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of Jehovah's
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a 67th
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Dixon Independent Voice

VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 31

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

AUGUST 1, 2025

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Backpacks to the Future



Many local organizations will be in attendance, including Dixon Library staff. At 10 a.m. Aug. 2, families can expect a visit from the Solano Library Reading Machine, offering an interactive reading experience for younger attendees. Local organizations and Dixon Unified-affiliated school sites will be available to inform the community. Photo courtesy of Isabella Quiniola/Dixon Unified School District

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Unified School District will host its annual Backpack to the Future Festival from 9 to 11 a.m. Aug. 2 at Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St.

The event offers a variety of resources, entertainment and activities to help families prepare for the upcoming school year.

According to Superintendent Brett Barley, the event is packed with family fun.

"There will be a deejay, some story time activities with the library, mascots, food and tables where kids can color and draw while their parents learn about our services and participate in giveaways," Barley said.

Throughout Pardi Plaza, there will be music, games, information booths and family-friendly activities to enjoy. At 10 a.m., families can take part in a special visit from the

Solano Library Reading Machine, which will offer an interactive reading experience for younger attendees. Each Dixon Unified School District-affiliated school site will host a booth at the festival.

The festival will also feature free backpacks filled with essential school supplies, including notebooks, pencils and more. These backpacks were funded by community partners such as the Dixon Rotary Club, Lions Club, Kiwanis Club and Grocery Outlet. A total of 480 backpacks will be given away.

"All these groups have been strong partners for the school district," Barley said.

Backpacks are limited and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendees can also meet school principals, parent-teacher organization teams and the district office's Educational Services, Special Education, AVID and Pupil Services team members to ask questions and

learn about district programs and services.

"They will have the opportunity to meet with different members of the school and district and access support tools such as ParentSquare and Aeries," Barley said.

Representatives from local service and support organizations will also be on site, including the Dixon Police Department, Dixon Fire Department, Dixon Library, Dixon Unified School District Nutrition Services, AT&T, Comcast, TEAM Dixon, Dixon Family Services, Dixon Community Theater, Catalyst, Solano Cares, the Teen Center and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce. They will be available to share information and answer questions.

For those looking for a snack, Dixon High School at 555 College Way will have snacks and beverages for sale. All purchases will benefit the Dixon Rams Vault. Shaved ice

Continued on page 3

Reservation Enhancements Coming to California State Parks

CDPR News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Californians and visitors from all over the world can now access campground availability on Parks.ca.gov and book their perfect campsite in just a few clicks as part of customer-focused reservation upgrades announced July 24 by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Previously, campground availability and reservations were only available on ReserveCalifornia.com, the department's official reservation service, and were not accessible on the main website.

While reservations will still be made through ReserveCalifornia, visitors to Parks.ca.gov will now experience improved integration and convenience to book their campsite while accessing a trove of helpful information, including almost real-time campsite status and availability at other nearby campgrounds, to plan their state parks getaway.

"California's state parks are home to some of the world's best campgrounds and we want to make it as easy as possible to find your perfect campsite," said California Department of Parks and Recreation Director Armando Quintero. "Whether you prefer camping among the redwoods, steps away from the ocean or high up in the mountains, your next state parks adventure is just a few clicks away."

Along with improved web integration with ReserveCalifornia, State Parks also is expanding reservation drawings to three more popular state park campgrounds.

Following a successful pilot at Mount Tamalpais State Park, reservation drawings will now be offered for popular campgrounds at Malibu Creek State Park starting this month, and Morro Bay State Park and McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park later this summer.

Drawings are free to enter on ReserveCalifornia and give more visitors a chance to stay at some of the state's most coveted campsites.

Since launching the first reservation drawing in 2023, there have been more than 100,000 entries for the Steep Ravine Cabins at Mount Tamalpais State Park. Visit the Reservation Drawing FAQs on parks.ca.gov for more information on how this feature works. ★

August Observances Highlight Global Awareness and Recognition

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - August is marked by several significant observances that highlight the contributions, rights and challenges of diverse groups around the world. These holidays serve to educate the public and recognize the importance of inclusion, sacrifice and equality.

On Aug. 7, United States citizens observe Purple Heart Day. According to the Purple Heart Foundation, this holiday commemorates the oldest U.S. military decoration still in use. Established in 1782 by General George Washington as the Badge of Military Merit, it was revived in 1932 as the Purple Heart. The day honors service members wounded or killed in action. In Dixon, organizations such as Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post



Women's Equality Day on Aug. 26 honors women earning the right to vote and the strides they have made since. Organizations such as Soroptmist International of Dixon and Dixon Women's Improvement Club (pictured) support women throughout the community. Photo courtesy of the Dixon Women's Improvement Club

8151, American Legion Post 208 and Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, located at 5810 Midway Road, should be recognized for their contributions to veterans and the community.

Two days later, on Aug. 9, the international community observes the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. First proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1994,

this day aims to promote and protect the rights of Indigenous populations. According to the United Nations' official website, it also commemorates the first meeting of the United

Continued on page 3

First Northern Bank Hires New Branch Manager to Lead Dixon

First Northern Bank News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - First Northern Bank proudly welcomes Maria Arevalo as its vice-president and branch manager to lead the flagship branch in Dixon.

With more than 18 years of experience in financial services management, branch operations and customer service, Arevalo brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to First Northern Bank. Prior to joining First Northern Bank, Arevalo served as vice-president and branch manager for a national bank in St. Helena.

In her First Northern Bank role, Arevalo will lead the areas of overseeing daily operations, strengthening team development, fostering client relations and devoting resources to the Dixon community.

“We are very excited to welcome Maria to lead our flagship branch,” said Amanda Connell, senior vice-president and director of operations of First Northern Bank. “Her expertise in branch operations and customer service will deepen our connection with our customers and businesses in Dixon and Solano County.”

Arevalo is dedicated to serving in the community. She enjoys partnering with Habitat for Humanity and teaching financial literacy in local schools. Arevalo has a strong passion for helping others reach their financial goals and staying engaged in the community through organizations such as the Rotary Club.



In her First Northern Bank role, Arevalo will lead the areas of overseeing daily operations, strengthening team development, fostering client relations and devoting resources to the Dixon community. Photo courtesy of First Northern Bank

In her spare time, Arevalo enjoys hiking, traveling, cooking traditional Mexican dishes and spending time with her family.

First Northern Bank is an independent community bank that specializes in relationship banking. The bank, headquartered in Solano County since 1910, serves Solano, Yolo, Sacramento, Placer, Colusa and Glenn counties, as well as the west slope of El Dorado County. Experts are available in small business, commercial, real estate and agribusiness lending, as well as mortgage loans.

The bank is an SBA Preferred Lender. Real estate mortgage and small-business loan officers

are available by appointment at any of the bank’s 14 branches in Dixon, Davis, West Sacramento, Fairfield, Vacaville, Winters, Woodland, Sacramento, Roseville, Auburn, Rancho Cordova, Colusa, Willows and Orland.

Non-FDIC insured Investment and Brokerage Services are also available at every branch location. First Northern Bank is rated as a Veribanc “Green-3 Star Blue Ribbon” Bank and a “5-Star Superior” Bank by Bauer Financial for the earnings period ended March 31 (www.veribanc.com and www.bauerfinancial.com).

For more information, visit thatsmymybank.com or call 707-678-7742. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Pat Grannucci Aquatic Center at 450 E. Mayes St. is offering recreational swim from 1 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday this summer. The summer pool schedule will be in effect through Aug. 4. Photo by Scott Mullins

By MPG Staff

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.

Veterans’ Dinner

American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Veterans’ Dinner from 4 to 9 p.m. Aug. 1. The dinner, held at Veterans’ Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. offers an all-you-can-eat meal for \$12 per guest. Dishes include pork, roasted potatoes, a vegetable and a roll. 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.

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 is in effect until Aug. 4.

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

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 dixon-chamber.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.

Concerts in the Plaza

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce hosts its penultimate Concert in the Plaza from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 7. The free event, hosted at Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St. features the Beatles-inspired musical stylings of Hey Jude. Hailing from Vacaville and the SF Bay Area, the band was formed in 2011 and performs energetic and accurate renditions of 60’s and ’70s music. Folding chairs and picnic blankets are recommended, but alcohol is not allowed as per city ordinance.

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

Dixon Library Book Club

Dixon Library is hosting its monthly morning book club meeting from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Aug. 14. The morning book club is a monthly, adult-oriented group that will be reading “Making it So: A Memoir” by Patrick Stewart. Coffee and tea will be provided for attendees, and the meeting itself will be in the library’s front room, 230 N. First St.

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

VFW Upcoming Meeting

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8151 will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. Aug. 20. Meetings are held every third Wednesday at The Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St. Official business meetings start at 7 p.m., but the hall opens for set-up and socializing at 6 p.m. Socializing will continue after the business portion of the meeting.

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

Travis Credit Union Shred Event

Travis Credit Union is hosting a shredding event open to the public from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 22. Held onsite at the Dixon branch, 1470 Ary Lane, the event offers Dixonites the opportunity to protect their privacy through the proper disposal of personal and financial information.

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

Every Baking Moment Cake Class

Every Baking Moment is hosting a vintage frame cake baking class at 10 a.m. Aug. 9. Held onsite, 143 N. First St., the event offers attendees the opportunity to learn how to build and support a cake board as well as icing and decoration. The class costs \$65 per person and tea and cookies will be served to participants.

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



MEMORIAL

JACK LAMBERT OLMSTED • 07/31/1937 - 06/10/2025



Jack Lambert Olmsted was born in Omaha, Nebraska on July 31, 1937, to Orville and Margaret Olmsted. Jack was raised on a farm in Macedonia, Iowa with his older sister Peggy. Jack was 9 years old when his father Orville drowned trying to save a friend. Upon his father’s passing, his mother Margaret moved the family to Oakland, Iowa. A few years later they moved to Ames, Iowa.

Jack graduated from Ames High School in 1956. In 1957 he married his high school sweetheart Janet Hohenshell. The newlyweds drove to California on their honeymoon and settled in the San Rafael area.

Jack started working in the insurance business for his brother-in-law John Parker. In 1958, Jack began working for Farm Bureau as an insurance agent. Jan and Jack’s eldest son Michael was born in 1958. In 1959, the Olmsted’s moved to Fairfield, CA. Michelle Olmsted was born in 1960, and youngest son Mark was born in 1961. Jack continued to work for Farm Bureau until 1975, when he then partnered with Don Miller & Associates in Davis, CA and ran the insurance business there.

In 1978, Jack and Jan moved from Fairfield to their new home in Dixon, CA. Jack continued to stay active waterskiing, windsurfing, snow skiing and bicycling. Jack won many trophies and medals for Senior (50+) Triathlon tournaments, which included Windsurfing, Biking and Downhill skiing. Much of this time was spent at the Olmsted cabin with the family at Donner Lake.

Unfortunately, Jan Olmsted passed away in 1991.

Jack was involved with many volunteer organizations, including Suisun Valley 4-H, Armijo Alumni Sports Club, Solano County Taxpayers Assn., Young Republicans, Davis Kiwanis, Ups & Downs Water Ski Club, Yolo County Insurance Agents Association, and was appointed as a Director to the Dixon May Fair Board.

Jack married his second wife Maggi Sage, and they made their home in Vacaville. Jack and Maggi worked together customizing and decorating their home both inside and out. In 2022, Jack and Maggi sold their home and moved into Magnolia Assisted Living in Vacaville. Maggi passed away in March 2024 and Jack moved to Farmstead Assisted Living in Dixon, CA. Jack passed

away on June 10, 2025. He is survived by his children Mike (Brenda) Olmsted; Mark (Stephanie) Olmsted; Son-in-law Dean Craft, and Grandchildren Zachary (Courtney) Craft, Lucas (Nicole) Craft and Lindsay Welsh. Jack was preceded in death by his sister Peggy Parker, and most recently his loving daughter Michelle Craft who passed in February 2025. Jack was also very close to Maggi’s children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held On September 4th, 2025, at 2pm at The Mission Church, located at 6391 Leisure Town Road in Vacaville, CA. In lieu of flowers, The Olmsted family asks that you consider donating in Jack Olmsted’s memory to the Solano County 4-H, 501 Texas St. Fairfield, CA 94533 or the American Cancer Society.



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Celebrating a 67th Anniversary

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Surrounded by many friends and family, Rich and Jan Hardy felt the love as they recently celebrated their 67th anniversary at the Veterans Memorial Hall.

Yes, it might be an odd number to celebrate but Rich Hardy wanted to do something very special for his “beloved,” who is now a resident of Farmstead Memory Care in Dixon.

“She likes people and likes people to talk to her, so I wanted to give that to her,” Rich Hardy said, holding back tears.

Jan Hardy was brought

in a wheelchair and seemed to recognize many of the guests who took turns visiting her. The couple smiled for pictures in front of a large cake congratulating them on their long marriage.

“With a picture or a person in front of her, it seems something clicks,” Rich Hardy said. “Whenever you got close to her, I could see her eyes light up but it’s been really tough. I didn’t realize how long I’ve loved this lady and how much it was a day-to-day situation over the years. Things weren’t always peaches and cream... I know it is very difficult for people to come

visit her so I thought this was a way we could bring her out to visit them.”

Rich Hardy met his future wife at a high school 4-H/FFA dance when he was given leave over the holidays from his United States Air Force Radar Tech job at Point Arena and stayed with his buddy’s family in Placerville. Jan was in high school there and also went to the dance.

“Jan was a senior and we just hit it off,” Rich Hardy said. “We made a date to go to Lake Tahoe for New Year’s Eve and it just went on from there.”

Rich Hardy “put a lot of miles” on a “big ‘ol



Rich and Jan Hardy married in 1958. Rich said they have been “best friends” ever since. Courtesy photo

“I would go home on the weekends and I got a percentage of the sales, never had to pay for gas and Jan was taking care of the babies,” Rich Hardy said.

With the help of the GI Bill, he saved up enough money to put down on a home being built “at the very edge of Dixon.” It was 1964 and the home price was \$15,800.

“That’s where I learned to be a handyman,” Rich Hardy said with a laugh. “Beyond us was just farms and orchards.”

Dixon is where the couple raised their five children, who all attended Dixon High School. They never moved since.

Over the years, Jan Hardy’s sewing skills brought beauty to their home in curtains, towels and aprons while adorable bunnies and dolls were donated to service organizations for prizes and gifts for her family until she retired from University of California, Davis.

The couple became involved with the Boat Club and often drove their old classic car down the middle of the May Fair Parade. They opened a small glass-etching company, Ideas Unique, out of their garage and became heavily involved with the Dixon Chamber of Commerce.

Many of those friends and many of their 15 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren surrounded them at the 67th anniversary celebration.

“No one in this community would doubt our love for each other,” Rich Hardy said. ★

Chrysler” that he bought going back and forth to see her.

“That car later brought all of our kids home from the hospital,” Rich Hardy added. They were married in 1958 with Jan Hardy in a wedding gown and veil she sewed.

After being in the Air Force, Rich Hardy worked at an automotive parts counter that led to promotions and better pay as his bosses quickly realized he

was a huge asset to their sales departments. His love for people established friendships and business loyalty with customers.

Over the years and with a few companies inviting him to work for them, Rich Hardy met Odell Leavitt. Leavitt owned a Rambler dealership and provided a small trailer in his backyard in Dixon on Sierra Drive, which at that time was the end of the small town.



Jan and Rich Hardy enjoyed welcoming friends and family to remember the good times at a recent anniversary celebration. Photo by Debra Dingman

Dixon Unified Hosts Backpack to the Future



Alongside food, live music, school mascots and games, district board members will also be on site, including, from left, Superintendent Brett Barley, Vice-President Regina Espinoza and President Julian Cuevas. Photo courtesy of Isabella Quiniola/Dixon Unified School District

Continued from page 1

will also be available for purchase as a cool treat for festivalgoers.

For parents and students preparing for the school year, Barley shared 10 back-to-school tips for Dixon families. He recommends building strong attendance habits, establishing consistent routines such as getting enough sleep or having breakfast, and staying organized to be prepared for the day.

Barley also suggests connecting with teachers and principals, creating a quiet

environment for reading and homework, and checking in with students about their school day.

“Show interest in what your child is learning. It is valuable for kids to know that school is important to their parents,” Barley said.

Parents are also encouraged to set aside time each day to read with their child, get involved with the school, have open discussions about goals and dreams, and encourage a growth mindset.

“Celebrate effort, not just outcomes,” Barley said. “I

like to remind my youngest boy that it’s not that he can’t do it; it’s that he has not done it yet.”

The Backpack to the Future Festival is free and open to all families in the Dixon area. It will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. Aug. 2, with supplies and activities available while they last.

The first day of school for all Dixon Unified School District schools is Aug. 6.

For more information, visit dixonusd.org or call 707-693-6300. ★

August Observances Highlight Global Awareness and Recognition



On Aug. 7, United States citizens observe Purple Heart Day. In Dixon, organizations such as Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8151, American Legion Post 208 and Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, located at 5810 Midway Road, should be recognized for their contributions to veterans and the community. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1


Nation’s Working Group on Indigenous Populations in 1982. Those interested in learning about Dixon’s Indigenous people, the Wintun (Patwin) Tribe, can find resources at the Dixon Historical Society, 125 W. A St., or the Dixon Library, 230 N. First St.

Senior Citizens Day, observed on Aug. 21, was established in the United States by President Ronald Reagan in 1988. This observance aims to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of older adults, while also raising awareness about the issues affecting the aging population. Dixon’s Senior/Multi-Use Center, at 201 S. Fifth St., provides services and activities that help the community’s senior members thrive. Offerings such as low-impact fitness classes, regular Lunch Bunch trips and bunco nights empower seniors with a sense of agency and camaraderie. The center also distributes a monthly senior schedule to keep Dixonites

informed.

Finally, Women’s Equality Day is observed on Aug. 26 in the United States. According to the National Women’s History Alliance, it commemorates the certification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920, which granted women the right to vote. The day was first declared in 1971 following congressional authorization. Organizations such as the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club and Soroptimist International of Dixon support women throughout the community and contribute to the well-being of the community as a whole.

Each of these August observances highlight historical milestones and ongoing global efforts toward recognition and equality. As the year enters its final quarter, Dixonites are encouraged to reflect on these holidays and honor those in their community and around the world. ★



FOR THE LOVE OF

BOOKS

By Amy Shane

Book Review & Special Events Editor • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📸 amy_fortheloveofbooks

Children's Books Summer Roundup

Whether your summer plans involve heading out on a plane or staying in your pajamas, there is a perfect book for your summer adventure.



Never Take Your Rhino on A Plane
by K.E. Lewis,
art by Isabel Roxas;
Clarion Books.

Never ever take your rhinoceros on a plane. On this hilarious adventure, one little girl shares the adventure and the many hazards of bringing a rhino on a plane. From packing way too many things, (like a trapeze), to making her miss their bus. He will pull the tag for the life vests and ride the luggage carousel with a whopping glee. Even if he is your greatest friend, you will still never want to take him on a plane.

A perfectly hilarious story with the cutest and engaging artwork. Never Take Your Rhino On a Plane takes readers through all of the problems that can arise if you take your rhino on your next vacation. From complete chaos that will have readers erupt in fits of giggle , this book is perfect read before your next adventure, or even on a plane.



Pajammin!
By Ziggy Marley,
illustrated by Leticia Moreno;
Clarion Books.

Inspired by the hit song “Jamming” comes a fun new children's book that celebrates a family's screen-free pajama party.

The invitations are sent, the preparations are made, and the pajamas are on. Now it's time to -Pajammin. It's time to rock out, jam out, play flashlight tag, sing songs and allow inspiration to speak. This night is for fun and not for yawns. So grab your sheets and make a tent, stay up late, and have a snack. It's time to come together and spend an evening together.

From eight-time Grammy winner, musician, producer, and humanitarian Ziggy Marley. Pajammin celebrates the love of spending family time together. This book transforms a regular evening into a party ideally suited for all family members. An evening of fun, music, games, and joy. Pajammin is a perfect book for families looking for creative ideas and to come together without screens or devices.



Fluffy McWhiskers Crunchazaur Kaboom
by Stephen W. Martin,
art by Dan Tavis;
McElderry Books

Crunchazaur was hungry and was quickly wreaking havoc all over the city. After he ate peekapoos, porcupines, a pirate ship, and even the top leaders panic erupted all over the city, but they knew who to call. Fluffy and Potato didn't want to make him explode, but something had to be done. So, they trained to become an overload of cuteness. Even though they hated the idea, they knew they needed to save the day, so together they hatched a plan. A very messy plan that might end in Kaboom.

The hilarious duo returns in a new cuteness explosion. Readers will once again fall for Fluffy and Potato and all of their overload of cuteness. This explosive new tale will send readers into a fit of giggles with its hilarious storyline and adorable illustrations. The perfect continuation of the Fluffy McWhiskers stories.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission will hold a hybrid **PUBLIC HEARING** to consider the following project:

PROJECT:

Pitt School Road and Homestead Way (Sunrise and Celebration at Homestead) - Request for a Design Review (DR25-0189) approval for 8 model homes for Homestead Phases 3 and 4/Village 12, 14 and 15 with three available styles to choose from (Cali Ranch, Cottage, and Wine Country). Each style would have three different color pallets for a total of 18 different color schemes. These phases/villages of Homestead include 215 residential lots; Per Chapter 18.23 of the Dixon Municipal Code, Design Review is required for model homes for residential subdivisions. *This item was continued from the Planning Commission's July 8, 2025 public hearing* APNs: 0114-012-060, -090, -100, and -120 ; Zoning Districts: Residential Medium Density –Southwest Dixon Specific Plan (RM-SWSP) and Residential Low Density –Southwest Dixon Specific Plan (RL-SWSP); Richmond American Homes, owner and applicant; File No: PLAPP25-0188, DR25-0189.

The California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. The City Council certified the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan. In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21166, as implemented by CEQA Guidelines 15162, the project is consistent with the EIR and determined that no circumstances giving rise to a requirement for a subsequent or supplemental EIR are present requiring such subsequent or supplemental document. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

HEARING DATE & LOCATION:

Tuesday, August 12, 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 comment.

MORE INFORMATION:

Contact **Scott Greeley, Associate Planner** at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115 or sgreeley@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:

All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposed application. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the Planning Commission prior to making any decision on the application. The meeting will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding masking and social distancing in City Council chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to PlanningCommission@cityofdixon.us or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, Planning Commission, 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 Planning Commission 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 conferencing click on “raise hand,” or 2) via teleconference press “9.”

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)).

Appeals of decisions by the Planning Commission to the City Council shall be made in person at Dixon City Hall by completing the appeal application and submitting the required fee, within 10 calendar days of a decision (Dixon Municipal Code Sections 17.01.050 or 18.40).

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 8-1-2025



Riley Reviews

“BALLARD” INHERITS THE SPIRIT OF THE “BOSCH” CRIME UNIVERSE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“BALLARD” ON AMAZON PRIME

A prolific author of detective novels and crime fiction, Michael Connelly has a legion of fans not only for his books but for the television series “Bosch,” Bosch: Legacy,” and “The Lincoln Lawyer.”

With forty-one bestselling novels to his credit, it does not appear the 69-year-old author is slowing down any time soon. His Mickey Haller, the Lincoln Lawyer, is back with a case in “The Proving Ground” novel due in October.

This year also brought the release of “Nightshade,” an introduction to a new cop with Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Detective Stilwell exiled to a low-key post on Catalina Island, after department politics drove him off a homicide desk on the mainland. Could this augur a future television series?

Several Connelly novels featured LAPD detectives Renee Ballard and Harry Bosch working together to hunt killers, from the “Desert Star” search for a man murdering an entire family, to “The Night Fire” in which Ballard and Bosch become an investigative team.

Now streaming on Amazon Prime is “Ballard,” starring Maggie Q as Robbery-Homicide detective Renee Ballard, who is about as popular with the department bureaucracy as Scottish detective Carl Morck (Matthew Goode) is with his own in “Dept. Q,” which was reviewed last week.

The connection between “Ballard” and the “Bosch” universe is unambiguous, given the literary existence of the two detectives working together, and yet they never came in contact during the television series until the last episode of “Bosch: Legacy.”

We first saw Maggie Q’s Ballard when she entered uninvited into Bosch’s private investigator office, demanding he return the files she accused him of purloining. It looked like the start of a contentious relationship.

The investigation was a cold case into the murder of one of the young girls that Bosch was unwilling to forget, even after leaving the police force. This case involved a firefighter suspect returning to Los Angeles after a dozen years.

After a reluctant but effective partnership to nab the murderer, Ballard and Bosch exchange compliments for good work. Prophetically, Bosch proclaims, “Maybe somewhere down the line we’ll get to work together again.”

With its provenance to the Michael Connelly literary sphere, “Ballard” most appropriately draws in a few familiar faces from the “Bosch” domain, including the lovable retired LAPD curmudgeons Crate and Barrel.

As a result of getting on the wrong side of

the insular LAPD culture, Ballard is ostracized by friends and colleagues for lodging an attempted sexual assault complaint against a senior officer who is seemingly an untouchable insider. Never mind that Ballard is one of LAPD’s finest detectives.

Banished to a file room in the basement of the LAPD training center, Ballard is left to her own devices to put together a team, getting help from Councilman Jake Pearlman (Noah Bean) for some funding, as he has a personal interest in the twenty-year old cold case of his murdered sister.

Ballard’s former partner in the Robbery-Homicide division, Thomas Laffont (John Carroll Lynch), comes out of retirement to join the cold case task force. He provides a steady presence inside a somewhat hectic team.

An eclectic group of volunteers form the backbone of the cold case unit. Colleen Hatteras (Rebecca Field) is most energetically enthusiastic, relying on intuition and new age superstitions to postulate her crime theories, which are not necessarily off-base.

College student intern Martina Castro (Victoria Moroles) is studying law with a perspective on crime that may be unorthodox to some. Ted Rawls (Michael Mosley), wealthy owner of a security firm and acting as a watchdog for the interests of his friend the Councilman, joins the team as a reserve LAPD officer.

To round out the crew, Ballard pursues Samira Parker (Courtney Taylor), formerly an investigator on an LAPD cold case, who resigned from the force after a brief, unpleasant stint as a Robbery-Homicide detective. Only Ballard’s persuasive power brings Samira back into the fold.

It’s not all about sleuthing for Ballard. She shares a waterfront double-wide trailer home on the Malibu beach with her grandmother Tutu (Amy Hill), and clears her head from the heavy workload with early morning surfing sessions that also allow her to remember with admiration her late father.

“Ballard” is not just about the police work on forgotten cases. The storyline takes a deep look into complex issues, ranging from corruption to sexual improprieties to a culture rife with convolutions that go beyond the usual, perfunctory themes of cop dramas.

Unquestionably in this reviewer’s perspective, “Bosch” and “Bosch: Legacy” rate highly in the pantheon of police procedurals as among the best of all time TV shows. “Ballard” shows promise to create a trifecta of remarkably essential and laudatory entertainment.

Without disclosing the slightest hint of how the first season’s cliffhanger concludes, suffice it to say that a failure of “Ballard” to come back for a second turn would be an unforgivable crime. We just can’t be left hanging. ★

Dixon High School Class Seeking Speakers

Dixon Chamber of Commerce News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - English teacher and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) Coordinator Julie Lattig from Dixon High School is asking for speakers for her College and Career Unit. This is a wonderful opportunity to have a positive impact on the students who are the workforce of the future.

“The 25-26 school year is upon us and Dixon High Senior English is kicking off with our College and Career Unit. Last year, 37 people visited (in-person and virtually) to share their stories after high school - it was phenomenal, and the seniors raved about it!” said Lattig.

Quotes from the class of 2025 include the following.

“The speaker series was cool! I learned about jobs I didn't know about before. I actually want to change what career I want to do after high school now.” (This was the case for multiple students!)

“It was inspiring to hear so many people's stories. The career stuff was cool, but what I liked best was all the life advice they gave.”

“I love seeing and hearing people's stories...It showed me that I can do something in my life - it doesn't have to be big, but it will be something.”

“It was honestly so great to hear about different experiences and jobs. I looked forward to every visitor day!”

For those interested in being a guest speaker, Lattig would love to invite you to be part of this experience this year.

“Let me know if you have any questions and thank you for considering being part of this experience for my students. Additionally, if you are unable to visit but would like to record a 5 to 10-minute video about your work, that is great too. Just let me know and I'll "schedule" a time to show your clip,” said Lattig. “Once we have our plans together, I will send an outline for sharing as well as common questions my seniors have for y'all.”

For more information, contact Lattig at either julie.lattig@dixonusd.org or call 707-693-6330 ext. 7142.

★

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Special Convention of Jehovah’s Witnesses Meets

Jehovah’s Witnesses News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - In the weeks leading up to the highly anticipated Special Convention of Jehovah’s Witnesses, local Witnesses from across Northern California are warmly inviting their neighbors to attend this unique international event at the Golden 1 Center from Aug. 1 through Aug. 3.

More than 3,000 international delegates from 14 countries, including Australasia, Canada, Ecuador, Fiji, France, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Myanmar, Scandinavia, Tahiti and Taiwan, will join thousands of local attendees to experience the uplifting “Pure Worship” convention program.

This special gathering highlights the global unity and joy of shared worship, transcending language and culture.

“We are thrilled to welcome so many international friends to Sacramento,” said Adrian Barnes, regional spokesman for Jehovah’s Witnesses. “It will be an unforgettable experience, not just for our visiting delegates, but for our entire community. We hope our neighbors will take this opportunity to attend and enjoy the positive and encouraging program.”

An estimated 10,000 volunteers are working diligently to prepare for the event and more than 15,000 attendees are expected to fill the Golden 1 Center



Sacramento is to host thousands for an international spiritual event at the Golden 1 Center on Aug. 1 through Aug. 3. Photo courtesy of the Jehovah’s Witnesses

across the three days. The program will feature Bible-based talks, dramatic presentations, a live baptism ceremony and a high-quality audiovisual production highlighting the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

All sessions will be presented in English. The public is warmly invited to attend. Admission is free and no collections will be taken.

For more information, please contact Adrian Barnes, the Regional Spokesman for Jehovah’s Witnesses at 702-800-1847 or at adrianbarnes.pid6@gmail.com. Please visit www.jw.org. ★

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Mythical air spirit
6. Water glider
9. Opposite of eve
13. Artfully shyly
14. X
15. Move a plant
16. Sainly glows
17. Industrious insect
18. Inundated
19. *"An American Tragedy" author Theodore

21. *Ignatius J. Reilly, "A Confederacy of Dunces" protagonist
23. Neither's partner
24. Flipside of pros
25. What hernias do
28. Snowman's corn cob
30. 1970s dancing venues
35. Home to China
37. Biceps exercise
39. W.E.B Du Bois's org.
40. Clays or mucks
41. Quetzalcoatl worshiper
43. Viracocha worshiper
44. Muse of love poetry
46. The Hippocratic one
47. High in decibels
48. Orthopedic device
50. Egyptian goddess of fertility
52. Before, before
53. Kitten's plaything
55. Between Cancer and Virgo
57. *Beatrice Belden's nickname
60. *American Library Association's medal for children's literature
64. C in CSI
65. To boot
67. #61 Down plus E
68. Altar's location, pl.
69. Fled
70. Indian cuisine dip
71. Give an impression
72. Mining product
73. See-through

DOWN

1. Common tropical marine fish
2. Part of BYO
3. Orpheus' instrument
4. *Patricia MacLachlan's "Sarah, _____ and Tall"
5. Medicinal herb
6. _____ anise, chai tea spice
7. _____ Kesey's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
8. Foreword
9. Whimper
10. Milky-white gem
11. Like certain people's glasses
12. Greatest possible
15. Ex grape
20. *"Fear of Flying" author _____ Jong
22. Finish line, e.g.
24. Not doubting
25. *Percival Everett's re-imagining of "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
26. Steal a throne
27. Type of wave
29. *"The Godfather" author Mario _____
31. Go yachting
32. Birch bark vessel
33. Come to pass

34. *Dashiell Hammett's hardboiled detective Sam

36. _____ Spumante
38. Classic game show "_____ Make a Deal"
42. Argentina's western neighbor
45. December birthstone, pl.
49. "Mai" follower
51. Paris' underground tourist attraction
54. Yesteryear style
56. West African religious practice
57. Genealogical plant
58. Winter window design
59. Allah's cleric
60. Opposite of all
61. Huron's neighbor
62. Baptism or shiva, e.g.
63. 2025, e.g.
64. "The Young and the Restless" network, acr.
66. Boat propeller

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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.
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 8-1-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001010
The following persons are doing business as: The Saini Ledger, 3700 Lyon Road, Apartment 195, Fairfield, CA 94534.
Avneet Singh Saini, 3700 Lyon Road, Apartment 195, Fairfield, CA 94534.
Date filed in Solano County: June 30, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 29, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2025
SAINI 8-1-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000994
The following persons are doing business as: BTO Motorsports, 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
BTO 8-8-25

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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000909
The following persons are doing business as: Whimsical Art, 844 Syracuse Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Nicole Renee Sumpter, 844 Syracuse Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: June 10, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 21, 2024
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new Fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration 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 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025
WHIMSICAL 8-15-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001076
The following persons are doing business as: La Topsy, 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: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new Fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration 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
LA 8-15-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001016
The following persons are doing business as: Finnegan Consulting, 1285 Stratford Avenue, Suite G, #221, Dixon, CA 95620.
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
FINNEGAN 8-15-25

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 94589.
Date filed in Solano County: July 18, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 9, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize

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 law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025
GROUNDWORX 8-15-25

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

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 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
MINKED 8-15-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001089
The following persons are doing business as: GTO Drywall, 1755 Filmore Street, Apt #1, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Joe Castallo, 1755 Filmore Street Apt#1, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Date filed in Solano County: July 15, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 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: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
GTO 8-22-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001087
The following persons are doing business as: Puptopia, 530 Cypress Street, Dixon, CA 95620.
Hailey Sky Cortez, 530 Cypress Street, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: July 15, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 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 ficti-

tious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 14, 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: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
PUPTOPIA 8-22-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025000981
The following persons are doing business as: Glo Nailspa, 1160 Pitt School Road, Suite D, Dixon, CA 95620.
GLO8899LLC, 1160 Pitt School Road, Suite D, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: June 24, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Partnership. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration June 23, 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: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
GLO 8-22-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU25-06462
Isaiah Gabriel Khinda filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Isaiah Gabriel Khinda to Isaiah Gabriel Cantu.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. September 29, 2025, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer
Dated: July 18, 2025
Publish: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
KHINDA 8-22-25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LUPE RODRIGUEZ CASE NO. PR25-00487
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Lupe Rodriguez.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Juanita R. Shoopman, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Juanita R. Shoopman be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: September 3, 2025, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 5; Superior Court of California, County of Solano, 600 Union Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of

the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other 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: Matthew R. Lucas, 2420 Martin Road, Suite 300, Fairfield, CA 94534; 707-427-7377
Publish: August 1, 8, 15, 2025
RODRIGUEZ 8-15-25

TRUSTEE SALE
Title Order No.: 99100190
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 TRUST DATED 6/6/2024. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 8/18/2025 at 9:30 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, TRUSTEE OF THE JOYCE A. CUEVAS REVOCABLE TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 8, 2010 , as Trustor ROGER ANDERSON TRUSTEE OF THE RWA TRUST DATED 3/14/2014 AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 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 PUBLIC AUCTION 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 Street, 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, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$427,786.73 (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 Sell. 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 TD SPECIALISTS, AS TRUSTEE, as Trustee 8190 EAST KAISER BLVD., ANAHEIM HILLS, CA 92808 PHONE: 714-283-2180 FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION LOG ON TO: www.stoxposting.com CALL: 844-477-7869 JANINA HOAK. TRUSTEE SALE OFFICER CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALIST IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. 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 senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of 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 property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 844-477-7869, or visit this internet Web site www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case T.S.# 88100. 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 valuation provided t the trustee by the lender 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 such 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 provided by third parties, including the lender. The valuation used to determine the minimum opening bid applies only to the Initially scheduled sale date. Any postponement or continuation of the sale does not obligate the trustee to obtain or rely upon a new valuation, 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 8-8-25

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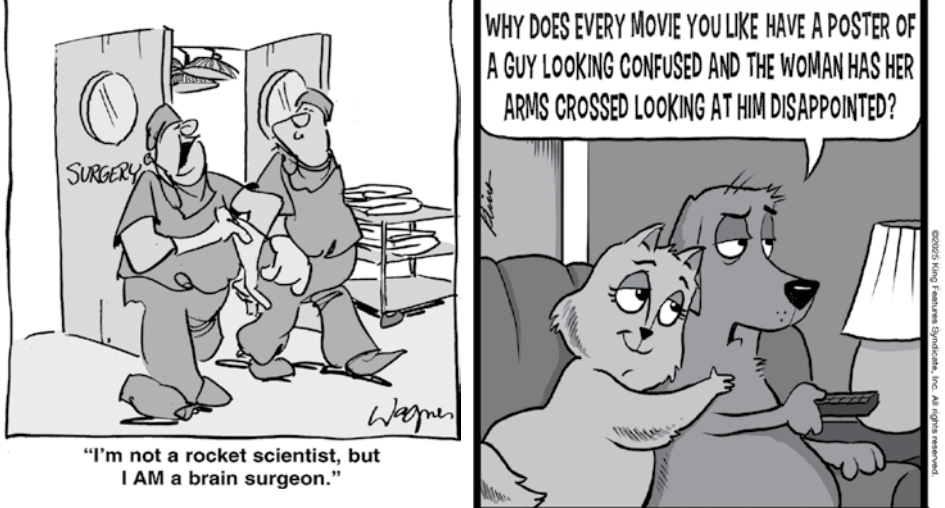


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A Decade of Conservation Success



The Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument's designation in 2015, followed by its expansion to include Molok Luyuk in 2024, stands as a testament to grassroots conservation success in the heart of Northern California's inner coastal range. Photo courtesy of Tuleyome

By Bryan Pride, Policy Director, Tuleyome

YOLO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument (the Monument) celebrated its 10th anniversary, a milestone that showcases what becomes possible when communities unite to protect irreplaceable landscapes on July 10.

The Monument's designation in 2015, followed by its expansion to include Molok Luyuk in 2024, stands as a testament to grassroots conservation success in the heart of Northern California's inner coastal range.

Spanning 344,476 acres, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument holds exceptional biodiversity and ecological integrity that ranks among the top 5% of all United States Forest and Bureau of Land Management properties in the contiguous United States. The ancient serpentine soil of the Monument is the foundation of the vast landscape, creating one of California's most unique

ecosystems.

These distinctive soils nurture rare plant species found nowhere else on Earth, including the delicate adobe lily (*Fritillaria pluriflora*) and the scythleaf onion (*Allium falcifolium*). Such botanical treasures represent thousands of years of evolutionary adaptation, harboring genetic diversity that, if lost, can never be recovered. The specialized ecosystems that serpentine soils support have evolved in isolation, creating rare biological communities.

But the Monument's significance extends far beyond its botanical rarities and unique soils. It holds a deep history of indigenous culture and heritage. This landscape has witnessed 20,000 years of documented cultural change and development.

The Monument served as a key connector and trade route used by indigenous communities. Historic trail networks once connected Patwin, Pomo, Lake Miwok, and Wappo peoples, positioning this area at the center of extensive trade networks that

linked the Clear Lake Basin with the Sacramento Valley.

Beyond the ecological and cultural significance, the same serpentine geology that creates the Monuments unique biodiversity, also shaped early California history.

From the 1860s through the 1970s, the Sulphur Creek mining district extracted mercury that was used for gold mining throughout the Sierra Nevada and regional mines. Miners and their families established the Sulphur Creek village during the mid-to-late 1800s, creating communities and infrastructure that led to the broader economic development of California during the Gold Rush era.

The geological foundation weaves together the Monument's environmental treasures, Indigenous heritage, and Gold Rush history into a singular narrative of place demonstrating how landscape, ecology, and human story interconnect across millennia.

Today, the Monument represents a new chapter in

conservation leadership. Co-stewardship agreements between the Bureau of Land Management and indigenous communities create a powerful model for partnerships in land management, directly supporting federal and state mandates to integrate traditional ecological knowledge into land management practices.

The Monument's protection also contributes significantly to California's ambitious 30x30 initiative aiming to protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030. These efforts address the biodiversity crisis and climate change by safeguarding critical habitat corridors and carbon storage capacity.

Perhaps most importantly, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument proves that conservation enhances public access rather than restricts it. The monument provides improved trail management and diverse recreational opportunities including OHV use, mountain biking, and hiking, welcoming visitors to experience these protected landscapes responsibly.

As we celebrate this 10th anniversary, the Monument stands as proof that grassroots organizing and local advocacy can achieve federal conservation action. Community voices influenced national policy and secured permanent protection for the Berryessa Snow Mountain landscape. Demonstrating how our public lands are cherished by recreationists, Indigenous communities, scientists, and nature lovers alike.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument showcases that when communities come together around shared values of protection and stewardship, remarkable conservation victories become possible. Its first decade marks not an ending, but the beginning of a conservation model ready for replication across California and beyond.

Bryan Pride is the policy director for Tuleyome. Tuleyome is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit conservation organization based in Woodland, CA. For more information go to www.tuleyome.org.

Photo Contest Invites Californians to Capture and Share the Beauty of State Parks

California State Parks Foundation News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The California State Parks Foundation is inviting park visitors and photography enthusiasts of all ages and experience levels to capture the natural beauty, recreational activities and unique landscapes of California's state parks.

The California State Parks Foundation Photo Contest is now open for submissions and runs through Sept. 30.

"We're excited to open submissions to the California State Parks Foundation Photo Contest," said Rachel Norton, the executive director of California State Parks Foundation. "This is a fun opportunity for Californians to highlight and raise awareness for the parks they love. With hundreds of state parks around the state, we expect to see a diversity of photos that include beaches, mountains, urban parks, rivers, people enjoying nature and more."

The California state park



A photo of the South Yuba River was submitted for a previous California State Park Foundation photo contest. Photo courtesy of the California State Park Foundation

system includes 280 state park units, over 340 miles of coastline, 970 miles of lake and river frontage, 15,000 campsites, 5,200 miles of trails, 3,195 historic buildings, and more than

11,000 known prehistoric and historic archaeological sites.

Earlier this year, California State Parks Foundation highlighted some of these beloved places with their first-ever "Best

of California's State Parks," a poll that asked their members and followers to vote on their favorite places for camping, hiking, picnicking and more.

Participants can enter up to

three photos in the photo contest in the categories of scenic landscapes, natural beauty across all seasons; wildlife and nature, flora, fauna, and ecosystems; recreation and activities, hiking, surfing, camping, and more; people in parks enjoying parks responsibly and sustainably; and California history, cultural and historic sites in parks.

There is no entry fee to participate in the contest. Category winners will win a California Explorer Vehicle Day Use Annual Pass (\$195 value, vehicle entrance to 134 state parks) and be featured in California State Parks Foundation's 2026 calendar. Honorable mentions will be showcased in an online gallery and on social media. All winners will also receive a 2026 calendar.

Submissions will be judged on creativity and originality, technical quality, relevance to the category, emotional impact and storytelling, and aesthetic appeal. For more information and the official contest rules and photo guidelines, visit calparks.org/photocontest. ★

Ask
DR. UNIVERSE

How do turtles get their shells?

– Malachi, 8, New York

Dear Malachi,

Sometimes animated turtles seem to live inside their shells like it’s a tiny home. They may even hop out of the shell and run around.

That’s funny in cartoons and games, but my friend Ryan Wagner told me it could never happen in real life. He’s a wildlife biologist at Washington State University. He studies animals like turtles and frogs.

It turns out that a turtle’s shell doesn’t sit on top of its body. It’s part of the turtle’s body.

“Turtles are their shells,” Wagner said. “The shell is made up of their bones. As the turtle grows, its shell grows along with it—just like our bones do.”

Also like our bones, a turtle’s shell forms when the turtle is an embryo. That’s when it’s still inside the egg. The shell starts out soft and hardens as the baby turtle grows.

The bones of a turtle’s shell are similar to the ones we have. The shell is the turtle’s backbone and rib cage with the collarbone, shoulder bones and pelvic bones tucked inside. A turtle’s rib bones are wide and flat. They’re fused together to form a solid shell.

The shell has two parts. The helmet-like dome that covers the back is the carapace. The bony plate that covers the belly is the plastron.

The carapace and plastron are connected along the turtle’s sides. Its head and front legs stick out the front. Its tail and back legs stick out the rear. All the turtle’s mushy organs are sandwiched between the carapace and plastron.

The bones of the shell have a protective covering. In many turtles, it’s made of keratin plates called scutes. Keratin is the same protein that’s in our hair and toenails. Some turtles have a leathery covering instead.

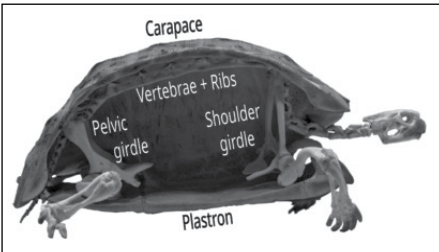
Some turtles can pull their head and legs into their shells. They have a hinged plastron that flexes up and down. They use their muscles to pull their whole body inside. Then they squeeze the carapace and plastron together to make a tight seal.

That’s super handy for protecting turtles from predators. But it can be tough for scientists who study them.

“In college, I had a job clipping box turtles’ toenails,” Wagner said. “We used the toenail samples to determine how stressed the turtles were. But they would pull their legs and head inside and clamp up—and there’s basically no grip that you can get with your hands to try to pull the shell open.”

A turtle’s shell is sensitive. It houses the spinal cord and lots of nerves. So, turtles can feel anything that touches their shell.

Wagner told me that turtles are quite vulnerable to shell injuries and



This is what a turtle’s skeleton looks like. Scientists think ancient turtle ancestors evolved the belly part (plastron) before the back part (carapace). That adaptation maybe helped them live underground or underwater. Image: Ian Alexander CC BY-SA 4.0



Soft-shelled turtles (right) have leathery skin covering their shells. Image: Clunio CC BY-SA 3.0

other threats, like habitat loss or overharvesting. “Turtles are in trouble,” he said. “There are about 350 species of turtles, found on every continent except Antarctica. About half of them are at risk of extinction. Some consider them to be the most endangered group of vertebrates in the world. They need our help.”

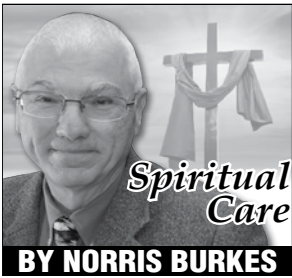
The best way to help is to admire wild turtles from a distance and protect their homes. And never release a pet turtle into the wild.

Together we can protect these spe-shell animals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

Chaplain Finds His Real Church



Spiritual Care
BY NORRIS BURKES

In 1991, I made a career shift from Southern Baptist pastor to interfaith hospital chaplain.

A close colleague was so concerned about my “apostasy” that he promised he would help me find a new church if I ever “returned to the ministry.”

“I’m not leaving ministry,” I said. “Hospital chaplaincy is still ‘the ministry!’”

As most of you know, I went on to serve 25 years of ministry in both military and hospital chaplaincy.

But during those years, I promised myself that if I ever returned to the pastorate, I’d change at least four things from my previous churches.

In October 2022, I took the chance to test my ideas when I accepted the pastor role at Community Church of Nevada City, Ca. (300 Main St.)

The first change I made in my approach was to lay off guilt-inducing parishioners into attending every church service. I want our church to be a place where people seek to restore what’s broken before they return to life.

I told them that church can’t just be our destination. It must become an effort to live “church” outside the walls, visiting the sick, housing the homeless and sheltering the refugee.

Second, I’d promised to lay off the money guilt trip. The Pastor Norris of

the 90’s asked members to give their entire charity dollar to the church. In my new pastor role, I remind folks of our duty to also clothe the poor, feed the hungry and bring justice to the oppressed.

My wife says I became a preacher because I couldn’t sit still in the pew. Therefore, my third change has been to redesign nearly everything about the Sunday service around people who need movement to learn.

I preach interactive sermons where people can respond or even disagree. We’ve injected movement and response into the Lord’s Supper, using individual stations where people experience the sounds, smells and tastes of Jesus’ teaching.

I’ve done away with the loud music that isolates worshippers and keeps them from acknowledging those around them.

We still use some hymns, but I challenge folks to understand their meaning. I’ve even inserted a few secular songs that encourage people to extend God’s work outside the church.

Finally, my biggest change is trying to preach R-E-A-L sermons.

R – relevant. I still preach the traditional stories of Samson, Moses, and the virgin birth, but I try to make those stories relevant to today’s life. I’ll compare Samson’s failure of strength to times my strength has failed me. I tell how Moses dealt with the rejection of his own people. And I talk about a young couple who must have been scared to death with their first child.

E – empathetic. I try to demonstrate that I not only

understand the people but feel their hurt. As I return to preaching again, I tell modern stories that show an appreciation for the pain that life can put us through and the thrills it can immerse us in.

A – authentic. Pastoring again challenges me to share more of my own failures and heartbreaks. I try to admit the contradiction I feel between personal fear and the Scriptural admonition for us not to be afraid.

I even share the defeat I feel over unanswered prayers and my frustration in loving the unlovable.

L – language. A friend of my mine told me he would recognize a real church if he heard the pastor say “damn” once in a while.

OK, no, I haven’t started cussing from the pulpit, but I do work harder to communicate in everyday language. I avoid trying to prove I graduated from seminary with words like Christology, eschatology and ecclesiology.

If my old friend ever reads this, he’ll likely regret his offer to help me find a new church. But for now, my real church is growing a bit as we all gather for a safe place to explore our faith.

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.net.

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

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More Winegrape Farmers Navigate Season
Without Guaranteed Buyers

Amid a global downturn in wine consumption, an increasing number of California winegrape growers are cultivating their crops without a winery contract this season. Without a guaranteed buyer, Sacramento County farmer Max Francesconi is focused on maintaining grape quality while carefully managing costs. “We are doing our best to keep expenses down,” Francesconi told Ag Alert® in a field report. “We made minor adjustments to save a bit of money but still keep up the quality. You still have to do your preventative maintenance and keep it growing and keep high-quality grapes on the vine so you could market them towards the end of the year.”

Tulare County Dairy Rebounds after
Recovering from Bird Flu

At least one dairy in Tulare County has made a full recovery this summer, a year after many in the region suffered losses from bird flu. Blake Wilbur, whose Tulare dairy has 1,600 milking Jersey cows, saw about a 25% reduction in milk production over a two- to three-week period last fall. “We, fortunately, did not lose many, if any, cows. Dairies with Holsteins suffered worse, and those that got bird flu during the summer heat fared much worse,” Wilbur said, noting that his dairy’s milk production had not only returned to normal this year but surpassed last year’s levels, likely due to favorable weather. “Our cows have bounced back,” Wilbur told Ag Alert® in a field report.

Farmer Harvests Bountiful Blueberry
Crop in Mendocino County

Mendocino County farmer Taylor Serres Murnig reported harvesting a bountiful blueberry crop in late June and early July. “We had some of the best quality we’ve seen in the past couple years,” Serres Murnig told Ag Alert® in a field report. The fresh-market blueberry season typically lasts two to three weeks, or four weeks with perfect weather. This year, hot weather on the North Coast shortened Serres Murnig’s harvest period, she said, adding that the farm had enough long-time employees to harvest the crop during the short window. “You’re having that dance with Mother Nature,” she said, “and she is always in the lead.”

New Resource Aims to Help
Aging Farmers Plan For Succession

Nearly half of California farmers are 65 and older, and many have yet to plan for what happens to their farms when they retire. For those without family heirs, that decision can be especially complex. A new set of resources from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, aims to help those producers explore options for succession so that farmland can stay in production and continue supporting local communities. “We are seeing more and more farmers and ranchers who have not identified an heir or person they’re expecting to pass the farm or ranch onto,” Nebraska Extension educator Jessica Groskopf said. “A lot of resources for succession focus on the next generation, but the reality is that for many of these folks that doesn’t apply.” ★

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Parks & Recreation Commission Elects Chair

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The City of Dixon Parks & Recreation Commission convened for its regular meeting at 7 p.m. July 22 in the council chambers, covering a broad range of items, primarily leadership elections and infrastructure planning.

The meeting opened with introductions of newly appointed commissioners, led by Public Works director Louren Kotow. Kotow introduced four new commissioners: Mary Taylor, Shannon Ripple, Kyle Esquer and student representative Tyler Collins.

“I just want to say, I have been involved with the city, specifically the pool, for most of my life, so it is really cool that I get to be a part of changing stuff around here,” said Collins.

Following this, Economic Development manager and public information officer Madeline Graf presented updates to the city's parks website and revised park maps aimed at improving public access to recreation information.

As part of its annual organizational tasks, the Parks & Recreation Commission elected its leadership for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Public Works Administrative Clerk Linda Babb led a presentation to discuss the annual election. The chair position was vacated earlier this year when former Chair Commissioner Angelic Villalpando moved out of city limits. Commissioner Charles King, who had been serving as vice chair, assumed the chair role in the interim.

Without a current chair, Vice-Chair Ronald Butts filled in regarding the election. Commissioner DeAnna Cabrera was nominated and unanimously elected as the acting vice-chair. Butts was also nominated and unanimously voted in as the acting chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Recreation manager Austin George presented a proposal for relocating a bike rack previously displaced by a ping pong table installation at Bowen Park in the Homestead Development. Several potential new locations were identified based on foot traffic, ease of installation and minimal disruption.

A PowerPoint at the meeting outlined the recommended sites, including Jim B. Stevens Arena, the Senior/Multi-use Center and three options near Hall Park BBQ area II. The Parks & Recreation Commission was tasked with making a final recommendation. According to George, Jim B. Stevens Arena will most likely be the location with the most bike traffic.

“Yup, lots of bike traffic. You see bikes out there lying in the grass all the time,” said George.

Public Works staff provided updates on park maintenance and recreation activities.

Recreation manager George first discusses changes implemented at Pat Grannucci Aquatic Center, 450 E. Mayes St., including color coding swim lesson classes, the check-in process in

the pool’s office and additional swim lesson training for staff. These adjustments have created more ease of use for both citizens and officials, according to George. The fall pool schedule has also been released.

Kotow led the park maintenance and improvements discussion. She primarily elaborated on the City of Dixon’s joint-use agreement with the Dixon Unified School District. No public comment was received during the non-agenda item portion of the meeting.

“It’s an attempt to make the best of facilities that we have in this city,” said Kotow. “So, city-owned facilities can be used by the school district and school district facilities can be used by the city under certain terms.”

The Parks & Recreation Commission unanimously approved the June 24 meeting minutes, during which outgoing Commissioner Kimberly Moses was recognized and a donated memorial bench was approved for the recently-named Officer Matthew Bowen Memorial Park. Commission members also voted to recommend that the City Council officially proclaim July as Parks and Recreation Month.

The meeting concluded with the announcement that the next regular commission meeting will be at 7 p.m. Aug. 26 in the City Hall council chambers, 600 E. A St.

For more information on upcoming projects and community events, visit cityofdixonca.gov or call 707-678-7000.

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 23

0612 - Suspicious Vehicle Evans Road at Woodard Way. Daniel Tirado-Ibarra (43) of Dixon was arrested for possession of controlled substances and controlled substances paraphernalia. He was cited and released at the Dixon Police Department.

1546 - Court Order violation 1400 block Nut Tree Avenue.

1550 - Agency Assist for Child Welfare Services 600 block North Second Street.

2013 - Confidential report taken in the 400 block of Berkshire Drive.

2311 - Report of a shooting in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive resulted in the arrest to Jorge Campos (34) of Dixon for assault with a deadly weapon and shooting into an inhabited dwelling. He was taken to county jail.

Tuesday, July 22

1002 - A traffic collision report was taken in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.

1158 - A court order violation report was taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

Monday, July 21

1020 - A hit and run report was taken in the 1300 block of Commercial Way.

1229 - An attempt kidnapping and burglary report was taken at 1100 Newgate Way. (S) Angel Alvarez-Canchola (44) was contacted and arrested. The suspect was transported to the Solano County Jail and released to their staff.

1229 - A theft report was taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

1355 - A vandalism report was taken in the 200 block of North Washington Street.

1946 - Confidential report taken in the 1600 block of Bello Drive.

0326 - Minor injury single vehicle accident reported in the 500 block of Morgan Lane.

Sunday, July 20

0927 - An informational report was taken in the 1200 block of Cornell Court.

1045 - A court order violation report was taken in the 100 block of South First Street.

2046 - Found property report taken at the Police Department.

Saturday, July 19

0629 - Officers responded to the 900 Block of Pembroke Drive regarding an unknown vehicle parked in the reporting party’s driveway. Armando Lizarraga (37) of Dixon was contacted and arrested for possession of narcotics for sale.

1021 - A Court Order Violation Report at the Dixon Police Department.

1936 - Felony domestic violence report in the 1000 block of Watson Ranch Way. Suspect Flavio Murillo-Ortiz (44-year-old, out of Dixon) was arrested and booked into Solano County Jail.

2221 - Public intoxication arrest in the 100 block of South First Street. Suspect Gerardo Villaseñor (26-year-old, out of Dixon) was arrested and taken to Solano County Jail.

2221 - Death investigation in the 100 block of South First Street. Decedent was released to the coroner’s office.

2221 - Assault with a deadly weapon report in the 100 block of South First Street.

Friday, July 18

1121 - An anonymous Reporting Party reported seeing an unknown male hit a female juvenile in her mouth in the 600 block of North Second Street. A welfare check on the juvenile was performed, and she was found to be in good health. She stated she had not seen her dad since the day prior, and no signs of abuse were observed on her person. Report taken for informational purposes.

1252 - Found property report taken in the lobby.

1506 - A hit-and-run traffic collision involving a gray Dodge RAM rear-ended the victim’s red Honda sedan. Surveillance footage of the incident revealed the suspect’s truck to be a Dodge Ram out of Winters.

1735 - Subject was taken into protective custody pursuant to 5150 W&IC for being a danger to themself.

2100 - Theft report taken in the 1500 block of Eisenhower Street.

Thursday, July 17

1130 - Alan Epperson (38) of Dixon and Guadalupe Pardes (40) of Dixon were contacted in the 200 block of North Second Street and arrested for outstanding warrants.

1540 - Vandalism report in the 400 block of West F Street.

1608 - Stolen vehicle recovered in the area of EB Interstate 80 and Pederick Road.

2235 - 25850 PC, Carry a concealed firearm arrest at the intersection of West A Street and South Jackson Street. Suspect Cervando Lopez (39-year-old, out of Woodland, CA) was arrested for carrying a loaded firearm, concealed in his vehicle, without a concealed weapons permit. (S) Lopez was transported to Solano County Jail and booked.

0024 - Found property report taken in the 1500 block of Eisenhower Street.

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