-time fish fryer Karen Brown. The event is open St., is offering up to \$10,000 in scholarships for college-bound and currently enrolled students. This program, administered by Scholarship America, has applications available for California, Hawaii, New Mexico and Washington residents. Customer service is available, but only until the application deadline at 1 p.m. Pacific Time/ 3 p.m. Central Time on March 27.

For more information contact calwa-ter@scholarshipamerica.org.

Solano-Yolo Rugby Club

The Solano-Yolo Rugby Club (known as "Solo" or the "Falcons") will be playing its first High School League game of the season against the San Jose Royals at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 8 at Hall Park, 450 Hall Park Drive. Solano-Yolo Rugby Club is a youth rugby program combining the former Dixon, Vacaville and Davis youth rugby programs, but also draw players from throughout Solano and Yolo counties.

For more information visit soloyouth-rugby.com.

American Legion Saint Patrick's Dinner American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Saint Patrick's Dinner from 4 to 8 p.m. on March 14. The event will be held in Veteran's Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. and offers a no-host bar and dinner. For \$15, attendees can enjoy corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and carrots. The bar opens

at 4 p.m. and dinner is served at 6 p.m. For more information visit dixonchamber.org.

Art Uncorked

Soroptimist International of Dixon is hosting a benefit for women and children in the community from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on March 15. For \$45 per person, attendees can enjoy art inspired by local artisans while dining on wine and appetizers. The event will take place at American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St.

We are honored to be able to provide the residents of Dixon and surrounding areas more senior living options.

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Our community offers spacious studios, one bedroom and two-bedroom floor plans with luxury finishes such as granite counter tops, walk in closets, gorgeous views of our courtyards and the surrounding neighborhood.

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- pizza oven dining experience
- a putting green
- theater room



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to members and qualified guests and patrons have the option of either dine-in or takeout.

For more information or to register call 530-219-1653 or 707-450-8223.

Dragon Fly Dinner and Auction

Dixon Montessori Charter School, 355 N. Almond St., is hosting its annual adults-only Dragonfly Dinner and Auction at 5 p.m. on March 15. The event, held in Denverton Hall at the Dixon Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St., is open to all community members. For \$60 per attendee, guests will have access to catered meals, live entertainment, raffle prizes, auction items and dancing. The event also offers on-site babysitting and childcare services for \$50 per child (Dixon Montessori Charter School students only). Dixon Montessori Charter School staff will also provide children with a pizza dinner and snacks. All proceeds support Dixon Montessori Charter School students.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit dixonmontessori.org.

CalWater Scholarship Programs

California Water Service, 110 E. Mayes

For more information or to purchase tickets call 916-799-3315.

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. on March 13. The morning book club is a monthly, adult-oriented group that will be starting "Daughters of Shandong" by Eve J. Chung. Coffee and tea will be provided for attendees, and the meeting itself will be in the front room of the library.

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

Scouting for Food

Dixon Cub Scout Pack 253 and Scouts BSA Troop 152 are hosting the annual Scouting for Food event on March 8. The event takes place over two weekends and aims to combat hunger in the community. On March 1, Scouts distributed door hangers to inform citizens of the drive, and, on March 8, Scouts will revisit these neighborhoods to pick up bags of non-perishables, such as canned foods, cereal, pasta and peanut butter. All donations will benefit Dixon Family Services, 155 N. Second St.

For more information visit Dixon Cub Scout Pack 253's Facebook page. ★

Solano County Kindness Campaign Video Contest

Solano County District Attorney's Office News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - We are calling on all Solano County Junior High and High School students to participate in the 7th annual countywide video contest showcasing the power of kindness on campus.

The Kindness Campaign Video Contest, sponsored by Solano County District Attorney's Office, invites students to submit a video between 30 seconds and two minutes in length that expresses what the power of kindness can accomplish in their school community. It asks the question, "How can the power of kindness be used in our schools, homes, and communities to make a positive difference?"

The deadline for submissions, April 23, is fast approaching, so do not forget to submit your video.

Contest rules and submission information can be found online at solanocounty.com/depts/da/kindness_ campaign.asp. Questions regarding the contest should be directed to scdakindness@solanocounty.com.

There's Still Time to Get Cookies



Girl Scouts of Northern California with their cookie display. Photo courtesy of Girl Scouts of Northern California

Girl Scouts Heart of Central California News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Girl Scouts Heart of Central California (GSHCC) reminds residents that there is still time to buy cookies during the 2025 Girl Scout Cookie Season. This year's season runs from Feb. 21 through March 16. This cookie season spans communities in the Greater Sacramento, Stockton and Modesto regions.

When girls participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, the largest entrepreneurial program in the world, they acquire a host of invaluable entrepreneurial skills, including goal setting, money management, decision making, people skills and business ethics.

Each box of cookies sold allows Girl Scouts to develop an inextinguishable entrepreneurial spirit, gaining courage, confidence, and character as they conquer new feats and embark on new adventures. Girl Scouts obtain transferable life skills through various badges and awards, including Cookie Business badges, Financial Literacy badges, Cookie Entrepreneur Family pins, and Entrepreneur badges.

"GSHCC's Cookie Program goes beyond selling fan-favorite cookies; it ensures a bright and promising future for our Girl Scouts," said Girl Scouts Heart of Central California CEO Linda E. Farley, Ed.D. "Through the Cookie Program, girls acquire important skills in goal setting,

decision-making, money management, people skills and business ethics, skills that will help them make an impact in the world and become our future leaders."

Since Feb. 21, Girl Scouts have been selling cookies at booths outside local grocery stores, shopping centers and community events across the region. Girl Scouts Heart of Central California encourages cookie enthusiasts to support Girl Scouts by using the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Cookie Finder website feature, which provides an easy and convenient way to locate cookie booths in the community.

Girl Scouts Heart of Central California is dedicated to building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Through various programs and initiatives, the organization empowers girls to take the lead in their lives and communities.

Headquartered in Sacramento, Girl Scouts Heart of Central California serves more than 16,000 girl and adult members across 18 counties: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Mariposa, Merced, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tuolumne, Yuba and Yolo.

Backed by trusted adult volunteers, mentors and millions of alums, Girl Scouts lead the way as they find their voices and make changes that affect the issues most important to them. To join us, volunteer, reconnect or donate, visit www.girlscoutshcc.org.



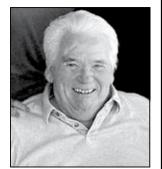
CHARLES EDWARD BRIGGS • 09/07/1936 - 01/15/2025

Charles was born on September 7, 1936 to Claude and Monnie Briggs in Sparta Tennessee, where he grew up with 4 sisters and 4 brothers. At the age of 20, he joined the U.S. Navy, where he ended up in California. There, he met and married Juanita Farmer and adopted her daughter, Deborah Lynn, both of whom preceded him in death. Together, he and Juanita had 3 more children: Charles "Randy" Briggs of Dixon, Juanita "Denise" Jerrett of Marysville, and James "Jimmy" Briggs of Dixon.



by his wife of 46 years, Donna Briggs, and her 2 sons, Randy Colter and Pernell Colter, all of Dixon. Charles leaves behind 13 grandchildren, 7 great business, where Charles grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews sons, and is still in operaall across the country.

Charles worked Charles is also survived Transportation from 1968 National Cemetery.



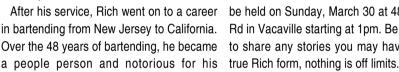
to 1985, at which point he and Donna bought their own truck to start Briggs Livestock Transportation. This became the family got to work with both his tion today.

He was laid to rest for Valley Livestock at Sacramento Valley

MEMORIAL

RICHARD ARNOLD MALGIERI SR • 07/07/1942 - 01/27/2025

Richard Arnold Malgieri Sr of Dixon, CA passed away on January 27, 2025, at the age of 82. Richard (Rich) was born July 7, 1942 to Grace and Aurelio Malgieri in Jersey City, NJ. Rich was the youngest of five siblings and grew up in Emerson, NJ. After graduating high school, he served in the Navy from 1960 to 1964 as an electrician aboard Submarine, U.S.S. Hardhead SS65 in New London, Connecticut.



honest, gruff, joker personality. Many lifelong friendships came from his years being behind the bar.

He married Susan (Montesinos) and had two children, Cassandra and Richie Jr. He was preceded in death by his wife Susan, brothers Harry, Thomas and sisters Grace and Joyce. He is survived by his children as well as many close family members and friends.

A celebration of life will

After his service, Rich went on to a career be held on Sunday, March 30 at 4853 Store Rd in Vacaville starting at 1pm. Be prepared to share any stories you may have, and in







o, all that Zach has done is pland better with every game. The itters that led to poor 3-point a has been replaced by stellar

Breaking news, the Sacramento Kings can win games against playoff quality teams without all-world center Domantas Sabonis. It happened Saturday night in Houston Texas against a playoff bound Rockets team, as iron man Sabonis grabbed his right hamstring and was forced to leave the game only two minutes into the action.

Not to be esoteric, but intended for every fan and pundit to understand, this team even short-handed can make the playoffs. Yes, I said playoffs, not playin.

Even with the news that Sabonis will be sidelined for 2-3 weeks, every fan should find the positive where it takes you. With Sabonis resting his ailing hamstring, players such as Keon Ellis, Trey Lyles, and hopefully Markelle Fultz, will get much more court action, and Fultz in particular needs more time getting used to his new teammates.

I'm excited to see the athleticism and deft ball handling that Fultz brings to the hardwood, and without question Malik Monk needs time without the ball. Monk is getting exhausted handling the ball every possession, and he is leading the team in turnovers nearly every night. This comes from trying to do too much, and I love the effort Malik brings every game. No one gives more, but he is more comfortable in the role as a 2 guard, and with either Devin Carter or Markelle Fultz on the court, Malik can assume his former role.

Not to be overlooked as the Kings have put together a 3-game winning streak, is the work of big man Jonas Valanciunas. Jonas looks like the NBA starter he's always been and will fill the void left by Sabonis as he nurses his hamstring over the next half dozen games.

Valanciunas is an excellent rebounder and has a low post game that is second to none. He gets criticism for his defense, but I believe he is a more than capable team defender, and he accepts a challenge well. Without question the acquisition of Jonas Valanciunas was bound to pay dividends, and Sacramento is about to see what this quality NBA center can do.

While pundits criticized the trade that brought Zach Lavine to the Kings from

Chicago, all that Zach has done is play better and better with every game. The initial jitters that led to poor 3-point shooting has been replaced by stellar knock-down 3's, that ignite the home crowd and show naysayers that this former NBA all-star can make a difference every night.

This is exactly the type of team Sacramento fans have been hoping to see for years. A team that can take any team to the wire every night, and as this newly assembled group has found time together, they are looking like a bonified playoff contender.

Just percentage points ahead of the Dallas Mavericks in the Western Conference standings, Monday night's game looms large.

The Kings occupy the No. 9 spot in the standings but are amazingly only a halfgame out of the No. 6 spot. Five quality teams are vying for No. 6, but the Kings are finding their collective stride at just the right moment. Tested they will be as they enter American Airlines arena and face Kyrie Irving and Klay Thompson.

If ever in a frenetic season it is time for optimism, that time is now! It should come from every corner, and regardless of what occurs against the Mavericks and the Nuggets on Wednesday night in Denver, everyone should be looking forward to Friday night's contest against the visiting San Antonio Spurs.

Much has been said about the back story of DeAaron Fox leaving the Kings, and for one night that needs to take hiatus. When DeAaron is introduced as a member of the opposing team, every fan needs to get on their feet and put their hands together. What Fox did for the Sacramento Kings in nearly eight seasons is legendary, and without question No. 5 will have his jersey retired someday.

Stand up Kings fans, because the best is truly yet to come! It's a great time to be a Sacramento Kings fan, so remember the glass is half full, and the playoffs are right around the corner! All the best!

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

Scientists believe that even space for future stormwater."

Social Security Matters *Should I Wait until Age 70 to Claim Social Security?*



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am a married woman, at my full retirement age, and the primary earner in my marriage. How do I know if I should take my Social Security now or wait till 70? I will lose quite a bit if I take it now. How will it affect my taxes if I take it now while still working a full-time job? **Signed: Undecided**

Dear Undecided: As vou apparently already know, waiting until you are 70 to claim Social Security will result in you getting your maximum possible monthly SS retirement benefit. After your full retirement age, you get about 8% more each year you delay claiming up to age 70. But deciding exactly when to claim should consider both your financial needs and, importantly, your life expectancy. If you don't urgently need the money

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now and your life expectancy is at least "average," then waiting until age 70 to claim is usually the right choice. But if you urgently need the money, or your life expectancy is less than average (mid-80s for a woman your current age), then claiming before age 70 is usually prudent.

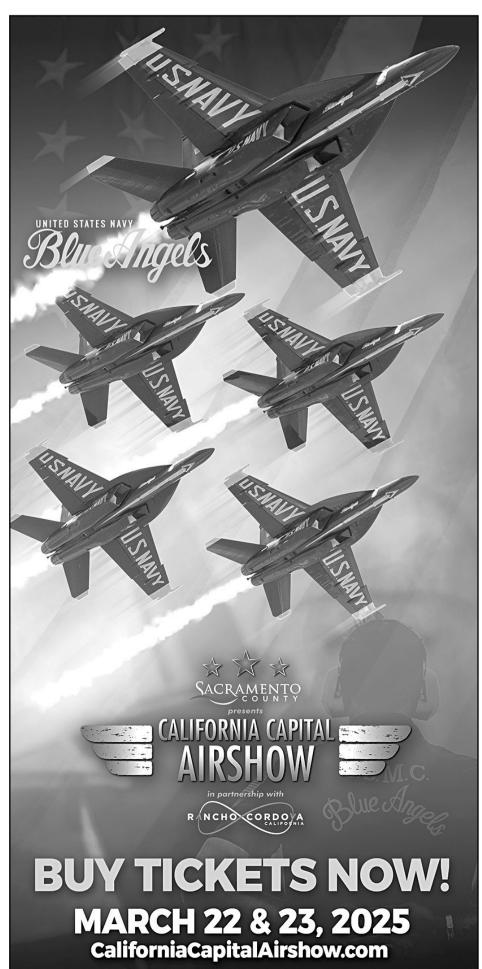
Regarding taxation, Social Security benefits may be taxable if your combined income from all sources exceeds the threshold for your IRS filing status. If you file taxes as "married/jointly" and your combined income (including your work income) exceeds \$32,000, then half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. But if your combined income is over \$44,000, then up to 85% of your SS benefits becomes taxable income (the thresholds are lower for those who file as a single). So, your full-time work income will likely affect how much of your Social Security benefits are subject to income tax by the IRS.

In the end, only you can decide when you should claim Social Security. Taxation of benefits may be a factor to consider since you are still working full time (thus more of your SS benefits will be taxable). But waiting longer to claim results in a higher benefit for the rest of your life (your SS retirement benefit will be .667% more for each month you delay, up to age 70). If the "rest of your life" is a long time and you don't urgently need the money, waiting is often the right choice. If not, claiming earlier may be wiser.

If you want to get a more personalized estimate of your life expectancy, I suggest you use the tool we use here at the AMAC Foundation: www.socialsecurityreport.org/tools/ life-expectancy-calculator/.

This article is intended for information pur-

poses 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.



Lacking the Capacity to Store Water That Atmospheric Rivers Dump on the State



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

President Donald Trump is obsessed with how California manages its water supply, demanding changes as one price of giving the state billions of dollars in aid to cope with Southern California's deadly and destructive wildfires.

However, Trump's specific complaints are not grounded in hydrologic or managerial reality — such as his insistence that a lack of water from Northern California was a factor in either the fires' eruption or the firefighting efforts. Hydrants dried up largely because systems were designed to deal with individual structure fires, not widespread wildfires involving thousands of buildings.

That said, there's much to criticize in how California, once a global leader in largescale water management, has faltered. Population growth and evolving agricultural practices have increased demand, while federal and state environmental laws, judicial decisions, political foot-dragging and climate change have restricted supply.

One major failing has been a slow response to an obvious need for more water storage — either in reservoirs or underground aquifers to capture winter rains and spring snowmelts as a buffer for dry years. if California's overall water supply from rain and snow storms doesn't decline, wet and dry cycles have become more intense, and more precipitation is coming as rain instead of snow. Thus the natural reservoirs of snowpacks in the Sierra and other mountain ranges are becoming less dependable, increasing the need for supplemental storage.

California's most recent experiences — two wet winters that defied some forecasts — underscore the need.

A new report from the Public Policy Institute of California points out that the atmospheric rivers that dropped immense quantities of rain and snow on the state this month, following a very dry January, did not result in substantial new storage in the state's major reservoirs.

"Rather than storing all the water they can, during the winter reservoir operators are required to maintain enough space in their reservoirs to capture high inflows and reduce the risk of flooding downstream," PPIC researchers Jeffrey Mount and Greg Gartrell wrote.

"When the February storms arrived, the surge of water into the state's two largest reservoirs — Shasta and Oroville — quickly filled the flood reserve space. Because the winter flood season is far from over, dam operators had no choice but to let the water go to make space for possible future floods.

"And they let go a lot of water. Between February 1 and 18, those two reservoirs alone released more than 2 million acre-feet of water into the Sacramento and Feather Rivers to maintain An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons and 2 million-acre feet equates to more than half of Oroville's capacity, or about 20% of what Californians consume each year for non-agricultural purposes.

Overall, Mount and Gartrell calculated, 5.1 million acre-feet of water flowed into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta from storm runoff and reservoir releases during that period in February. Just 4% of it could be diverted into storage because of insufficient capacity and operational mandates.

Even a relatively tiny increase in storage capacity could pay huge dividends when wet winters such as this evolve into periods of drought. Had the long-proposed Sites Reservoir on the west side of the Sacramento Valley existed, it could have banked as much as 1.5 million acre-feet of that excess flow.

California's water managers acknowledge the need for more storage to take advantage of high-precipitation winters such as this one, but clearing all of the legal and financial hurdles and actually building it take decades. Sites, first proposed seven decades ago, is just now beginning to appear feasible.

The hydrological reality of California's water supply is changing faster than our willingness to deal with it. The outcome of that disparity is perilous.

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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Upon A Starlit Tide by Kell Woods

Luce Leon has always felt the irresistible pull of the sea, a force that seems to call from just beyond the locked gates of her family's large, expansive manor home, Le Bleu Sauvage. While her sisters dream of marriages and betrothals, Luce's heart yearns for the open waters. She spends her days shrouded in secrecy, learning the tools of the trade from her best friend, Samuel, all the while feeling the sea's siren song calling her.

Then, one day, the unthinkable happens, and the sea-worthy ship, The Dauphin, is claimed by the

sea, taking all men on board except for one. As Luce rescues the drowning man, she instantly falls for him, knowing his handsome demeanor and seaworthiness could be the answer to take her to the sea. Morgan de Chatelaine, the son of a powerful ship owner, knows the sea and will quickly answer its call upon a new ship. All too quickly, Luce is wrapped up in the promise of glittering balls and a charming, luxurious life with Morgan, but something still nudges her, a power just beyond her grasp. As the tides change, so do the young man's intentions, and Luce begins to learn the truth.

As the local fae that once kept their



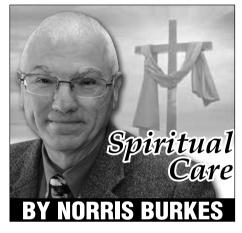
Publisher: Tor Books
Intended Audience: Adult
Release Date: February 18, 2025

waters safe have all but left and war with the English begins to bloom, there is more at stake than Luce's heart. But perhaps her heart, and the desires that reside within it, have more to do with everything than she could possibly know. Now caught between new desires and the echoes of an old self, Luce must uncover the truth about herself before the fear of losing it all rises to the surface. A world that can shatter as fast as a glass slipper or disappear like the flick of a mermaid's tale, Luce will have to take knowledge and power and truly decide where, or with

who her heart truly resides.

Like magic ink spilled across the pages, Upon A Starlit Tide is both starlight and the sea, glass slippers and fairytales, true love and deceit, desire and longing all spun into a fairytale. Kell Woods delivers a masterful retelling that tames the want and desire of fairytale that calm the soul, but reborn anew for the adult reader. Like spinning starlight into sea salt and foam, this story will wash upon a reader's heart, lapping at them like the delicate ocean waves. However, this story also reads like a storm at sea as it is mixed with deceit and the desire of a seafaring man when a treasure is at the helm.

God's Not Finished With This Chaplain, Yet



I had no choice but to go to the chapel office and ask our NCOIC (office manager) for a new hat. As I unfolded my story, Master Sgt. Steve Carothers folded his 6-foot-5-inch frame in half, overcome with near stroke-inducing laughter.

He then made a comical demand. "If you want me to give you a new hat, you are going to have to give me just one good reason why I should overlook such a blame fool mistake as that."



Riley Reviews

MEDICAL DRAMA "THE PITT" ON MAX; FIRST LOOK AT TCM FESTIVAL

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"THE PITT" ON MAX

Watching the MAX television series "The Pitt" about the medical chaos taking place in real-time in a hospital emergency room could fill you either with dread or hope that dedicated healthcare professionals may save your life.

Each hour of a 15-hour shift at the Pittsburgh Trauma Medical Hospital is tracked in the 15-episode series wherein Noah Wyle's Dr. Michael "Robby" Robinavitch runs the hectic emergency department.

No better actor could likely fill the starring role in "The Pitt" than Noah Wyle, who is best-known for his role of medical doctor John Carter in the NBC medical drama "ER" that ran for fifteen seasons.

The day starts at 7 a.m., where the waiting room is already full, and you might be lucky to be seen by a doctor before dinner time, and as a result some of the patients can be unruly.

A 15-hour day in the emergency room is an endurance test, not just for the doctors, but also for the composed charge nurse Dana Evans (Katherine LaNasa), a veteran who has probably seen it all, and the scores of nurses, medics, and emergency medical technicians coming and going.

It's also the first day for a group of interns and medical students, and one of them greets an overnight shift doctor with "I can't tell you how excited I am to be here," to which the doctor replies "Talk to me at the end of the day."

The veterans, including Dr. Robby, know that you survive the tense environment of a frenzied workplace with good-natured banter that helps you get through the day. On top of that, Dr. Robby has a good bedside manner with patients but won't hesitate to tangle with an administrator.

Interesting players include Tracy Ifeachor's Dr. Heather Collins, a senior resident at odds with Dr. Robby. Fiona Dourif's Dr. Cassie McKay, a single mom and older resident, is unconventional. Dr. Trinity Santos (Isa Briones) is an overly self-confident intern.

For all the medical jargon and procedures that seem realistic, "The Pitt" deals with trauma and pressure in ways that feel so genuine that the trial and tribulations of the emergency room result in must-see television.

After viewing a few episodes, one might wish that "The Pitt" was streaming for a binge-watch, but the good news is that the last episode looks to be on track for early April.

begins on April 27, 2025 in the center of Hollywood at the primary venue of the landmark Chinese Theatre that many still refer to as Grauman's Chinese.

This year's theme is "Grand Illusions: Fantastic Worlds on Film," which is described as an invitation for "a wondrous journey to enchanted worlds of fantasy and stories beyond belief."

Perhaps more to the point, the journey will be "from myths and magical creatures to ghostly encounters and travel through time," where you can "escape with fellow movie lovers to places that will ignite your imagination."

An interesting mix of films, announced so far, fit the festival's theme. Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey" is a groundbreaking science fiction that explores humanity's evolution, artificial intelligence, and the mysteries of space and time.

Director Vincente Minnelli's 1954 romantic musical "Brigadoon" follows two American travelers, Gene Kelly and Van Johnson, who stumble upon a magical Scottish village that appears only once every hundred years.

When one of them falls for a beautiful woman who lives there, played by Cyd Charisse, they face a choice between love and the outside world. "Brigadoon" is based on the 1947 Broadway musical of the same name from Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe.

"Car Wash," the groundbreaking comedy directed by Michael Schultz (who is slated to be honored by a tribute at the festival), follows a day in the lives of employees at a car wash that included Richard Pryor, George Carlin, Franklyn Ajaye, and The Pointer Sisters.

In the world of fantasy, 1978's "Superman" was the first of the big superhero blockbusters, where actor Christopher Reeve made his film debut as the Man of Steel in director Richard Donner's screen adaptation of the comic book icon.

Four levels of festival passes may be found on the TCM Classic Film Festival website, which offer access opportunities to screen films, attend "meet and greets" with TCM guests, shop for TCM souvenirs, and enjoy panel discussions with experts on all aspects of film and the history of Hollywood.

The festival has drawn many special guests, from directors like Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese to filmmaker and actor Mel Brooks and actors like Sophia Loren, Kirk Douglas and Kim Novak.

Declared guests so far include writer, director, producer, playwright, and author George Stevens, Jr., the Founding Director of the American Film Institute, and director Michael Schultz, whose Hollywood career began with "Cooley High," a landmark film in Black cinema.

When a reader once left a voicemail suggesting that I wasn't worthy of my chaplain title, I shrugged. That's OK, I thought, I've heard that before.

The worst occasion happened during my USAF deployment to Saudi Arabia in 1999. That's when my supervisor, Col. Mike Bradshaw, told me I wasn't being promoted to the rank of Major.

"You'll be reconsidered next year," he promised. "But trust me," he added in his signature truism, "it's really a 'onechance-mistake-Air-Force.' You won't remain active duty."

So, I guess it was appropriate that a few mornings later, I walked into the chapel men's room to evacuate the constipation of my disappointment. Before entering the stall, I followed military tradition and tucked my hat into the beltline at the small of my back.

Before taking my place on the porcelain throne, I noticed the toilet brand name, "Norris." I shrugged. It fit the "career" I was having.

I stayed for much longer than I should have. I didn't want to go to the office. How was I supposed to be a supportive chaplain to the deployed troops when I felt so low?

Finally, however, I stood to do my "paperwork." As I discarded the paper into the receptacle, I noticed that some careless fool had ditched his hat in my toilet.

First, I wondered, why hadn't I previously noticed this?

But my second and more sober observation was that this fool's hat had a Christian cross affixed on it. That fool was me!

I almost cried looking at my hat in the flusher. Was God using a metaphor to tell me that my chaplain career was in the toilet? If so, was the military my only path of ministry? Or were there other ministry venues? I wasn't sure. "Well," I admitted, "there are some foolish officers in this Air Force who seem like they operate with a head full of crap."

He shook his head with large, agreeable nods.

"But" I said, "don't you think it takes a really good officer like me to admit that he has a hat full of crap?"

Hearing my logic, he dropped to the floor, hysterically beating the tile with his fist.

"I give up, Chaplain," he declared. "You got your new hat."

The Bible says in James 5:16, "Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed."

I confessed my mistake—my sin—and got a new hat. But better than that, I got a new ministry.

For you see, despite my sinking feeling that my career was flushed in the crapper of chaplain careerism, I had a creatively hysterical moment in which I emailed my "hat-full" story to a Florida friend, a newspaper editor named Tom Clifford. Tom thought it was riotously funny but too inappropriate for a newspaper.

Still, he saw through my "crap," and 10 months later, he invited me to begin this syndicated newspaper column.

Col. Bradshaw had asked me to trust him. Trust is best left to God, not man. Now, almost 25 years after the famous toilet week, I look back over a long and rewarding career as a healthcare chaplain.

Better yet, I managed to finish a career in uniform. In 2002, I transferred to the California Air National Guard and was twice promoted, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 2014.

So, now I know that if I ever meet up with Col. Bradshaw again, I'd like to tell him one thing: "Trust me, God's still not finished with me."

This column was excerpted from my book "Thriving Beyond Surviving." ★

TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL EARLY LOOK

It's not too early for cinephiles to plan for the upcoming start of the annual fourday TCM Classic Film Festival that



Purge of Federal Support Jolts Agriculture

The Trump administration's mass firing of federal employees and its withholding of federal funds during the past month have impacted farmers who for decades have partnered with the federal government for conservation, infrastructure and equipment upgrades, research and other work critical to agriculture. "We have been constantly assessing the impacts because these actions touch so many areas of the federal government that farmers and ranchers interact with," said Erin Huston, natural resources and land consultant for the California Farm Bureau.

State Water Board Delays Probation for Kern Subbasin

Groundwater agencies in Kern County have been given more time to improve their groundwater sustainability plans and potentially avoid state intervention. Citing significant progress in the agencies' plans to bring the critically overdrafted Kern County Subbasin into sustainability by 2040 under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, or SGMA, the California State Water Resources Control Board last week continued its hearing to Sept. 17 on whether to place the subbasin in probationary status.

Heavy Bee Mortality Puts Almond Pollination at Risk

California almond orchards have turned snowy white, signaling the start of bloom. However, beekeepers say that bee mortality rates are at an all-time high, and they are concerned there may not be enough honeybees to pollinate the 2025 almond crop. "The commercial beekeeping industry is experiencing significant hive loses nationwide," said Ryan Burris, president of the California State Beekeepers Association.

Record Winegrape Acreage Left Unpicked Last Season

California's winegrape sector continues to reel from a shrinking market that has left the state with too much vineyard acreage and, year after year, an oversupply of grapes. Last year, more than a tenth of the state's crop was left unpicked, according to industry estimates presented last month at the Unified Wine and Grape Symposium in Sacramento. "I don't think there's ever been a time when we left that many acres of grapes on the vine," said Jeff Bitter, president of Allied Grape Growers. ★

IndependentVoice.com

Tickets Now on Sale for the 2025 California Capital Airshow



The 2025 California Capital Airshow will be headlined by the world-renowned U.S. Navy Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron. Photo courtesy of the California Capital Airshow

California Capital Airshow News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The 2025 California Capital Airshow, presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova, returns to Mather Airport on March 22 and 23.

A limited quantity of tickets are

now on sale for this highly-anticipated event, which is headlined by the world-renowned U.S. Navy Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron.

Gates to the Airshow will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 22 and Sunday, March 23. Each day will feature four hours of non-stop flying performances from noon to 4 p.m. Performers include the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, U.S. Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II, U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper and C-17 Globemaster III demonstration teams, Tucker's Air Patrol, vintage World War II aircraft and more.

The event also offers miles of exhibits, aircraft displays and entertainment on the ground.

"With the Blue Angels headlining for the first time since 2019, this year's Airshow promises to be an unforgettable experience for aviation fans of all ages," said Darcy Brewer, executive director of the California Capital Airshow. "Our team has worked tirelessly to create an event that showcases the awe-inspiring power of flight, and we can't wait to welcome everyone for a weekend with amazing performances and family fun."

The event offers several ticket types, with a range of experiences and accommodations. General Admission tickets for the 2025 Airshow includes free parking and event admission for up to six children (ages 15 and under).

New this year is an exclusive event entrance and venue for all attendees with upgraded tickets. Guests will have access to food trucks and upgraded restrooms dedicated to upgraded ticket holders. The Airshow has several tiers of ticketed experiences, including the Capital Club, Flight Line Club and Mather Club, which offer a range of benefits such as shaded seating, complimentary beverages, buffet lunch and prime views of the aerial performances. Returning this year is The Hangar experience, which includes unlimited craft beer and spirits from the City of Rancho Cordova's Barrel District and wine from Starfield Vineyards.

For those seeking a more premium experience, First Class, a brand-new offering for 2025, includes exclusive access to VIP amenities, a pilot meet-and-greet, and premium food and drink options.

Tickets are now available for purchase online. With the popularity of the Blue Angels and limited availability for all ticket types, fans are encouraged to buy early. Tickets will not be sold at the event gates.

Special thanks also to California Capital Airshow sponsors: Modern Aviation, SMUD, Verizon, Keurig Dr. Pepper,

Donaghy Sales, Monster Energy, Thunder Valley, UPS, Five Star Bank, Teichert, Atlas Disposal and Golden 1 Credit Union.

For more information about tickets, pricing and packages, visit online californiacapitalairshow.com.

About California Capital Airshow

Established in 2004, the California Capital Airshow 501(c)3 plans and operates the exciting, family-friendly annual event designed to honor the Sacramento region's rich aviation heritage and veterans while using the power and magic of flight to inspire young people. California Capital Airshow gives back to the community through STEM scholarships, charitable group donations and exciting educational youth programming throughout the year For more information, visit

CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com. *

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. 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.

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.

org/Legion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parks & Recreation Commission - Meets the fourth

Dixon Kiwanis Club - an International civic organization serving the community through enhancing children's lives meets on the fourth Mondav 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.

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 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 Barbara Rigdon at 408-306-7390. 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.

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

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



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

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

Financial

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

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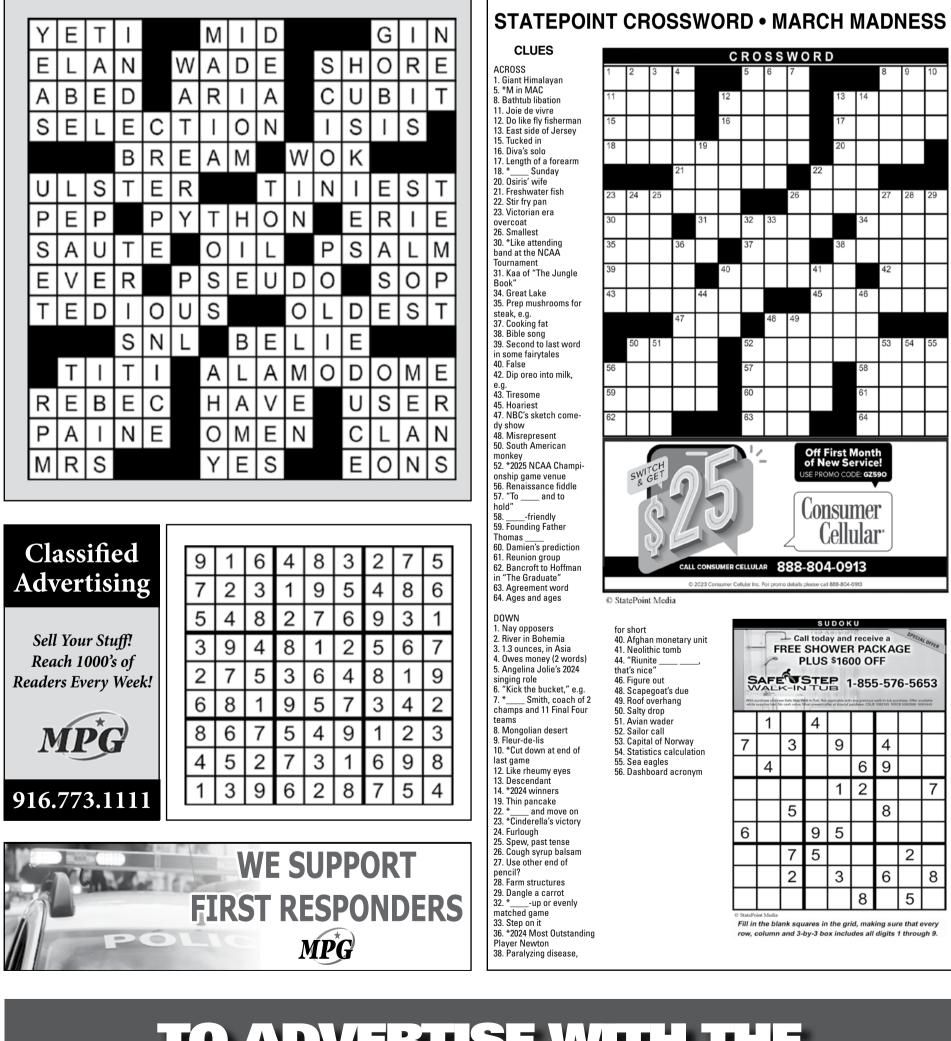
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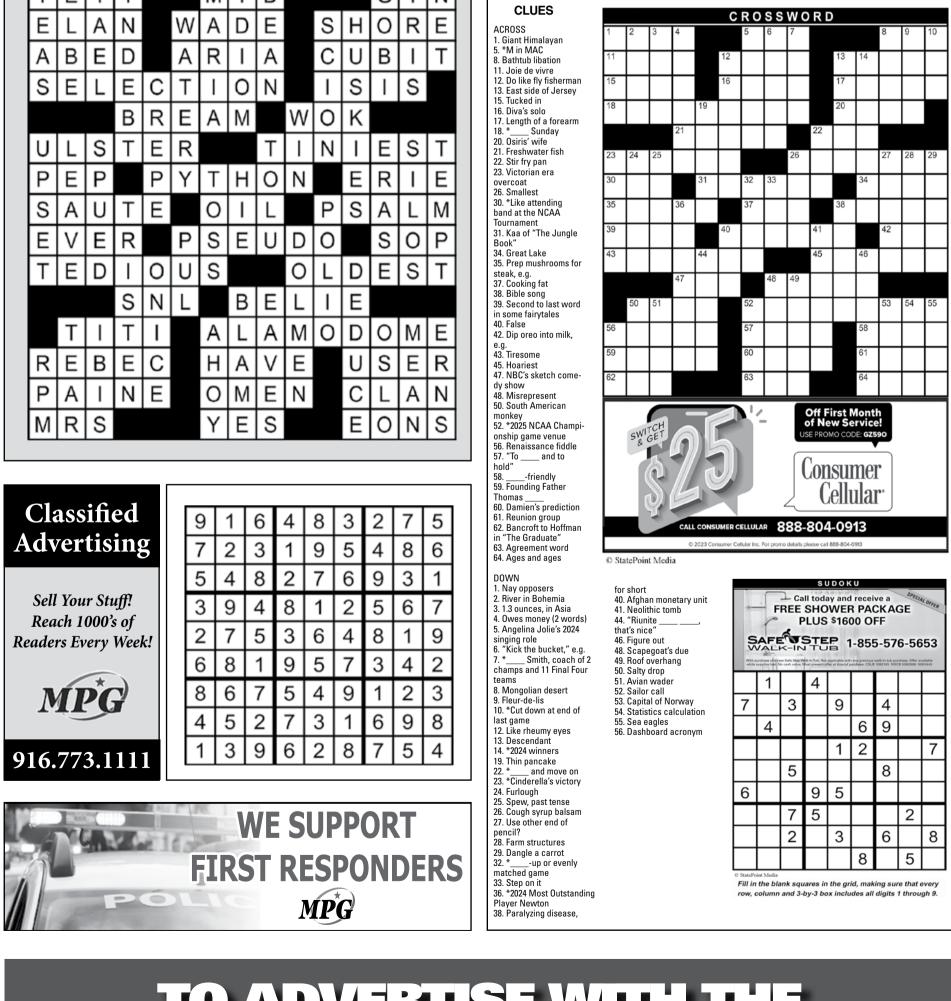
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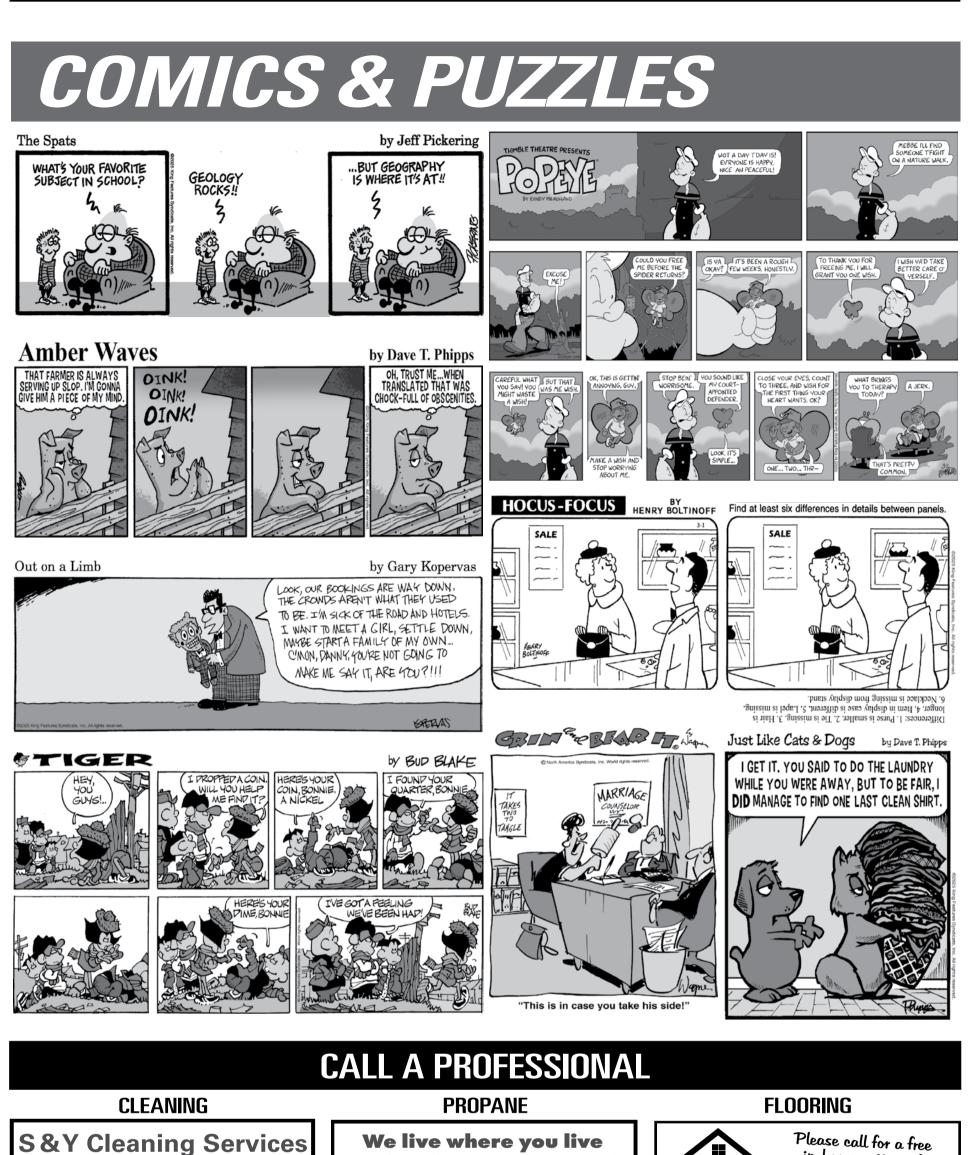


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TEAM Dixon Supports Special Needs

Continued from page 1

Buddies act as encouragers, friends and guides, safely supporting members through TEAM Dixon's inclusive activities and adaptive sports. According to Hurtado, because Buddies tend to be students, they are allowed to pick and choose which activities work for their schedule.

The organization currently has 25 buddies and a governing board of six members. Parents are also prone to helping out with various activities as needed.

The organization offers a variety of activities and events throughout the year, including a summer recreational swim, adaptive art, Halloween events and Christmas activities, such as brunch with Santa and a unique journey on the Polar Express.

"We are also kicking off our 11th season playing Challengers Baseball here in Dixon. Challengers is its own organization through Dixon Little

League but all our players are TEAM Dixon members. Games are typically Friday nights at 6 p.m."

Alongside their 11th season of baseball, the schedule of which can be found on the TEAM Dixon Facebook page, the organization is also hosting Together We Can at 5:30 p.m. March 8. The live performance, held at the Dixon Community Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way, offers dance and musical mashups throughout the decades. Tickets are available at givebutter.com/ teamdixonperformance.

"It is a lot of work as a nonprofit because everybody is volunteering time that is already stretched thin between their families, school and jobs," said Hurtado. "But we continue to see support from our amazing community and families, and that allows us to forge ahead."

For more information or to volunteer, visit teamdixon.org *



TEAM Dixon currently has 25 volunteers on staff and parents help out when necessary. Photo courtesy of TEAM Dixon

\$3 Million Available Through Air District Grant Programs

Continued from page 1

2025 through the Carl Moyer, Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives, Targeted Airshed Grant (TAG), and AB 923 programs. These grants support projects such as replacing heavyduty diesel-powered fleet and emergency vehicles, upgrading off-road equipment and installing charging infrastructure. Eligible entities must operate within the district's jurisdiction.

If demand exceeds available funding for the 2025 solicitation, a random drawing will be held to select recipients. The application deadline for the solicitation is 4 p.m. May 2. To apply, visit ysaqmd.org/ incentives/2025-solicitation.

To help potential applicants navigate the process, the district will host an informational webinar at 10 a.m. March 26 via Zoom. The session will offer a comprehensive overview of the available grants and the application process. Register at us02web.zoom. us/webinar/register/WN_ Kotq8ZmNRAmlw3F1drYs1g#/ registration.

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's mission is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution. As a public health agency, the district is responsible for safeguarding air quality and overseeing air pollution control in Yolo and northeastern Solano counties. For more information, visit ysaqmd.org.

Dixon's Growth Spurs Biggest League Season

Dixon's Independent Voice Adjudicated For and By the County of Solano

Adjudication No. FCS030046–November 24, 2008

Continued from page 1

school selling. We made him walk for it. He walked our street and I helped him make a video for all our friends and families who aren't in the area but he had to (send it out and follow up)," she said.

Willards reported, "He went above and beyond and outperformed everybody." Monies help fund the supplies and needs of the League, which is strongly supported by membership, local merchants and nearby businesses such as Diamond Pools that spread out the dirt on the fields this year. The owner's son is in T-ball this year.

"We have 18 new sponsorships like Rotten Robbies and The Farmers Tan. That's the highest sponsorship in years with a lot of new businesses," Willard said.

Some of the team names are The Trash Pandas, The Bats, The Hot Rodders and The Rattlers. You'll see those and others on the sides of trucks during the May Fair Parade.

Many board members and the parents also volunteer, as well as the coaches, assistant coaches and numerous parents

Ε R Τ Ι S Ι Γ

running the snack bar.

"Chef" Willard and his wife, Jennifer, will be "stepping up" the offerings this year by adding pulled pork nachos.

Little League is adding some night games this year, so the players have an opportunity to play "under the lights," Willard said. "We're trying to bring the baseball atmosphere and the community together and we're all pretty excited."*

Legal Advertising Hotline 916-483-2299 Legal Advertising Fax 916-773-2999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000209 The following persons are doing business as: Solano Integrated Wellness Center, 933 Fruit Stand Circle, Vacaville, CA 95688. Sandler Psychological Services PC, 933 Fruit Stand Circle, Vacaville, CA 95688. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000219 The following persons are doing business as: Mike's Marine, 1000 Business Park Drive, Suite E, Dixon, CA 95620. Bryan Gilday, 1000 Business Park Drive, Suite E, Dixon, CA

LEGA

95620. Date filed in Solano County: February 6, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business business as: Club Pilates, Suisun Valley, 5081 Business Center Drive, Suite 102, Fairfield, CA 94534. Pocket Pilates, LLC, PO Box 331,

Loomis, CA 95650. Date filed in Solano County: February 4, 2025. The Registrant

February 4, 2025. The Hegistrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by: Luis B Trejo Jr, 550 Amesbury Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County:

February 7, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 6, 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: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 WOOD 3-14-25

February 13, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. 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 February 12, 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: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025 VOLARE 3-21-25

Legal Advertising P.O. Box 14 Carmichael, CA 95609

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 19, 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: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025 GLITCH 3-21-25

Date filed in Solano County: February 5, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name or: 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 February 4, 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: Feb 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2025 SOLANO 3-7-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000183 The following persons are doing business as: Accurate Nonemergency Transportation, 1112 Pintail Drive, Suisun, CA 94585.

Dashjay Carlton, 1112 Pintail Drive, Suisun, CA 94585.

Date filed in Solano County: January 31, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2025

conducted This Business is by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 4, 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: Feb 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2025 ACCURATE 3-7-25 under the above business name on: February 5, 2025

This Business is conducted by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 5, 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: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 MARINE 3-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000060 The following persons are doing business as: Calipix Media, 1545 McCarthy Court, Dixon, CA 95620.

David Espinoza, 1545 McCarthy Court, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: January 13, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 12, 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: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 MEDIA 3-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000203 The following persons are doing

Limited Liability Company. 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 February 3, 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: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 3-14-25 CLUB

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000255 The following persons are doing business as: Pacific Shores Creative Works, 1735 West H Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Tara Weiand, 1735 West H Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: February 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 31, 2024

This Business is conducted by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 10, 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: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 PACIFIC 3-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000226 The following persons are doing business as: L.T Wood Creations, 550 Amesbury Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000073 The following persons are doing business as: Grace Laced Birth, 3532 Standish Court, Fairfield, CA 94534.

Karilynn, Beddow, 3532 Standish Court, Fairfield, CA 94534.

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

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration 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: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025 GRACE 3-21-25

NAME C FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000259

The following persons are doing business as: Volare Apartment

Homes, 2750 N Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. Sunrise Investors, LLC, 2750 N Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. Date filed in Solano County: FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000089 The following persons are doing business as: Jessicas Boutique, 57 Sierra Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. Jessica Ortiz, 57 Sierra Drive, Dixon CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: January 16, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: November 25, 2024

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 15, 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: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025 JESSICAS 3-21-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000299 The following persons are doing business as: Soul Glitch Studios, 264 Bermuda Lane, Vallejo, CA 94591.

Nicholas Hasty, 290 East L Street, PO Box 937, Benicia, CA 94510. Date filed in Solano County: February 20, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000349 The following persons are doing business as: Charlie's Banquet, 1400 Humphrey Drive, Suisun City, CA 94585.

Cain Zertuche, 1400 Humphrey Drive #33, Suisun City, CA 94585. Date filed in Solano County: April 14, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 26, 3030. 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: March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025 CHARLIES 3-28-25



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Congratulations to Spelling Bee Winners



Elementary school winners standing with Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson are Kayla Wu, Sadia Hennous and Steward Pimienta. Photo courtesy of Solano County Office of Education

Solano County Office of Education News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) -

Eighty-nine students from 42 schools participated in the 49th annual Solano County Spelling Bee's preliminary round March 1 at Solano Community College.

The Top Two spellers from each participating school were invited to attend. The spelling bee was open to all public and private schools serving fourth- through sixth-graders. The Top Two spellers are advancing to the state spelling bee in San Joaquin County on April 26.

First-place went to Sadia Hennous, a sixth-grader from Virtual Academy of Fairfield-Suisun, Fairfield-Suisun School District. Second-place went to Kayla Wu, a sixth-grader from Green Valley Middle School, Fairfield-Suisun School District.

This year, Solano County Office of

Education hosted the first Middle School Spelling Bee. Ten schools participated in the preliminary round. The Top Two spellers from each participating school were invited to attend. The Spelling Bee was open to all public and private schools serving seventh- and eighth-graders. Fifteen students competed and the Top Two spellers advance to the state spelling bee in San Joaquin County on April 26.

First-place for the

Middle school winners standing with Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson are Gwen Sabio and Alyssa Wong. Photo courtesy of Solano County Office of Education

middle school competition went to Alyssa Wong, a seventh-grader from St. Dominic Catholic School in Benicia. Second-place went to Gwen Sabio, a seventh-grader from Virtual Academy of Fairfield-Suisun, Fairfield-Suisun School District.

The winning word for the elementary competition was "diminution" and the winning word for the middle school competition was "factitious."

"Spelling Bees are more than a competition.

They are a journey of learning, confidence and perseverance. Spelling bees sharpen the mind, strengthen vocabulary and foster a love for language," said Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

All spellers received a certificate of participation and medal. First- and second-place county winners were awarded a trophy and will advance to the California Spelling Bee Championship. For more information about the Solano County Spelling Bee, contact Rebecca Floyd, Youth Development Services project coordinator at 707-646-7602 or rfloyd@ soalnocoe.net.

Solano County Office of Education provides leadership, support and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville and Vallejo school districts, which serve approximately 63,000 students. ★



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