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Honoring Longtime Campus Supervisor

Scott Stacey Recognized at Dedication Ceremony

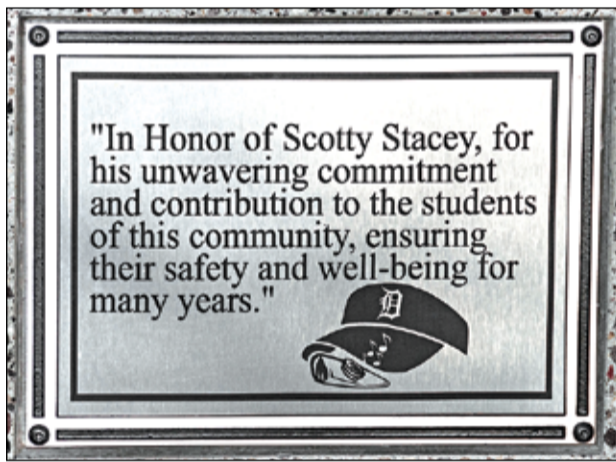


Scott Stacey has worked for Dixon Unified School District for 38 years and intends to do another five years before retiring. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Story by Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Scott Stacey, a longtime Dixon Unified School District campus supervisor, was honored by the community Oct. 3 with a public ceremony and a commemorative bench placed at his familiar post at the corner of North First Street and A Street.

The event, held at 6 p.m. Oct. 3 in Women's Improvement Park at 230 N. First St., drew about 15 to 20 individuals, with many more passing by in vehicles honking and cheering in support. Family, friends and former students gathered to



According to Kimberlie Hicks, the community is truly blessed to have someone as dedicated and loyal as Scott Stacey working for the school district. The custom bench, shipped from Canada, was funded entirely through community donations. Organizers raised more than \$3,000 and presented Stacey with the remaining \$1,100 during the ceremony. Photo by Nicolas Brown

recognize Stacey's nearly four decades of dedication to Dixon's youth. "I've been at this corner

since October 2008," said Stacey. "It floored me and that's an understatement. Seeing the names that actually donated, some of them were students I served at Silveyville almost 30 years ago. I must've made a positive impact on them."

The custom bench, shipped from Canada, was funded entirely through community donations. Organizers raised more than \$3,000 and presented Stacey with the remaining \$1,100 during the ceremony.

The effort was led by Kimberlie Hicks, a resident whose children and grandchildren have crossed paths

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Every Nap Counts

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - October is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)/Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Awareness Month. Solano County Health & Social Services, Public Health Division, encourages parents, caregivers and family members to learn how to reduce the risk of infant death through safe-sleep practices and other preventative measures.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome/Unexpected Infant Death refers to the death of a baby less than one year of age from unknown causes or from factors such as accidental suffocation or strangulation during sleep. It remains one of the leading causes of infant mortality between one month and one year of age. Each year in the United States, an estimated 3,500 babies die suddenly and unexpectedly while sleeping.

While infant deaths in Solano have steadily decreased to fewer than 20 per year overall, per the California Integrated Vital Records System, it remains a serious concern that Solano Public Health continues to address through prevention strategies and education campaigns.

Parents and caregivers can help protect their babies from this tragic event by understanding risk factors, taking preventive measures and staying informed about the latest research and guidelines to ensure the safest sleep environments for their infants.

To lower risk, Solano County urges parents, caregivers and families to follow the ABCs of Safe Sleep. A is for Alone: babies should sleep alone, not in a bed with parents, siblings or others. B is for Back: always place babies on their backs for naps and bedtime. C is for Crib: use a crib or bassinet with a firm mattress and no soft bedding, pillows or toys.

Solano County Health & Social Services, Public Health Division established the Cribs for Kids program in 2023 to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome/Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and support families who might not have access to a safe sleep space for their babies. Through this initiative, eligible families receive a free Pack 'n Play, a portable bassinet and playpen that offers a safe play area and sleeping space for a baby; and learn about the importance of safe sleep practices.

To further raise awareness about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome/Sudden

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Youth Bring 'Treasure Island' to Life

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Community Theater (DCT) will bring Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale of pirates, treasure maps and high-seas adventure to life this month with its original musical adaptation of "Treasure Island," featuring a cast of local children.

Performances will be at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 17 and Oct. 18, with a 2 p.m. matinee Oct. 19 at the Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way. Tickets are on sale now for \$12 for general admission and \$10 for seniors and children under 12.

The production includes original music composed by Angi Wolf and features more than two dozen performers between the ages of 6 and 16.

Among the performers is Bentley Abrew, a Cooper Elementary sixth-grader in Vacaville, who plays lead



The Dixon Community Theater will bring "Treasure Island," Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale of pirates, treasure maps and high-seas adventure, to life with a cast of local children. From left are Aria Lane as Tall Tam, Annabelle Van Tuyl as Ms. Gray, Teddy Monson as Black Dog, Kennedy Monson as Squire Trelawney and Lorelei Prass Collins as Joyce. Photo courtesy of Dixon Community Theater

character Jim Hawkins.

"Acting takes me to a different place in my brain where I can work on something bigger than just me,"

Bentley said. "It is fun working in the theater with my mom as she is the one who got me into acting and singing. We can head to

practice together."

Bentley's mother, Angie Abrew, plays Jackie Avery, the show's

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Dixon News Briefs

Youth Bring 'Treasure Island' to Life



Dixon Historical Society is hosting its final presentation of the year from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 19. Held in Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall, 209 N. Jefferson St., the event will focus on the history of the Dunclicliff Family in Dixon. Historical Society President Kim Schroeder-Evans encourages Dixonites to drop in for the organization's final meeting of 2025. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By MPG Staff

Movies in the Park

The final film of the Movies in the Park series is scheduled to play at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11. Hosted by the City of Dixon in Hall Park, 450 Hall Park Dr., the event offers a night under the stars with friends and family. On Oct. 11, "Coco" will be shown.

For more information, visit the City of Dixon, CA Facebook page or call 707-678-7000.

Veterans' Dinner

American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Veterans' Dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Oct. 10. The dinner, held at Veterans' Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St., offers an all-you-can-eat meal for \$12 per guest. Dishes include fried fish, hushpuppies, coleslaw and French fries.

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

Moose Lodge Monster Bash

Dixon Moose Lodge is hosting a Halloween event at 6 p.m. Oct. 25. The Monster Bash, held at the lodge, 180 W. B St., will include a costume contest and a no-host bar. For the \$25 entry fee, guests will also receive appetizers and one alcoholic drink included in the ticket purchase.

For more information, visit the Dixon Calendar and Events Facebook page or call 707-678-9407.

Dixon Prawn Feed

The Dixon Firefighters Charitable Fund is hosting a prawn feed from 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Oct. 18. Held at Dixon Fire Station 81, 205 Ford Way, the event offers all-you-can-eat prawns, ravioli, salad and rolls for \$70 per person, plus an additional \$4.02 fee. Organizers will also host a raffle. All proceeds will benefit the community, supporting local events, assisting other non-profit organizations and helping families and individuals who have faced tragedy or hardship in Dixon.

For more information, visit the Dixon Firefighters Facebook page or call 707-678-7060. To purchase tickets, visit events.humanitix.com/2025-annual-prawn-feed.

Trunk or Treat at the Chamber

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting Trunk or Treat from 2 to 5 p.m. Oct. 31. Held in the Chamber parking lot, 220 N. Jefferson St., the event will offer free candy, glow sticks, pumpkin decorating, music and more.

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

Dixon High School Football

The Dixon High School Rams Football Team have an away game Oct. 10. Hosted

at Woodland High School, 21 N. West St., Woodland, games will begin at 5 p.m. for Junior Varsity and 7 p.m. for Varsity. The Rams will take on the Woodland High Wolves.

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

Dixon Historical Society Presentation

Dixon Historical Society is hosting its final presentation of the year from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 19. Held in Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall, 209 N. Jefferson St., the event will focus on the history of the Dunclicliff Family in Dixon. The free event also offers refreshments post-presentation.

For more information, visit dixonhistoricalsociety.org or call 707-693-3044.

Pin-A-Go-Go 2025

The 29th Annual Pin-A-Go-Go pinball show will be in Dixon from Oct. 10 to 12. Held at the Dixon May Fair Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St., the event boasts being the longest-running pinball show west of the Mississippi River. General admission is cash only and has options such as a 3-day pass for \$30 (\$20 for 13 and under), \$30 for Friday and Saturday (\$20 for children 13 and under), and \$10 for Sunday (\$10 for children 13 and under). On Oct. 10, Friday, the venue will open from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. On Oct. 11, Saturday, the venue opens 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Finally, Oct. 12, Sunday, the venue is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds will benefit local youth charities.

For more information, visit pin-a-go-go.org or email pinagogo.team@gmail.com

Dixon Fire Department Open House

Dixon Fire Department will host an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 11. Held at Fire Station 81, 205 Ford Way, the event will include fire engine tours, safety demonstrations, giveaways and kid-friendly activities as part of Fire Prevention Week, a nationwide campaign sponsored by the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA).

For more information, visit the Dixon Fire Department Facebook page or call 707-678-7060.

Fundraiser Bunco Party

Soroptimist International of Dixon is hosting a fundraiser bunco party at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 2. Held at Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St., the event includes a no-host bar and lunch for \$40 per ticket. All proceeds will benefit the lives of women and girls in the community.

For more information, visit the Soroptimist International of Dixon Facebook page. For ticket information, call 916-595-5521 or email soroptimistdixon@gmail.com. ★



Performances are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 17 and 18 with a 2 p.m. matinee Oct. 19 at the Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way. From left are Edith Griffin as Mrs. Hawkins, Bentley Abrew as Jim Hawkins and Cody Pidgeon James as Bill Bones. Photo courtesy of Dixon Community Theater

Continued from page 1

narrator. The pair have previously shared the stage in other Dixon Community Theater productions, including 'Dreamland,' 'Alice's Wonderland' and the annual Christmas performance.

"My favorite part in 'Treasure Island' is definitely the fight scene when I am taken prisoner. I love the song I will be singing, 'Jimmy Boy,' written by Angi Wolfram," Bentley said.

Portraying Long John Silver, the other lead, is Matthew Popovitz, a Vacaville High School junior.

"My favorite part of the 'Treasure Island' show is the fight scenes," Popovitz said. "I believe people should come to see 'Treasure Island' to show support for the DCT program and to encourage more young actors to audition for shows in their area."

The show is directed by Angel Gatchel in her first role at the helm of a production.

"Practice has been going great," Gatchel said. "We had some kids struggling with their reading and now they're excited to try on new voices. It's been really encouraging."

Gatchel credited the Monson family and Tony James, husband of Dixon Community Theater co-organizer Kelly Pidgeon James, for their help with set design and prop construction. Gatchel said



Dixon Community Theater will also host a meet-and-greet with the "Treasure Island" cast at the Dixon Senior Resource Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 18 at 201 S. 5th St. From left are Matthew Popovits as Long John Silver, Meli Mackley as Morgan and Teddy Monson as Black Dog. Photo courtesy of Dixon Community Theater

she hopes audiences will appreciate both the story and the effort behind it.

"I think they're overall going to enjoy the fact that these kids have a creative outlet," Gatchel said. "These kids are putting on a show for their families and they'll get that outward affirmation from family and the community."

First-time actor Bear Loveless, a third-grader playing Blind Pew, joins other newcomers such as Marwyn Bailey, 7, of Dixon Montessori, who plays Sandy Dunes and Jamie.

Parents say that the production has boosted their children's confidence and interest in reading and performing. According to

Nelda Bailey, mother of Marwyn Bailey, her daughter found her motivation to read through participation in this production.

Said Bailey, "Ever since she was little, she struggled to build motivation to read... Now she'll ask more questions, she'll ask for feedback. She wants to learn more and that's been very nice."

Dixon Community Theater will also host a meet-and-greet with the cast at the Dixon Senior Resource Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 18 at 201 S. 5th St.

For more information or to purchase "Treasure Island" tickets, visit dixoncommunitytheater.org or call 707-903-8387. ★

Honoring Longtime Campus Supervisor

Continued from page 1

with Stacey for years. "My kids walk this crosswalk, my grandkids walk this crosswalk and I know I can rest easy as long as Scotty is here," said Hicks. "He's been helping out the community since he was 10."

Stacey has worked for Dixon Unified School District for 38 years, only missing a handful of days due to personal loss or health reasons. He was inducted into the Dixon High School Hall of Fame in 2014 as a special contributor.

"When they cross this street, they're my kids," said Stacey. "And God help anyone who messes with my kids."

Born and raised in Dixon, Stacey is a fourth-generation Dixonite. Over the years, Stacey's familiar presence and

warm greetings have become part of the daily rhythm for many students and families.

"Even some of the people by my mom went to school with are driving by and waving," said Stacey. "The best thing is to see the kids come by. They're waving and I give them a hearty good morning."

Looking at the new bench, Stacey said he was nearly moved to tears.

"My first words were, 'It's beautiful,'" said Stacey. "This is actual proof that I had people who cared about me as much as I cared about them."

According to Hicks, Stacey has committed to "at least another five" years. Community members say they are grateful for every single one of those years. ★

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Family Services' Comedy Night a Laughter

Laughter and Generosity Fill the Room



More than 100 attendees at the Dixon Family Services' annual Comedy Night at Olde Vet's Hall on Sept. 27 helped raise an estimated \$20,000 to support the nonprofit organization's programs for local families in need. Dinner was catered by Bud's Pub and Grill and served by volunteers from Kaiser Permanente. Photo courtesy of Dixon Family Services

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - More than 100 attendees at the Dixon Family Services' annual Comedy Night at Olde Vet's Hall on Sept. 27 helped raise an estimated \$20,000 to support the nonprofit organization's programs for local families in need.

Guests began arriving at 6 p.m. to enjoy a no-host bar, raffle opportunities and the event's laidback, communal atmosphere. Comedy Night, since its inception in 2006, has become a signature fundraiser for Dixon Family Services (DFS). Dinner was served at 7 p.m., featuring a Mexican menu of Chili Colorado, rice, beans, chips and salsa, catered by Bud's Pub & Grill. Employees of Kaiser Permanente, an event sponsor, volunteered to serve dinner. Dessert followed, with an auction immediately after.

Comedian and emcee David Studebaker returned for the second year to perform a 45-minute set. According to Dixon Family Services' Executive Director Cookie Powell, Studebaker kept the crowd laughing throughout the event.

In addition to his comedy performance, Studebaker served as the auctioneer for the dessert auction, announced raffle winners and rang the dinner bell.

"David stood out to me for several reasons," said Powell. "He is very engaging with the crowds and he is experienced in being an emcee, so he gives us more than just a comedy act. His comedy is spontaneous, clean and non-controversial. This is what our audience prefers. He makes even the raffles and auctions fun, which is important at a fundraising event."

Comedy Night has been held annually since 2006, when the original "Just Desserts & Laughter" was rebranded and expanded to include dinner. Like many organizations in Dixon, the event had to be put on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to Powell, this year's event drew 101 attendees.

"It's our one big fundraising event of the year," Powell said. "We don't receive any local, state or federal funding. All proceeds help cover program costs, operating expenses and special efforts like our holiday food program. DFS depends on several foundation grants that I apply for each year and the generosity of this community."

Funds raised will directly support the organization's services for low-income families, including referrals



Comedian and emcee David Studebaker returned for the second year, performing a 45-minute set. In addition to his comedy performance, Studebaker served as the auctioneer for the dessert auction, announced raffle winners and rang the dinner bell. Photo courtesy of Dixon Family Services



Comedy Night has been held annually since 2006, when the original "Just Desserts & Laughter" was rebranded and expanded to include dinner. According to Dixon Family Services Executive Director Cookie Powell (center), the event had many first-time attendees and everyone seemed to have a great time. Photo courtesy of Dixon Family Services

to other agencies, basic needs assistance and programs to ensure that children are safe and thriving.

Raffle prizes were donated by more than 40 local businesses and individuals, including Superior Farms, Dixon Family Chiropractic, Grocery Outlet, Dixon Florist, Cattleman's Dixon and several individual community members.

This year's sponsors included Kaiser Permanente, KUIU, Travis Credit Union, Dupratt Ford

Dixon, Altec Industries and several individual donors.

Volunteers played a key role in making the event possible, handling logistics ranging from food service to prize coordination. Among the many helpers were Patty Richards, Amanda Tafoya, Sondria Jackson, Aly Kelly and Joseph Garewal.

Powell acknowledged the growing number of first-time attendees and said Comedy Night remains a community favorite.

"We are always delighted to see new faces," said Powell. "It means our

message is spreading and more people are joining our mission."

Planning for Comedy Night 2026 will begin in January and Dixon Family Services is seeking new volunteers to help organize the event. Powell encourages community members interested in participating to call her at 707-678-0442 or email her at info@dixonfamilyservices.org.

"If you know someone in need or if you want to help, we're here," Powell said. "It's about supporting one another in our own community." ★

Soroptimist International Names Young Woman of the Month

Jayla Malibunas Awarded for Community Involvement

Soroptimist International of Dixon Press Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Jayla Malibunas is the Principal's Choice for this month's Young Woman of the Month.

Malibunas is most proud of who she surrounds herself with. Malibunas said that the friends she has chosen to surround herself with bring out the best in her and are the primary influences in her life.

"I believe that who you spend your time with has a huge influence on how you behave, express yourself and shape your mindset," Malibunas said.

According to Malibunas, her friends are inclusive, outgoing, sociable, respectful, humorous and mature. They always make the effort to greet someone, strike up a conversation or share a quick inside joke whenever they walk around school. Her friends have helped Malibunas become more mindful of making others feel valued and seen. They have taught her to laugh at everything, especially embarrassing moments, and to always live life to the fullest.

Malibunas is the daughter of Jason and Jeanette Malibunas.



Jayla Malibunas of Dixon High School was honored as Young Woman of the Month for September. From left, Olivia Wasser of Dixon High School, Nikki Monk of Soroptimist Dixon and Jeanette Malibunas were present to honor the high school students' efforts. Photo courtesy of Soroptimist International of Dixon

Malibunas has a younger brother, Jesiah. Malibunas grew up in Dixon, first attending Sunshine Preschool and then Montessori Charter School from kindergarten to eighth grade. She is currently a Dixon High School senior.

Malibunas enjoys being involved in her community. She has assisted with multiple fall festivals at

Anderson Elementary and Dixon High School. Malibunas is an Ambassador of the Ram Vault Herd at Dixon High School and is in leadership. She is also Associated Student Body vice president, a member of the media club, a four-year member of the Dixon High School volleyball team and a student representative on the school board.

As if this was not enough, Malibunas is the founder and co-president of the Asian American Pacific Islander Club. The new club's mission is to create unity and appreciation among Asian American Pacific Islander students. It hopes to provide incoming Asian American Pacific Islander students with a welcoming community that ensures they

feel comfortable being who they are.

Malibunas' hobbies include crocheting, which has evolved into making animal (amigurumi) plushies on Etsy. She also enjoys baking, hula dancing and playing the ukulele.

Dixon High School Principal Angela Brown recognized her as a dedicated student who demonstrates leadership and is outgoing and compassionate, with a strong commitment to Dixon High School. Malibunas has gone above and beyond in supporting and contributing to her school.

Although she does not have a clear plan, Malibunas's motive after high school is to seek something that will have a great impact. Malibunas' dream is to work in the film production industry because, she said, the media industry is a good way to bring awareness to certain topics through symbolism in this technological generation.

Soroptimist International of Dixon members wish Malibunas the best in her future pursuits. We hope that she will continue to surround herself with people who share her values and inclusiveness. ★

Police Officers Participate in Pink Patch Project

Dixon Police Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Dixon Police Department is proud to participate in the Pink Patch Project during the month of October for breast cancer awareness.

This initiative, in collaboration with the Dixon Police Officers' Association, allows uniformed members of the department to wear

pink patches on their uniform shirts for the entire month.

Community members can purchase the pink Dixon Police Department patches as keepsakes.

The Pink Patch Project is a nationwide public awareness campaign that encourages law enforcement



agencies to wear pink versions of their department patches. This initiative aims to spark conversations about breast cancer awareness, raise funds for research and support individuals impacted by this disease. Community members

interested in purchasing the patches can contact the Dixon Police Officers' Association via email at admin@dixonpoa.org. The cost is \$10 per patch.

All proceeds will be donated by the Dixon Police Officers' Association to support breast cancer patients and their families.

Let us work together in raising awareness and supporting this important cause. ★

Women's Club Meets on Oct. 15

Dixon Women's Improvement Club News Release

DIXON CA (MPG) - The Dixon Women's Improvement Club opened its new season with a delightful buffet luncheon, prepared by the newly-appointed board members. Members enjoyed a spirited round of tea bingo, featuring colorful tea-themed cards that added a whimsical touch to the afternoon.

Vice President Jewel Fink introduced an exciting slate of activities and presentations planned for the year ahead.

The next Dixon Women's Improvement Club meeting will be at 1 p.m. Oct. 15 with Elizabeth Fuller, chief consultant, California Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care, talking about issues facing the elderly.



The Dixon Women's Improvement Club opened its new season with a buffet luncheon and tea bingo, featuring colorful tea-themed playing cards. Photo courtesy of Dixon Women's Improvement Club

On Nov. 8, members for lunch and a visit to the will carpool to Winters Winters Museum. ★



Get Ready For Halloween with Children's Book

The crisp air of fall is here, and the sight of pumpkins adorning porches signals the arrival of Halloween. Get ready to embrace the excitement of this festive season with these delightful children's books.



This Little Monster

by Doris Rlys, illustrated by Kathryn Selbert, Little Simon

A darling and spooky twist to the familiar children's tune "This Little Piggy," set in a board book design. Friendly monsters and Halloween sights all combine to a familiar little tune that will have little ones wanting to sing this song all day long.

One Happy Haunted House,
By Jeffrey Burton and Neil Clark, Little Simon

Uncover the delightful surprises hidden in this charming haunted house. From playful ghosts and jolly pumpkins to mischievous little monsters, this interactive book is a bundle of fun. With each shake, a new surprise pops out, making the reading experience engaging and full of laughter.

Chicka Chicka Tricka Treat
by Julien Ching, Beach Lane

It's Halloween, and time for the letters to get spooky. With each letter donned in their favorite little costume, they head up the creaky old tree. But can you tell which letter is hiding under the costume? Full of rhyming fun with a dash of Halloween flair, fans of the story will be excited for the end when it's time to celebrate with a chicka chicka tricka treat!

I Hate Everything!

by Sophy Henn, Beachlane Books

Meet Hhost, who's having a not-so-great day; he seems to hate EVERYTHING! Well, almost everything. He's not averse to his friend, and he might even have a soft spot for sweets and dressing up. But everything else? Not so much. Or does he?

In this adorable illustrated story, little ones will laugh and giggle at a ghost who definitely has a strong opinion on everything around him. Luckily, he has a little ghost friend at his side, reminding him that there might be things he does like.

A story that turns things around, making a bad day not feel so bad after all.

It's Almost Time for Halloween
by Maisha Oso and Tom Knight, McElderry Books

A laugh-out-loud rhyming book that gets little ones ready for Halloween. From the first fall of the leaves, a spooky day is on its way. Decorating the house, picking out the pumpkins, and baking sweet treats, there is so much to do to get ready. With a bit of crafting and picking out a costume, there is still so much to do. But is everyone in town getting ready for Halloween? You will have to read and find out!

A fun book that gets little ones excited for everything Halloween, all month long. ★

Riley Reviews

"SECRETS OF THE DEAD" ON PBS; NEW YORK ROTTEN IN "CANDY APPLE"



A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

From a groundbreaking find in Alexandria that could shed light on Cleopatra's reign to the decoding of Mary, Queen of Scots' lost encrypted letters, PBS offers the truth behind history's deepest mysteries in six all-new episodes of "Secrets of the Dead," premiering October 8, 2025.

The season kicks off with "Secrets of the Dead: The Rise & Fall of the Colosseum," which illustrates how the spectacular arena showcasing ancient Rome's wealth and power also contributed to the Empire's eventual downfall.

The Colosseum was the jewel of ancient Rome. It vowed crowds with extraordinary spectacles. It pushed the boundaries of technology. Rome's vast wealth and power was on display.

Roman leaders spread the Colosseum's design throughout the Empire, and it helped them conquer the ancient world. But just as the structure embodied Rome's power, so too did it contribute to the Empire's demise.

In the story of "Secrets of the Dead: Cleopatra's Last Temple" just below the Mediterranean's surface, in Alexandria's harbor, lie the ruins of a mysterious ancient monument.

For more than twenty years, French explorer Franck Goddio has been hoping to confirm these remains are a temple belonging to Cleopatra. If true, this discovery could reveal vital new information about Cleopatra's rule and her connection to the goddess Isis.

"Secrets of the Dead: Cracking the Queen's Code" tells the tale of how in early 2003, three amateur codebreakers announced they had successfully decoded the secret correspondence of one of the most tragic characters in European history.

For Mary, Queen of Scots, the discovery of 57 encrypted letters details the exiled queen's efforts to free herself from imprisonment and gain advantage over her rival, Queen Elizabeth. Now, after four centuries, Mary's urgent pleas can be revealed.

"Secrets of the Dead: Chasing the Plague" follow scientists as they track down the earliest known bubonic plague victims in hopes of preventing future outbreaks, while historians and scholars explore the societal impact of the plague on medieval Europe.

A question that is relevant given our own recent history: What happens when a third of a continent's population is wiped out? Imagine the devastation if the Covid pandemic had reached such an unthinkable level.

"Secrets of the Dead: China's Bronze Kingdom" probes a mysterious ancient city that lies hidden in the mountains of Sichuan – remnants of a kingdom consigned to oblivion for thousands of years, until the chance discovery of a jade

artifact in 1986.

More than 10,000 unusual items have been found at the site which experts believe may be as archaeologically important as the Terracotta Army of Xi'an. Could this be the capital of the ancient Shu kingdom?

"Secrets of the Dead: Picturing Shakespeare" delves into the only two accepted representations of William Shakespeare that are considered "official." But could a portrait that has been hanging over a family's mantelpiece for the last 50 years be the third?

British window washer Steven Wadlow, whose father received the portrait in the 1960s, is on the hunt to prove the painting is genuine. If so, it could worth as much as \$200 million.

As one of PBS's ongoing limited prime-time series, "Secrets of the Dead" is a perennial favorite, routinely ranking among one of the most-watched series on public television. The series uses the latest scientific discoveries to challenge prevailing ideas and share fresh perspectives on historical events.

"CANDY APPLE" on Blu-ray

Terry "Texas" Trash, a notorious fixture in Tucson's music community, is described as a punk rock hero who gained infamy when he was hit by a train, losing both his right arm and leg.

Fittingly, Terry's band is Texas Trash and the Trainwrecks. Branching out into film, Terry Trash stars in the dark comedy "Candy Apple," arriving on Blu-ray in October.

The film, written, directed, and starring Dean Dempsey, follows a father and son duo – played by real-life father and son – hustling the streets of Manhattan in search of rent money and their elusive dreams.

Terry has put his country music on hold and moved to New York to support the filmmaking ambitions of his son Bobby (Dean Dempsey), which happened during the making of this film.

A double-amputee with a tattooed face, prosthetic limbs, and endless wild stories, Terry fits right in among the downtown dive-bar regulars. Meanwhile, Bobby obsessively films oddball moments around the neighborhood, including his dad tossing pizza off fire escapes.

Both father and son find themselves submerging into the underbelly of the city to make ends meet. Bobby resorts to turning tricks, while Terry delivers drugs by using a unique hiding spot for his stash.

Together, they spiral further into Manhattan's shadows. Can they reclaim their creative spark, or will the unforgiving Big Apple consume them whole?

While "Candy Apple" may capture the vibe of New York City underground cinema in the tradition of Andy Warhol's work from the '60s and '70s, one might point to 1969's award-winning "Midnight Cowboy" as possible inspiration for a film steeped in the seedy side of hustlers in the Big Apple. ★

Every Nap Counts



Solano County Health & Social Services, Public Health Division, encourages parents, caregivers and family members to learn how to reduce the risk of infant death through safe-sleep practices and other preventative measures. Photo by Jill Wellington from Pixabay

Continued from page 1

Unexpected Infant Death, Solano County Health & Social Services, Public Health Division, is partnering with Solano County Libraries to offer Safe Sleep presentations during Baby

Bounce, a special story time designed for babies ages 0 to 18 months and their caregivers to bond through songs, rhymes and books.

For more information on safe sleep, visit <https://safetosleep.nichd.nih.gov>. ★

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Fourth-Grade Families Can Visit 54 State Parks for Free

California State Parks News Release

STATE OF CALIFORNIA (MPG) - Families of fourth-graders in California public schools are invited to download the free California State Park Adventure Pass at parks.ca.gov/AdventurePass

The pass opens the door to California's stunning natural landscapes and rich cultural heritage, granting students and their families a year of free entry to 54 state parks full of sandy beaches and desert canyons, majestic redwood forests and eye-opening historic sites.

Championed by First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, whose California for All Kids initiatives support children's physical, mental and social-emotional well-being, and the Newsom Administration's Outdoors for All initiative, the California State Park Adventure Pass expands the opportunity for fourth-graders and their families to enjoy the benefits of connecting with nature, each other and their communities.

The pass for this school year's fourth graders is valid until Aug. 31, 2026. To date, more than 89,000 passes have opened new doors and fostered a love of state parks for California fourth-graders.

"As a mom, I know how much time in nature shapes a child's health, happiness and love for the outdoors," Siebel Newsom said. "The California State Park Adventure Pass has opened the door for more kids and families to experience the joy and benefits of our beautiful state parks. I encourage all public school fourth-graders and their families to take advantage of this opportunity and to explore all the incredible natural treasures California has to offer."

Said State Parks Director Armando Quintero,



Let the adventures begin. California State Parks and First Partner invite fourth-graders and their families to experience the state's unmatched beauty and history for free. It's easy for Sonoma State Historical Park visitors to picture life here in the 1800s. The historic old town of Sonoma comes alive at the state park. Sonoma State Historical Park is an easy drive from this area. Photo courtesy of California State Parks, 2025

"California's state parks are true wonders of nature and human history. The Adventure Pass is an invitation to fourth-graders and their families to discover the world of California. It's your home."

And California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot said, "California's natural treasures belong to all of us. By opening our parks to public school fourth-graders at no cost, we're investing in healthier kids, stronger communities and the next generation of stewards who will care for the Golden State's wealth of natural and cultural resources."

Obtaining a free California State Park Adventure Pass online is easy. Parents and/or guardians can go online to reservecalifornia.com or call 800-444-7275 (Spanish-speaking customer service available). If they don't already have a ReserveCalifornia

account, they can set up a profile by providing their name, address, phone number and email address. After completing the form, the free pass will be immediately sent to their email to be used at the 54 participating parks.

Individuals without access to a smartphone, computer, printer and/or email address can request a pass by visiting a State Parks Pass Sales Office or by calling 800-444-7275.

What are some of the picturesque state parks that fourth-graders and their families can visit? Two parks within a few hours' drive from home include the Empire Mine State Historical Park and the Sonoma State Historical Park.

Empire Mine State Historical Park is the site of one of the oldest, deepest and richest gold mines in California. The park is at 10791 East Empire St., Grass Valley. In operation for more than 100 years, the mine

extracted 5.8-million ounces of gold before it closed in 1956. The park contains many of the mine's buildings, the owner's home and restored gardens, and the entrance to 367 miles of abandoned and flooded mine shafts. The park encompasses 856 acres of forested backcountry and 14 miles of trails, including easy hikes for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding.

Sonoma State Historical Park is a scattering of historical sites consisting of six midtown locations near Sonoma's Plaza. Off the Sonoma Plaza are Mission San Francisco Solano, the Blue Wing Inn, Sonoma Barracks, the Toscano Hotel & Kitchen, and the Servants Quarters (the remains of La Casa Grande). General Vallejo's Home, less than a mile west of the Plaza, was the estate of General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, Military Commander and Director of Colonization of the Northern Frontier and founder

of Pueblo de Sonoma. The park's main office address is at 363 3rd St. West, Sonoma,

Closer to home are the California State Railroad Museum, Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park, State Indian Museum State Historic Park and Sutter's Fort State Historic Park in Sacramento.

Find all 54 participating parks at parks.ca.gov.

Made possible by Assembly Bill 148, the California State Park Adventure Pass program was signed by Governor Gavin Newsom in July 2021. The pass is valid for the one-year period during which the child is a fourth-grader or fourth-grade equivalent and attends a public school, from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31 of that year. The pass is also a good educational tool for California fourth-grade teachers, who can encourage students to extend their classroom learning into state parks and explore these living classrooms.

In addition to the California State Park Adventure Pass, all Californians can check out a California State Parks Library Pass by using their library cards to access more than 200 participating state park units.

Families receiving California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids (CalWORKs), individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and income-eligible Californians 62 and over can apply for the Golden Bear Pass with their smartphone or other web-based device and have access to more than 200 California state park units. The Golden Bear Pass is also available to participants of California's Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

For more information on all three State Park Pass programs, visit parks.ca.gov/OutdoorsForAll. ★

Assemblywoman Hosts Regional Transportation Funding Meeting

Conversations Continue About California's Roads, Bridges and Multimodal Transportation Projects

Office of Lori D. Wilson News Release

SUISUN CITY, CA (MPG) - Assemblywoman Lori D. Wilson (D-Suisun City), chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, convened regional leaders, transportation officials and community members on Oct. 1 at the Solano County Transportation Authority Office to continue the conversation on the future of funding for California's roads, bridges and multimodal transportation projects.

The event was the second in a series of statewide community town halls Assemblywoman Wilson is leading to gather input from Californians on long-term, sustainable solutions for funding critical transportation infrastructure.

"As chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, it's important for me to hear directly from the people and communities I represent here in Solano County," said Wilson. "These conversations are critical to getting this right and building a multimodal transportation system that meets our communities' needs and works for all Californians."

"Conversations like these are so important for our community and our region," said Suisun City Mayor Alma Hernandez. "Bay Area residents depend on safe and reliable transportation, and funding those projects fairly and sustainably is essential. I'm grateful to Assemblymember Wilson for hosting this discussion here in our district and

for making sure Solano County and the Bay Area have a voice in these statewide conversations."

Assemblywoman Wilson was joined by representatives from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Solano County Transportation Authority (STA), the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) and the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The discussion focused on the state's current transportation funding system, California's projected funding shortfall, and a range of options under consideration to meet future needs.

According to the California Transportation Commission, California faces a projected transportation funding shortfall of approximately \$31 billion

over the next decade, as fewer drivers pay user-based fuel taxes that fund multimodal fixes and improvements for roads, bridges and public transportation projects.

Stakeholder input from the meeting is being used to inform Assemblywoman Wilson's efforts to identify a sustainable and fair funding model that considers evolving technology and travel behavior.

"Transportation is essential for public safety and economic opportunity for millions of Californians," added Wilson. "I am very grateful to my neighbors here in Solano County who shared their thoughts and priorities. As always, I look forward to sharing the unique perspectives of the communities in my district with my colleagues in Sacramento." ★

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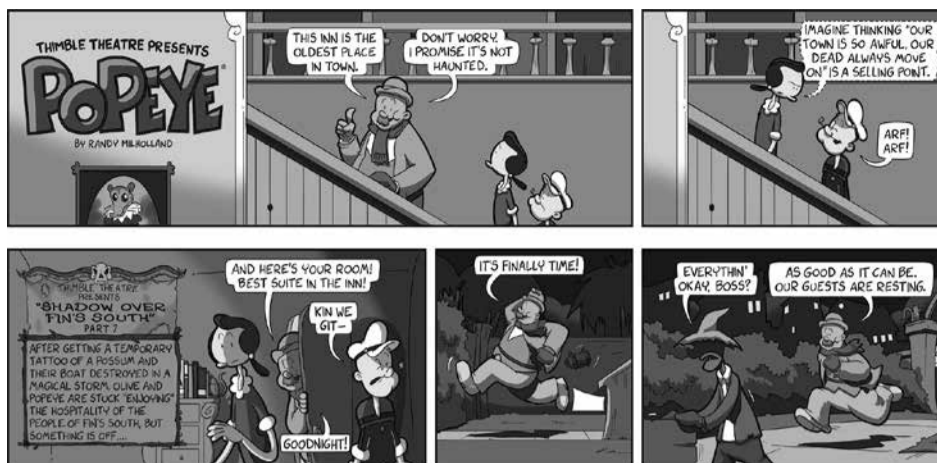
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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS

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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



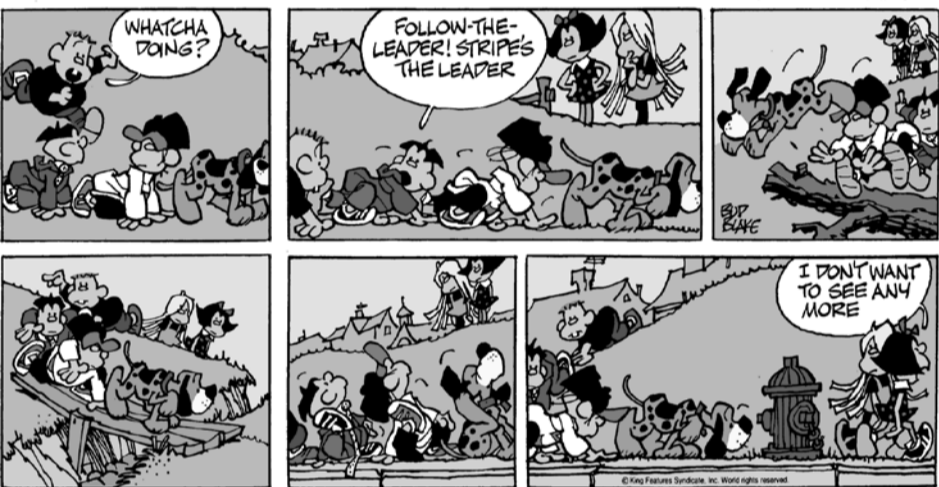
Differences: 1. Box is smaller. 2. Arm is longer. 3. The is longer. 4. Thumb is moved. 5. Man has more hair. 6. Cap is a different shape.

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

GRIN and BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • WORLD SERIES

CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Treble, bass and alto
 - OB-GYN test
 - Hoodlum
 - In 1921, the World Series was first broadcast on it
 - Tribute poem
 - Cursor mover
 - Same as Amir
 - Neither here there
 - Any member of the 2002 World Series champs
 - World Series trophy presenter, Rob
 - Only one W.S. Series winners
 - and the City
 - German industrial valley
 - Gift topper
 - Kids' building block
 - Player with most career World Series home runs
 - Good vs
 - Ball of yarn
 - Offspring
 - Thespian's part
 - Shasta and Tab, e.g.
 - Singer Tori
 - Potato masher alternative
 - Fox coat, e.g.
 - Hokkaido native
 - Put on a pedestal
 - Just manages, with out
 - 2005 World Series MVP, Jermaine
 - Time unit
 - Polar toy-maker
 - Team with most World Series wins
 - 2024 World Series MVP, Freddie
 - Met's offering
 - Legal grp.
 - Give the slip
 - Send, as payment
 - Toothy fish
 - Sells
 - Cupid, to the Greeks
 - Freudian topic
 - Surrealist Max
- DOWN**
- Pull an all-nighter
 - Holy man
 - Yellowstone actress and Josh Broin's daughter
 - Feudal estates
 - Sour salad green
 - Atlantic Ocean, in a popular idiom
 - Much About Nothing
 - Lost, in Provence
 - Chinatown gang
 - Massive
 - Addict
 - Hair styling goops
 - shirts, in The Outsiders
 - #19 Across and such
 - Unit of electrical resistance
 - Mule deer's European cousin (2 words)
 - Player with most career World Series hits, Yogi
 - Egg-shaped
 - Will comply in radio communication
 - Lump of stuff

CROSSWORD													
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- Eccentric like a bird?
- Follow
- Sinister look
- Only one W.S. Game 7 ended by off home run
- Ranch grazer
- Fix leftovers
- Anonymous John
- Ace hiding place
- Consumption
- Saturday Night movie
- Yesteryear
- Impersonator
- Captain of Nautilus
- Bryant, of 2016 World Series winning Cubs
- Wild West card game
- Buddenbrooks author
- Contributes
- Home to eggs
- Tote, e.g.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001342
The following persons are doing business as: Diane Kemena Home Care, 112 Saybrook Avenue, Vacaville, CA 95687. James Aaron Allen, 112 Saybrook Avenue, Vacaville, CA 95687. Date filed in Solano County: August 27, 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 26, 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: Sept 19, 26, Oct 3, 10, 2025
DIANE 10-10-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001372
The following persons are doing business as: Jasper Old Girls Alumni – USA Association, Jogs-USA, 500 Evans Road, Dixon, CA 95620. Jasper Old Girls Alumni – USA Association, 500 Evans Road, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: September 9, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 19, 2025

This Business is conducted by: An Unincorporated Association other than a partnership. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration September 14, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025
WHIPD 10-24-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001075
The following persons are doing business as: Azukar Creations, 1020 Ackley Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Adella Pinon, 1020 Ackley Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: July 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 10, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
AZUKAR 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001412
The following persons are doing business as: Events By Margarita, 255 Essex Way, Benicia, CA 94510. Events By Margarita LLC, 255 Essex Way, Benicia, CA 94510. Date filed in Solano County: September 18, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 9, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration September 14, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
HANDY 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001473
The following persons are doing business as: Handy Hauling, 1180 Cagle Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Baudelio Diaz, 1180 Cagle Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: October 1, 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 September 30, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
HANDY 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001394
The following persons are doing business as: Whipd., 1641 Youngstown Lane, Suisun City, CA 94585. Naomi Carter, 1641 Youngstown Lane, Suisun City, CA 94585. Date filed in Solano County: September 15, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration September 14, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
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JASPER 10-10-25

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Publish: Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
JASPER 10-10-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU25-08561
Monette Alessandra Gutierrez De Leon filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Monette Alessandra Gutierrez De Leon to Alessandra Monette Gutierrez De Leon. 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. November 17, 2025, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Dated: September 24, 2025
Publish: October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
CADERAO 10-31-25

EVENTS 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001473
The following persons are doing business as: Handy Hauling, 1180 Cagle Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Baudelio Diaz, 1180 Cagle Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: October 1, 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 September 30, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
HANDY 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001412
The following persons are doing business as: Events By Margarita, 255 Essex Way, Benicia, CA 94510. Events By Margarita LLC, 255 Essex Way, Benicia, CA 94510. Date filed in Solano County: September 18, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 9, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration September 30, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
HANDY 10-31-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU25-08561

Monette Alessandra Gutierrez De Leon filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Monette Alessandra Gutierrez De Leon to Alessandra Monette Gutierrez De Leon. 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. November 13, 2025, 8:30 a.m. Department 8, Room 1, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Wendy Getty
Dated: September 24, 2025
Publish: October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
GUTIERREZ 10-31-25

EVENTS 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001473
The following persons are doing business as: Handy Hauling, 1180 Cagle Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Baudelio Diaz, 1180 Cagle Court, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: October 1, 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 September 30, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
HANDY 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001412
The following persons are doing business as: Events By Margarita, 255 Essex Way, Benicia, CA 94510. Events By Margarita LLC, 255 Essex Way, Benicia, CA 94510. Date filed in Solano County: September 18, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 9, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration September 30, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
HANDY 10-31-25

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. November 17, 2025, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Dated: September 24, 2025
Publish: October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025
CADERAO 10-31-25

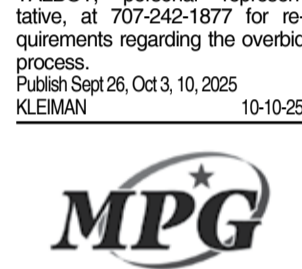
NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE OF HEARING
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD, COUNTY OF SOLANO Estate of SAMUEL MICHAEL KLEIMAN, decedent) No. KLR048079
NOTICE OF HEARING
Petition to confirm sale of real property, as-is and without contingency, between 8A Properties LLC (buyer) and the personal representative of the Estate, SCOTT TALBOT, FOR \$350,000 under limited authority of the IAEA CONFIRMATION SUBJECT TO PRIVATE AUCTION: minimum overbid \$358,500 Notice is hereby given that SCOTT TALBOT, personal representative,, has filed herein a petition to confirm the sale of 1632 Ontario Street Fairfield, CA 94533, reference to which is made for further particulars, and that the time and place of hearing the same has been set for October 16 (date) 2025, at 9:00. am., in the courtroom of Department No. 5, of said court, at 600 Union Avenue, in the City of Fairfield County of SOLANO, California. Contact SCOTT TALBOT, personal representative, at 707-242-1877 for requirements regarding the overbid process.
Publish Sept 26, Oct 3, 10, 2025
KLEIMAN 10-10-25

NOTICE OF HEARING
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD, COUNTY OF SOLANO Estate of SAMUEL MICHAEL KLEIMAN, decedent) No. KLR048079
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Publish Sept 26, Oct 3, 10, 2025
KLEIMAN 10-10-25



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Dixon Independent Voice

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

It is the intent of the Dixon Independent Voice to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

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Main Office Address: 2508 Garfield Ave., Suite A, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The Dixon Independent Voice is published weekly on Friday.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.

Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

Regular Meetings:

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

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

www.dixonveterans.org/Legion.

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

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

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

Boy Scout Troop 152 – Meets Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Social Hall at United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson. Scouts is for boys 11 to 18 years old. Contact Matt at 707-685-1750 or email scoutmaster@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.dixonhistoricalsociety.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 707-624-0144.

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 pres.nsdcc@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northernolanodemts/.

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. ★



PG&E Executive Talks Energy Challenges and Solutions

California farmers and ranchers have suffered some of the worst impacts of the increasing prevalence of wildfires in California, losing crops to fire and smoke, and having their operations affected by planned power outages. Dave Canny, vice president of the North Coast region at Pacific Gas and Electric Co., spoke with Ag Alert® last month about PG&E's efforts to mitigate wildfire risks, improve electric reliability and reduce costs. Canny said the utility provider has made recent improvements in its ability to be more targeted with planned shutoffs, which occur when weather conditions cause powerlines to become a fire hazard, and has worked to bury more of its powerlines underground so that its grid can remain energized during any type of weather. "That's the most effective way to permanently reduce wildfire risk," he said.

Urban Farm's Microgreens Punch Up Plates and Palates

Microgreens and edible flowers can add a visual pop to entrées, side dishes, desserts and drinks. They pack lots of flavor and nutrition into a small package. That's what has attracted some restaurants to the microgreens— young seedlings of edible plants, mostly vegetables and herbs—grown by Joni Albers, owner of Gardens Urban Farm in Los Angeles. Albers sells about two-thirds of her products to Los Angeles restaurants, including several with Michelin stars, with the other third going to distributors who serve nearby areas such as Orange County, Las Vegas and San Diego. "All of my chefs are looking for things that are not like what everybody else has," Albers said,

adding she is constantly seeking plant varieties from all over the world that aren't commercially grown in the United States.

Aggressive Fungal Disease Tests Almond Growers

A vexing fungal disease has spread rapidly from a few San Joaquin Valley almond orchards in 2024 to throughout the state this year, according to growers and researchers. "Red leaf blotch is such an aggressive pathogen that it's a game changer," University of California Cooperative Extension plant pathologist Florent Trouillas said. "But we're hopeful that we can control it at satisfactory levels." In severe infections, red leaf blotch can defoliate trees and reduce yield potential if left unchecked. Several registered fungicides are effective against the fungus, which infects only almond leaves. "The pathogen is so aggressive that the priority is to find tools that can keep the disease as low as possible," Trouillas said.

Investment Supports Next Generation of Agriculture

El Dorado County farmers Jim and Normita Spinetta invested \$200,000 in a fund established by the California Farm Bureau to help cultivate the next generation of agricultural leaders. Their donation supports the California Farm Bureau's Young Farmers & Ranchers Open Discussion Meet, a program that helped shape Jim Spinetta's own career nearly two decades ago. Spinetta said the donation is a way to ensure young people in agriculture have access to the leadership-building opportunities he had. "Everyone says, 'I need to give back,' but my mom would always say, 'You need to give forward. You need to establish a legacy and make a change,' so I'm giving forward to future generations," Spinetta said. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The offseason is over, and your Sacramento Kings are undefeated. It's that time of the year for effervescent optimism, and it has a contagious effect.

Time to be a little kid again and dream that your home team can win the first championship in Sacramento Kings history.

Is that a strong likelihood? The basketball pundits will tell you no, and emphatically no. Local media seems to have a Debbie downer attitude as it relates to the Kings playoff chances, let alone an actual championship.

I choose to focus on what I know is doable and ever likely, with the assembled group of ballers we have that will grace the confines of Golden One Arena on Oct. 8. The Kings face Utah Jazz in their first preseason game of the 2025/2026 campaign.

I will be sitting behind the Kings bench like a kid in a candy store, ready to greet newcomer Dennis Schroder with open arms, and hopes that Dennis will get a warm Sacramento welcome. Schroder has received few accolades as he joins this year's squad, but I believe he could make Sacramento his home for years to come.

As a mentor, Schroder offers a great opportunity for both Nique Clifford and Devin Carter to see how an NBA point guard plays both ends of the court, and Dennis skills as a teacher and veteran NBA ball distributor portends to be an invaluable asset.

Little used Doug McDermott managed to acquire a fan club last season, as he electrified the crowd with his deft 3-point shooting, and it remains to be seen if Doug Christie can translate McDermott's ability to shoot from long range into wins.

Domantas Sabonis returns as the shining star, and his dominance is undeniable. The perennial rebounding champion of the NBA holds down the block like no other center in Sacramento Kings history, and the 2025/2026 season should be more of the same.

Sabonis brings a nightly double-double to the table and an attitude of optimism that translates into team chemistry. If there was a statistic for helping fallen players to their feet, Domantas would win the award going away, and that comes with an effervescent smile that lights up the court.

If ever there is a player that deserves 100% fan support, it is Sacramento's own

Domantas Sabonis, and my advice to fans is to enjoy this magnetic big man while you can.

As Wednesday approaches with no recent acquisitions, the starting five appears to be Domantas Sabonis, Dennis Schroder, DeMar DeRozan, Zach Lavine and Keegan Murray.

That represents a lot of scoring power, what remains to be seen is how Doug Christie can accomplish a flow that will return the Kings to the high-powered scoring machine that led the NBA in scoring just 3 short seasons ago. That cannot be done by the starters alone, so Christie's use of his bench will be a needed ingredient.

Malik Monk appears to be more comfortable in the 6th man role, and he could become a catalyst of prosperity on both ends.

Likewise, Devin Carter showed flashes of brilliance last season, with his defensive skills, and playing alongside Keon Ellis, this tandem could wreak havoc on opposing offensives.

A looming question is whether Doug Christie will abandon his staccato substitution style, in favor of one that allows players to understand better their roles. Knowing that you can expect to play every game and understand how many minutes it's likely you'll play can help in fomenting a more formidable NBA bench.

Will 2025/2026 be a coming out party for Isaac Jones? It should be, as he adds length while helping support Sabonis on the boards, and provides a scoring punch with a nice touch around the rim that can translate into easy baskets.

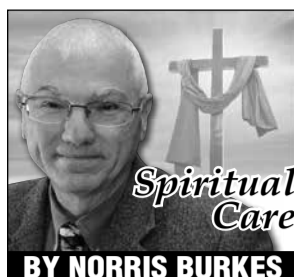
It is no secret that many teams approached the Kings regarding Keon Ellis and Keegan Murray. I give credit to G.M. Scott Perry for realizing what he has in these talented youngsters and keeping them in this year's squad.

If you're not excited Kings fans, it's time to let your hair down and howl! Get a little crazy and dream the dream!

The first 10 games of the regular season are brutal, and if our hometown boys can acquit themselves admirably, fans may be in for a season to remember!

All the best and enjoy!
Your thoughts are always welcome at vgharrisfan@gmail.com. ★

Thank you for Walking With Me



BY NORRIS BURKES

"Happy Birthday," my wife sweetly whispered as we woke.

"How does it feel?" Becky asked.

"What? Being 68?"

"No. How does it feel to be footloose and deadline free. Your newspapers just published your last column today."

"Feels like I just lost a lot of friends."

"Maybe not. Aren't you going to stay in touch with readers through weekly email?"

"I hope so," I said.

"Plus, some readers will be joining you on the Chispa volunteer trips next year."

She's right.

I've always felt that you, my readers, walked along side me. Even though anyone in earshot would think I was talking to myself, I was often talking to you.

We began our conversations in 2002 as I left active-duty Air Force and restarted my hospital chaplain career.

From that beginning, I feel we have been walking the hospital halls together. Those years were not easy ones for me, but I felt encouraged just knowing that you were listening. You responded with kindness and understanding as I recounted my ministry with pediatric cancer patients, premature babies, parents who lost children,

and children who lost parents.

On other days, we found a moment to laugh together, chuckling over the military hat I lost in the toilet, over my unintentional theft of toilet paper, and my OCD that had me noting expired license plate stickers.

And even though I employed the help of a freelance editor, you still corrected my spelling, my grammar, and my punctuation. You fact-checked my references to movies, songs, books, and ouch, even Bible verses.

You prayed for me as I made death notifications for Iraq war KIAs. I felt like you followed me to Iraq as you sent hundreds of care packages to the service members serving with me at Joint Base Balad.

You were there for my biggest losses — my mother-in-law to a stroke in 2011, my brother, Milton, to COVID in 2020, my best friend, Roger, in 2020 to cancer and my mother last year from natural causes.

Still, through all that trauma, we managed to share a lot of fun the last 23 years as you read my column in over 50 papers — Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and even Ontario Canada.

Readers in those states invited me to speak in their churches, schools, clubs and veteran events. They read my books, bought them, donated them to troops, and one

Florida church even commissioned me to write one.

Along the way, I snagged a few awards from the Amy Foundation, the National Society of Newspaper Columnists and the Religion Newswriters Association, BUT, I'm forever most proud of the award you gave me.

I say, "You" because it was solely your response to Chispa Project that sent me to New York in 2019 to receive the Will Rogers Humanitarian Award "... for positively affecting readers' lives and producing tangible humanitarian benefits."

Now this last column is your recognition for positively influencing my life!

But alas, I won't stop writing entirely. I'll still appear weekly in the two newspapers closest to my home, The Union in Grass Valley, Calif., and the Auburn Journal of Auburn, Calif. Of course, I'll share these columns with everyone who signs up for my email list.

So, don't lose touch.

Get my weekly muse by sending an email to comment@thechaplain.net. Or sign yourself up at www.thechaplain.net/newsletter. Remember to spell chaplain correctly, not chaplin. We've talked about this.

Finally, please continue to support Chispa Project either by donating or volunteering for a trip in 2026 as they get ready for the next Honduran school year. Find info at chispa-project.org.

All of my books can still be ordered on Amazon. Autographed copies can be obtained on my website www.thechaplain.net ★

For Those Hoping to Be California's Next Governor, The Clock is Ticking



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Over the last half-century or so, California has had six elections for governor when the office was being vacated.

Understandably, such incumbent-free elections to run the nation's most populous and economically powerful state have drawn serious candidates, mostly holders of other high-profile offices who declared themselves as soon as decorum would allow.

When, for example, Republican Ronald Reagan's two terms as governor were ending in 1974, the Democratic secretary of state, Jerry Brown, narrowly defeated the Republican state controller, Houston Flournoy.

This bit of political history is offered because the end of Gavin Newsom's governorship is approaching rapidly. In scarcely a year, California voters will choose a new governor. The June 2 primary, which will determine the two finalists, is just eight months away.

Yet the field of would-be governors remains very unsettled.

For months voters, political media and potential campaign financiers waited for former Vice President Kamala Harris to decide whether, after losing the presidency to Donald Trump, she would seek the governorship.

Harris finally said no, with a rather odd remark: "I don't want to go back in the system. I think it's broken." She may have been referring to national politics, but since the issue was California's governorship, she could also have been implying the state was broken after many years of dominance by her Democratic Party.

Harris' decision, whatever her motives, did not settle the question about who will be running for governor next year. There are declared candidates, of course, but none scores very high in preliminary polling.

Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis had been one of the first to declare her candidacy but shortly after Harris announced her decision, Kounalakis dropped out, opting instead to run for state treasurer.

With those two out of the picture, former Congresswoman Katie Porter became the frontrunner, more or less by default, but with underwhelming support — 17% in a poll by UC Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies, released in late August. Her standing may have reflected nothing more than name recognition from her losing campaign for U.S. senator last year.

This week Toni Atkins, former president pro tem of the state Senate, also ended her campaign, saying she could see no pathway to victory. A few other Democrats remain, most notably former Biden administration official and state Attorney General Xavier Becerra and former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

Mostly, however, we are seeing just preliminary

skirmishing among those still in the race, because we're still waiting to see who else might run.

After the departure of Harris and Kounalakis, another name popped up in media speculation: U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla.

It's difficult to understand why Padilla, who holds one of the nation's most coveted political offices and could remain in the Senate for the rest of his life, would want to seek no more than eight years as governor.

Does he really want to deal with California's plethora of infinitely difficult, unresolved issues, such as homelessness, housing shortages, water supply uncertainty, economic stagnation and, perhaps trickiest of all, a chronic multibillion-dollar budget deficit?

Were Padilla to give up his Senate seat for the governorship, as Republican Pete Wilson did in 1990, the only logical motive would be civic duty — he thinks California needs him to weather its crises.

Meanwhile, we're waiting for another potential candidate, Rick Caruso, to also declare intentions. The very wealthy Los Angeles businessman ran a credible but unsuccessful race for mayor of his city after switching his party identification from Republican to Democrat and could draw support from moderate voters and interest groups of both parties. He says he's weighing a race.

Dan Walters is one of the most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and demographic trends. ★

Ask DR. UNIVERSE

How does Epinephrine Work?

- Annabelle, 15, Missouri



This is what an auto-injector looks like. It delivers epinephrine really fast—so you can get better ASAP. Tokyogiri79, CC BY-SA 4.0

Dear Annabelle,
I love a peanut butter and tuna sandwich. But when I was a kitten, my school outlawed peanuts. My classmate was super allergic to them. So, we had a rule to keep our friend safe. I packed plain tuna fish instead.

I talked about that with my friend Travis T. Denton. He studies medicinal chemistry and neuroscience at Washington State University.

He told me that epinephrine is the medicine people use for a serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. It comes in an auto-injector, or EpiPen..

"The interesting thing about epinephrine is that it's a chemical made by the body," Denton said. "It's also called adrenaline."

The epinephrine in your body controls your stress response—also called fight or flight. It's how you get ready to handle a threat.

Let's say an angry bear charges you. Your body dumps epinephrine into your bloodstream. It tells your heart to beat faster and your blood vessels to narrow. It orders your lung muscles to relax. Now you're ready to fight the bear or run away.

Epinephrine the medicine works the same way. If you have anaphylaxis, you get itchy and swell up. Your airways close so you can't breathe. It's an emergency.

So, you grab your auto-injector and stab it through your clothes, right into your thigh muscle.

The epinephrine immediately spreads through your blood. It reaches protein receptors all over your body. Epinephrine molecules fit into those receptors. It's like a key slipping into a lock. Or a ball hitting a glove.

What happens next is a signal cascade. Imagine you want to make your friend

smile—but they're on the other side of the room. You draw a funny picture and pass it to someone next to you. They pass it to the next person and the next person. Eventually your pal gets your message and gives you a goofy grin.

Your message traveled through many people to get to its destination. That's like a signal cascade.

When epinephrine binds to the protein receptor, that protein changes shape and activates. It releases a messenger molecule. That messenger zooms to another protein. It activates that protein. The message travels to even more proteins.

Passing that signal from protein to protein is how epinephrine "tells" your cells to tighten up your blood vessels or relax your muscles. It all happens super-fast.

When the blood vessels squeeze smaller, your blood pressure goes up. That reduces swelling. When your lung muscles relax, your airways open. Now, you can breathe again.

After using an auto-injector, you should call 911. You need a doctor to make sure the allergic reaction is totally over.

Doctors use epinephrine for other things, too. It can minimize bleeding during surgery—because it squeezes blood vessels. It can help with other conditions that cause scary-low blood pressure or difficulty breathing.

Epinephrine uses what we know about the body to help us out. And you'd (peanut) butter believe science is how we figured that out.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

Festival Celebrates Sheep, Lamb and Wool

By Kendall Brown
and photos by Nicolas Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) -- The 39th annual Lambtown Festival returned Oct. 4 and 5 to the Dixon May Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St.

The event featured vendors, food trucks, and live music, as well as fiber arts workshops, sheep and lamb

demonstrations, fleece judging, sheep dog trials, and children's activities such as a petting zoo and face painting.

Guests appeared in droves, from busloads to campers, to enjoy the conservation-focused festivities.

Preparations have already begun for Lambtown 2026, with greeters handing out postcards listing details of next year's event as patrons made

their exits.

Lambtown Festival 2026 is set for Oct. 3 and 4, with workshops beginning Oct. 1. The festival's 40th anniversary will continue the event's dedication to sheep, lamb, wool and agriculture, upheld since its inception in 1985.

For more information, visit lambtown.org or email info@lambtown.org. ★



We Love Sheep owner Jordan Reed from southern Oregon gave demos on proper sheep shearing practices at Lambtown Festival.



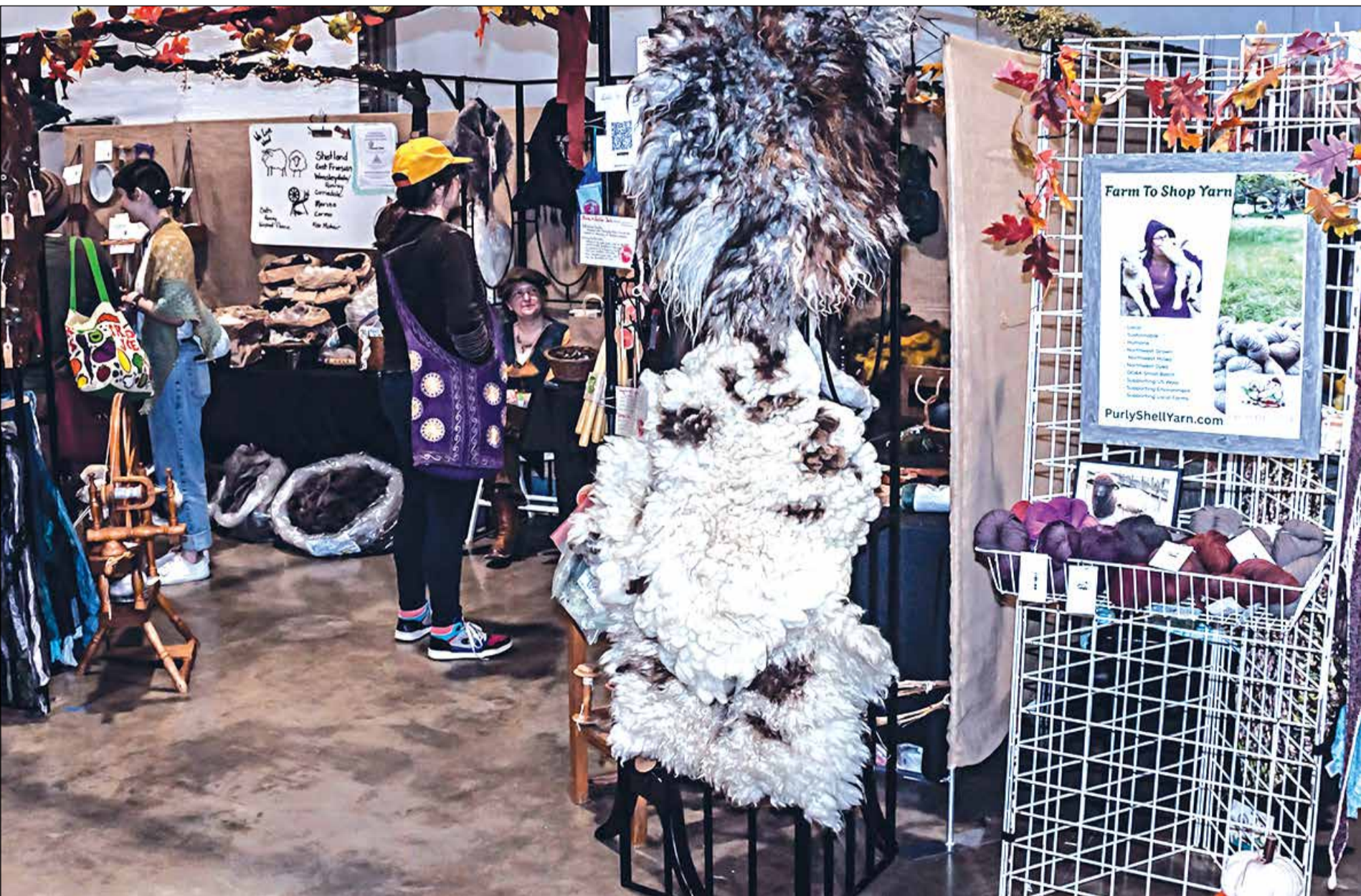
The Lambtown Festival began at 9 a.m. Oct. 4 and 5, offering Dixonites, out of towners and wool enthusiasts alike a variety of activities, workshops and demos to check out, including sheep herding.



Practitioners from across the country visited the Dixon May Fairgrounds to convene with like-minded individuals and discuss their craft. Many of the booths, vendors and workshops focused on themes of sustainability and craftsmanship.



More than 80 vendors and more than 50 hands-on workshops were available at the event.



Workshops and vendors focused on fiber arts, including spinning, weaving, felting, knitting, dyeing and flock management. Products from yarns to full hats, gloves and sweaters were offered.

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