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# Dixon Independent Voice

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JULY 11, 2025

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## Kiwanis Leads with Heart

*A Growing Pillar of Community Service*



The club supports local literacy in many ways. Alongside being part of the 2025 Dixon Reading Trail, they have also donated 250 backpacks to the Dixon Unified School District and are pivotal in the establishment of the Gretchen Higgins Reading Oasis Room. Photo courtesy of Kiwanis Club of Dixon

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - From pancake breakfasts to student scholarships, the Kiwanis Club of Dixon continues to leave a lasting impact on the heart of the community. Since its inception, the club has demonstrated a resilient commitment to serving the children of Dixon, organizing events, funding nonprofits and offering philanthropic gifts that benefit youth and families. According to Kiwanis of Dixon President Michel Liu, their goal is to rebuild Kiwanis Club through community engagement and increased interactions with Dixon Unified



The Kiwanis Club of Dixon has been supporting the children of the community since 2011. President Michel Liu (right) and his wife Patti Sousa-Liu met at a Kiwanis International conference in 2018. They have dedicated their time to improving literacy and enriching Dixon whenever possible. Photo courtesy of Michel Liu

School District. “Our goal is to get the word out to the community about Kiwanis and to have more interactions with the school district. Currently, we have a Key Club at Dixon High School, so our

Kiwanis Club has been working to support them. But, with increased numbers, we can build into our middle and elementary schools,” said Liu.

According to Patti Sousa-Liu, a club member and Liu’s wife, Kiwanis offers leadership training at all levels: Kids’ Club for elementary school students, Builders’ Club for middle school students, Key Club for high school students, and Circle K for college students. After completing this process, students automatically become members of the Kiwanis club.

“I believe in leadership training as young as

*Continued on page 3*

## Council Sends Delinquent Accounts to County Collection

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - During the Dixon City Council meeting on July 1, City Manager Jim Lindley requested to remove the item regarding National Night Out, typically held each August.

“We found that participation, because of the time of year, in National Night Out is declining,” Lindley said.

Across Solano County, the first Tuesday in October is being redesignated as National Night Out, “so that it’s cooler and more people would participate,” Lindley said.

The council agreed to have the item brought back at a future meeting with the revised date.

During general public comments, a Dixon resident shared some safety concerns he noticed at the recent Grillin-n-Chillin event. He “enjoyed the event” but was worried about improperly-secured signs and exposed grills that could pose safety hazards to the public.

Mayor Steven Bird said the city could pass the concerns on to the event organizers.

Vice-Mayor Thom Bogue said each vendor undergoes inspections by the health department and the fire department, and Dixon Action Team organizes the event if the resident wanted to contact them directly.

Another resident asked the city to ensure that leasing agencies better explain rental applications to low-income seniors. The resident said she lives in the Silvey Villas at Homestead, which is for low- or very low-income seniors, and she has been there three months and already been subjected to an 8.8% rental increase.

Bird asked her to give her information to the city clerk so staff could follow up.

The council then considered the annual placement of delinquent sewer accounts on the Solano County property tax roll for collection.

Finance Director Kate Zawadzki said the account holders have received numerous written notices, as well as a phone call, to inform them of their overdue amounts and the date of this public hearing. There were 81 delinquent accounts with a collective outstanding total of \$54,807.

When the county adds these accounts to the property tax roll, Zawadzki

*Continued on page 2*

## A Weekend to Remember

*Fourth of July Festivities in Dixon*

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon rang in Independence Day with a vibrant weekend full of music, fireworks and community celebration, drawing residents and visitors alike to some of the city’s favorite summer traditions.

The highlight came on Friday night at Hall Park, 450 Hall Park Drive, during the annual Fourth of July Concert and Fireworks Show. Festivities began in the afternoon with recreational swimming at Pat Granucci Aquatics Center and open pickleball games at the Hall Park tennis courts. Families laid out blankets and lawn chairs as anticipation built for the night’s entertainment.

According to Dixon public information officer Madeline Graf, the event was enjoyed by attendees.

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The fireworks portion starting at about 9:30 p.m. used more than 1,100 fireworks to illuminate the town of Dixon. Around the same time, Ruhstaller Farm hosted live music in honor of Independence Day. Photo by Nicolas Brown



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# Council Sends Delinquent Accounts to County Collection

*Continued from page 1*

said, the city is reimbursed for the full amount due. The city then applies that funding as revenue to the city sewer fund.

There were no public comments and the council voted unanimously to send the delinquent accounts to the county tax roll.

Next, the council considered placing a delinquent weed abatement account on the county tax roll for collection through the same process.

Zawadzki said there is one property, located near South 1st Street and Heritage Lane, where the city had to perform weed abatement at a cost of \$1,356. Monthly invoices were sent to the property owner but the account remains unpaid. The city has performed weed abatement at this residence for the past three years and this would be the third year the account has been sent to the county tax roll.

The council voted unanimously to send the account to the county for collection.

Delinquent accounts for Dixon Recology's waste services were also considered for collection by the county. There were 255 delinquent accounts with a collective overdue amount of \$86,000.

Nine official notices were sent to the account holders by the time of the public hearing and Recology representatives explained that reimbursement of these costs reduces lost revenue for the company and allows rates to be kept low for the rest of their customers.

Councilmember Kevin Johnson said some of the accounts only owed \$109 and he suggested there should be a higher threshold for sending accounts to the county for collection.

Bogue said the process is intended to keep rates low and asked what the threshold should be.

A Recology representative said the current threshold is \$25 overdue. She added that current overdue accounts are from the period of April 2024 through March 2025, so they are not new charges.

In the future, Johnson said, they should reconsider the minimum threshold.

The council voted unanimously to send the Recology accounts to the county.

Bird announced his recommended appointments to commission and committee vacancies. Three vacancies on the Transportation Advisory Committee will be filled by Gabriel Ripley, Kylie McElwain and Brian Stephens. Their terms will run from July 2025 to June 2029.

There were five vacancies on the Parks

and Recreation Commission, and Mayor Bird appointed DeAnna Cabrera and Kyle Esquer to serve terms from July 2025 to June 2027. Mary Taylor and Shannon Ripple will serve from July 2025 to June 2026, in addition to the student representative Tyler Collins.

Johnson thanked all the applicants for applying and thanked the new appointees for taking the time to serve on these boards. The council unanimously approved all the appointments.

City staff requested approval of a new job classification and salary schedule for a construction project manager. Additionally, they requested that a current employee working as a junior engineer be reclassified to take on the position of construction project manager.

Human Resources Director Rachel Ancheta said that with the increased growth and development within Dixon, there is a need for dedicated staff to manage construction and inspections to ensure the work meets city standards.

Ancheta said the current employee has already been taking on many of the responsibilities of a construction project manager and he meets the required qualifications for the position.

The council voted unanimously to approve the new position and the employee reclassification.

The council also considered a new lease agreement with Robben Ranch for 116 acres of city-owned land on Pedrick Road.

That portion of land is part of the city's wastewater treatment plant, which includes headworks, treatment ponds, evaporation basins and irrigation fields. The 116 acres are unused irrigation fields that have been leased to Robben Ranch for agricultural use since 2013.

The current agreement is expiring, and city staff recommended a new lease agreement that would allow for an extension every two years, at the discretion of the City Council. The rent can also be updated at those two-year extensions.

For now, the existing contract terms were proposed to continue unchanged, at \$60 per acre for 110 acres, with the six remaining acres used as an un-farmed buffer zone. The annual revenue paid to the city through this agreement is \$6,606. The agreement also saves the city money, since the ranch handles all the property maintenance.

The council voted unanimously to approve the new lease agreement.

The next Dixon City Council meeting is scheduled for July 15. ★

# Dixon News Briefs



The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking mixer from 5:30 to 7 p.m. July 30. Held at Best Western Plus, 1345 Commercial Way, the free event is open to the public and offers a no-host bar, snacks and raffle prizes. Photo courtesy of Dixon Chamber of Commerce

By MPG Staff

## VFW Upcoming Meeting

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8151 will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. July 16. 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 business portion of the meeting.

For more information, visit [vfw8151.org](http://vfw8151.org) or call 209-395-8019.

## Dixon United Methodist Church Garage Sale

Dixon United Methodist Church is hosting a garage sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 19. Held at the church, 209 N. Jefferson St., the event offers participants the opportunity to support Dixon United Methodist Church and get some great deals. Interested parties can also rent a table to sell their wares. Tables cost \$20 for an 8-foot-long table, \$15 for a large round table and \$10 for a small round table.

For more information or to rent a table, visit [dixonumc.org](http://dixonumc.org) or call 707-678-2191.

## Independence from Hunger Food Drive

Grocery Outlet is hosting a food drive alongside Dixon Family Services throughout July, ending July 31. Community members can donate \$5 and receive a coupon for \$5 off future purchases of \$25 or more. Those interested can donate either online or in-store, 2400 N. First St. All donations stay local, benefiting Dixon Family Services and the Dixon Rams Vault.

For more information or to donate, visit [groceryoutlet.com/donate](http://groceryoutlet.com/donate) or call 707-676-5556.

## Lunch Bunch at Pedro's Cocina

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting another lunch bunch networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. July 15. Held at Pedro's Cocina, 1425 Market Lane, the free event offers guests a no-host lunch and networking opportunities.

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

## Concerts in the Plaza

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is continuing its Concerts in the Plaza series from 6 to 8:30 p.m. July 17. The free event, hosted at Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St. features the blues and country musical stylings of Smokehouse Reunion. Folding chairs and picnic blankets are recommended, but no alcohol is allowed as per city ordinance.

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

## Veterans' Dinner

American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Veterans' Dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m. July 11. The dinner, held at Veterans' Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St., offers an all-you-can-eat meal for \$12 per guest. Dishes include fried fish, hush-puppies, coleslaw and French fries.

For more information, visit American Legion Post 208's Facebook page or call 707-678-6308.

## Dixon Community Theater Presents Treasure Island

Dixon Community Theater will begin hosting auditions for its upcoming youth production of "Treasure Island." The show will be directed by Angel Gatchel with support from Kelly Pidgeon James. The youth production will have a young cast of actors from 6 to 16 years old. Audition dates will be announced soon. Show dates include Oct. 17, 18 and 19.

For more information, visit the Dixon Calendar and Events Facebook page or call 707-903-8387.

## Neighborhood Christian School Summer Camp

Neighborhood Christian School is still accepting enrollment for its kids' summer camps, ending July 25. Hosted onsite, 955 E. A St., the camp offers games, arts and crafts, walking field trips, weekly themes, special visitors and more. Children from preschool to 8th grade are eligible, and families can choose to either pay for part-time at \$150 a week or full-time at \$250 a week. Camps are Monday to Friday from either 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, visit the Neighborhood Christian School Facebook page or call 707-678-9336.

## Rec Swim at Pat Granucci Aquatic Center

Pat Granucci Aquatic Center is offering recreational swim from 1 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday throughout the summer. Located at 450 E. Mayes St., the summer pool schedule will be in effect until August 4.

For more information, visit [cityofdixon-ca.gov](http://cityofdixon-ca.gov) or call 707-678-7000.

## Mixer at Best Western Plus

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking mixer from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. July 30. Held at Best Western Plus, 1345 Commercial Way, the free event is open to the public and offers a no-host bar, snacks and raffle prizes. Attendees can bring a friend to receive a free raffle ticket.

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

# Dixon Women's Improvement Club Visits High Hand Nursery



Dixon Women's Improvement Club (DWIC) visited High Hand Nursery on June 27. The women explored the nursery's offerings and left refreshed and inspired. Photo by Cheryl Hughes

## Dixon Women's Improvement Club News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On June 27, the Dixon Women's Improvement Club (DWIC) enjoyed a delightful summer outing to the beautiful High Hand Nursery in Loomis. Club members and guests carpoled together for a day filled with laughter, lunch and lush landscapes.

On arrival, the group explored the nursery's extensive gardens and gift shops. Members brought home unique plant materials and gifts. One highlight of the day was the interactive succulent bar, where attendees designed and purchased planters filled with drought-tolerant Cactaceae beauties.

Lunch at the onsite café was a hit,

featuring fresh, flavorful dishes including shrimp salad, fish tacos and wood-fired pizza. The charming setting and delicious food provided the perfect backdrop for connection and conversation.

Dixon Women's Improvement Club member Cheryl Hughes found the nursery amazing.

"The nursery was amazing, so large and so many [plant] varieties," said Hughes.

Club members and guests returned to Dixon, filled with great memories and new additions for their gardens.

For more information about upcoming Dixon Women's Improvement Club events or how to become a member, attend the first meeting of the 25-26 season at noon Sept. 17 at the Dixon Methodist Church social hall, 209 N. Jefferson St. ★







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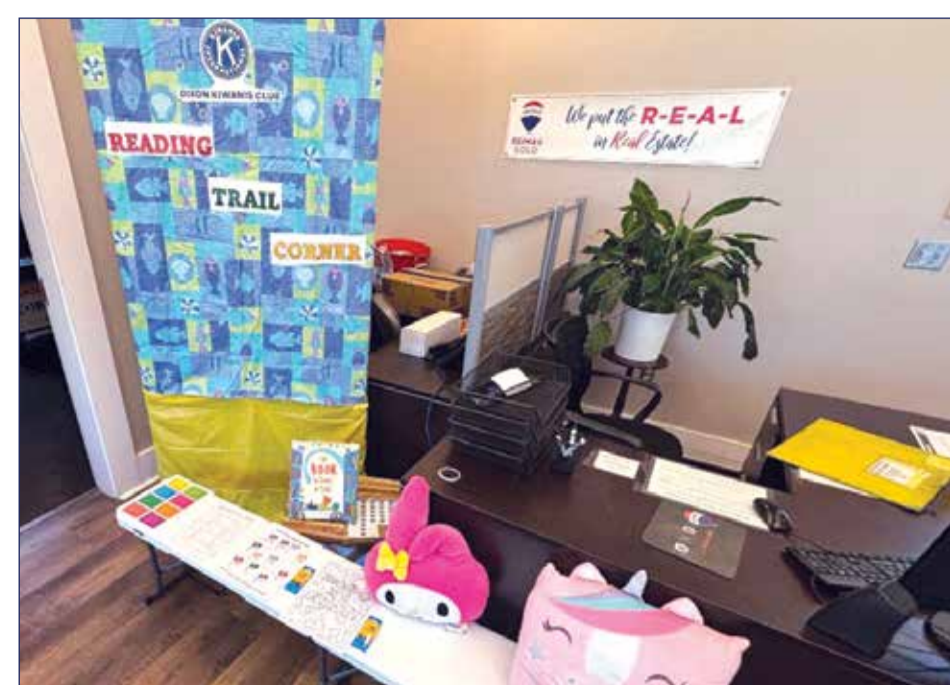
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# Kiwanis Leads with Heart

# Fourth of July Coloring Contest Draws Happy Kids



The Reading Trail has 11 locations throughout town with books designed for young kids. At each stop on the trail, kids can read the selected material and get a stamp from the location proprietor. The Kiwanis club's stop on the trail is located at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, 220 N. Jefferson St. Photo courtesy of Kiwanis Club of Dixon

Nine winners for the competition were announced on July 4 on a Facebook Livestream. Winners include Alonzo Alatorre, Sophia and Mateo Mata, and several others. The trio wanted to offer the children of Dixon something creative to look forward to over the summer. Photo courtesy of Crystal Rico

Continued from page 1 possible," said Sousa-Liu.

Liu and Sousa-Liu met in 2018 at a Kiwanis International conference in Las Vegas. At the time, Liu was the president of the Cupertino branch, and Sousa-Liu was the president of the Dixon branch. They have been married since 2020. According to the duo, the organization has six members, with commitments from three or four new members joining soon, including Robin Tully of the Tully Consulting Group as club secretary.

To support the community, the organization has contributed to several philanthropic efforts. In spring 2025, the club awarded six scholarships to graduating seniors from Dixon High School and Maine Prairie High School. These awards included large scholarships recognizing both academic achievement and community service. The Maine Prairie and Dixon students join a proud tradition of Kiwanis scholarship recipients, with funding that supports their post-secondary goals.

Kiwanis also recently celebrated its support of local literacy initiatives with a generous donation to the school district, donating 250 backpacks. Previously, Sousa-Liu was instrumental in establishing the Gretchen Higgins Reading Oasis Room, offering a quiet place for students to read in peace.

Kiwanis also supports Dixon Montessori Charter School's 2025 Dixon Reading Trail. The Reading Trail has 11 locations throughout town with books designed for young kids. At each stop on the trail, kids can read the selected material and get a stamp from the location proprietor.

"We can help improve literacy, provide community service hours, and help people with their education through scholarships," said Liu.

Looking ahead, the Kiwanis Club will host an open house on Sept. 8, inviting the public to learn more about the organization's goals, community projects, and ways to get involved. The event, held at Joystick Gaming Lounge, 420 Gateway Drive, Suite C, will feature light refreshments, information on upcoming scholarships and service opportunities, and a presentation by keynote speaker and Dixon Unified School District Superintendent Brett Barley.

For those interested in the club's dedication to the children of Dixon, membership costs \$175 a year, and meetings are scheduled for the fourth Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Dixon Chamber of Commerce meeting room, 220 N. Jefferson St. The next meeting will be on July 28. For more information, visit the Kiwanis Club of Dixon, CA Facebook page or call 918-840-0785. ★

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On July 4, the heart of Dixon was awash in color and community spirit as Diana Ramirez of Magic Mortgage, Lisa Castillo of Castillo's Legal Life Support and Crystal Rico Farmers Insurance jointly hosted a festive "Fourth of July Coloring Contest" at their offices at 1170 N. Lincoln St.

According to Castillo, the trio wanted to offer something other than video games to look forward to over the summer.

"We knew the kids were out of school, so we wanted to give them something creative to look forward to. When Ramirez introduced the idea, we thought it was great," said Castillo.

Around 42 participants under the age of 12 were each given a festive-themed coloring sheet emblazoned with fireworks, stars and the American flag. Armed with crayons, markers, pencils and glitter, they brought their pages to life in shades of red, white, blue and many others.

Smiles were plentiful as children worked diligently while parents cheered them on. Every child who participated had their name automatically entered into a raffle and saw their artwork displayed in the three women's collective lobby.

Winners of the contest were announced on a Facebook livestream around 5 p.m. July 4. Each entrant's



Diana Ramirez of Magic Mortgage, Lisa Castillo of Castillo's Legal Life Support and Crystal Rico Farmers Insurance jointly hosted a festive "Fourth of July Coloring Contest" at their offices, 1170 N. Lincoln St. Around 42 children under age 12 competed for prizes donated by local businesses. Photo courtesy of Crystal Rico

artwork was labeled with a number and random numbers were drawn from a plastic container.

According to Rico, nine winners were chosen.

"We did a Facebook Live drawing on the Fourth of July toward 5 p.m. We drew nine winners who earned various gift cards. A local bakery (Vanilla Beene) even donated cupcakes," said Rico.

All prizes were donated by local businesses, including The Good Scoop Ice Cream Shop, Joystick Gaming Lounge, Solano Baking Company, McDonald's and Vanilla Beene Bakery.

The winners included Arlett Bojorquez, Karina

Shade, Gustavo Estrada, Mateo Mata, Sophia Mata and Alonzo Alatorre. The three final winners, Alondra, Pedro and Ellis, did not include their last names.

Looking ahead, the trio of businesswomen plans to host similar contests for most major upcoming holidays.

"We plan on doing this for any holidays, so we'll be doing this again for Mexican Independence Day on Sept. 16, as well as one for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas," said Ramirez.

For more information, visit the Magic Mortgage Diana Ramirez Facebook page or call 707-301-8910. ★

# Soroptimists Introduce New Board Members



Soroptimist International of Dixon held its annual installation of board officers on June 28, where the officers were officially sworn in. The ceremony marked the new beginning of leadership dedicated to the organization's goal, "the betterment for women and girls." Photo courtesy of Soroptimist International of Dixon

Soroptimist International of Dixon News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Soroptimist International of Dixon held its annual installation of board officers on June 28, where the officers were officially sworn in. The ceremony marked the new beginning of leadership dedicated to the organization's goal, "the betterment for women and girls".

Soroptimist members gathered at the ceremony to reaffirm their commitment to the club's objectives, serving the community for the betterment of humanity.

The 2025-2026 incoming board members of Soroptimist International of Dixon are as follows: Barbara Rigdon serves as president, Nicki Monk president elect, Allison Batchelor vice president, Andrea Kett service treasurer, Mary Anderson general treasurer, Lynda Jones correspondence secretary, Tamie Tvrdik

recording secretary, Colleen Schneider and Sue Avery as directors and Karen Walker and Jamie Meville will serve as delegates.

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

The club has held many fundraisers in the community this past year that have allowed soroptimists to present scholarships and awards to Dixon students. The club has also donated to various local organizations, donated food items to the Dixon High School Ram Vault and supported the Remember a Vet Wreath project.

The club is currently working on upcoming fundraising events, so be sure to be on the lookout for what is coming to the community.

For more information about Soroptimist International of Dixon or to learn about joining, contact Karen Walker at walkerc6@yahoo.com or call 707-678-1153. ★

# A Weekend to Remember

# Thompson Honors Riitta DeAnda

2025 Solano County American Dream Award Recipient



At 6 p.m. July 4, Davis-based band Now & Then took the stage with a spirited three-hour performance filled with timeless oldies, crowd-pleasing rock classics and danceable favorites. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1

“We had a wonderful time celebrating with the community in Hall Park. Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce and the band Now & Then for a great performance,” said Graf.

At 6 p.m., Davis-based band Now & Then took the stage with a spirited three-hour performance filled with timeless oldies, crowd-pleasing rock classics and danceable favorites. The band’s energy and nostalgic setlist had both youth and grandparents on their feet. As darkness fell, the night concluded with a fireworks show at 9:30 p.m., featuring more than 1,100 shots that lit up the sky and echoed throughout the park.

According to Graf, attendance was fairly standard throughout the event.

“Attendance for the fireworks show was similar to past years. This year, with the cooler weather, attendees arrived earlier in the day and we had a larger crowd for the concert,” said Graf.

Several residents were enamored with the display, including Dawson’s Bar & Grill owner Jill Orr.



Besides vendors, food trucks and swimming, many Dixonites enjoyed the open space that the park offered, playing games such as pickleball, baseball and spike ball (pictured). Photo by Nicolas Brown

“It was spectacular; they really outdid themselves with the fireworks this year. It’s always a good time when the community comes together,” said Orr.

The celebration continued through the weekend at Ruhstaller Farm, 6686 Sievers Road, which hosted two nights of live music against a scenic, rural backdrop. Friday night, July 4 featured According to Bazooka, a folk-pop quartet whose eclectic mix of accordion,

upright bass and guitar created a toe-tapping, joyful atmosphere. Saturday night brought Joy Madness to the stage, an eight-piece soul and funk band known for its blend of modern classic pop and new-age funk that had families and friends dancing on the grass well past sundown.

From high-energy concerts to dazzling fireworks, Dixon’s Fourth of July weekend showcased the city’s sense of community and local culture. ★



Rep. Mike Thompson recognized Riitta DeAnda as the 2025 American Dream Award recipient for Solano County on June 29. Photo courtesy of Congressman Mike Thompson

## Congressman Mike Thompson News Release

**ST. HELENA, CA (MPG)** - Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) recognized Riitta DeAnda as the 2025 American Dream Award recipient for Solano County on June 29. Thompson presents the American Dream Award during Immigrant Heritage Month to residents of California’s Fourth District who have come to the United States and made outstanding contributions to our communities.

“Immigrants are our neighbors and colleagues, soldiers and first responders, doctors and lawyers, farmers, entrepreneurs, teachers and so much more. Our nation would not be the powerhouse of the world without their contributions to our country’s history, culture, and economy. This is evidenced by Ms. DeAnda’s work in our community. Ms. DeAnda is an important member of our community and a shining example of the American Dream. Through her philanthropic work with local non-profits and avid commitment to leadership, she has contributed meaningfully to making our community a better place. I am honored to recognize Riitta DeAnda as this year’s Solano County American Dream Award recipient,” said Thompson.

DeAnda was born in Turku, Finland, and became a U.S. citizen at age 22. She has since exercised her rights by voting in every single election, demonstrating her dedication to civic engagement. DeAnda began her career working for a large insurance firm before branching off and becoming the founder of her own

insurance agency nestled in American Canyon. Eventually, she sold the agency but has not slowed down.

Around the community, DeAnda is known for her enthusiasm and dedication to various organizations, many of which she has been involved with for years. Currently, she serves as the Chair of the Napa-Solano Area Council on Aging, the Treasurer of Sierra Club Solano and the Secretary of the Northern Solano Democratic Club. Additionally, she serves as a Committee Member of Walk to End Alzheimer’s Solano and helps those in need through Lutheran World Relief.

Congressman Mike Thompson’s American Dream Award honors immigrants who have excelled professionally in entrepreneurship and innovation, in the arts and culture, or in community service.

The full list of 2025 American Dream Award recipients for California’s Fourth District includes Edgar Ontiveros from Lake County, Cinthya Cisneros from Napa County, Riitta DeAnda from Solano County, Pemba Sherpa from Sonoma County and Andres Olmedo from Yolo County.

Congressman Mike Thompson is proud to represent California’s 4th Congressional District, which includes all or part of Lake, Napa, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo Counties. He is a senior member of the House Committee on Ways and Means. Rep. Thompson is Chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. He is also Co-Chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus and a member of the fiscally-responsible Blue Dog Coalition. ★

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000859**  
The following persons are doing business as: Taco Bell – 41354, 1420 Ary Lane, Dixon, CA 95620. Kumar Management Corp. II, Inc., 1118 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA 94404.

Date filed in Solano County: June 2, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 29, 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 June 1, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)  
Publish: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2025  
MUKBANG 8-1-25

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 June 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: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2025  
MUKBANG 8-1-25

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

**FILE NO. 2025001010**  
The following persons are doing business as: The Saini Ledger, 3700 Lyon Road, Apartment 195, Fairfield, CA 94534. Avneet Singh Saini, 3700 Lyon Road, Apartment 195, Fairfield, CA 94534.  
Date filed in Solano County: June 30, 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 June 29, 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: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2025  
SAINI 8-1-25

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
THERESA VEKICH  
CASE NO. PR25-00031  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of

and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Theresa Vekich.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Ryan Andersen, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Ryan Andersen 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: August 7, 2025, 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 5, Room: 301; Superior Court of California, County of Solano, 600 Union Avenue, 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 California 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 ap-

praisal 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: Dylan P. Hyatt, 1555 River Park Drive, Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95815; 916-292-8009  
Publish: July 11, 18, 25, 2025  
VEKICH 7-25-25

### TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 0125002311  
Notice of Trustee’s Sale  
Loan No. NA APN: 0109-190-010  
You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 3/3/2022. Unless You Take Action To Protect Your Property, It May Be Sold At A Public Sale. If You Need An Explanation Of The Nature Of The Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. On 7/28/2025 at 9:30 AM Santa Clara Street entrance to City Hall 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA, Old Republic Title Company, a California corporation, as the duly appointed Trustee under the Deed of Trust recorded on 3/10/2022, as Instrument No. 202200018148 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California, executed by: Suneel Sharma, a married man, as his sole and separate property, as Trustor, Setal Judge, as to an undivided 50% and Rajbinder Singh Lidder, as to an undivided 50%, as Lender/Beneficiary, Will Sell At Public Auction To The Highest Bidder For (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States by cashier’s check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in the state) all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California, describing the land therein: as more fully described on said deed of trust. The street address or other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 5787 Midway Road Dixon, CA 95620 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any in-

correctness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an “AS IS” condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by the Deed of Trust, to wit: \$1,481,304.88 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. Notice To Potential 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 highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, 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 contacting 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 or visit this Internet website <https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustee-sales/>, using the file

number assigned to this case 0125002311. 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 website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales conducted after January 1, 2021: Notice To Tenant: 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 , or visit this internet website <https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustee-sales/>, using the file number assigned to this case 0125002311 to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a 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. This property which is subject to this Notice of Sale does not fall within the purview of California Civil Code Section 2923.5. Date: 6/25/2025 Old Republic Title Company, as Trustee 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite #400 Concord, California 94520 (866)248-9598 /s/ by: Debbie Jackson, Vice President  
Published 7/4/2025, 7/11, 2025, 7/18/2025  
DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 7-18-25



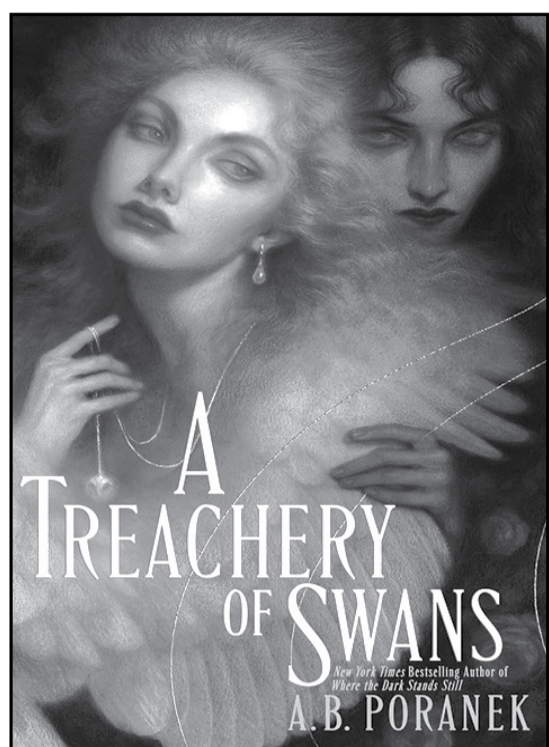


BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy\_fortheloveofbooks

# A Treachery of Swans

by A.B. Poranek

After 200 years without magic in their Kingdom, Odile was going to be the one to restore it. Raised by her father to be the one to infiltrate the palace, Odile knew the task at hand and had spent years training for her moment. The plan was absolutely perfect. Gain access to the palace by impersonating a noblewoman, and steal the King's crown. Odile knew exactly who she would choose: her sworn enemy and childhood friend, the princess Marie d'Odette.



◆ Publisher: Margaret K. McElderry Books  
 ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult  
 ◆ Release Date: June 24, 2025

truth from lies, killers and beasts, but also uncover her own feelings. This emotional journey is a key part of her quest to save magic, the kingdom, her brother, and Marie. In the end, Odile will have to find her true path to save them all.

A captivating and enchanting retelling of Swan Lake, A Treachery of Swans is the atmospheric gothic retelling fans have been waiting for. A.B. Poranek takes readers

deep into the fairytale and awakens a whole new side of the story. Readers will be swept up in 17th-century France, with a blending of magic, deceit, love, and beasts. This story is one of yearning and enchantment, with an allure that will captivate readers. With strong characters who both hold their own space, and intertwining mysteries, this story is one that builds in tempo and in atmosphere. With a cover as stunning and enthralling as A Treachery of Swans, readers will experience the contrast of light and dark, love and friendship. For fans of gothic romance, fairytale retellings, historical fantasy, and even a touch of mystery, A Treachery of Swans is a beautiful blend of sapphic romance and a classic fairytale. ★

# Community Calendar

## Ongoing Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

## Regular Meetings:

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

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

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

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

**Bids For Kids** – Is a volunteer organization created to promote and foster youth participation in agriculture. Anyone

interested in this endeavor is welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meeting. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact secretary, Lisa Dage at 707-246-5623, fivedages@sbcglobal.net or president, James Fuller at 916-952-0167, jameskfuller@yahoo.com.

**Boy Scout Troop 152** – Meets Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Social Hall at United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson. Scouts is for boys 11 to 18 years old. Contact Matt at 707-685-1750 or email scoutmaster@troop152dixon.com for more information. Check us out on the web @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. ★



A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

# Riley Reviews

“THE WATERFRONT” AWESOMELY MIXES SOAP OPERA WITH CRIME DRAMA

## “THE WATERFRONT” ON NETFLIX

Screenwriter, director, and producer Kevin Williamson, known for the screenplay for the slasher film “Scream” and TV drama series “Dawson’s Creek” and “The Vampire Diaries,” finds his life story to be inspiration for his creation of the Netflix streaming series “The Waterfront.”

The coast of North Carolina, where Williamson spent his high school years, is the setting for the story of the fictional Buckley family trying to hold on to their fishing empire through dangerously illegal means.

The parallel to the creator of “The Waterfront” is that his family’s patriarch, similar to the head of the Buckley clan, had to keep the family fishing business afloat by using his trawler to smuggle drugs to make ends meet.

In the fictional town of Havenport, Harlan Buckley (Holt McCallany) is the big fish in the community, running the largest fishery and an upscale restaurant that has been owned by the prominent family for generations.

Understanding the pivotal character of Harlan’s desperate return to illegal activity is rooted in the story of Williamson’s own father who found himself handling a financial predicament that resulted in being arrested and serving time.

Whether Williamson’s father was as complex as the flawed Harlan Buckley would probably make for a good story on its own, but that’s something for the show creator to contemplate if he ever thinks of doing a documentary that would likely be even more fascinating than fiction.

The opening scene takes place on a dark night when a boat is hijacked by gunmen who throw two men running the vessel into the sea in order to steal the \$10 million in drugs waiting for pickup.

Harlan’s son Cane (Jake Weary) happens to find the boat washed up on shore, while police and DEA agents are on the scene. A bit of quick thinking has Cane scurrying over to the town clerk to backdate a transfer of the boat’s title to one of the missing crew members.

Meanwhile, Harlan the philanderer wakes up next to a girlfriend gripping his chest in pain as he suffers yet another heart attack. Harlan also has a penchant for whiskey any time of the day, much to the dismay of his wife Belle (Maria Bello).

The matriarch of the Buckley family appears to be the glue holding the family together in spite of their reckless behavior. While cunning in many ways, Belle can also fall prey to a shrewd developer taking

advantage of her willingness to sell the family’s prime oceanfront land against Harlan’s wishes.

The most dysfunctional family member has to be Cane’s troubled sister Bree (Melissa Benoist), struggling with addiction that has caused her to lose custody of her teenage son Diller (Brady Hepner) that she not allowed to see without a court-appointed chaperone.

Bree’s bad decisions don’t just involve drugs and alcohol. She becomes romantically involved with DEA Special Agent Marcus Sanchez (Gerardo Celasco), who runs with his gut instinct that something is rotten in Havenport and it points to the Buckleys.

While Belle runs the restaurant business, Harlan and Cane stick to the seafood empire that slips back into drug-running. But the relationship between father and son is fraught with tension that even boils over into physical confrontations.

Central to the essence of the series’ drama is the turbulent relationship between a father who thinks his son is too soft and feckless and a son who feels his father, despite his tough demeanor, has lost a step in dealing with the family business.

As the episodes unfold, interesting characters come into the mix. Sheriff Clyde Porter (Michael Gaston) runs the town like a personal fiefdom, though mindful of Harlan’s influence. Topher Grace’s Grady is a shady character, and the less said about him the better lest spoilers ruin a surprising turn.

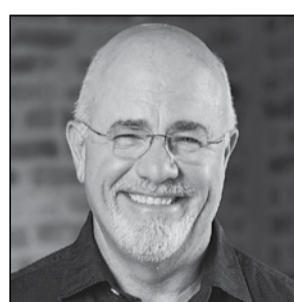
The eight episodes of “The Waterfront” are very tempting to binge-watch. A bit of patience is required in the early going as the story unfolds slowly while the introduction of essential characters carefully lays the foundation for a lot of twists and turns.

The series is a curious blend of soap opera drama and thrilling suspense. The drama can be compelling but also formulaic given how the Buckleys are tormented by betrayals, greed, dark secrets, and festering psychic wounds common to the genre.

“The Waterfront” is not unlike a soap opera like the long-running “Dallas,” where backstabbing, lust and greed create an emotional rollercoaster ride, except the oil empire drama largely avoided violence aside from J.R. Ewing being shot.

Indeed, the Buckley family is a dysfunctional mess as the result of simmering tensions between the parents themselves and with the offspring often untethered from responsibility and family bonds.

“The Waterfront” benefits from charismatic performances across the board, intriguing dialogue, a bevy of surprising twists, and proving to be far more entertaining than most of the current crop of streaming series. ★



Dave Ramsey

## Dave Ramsey Says

**They Expect Me to Solve Every Problem**

Dear Dave,

I have a cleaning and restoration business with 30 employees. Last year, we brought in \$3 million. Things are going very well overall, but considering what we do, I can get calls around the clock, seven days a week. I want to be there for my team as much as possible, but I’m also trying to get them to take on more responsibility and ownership when they’re on job sites. Do you have any suggestions?

– Joe

Dear Joe,

When someone brings me a problem, and drops it on my desk, I tell them to pick it back up. In other words, I want them to look at the problem as theirs—not mine. Then, I ask one question: Based on what you know about our company, what do you think we would do to fix this? Sometimes they’ll be right, and sometimes they’ll be wrong. If they’re

wrong, I’ll tell them to go back to their desk, and just quietly think for a few minutes. After, I want them to call me back with three possible solutions to the problem. I’ll explain which solution is the right one, and why. I’ll also explain why the other two weren’t the best ways to handle things.

Do you see what I’m getting at? They’re not getting to grow if you solve every problem for them. Make them think it through. Because by doing this, you’re training them to make decisions. Do you know what else this does? It will eventually relieve you of being jarred awake in the middle of the night by a ringing phone. Joe, you’ve built a \$3 million company. You’ve got a big team working with you and making big things happen. You shouldn’t have to answer phone calls around the clock.

Transferring the fire in your heart, and the knowledge in your head, to your team members sets everyone up to burn brighter and be more knowledge-

able and self-assured. But you’ll need to intentionally shift your mindset from stepping in and doing the work to leading it. Start seeing yourself more as a catalyst, a coach and a consultant, rather than the muscle for all the heavy lifting.

If this sounds hard, it’s because it is. Delegating, at first, is one of the hardest things you’ll ever do in your business. But if you slow down a little to put the best delegation and problem solving processes in place now, you’ll be able to move—and grow—even faster later.

Great question, Joe – Dave

*Dave Ramsey is a nine-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. ★*



# Scammers Targeting PG&E Customers

## PG&E Communications News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Utility scams have continued at an alarming rate this year, with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) customers reporting more than \$190,000 in losses to scammers. PG&E is helping customers recognize the signs of a scam and avoid falling victim.

A typical sign of a scam targeting a utility customer includes a caller claiming to be from PG&E and threatening disconnection if immediate payment is not made via a pre-paid debit card, digital payment mobile application or other methods of money transfer.

As a reminder, PG&E will never send a single notification to a customer within one hour of a service interruption and will never ask customers to make payments with a pre-paid debit card, gift card, any form of cryptocurrency or instant mobile payment applications, such as Zelle® or Venmo.

“Scammers seek to create a sense of panic, threatening disconnection of utility services if immediate payment is not made. If a phone call, visit to your home or email doesn’t feel right, don’t fall for it. Hang up, shut the door and do not respond to the email,” said PG&E Cybersecurity Risk Manager Amy Lucido. “Remember,

PG&E will never ask for your financial information over the phone or via email, nor will we request payment via pre-paid debit cards or other methods of money transfer, including mobile applications.”

So far this year, PG&E has received more than 10,000 reports of scams targeting residential and business customers with customers reporting losses of more than \$190,000. The average scam victim lost more than \$900 and more than 200 customers have reported falling victim. This number is likely just the tip of the iceberg however, as many scams go unreported.

Scams reported to PG&E by county so far this year: Butte 62; El Dorado eight; Glenn three; Nevada 18; Placer 75; Sacramento 270; San Joaquin 130; Shasta 32; Sutter 40; Tehama six; and Yuba 43.

Business customers are also not immune from scam attempts. In fact, PG&E has received 250 reports of scams targeting small and medium-sized businesses this year and these attempts frequently occur during busy business hours when scammers hope to catch unsuspecting victims while they are distracted or stressed.

Scammers can be convincing and often target those who are most vulnerable, including senior citizens and low-income communities. They also aim their scams at small business owners during busy customer service hours. However, with the right information, customers can learn to detect and report these predatory scams by visiting [www.pge.com/scams](http://www.pge.com/scams) or by calling 1-833-500-SCAM.

Scammers are able to create authentic-looking 800 numbers which appear on

your phone display. The numbers don’t lead back to PG&E if called back, however, so if you have doubts, hang up and either log into your account at [pge.com](http://pge.com) to confirm your bill details or call PG&E at 1-833-500-SCAM. If customers feel that they are in physical danger, they should call 911.

Signing up for an online account at [pge.com](http://pge.com) is another safeguard. Not only can customers log in to check their balance and payment history, they can sign up for recurring payments, paperless billing and helpful alerts. Customers can also call PG&E Customer Service at 800-743-5000 to confirm their bill details and current amount due.

Customers who suspect that they have been victims of fraud or who feel threatened during contact with these scammers should contact local law enforcement. The Federal Trade Commission’s website is also a good source of information about how to protect personal information. For more information about scams, visit [pge.com/scams](http://pge.com/scams) and/or <https://consumer.ftc.gov/scams>.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16-million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit [pge.com](http://pge.com) and [pge.com/news](http://pge.com/news). ★



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

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

**LEGAL ADS FOR SOLANO COUNTY?**  
916-773-1111

**Need Help?**  
  
**Hire A Pro!**  
Buy and Shop Locally

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

**MPG**

**Are You a Pro?**  
Get the word out!  
  
Advertise in the Classifieds  
Call 916-773-1111

**GOT LOCAL NEWS?**  
Call (916) 773-1111

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

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

We Support Our Military

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## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • FICTIONAL FELINES

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- ACROSS**  
1. A long way off  
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8. \*Dr. Seuss' cat headgear  
11. Elbow-wrist connection  
12. Showing signs of use  
13. Legal excuse  
15. "The \_\_\_ Show" (1976-1980)  
16. Black and white cookie  
17. Pall \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ of America  
18. "Halle Berry's 2004 role  
20. Small island  
21. In advance  
22. Santa \_\_\_ winds  
23. \*Bouncy, trouncy, flouncy, pouncy one  
26. Orbital extremes  
30. Half and half  
31. Casual top  
34. Clerk's call  
35. Fortune teller's props  
37. Pub offering  
38. \*Berlioz, Toulouse and \_\_\_ of "Aristocats"  
39. \_\_\_ perspirant  
40. Silo contents  
42. Philosophical system  
43. More zestful  
45. Army's offensives  
47. Blast maker, acr.  
48. "\_\_\_ Line Is It Anyway?"  
50. Long, long time  
52. \*Lewis Carroll's smiley \_\_\_ Cat  
55. Star Wars attacker  
56. First rate (2 words)  
57. Foolish  
59. Jaws of Life manufacturer  
60. \*Cereal-praising tiger  
61. Lake north of Cleveland  
62. Comedian Schumer  
63. Health resort  
64. Communists, slangily

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4. Riffraff  
5. \_\_\_ Jean Baker  
6. Certain pudding ingredient  
7. Happening soon, old fashioned  
8. Ant construction  
9. Competent  
10. \_\_\_ the season!  
12. Suitors  
13. Type of acid  
14. \*Garfield's favorite food  
19. Sharpens  
22. Bldg unit  
23. November birthstone  
24. Lacking sense  
25. Hanukkah coins  
26. Atlas stat  
27. Chilling  
28. Be  
29. Champagne flute part, pl.  
32. Whisker  
33. Not well  
36. \*What three little kittens lost  
38. Decent person, in Yiddish  
40. Between game and match  
41. "\_\_\_ Goosey Gander"  
44. Magazine's special feature  
46. Kidnapper  
48. What pertussis patients do  
49. Temporary tattoo ink  
50. Class reunion attendee  
51. With bloodshed  
52. \*A. L. Webber musical  
53. One in a million  
54. Children's author Blyton  
55. Repeated Cuban dance step  
58. An affirmative

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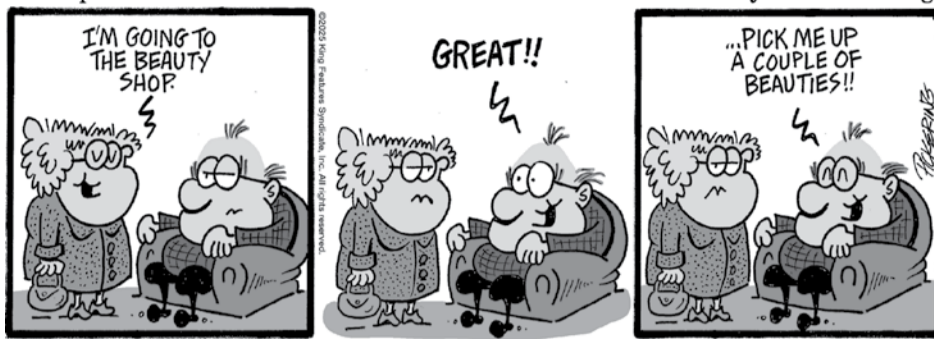
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# COMICS & PUZZLES

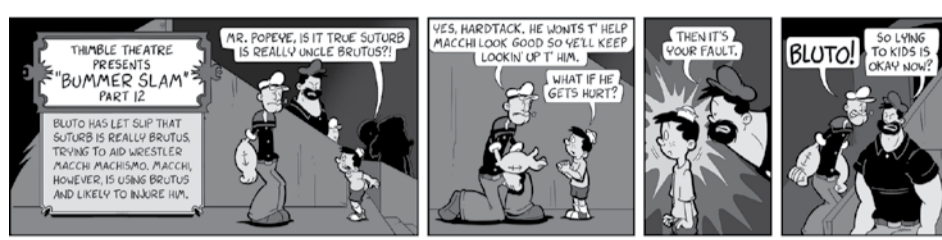
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by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

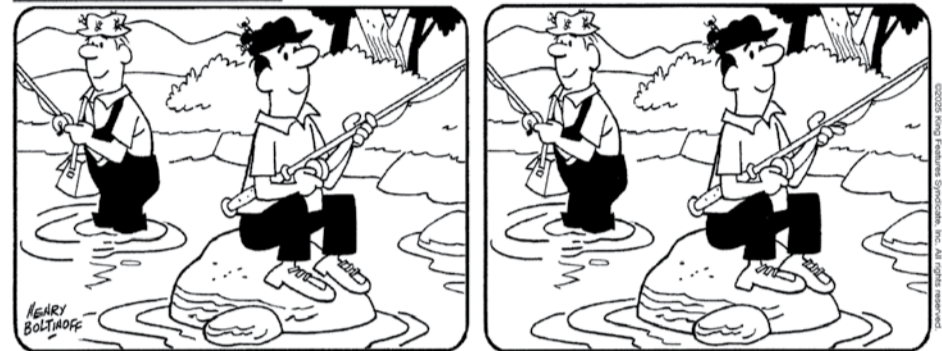


Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

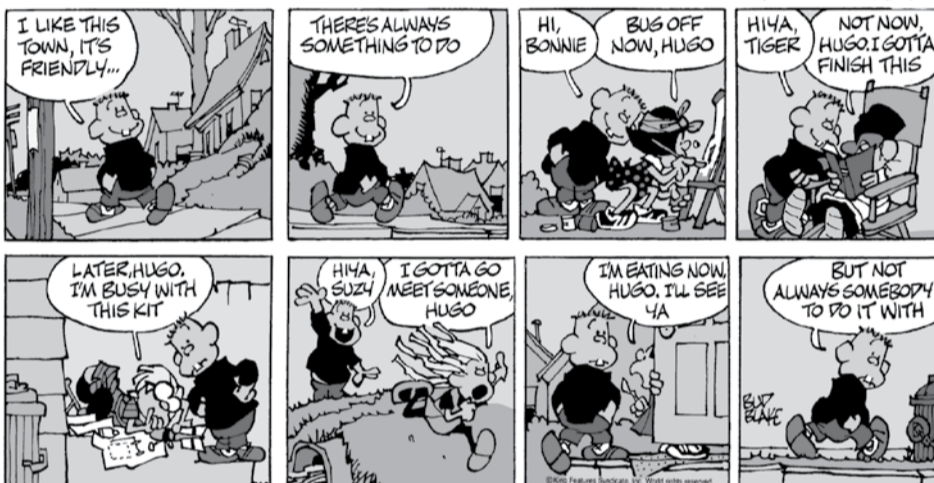


HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF Find at least six differences in details between panels.



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



GRIN AND BEAR IT. BY WAGNER



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# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The Milwaukee Bucks won their first NBA title in 1971, and it took 50 years for the Bucks to win a title again. A fellow by the name of Giannis Antetokounmpo helped them accomplish this task, but players of his caliber are in short supply.

The Sacramento Kings have been in Sacramento for 40 years without reaching the finals or winning a championship. But make no mistake, fans in Kingstown still believe an NBA title will eventually come to Sacramento.

Sadly, during the offseason, fans are hearing far too much about mid-level exceptions, aprons first and second, collective bargaining and salary caps. Frankly, the NBA has one of the most complicated systems regarding player compensation, and it takes someone with an advanced degree in economics to comprehend it.

What we know, is that in the aftermath of seeing mega popular DeAaron Fox trot his talents to the San Antonio Spurs midway through the 2025/2026 season, the Kings have navigated the point guard position much like a rudderless ship.

Freshman GM Scott Perry, tasked with replacing De'Aaron Fox, last week signed journeyman Dennis Schröder, a former #1 draft choice by the Atlanta Hawks in 2013. Schröder was chosen #17 overall and for the past 12 seasons has seen playing time with Oklahoma City Thunder, Los Angeles Lakers, Boston Celtics, Houston Rockets, Toronto Raptors, Brooklyn Nets, Golden State Warriors and finally the Detroit Pistons.

Originally from Germany, where he played professionally and for the German national team in the Olympics, one could say Schröder has seen America from coast to coast.

Dennis Schröder's career stats are not gaudy, but 13.9 points per game being as traveled as he's been, shows he can contribute when needed. Five assists per game and 3 rebounds aren't eye popping, but it's important to remember why the Kings went out to get him.

Sacramento has a plethora of scoring power in the starting lineup and coming off the bench. What has been lacking since the departure of Fox, is a capable distributor of the basketball.

At 2.2 turnovers per game Schröder has a better control average than DeAaron Fox, so at least in one regard the Kings have made

an upgrade.

Not many players would clammer to be the replacement for a point guard as popular as Fox, but Sacramento fans are a generous crowd, and I expect to see fans give Dennis Schröder an ample opportunity to display his talents.

Do I think Schröder can be a capable replacement? Absolutely! He won't score 24 points per game or go coast to coast with the type of speed that DeAaron does, but neither does anyone else.

Scott Perry was given a thankless job, and if Schröder can come in and give the Kings 14 points per game, and take care of the basketball, there's a good chance that the playoffs of two seasons ago won't be the exception to the rule.

Coming off the bench is last year's first round draft choice Devin Carter, and Sacramento has a rookie guard in Nique Clifford that is going to need playing time, so don't expect to see Schröder get much more than 20-25 minutes per game.

Perry is likely to have more moves coming, so keep your eyes on summer league Kings fans, and don't forget that Sacramento also drafted a 7-footer in Maxime Raynaud. It will be interesting to see how coach Christie uses his new big man.

Sadly, popular Jonas Valanciunas won't be suiting up for the Kings this season, as he was traded last week to the Denver Nuggets for Dario Saric. Saric will be a role player, and spell Sabonis off the bench. At 6' 10" and 225 lbs. this 31-year-old will undoubtedly see playing time.

Players like Isaac Jones and Devin Carter are still trying to open eyes, so this year's summer league will be an opportunity to showcase their talents and allow Doug Christie to see their growth over the season.

NBA pundits have praised the Kings' draft this year, and I concur with their accolades. There's real optimism as this team is deep in talent. It remains to be seen how that talent will come together, and whether the Kings can take the young talent they have to the next level.

Stay tuned Kings fans, because this roster isn't cast in stone just yet!

All the best!

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

# Social Security Matters

## Can I Switch to a Taxi Driver Job Without Hurting my Social Security?



By Russell Gloor,  
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I opted to draw my Social Security retirement benefit early and work part time. The company I work for has decided to pull me from field work due to my age and health. Although they are great keeping me at 20 hours per week running for parts and doing office work, I'm not sure how much longer it will last. I'm thinking of taking a taxi driving job to keep my income enough to live on. The way it would work, I would lease the cab for some amount of dollars per day, set my own hours to work and collect anywhere from \$1.40 to \$4.00 per mile, depending on what type of fare. My question is: how does Social Security look at that type of employment? Would I be held to the 15 - 45 hours a month standard? I could never come close to making the \$1,200 to \$1,300 a month I need by working so little. Any advice is greatly appreciated. **Signed: Seeking Advice**

**Dear Seeking:** If you go ahead with your plan to lease a taxicab instead of continuing your current employment, you would, in effect, be considered "self-employed" and would submit your income tax return to the IRS accordingly. Social Security would get your earnings information as reported to

the IRS, and it would be your net earnings from self-employment (after deducting all your business expenses) that is reported to SSA by IRS. There is, however, a special rule which would apply to you in your first calendar year of self-employment while collecting early Social Security benefits.

Since, in your first year, some of your earnings would be as a part-time employee paying SS FICA payroll taxes, Social Security would first look at your earnings as an employee to see if you exceeded the annual earnings limit (\$23,400 for 2025). Then, upon starting your self-employment, Social Security would look at the hours you spent performing "substantial gainful activity" (e.g., driving your taxi) each month and, if you spent more than 45 hours per month in that capacity, you would not be considered "retired," and thus, not eligible for Social Security in any month you exceeded that amount of hours. If you earned less than the annual limit in total (both as an employee and while self-employed), you would get benefits for all months of the year. But if you earn more than the annual limit, you will get no benefits for any month you exceeded 45 hours as a self-employed person. Again, this only applies during the first calendar year of self-employment - in the following year only your net earnings from self-employment would count toward the annual earnings limit.

In effect, SSA would use the hours-worked standard to see if you are truly retired or actually working. If the latter, they would withhold

SS monthly benefits for any month you exceed 45 hours working while self-employed (up to and including December of your first calendar year of self-employment), and only if your total income (as an employee and while self-employed) exceeds the annual limit.

So, if your goal is to net \$1,200 - \$1,300 per month as a self-employed taxi driver, that would be well within the limits of the annual earnings test (\$23,400 for 2025 but changes yearly). But there may, or may not, be a reduction in your Social Security benefits during your first year of self-employment, depending on when you start as self-employed. Note that SSA will ask about your work plans when you apply, and if you expect to stay under the annual limit (working part time in both capacities), you should get full SS benefits. Just be careful to stay under the annual earnings limit for those collecting early Social Security benefits. FYI, earnings from before your SS benefits started don't count toward the earning limit.

Note, too, that your monthly Social Security benefit will be actuarially reduced according to how far in advance of your full retirement age you claim SS. Whenever SS benefits are claimed prior to one's full retirement age, those benefits are permanently reduced.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA).* ★



### Blow up Washington, D.C.'s Brutalist Buildings, and the Sooner, the Better

There's a reason God created dynamite. The brutalist federal buildings that have blighted Washington, D.C., for decades deserve the same fate as Carthage after the Third Punic War, and the nation's capital is finally beginning to move on from these concrete monstrosities.

The Department of Housing and Urban and Development just announced that it is leaving its god-awful headquarters in Washington for a less hideous space in Northern Virginia. HUD Secretary Scott Turner has described the structure as "the ugliest building in D.C.," which is a dubious claim only because there are so many other buildings in Washington that compete for that distinction. He's not the first HUD secretary to hate the building. Jack Kemp called it "10 floors of basement."

Meanwhile, the FBI is also departing its HQ, designated by the U.K. building materials retailer Buildworld as the ugliest building in the United States and the second ugliest in the world.

The moves are in keeping with the spirit of President Trump's executive order stipulating that federal buildings should "respect regional, traditional and classical architectural heritage in order to uplift and beautify public spaces and ennoble the United States and our system of self-government."

That EO should be considered common sense, but has several trigger words for defenders of the architectural status quo, including "traditional," "classical" and, perhaps foremost of all, "beautify." In response, the American Institute of Architects expressed its "strong concerns that mandating architecture styles stifles innovation and harms local communities."

According to The Nation magazine, Trump's initiative is part of an agenda to "make historical architecture on the whole inextricable from Eurocentric white supremacy." In short, it's an unforgivable offense to want a government building to look nice.

Brutalism, with its blocky, minimalist structures made of poured concrete, was a creation of a post-war Europe that wanted to embrace the fresh and new and to economize on rebuilding. Although the name "brutalism" perfectly captures the aesthetic effect, it actually comes from the French for "raw concrete," "beton brut."

To be sure, concrete is extremely important to modern life, but no one has ever said, "Oh, it's so elegant and uplifting." The brutalist buildings in Washington were largely built between the late 1960s and mid-1970s, an era of grievous architectural mistakes, including cookie-cutter multiple-purpose baseball stadiums and modernist Catholic churches. The buildings never had a heyday, but were hated when they were erected and are still hated now.

The seedbed of the trend was a Kennedy administration commission that advocated contemporary

designs and said -- laughably, in retrospect -- that federal architecture should "reflect the dignity, enterprise, vigor and stability of the American national government."

Instead, the brutalist buildings speak of a lumbering bureaucracy with no regard for the sensibilities or priorities of ordinary people. They are about what you'd expect if a DMV were headquartered in a maximum-security prison or in a massive pillbox.

The buildings could easily be used as stage sets for docudramas about East Germany. They are a tribute to soulless monumentality and a gut punch to the human spirit. If they don't eventually get a well-deserved appointment with a wrecking ball, they should be donated to North Korea.

The original justifications of brutalism no longer apply. The buildings aren't new anymore, and aren't cheap. They haven't aged well in any sense, not aesthetically or functionally. The FBI building is literally falling apart, and the expense of maintaining the HUD building has become ruinous.

Defenders of the brutalist buildings say that they are now part of our heritage and should be preserved as such. That's not fair, though, to the people who have to work in them, or who walk or drive by them every day. They are a net subtraction to the D.C. landscape and to human happiness. If one of them has to be kept for historical reasons, it should be made into a Smithsonian museum devoted to idiotic fads that were indulged for much too long.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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# California Lawmakers Finally Achieve 'Holy Grail' Reform



By Dan Walters,  
CALMatters.org

Jerry Brown once described reform of the California Environmental Quality Act as "the lord's work" but he, like other recent governors, was not willing to invest enough political capital to change it.

Simply put, significantly altering CEQA, which then-Gov. Ronald Reagan signed more than a half-century ago, would require confronting two powerful interest groups: environmental organizations and labor unions, which have weaponized the law to achieve their goals.

Brown made one stab at compelling the Legislature to alter CEQA in 2016, but otherwise left it to his successor, Gavin Newsom.

For six years, Newsom echoed the attitudes of his predecessors, critical of CEQA's misuse to block housing and other much-needed projects, or compel developers to hire unionized labor or jump through other hoops, but unwilling to confront it head-on.

Instead, he and the Legislature nibbled at the edges of the law and gave specific projects, such as sports arenas, exemptions.

Finally, however, the social and economic costs of leaving CEQA intact became too high. The state's critical shortage of housing continued despite innumerable policy

declarations aimed at spurring investment. It became downright embarrassing that a politically dominant Democratic Party pledged to socioeconomic equity was unable to deliver on promises to make housing more abundant and affordable.

California starred in a New York Times video that chastised blue states for failing to live up to their stated principles and in a recent book, "Abundance," about the nation's chronic inability to deliver much-needed projects due to regulatory overkill, such as CEQA.

This year, with Newsom nearing the end of his governorship and appearing to cast his eyes toward a presidential campaign, the governor decided to confront the CEQA issue squarely. He endorsed two bills that would impose limits on the law's reach and, in the end, threatening to block the entire state budget if they weren't placed on his desk.

On Monday (June 30), the last day of the fiscal year, the Legislature passed Assembly Bill 130 and Senate Bill 131 with last-minute changes to dampen opposition from construction unions. Newsom quickly signed them.

"We needed to go bold and big on this holy grail reform," Newsom said at a hastily staged signing ceremony.

Essentially, the legislation exempts virtually all infill housing projects from CEQA's provisions, making it more difficult for opponents of high-density housing projects, known as NIMBYs, to block approval.

Such projects, particularly those aimed at low- and moderate-income families, have been the most difficult to gain approval, due largely to opposition in upscale communities

dominated by single-family homeowners.

"When you are building housing in an existing community, that is environmentally beneficial, it is climate friendly, that is not something that should be subjected to potentially endless CEQA challenges and lawsuits," Sen. Scott Wiener, a San Francisco Democrat who authored SB 131, told senators before they passed the measure.

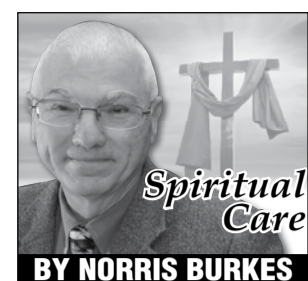
Wiener and Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks, an Oakland Democrat who carried AB 130, have been the Capitol's two most aggressive advocates of pro-housing legislation.

The remaining question, of course, is whether the two new laws, which go into effect immediately, will have a discernible impact on the state's housing shortage. CEQA is just one factor of many determining whether proposed projects proceed or die. Those who oppose high-density housing in their neighborhoods will not just roll over.

Ironically, as the Legislature was passing the two new laws on Monday, The Atlantic was publishing a lengthy article entitled "The Whole Country Is Starting to Look Like California," that describes how red tape and local opposition are adversely affecting housing development in red states such as Texas and Florida, which had been viewed as developer paradises.

Dan Walters is one of the 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. ★

# Chaplain Offers — Dating Advice?



*Spiritual Care*

BY NORRIS BURKES

opening line to avoid confusion: “Hello, this is Sara at Chispa Project, the non-profit in Honduras!”

“Hi, I’m trying to access my account and...”

“Ooh, so sorry!” Sara says in perfect Spanish, “You’ve reached Chispa Project, the non-profit in Honduras.”

“I really need to get on your site ASAP...” insists the caller.

“Sorry, we’re not related to the Chispa dating app. Wrong number.”

They beg her, “Can’t you connect me to the right person?”

Listening to Sara patiently explain – again and again – that she’s not tech support for a dating app reminds me of how often Jesus had to clarify his mission for those who misunderstood him. People sought a political savior or miracle worker, but Jesus kept emphasizing a different purpose.

Despite all the parables, analogies, metaphors, and symbols Jesus used, he was clear and repetitive about one thing in particular—love—the chispa that lights everything else.

When he said to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind,” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37–39), he pointed to the fire that kindles true connection, purpose, and transformation.

Like a single chispa that can ignite a flame, love sets everything in motion—whether it’s changing a life through a children’s book, finding a life partner, or growing closer to God by following Jesus’ example.

To be clear, this columnist does not endorse the dating app in question. I’m already locked into a lifetime subscription with my wife, Becky.

It’s not the fleeting spark

of romance I’m looking for, but a different kind of spark: one that ignites compassion, healing, and humility. These days, I find myself affirming the love that kindles true connection, purpose, and transformation – like Jesus taught.

How can we all become more fluent in the amor that demonstrates empathy? An amor that humbles us across differences?

In Greek, this type of amor is described as agape—a love that is unconditional, selfless, sacrificial. It’s the choice to love regardless of circumstances or feelings.

In English, it might seem that Chispa, the app, and Chispa Project, the non-profit, offer the same thing—a spark of love. Make no mistake, both are important and necessary, but they are different.

Chispa, the app, offers a chance at romantic love. Chispa Project, the non-profit, encourages the agape love for our neighbors.

I keep telling Sara that she should charge a minimum donation for each of the crisscrossed Chispa calls she gets, but she always mutters something about honesty and goofy dad ideas.

But now the choice is yours—what will you do to spark agape in whatever Chispa you end up calling? What chispa will you ignite in your community?

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*All of Norris’s books can be ordered on Amazon. Autographed copies can be obtained on his website [www.thechaplain.net](http://www.thechaplain.net) or by sending a check for \$20 for each book to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602. ★*

Persons listed in this log from the Dixon Police Department are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Only activities deemed significant by the Police Dept. are included.



## DIXON POLICE LOG

### Wednesday, July 2

0700 - Graffiti on the soundwall in the area of South First and Valley Glen Drive.

1620 - Found property in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.

### Tuesday, July 01

1436 - Theft reported in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

0250 - Report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue resulted in the arrest of Kimberly Almeida (29) of Vacaville for possession of fentanyl and mushrooms. She was cited and released.

### Monday, June 30

1111 - Stolen scooter reported in the 400 block of East Mayes Street.

1153 - Verbal dispute reported in the 100 block of South Lincoln Street.

1128 - Indecent exposure reported on 06-29-25. Daniel Figueroa-Rios (50), of Dixon, was arrested for Indecent Exposure, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Destruction of Evidence. He was transported to the Solano County Jail.

1318 - Found property reported in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

1532 - Threats reported in the 1800 block of Whiting Court.

### Sunday, June 29

1037 - Grand theft from a business in the 1500 block of North First Street.

1300 - Female placed on a mental health hold in the 200 block of East D Street.

1430 - Male placed on a mental health hold in the 600 block of South First Street.

1800 - Indecent exposure report taken in the 500 block of West A Street.

### Saturday, June 28

0718 - Hit and run investigation in the 300 block of South First Street.

2102 - Restraining order violation reported in the 1000 block of North First Street.

2338 - Traffic stop in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue resulted in the arrest of Christopher Arroyo (21) of Dixon for driving under the influence of alcohol and a probation violation. He went to county jail.

### Friday, June 27

1110 - Hit and Run investigation.

1330 - Battery on school grounds at Tremont Elementary.

1405 - Theft report in the 1400 block of Nut Tree Avenue.

1600 - Domestic Violence Investigation.

0201 - Jesse Gonzalez (27-year-old out of Woodland) was arrested for possession of crystal methamphetamine. Gonzalez was cited and released on scene.

### Thursday, June 26

0740 - Oscar Orozco (34) of Dixon was contacted in the area of North First Street at East C Street and arrested for possession of a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia and violation of probation.

0930 - Vehicle Accident no injuries in the area of Evans Road and West A Street.

1040 - Vehicle accident no injuries in the 600 block of Walnut Park Avenue.

1112 - Theft report in the 500 block of South First Street.

1115 - Confidential Report.

0355 - Domestic battery and public intoxication arrest in the 400 block of East Mayes Street. Suspect Ricardo Ortiz (33-year-old, out of Dixon) was arrested without incident, transported to Solano County jail and booked.

### Wednesday, June 25

1104 - Fraud reported in the 700 block of Collier Drive.

1517 - Lost bike reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

1945 - Suspicious circumstances in the 500 block of Syracuse Lane.

0509 - Suspicious circumstance in the 200 block of East Dorset Lane. Norma Cuyun (50), of Dixon, was cited and released for Trespassing and Possession of a Controlled Substance.

### Tuesday, June 24

1130 - Informational report taken in the 200 block of West A Street.

1308 - Traffic collision in the area of Woodvale Drive and Peterson Way.

1452 - Theft reported in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

1505 - Vehicle burglary reported in the 200 block of North First Street.

1521 - Citizen assist in the 2500 block of Duncan Street.

0305 - A vandalism report was taken in the 1200 block of Linford Lane.

0428 - A confidential report was taken in the 800 block of North Adams Street.

### Monday, June 23

0907 - Found property turned into the Police Department.

1058 - Parking violation in the 1200 block of Smith Court.

1120 - Vehicle vandalism reported in the 300 block of West H Street

1158 - Graffiti reported in the area of West Chestnut and South Washington Street.

1520 - Vehicle vandalism reported in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

1623 - Welfare check in the 100 block of North Adams Street. Hannah Flanagan (29) of Dixon was found to be Drunk in Public and unable to care for themselves. They were transported to the Solano County Jail.

0327 - A theft report was taken in the 300 block of North Washington Street.

### Sunday, June 22

0900 - Lost/stolen license plate reported in the 700 block of Wintun Court.

0956 - Court order violation reported in the 100 block of South First Street.

1127 - Vandalism reported in the 600 block of Park Drive.

1428 - Warrant arrest in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue. Daniel Gutierrez-Clifton (29), of Fairfield, was found to have a warrant out of Woodland for Failure to Appear. He was cited and released from Dixon Police Department.

2121 - A traffic collision report was taken in the 1500 block of West A Street.

### Saturday, June 21

0820 - Jasmine Waller (30) of Davis was contacted at a business in the 200 block of East Dorset and arrested for two outstanding warrants.

1100 - Violation of a court order taken in the lobby.

2047 - DUI and probation violation arrest at Linford Lane and N. Lincoln Street. Suspect John Harris (56) of Dixon was arrested and transported to Solano County jail for booking.

2317 - Resisting arrest, post-release community supervision violation and warrant arrest in the 2500 block of N First Street. Suspect Mathew Ramos (55) of Dixon was arrested, transported to Solano County jail and booked.

### Friday, June 20

0808 - Michael Krone (37) of Sacramento was contacted in the 1400 block of South Lincoln Street. and arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.

1020 - Vandalism report in the 900 block of Norton Court.

1100 - Female placed on mental health hold.

1420 - Fraud report taken in the lobby.

1950 - Misdemeanor hit and run traffic collision report in the 1100 block of Dartmouth Circle.

2039 - Kidnapping report in the 200 block of Dorset Court. Suspect Andrew Bjortvedt (43-year-old, out of Carson City, Nevada) was arrested, transported and booked into Solano County Jail.

2051 - Report of electronic tracker being placed on a vehicle without consent of owner taken in the 500 block of Sawyer Court.

2324 - Arrest for public intoxication in the 1100 block of Presidio Court. Patrick Walker (34-year-old, out of Fresno, CA) was arrested and booked into Solano County Jail.

### Thursday, June 19

1511 - Oscar Orozco (34) of Dixon was contacted at Northwest Park and arrested for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and violation of probation.

1607 - Male placed on mental health hold.

### Wednesday, June 18

No reports taken

### Tuesday, June 17

0946 - Abandoned vehicles reported in the 800 block of Elm Drive.

1006 - Informational report taken in the 1600 block of Bello Drive.

1245 - Welfare check in the 1000 block of North First Street. A 40-year-old subject was found to be intoxicated and unable to care for themselves. They were transported to the Solano County Jail.

1413 - Confidential report taken in the 1500 block of Pembroke Way.

1414 - Suspicious vehicle located in the 1400 block of Ary Lane.

1436 - Fraud reported in the 500 block of West Cherry Street.

1536 - Traffic collision reported in the area of Valley Glen Drive and Duncan Street.

1708 - A sexual assault report was taken in the 1800 block of Gold Street.

1831 - A hit-and-run report was taken in the 100 block of Gateway Drive.

### Monday, June 16

1008 - Late report of a battery reported in the 1200 block of Bello Drive.

1025 - Informational report taken in the 200 block of West A Street.

0153 - An informational report was taken in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.



# Food & Farm NEWS

### California’s July 4 Cookout Costs Higher than National Average

Californians stocking up on groceries for Fourth of July holiday celebrations this week will pay comparatively steeper prices, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation’s annual marketbasket survey, which analyzed the cost of cookout staples such as ground beef, pork chops, hamburger buns and lemonade. The average Independence Day cookout for 10 guests in California will cost \$90.06, nearly 27% higher than the national average of \$70.92, the survey found. “Inflation and lower availability of some food items continue to keep prices stubbornly high,” AFBF Associate Economist Samantha Ayoub said. She noted that “high prices don’t mean more money for farmers,” who take home an average of just 15% of food retail revenue. Nationwide, the cost of a Fourth of July cookout remained almost unchanged from last year, with the average grocery bill for a party of 10 falling by 30 cents.

### Dairy Farms Make Strides in Capturing Biogas and Reducing Emissions

During the past five years, U.S. dairy farmers more than doubled the amount of methane they capture from manure and convert into biogas using anaerobic digesters, according to data released this week by the American Biogas Council. Overall biogas capture on dairies

increased by 130%, generating enough renewable energy to power 615,000 homes per year, the council reported. “The great progress by our dairy farmers in trapping a waste gas and putting it to beneficial use is something all Americans can celebrate,” ABC Executive Director Patrick Serfass said. “Biogas systems help improve our food system by providing nutrient-rich, odor-free fertilizers, increasing farm sustainability, and helping to keep air and water clean in rural communities.”

### California Farmers Partner with State to Protect Groundwater Supplies

A pilot program launched in 2022 by the California Department of Water Resources to help farmers conserve groundwater supplies has succeeded in saving more than 100,000 acre-feet of groundwater and protecting more than 16,000 domestic wells, according to a report published last week by DWR. By providing \$23 million in grants, the LandFlex program has enabled 52 farms to implement water conservation practices and develop infrastructure such as basins to recharge overdrafted aquifers. “The future of California is one where communities that are dependent on groundwater wells have reliable and safe drinking water, farms can stay in production with sustainable practices, and critical water infrastructure is protected from subsidence,” DWR Director Karla Nemeth said. ★



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# Senate Bill 54 the So Called Values Act



By John McGinness

Much attention has been directed at immigration enforcement in California this year. Donald Trump made several campaign promises in his 2024 presidential campaign. Chief among those were commitments to improve the economy (reduce inflation) and enforce the existing immigration laws. He even went so far as to suggest the possibility of mass deportations. The result of his clearly expressed promises was a decisive win on November 5, 2024. In fact, to the surprise of many, Donald Trump not only prevailed in the electoral college, he won the popular vote and became the forty-seventh president of the United States. Among the first actions of the new president was the appointment of a no-nonsense border czar, Tom Homan who has been unequivocal in his commitment to relentlessly enforce immigration laws in this country.

The United States of America is often referred to as a democracy, when in fact, it is a constitutional republic. However, the method through which we elect candidates for office is through a democratic process. In the case of President Donald Trump, the

voters spoke clearly through the democratic process and chose the candidate who committed to strict immigration enforcement. That development put the state of California, and other blue states at odds with the new administration and the will of most Americans, as evidenced by the 2024 election outcome.

To develop a better understanding of how California got where it is today, we revisit history. In 2017 the California Legislature passed Senate Bill 54, the so-called Values Act which prohibited the practice of state and local law enforcement officers from interacting with personnel from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This action by the legislature was taken without voter approval and against vocal opposition from law enforcement executives and rank and file law enforcement practitioners. It was signed into law by Governor Edmond G Brown, Jr and became law on January 1, 2018. Prior to that time, ICE personnel regularly visited, and in many cases were stationed in, major jails throughout the state of California for the purpose of monitoring the immigration status of criminal suspects booked into the facilities. That practice allowed for the peaceful transfer of jurisdiction from California peace officers - to immigration enforcement personnel. Additionally, when ICE had identified a person that was wanted and subject to arrest under their jurisdiction, they would routinely contact local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of ensuring local police were aware of the presence of armed plain clothes personnel engaged in dynamic law enforcement operations. That course of action ensured effective communication

in the spirit of maximum public and officer safety.

Senate Bill 54 outlawed each of those practices, foreseeably increasing the risk to the public, law enforcement personnel and even the suspects themselves. It is impossible to imagine a safer environment in which to effectuate the arrest of a criminal suspect than simply transferring that person from the jurisdiction of one law enforcement agency to another within the confines of a secure jail, a setting in which no one is armed, and escape is virtually impossible. Similarly, the capture of a fugitive with the presence of uniformed law enforcement personnel present in marked patrol cars, with ready communication capabilities with their federal colleagues, facilitated optimum elements for a safe outcome.

Nonetheless, the California legislature and governors, past and present, embraced this extraordinarily ill-conceived law and in so doing, hampered the safety of legitimate, statutorily, and constitutionally sanctioned law enforcement operations.

Effective January 1, 2018. ICE personnel were removed from the jails forthwith. No communication between and among state and local law enforcement personnel could take place. This eliminated the potential of an illegal immigrant with an egregiously violent criminal history, freshly arrested for a violation of state law to be properly referred to ICE.

For those of us who closely watch the actions of the California legislature, there was specific frustration with this course of conduct. Because the US Constitution (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4) clearly delegates immigration enforcement power to the

Federal Government, preventing individual states from having their own processes for naturalization. Additionally, the US Supreme Court decided in Arizona v United States (2012), that immigration enforcement and naturalization is the sole prevue of the federal government.

In addition to the Constitutionally enumerated duty of the federal government to enforce immigration law, the U.S. Congress has codified specific laws in statute, i.e.: 8 U.S.C.1325 which makes it a crime for an alien to enter or even attempt to enter the U.S. at a time or place not designated by immigration officials, or to elude inspection. It is a misdemeanor for the first offense, but it can become a felony if the person has been previously deported and re-enters without authorization, or if that person commits other violations of law. Congress has also funded ICE, and the Executive Branch has given clear direction to personnel in ICE to enforce the law. The foregoing represents the law of the land in the United States of America in 2025. A person with a modicum of sixth-grade civics knowledge should understand that if there is dissatisfaction with the law, there are means by which laws can be changed. However, the notion of duly elected members of the legislative and executive branch of any state government simply and overtly defying the law is unconscionable.

The common refrain from Governor Newsom includes an assertion that the actions of the federal government in immigration law enforcement is a denial of democracy. Every Californian should know that federal immigration personnel enforcing the laws created and funded by a duly

elected Congress, and directed by the Executive Branch of the government, in a manner consistent with the language expressed in the U.S. Constitution, is the essence of democracy. Citizens who oppose the law have a right and arguably a duty to endeavor to change the law. Defiance of the law is not the answer.

Apropos of nothing above, but consistent with Governor Newsom's lack of understanding or willful defiance of the fundamentals of democracy is evidenced by another development of last November's election, Proposition 36. Nearly seventy percent of the California electorate passed Proposition 36; it passed in each of the very diverse fifty-eight counties in California. A significant portion of that proposition was the demand for treatment of chronic drug offenders. The people spoke clearly through that democratic act. Yet, Governor Newsom refuses to ensure funding for that critical treatment. It appears Governor Newsom's resistant democracy when he does not like the decisions of the voters.

To be clear, there is room for improvement on both sides of the divide. Constitutional officers should never waiver from their oath to the Constitution, and dignified communication facilitates the optimal outcomes.

Perhaps we heed President Abraham Lincoln and invoke our *Better Angels*.

California and the nation deserve better.

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