

Bargains and Blessings

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Inspire an Appreciation for the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

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JULY 25, **2025** 

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## POLICE REPORT



# BECOME A MOVIES IN THE PARK SPONSOR



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# FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS

By Amy Shane



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## Anna Anderson Wins Karate Gold



earned her a position on the U.S. Junior Team and made her eligible for upcoming international events. Photo courtesy of Ramtown Karate

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Anna Anderson of Ramtown Karate won gold in the Women's Under 21 Elite Point Kumite Division at the U.S. Karate National Championships and U.S. Junior Team Trials, held July 9 to 13 in Fort Worth, Texas.

The tournament featured top junior karate athletes from throughout the country competing for spots on the U.S. Junior National Team.

Anderson, 18, represented Northern California and competed in the 18-to-20 age group. Her first-place finish in her division earned her a position on the U.S. Junior Team and made her eligible for upcoming international events.

"It feels really cool," said Anderson. "It's a pretty big accomplishment."



Anna Anderson of Ramtown Karate won gold in the Women's Under 21 Elite Point Kumite Division at the U.S. Karate National Championships and U.S. Junior Team Trials, held July 9 to 13 in Fort Worth, Texas. Photo courtesy of Ramtown Karate

She had faced several of her opponents earlier in 2025 at the USA Open Karate Championships and Junior International Cup in Las Vegas.

"I felt pretty good," said Anderson. "These are girls I'd fought before in Las Vegas in April, so it was nice going in already knowing how they fought."

The event also served as the official selection process for the U.S. Junior and Senior National Teams. Anderson will be the youngest person ever to compete for a spot on the U.S. Senior Team.

"A little crazy but I'm very excited about it," said Anderson.

As a new Junior Team member, Anderson is scheduled to train at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs next January.

"I'm excited; that's something I've been looking forward to for a couple of years," said Anderson. "I didn't get to go last year because the Olympics was going on."

Anderson is from Dixon and has been a part of Ramtown Karate for several years. In addition to

Continued on page 5

## Reviews Capital Improvement Projects

Council

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - During the July 15 Dixon City Council meeting, Councilmember Kevin Johnson pulled an item from the consent calendar regarding a contract with Brown & Caldwell for preparation of Chromium VI Compliance Plan for the city, as required by California state law.

The California State Water Resources Control Board adopted a new maximum contaminant level (MCL) for Chromium VI of 10 parts per billion to reduce toxicity in drinking water. The new regulations went into effect in October 2024 and the city must submit a compliance plan by this October and implement treatment within three years.

Staff requested a budget amendment of \$33,850 to cover the cost for the consultant to complete the compliance plan.

"This is actually an item that's for the sole purpose of keeping us where we need to go, going forward with our responsibilities related to Chrome VI," Johnson said. "There's a lot that's going on in the background related to a cooperative legal fund fight that we're doing with a number of other communities" to address the "unfunded state mandate for Chrome VI."

The city attorney said the state water board filed an answer to the petition instead of a challenge, which means the litigation will move forward without interruption.

Johnson said that the petition could provide "increased opportunity to potentially have grant funding toward the implementation of Chrome VI." He wanted the public to know there is "aggressive activity going on to thwart what, without action, would have been an implementation of multimillion dollars. So we're working on it."

The council voted to approve the contract and the consent calendar.

City Council then considered the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2025-2026 through 2029-2030.

The Capital Improvement Program outlines construction projects to rehabilitate existing city facilities or build new ones to accommodate planned growth.

Junior engineer Jordan Santos said that the city is taking a more pragmatic approach to the Capital

# Serving Dixon Seniors



On July 16, Project Access held the grand opening of its new Resource Center at Silvey Villas Senior Living in Dixon. The 530-square-foot facility is designed to support seniors aged 55 and over, offering on-site access to essential services and programs. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On July 16, Project Access held the grand opening of its new resource center at Silvey Villas Senior Living in Dixon. The 530-square-foot facility, 2105 Mourning Dove Drive, is designed to support seniors aged 55 and over, offering on-site access to essential

services and programs.

According to Project Access Director of Marketing and Communications Annette Lopez, the resource center was developed through a partnership between Project Access and Hampstead Partners, which began with a letter of intent in March 2022. According to Lopez, the decision to place the

center at Silvey Villas was made by Hampstead, selecting it as the ideal site to support senior residents.

Construction of the resource

center began in June 2024. The ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating this achievement was attended by more than 20 residents and 16 volunteers and stakeholders. The event Continued on page 5

to essential to Lopez, the decision to place the Continued on page 5 Continued on page 2

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## **Council Reviews Capital Improvement Projects**

Continued from page 1

Improvement Program by only including projects with funding already secured, whether through rate structures, impact fees, state or federal grants, etc.

There are approximately 45 projects included in the Capital Improvement Program, totaling \$68 million over five

One project newly added this year is a Distribution System Flushing Program, which will allow for better maintenance of the water system and significantly reduce

"With the state's incentive for water conservation and trying to minimize water loss, we feel this is a good investment of our funds in order to try and meet those goals," said Santos.

Councilmember Jim Ernest asked for an update about the project to expand the police station. City Manager Jim Lindley said the project "is currently hung up" on a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) funding requirement that the elevator size must accommodate a full-size

The city requested a waiver, stipulating that a gurney can be removed through the planned stairwell. But if the waiver is not approved, "we're going to have to either redesign or decide whether or not we're going to take the money," said Lindley. "Because it might cost us more money to use that money than not."

Councilmember Johnson asked about plans for Fire Station 82, which are no longer included in the Capital Improvement Program. Santos explained that it's still an active project but there is no secured funding at this time.

During public comments, a resident spoke about a bikeway improvement project along West A St., listed in the Capital Improvement Program for implementation in 2027 with a \$912,000 budget. He said cars drive at high speeds along that road, and if the bike lane is only designated through additional striping, riders might still feel unsafe and choose to ride on the sidewalk instead. He suggested getting input from bicyclists before moving forward.

The council requested that staff make some corrections to the Capital Improvement Program draft and bring it back at a future meeting for approval.

The council also continued its discussion about adding either a turn lane or a roundabout to improve access to businesses on the north side of West A Street.

Recent road improvements by the Homestead developers required the installation of a center median, which councilmembers said was now impeding access to the Wienerschnitzel restaurant.

It was mentioned that drivers have to drive out of the way and make a U-turn or, more often, drivers are cutting through the adjacent AM/PM gas station, causing a

safety hazard for pedestrians. City engineer and Utilities Director Christopher Fong said that it would cost \$20,000 for traffic study and design, and construction of a left turn lane was estimated at \$125,000. A roundabout at Whispering Way could cost \$650,000 and would require the acquisition of portions of adjacent properties.

Because the new median is part of an ongoing project, Fong said changes can't be made until after that section has been officially accepted by the city, expected by the end of the year.

Vice-Mayor Thom Bogue asked if a traffic study was a legal requirement or if they could save money and skip that step to move forward more quickly.

Mayor Steven Bird said he was concerned about liability for the city if they moved forward without a traffic study.

"We have a business right now that's being dramatically impacted," Johnson said.

Johnson also mentioned some properties nearby that are for sale for potential development and he said a lack of access could impact interest in development.

It's important to expedite a solution,

Johnson said, because drivers cutting through a nearby business is "completely ridiculous" and "just a matter of time before someone gets hurt." Ernest said it's important to have good traffic design but "I don't think we're going

to do it all in one shot. I say get it done as soon as possible, cheap and quick for now, and expect more work later." Staff will determine whether a traffic study is legally required and then bring this item back with a timeline of when the city

can take possession of the median and make changes. Water Operations Supervisor Josh Hudson presented an update about planned Water Department Capital Improvement Projects,

which will be funded through the increased

water rates that went into effect last year. Hudson said that "there were a lot of challenges and deferred maintenance in the water system," which the city took over in 2014. But with the rate increases and new wells from recent and planned residential development, "we're going to be in much

better place." Major upcoming projects include the water meter replacement program, a new well at Industrial, water operation and cyber security implementation and telecom upgrades, generator replacement program, Fitzgerald tank rehabilitation, and Watson Ranch well replacement.

The council then considered a \$49,315 contract with Civil Pacific Construction to replace three lateral service water lines in the Watson Ranch subdivision. Installed in the 1980s, Hudson said the pipes were improperly designed with inferior materials, resulting in three emergency replacements over the years at a cost of \$25,000 to

Now that the water system has funding, Hudson said, the last three pipes can be proactively replaced, which will provide significant cost savings to the city over waiting to react in an emergency situation.

The council voted unanimously to approve the contract.

The council voted to join the rest of Solano County in changing the date of National Night Out from Aug. 5 to Oct. 7. The council meeting scheduled for Oct. 7 will be canceled to allow staff and councilmembers to attend the event.

The next Dixon City Council meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Aug. 5.

## **Dixon News Briefs**



before each workshop. The annual festival is scheduled for Oct. 4 and Oct. 5. Photo by Debra Dingman

By MPG Staff

#### Veterans' Dinner

American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Veterans' Dinner from 4 to 9 p.m. July 25. The dinner, held at Veterans' Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. offers an all-you-can-eat meal for \$12 per guest. Dishes include penne pasta with red sauce and meatballs, bread and a salad. The bar opens at 4:30 p.m. with dinner served by 5:30 p.m.

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.

#### 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 dixonchamber.org or call 707-678-2650.

#### Lambtown Festival **Workshop Registration**

Registration for Lambtown Festival workshops began July 19 and will remain open until the evening before each workshop. Workshops are varied, offering 31 teachers and 55 subjects. Interested parties can filter out options by craft category or skill level on the website. Workshops will occur throughout the Lambtown Festival, Oct. 4 and 5 at the Dixon May Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St. Admission will cost \$25 for weekend passes, \$20 for Oct. 4, \$15 for Oct. 5 and \$5 Oct. 5 after 1 p.m. Children 12 and under get in free.

For more information or to register, visit lambtown.org or contact info@ lambtown.org.

#### **Backpack to the Future**

Dixon Unified School District is hosting its annual back-to-school festival from 9 to 11 a.m. Aug. 2. Held in Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St., the family-friendly event offers attendees community resources, food, games, music and a free backpack and supplies (while supplies last).

For more information, visit the Dixon

Unified School District Facebook page or call 707-693-6300.

#### **Rec Swim at Pat Granucci Aquatic Center**

Pat Grannucci 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 Aug. 4.

For more information, visit cityofdixonca.gov or call 707-678-7000.

#### Farmstead at Dixon **Bridge Club**

Farmstead at Dixon is hosting bridge club at 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Held at Farmstead, 350 Gateway Drive, the weekly event is open to both residents of the senior living center as well as community members. First-time attendees can RSVP 24 hours in advance to receive a complimentary lunch at 11:30 a.m. Bridge Club attendees will meet in the private dining room.

For more information, visit farmsteadatdixon.com. To RSVP, call 707-676-5060 or email rsvp@farmsteadatdixon.com

#### **Keep Dixon Green Community Meet-up**

Keep Dixon Green is hosting a community meet-up and Q+A session from 6 to 8 p.m. July 24. Held at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 S. Fifth St., the grassroots movement is dedicated to preserving Dixon's small-town heritage.

For more information, visit keepdixongreen.com or email kdgboard@ keepdixongreen.com.

#### **Dixon Chamber Connections Networking**

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 7. This free in-person event, held at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, allows local professionals to connect. Offering a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring business cards.

For more information, visit dixonchamber.org or call 707-678-2650.

#### Texas Hold'em Tournament

Dixon Lions Club is hosting the 18th Annual Poker Fundraiser Texas Hold'em Tournament at 5 p.m. Aug. 23. Held in the Downtown Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St., the event costs \$75 per person, and proceeds will benefit Dixon youth sports and activities, elementary and middle school programs, high school scholarships and the Lions Club Vision program. A no-host bar will be available at 5 p.m. with poker play beginning at 7 p.m. Attendees must be 21 and older to participate.

For more information, visit the Dixon Lions Club Facebook page or call Scott Smith at 916-806-7451.

## Package Theft Alert in Valley Glen Subdivision

**Dixon Police** Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Police Department is investigating two incidents of package theft from the front porches of two homes in the Valley Glen subdivision July 17. An unknown subject was seen on security camera footage stealing a package from the front porch of a residence.

These thefts occurred at night and the suspect(s) might be targeting homes shortly after deliveries are made. The Dixon Police Department urges residents in the Valley Glen area to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity immediately.

The Dixon Police Department is requesting assistance from the community in identifying the suspect depicted. If you have surveillance



is requesting assistance from the community in identifying the suspect depicted. Photo courtesy of Dixon Police Department

footage, eyewitness information or any other details that could assist in the investigation,

contact Detective Bastien at 707-678-7070, extension 3110, or via email at bbastien@dixonpoliceca.

To help prevent package theft, residents are encouraged to consider the following tips. Have packages deliv-

ered to a secure location, such as a workplace or a trusted neighbor's home. Utilize tracking noti-

fications and retrieve packages promptly after delivery. Install security cameras and ensure that they are

functioning properly. Request signature confirmation for deliveries

when possible.

If possible, gather packages from your porch as soon as possible. The Dixon Police

Department appreciates the community's assistance as it works to identify the individual responsible and prevent further incidents.



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# Become a Movies in the Park Sponsor



The City of Dixon is excited to invite Dixon Chamber of Commerce members to become a sponsor for the annual "Movies in the Park" series. Photo courtesy of the City of Dixon

#### City of Dixon News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The City of Dixon is excited to invite Dixon Chamber of Commerce members to become a sponsor for the annual "Movies in the Park" series. This is a fantastic opportunity to promote your business and support a community event.

"Movies in the Park" will be held at Hall Park, 450 Hall Park Drive, on Saturdays at dusk on Sept. 20, Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11. These dates are tentative and might

be adjusted based on sponsorship.

Sponsorship levels include Red Carpet Sponsor for \$1,350, Golden Globe Sponsor for \$550 and Silver Screen Sponsor for \$250.

Red Carpet Sponsors will receive prominent acknowledgement in all "Movies in the Park" promotional materials, including the event website, social media platforms, fliers and press releases. Their business name or logo will be featured on the "Movies in the Park" banner displayed at Pardi Plaza and the

logos will also appear on screen before each movie. Additionally, the Red Carpet Sponsors will have the opportunity to select the movie for one night from a pre-approved list and showcase a one-minute video commercial before the movie begins (sponsors provide the content). A premium 10'x 10' space will also be reserved to display their marketing materials.

Golden Globe Sponsors will be acknowledged in all "Movies in the Park" promotional materials, including the event website, social media, fliers and press releases. Their names or logos will also appear on the "Movies in the Park" banner at Pardi Plaza and on screen before each movie.

Silver Screen Sponsors will receive acknowledgement in all "Movies in the Park" promotional materials, including the event website, social media platforms, fliers, and press releases.

To ensure your organization is included in all promotional materials, submit your sponsorship pledge form and logo to dixonrecreation@cityofdixonca.gov by Aug. 25. Sponsorship pledge forms are available at cityofdixonca.gov/departments/Recreation/MoviesinthePark.

For more information, visit cityofdixonca.gov or call 707-678-7022. ★

## **Bargains and Blessings**

Dixon United Methodist Church Rummage Sale



Funds from the rummage sale will be used to support future church events and programming, such as the men's barbecue on Aug. 23. Photo by Nicolas Brown

#### By Kendall Brown

**DIXON, CA (MPG)** - Dixon United Methodist Church hosted a community rummage sale July 19, drawing a steady stream of bargain hunters and community members throughout the morning.

Running from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., the event transformed the church into a bustling marketplace filled with household goods, clothing, toys, books, Christmas decoration and unique vintage items.

According to Church Secretary Carrie Senecal, who ran the fundraiser, proceeds benefit the church.

"Table rental fees go to the church, and, if sellers choose to, their funds can also be donated to the church," said Senecal.

Church and community members were allowed to rent tables several weeks in advance to sell their offerings. Tables cost \$20 for a long 8-foot table, \$15 for a large round table and \$10 for a small round table. Senecal said that about 13 tables were rented for the event.

Shoppers browsed through rows of well-organized tables offering everything from kitchenware to Christmas decorations. The event attracted residents from throughout Dixon, many of whom arrived early to get the first pick of the deals.

Community member Johanna Hoagland, who helped at the event,

had only positive comments about the gathering.

"Every kind of thing is being sold here. Everything from iris bulbs to kitchen stuff and even Christmas décor," said Hoagland.

According to Ardath Wood, who has been at Dixon United Methodist Church for about 40 years, the fundraiser exists to fund future programs and charity.

"We have this fundraiser to raise money for all our programs and we do a lot of charity. We also use funds to send kids on camping trips, support scholarships and buy school supplies," said Wood.

Senecal echoed similar sentiments, stating the event was made to bring community members together and raise funds.

"The more money we raise, the more we can do," said Senecal.

Considering future programming, Dixon United Methodist Church will host a series of guest preachers for the next couple of weeks until Sept. 28, when new resident Pastor Cathy Love begins her tenure with the church. In August, the church will host a men's barbecue on Aug. 23 that is open to the public.

"Just come and give us a try," said Senecal. "We have a lot of Bible studies and wonderful youth programs."

For more information, visit dixonumc. org or call 707-678-2191. ★





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

## Summer of Reality, Love, and Drama

While summer is the perfect time to catch up on reality TV dramas, these books will also provide a delightful escape with their stories of drama, love, and celebrity spotlights.



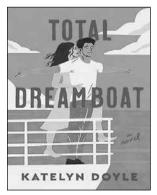


by Melissa De La Cruz, Mindy's Book Studio

As teen stars, Miranda, Germaine, and Sicily had it all. They were Hollywood's darlings living their formative years in the spotlight amidst screaming fans. However, fame doesn't last forever, and soon the three found themselves lost, searching for a shred of their former selves, buried in the midst of secrets, betrayals, heartbreak, and scandals.

Now, as adults, a decade later, the three find themselves crossing each other's paths. Is it a work of fate, or will it be their final fall from grace? Forced to confront their past and the trauma of childhood stardom, the three best friends must come together and rectify their past in order to hold onto the greatest success of their lives: friendship.

Exploring the world of teen fame and the cultural obsession with celebrities, When Stars Align takes readers on the highs and lows, as well as the social pressure, of



being in the spotlight. Melisa De La Cruz delivers a strong, impactful story that explores the world behind the glittering lights and the actual damage fame causes.

> **Total Dreamboat** by Katelyn Doyle, Flatiron Books

After Hope's relationship, her life quickly fell into ruins. Hope couldn't find inspiration or even the woman she once was. So, when her best friend invited her on a luxury cruise, she instantly accepted, hoping this would be the change she needed.

Felix has no desire for a relationship; his focus must be on work and his restaurant. However, when he gets booked for a luxury cruise, he can't say no.

Unexpectedly, Hope and Felix find themselves locked together, braving the cruise and all of its silly and fun events together, until it all quickly falls apart. Now stranded in what is supposed to be paradise, Hope and Felix must either work together or tear one another



apart; either way, they might discover love in the most unlikely of circumstances.

Like a reality show of luxury and love disasters, Total Dreamboat is a fun and refreshing read, perfect for your next vacation or day at the pool.

> **Another Fine Mess** by Lindy Ryan,

Minotaur Books

Mystery, humor, and a whole lot of heart collide in this entertaining read, perfect for Summer. The Evans women return just in time for another full moon. Over the past century, the Evans women have worked to keep the undead from rising, and while they thought they had things under control, they quickly learn that there might be something else preying on their town. Either way, they once again have discovered themselves in Another Fine

Full of humor and heart, the second book in the Bless Your Heart series will have readers cackling along with the book while trying to solve another monstrous mess. ★



## **Riley Reviews**

#### "DEPT. O" AND "WE WERE LIARS" TWO SERIES WITH NOTHING IN COMMON

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

#### "DEPT. Q" ON NETFLIX

The benefit of streaming series is the lack of necessity to jump right in within days of its launch. Netflix, among other streaming services, curates its new series to allow time for the binge-watch experience.

"Dept. Q," much like other police procedurals, may be consumed in the short order of however quickly one wishes to watch all nine episodes. This drama series, set in Scotland, is a worthy candidate for a marathon commitment.

The main character, Detective Chief Inspector Carl Morck (Matthew Goode), is a miserable misanthrope. If he were a physician, his bedside manner would be no more pleasing than that of Jack the Ripper. His police colleagues think of him as a jerk, only in words expressed profanely.

The series opens at a crime scene where Morck is joined by detective James Hardy (Jamie Sives) and a patrol officer to examine a man stabbed in the head. A masked man appears from the shadows and starts shooting.

The patrol cop's body camera captures the shooting spree, resulting in his death, with Hardy being paralyzed and Morck surviving a bullet passing through his neck. A few months later, Morck is ready to return to work after going through a medical evaluation.

Not having been humbled by a neardeath experience, Morck is still a pain to his superiors. His boss, Moira Jacobson (Kate Dickie), finds out that a new department is being set up to handle cold cases. What better way to not deal with Morck than to send him to a basement office.

Meanwhile, during a high-profile murder trial, prosecutor Merritt Lingard (Chloe Pirrie) is floundering during the proceedings and losing the faith of her superiors. She's also being threatened by anonymous text messages.

The prosecutor disappears on a ferry boat ride, and her mentally disabled brother (Tom Bulpett) who is along for the journey offers no clues. The timing may seem odd, but Merritt's vanishing turns out to be a cold case.

At Morck's office, boxes of cold cases show up, and his assistant Akram (Alexej Manvelov), a Syrian tech contractor, ends up picking the case of the woman who went missing without a trace four

"Dept. Q" is a gritty crime thriller, and as such, it goes down some dark alleys, which frankly seem suitable terrain for the grumpy detective, who on occasion still has to endure some counseling from therapist Dr. Rachel Irving (Kelly Macdonald).

The primary case being investigated by Morck and Akram, who are joined by ginger-haired Rose (Leah Byrne) as a result of being sidelined from her job as constable, takes a lot of twists and detours.

While the case work is acutely intense and thorny at times, what really works best here is driven by complex characters, from Morck's brash arrogance and biting sarcasm to Akram's probing efficiency and Rose's pluck.

There is another new streaming series involving a cold case department at the Los Angeles Police Department, with a somewhat analogous premise of a troublesome detective banished to the bowels of police headquarters for a similar assignment. More about that in a future column.

#### "WE WERE LIARS" **ON AMAZON PRIME**

In Amazon Prime's "We Were Liars," the Sinclair family, ruled by the media magnate Harris Sinclair (David Morse), includes three adult daughters and their offspring who enjoy the life of East Coast royalty during the summer months on their private island.

A terrible accident happens during "Summer 16" when Cadence Sinclair Eastman (Emily Alyn Lind) has a terrible near-death drowning near a rocky shoreline, resulting in a severe case of amnesia.

Prior to the accident, Cadence spends the summer with her best friends who call themselves the "The Liars." The group consists of cousins Mirren Sinclair Sheffield (Esther McGregor) and Johnny Sinclair Dennis (Joseph Zada), and friend Gat (Shubham Maheshwari).

Cadence's mother Penny Sinclair (Caitlin FitzGerald) is recently divorced. Mirren's mother Bess Sinclair (Candice King) is estranged from her husband, and Carrie Sinclair (Mamie Gummer) has an addiction problem.

When "Summer 17" arrives, Cadence is desperately trying to find out about the cause of her brain injury, and no one is willing or able to shed light on what really happened.

Meanwhile, Cadence had moved past the platonic stage with childhood friend Gat, whose Indian heritage doesn't sit too well with Harris. The test of "Summer 17" is for Cadence to get answers, which are not forthcoming.

What's more interesting than teenage angst and mischief are the strained relationships of Carrie, Penny and Bess, who must face unpleasant truths about their privileged heritage.

When a character in the last episode says she's not into fairytales any more, that's a feeling that rumbled through my mind in the early stages, which is one argument for "We Were Liars" to clocked in like a two-hour movie.

A dynasty of rich white people cavorting during idle summers on a private island off the Atlantic coast holds not much interest over the long haul as things become a bit tedious and repetitive.

## **Community Calendar**

Ongoing Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

#### Regular Meetings:

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

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

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

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

gmail.com for dates. Bids For Kids - Is a volunteer organization created to promote and foster

youth participation in agriculture. Anyone

interested in this endeavor is welcome and couraged to attend our monthly m 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. CITY OF DIXON: The following meet-

ings 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

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

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** OF THE DIXON CITY COUNCIL

The Dixon City Council will hold a PUBLIC HEARING to consider the following project:

PROJECT:

City of Dixon 5-Year Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Plan Update for Fiscal Year 2026 through Fiscal Year 2030 - The City of Dixon is updating it's CIP for the next five years. A CIP is a five-year forecast which identifies major (capital) projects requiring the use of public funds over and above routine annual operating expenses. A capital project creates, improves, replaces, repairs, or permanently adds to City assets including: land, site improvements, parks, buildings, streets, bike paths, bridges, utility improvements, major equipment, computer hardware, and communication systems purchases.

The CIP plan and the Council's review for General Plan conformity is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 since it is not a "project" as defined under CEQA.

**HEARING DATE** & LOCATION:

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at http://www.zoom. us or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public

**MORE** INFORMATION:

Contact Jordan Santos, Junior Engineer at (707) 678-7030 or jsantos@cityofdixonca.gov. You can also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN:

**PUBLIC** 

or submit evidence for or against the proposed application. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to making any recommendation on the application. The meeting will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the

All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions

meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding **COMMENTS:** 

masking and social distancing in City Council chambers. Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to citycouncil@cityofdixonca.gov or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, City Council, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the City Council and will become part of the official record, but will not be read

aloud at the meeting. You may also attend the public hearing at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may 1) via video

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

conferencing click on "raise hand" 2) via teleconference press \*9.

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Dixon Independent Voice 7-25-2025

## Anna Anderson Wins Karate Gold Serving Dixon Seniors

Continued from page 1 competing, she has worked as a karate instructor for the past two years.

"It's a fun job; I really enjoy it," said Anderson. "I love teaching the kids and seeing them grow."

She trains six days a week. According to chief instructor and owner Jim Ernest, the dojo is confident in Anderson's performance.

"We think she has a good chance. She's an incredibly hard worker and has a great attitude," said Ernest.

A recent graduate from About Face Charter School, Anderson was homeschooled and missed her high school graduation to compete at a tournament in Mexico. She currently attends Solano Community College and is working toward becoming a firefighter.

"I knew I always wanted an active job and to help people. A lot of my family members are paramedics and firefighters. For me, it seems like a cool job and experience," said



Sensei Jim Ernest, the Ramtown Karate chief instructor. considers Anna Anderson a hard worker and is confident in her skills to make the U.S. Senior Team. Photo courtesy of Ramtown Karate

Anderson.

Outside of karate, Anderson enjoys painting and sketching but karate is her number one interest.

To Anderson, karate is about more than just competition.

"For me, it helped me find more discipline and respect for others and it's just great being part of a team, especially at Ramtown Karate. I think everyone should find a sport they love and enjoy playing. It's a great way

to find friends, too," said Anderson.

Anderson thanked her coaches and supporters, saying, "I want to thank my coaches Jim and Kathy Ernest just for being there with me throughout my karate career. Smai Karate (my sponsor), everyone at Ramtown Karate and my competition team, which helped me get this far."

For more information about Anderson's journey, visit the Ramtown Karate Facebook page.

Continued from page 1

featured informational booths hosted by local organizations, including the Dixon Library, Solano Transportation Authority, AT&T, Meals on Wheels and the Food Bank of Solano and Contra Costa. Each organization provided resources and shared information aligned with the center's mission to support senior residents.

According to Lopez, the center is focused on health and wellness, economic stability and community building. Amenities include a community fridge and pantry, a community garden with six raised beds and programming aimed at reducing food insecurity and encouraging resident engagement.

"Our community garden has grown into something much more than a food source; it's become a hub of connection and camaraderie," said Lopez. "Residents have formed friendships and mentorships through gardening, even donating produce to neighbors and local organizations."

The center is open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and is currently focused on providing services to residents of Silvey Villas only. However, Project Access intends to eventually build bridges to the wider Dixon community.

"Although our services are designed specifically for the residents of Silvey Villas Senior Living, we aim to serve as a bridge to the wider Dixon community. We are committed to fostering partnerships with local businesses and service providers who share Project Access' values. supporting community wellness, connection and empowerment," said Lopez.

Project Access operates 53 resource centers across California, 21 in Northern California and 32 in Southern California. In 2024, Project Access served 28,506 residents, distributed 211,889 meals, snacks and groceries and hosted 71,553 community-building interactions. In addition, 11,441 residents received health and wellness services.

"Project Access believes that when seniors have easy, on-site access to essential resources like food support, health services and social programs, they're better equipped to live independently and with dignity," said Lopez.

An upcoming National Night Out event will be hosted exclusively for Silvey Villas residents as part of the center's community-building efforts.

According to Lopez, the center serves as a vital bridge for many residents, connecting them from a place of uncertainty to one of confidence and community.

The Silvey Villas Resource Center is now open for operation. Project Access will continue providing on-site services and exploring opportunities for future community partnerships.

For more information, visit project-access.org or call Silvey Villas at 707-440-3210.

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

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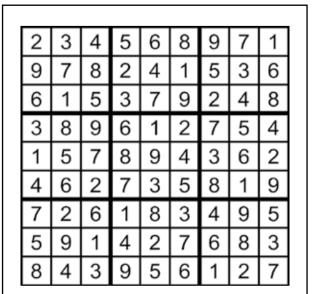


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#### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • IN THE KITCHEN **CLUES**

### **ACROSS**

5. Cameron, to friends

11. One of the Bridges

Have the blues

13. Op-ed piece 15. Blondie's hit

16. Certain something 17. \*Granny Smith 18. \*Broth-making

20. Big name in mapmaking

21. Inexperienced 22. \*Group of dishes

or pots 23. Deprived of ovaries

26 Medusae

30. Got an Oscar, e.g. 31. Kind of license 34. Crescent

35. Description for twins the season!

38. Orthodox Judaism adherent

39. Class roster item 40. Between lights and

42. Source of pork
43. \*Shredding devices

45. Bear-like 47. Florida key

48. French farewell 50. Physicist Niels

52. \*Kitchen hand protector (2 words)

56. Track event

57. \_\_\_\_ of the trade, sing. 59. 1st letter of Hebrew

alphabet 60. Charlie Parker's

nickname 61. Shrek or Fiona, e.g.

62. Word of compliance 63. Actor Stallone 64. \*Spice \_\_\_

DOWN

1. Beginning of the

alphabet
2. \*Often go with carrots

3. \*NaCl 4. Speech at a funeral

5. \*Flute alternative

6. \*Cook's garb \*Veal or venison, e.g.

8. Sport spectator's TV

acronym 9. Like white-headed eagle

10. "Farewell" to Birdie 12. Manage (2 words)

13. Like cornstalks

14. \*Flat-edged utensil 19. \*Flapjack alternative

22. Blink of an eye, abbr.

23. Swing, , swung 24. Like Amundsen-Scott

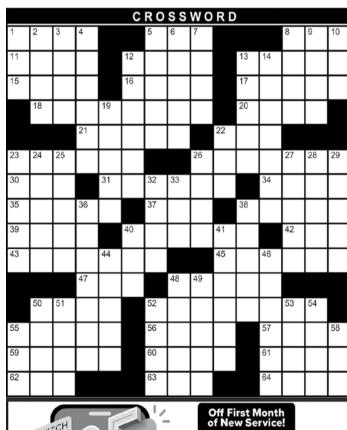
South Pole Station location 25. Carl Jung's inner self 26. en place

27. \*Seaweed-wrapped dish 28. Opposite of cation

29. Swamp plant 32. Estimated arrival times 33. Timothy, to friends

36. \*Popular condiment 38. Sheik's bevy 40. Alan Paton's novel

\_, The Beloved Country"
41. Broken, e.g.





C StatePoint Media

44. Third planet from the

46. Bachelor on "The Bachelorette," e.g.

48. Be of use 49. Condemn

50. Bantu language 51. Change for a five

52. Globes and eyeballs, e.g. 53. "Animal House" garb 54. Rigid necklace

55. Calendar square 58. Albanian money

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000939 The following persons are doing business as: Indy Ryan Mukbang In Cahoots, 2275 Sacramento Street, Vallejo, CA 94590. In Cahoots Media LLC, 2275

Sacramento Street, Vallejo, CA 94590

Date filed in Solano County: June 16, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 3/5/25

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company, State of Organization: CA. 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 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 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 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

8-1-25 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000994 The following persons are doing 53 B Commerce Place, Vacaville, CA 95687. Nasir Lee, 2842 Montclair Way,

Fairfield, CA 94534. Date filed in Solano County: June

26, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 6/26/2025

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 25, 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 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001071 The following persons are doing business as: Pour Decisions. 1620 Folsom Downs Circle, Dixon, CA 95620. Emma Spitzer, 1620 Folsom

Downs Circle, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: July 10, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on:

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 July 9, 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.)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000909 The following persons are doing business as: Whimsical Art, 844 Syracuse Drive, Vacaville, CA

Publish: July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2025

8-8-25

**POUR** 

Nicole Renee Sumpter, 844 Syracuse Drive, Vacaville, CA

Date filed in Solano County: June 10, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 21, 2024 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 9, 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 FT SEQ. business, and professions code.) Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025 WHIMSICAL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001076 The following persons are doing business as: La Tipsy, 1020 Ackley Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Maria Guadalupe Diaz. 1020 Ackley Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: July 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on:

Business is conducted This 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 July 10, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001016 following business as: The following persons are doas: Finnegan Consulting, Stratford Avenue, Suite G, #221, Dixon, CA

Aaron Finnegan, 1285 Stratford Avenue, Suite G, #221, Dixon, CA 95620.

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

This **Business** is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new Fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 30, 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 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001107 The following persons are doing business as: Groundworx General Engineering, 710 Catalina Circle, Vallejo, CA 94589. Ulysses Marcel Galvan, 710

Catalina Circle, Vallejo, CA

Date filed in Solano County: July 18, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on:

Business is conducted This 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 July 17, 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 business, and professions code.) Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025 **GROUNDWORX** 

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001019 The following persons are doing business as: Jackson Initiative LLC, 125 Sea Crest Circle,

Vallejo, CA 94590. Jackson Initiative LLC, 125 Sea

Crest Circle, Vallejo, CA 94590. Date filed in Solano County: July 1, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on:

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in

the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new Fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 30, 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 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001018 The following persons are doing business as: Minked Mills LLC 125 Sea Crest Circle, Vallejo, CA 94590

Minked Mills LLC, 125 Sea Crest Circle, Vallejo, CA 94590. Date filed in Solano County: July

1, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 30, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Companyl. 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 30, 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 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025 8-15-25

#### 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 Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Ryan Andersen be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the dece-

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 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. 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 per-

son 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 appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Dylan P. Hyatt,

1555 River Park Drive, Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95815; 916-292-

Publish: July 11, 18, 25, 2025 7-25-25 VEKICH

99100190

#### TRUSTEE SALE

Title Order No.:

Trustee Sale No.: 88100 Loan No.: 399522054 APN: 0114-181-120, 0114-191-100 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF DATED 6/6/2024 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION PROTECT PROPERTY. IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF NATURE OF **AGAINST PROCEEDINGS** YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 8/18/2025 at AM, CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALISTS, AS TRUSTEE as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 6/13/2024 as Instrument No. 202400024689 in book ////, page //// of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Solano County, California, executed by: CHRISTINA SMITH, TRUSTÉE OF THE JOYCE A CUEVAS REVOCABLE TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 8, 2010, as ROGER ANDERSON TRUSTEE OF THE RWA TRUST DATED 3/14/2014 AS TO AN

256,000.00/375,000.00 INTEREST; AND RICHARD MORAN AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 119.000.00/375.000.00 INTEREST, as Beneficiary WILL

SELL AT PÚBLIC AUCTIÓN TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At: Outside the Santa Clara Street entrance to the City Hall located at 555 Santa Clara Vallejo, CA 94590. NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE -continued 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 property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1310 HAWTHORNE COURT DIXON, CA 95620 1251 REDWOOD COURT DIXON, CA 95620. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied. regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, un-der the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of \$427,786.73 Trust. to-wit: (Estimated) Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election of Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. DATE: 7/11/2025 CALIFORNIA SPECIALISTS, TRUSTEE, as Trustee EAST KAISER BLVD., ANAHEIM

INFORMATION LOG ON TO: www.stoxposting.com CALL: 844-JANINA HOAK, TRUSTEE SALE OFFICER
CALIFORNIA TO SPECIALIST IS DFBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. "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 on 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

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couraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of the outstanding lien 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 NOTICE 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 844-477-7869, or visit this internet Web site www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to case T.S.# Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is 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 (844) 477-7869, or visit this internet website www.STOXPOSTING. com, using the file number assigned to this case 88100 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; by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code; 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. Disclosure In compliance with CA civil code 2924f(F), the opening bid for the foreclosure sale is based on a vallender of the lender's representative. The trustee does not determine, verify, or opine on the accuracy of this valuation and makes no representation regarding the market value of the property subject to foreclosures (the "Property"). The trustee's compliance or non-compliance with CA civil code 2924f(f) shall not be construed as an opinion, warranty, or representation regarding (i) the priority of the deed of trust being foreclosed, (ii) the condition of title to the Property, or (iii) any other matters affecting the Property, Including the value of the Property. The trustee relies solely on the trustee's sale guaranty and/or Information provided by the lender regarding the lien priority and title condition and does not Independently verify Information. All bidders are solely responsible for conducting their own Independent due diligence regarding the loan, the Property, its value, the lien priority of the deed of trust being foreclosed, and the condition of the title to the Property. The trustee assumes no liability for the accuracy or completeness of any information pro-

tion, nor does It alter the trustee's limited role in the process. Published 7/25/2025, 8/1/2025, 8/8/2025 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE

vided by third parties, including

the lender. The valuation used to

determine the minimum opening

bid applies only to the Initially

scheduled sale date. Any post-

ponement or continuation of the

sale does not obligate the trustee

to obtain or rely upon a new valua-



#### SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Dixon City Council adopted Ordinance No. 25-005, authorizing an amendment to the contract between the City of Dixon and the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System.

The ordinance implements the pension cost share provision in accordance with California Government Code section 20516, Compensation Plans and Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) between the City of Dixon and represented and unrepresented employee groups.

This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Dixon City Council held on the 17th day of June 2025, and adopted at a regular meeting of the Dixon City Council held on the 15th day of July 2025, by the following roll call vote:

Ernest, Hendershot, Johnson, Bogue, Bird

NOES: ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: A copy of the full text of the adopted ordinance is available for public review at City Hall, 600 East

A Street, Dixon, CA 95620 or at www.cityofdixonca.gov.

Kristin M. Janisch **Elected City Clerk** 

Dixon Independent Voice 7-25-2025

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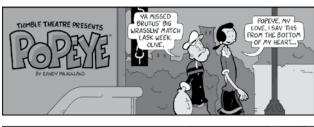
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# COMICS & PUZZLES























by Gary Kopervas







Out on a Limb







Differences: I. Cover is missing from waiter's tray. Z. Straw is missing. 3. Exit sign is lower. 4. Back of chair is different.

IGER









by BUD BLAKE



Just Like Cats & Dogs IN POKER I SAID IT'S OK TO BLUFF, **BUT I'M PRETTY SURE USING** "WOMEN'S INTUITION" IS UNFAIR.

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## Kings Korner By V.G. Harris

Summer league has grown exponentially, and fans are tuned in today like never before.

Sunday night saw our Sacramento Kings vying for their third summer league championship, as they faced off with the Charlotte Hornets in Las Vegas Nevada.

With identical 5-0 records the Kings got a dose of what their first and second round draft choices were capable of, so it remained to be seen how they would perform when the lights were brightest.

After an auspicious summer league audition, Nique Clifford struggled finding his shooting stroke, and had just 4 points entering the fourth quarter. The Kings would never give up on this game. After being down by 18 points, the young squad fought back to a single point deficit with less than 2 minutes remaining.

A pass from Isaac Jones to Clifford well beyond the arc, and Nique did not disappoint draining a deep three. Clifford followed up with an acrobatic jump shot in the corner for another three, and the Kings looked like

Charlotte would not go quietly as sharpshooter Kon Knueppel pulled up for a back breaking three. Moving the ball quickly into the frontcourt Isaac Jones sized up his first 3-point shot of the night and when Isaac converted the three the Kings were knocking on the door once again.

Kings fans can be proud of how the team fought for a win that ultimately would escape them, as a much needed rebound careened off the foot of Isaac Jones, and the Kings would go on to lose 83-78.

Neither the loss of the game nor the championship is the real story. The Sacramento Kings got more than just a glimpse of what their first and second round draft choices are capable of.

Talented, for sure and yes, they are raw. Nique Clifford put together a string of games that stated loudly, I've arrived and

ready to make a difference!

Although I don't like using that word, Maxime Raynaud is more of a project. Raynaud, like every rookie, is going to need extended playing time, and time to play through his mistakes.

What the Kings really wanted to know, is can this 7'1" big man make an impact and play alongside Domantas Sabonis. I believe he can, but confidence building is what will determine how quickly Maxime Raynaud will arrive.

Not to be left behind was the electric play of second year man Isaac Jones, who coming off a stellar 36-point performance, led all scores again with a 24-point performance. Jones made his lone 3-point attempt and added 11 big boards while chipping in with

Isaac Jones summer league performance came as no surprise to me. What's sad is the lack of playing time he received in his rookie year. It's my hope, as Isaac is receiving accolades from other coaches and pundits, that the staff pay close attention to what is possible.

Jones 6'9" frame and 7'3" wingspan make him a difficult guard for any team. He has a definite knack around the rim. He's active, and if he finds himself in a rotation that gives him 20 minutes plus per game, look for both Isaac and the Kings to take a step

There is much to shout about as the Kings close out their summer league schedule. The confident presence that Nique Clifford brought every night is one of many things to be happy about.

Nique lived up to his billing as he played hard at both ends of the court, and like Isaac Jones, Clifford will need to find his place on the team that gets him minutes every game.

Doug Christie has his work cut out for him with a crowded guard rotation, including second year man Devin Carter, who acquitted himself admirably and played dominantly. Devin needs to continue working on his shot, but the upside for Carter is huge. No need for the Kings to question their decision to draft a player that could only contribute half a season due to injury. Carter is winning fans with every game he plays. I look for Devin to be more than just a contributor in the upcoming season.

Yes, Kings fans, you got what you were hoping for, and without a doubt this summer league squad has got the city of Sacramento

Scott Perry isn't done just yet, so stay tuned Kings fans!

All the best!

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

## **Social Security Matters** What is the Formula for Deciding When to Claim?



AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am curious about the "formula" to decide when to take Social Security while still working. I am past the Full Retirement Age. How do you best address such? Should we schedule a call? Signed: Wondering When

Dear Wondering: Well, you can always contact us by phone on 1.888.750.2622 to speak to one of our certified Social Security Advisors, or you can send your questions to us via email at SSadvisor@ amacfoundation.org. You don't need to pre-schedule a meeting, as we have multiple advisors answering the phone on most normal business days. If they all happen to be busy when you call, simply leave a voicemail and an Advisor will return your call promptly.

For starters, since you have reached your full retirement age, know that your work earnings will no longer negatively affect your Social Security benefits. You can earn as much as possible, and your monthly SS amount will be the same, based on your average lifetime monthly earnings (for your highest 35 years), and based on your age when you claim.

Since you have not yet claimed SS, you are already earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) which increase your monthly SS amount by .667% for each month you continue to delay. That's 8% for each full year you delay past your full retirement age (FRA). You should not, however, wait longer than age 70 to claim because that is when you will get your maximum SS benefit amount. For you, that means that your age 70 amount will be 28% more than the amount you would have received at your FRA of 66 years and 6 months (in Oct. 2023), and about 15% more than if you were to claim now.

Note too, that if your more recent income is among the highest of your lifetime, Social Security will automatically increase your monthly SS retirement amount to account for that event. They will check your work earnings each year to see if you are entitled to a larger SS amount because of your recent earnings.

Since (according to your AMAC member record) you are married, you may also wish to consider whether your wife will get a spousal benefit from you when you claim. If your wife's personal SS retirement amount at her FRA is less than the amount you were entitled to at your FRA, then she will get a spousal boost when you claim. With her spousal boost (if claimed at her FRA), her total SS benefit should be about 50% of your FRA benefit amount (not half of the higher amount you will get because you waited longer to claim). But your wife cannot get a spousal boost until you are collecting your SS.

And here is something else to think about: received SS benefits will become part of your overall income taxed by the IRS when you submit your income tax return. If you file your income tax as "married/ jointly" and your combined income from all sources is more than \$32,000 then some of your SS benefits will become taxable income. If your combined income is between \$32,001 and \$44,000, then half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. Or, if your combined income from all sources exceeds \$44,000, then about 85% of your received SS benefits will become part of your income taxed by the IRS. Just something to keep in mind, especially since you are still working.

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#### It's Time to Cut Off Public **Broadcasting**

In the past, whenever Republicans have tried to cut federal funding for public broadcasting, the 8-foot-2-inch-tall yellow bird has been trotted out as an exemplar of all that is good and necessary about public broadcasting, and the federal dollars have been preserved.

Perhaps our Jim Henson-created feathered friend will continue his undefeated streak, but a Trump-backed recessions bill represents the best chance to defund public broadcasting in decades, if not ever.

The bill, clawing back previously appropriated funding, has already passed the House and is now being considered in the Senate, where the filibuster doesn't apply. The measure targets \$9.4 billion in federal spending, including funds for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The CPB gets about \$500 million a year from the federal government, and parcels it out to NPR, PBS and local public radio and TV stations. NPR maintains that it

only gets about 2% of its funding from the federal government, with more coming indirectly member stations. PBS gets about 15% of its funding from the feds.

If NPR and PBS programming is as compelling and vital as its defenders say, it shouldn't be a heavy lift to get foundations, philanthropists and devoted listeners and viewers to fill any funding gap. The organization's already given out a lot of tote bags during fundraising drives. Surely, they can give out some more.

Decades ago, with the rise of cable TV and a proliferation of sources of news and entertainment, it seemed absurd for the government to have to prop up a few select media sources. How much more ridiculous it is now, in the age of YouTube, social media. satellite radio, Substack, streaming services podcast platforms.

Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the Public Broadcasting Act, creating the CPB in 1967, and like many other Great Society programs, public broadcasting is an anachronism that won't go away. Big Bird himself is approaching the age when he'll soon begin to be eligible for se-

nior-citizen discounts. Supporters of public broadcasting extol the virtues of "All Things Considered," the "PBS News-Hour" and "Frontline," and yes (political bias aside), journalists do some good work for these programs. They also (again, political bias aside) do some good work at The New York Times and CBS News, yet neither of these outlets depend on federal tax dollars.

Oh, defenders also ask, How can we possibly do without the wonder of educational programming like "Sesame Street" and "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood"? "Sesame Street" is, indeed, an American institution. Even if PBS collapsed tomorrow, the show would certainly go on. For about

a decade now, new epi-

sodes have been featured on HBO or Netflix, demonstrating how a venerable 50-year-old project can adapt to the times.

It's simply not true, by the way, that we depend on PBS for good shows for kids. There's been edprogramming developed by Nickelodeon ("Blue's Clues & You!"), Scholastic Entertainment ("The Magic School Bus") and Netflix ("Ask the StoryBots" and "Ada Twist, Scientist"). And somehow, such iconic children's programming as "Dora the "Peppa Pig" Explorer," and "Bluey" were created without the involvement of PBS.

Then there's the argument that a cut-off of federal funding will be devastating to local public radio stations in rural communities. It's true that small stations could go out of business, but as anyone who has been paying attention has noticed, we live in an era of great media churn. Private media entities are going out of business -and being created -- all the time. The government shouldn't extend its favor to a few select outlets. Especially when these outlets are so blatantly and pervasively biased. NPR and PBS provide left-of-center content for left-of-center audiences under the guise of objectivity. As many legacy media organizations have long demonstrated, there is a business model there, but it's not one that deserves or needs taxpayer

scenario. Big Bird should, finally, make his own way in the

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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## **New California Budget Ignores** Day of Reckoning



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

When Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders were drafting a more-or-less final 2025-26 state budget last month, they were closing what they described as a \$12 billion deficit, a number that the state's media repeatedly cited.

It was the wrong number; it minimizes the state's chronic gap between income and outgo, as the state's official budget summary released this week confirms. The budget projects

that the state will receive \$208.6 billion in general fund revenues during the fiscal year that began on July 1, but it will spend \$228.4 billion, a gap just shy of \$20 billion. The \$12 billion fig-

ure stems from counting a \$7.1 billion diversion from one of the state's reserve accounts as revenue - an assumption that violates

Office that California has

common sense as well as any legitimate accounting The more accurate figure of \$20 billion is important because it squares with projections by Newsom's Department of Finance and the with on- and off-budget Legislative Analyst's

In other words financing all of the programs and services now in state law will indefinitely cost that much more each year than the state is likely to receive in revenues.

The budget closes about a third of the \$20 billion gap with an aforementioned \$7.1 billion shift from the emergency reserve — money that's supposed to be used to cushion the impact of an economic downturn or calamities such as the wildfires that devastated Los Angeles, earthquakes or destructive storms.

The deficit isn't a genuine emergency because it resulted from irresponsible political decisions, particularly Newsom's declaration in 2022 that the state had a \$97.5 billion budget surplus and thus could afford a sharp increase in spending.

The surplus was a mirage, based on assumptions of a \$40 billion annual increase in revenues that never happened. Last year, the Department of Finance acknowledged that revenues over four years would fall short of expectations by \$165 billion.

However, much of the phantom money was already spent, thereby creating the structural deficit that Newsom and the Legislature basically ignored in putting together the current budget.

The \$12 billion gap left after the reserve fund shift was mostly papered over

loans from special funds,

shifting some spending

into future years and using

\$10 billion to \$20 billion accounting gimmicks, rent year spending, the June 2026 state payroll for instance, into the next

> fiscal year. One could liken the state budget to a family that takes out loans on its credit cards to finance a lavish lifestyle, or a city that provides pension benefits it

> cannot afford. Sooner or later, the debts pile so high that they can no longer be ignored and the day of reckoning arrives. That's one reason why more than 30,000 Californians file for bankruptcy each year and why several California cities have gone bankrupt in recent years.

> States cannot file for bankruptcy, no matter how distorted their finances. If they could, California would not qualify because of its almost unlimited ability to borrow money from special funds.

> However, there will be a day of judgment if California's spending continues to outpace its revenues, particularly if the state's economy continues its sluggish performance.

Newsom and legislators implicitly assume that at some point revenues will increase enough to cover their spending and pay off their debts — just as a debt-ridden family buys lottery tickets in hopes of avoiding bankruptcy.

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.★





### How did humans invent any language? How did they communicate back then? How did they know that difficult meant hard and what hard meant, too?

This is Toumaï, a hominin who lived about 7 million

years ago. Scientists aren't sure if this was the first

hominin to walk upright—or maybe they only walked

that way sometimes.Image: ©James H. Greyloch

– Anika, 10, Georgia

Dear Anika,

My roommate is a normal cat. When she needs a treat, she smacks her lips. When she wants outside, she paws the door. But she never talks to me using words.

I asked Nancy Bell how my human friends developed language. She studies linguistics at Washington State

Bell told me that we don't know exactly how or when it all started. All kinds of scientists want to figure that out.

University.

"It's just part of our species that we want to make meaning," she said. "We want to communicate. That desire is what leads to language.'

Scientists use the word "hominin" to mean humans, chimpanzees and bonobos plus all their ancestors The earliest hominins walked on four legs or

moved through the trees. They used gestures and alarm calls. They probably pointed, waved their arms and used facial expressions. They probably screeched to alert others to danger. Eventually, hominins began walking upright.

Now they could carry things and someday use tools. They could gather and even cook new foods. It probably helped them adapt to changes in their environment.

Hominin brains got bigger. They began having super helpless, big-headed babies. Parents had to care for those babies for a long time.

Gradual changes and pressures like these inched hominins toward language.

"Once all these changes started happening over long time periods, those changes pushed each other," Bell said. "Maybe we got a little more sophisticated. That put more demands on our brains, and that led to even more brain changes."

We only have theories about how words got

Some experts think gestures led to language.

Maybe some hominins used their hands and bodies to express ideas. Then they added words as their vocal tracts adapted to make different

That language would have been pretty simple. Maybe someone came up with useful words.

> Like "rock" "hard" meaning solidlike-a-rock. But words for abstract ideas, like "hard" meaning difficult, probably took longer.

My favorite theory is that kids started complex language. Remember those helpless, big-headed babies? Some scientists think some

babies were randomly born with tiny changes in how their brains developed. Part of their brains developed extra slowly.

That would have been a nightmare for hominin parents trying to keep their toddlers safe.

But slower brain development is why today's humans can use imagination and creative thinking. Those early human kids could have come up with more complex language—by talking with each other.

As they grew up, those kids might think of new ways to hunt and solve other problems. They would have a different kind of brain power than the humans before them. Their own babies would grow up with all these new ideas.

That kind of change could explain why human culture seems so different from other animals.

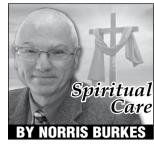
We know early humans were making art at least 70,000 years ago. DNA evidence shows that early humans had the capacity for complex language about 100,000 years ago.

We don't know exactly how language developed-yet. But I really dig the idea that it may go back to kids and their powerful imaginations.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

## Chaplain Experience That I Rarely Tell



There's a story from my chaplain experience that I rarely tell. That's because my recollection of it is so graphic.

In 1990, I left my work as a congregational pastor to begin a one-year internship transitioning into a career as a hospital chaplain.

During my internship at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, I worked four rotations in various parts of the hospital. The one I will never, ever forget was the 13 weeks I spent working in the burn unit.

The burn unit was a highly specialized place where each nurse was assigned only one patient during their 12-hour shift. Of all the patients I met there during my twice daily visits, there is one I'll never forget - Mr. Brown.

His nurse explained to me how Brown's condition was the tragic result of love scorned. His girlfriend had doused him with gasoline and set him afire as he lay in a drunken sleep.

Due to his name, I was struck by the irony of Mr. Brown's tragedy. He was African-American, but the fire altered his skin pigment, changing his face to an almost albino white.

Honestly, I wanted to be anywhere else but in that burn unit. The patients were hard to look at through my inexperienced eyes. Brown spoke so softly that I had to bring myself close enough to absorb his pain with

all my senses — smell, sight, and yes, even touch through gloved hands for his protection.

I spoke with him daily, but I had other patients to see, so I can't tell you where I was in the hospital when I overheard the page: "Chaplain Burkes, to the burn unit, stat."

A few minutes later, I stood at the washing station, prepping for my entrance. After donning gloves, mask and a gown, I punched an electric switch with my elbow and hurried through the unit's opening

At the nurses' station desk, I met Brown's nurse who told me he'd passed

"Where's the family?" I

"They left an hour ago," she said. "They didn't stay long."

Youthful impatience percolated under my mask. I wanted to scold her for not calling me in time to meet the family.

Instead, I began making feeble excuses to leave. Then, just as I turned to do so, I saw her tears slipping past her mask.

I motioned her toward the nurses' lounge, where we found a place to sit as she unfolded her story. She removed her gloves and dropped her mask, her nursing bravado gone.

"I spoke with him for hours every day," she sobbed. "Now he's gone."

Our conversation was the first time I really thought about the fact that if I stayed in this profession long, I'd see the hurt of a lot of caregivers like this nurse. I'd soon come to realize that I'd be hurt too.

As you read the stories coming out of Texas, please know that there's no way that nurses, firefighters and rescue workers can walk among the wounded without leaving crumbling pieces of their hearts on the ground.

It's as if they sacrifice parts of their own existence to sustain a few more years of existence for others. That's what caregivers do.

Now it's time for all of to help the best way we can. For most of us, it's going to be cash donations.

I know of few better ways to stretch your donation dollar than Salvation Army or the Red Cross. That's because your money will not just help now, it'll help their future.

But, if I want to pinpoint your donations, send donations directly to Kerr County Relief Fund.

This group was started by the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country. This is a donation to the "boots on the ground" providing aid to vetted organizations in Hunt, Ingram, Kerrville, Center Point and Comfort.

Donations go to those who are providing rescue, relief and recovery operations as well as flood assistance, according to the foundation. Go to https:// www.communityfoundation.net and click on the link at top of page.

Sign up to receive this weekly column in your email box at https://thechaplain.net/newsletter/ or send me your email address to comment@thechaplain.

All of Norris's books can be ordered on Amazon. Autographed copies can be obtained on his website www.thechaplain.net or bysending a check for \$20 for each book to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602.

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#### Del Monte Troubles Shake Up Pear Season

With harvest underway, California pear growers say there's little doubt that crop yield has improved this year. Looking into the future, however, growers are grappling with uncertainty after Del Monte Foods, which operates one of two pear canneries left in the state, filed for bankruptcy this month. California pear growers typically ship more than half their crop to canneries, selling the rest as fresh fruit. Del Monte's bankruptcy is "going to obviously cause some type of rebalancing" in the sector, said Alex Wilson, who grows pears for his family's Rivermaid Trading Co. in Lodi. "There's a giant question mark on what that rebalancing is going to look like."

#### Abandoned Crops Bring Pest Plague to Nearby Farms

California farmers are sounding an alarm about a troubling symptom of the state's struggling farm economy. With winegrape and almond prices less profitable in recent years and farmers in the San Joaquin Valley no longer allowed to burn discarded trees and vines, an increasing number of growers—unable to afford farming or removal costs—have simply walked away from their orchards and vineyards. Tens of thousands of acres have been abandoned, leaving neighboring farms to fight insects and rodents that spill over from the neglected trees and vines. "If you're right next door, it's pretty difficult," said Michael Naito, who grows winegrapes, almonds and pistachios in Fresno and Madera counties.

#### Grasshopper Damage, Losses Down as Infestations Decline

Grasshoppers and Mormon crickets, which in past years traveled great distances and destroyed tens of millions of dollars of Northern California crops, have emerged again this year, although farmers say there's been a small reprieve. During the past several years, grasshopper populations were so thick that "the cows had their eyes shut walking across the meadows," Plumas County rancher Susy Pearce said. The infestations forced her to spend upwards of \$20,000 in pest control from 2021-2023. Pearce said she has seen some grasshoppers this year, "but nothing to panic about."

#### Foundation Provides Programs and Services for California Farmworkers

Joe Garcia, president of the California Farmworker Foundation, founded the organization in 2016 to improve farmworkers' quality of life. A child and grandchild of farmworkers, Garcia said he was motivated to start CFF after seeing a lack of political will to solve problems impacting farm employees. "This inspired me to establish a foundation aimed at addressing the needs of our farmworker communities," he told Ag Alert®. Today, the biggest challenge facing California farmworkers, he said, is the federal government's mass deportation program. "As an organization, our greatest responsibility is to continue standing alongside farmworkers and our communities, offering our support and education," Garcia said. "We aim to be a reliable resource they can trust."



Find out what's happening in your local area

**Arrest Logs** updated daily

INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM

## **Inspire an Appreciation** for the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area



Since 1997, more than 85,000 students from both public and private schools in the Sacramento region have experienced a Discover the Flyway field trip. Photo courtesy of the Yolo Basin Foundation

#### Yolo Basin Foundation News Release

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, (MPG) - Are you looking for opportunities to spend time in nature, learn more about local wetlands, and share your enthusiasm, expertise and knowledge with school students? Joining the Discover the Flyway docent team might be for you.

Yolo Basin Foundation's Discover the Flyway is seeking dedicated volunteers to become docents and help inspire young minds through environmental education. They bring science and social science to life in the wetlands.

New docents are needed to meet the demand for this popular K-12 field trip program. Prior experience teaching outdoor education is not required.

Since 1997, more than 85,000 students from both public and private schools in the Sacramento region have experienced a Discover the Flyway field trip.



Students enjoy a recent Discover the Flyway field trip. Photo by

A partnership between Yolo Basin Foundation and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Discover the Flyway is an environmental education program for kindergarten through 12th-grade students based on California's education standards.

Yolo Basin Foundation offers these field trips with the goal of providing children with a meaningful outdoor experience that will instill an appreciation for the wetlands and wildlife of the Central Valley and inspire the next generation of naturalists, biologists,

historians and scientists.

Everything you need to know about being a docent for Discover the Flyway will be covered during docent training. For program details, visit the Yolo Basin Foundation website at https://yolobasin.org/ schoolprograms/.

Docent training will take place from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Oct. 7, Oct. 8, Oct. 9, Oct. 14 and Oct. 16.

To sign up or to learn more, contact the Yolo Basin Foundation community engagement coordinator via email at volunteer@yolobasin.org★

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 16

1235 - Eric Jacla (62) of Dixon was contacted at Northwest Park and arrested for an outstanding warrant.

1805 - Domestic violence arrest in the 1400 block of Ary Lane. Suspect Daniel Ibarra-Tirado (43- year-old, out of Sacramento) was arrested for felony domestic violence and possession of narcotics. S-Ibarra-Tirado was transported to Solano County Jail and booked.

2317 - Mental health hold in the 200 block of North Lincoln Street.

0016 - Mental health hold in the 400 block of West Chestnut Street.

#### Tuesday, July 15

1118 - A lost property report was taken in the 2000 block of North First Street.

1440 - A fraud report was taken in the 1500 block of McCarthy Court.

1536 - A fraud report was taken in the 1000 block of Wesleyan Court.

#### Monday, July 14

2004 - Petty theft reported in the 1400 block of Market Lane.

**0402** - Non-injury traffic accident in 600 block of West A Street.

#### Sunday, July 13

0902 - A domestic violence arrest report was taken in the 500 block of Rossi Drive. Officers contacted (S) Uriel Aguilera (30) of Dixon. Aguilera was arrested for 243(e)(1) P.C. Aguilera was transported to the Solano County Jail and released to their staff.

2015 - Vandalism report taken in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue. An officer on patrol noticed the Tesla Chargers were spray-painted again.

**0003** - Traffic stop in the 2500 block of North Lincoln Street resulted in the removal of a vehicle after the driver was cited for driving while unlicensed.

#### Saturday, July 12

1017 - Vehicle accident with injuries in the area of Pedrick Road and Interstate 80.

2304 - Suspect Roque Herrera (47-year-old, out of Dixon) was arrested for driving under the influence in the 100 block of South First St. Herrera was transported to Solano County Jail and booked.

2343 - Mental health hold in the 500 block of West F Street.

#### Friday, July 11

1100 - Agency assist for the Vacaville Police Department.

1646 - Fraud report at a business in the 1400 block of Ary Lane.

1738 - Battery with serious injury report taken in the 1500 block of Eisenhower Court. Suspect Lisa Marie Kleman (44-year-old, out of Dixon) was arrested without incident and taken to Solano County Jail for booking.

#### Thursday, July 10

**1025** - Oscar Orozco (30) of Dixon was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and probation violation in the 400 block of North Adams Street.

1119 - Theft report at a business in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

1407 - Vehicle accident in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.

1509 - Information report.

1540 - Information report for outside agency.

1911 - Missing/located juvenile in the 1600 block of Winfield Street.

2216 - Information report in the 1700 block of Belden Drive.

#### Wednesday, July 9

0715 - A violation of a domestic violence restraining order arrest report was taken at the intersection of East D. Street at La Esperanza Drive. Officers contacted (S) William Slater (62) of Dixon. Slater was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.

1135 - A fraud report was reported in 2200 block of Duncan Street.

1144 - A court order violation report was taken at 1600 Winfield St.

**1240** - A hit and run report was taken in the 1500 block Valley Glen Drive.

1253 - A threat report was taken in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue.

1517 - An indecent exposure and annoying a minor report was taken in the 400 block of Gateway Drive.

2240 - Vandalism report taken in the 2200 block of North First Street.

### Tuesday, July 8

1101 - A vandalism report was taken at Dixon High School. **1144** - An informational report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

1153 - An informational report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

1214 - A violation of a domestic violence restraining order report was taken in the 900 block of Charity Lane.

1516 - A warrant arrest report was taken at the Dixon Police Department. (S) Elizabeth Figueroa (48) was arrested. Figueroa was later cited and released from the police department.

1618 - A lost property report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

#### Monday, July 7

**0708** - A traffic collision report was taken in the 200 block of North First Street

1315 - A found property report was taken in the 100 block of Dorset Drive.

1826 - Non-injury traffic accident reported in the 600 block of West C Street.

**0247** - Battery report taken in the 900 block of West A Street.

#### Sunday, July 6

**0841** - A warrant arrest report was taken at the intersection of West H at North Almond Street after a traffic stop. Officers contacted Humberto Herrera Rangel (49) of Dixon. He was arrested and was transported to the Solano County jail and released to their staff.

1229 - A death report was taken in the 700 block of East Court.

#### Saturday, July 5

1040 - Violation of a custody order report taken in the lobby.

1438 - Justin Tomlin (35) of Tehachapi was contacted in the 1300 block of North First Street and arrested for DUI, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

**2258** - Traffic stop at the intersection of North First and Stratford Avenue resulted in the arrest of Brian Warner (37-year-old male out of Vacaville) for possession of a controlled substance while armed with a loaded firearm, carrying a concealed weapon, felon possessing a firearm, carrying a loaded firearm in public, possessing a large capacity magazine, possessing ammunition, possessing metal knuckles, possessing controlled substance for sale, owning a firearm without a serial number, possessing unlawful paraphernalia and driving without a license. In addition, Ruby Garza (41-year-old female out of Vacaville) was arrested for a felony warrant.

#### Friday, July 4

**0609** - Male placed on mental health hold on the 900 block of West F Street.

1101 - Kenneth Tucker (41) of Dixon was arrested in the area West F Street/Trinity Court for a failure to appear warrant.

2124 - Unlawful fireworks violation in the 1600 block of Sequoia Way.

2145 - Unlawful fireworks violation in the 1500 block of Patton Court. **2206** - Arson report at the intersection of Valley Glen Drive and Duncan Street.

2228 - Unlawful fireworks violation in the 1600 block of Fanning Court.

**2245** - Battery and public intoxication arrest of Adolfo Rodriguez (24) of Pollock Pines in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.

#### Thursday, July 3

0925 - Oscar Orozco (30) of Dixon was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and violation of pro-

**1013** - Fraud report in the 200 block of East D Street. 1145 - William Franco (27) of Dixon was arrested in the 1400 block of South Lincoln St. for residential burglary,

vehicle burglary and robbery. 1330 - Lost Property report in 200 block of West Cherry Street.

1557 - Burglary at a hotel in the 1300 block of Commercial Way.

**1601** - Robbery report in the 1300 block of Stratford Avenue. 1852 - Arson report taken in the 200 block of East Dorset.

**0105** - Missing person located in the 300 block of East B Street.



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