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Dixon Independent Voice

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

AUGUST 29, 2025

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OF BOOKS**

By Amy Shane



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Exchange Students Settle into Life



From left, Kim Schroeder-Evans and Kelly Evans are hosting Jeanne Remacle and Francesca Ballini in their home for the time being. The host family gets along well and intends on going to Disneyland soon. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Two high school students from Europe have begun a year-long stay in Dixon through the American Field Service (AFS) foreign exchange program, marking the first time the city has hosted American Field Service students since 2017.

According to Kim Schroeder-Evans, President of the Dixon Historical Society, it is an exciting experience.

"I think it's exciting because I've been a student, a host sister and now a host parent," said Schroeder-Evans.

"I still keep in touch with my Belgian host family, my AFS sister from Denmark and my AFS cousin who lived with my family in Winters."

Francesca Ballini, from northern Italy, and Jeanne Remacle, from the French-speaking region of Belgium, arrived in August and are currently attending Dixon High School while living with local host parents Kim and Kelly.

"I've wanted to do an exchange since I was 11," said Ballini. "My mom's cousin works for AFS and we thought it was the best agency for this kind of experience."

Remacle learned about this

opportunity through school.

"I thought this would make me really independent," Remacle said. "If I can do this, I can go anywhere. I chose AFS because it seemed like the best option."

Both students said school life in the U.S. is vastly different from their home countries.

"We don't usually have homework in Belgium," said Remacle. "And I was surprised that people knew where Belgium was and what the capital is."

Ballini noted the differences in teacher-student relationships.

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Council Reviews Cannabis Business Policies

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon City Council members considered possible updates to the local cannabis business policies at their Aug. 18 regular meeting.

As a pilot program, cannabis businesses do not have permanent status under city code. The existing businesses, two retail and one manufacturing, operate under Development Agreements (DA) with the city. City attorney Douglas White said all the current businesses are in good standing and have worked well with the city.

Current allowable cannabis uses include retail, manufacturing, cultivation, distribution and laboratory, and the city has limits on how many of each type is allowed.

Signage regulations currently allow the business name and logo along with the hours and contact information. Images displaying cannabis leaves or plants, consumption devices or designs appealing to youth are prohibited.

The city does not have any specific advertising regulations, so the businesses are subject to the state's rules regarding display of state license numbers and no images to attract use by minors.

While the city encourages businesses to have permanent structures, temporary structures are currently allowed under the development agreements.

Security efforts at the businesses have been successful but the city aims to improve the financial and operational audits, as well as implement stings to identify illegal operations competing with the legal businesses.

Measure K was passed by voters in 2016, allowing the City Council to impose a business license tax up to 15% of gross sales by cannabis businesses, on top of the current sales tax rate. White said the default tax would be an important enforcement tool against illegal operators, such as delivery services that are not authorized to sell within Dixon.

The existing businesses are not subject to that 15% default tax, because they have specific public benefit fund rates set by their individual development agreements. The retail operations are required to provide a minimum monthly payment to the city of 5% of gross sales or \$30,000, whichever is higher. Those public benefit fees go into the city's General Fund and support two positions in the fire department and three positions in the police department.

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La Cocina Joins Battle Against Breast Cancer

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - La Cocina Mexican Restaurant will host a community fundraiser, Tacos for Ta-Tas, from noon to 8 p.m. Sept. 8 in support of Jessica McCafferty, a Dixon mother currently battling breast cancer.

The event, organized by long-time friend and restaurant owner Nayely Salcedo, will feature special menu items, raffles and themed pink drinks. Fifteen percent of the day's proceeds will go directly to McCafferty to help with medical and living expenses during her treatment.

"I've known Jessica since sixth-grade," said Salcedo. "She's always felt like an older sister to me. This is important because we're close with the McCafferty family and just want to give her a little peace of mind."

La Cocina has been a family-run business in



La Cocina Mexican Restaurant, owned by Nayely Salcedo (pictured) and her family, will host a community fundraiser, Tacos for Ta-Tas, from noon to 8 p.m. Sept. 8 in support of Jessica McCafferty, a Dixon mother currently battling breast cancer. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Dixon for 15 years alongside Nayely Salcedo's parents, Leticia and Marco Salcedo.

According to Nayely Salcedo, the family was inspired to act after seeing the challenges that

McCafferty's diagnosis placed on her and her loved ones.

The Sept. 8 event will include several themed specials: taco flights with six mini street tacos served in a heart-shaped box,

"Dinner for Two Fajitas" featuring steak, chicken and shrimp, and two signature pink cocktails, the Pink Señorita Margarita and the Pink Whitney Spritz. Taco Trays will also

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Dixon News Briefs

Council Reviews Cannabis Business Policies

Continued from page 1

Additionally, the state recently increased taxes on cannabis businesses, going from 15% up to 19%, which went into effect in July. White said this is impacting local businesses, which are dealing with decreased sales and increased competition from illegal operations.

The development agreements are expiring, so before new ones are drafted, White asked whether council recommended any changes to the established policies.

Dixon Wellness CEO Haley Andrew spoke during public comment, stating that her retail cannabis business has always been a good partner to the city and operated with full transparency. In their seven years in business here, Dixon Wellness has contributed nearly \$5 million to the General Fund. However, Andrew said, the cannabis industry is facing significant challenges, with increased competition, declining sales revenue and higher state taxes.

Andrew said that the minimum monthly public benefit payment required by the city cannot be supported by current sales. She requested that their development agreements be updated to reflect current business realities. A lower, more sustainable rate would allow the business to keep their doors open, she said.

Richard Ferguson also spoke on behalf of Dixon Wellness, explaining that a pound of cannabis could sell for \$3,000 to \$4,000 when they first opened in 2018. However, now the price per pound has plummeted to \$400 to \$600.

"As prices have collapsed, so has the stability of our industry," he said.

Cannabis sales are down 60% across the state, so Ferguson requested that the council allow them to conduct deliveries in order to remain competitive and increase sales.

Many residents spoke in support of Dixon Wellness, echoing the requests to reduce the mandatory monthly payments and allow delivery.

One resident said that she and many other customers are elderly and in poor health, including some with significant mobility issues, so a delivery option would help support their needs.

Residents and other local

business owners said that the high monthly payments are essentially taxing these businesses out of business. They urged the council to select fair and reasonable levels of taxation.

Others warned that if these businesses close down, the customers will have to purchase cannabis through the black market, compromising the safety of the users as well as the community at large.

City Attorney White clarified that the retail cannabis businesses are legally allowed to deliver but they have to meet certain conditions, including having a certain number of vehicles. He added that the current public benefit fee is one of the lowest in the area. And because that collected revenue supports police and fire staff positions, reducing the mandatory minimum would likely impact the city's budget.

During council discussion, they reached a consensus to maintain the status as a pilot program, along with continuing all allowable uses and signage and advertising policies with no change. They also agreed to yearly financial and physical audits, a phased approach to requiring permanent structures, and random stings to identify illegal operations.

The council supported implementing the 15% default tax for any operators doing business in the city without a development agreement, adjusting the requirements to allow for retail delivery, and updating the public benefit fund mandatory monthly minimum payment to either 5% of gross sales or \$15,000, whichever is higher.

Councilmember Kevin Johnson requested retroactive implementation of the change to the public benefit payment, suggesting that it go back to April. He said the development agreements expired months ago and had to be temporarily extended. Johnson said the delay in the city meeting their responsibility to update these agreements should not negatively impact the businesses when they are already struggling financially.

"I think that's on us," Johnson said.

The council compromised by agreeing to a retroactive implementation of July 1, 2025, which is the beginning of the current fiscal year.

Next, council

considered a contract with Lionakis for additional design review for the Fire Station 82 Project, which is planned for construction in the southeast corner of Dixon to improve response times to that side of the city.

Staff requested a budget amendment to cover the cost of the contract, which would not exceed \$16,750.

Johnson said the city has \$3.5 million allocated for the fire station project, which was initially expected to cost between \$6 million and \$7 million. The estimate has increased over the years and is now up to \$9.2 million.

"I'm not interested in budgeting any more money," said Johnson. "I'd rather it come out of the existing funds that are there. ... It's not an unlimited well that we're going into."

Vice-Mayor Thom Bogue didn't understand why another review of the plans was necessary at this time.

City Manager Jim Lindley explained, "We've taken another look at it and are trying to reduce the footprint a little bit and make it to where it's more affordable."

Councilmember Don Hendershot said there had been too many delays on this project: "We need to get going on this."

A resident who lives in that area said it has taken much too long to get the new station built. He said, "This needs to happen."

The contract was approved 3-2, with Johnson and Bogue dissenting.

Finally, staff requested approval of a \$27,600 budget amendment to hire Probolsky Research to conduct a community survey to determine residents' priorities as well as satisfaction levels with existing city services.

Bogue said he wasn't sure why this needed to be done now, when the city has not yet met all the goals outlined from past surveys.

Johnson said there "is a lot going on" in the community and priorities can change over time, so it's important to hear from as many people as possible.

The contract was approved 4-1, with Bogue dissenting.

The next Dixon City Council meeting is scheduled for Sept. 2. ★



GRACE KIDS CLUB
GRADES K-5TH
WED 6:30-8:00 PM

Grace Fellowship Church of Dixon is kicking off Grace Kids Club with a Praise Party at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 3. Held at the church, 535 W. H St., children in kindergarten to fifth-grade are invited to explore and learn about the Bible among friends and peers. Photo by Kendall Brown

By MPG Staff

Kiwanis Club Open House

Kiwanis Club of Dixon is hosting an open house from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sept. 8. Held at Joystick Gaming Lounge, 420 Gateway Dr., Suite C, the club invites Dixonites to learn about the schools, opportunities that Kiwanis Club offers students, and how citizens can get involved with Kiwanis and the community. This free event will also have an address from keynote speaker and Superintendent of Dixon Unified School District (DUSD), Brett Barley. Appetizers will be provided.

For more information, visit dixonchamber.org or call 707-635-3303.

Dixon Chamber Connections Networking

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 4. This free in-person event, held at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, allows local professionals to connect. Offering a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring business cards.

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

Comedy Night with Dixon Family Services

Dixon Family Services is hosting a comedy night in honor of its 40th anniversary from 6 to 10 p.m. Sept. 27. Held at Olde Vet's Hall, 231 N. First St., the event offers a no-host bar, dessert auction and dinner catered by Bud's Pub & Grill for \$65 per ticket. Tickets are on sale now.

For more information, visit givebutter.com/DFScomedy or call 707-678-0442.

DMCS 20TH Anniversary

Dixon Montessori Charter School is hosting a 20th anniversary celebration from 4 to 7 p.m. Sept. 13. Held on school grounds, 355 N. Almond St., the free event offers families food, limited anniversary swag, prizes and live entertainment.

For more information, visit the Dixon Montessori Charter School Facebook page or call 707-678-8953.

Concerts in the Plaza

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce hosts Concerts in the Plaza from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sept. 4. The free event, hosted at Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St. features the Alive Music Orchestra (AMO). Founded almost 30 years ago by the late Vacaville trumpeter and music director Keith Stout, AMO is Solano County's Big Band Jazz ensemble. Folding chairs and picnic

blankets are recommended, but alcohol is not allowed as per city ordinance.

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

Teen Meet and Greet with Brett Barley

Dixon Library will host a special teen meet and greet with Dixon Unified School District Superintendent Brett Barley from 4 to 5 p.m. Sept. 10. Held at the library, 230 N. First St., the event is open to youths aged 10 to 18. Registration is recommended but not required to attend.

For more information about September events at the library, visit solanolibrary.com or call 1-866-572-7587.

Dixon-Based Community Transportation Workshop

The City of Dixon, in partnership with Solano Transportation Authority (STA) and Solano Mobility, is hosting a community transportation workshop from 4 to 6 p.m. Sept. 9. Held in City Hall, 600 E. A St., Dixonites are invited to learn more about proposed transportation solutions affecting local transit.

For more information, visit solanomobility.org/dixoncbtp/ or call 707-678-2650.

Grace Kids Club

Grace Fellowship Church of Dixon is kicking off Grace Kids Club with a Praise Party at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 3. Held at the church, 535 W. H St., kids from kindergarten to 5th grade are invited to explore and learn about the bible among friends and peers. The club meets every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. during the school year. Registration is free.

For more information, visit gracefellow.com or call 707-678-5700.

Dixon High School Football

The Dixon High School Rams Football Team is traveling for its first away game of the season Aug. 29. Hosted at Winters High School, 909 Grant Ave., games will begin at 5:15 p.m. for Junior Varsity and 7 p.m. for Varsity. The Rams will take on the Winters Warriors.

For more information, visit dixonrams.com or call 707-693-6330.

VFW Upcoming Meeting

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8151 will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 17. 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. ★

Exchange Students Settle into Life

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"In Europe, we have to be professional with our teachers. But here, they ask about our weekends and how our day is. That was so weird at first but cool for me," Ballini said.

The girls also commented on the cultural surprises they've encountered, such as Remacle trying a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for the first time or Ballini's introduction to cheerleading.

"I tried a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for the first time," said Remacle. "I thought it would be disgusting but it's actually really good."

Ballini joined the cheerleading team, something

she had dreamed of since seeing American high schools in TV shows.

"It's the dream of all Italian girls," said Ballini.

Their host parents, Kim and Kelly Evans, said the process of becoming a host family was thorough.

"You fill out an extensive application, go through interviews and background checks," explained Kim. "We specifically asked for two students and were matched with Remacle and Ballini. We felt we had similar interests."

Evans and Schroeder-Evans are both well-versed in this role, Evans having spent the first 22 years of his life in the United Kingdom and

Schroeder-Evans having previous experiences and relationships with the American Field Service program.

The girls will stay in Dixon through June. In the coming weeks, they'll join other American Field Service students on a white-water rafting trip and travel to Disneyland with their host family.

Residents interested in hosting or studying abroad can learn more at afsusa.org or by contacting local coordinator Carol McCauley.

"It's a volunteer-based program," said Kim Schroeder-Evans. "We open our hearts and homes and it's life-changing for everyone involved." ★

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Messenger Publishing Group

Crowds Take a Stroll

Story by Kendall Brown and photos by Nicolas Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Downtown Dixon welcomed hundreds of visitors Aug. 23 for the annual Wine and Art Stroll, featuring more than 20 wineries, dozens of artists, live music and participation from local businesses throughout the community.

The event, organized by the Downtown Dixon Business Association (DDBA), marked its third year and saw higher attendance numbers compared to 2024's edition.

"I am so absolutely pleased with this event," said Downtown Dixon Business Association President Jill Orr. "We were concerned about the heat but we had some amazing wineries, the businesses are doing well and sales have doubled from last year."

Attendees picked up their glasses and maps at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, where a deejay and food truck set the tone for the evening. Both the Chamber of Commerce and Pardi Plaza acted as check-in points. From there, visitors strolled block to block, tasting wines from throughout

Northern California and viewing art displays curated by local and regional artists.

Throughout the stroll, more than 22 local businesses were highlighted, including Cynde's Place, The Farmer's Tan, First Northern Bank, Barrett-Leber Realty, Dawson's Bar & Grill, Avila Flooring, The Pip Wine Bar, Answer Home Loans, Bobtail Apparel, Uptown Collective, and Frosty's. Additional downtown businesses include Algood Ink, Vida Saloon, Bud's Pub & Grill, Downtown Classic Tattoo, Dixon History Museum, The Venue, Nino's Cut & Shave, The Johnson Group/Remax, Almond Tree Mortgage, Farmstead at Dixon and Lewis Homes.

"This is an exciting event," said Angela Meissenheimer, representing Remark International. "It's so much fun with everyone walking around, mingling and enjoying what downtown has to offer."

Said Raquel McMullen of Answer Home Loans, "It's a good event. We're long-time Dixonites and we just moved to this location. It has been the three of us, Kiffany Hoffman,



Downtown Dixon welcomed hundreds of visitors on Aug. 23 for the annual Wine and Art Stroll, featuring more than 20 wineries, dozens of artists, live music and participation from local businesses. Downtown Dixon Business Association President Jill Orr gave out maps and commemorative glasses at Pardi Plaza as attendees checked in. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Cande Torres and myself, for six years now."

And Madison Lowrie, owner of Bobtail Apparel, said, "It brings something different. We're a farming community

and a small town, so it's nice to see a lot of new faces stop in."

A handful of wineries were there, including Tolenas Winery from Suisun, Sally Paddock's Redbank Winery from Australia, Collina De Bella Winery from Winters and Dwelley Family Wines, which is building a Dixon location.

"We're a winery coming into downtown right off 113 at the end of the year," Jack Dwelley said.

Participating businesses offered wine tastings, raffles and merchandise.

"It's fun. There's no other way to say it," said Greg Orr of Dawson's Bar and Grill. "People are gonna come in here and have a happy day. By the end of the night, they'll be glad they came."

Said Nino Tomelloso, owner of Nino's, "It's an awesome event. We enjoy doing it and partner every year. I love it. I love that everyone comes through and hangs out."

Ernie Ortiz, an artist representing Rough Ride Tattoo Parlor in Vacaville, had similar sentiments.

"I think it's cool," Ortiz said.

"They bring the community together and it lets us get some exposure for our shop. I love networking."

Some vendors, such as Peter Moore of Sally's Paddock Redbank Winery, participated solely to support the community.

"We do charity and events because we're not commercial," Moore said. "We put our time and wine in to support them. Usually, we leave a bottle when we go."

The event also highlights newer businesses, such as Downtown Classic Tattoos, which, according to owner Jay Powell, moved to Dixon about a year ago.

"I'd say I'm honored," Powell said.

For first-time and returning visitors alike, the event offered a blend of small-town charm and regional flavor.

"I think it's a great event that helps a lot of the community," said Ramtown Karate owner Jim Ernest. "The DDBA came up with this, it's a great idea and it gets better every year. It brings people downtown to meet each other and take in our local businesses."

For more information about future events, visit downtowndixonca.com or call 916-416-2876. ★



A handful of wineries were in attendance, such as Tolenas Winery from Suisun, Sally Paddock's Redbank Winery from Australia, Collina De Bella Winery from Winters and Dwelley Family Wines, which is building a Dixon location. Photo by Nicolas Brown

La Cocina Joins Battle Against Breast Cancer



The Sept. 8 event will have several specials themed around breast cancer awareness, including taco flights in heart-shaped boxes, "Dinner for Two Fajitas" and two signature pink cocktails, the Pink Señorita Margarita and the Pink Whitney Spritz. Fifteen percent of all proceeds throughout the day will benefit Jessica McCafferty. Photo courtesy of Freepik

Continued from page 1
be \$5 off throughout the day.

"We're also decorating the outside with pink balloons for photo ops," said Salcedo. "The entire day is themed around support and awareness."

A raffle will be held featuring a gift basket filled with donations from local businesses, including A-List Boutique, owned by Andrea Aguilera, and other Dixon-area favorites. Tickets can be purchased

in person at the restaurant with cash or via Venmo and the winner will be announced the following day, Sept. 9.

"If any small business would like to donate an item or sponsor a prize, we'd love the support," said Salcedo. "We're still accepting donations."

The event's slogan, "No One Fights Alone," reflects the community's effort to stand beside McCafferty.

"As moms, as women,

we need to support each other," said Salcedo. "This isn't just about raising money; it's about raising love, raising spirits, and raising strength."

For donation questions or raffle details, visit the La Cocina Mexicana Facebook page and send a message. For more information, call 707-693-1102.

La Cocina Mexican Restaurant is at 105 E. Dorset Dr., Suite A, Dixon. ★

West Nile Virus Detection

Solano County Mosquito Abatement District News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - On Aug. 15, the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District (SCMAD) detected West Nile virus in mosquitoes near Robben Road in Dixon.

Residents are urged to inspect their properties for standing water and take precautions to avoid mosquito bites, including using EPA-registered repellents containing DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or IR3535.

Solano County Mosquito Abatement District technicians are conducting targeted control efforts in the area and will continue monitoring to reduce mosquito populations and prevent further transmission.

A mosquito becomes infected by biting a bird with West Nile virus, then spreads it by biting a person. Most people show no symptoms. Some may develop a fever, headaches, or body aches.

Severe cases can lead to hospitalization or, in rare instances, death.

If symptoms occur, contact your healthcare provider.

Older adults are most at risk and individuals with chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, or kidney disease.



On Aug. 15, the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District (SCMAD) detected West Nile virus in mosquitoes near Robben Road in Dixon. This map highlights the primary area of concern. Photo courtesy of Solano County Mosquito Abatement District

To prevent West Nile Virus, eliminate standing water; empty flowerpots, buckets, pet dishes, and old tires; clean bird baths and pet bowls weekly; avoid over-watering lawns and gardens.

It's important to fix leaks, repair broken sprinkler heads and leaky faucets. Secure your home by checking window and door screens for holes and proper fit. Maintain pools & ponds, keep pools clean and circulating. Free mosquito fish may be requested for neglected pools, ponds, or water troughs.

The Solano County Mosquito Abatement District has served the community since 1930, covering

over 900 square miles of both incorporated and unincorporated areas of Solano County.

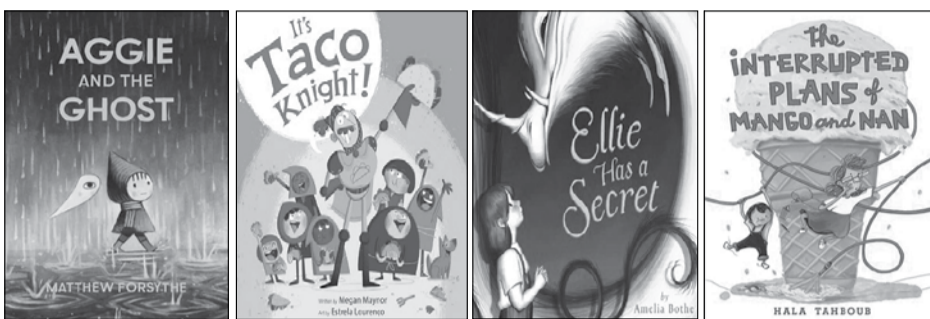
SCMAD works to protect public health by reducing the risk of mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile virus. Through surveillance, public education, and environmentally responsible treatments, the district helps keep mosquito populations under control and improves quality of life for Solano County residents.

To contact the district, call (707)437-1116, email solmad@solanomosquito.com or visit www.solanomosquito.com. Sign up for email notifications at www.solanomosquito.com/stay-in-touch and follow us on Instagram. ★



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

New Children's Books for the End of Summer



Aggie and The Ghost

by Matthew Forsythe; Simon and Schuster

Aggie was so excited to live in a home all by herself. The only problem was that the house was haunted. While the Ghost was friendly, Aggie decided that the Ghost needed some rules. However, the Ghost did not like rules and was intent on breaking them. Now the only way they can solve the problem is a game of tic-tac-toe; the winner gets to stay in the house. All day and all night they played, but who will win the house?

An adorable story of friendship and a little haunting. Aggie the Ghost is a charming read that teaches readers the power of friendship and the importance of understanding and compromise.

It's Taco Knight

by Megan Maynor

and Estrela Lourenco, Clarion Books

In a Kingdom of people who had no time to cook, the Knights of Dinner are here to save the day. Every night, a different Knight cooked for the people. Sometimes it was Pizza Knight, Soup Knight, or even Leftover Knight, and while it worked, some were bored and not everyone's favorite. Then a new knight arrived, Taco Knight, and the people loved him, and even celebrated him. He quickly became everyone's favorite Dimmer Knight. But what happens when every night becomes taco night??

A hilarious turn on dinner, friendship, empathy, and finding where you belong. Taco Knight is a fun story for children and

adults, making dinner the new celebrated mealtime.

Ellie has a Secret

by Amelia Bother Clarion Books

When Ellie takes a small shell from the sandbox at school, she never expects to find a curious creature inside. Ellie's little secret grew and grew and grew until it started to weigh her down. What will Ellie do with her secret?

This beautifully illustrated story will pull readers right into the story of Ellie and her secret, teaching readers the powerful hold that even a small secret can have on them.

The Interrupted Plans of Mango and Nan

by Hala Tahboub Clarion Books

Mango and his grandma Nan had big plans for the day, that included ice cream and waffle cones. But their plans quickly got interrupted by a small plop, plop, plop. Mango was so sad, but quickly came up with a plan, and they were off. Along the way, they had many distractions, and all too soon, Mango's plan went awry. Will Mango ever get his ice cream, or will their plans be derailed entirely?

In a story of problem-solving and ice cream, readers will delight in this charming story.

A fun, adventurous read that is full of summer-time excitement and lots and lots of water. Perfect stories for grandmothers and their grandkids, and even for the classroom to discuss problem-solving skills as well as what each of us can do to help the planet. ★



A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

Getting ready for the 2025-2026 television season, the FOX network, just like its competitors, touts whatever demographic category gives them a boost. For the current season, FOX boasts of ranking as number one among the coveted Adults 18-19 class.

The network is adding six new series to its schedule, including a new one-hour comedy, a new dramatic thriller, an epic new scripted event series, and new unscripted competition series, as well as the return of an "Animation Domination" favorite.

Inspired by an award-winning Belgian film "La Memoire Du Tueur," the dramatic thriller "Memory of a Killer" is about a hitman who develops early onset dementia. Losing your memory is a blow for anyone but for Angelo Ledda (Patrick Dempsey), where the stakes couldn't be higher.

Angelo's hit man job would be perilous enough, but there's added pressure. He lives two totally separate lives – fearsome New York City assassin and sleepy upstate Cooperstown photocopier salesman and father.

Having built and maintained a brick wall between two worlds, Angelo has seamlessly juggled for years, but now that's all about to change. Alzheimer's disease is a foe he can't outrun, and with the condition running in his family, he knows too well how this ends.

Despite being resourceful, Angelo is tested when he discovers that his wife's recent death may not have been an accident. When someone comes after his pregnant daughter, it's clear the wall between his lives has been breached.

Angelo must stop whoever is coming for his family by searching his past hits for clues, and the list is very long. He must hunt down a mortal enemy while continuing to carry out hits without giving away his diagnosis.

"Memory of a Killer" is a redemptive story about a man who is losing his memory but gaining a conscience. Because Angelo knows he must stop history from repeating itself and save his family.

Starring multiple Emmy Award nominee Josh Charles ("The Good Wife"), new series "Best Medicine" is a charmingly complicated one-hour comedy based on the critically acclaimed beloved global hit "Doc Martin," a long-running British medical comedy-drama which may be found on Prime Video or Acorn TV.

The series centers on Martin Best (Charles), a brilliant surgeon who abruptly leaves his illustrious career in Boston to become the general practitioner in a quaint East Coast fishing village where he spent summers as a child.

Unfortunately, Martin's blunt and borderline rude bedside manner rubs the quirky, needy locals the wrong way,

Riley Reviews

FOX TV FALL SCHEDULE ADDS A MIX OF COMEDY, DRAMA AND UNSCRIPTED

and he quickly alienates the town, even though he's all they've got.

Martin is really desperate to be left alone, but he keeps getting dragged right smack into the middle of the townsfolk's chaos, feuds and fantasies. What the locals don't know is that his terse demeanor masks a debilitating new phobia and deep-seated psychological issues.

During Easter and Passover season next year, six-episode limited series "The Faithful" is based on The Old Testament's Book of Genesis and told through the eyes of the courageous and passionate women whose descendants would shape the faiths of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Dimensional, dramatic, intimate, even shocking, "The Faithful" is about discovering and losing love, the challenges of marriage, the joys and heartbreak of children, confronting temptation, and finding faith.

The episodes will be told through the lens of five of The Bible's most legendary women: Sarah and her former slave Hagar, Sarah's great-niece Rebekah, and Rebekah's nieces, sisters Leah and Rachel.

"99 to Beat," an unscripted series hosted by comedian Ken Jeong and sportscaster Erin Andrews, is apparently patterned after similarly-titled competition shows telecast in European nations.

One hundred contestants go head-to-head in a range of visually distinctive and hilarious games in an arced competition game show like never seen before.

"99 to Beat" is the game show anyone can win, and there's only one thing players must do for a chance of walking away with the cast prize – don't come in last place.

As contestants battle it out against each other, each round will see the number of players whittled down until only one person is left standing and they take home the top prize of \$100,000.

The hit Emmy Award-nominated "Weakest Link," hosted by Jane Lynch, returns for a new season with an all-celebrity edition, a rapid-fire quiz show in which eight celebrities compete to win up to one million dollars for the charity of their choosing.

In "Celebrity Weakest Link," the celebrities will answer general knowledge questions and bank money as a group across multiple rounds. At the end of each round, the contestants vote out who they perceive to be the weakest link.

The host sends off the person voted out with the phrase, "You are the weakest link. Goodbye." The two who make it to final round will battle it out to determine who wins the banked money for their charity.

Seth MacFarlane's classic "American Dad!" returns next year in the "Animation Domination" lineup. The animated series focuses on super patriotic CIA agent Stan Smith and the misadventures of his unconventional family. ★

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(Formerly Super 8)

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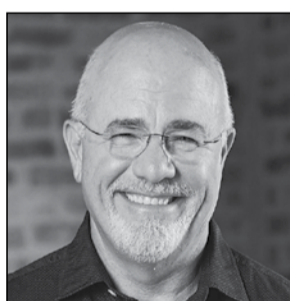


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WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS



Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,

I'm a non-traditional student in my last semester of college. In May, I'll graduate with a degree in elementary education and have a job waiting for me. It will bring our household income up to a little over \$100,000. We're already living on a budget, but the problem is we'll have \$15,000 in student loan debt to repay, plus \$5,000 in credit card debt. What should we address first?

– Marta

Dear Marta,

It sounds like all your hard work is about to pay off in a big way. And I've got some more good news for you. If you two keep living the way you have

Dave Ramsey Says

What Comes First?

been, and put the rest toward debt, you can have that student loan and credit card debt knocked out in just a year or so.

But I want you to pay close attention to what I'm about to say next. Just because you're making more money doesn't mean you should start buying a bunch of toys or pick up a car payment. Sit down together now—don't wait—and practice making a written monthly budget based on your new income. Give every dollar a name before you spend it, and don't forget to work the debt snowball, too. List your debts from smallest to largest, make minimum payments on the largest, and then attack that credit card debt with a vengeance.

Chances are you can get the credit card debt tak-

en care of in two or three months. Then, roll the money from that payment over, and apply it and any other cash you can scrape up toward the student loan debt.

With just a little more work, you folks are going to find yourselves in a really great place soon!

– Dave

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



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LEGAL ADVERTISING

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Adjudication No. FCS030046–November 24, 2008

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001144
The following persons are doing business as: **Avanza Tax & Business Solutions**, 870 E Travis Boulevard Suite L, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Date filed in Solano County: July 24, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 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 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
AVANZA 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001104
The following persons are doing business as: **Evelyn's Pizza**, 712 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. **Avellino Lupi**, 712 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Date filed in Solano County: July 17, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 16, 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 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
EVELYNS 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001033
The following persons are doing business as: **Armor & Aura**, 2450 Peach Tree Drive 17, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Date filed in Solano County: July 3, 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 2, 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 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
ARMOR 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001146
The following persons are doing business as: **Bay Area General Contractors Inc**, Bay Area Painting Inc, Arnold's All Phase Construction Services Inc, Shape General Contractors Inc, 126 Bret Harte Way, Vallejo, CA 94589.

Date filed in Solano County: July 24, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 24, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 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 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
BAY 9-5-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001201
The following persons are doing business as: **GOODJUJU**, 709 Capricorn Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Date filed in Solano County: August 4, 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 August 3, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
GOOD 9-5-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001219
The following persons are doing business as: **LD Cycle**, 1021 Mason Street, Suite 9, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Date filed in Solano County: August 7, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 6, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
LD 9-5-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001226
The following persons are doing business as: **Marler Home Repair & Renovations**, 1820 Dailey Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: August 8, 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 August 7, 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 22, 29 Sept 5, 12, 2025
MARLER 9-12-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001169
The following persons are doing business as: **Altec Industries Inc**, 1450 N Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: July 29, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 18, 1974

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

July 28, 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 22, 29 Sept 5, 12, 2025
ALTEC 9-12-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001233
The following persons are doing business as: **Burgerzone**, 600 Kentucky Street #1001, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Date filed in Solano County: August 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 7, 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 22, 29 Sept 5, 12, 2025
BURGERZONE 9-12-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001263
The following persons are doing business as: **Surpass Estate Group**, Norcal Home Team, 4160 Suisun Valley Road #A, Fairfield, CA 94534.

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

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 12, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: August 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
SURPASS 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001262
The following persons are doing business as: **Delta Realty Group**, Navigate Property Management, Navigate RE, Navigate Real Estate, Delta Property Management, 4160 Suisun Valley Road #A, Fairfield, CA 94534.

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

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 12, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: August 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
DELTA 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001241
The following persons are doing business as: **Wedgewood Wedding & Banquet Center**, Wedgewood at Jefferson Street Mansion, 1063 Jefferson Street, Benicia, CA 94510.

Date filed in Solano County: August 12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 1, 2016

This Business is conducted by: 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 August 11, 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 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
WEDGEWOOD 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001242
The following persons are doing business as: **Jefferson Street Mansion** by Wedgewood Weddings, 1063 Jefferson Street, Benicia, CA 94510.

Date filed in Solano County: August 12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 1, 2018

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 11, 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 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
JEFFERSON 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001243
The following persons are doing business as: **Wedgewood Wedding & Banquet Center**, Wedgewood at Jefferson Street Mansion, 1063 Jefferson Street, Benicia, CA 94510.

Date filed in Solano County: August 12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 1, 2016

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 11, 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 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
BANQUET 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001298
The following persons are doing business as: **CruzCutz**, 1809 Rhine Court, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Date filed in Solano County: August 20, 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 August 19, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: August 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
CRUZ 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001297
The following persons are doing business as: **Immacutint**, 53 Commerce Place, Vacaville, CA 95687.

Date filed in Solano County: August 20, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

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 August 19, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: August 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
IMMACUTINT 9-19-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001240
The following persons are doing business as: **Jefferson Street Mansion** by Wedgewood Weddings, 1063 Jefferson Street, Benicia, CA 94510.

Date filed in Solano County: August 12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 1, 2018

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 August 11, 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 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
MANSION 9-19-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

Case #CU25-07332
Janae Chadwick. filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Kaylee Mae Hansen to Kaylee Mae Hansen-Chadwick.

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. October 15, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department 3, Room 3, 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: August 20, 2025
Publish: August 29, Sept 5, 12, 19, 2025
CHADWICK 9-19-25

TRUSTEE SALE

APN: 0114-075-110 TS No.: 25-09383CA TSG Order No.: 250187500 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED APRIL 26, 2021. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Affinia Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded May 5, 2021 as Document No.: 202100049743 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California, executed by: Trevor B Gardner and Kerry Gardner, husband and wife as community property with right of survivorship, as Trustor, will be sold AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER for cash (payable in full at time of sale 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). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said deed of trust in the property situated in said county and state, and as more fully described in the above referenced deed of trust. Sale Date: September 8, 2025 Sale Time: 9:30 AM Sale Location: At the Santa Clara Street entrance to the City Hall at 555 Santa Clara

Street, Vallejo, CA 94590 2 File No.:25-09383CA The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 205 W Cherry Street, 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 in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) 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: \$478,734.72 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call, (916) 939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website, www.nationwideposting.com, for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, T.S.# 25-09383CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. 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 (916) 939-0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-09383CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. 3 File No.:25-09383CA If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. For Pre Sale Information Log On To: www.nationwideposting.com or Call: (916) 939-0772. For Post Sale Results please visit www.affinidefault.com or Call (866) 932-0360 Dated: August 1, 2025 By: Omar Solorzano Foreclosure Associate Affinia Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 (833) 290-7452 NPP0477298 To: DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 08/15/2025, 08/22/2025, 08/29/2025 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 8-29-25



UC Davis Nematologists Share International Spotlight

By Kathy Keatley Garvey, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

SACRAMENTO COUNTY REGION, CA - University of California, Davis nematologists shared the international spotlight at the 64th annual meeting of the Society of Nematologists (SON), held recently in Victoria, British Columbia.

Doctoral candidate Alison Blundell of the laboratory of associate professor Shahid Siddique, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology, received the 2025 John M. Webster Outstanding Student Award from the Society of Nematologists at its recent meeting in Victoria, British Columbia. As the recipient of the \$1500 prize, she presented a 30-minute talk on her research, "Overcoming Resistance: Unraveling The Mechanisms Behind Root-knot Nematode Evasion of Tomato Mi-1 Gene."

Siddique delivered a keynote address, "Biotechnology and Genomics for Sustainable Nematode Management" in the international symposium series,

which was sponsored by a grant received from the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) and Co-Operative Research Programme: Sustainable Agricultural and Food Systems. It centered on the SON conference theme, "Nematodes on the Move: Building Resilience and Sustainability through International Collaboration and Better Policies."

Siddique presented his keynote address under the realm of the symposium, "Reducing the Global Movement of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes and Rethinking Control Strategies," Part 2. Part 1 focused on "Understanding the Impact of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes on Global Food Security and Trade in a Changing World."

Siddique was one of 14 keynote speakers from 11 countries across five continents participating in the discussion, which consisted of three plenary sessions.

Two doctoral candidates in the Siddique lab, Veronica Casey and Alison Blundell each won a travel award to attend the conference. Casey received the Hubbard Ag Science Award, and Blundell, the

Bayer Award. Presenting talks were UC Davis Distinguished Professor Steve Nadler, former chair of the Department of Entomology and Nematology; Amanda Hodson, assistant professor, and two postdoctoral researchers in the Siddique lab, Vera Putker and Bardo Castro.

Nadler discussed "Phylogenetic Inference and the Diversity of Animal-Parasitic Nematodes"; Hodson, "The Relationship Between Nematode Indicators and Soil Carbon Pools across Managed and Unmanaged Landscapes in California"; Putker, "GPA2-Induced Selection Pressure Does Not Select for 187S Allele of the Effector GPRBP-1 in Virulent Globodera Pallida Populations," and Bardo, "Biotechnology Approaches Against Root-Knot and Root Lesion Nematodes."

Blundell is the first UC Davis student to win the Webster award, launched in 2007 to recognize "a graduate student who has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in his/her thesis research in nematology as well as other skills necessary to be a well-rounded scholar."

Blundell, who anticipates receiving her doctorate in 2026, joined the UC Davis doctoral program in 2020. She is completing her dissertation on "Trade-Offs Between Virulence and Evading Resistance in Root-Knot Nematodes." She investigates how root-knot nematodes overcome Mi-1 in tomatoes and is testing for susceptibility associated with resistance breaking. Mi-1 is a crucial gene in tomato plants that confers resistance against root-knot nematodes, which are parasitic nematodes that can and do severely damage crops.

In addition to her scientific contributions, Blundell is involved in professional services with SON, including oral and poster presentations and as vice chair of the SON Graduate Student Committee. She engages in teaching, mentoring, and public outreach on the UC Davis campus. She promotes science education and agricultural awareness by volunteering at the annual UC Davis Picnic Day and the UC Davis Biodiversity Museum Day.

Blundell, formerly Alison Coomer, holds a Bachelor



UC Davis associate professor Shahid Siddique with doctoral candidate Alison Blundell, recipient of the John M. Webster Outstanding Student award from the international Society of Nematologists. Photo courtesy of Kathy Keatley Garvey

of Science degree in biology and a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry (2020) from Concordia University, Seward, Neb., where she received the Outstanding Graduate Student in Biology Award.

The conference attracted 179 attendees. The group experienced "a slightly lower attendance due to visa concerns among foreign students attending U.S. universities," a spokesman said. SON was formed in 1962 to advance the science of nematology in both its fundamental and economic aspects. Its membership stands at 356. ★

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • MEET ME IN...

CLUES

ACROSS

- Manual calculator, pl.
- Beach Boys: "Only Knows"
- Army beds
- Pressed ham and cheese sandwich
- Part of spch
- Popular Latin dance
- Influencer's creation
- Hula dancer's flowers
- Birdlike
- "Meet me here, under the arch"
- "Meet me at the Top of the Rock"
- Comic book expression for alarm
- Press backward arrow key
- "Hand" with claws
- Spreadsheet software command
- Day off, backwards
- Bug-eyed
- "Cheers" regular
- Coupe alternative
- Be dependent
- Damage one's reputation
- Slightly (2 words)
- Prefix for below
- Shade of beige
- Java neighbor
- War mounts
- Rope fiber
- "Now or Never"
- Leave at the altar
- Flapper's feathers
- "Meet me at the London Bridge"
- "The Black Eyed Peas: Meet Me in Maru, Kenya"
- Undergarment
- "Meet me in Australia to see this bear"
- Done to printer cartridge
- Corn unit
- Poet W. H. ___ of "Funeral Blues" fame
- Infamous Nazi villain
- Strong solution of sodium
- Like gelled hair

DOWN

- Parts of a play
- Actor Reynolds of "Smokey and the Bandit"
- Cain's victim
- Paddler's vessel
- Endows or empowers
- "Buffalo ___ won't you come out tonight..."
- Keats' poem
- Jinn or genie
- Guinea pig or capybara
- Mixture
- Russian monarch
- What Titanic did
- Went to bid farewell (2 words)
- "Meet me in Orthodox church to see these"
- "Meet me in Tokyo, pre-1968"
- "Meet me in the largest city in Netherlands"
- "Meet me under the Eiffel Tower"
- Real estate broker, e.g.
- "The Bonfire of the Vanities" author Tom ___

CROSSWORD

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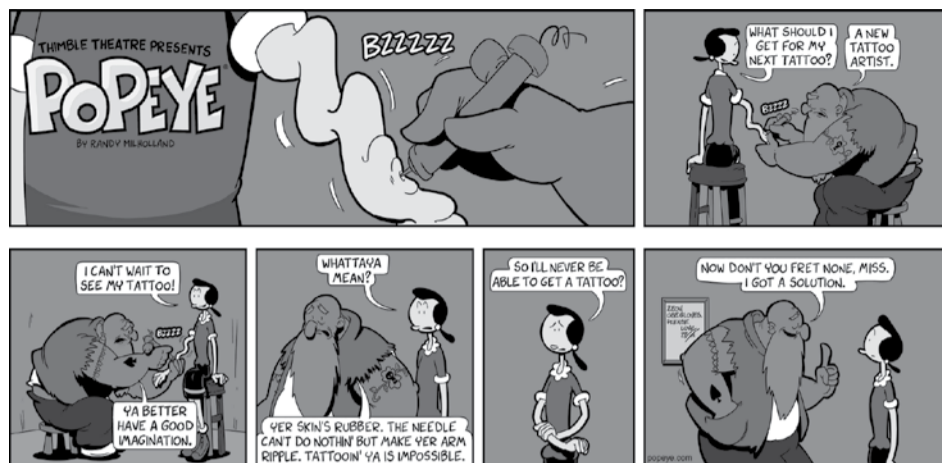
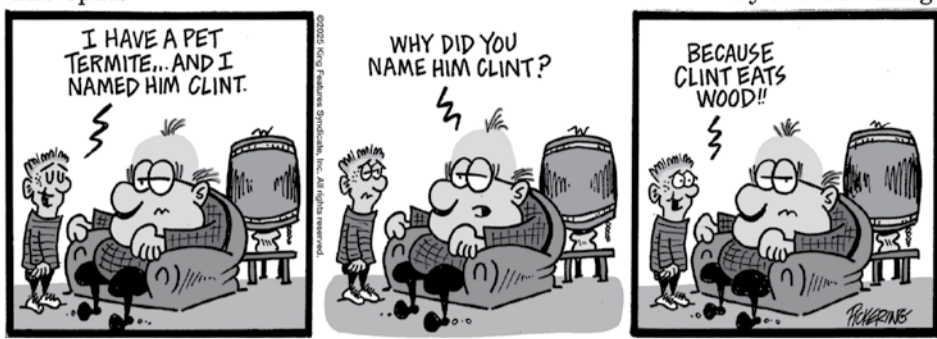
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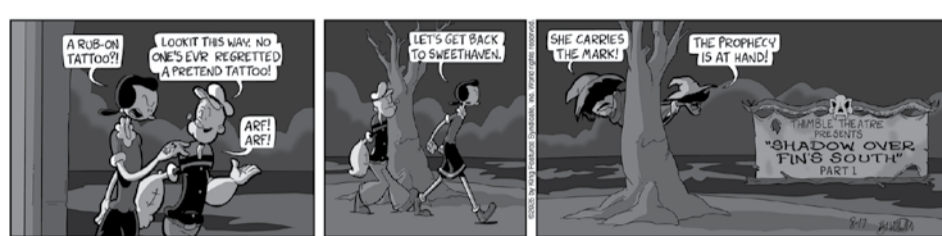
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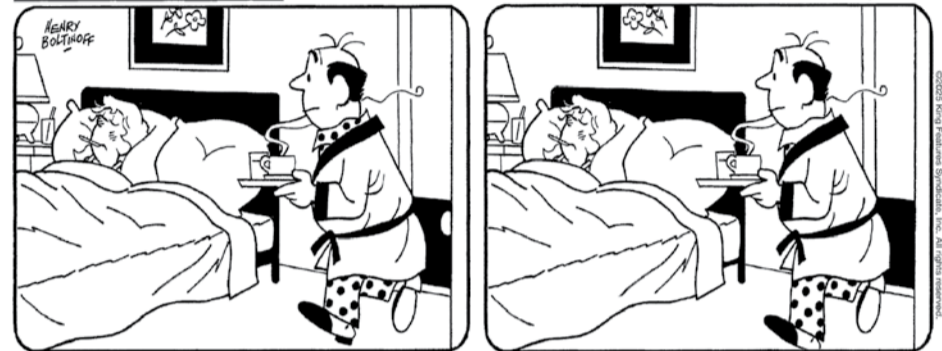


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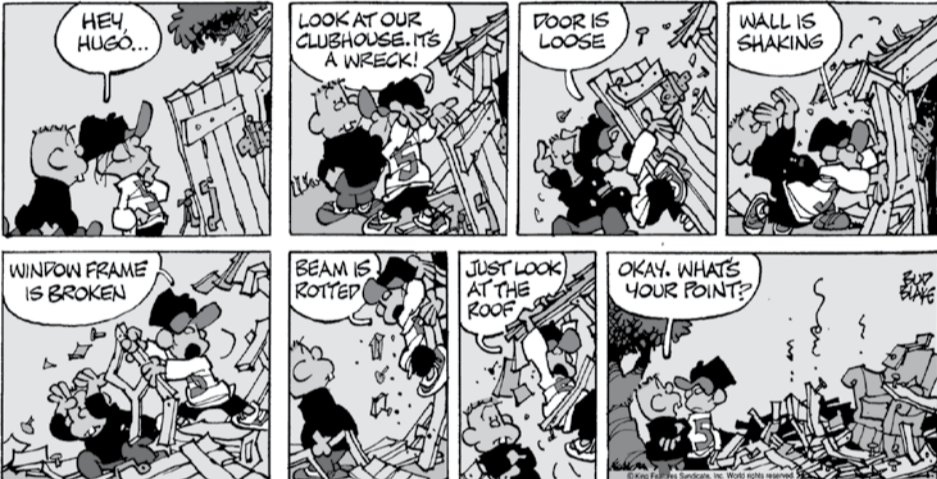


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Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

Regular Meetings:

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

American Legion – Dixon Post 208 meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St.

For information, call 707-678-6308. Also visit us online at www.dixonveterans.org/Legion.

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

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

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

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

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

Chief Solano Kennel

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

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

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

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

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

Dixon Adult Literacy Program – Solano County Library Adult Literacy Services is seeking volunteers to help an adult with their reading, writing, or English-speaking skills at the Dixon Public Library. No experience necessary, flexible hours. All

training and materials are provided. Contact: Literacy@solanocounty.com or 707-784-1526.

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

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

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

Dixon Historical Society – Meets quarterly on the third Sunday of Feb., Apr., Aug., and Oct. from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall located at 209 N. Jefferson St. in Dixon. Meetings include a historical representation and announcements of upcoming events. Anyone interested in the history of Dixon, and its surrounding areas, is welcome! You do not need to be a member to attend, and all presentations are free to the community. The Dixon History Museum is open for visits, Thursdays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For further information, please contact us at www.dixonhistorical-society.org. Email dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or call 707-693-3044.

Dixon Kiwanis Club – an International civic organization serving the community through enhancing children's lives meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Conference Room. Call Kristin Janisch at 918-840-0785 for more information.

Dixon Lions Club – Since 1954, the Dixon Lions Club is a group of local people who identify needs within our Dixon community and work together to fulfill those needs. Internationally our 45,867 clubs & more than 1,347,322 members make us the world's largest service club organization. We meet first/third Wednesdays at Bud's Pub & Grill from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Website: <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/dixonca>. Facebook page: Dixon Lions Club.

Dixon Rotary Club – Meets on most Wednesdays at noon at The Creative Space, 160 West A. St., Dixon. Rotary is the world's first and oldest service club organization with over 1.4 million members working locally and internationally to improve health and sanitation, combat hunger, provide education, and promote peace. For more information and meeting confirmation, contact Rotary President Marlene Vega at 707-678-9368.

Dixon Scottish Cultural Association – Open to anyone who

is interested in celebrating Scottish culture. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St. For details, visit <https://scotsindixon.us/>.

Dixon Senior Club – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dixon Senior Multi-Use Center, 201 S. Fifth St. For more info, call 678-7022.

Dixon Toastmasters/Public Speaking Club – Need to speak in front of people? Want to improve your communication skills? Want to have fun learning? Check us out! We meet Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Living Hope Church. For more info, call or text Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or Rose Cooke at 707-297-0918.

Dixon Women's Improvement Club – From September through May of each year, the Dixon Women's Improvement Club dedicated to the betterment of Dixon, meets on the third Wednesday of the month for stimulating presentations, activities, and friendships. Meetings are held at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Dixon Youth Soccer Board Meetings – The board will meet the third Tuesday of each month, except for December, at the Sutter West Medical Center Conference Room, at 7 p.m.

Domestic Violence Support Group – Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345.

Dry Dock – This Alcoholics Anonymous group meets Mondays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. at Dixon United Methodist Church, corner of B and N. Jefferson St.

Fairfield/Suisun Bass Reapers – Meets first Tuesday of each month at RoundTable Pizza, 5085 Business Center Drive, Fairfield. For more info, call 707-429-3239.

Friends of the Dixon Public Library – Meets at the library on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. For more information, call 707-678-5447.

Gretchen Higgins Parent Teacher Organization – We meet the second Monday of each month in the library at our school. Email ohpto1525@gmail.com for more information.

Independent Order of Oddfellows Montezuma Lodge #172 – Meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 111 West A. St., Dixon above Bud's. For more info, call Jason 530-400-0281 or Ed 916-837-6865.

Lambtown Committee – Meets third Monday each month at 6 p.m. at Veteran's Hall. Email John Knight at johnknightpto@gmail.com

Living With Cancer – Support Group for people who have or have had cancer meets the first, third, and fifth Tuesday of every month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Dining conference room at Woodland Memorial Hospital, 1325 Cottonwood St., Woodland. Free.

Narcotics Anonymous – Open meetings are held every Tuesday, Thursday,

and Saturday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Dixon United Methodist, 209 N. Jefferson St. (Corner of West B and N. Jefferson). For helpline information and other meetings, go to www.napasolanona.org.

Northern Solano Democratic Club (NSDC) – Meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at IBEW, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville (behind Home Depot). For more information, contact Jeanie White 615-260-7896 or email nsdc@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northernsolanodem/.

NSDC Democrats in Action – Monthly lunch meeting is every fourth Thursday at noon at Fuso Italian Restaurant at 535 Main St., Vacaville. Meet to discuss actions that can be taken towards local, state, and national political issues. See above for contacts.

Promises AA Group – Meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

Sexual Assault Support Group – Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345.

Solano County Mental Health Education – Monthly presentations on various topics will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 2101 Courage Dr., Fairfield. Call Rachel Ford at 707-784-8362 for more information and monthly topic.

Sons of the American Legion – Meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Dixon American Legion Post 208 Hall. For information, call Wayne Holland at 707-301-0941.

Soroptimist International of Dixon – Meets Thursdays at noon at the Dixon United Methodist Church (20 N. Jefferson). Call President Barbara Rigdon at 408-306-7390. Mail: P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA 95620.

36th District Agricultural Assn. – Board of Directors meet the second Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. in the board room located at 655 S. First St. (Dixon May Fair)

Tremont Teachers and Parents Association – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Tremont School. For more information contact 678-9533.

Toastmasters – Meets every other Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. Contact Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or email her at mendezlynda55@yahoo.com

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) – Dixon Post 8151 meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St. For information, contact Cecil Dennings (Commander) at 209-395-8019. Also visit us online at m.facebook.com/DixonVFW.

Young Ladies Institute of Dixon – Meets the third Thursday of the month at St. Peter's Parish Hall, 105 S. 2nd St. All Catholic women are invited to attend. For more information, call Virginia Fletcher at 678-5145. ★

Food & Farm NEWS

Central Valley Farmer Harvests a Promising Fig Crop

California fig lovers are in for a treat this summer. Cooler temperatures in the Central Valley have created favorable conditions for producing fresh figs. "It's been a wonderful growing season," Steve Schafer, who grows figs and other crops in Madera County, told Ag Alert® this month in a field report. In extreme heat, figs can be "ready to pick in the morning and start getting soft by afternoon," he said. But this summer, milder weather has led to a "great quality" crop with a longer shelf life, said Schafer, who sells his figs as fresh whole fruit. The higher-quality crop has allowed Schafer to reject fewer pieces of blemished fruit than last year. The farmer reported a strong market for the delicate fruit. While prices for fresh figs can fluctuate from week to week, he said, "demand is good."

Golden Mussels Complicate Effort to Meet 'Huge' Recreational Fishing Demand

Tehama County fish farmer Katie Harris uses this time of year to rebuild her fish inventory ahead of stocking season in October, when she will supply lakes and other recreational fishing programs with trout. "The demand for recreational fishing has been huge," Harris told Ag Alert® this month in a field report, adding she has had "a hard time keeping up with demand." That's partly due to longstanding challenges such as water rights and costs. But Harris and other California fish farmers also face a newer threat in the emergence of golden mussels, which can devastate fish farms and infrastructure. "Anywhere water moves, this invasive species can move with it," Harris said. She added she has taken proactive biosecurity measures to protect her farm.

Agricultural Education Program Reaches More Than 1 Million California Students

In 2024, more than 1 million students and 34,000 teachers benefited from the California Farm Bureau's innovative agricultural education program, which is run by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. Launched in 1981, the program promotes agricultural literacy and awareness. "Our whole mission is to support teachers and students in incorporating agriculture into their classroom because agriculture affects our daily lives," said Amanda Fletcher, the foundation's executive director. "It's the food we eat; it's the clothes we wear. It affects everything that we do." Agriculture in the Classroom strives to keep growing, Fletcher said, especially in urban and disadvantaged schools that may have fewer opportunities to learn about food and farming.

Wolf Resurgence Continues to Impact California Ranchers and Rural Communities

The migration of gray wolves into the Sierra Valley in Northern California has disrupted rural communities and led to significant losses for cattle ranchers. "We started having wolf attacks on cattle on the north end of our Sierra Valley," Sierra County Sheriff Mike Fisher said during an interview in a recent episode of the Voice of California Agriculture podcast, which is produced by the California Farm Bureau. Fisher spoke with host Gary Sack about challenges such as confirming how many cattle kills were caused by wolves, as well as the economic and emotional stress ranchers have faced. Because of the growing population of wolves, "I suspect that we are going to see some of the ranchers in this valley next year not return," the sheriff said. ★

Ask DR. UNIVERSE

What happens if you if you get eaten by a shark?

— Prince, Georgia

Dear Prince,

When I was a kitten, I saw a movie about shark attacks. It made me nervous to go into the water.

I talked about that with my friend Nora Hickey. She's a fish veterinarian at Washington State University.

She told me that sharks don't eat people.

Many sharks can't even bite. They have mouths adapted to sift sand or slurp up plankton.

Sharks that can bite don't hunt humans. They eat prey with a thick fat layer like seals and sea lions.

Muscly animals like birds, cats and people seem to taste bad to sharks.

"Even if they bit you, they probably wouldn't like it," Hickey said. "They'd probably be like, 'Uh, no thank you.'"

Shark attacks are usually a mistake—or a shark trying to defend itself.

Sharks have powerful senses. They can detect tiny smells from about a quarter mile away. And they can hear for miles. Like other fish, they have sensitive cells all along their bodies. They also have tiny pores on their snouts that pick up electrical signals in the water.

So, a shark might sense something splashing in the water and come check it out. It might think the splasher is prey and take a nibble.

Then, a few things happen.

Some sharks roll back their eyes when they bite. Sometimes a protective membrane slides over the eyeball. That keeps their eyes safe if the prey fight backs.

Sharks can't chew up and down like we do. So, it might shake its head back and forth to tear off a bite.

Some of the shark's teeth may pop out. They have rows and rows of teeth. When a

tooth falls out, a new one moves up to take its place. Hickey told me that happens so often that the ocean floor is littered with shark teeth.

At this point, the shark will probably realize you're a gross human. They'll likely swim away.

But if you magically got fully swallowed, or if some piece of you did, you'd be in for a weird journey through the shark's guts.

"Sharks and sturgeons have a spiral valve intestine," Hickey

said. "It's a way to increase the digestive surface area of the intestine without increasing the length of the intestine. Basically, you'd be going through a spiral like a water slide."

A shark might also attack if humans provoke it or threaten its home.

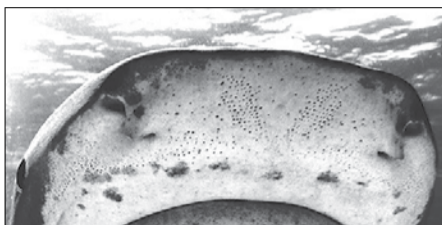
Humans are way more dangerous to sharks than sharks are to humans. People hunt sharks—or accidentally catch them in nets. That's really bad for sharks that are ram ventilators. They can't push water over their gills on their own. If they can't swim, they can't breathe.

People drive loud boats or subs into a shark's territory. Swimmers and divers may flail around in ways that seem threatening. Sometimes people try to interact with wild sharks, especially species we know to be gentle.

It turns out humans can be pretty scary. And those jaw-some, toothy fish are a bit misunderstood.

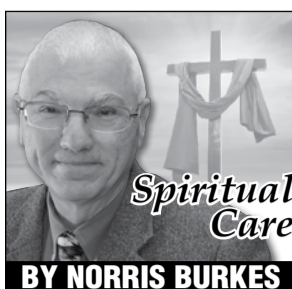
Sincerely,

Dr. Universe



These tiny holes are called ampullae of Lorenzini. They're filled with a snot-like jelly. They detect electrical signals that travel through salt water. It helps sharks find living things like mollusks buried in the sand. Image Albert kok CC BY 3.0

Chaplain has 3-Alarm Guilt Fire



BY NORRIS BURKES

"I'm going to have to get some bike shoes to ride my new electric bike," I told my wife Becky.

Knowing my propensity to buy shoes for all occasions, Becky asked me to consider using a pair of my running shoes.

"Since we moved to the foothills, I know those shoes haven't seen much mileage."

I recognized her M.O. She was trying to make me feel guilty for spending good money on shoes I probably didn't need.

It wasn't going to work this time I thought as I headed downtown to the biking store.

Gladly, I was pleasantly greeted by a very nice clerk who quickly straddled one of those funny shoe stools with a little loading ramp.

With my foot placed firmly onto the ramp, she began to fit me with a half dozen pairs of shoes. I felt like the princess looking for her CinderFella to fit a glass Nike.

The problem was that her attention was focused over my shoulder where her colleagues were busy collecting lunch orders to the local sandwich shop.

From her perch on the wooden shoe horse, she misspoke her first diagnostic question.

"What do you usually eat?" she asked.

I heard the unintentional

question directed toward me and it set off my guilt alarms.

I wondered if her shoe ramp contained some kind of gizmo capable of measuring the fat in the soles of my feet.

At any moment, I expected a latex-gloved co-worker to pinch the donut sack from my bag and declare, "We got him now. This is all we'll need. Book him on charges of 'stuff and run.'"

Without knowing anything about my eating habits, the clerk didn't mean to imply judgment, but it was too late.

Flaming guilt had already engulfed my face, and by the looks of things, it was going to be a three-alarm response.

But this kind of guilt — the kind of guilt that only fears exposure — is almost as unhealthy as are my eating habits.

Unhealthy guilt will invest an incredible amount of energy into concealing things. As we make the effort to hide our guilt, shirk it, or ignore it, serious mental health concerns can result.

The energy we expend to blanket a problem often shapes a silhouette plain enough for all to see. The impression left from hiding guilt is often as plain as the angel pattern left by children playing in snow.

As I worked to suck in my gut, my unhealthy guilt had me assuming that this hapless shoe clerk was my accuser.

The situation reminded me of the conversation Jesus had with a woman whose murder he

interrupted.

Jesus faced her accusers as they readied stones to execute her for adultery.

He sent the executors packing with a single qualification: "He who is without sin may cast the first stone."

With the sudden disappearance of her accusers, Jesus assured her, "No man condemns you and neither do I."

People like that part of the story but often forget Jesus then turned the tables a bit by introducing her to healthy guilt. With a dismissive mandate, Jesus added, "Go and sin no more!"

In life, healthy guilt can inspire us to strive for healthier lives. It can push us to mend relationships, work hard, and commit to charity. But good results only come as we commit to taking our life forward and "sinning no more."

When the clerk rang up the sale, the damage was almost \$150, and I had only one thought: "I shouldn't be spending this kind of money on shoes. I'm going to have to bike 100 miles a week to justify this purchase."

The guilt was back. *Not to make you feel guilty, but if you're looking for an easy way to help Chispa Project, shop our Amazon Wishlist for the back-to-school season at www.go.chispaproject.org/supplies.*

Sign up to receive this column by email at thechaplain.net/columns/ Contact Chaplain Norris at comment@thechaplain.net or 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602 or voicemail (843) 608-9715. ★

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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

Friday, August 15, 2025

0733 - Suspicious circumstance in the 200 block of North First Street. Oscar Orozco (34), of Dixon, was arrested for Drunk in Public, Creating a Public nuisance, and Probation violation. He was transported to the Solano County Jail.

1516 - Traffic collision reported in the 200 block of West A Street.

1536 - Citizen assist in the 600 block of Sierra Drive.

1537 - Traffic collision reported in the area of North Almond Street and Calmace Drive.

Thursday, August 14, 2025

0941 - Lost property reported in the 400 block of Morgan Lane.

1305 - Fraud reported in the 400 block of West F Street.

1810 - Theft of tires from a business in the 600 block of North First Street.

1854 - Restraining order served in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.

2006 - Confidential report.

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

0920 - Found property at Hall Park.

1005 - Theft report 1500 block North Lincoln Street.

1047 - Parking complaint 500 block West H Street.

1230 - Parking complaint Able Alley.

2000 - Juan Castillo-Delgado (29) of Dixon was cited for reckless driving in the 200 block of South Second Street.

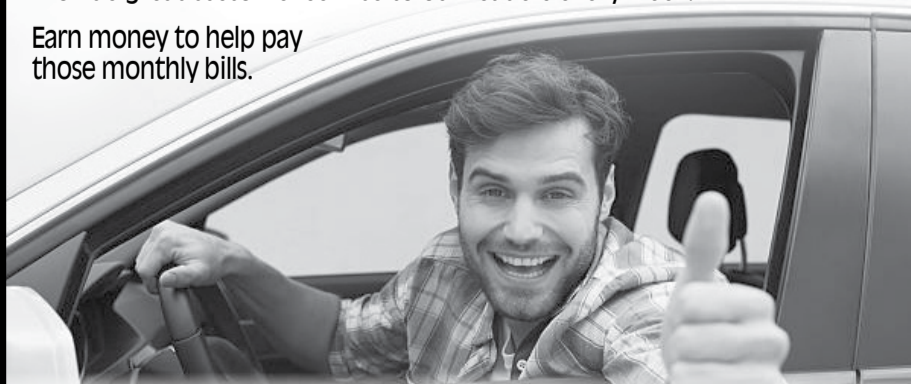
0115 - Matthew Dean (51) of Dixon was contacted in the 1400 block of Ary Lane and later arrested for DUI.

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Long-term Liability Increases to \$91.5 Billion

State Controller Announces Benefits Increases for State Retirees

California State Controller's Office News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - State Controller Malia M. Cohen published a report showing the state's net liability for retiree health and dental benefits, also known as other post-employment benefits (OPEB), increased to \$91.5 billion on Aug. 6.

The liability represents the present-day cost to provide health and dental benefits to state retirees and their dependents earned as of June 30, 2024, and is an estimate developed by actuaries in consideration of current and future economic, demographic, and health care-related assumptions that are subject to change on an annual basis.

California's net other post-employment benefits liability increased by \$6.3 billion since the prior year's valuation of \$85.2 billion. In comparison, the net OPEB liability increased by \$2.8 billion from the end of fiscal year 2021-22 to the end of fiscal year 2022-23 and decreased by \$13.1 billion from the end of fiscal year 2020-21 to the end of fiscal year 2021-22.

Health care claims experience, plan design, trend rates, demographic experience, and changes to the blended discount rate affected the total other post-employment benefits liability estimate. A significant driver behind the total OPEB liability increase includes higher than average per member health-care claim costs and plan design



The liability represents the present-day cost to provide health and dental benefits to state retirees and their dependents earned as of June 30, 2024. Image by JetalProduções from Pixabay

changes that increased the expected total OPEB liability by \$4.9 billion.

Changes in the health care trend rate assumptions, including adjustments to reflect the potential impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on Medicare prescription drug benefits, increased the total OPEB liability by nearly \$2.5 billion. The blended discount rate is based on the combination of the full funding discount rate of 6.00 percent and the 20-year municipal bond index which increased from 3.86 percent at the end of fiscal year 2022-23 to 3.97 percent at the end of fiscal year 2023-24. The change to the blended discount rate decreased the total OPEB liability by \$1.6 billion.

"The estimated liability for retiree health and dental benefits is a significant long-term cost facing California, which is why the

state set a responsible goal to fully fund these benefits over the long-term by 2046," said Controller Cohen. "Since 2010, the state and public employees through collective bargaining have contributed to the prefunding of these benefits, which allows investment income to relieve the future financial burden that would otherwise fall to employees and taxpayers. Given the current climate of economic uncertainty and looming budget shortfalls, the state's current actions to pause prefunding contributions will save General Fund dollars. However, the most fiscally prudent plan for fully funding these promised health and dental benefits includes a return to prefunding when feasible, as well as remaining vigilant in our efforts to contain health care costs."

Beginning in January 2010,

California entered into collective bargaining agreements to prefund retiree health and dental benefits. Contributions were deposited into the California Employers' Retiree Benefit Trust to generate investment income. The trust funds cannot be used to pay the retiree health benefits until the state has fully funded the legacy liability, or until 2046, whichever comes first.

Prior to these prefunding efforts, the state paid for the benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis, covering only the minimum amount needed to fund the costs as they were due. With all bargaining units, except for those under the California State University, contributing to the trust, analysts expected to see acceleration of the funded ratio.

However, several current bargaining agreements reached with

state public employee unions beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 suspend state and/or employee prefunding contributions toward future benefits for two years.

The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) is the state's largest purchaser of public employee health benefits, and the Controller serves as a voting member of its Pension & Health Benefits Committee. CalPERS uses its market position to contain rising health care costs for its members and retirees by providing choices for affordable health plans, negotiating for lower premiums, encouraging prevention, and stabilizing and lowering the costs of prescription drugs where feasible.

As the chief fiscal officer of California, Controller Malia M. Cohen independently oversees and manages California's financial resources with integrity and transparency to build trust. The controller is responsible for accountability and disbursement of the state's financial resources. The controller has independent auditing authority over government agencies that spend state funds. She is a member of numerous financing authorities and fiscal and financial oversight entities including the Franchise Tax Board. She also serves on the boards for the nation's two largest public pension funds. Follow the Controller on X at @CAController and on Facebook at California State Controller's Office. ★

President's Executive Order Opening 401(k)s to Private Markets Needed

PG&E Data Center Demand Pipeline Swells to 10 Gigawatts



"Expanding access to private markets will help Californians build wealth and successfully save for a comfortable retirement," said Rob Lapsley. Image pexels-yankrukov

California Business Roundtable News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA - On Aug. 7, the California Business Roundtable indicated its support to expand access to private investments in 401(k) accounts.

The president's order directs the Department of Labor and the Securities and Exchange Commission to issue guidance to employers and U.S. retirement plan administrators on including private assets in 401(k) retirement plans. This regulatory clarity removes a key barrier that kept many California employers from offering a broader range of investment options to their workers. It will strengthen California's retirement system, which operates in a high-cost-of-living environment where working families deserve every advantage to build wealth.

"Expanding access to private markets will help Californians build wealth and successfully save for a comfortable retirement," said Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable. "All workers, not just the wealthy, deserve to have access to wealth-building tools. This executive order democratizes the same investment opportunities for working families that have long been available to institutional investors and government pension recipients."

For too long, unclear regulations have stopped California employers from offering alternative investments, creating a two-tier system where only wealthy investors and public pension holders could access higher-return private markets. President Trump's executive order removes that uncertainty, empowering employers to offer stronger financial tools while reducing the litigation risk that has

plagued retirement plan sponsors.

Performance data from leading financial institutions supports President Trump's decision. Private equity has consistently outperformed public markets over the long term. Recent studies show that private equity has returned an average of 10.7% annually, compared to the public benchmark of only 6.6%. While public pension funds have raised their investments in alternatives from 10% to 25%, most working Americans still can't access these higher returns because of outdated rules.

The order also arrives as California workers face mounting challenges to their retirement security. With Baby Boomers turning 65 at record rates and Social Security projected to be unable to meet its obligations by 2033, strong 401(k) performance is more important than ever. Defined contribution plans now outnumber defined benefit plans by a ratio of eight to one, making private market access essential for achieving retirement adequacy.

California Business Roundtable urges policymakers to build on this momentum by updating other outdated rules that block financial innovation. California's economic competitiveness depends on ensuring our workforce has access to the same wealth-building opportunities available to institutional investors and this executive order represents a major step toward that goal.

Established in 1976, California Business Roundtable has consistently brought together top executives from California's largest companies, providing a platform for collaboration and strategic advocacy on issues critical to the state's economic health. ★

Pacific Gas and Electric Company News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) on July 31 shared that it is proactively working to serve 10 gigawatts (GW) of new electricity demand from data center projects over the next 10 years, which is enough energy to simultaneously power approximately 7.5-million homes.

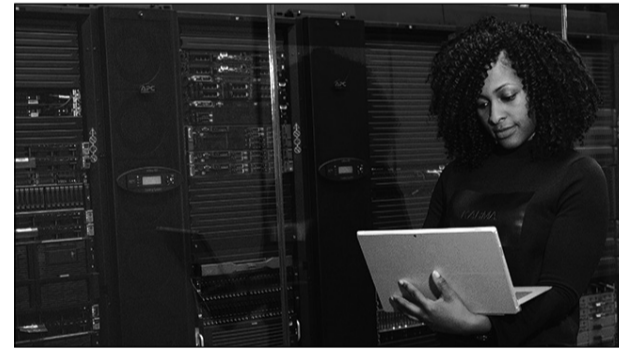
The 10 GW in PG&E's data center project pipeline reflects a significant increase from the 8.7 GW of data center demand PG&E reported in May and the 5.5 GW the company reported in February.

This milestone includes the results of PG&E's April 2025 study of data center applications from across its 70,000- square-mile service area.

"Data centers are powering more than just the digital world; they're helping power California's future and PG&E is proud to lead the way in meeting growing demand for data centers," said Mike Medeiros, vice-president, South Bay Delivery, PG&E. "This growth can help lower costs for all electric customers while creating tens of thousands of jobs and billions in local revenue."

PG&E estimates the 10 GW of anticipated data center load growth could lead to lower customer electric bills by 10% or more by spreading fixed costs across more energy usage, create 50,000 construction jobs and 115,000 associated support jobs, add 5,000 permanent tech jobs and 28,500 permanent support roles, generate \$1.25 to \$1.75 billion in increased property tax revenue and contribute \$2.5 to \$3 billion in additional sales tax revenue.

Of the 10 GW, 17 data center projects totaling



Data centers are powering more than just the digital world; they're helping power California's future and PG&E is proud to lead the way in meeting growing demand for data centers. Image courtesy divinetechgirl pexels

approximately 1.5 GW are in the final engineering phase (the last step before project construction starts) and projected to begin operations between 2026 and 2030. Most of these are in San Jose, Silicon Valley and the greater San Francisco Bay Area but some are also in the Central Valley and Sacramento.

Growth in data center demand is good news for all PG&E customers.

PG&E estimates for every 1,000 MW (or 1 GW) of new electric demand from data centers it serves, PG&E electric customers could save from 1% to 2% on their monthly bill in the long term, while serving those customers with some of the cleanest electricity in the United States.

New energy demand from data centers allows PG&E to utilize more of its existing power infrastructure. Today, PG&E's grid is 45% utilized on average. By spreading the fixed costs of operating and maintaining the grid over more units of energy, PG&E can increase the average grid utilization rate and each customer's dollar can go further. **California Public Utilities Commission Approves Interim Implementation of PG&E's Rule 30 Large Load Proposal**

In addition to data centers, PG&E is getting more applications to power large, new loads including from warehouses, electric vehicle fleets and manufacturing

growth. To support this surge in large-load interconnection requests, the California Public Utilities Commission has approved PG&E's proposal for interim implementation of Electric Rule 30.

Rule 30 provides a streamlined, transparent and equitable pathway for transmission-level retail electric service. Under the interim rule, applicants who agree to fund necessary transmission infrastructure upfront can benefit from accelerated grid connections.

"Our large-load customers have asked for the ability to fund their projects upfront, which helps us serve them faster," Medeiros said. "We greatly appreciate the Commission's decision to implement an interim approach while the permanent process is finalized. This is a great step forward and solid recognition of the importance of Rule 30."

PG&E is committed to working with regulators, developers, and communities to ensure this growth is sustainable and beneficial for all Californians.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE: PCG), is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16-million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California.

For more information, visit pge.com, pge.com/news and pge.com/innovation. ★