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Set to Haunt Dixon**
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**There is Only
ONE KING,
Jesus Christ**



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Independent Voice
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**Grapplers to Compete
in International Tournament**



Top Brazilian jiu-jitsu fighters from throughout the world will converge Nov. 15 on Dixon for the G3 Millennium Team versus Team Submission Grappling Tournament, a day-long event featuring international competition, local youth bouts and a \$1,500 cash prize. The event is organized by Dixon resident and Brazilian jiu-jitsu black belt Fabio Prado (center). Photo courtesy of Team Alpha BJJ Point Arena

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Top Brazilian jiu-jitsu fighters from throughout the world will converge on Dixon on Nov. 15 for the G3 Millennium Team versus Team Submission Grappling Tournament, a day-long event featuring international competition, local youth bouts and a \$1,500 cash prize.

Hosted at the Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way, the event will run from noon to 9 p.m. and is open to the public. Tickets are available online and at the door for about \$30 per person. The event is organized



The Nov. 15 tournament marks the inaugural G3 team-based grappling event in Dixon. Three-person teams, each fighter weighing under 175 pounds, will compete in a bracket-style format for the \$1,500 grand prize. About 70 competitors from throughout the world are slated to compete. Photo courtesy of Team Alpha BJJ Point Arena

by Dixon resident and Brazilian jiu-jitsu black belt Fabio Prado, who has lived in the city for 18

years and trains nearly 200 students.

Prado, who began his martial arts journey at age 5 and has coached and trained with elite athletes such as former Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) champion Deiveson Figueiredo, launched the “Gladiators of the 3rd Millennium” (G3) series to promote jiu-jitsu and self-defense skills among youth.

“We used to be gladiators back in the day but things have evolved,” said Prado. “Now we want to bring more jiu-jitsu to the next generation, so they can grow into confident,

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**October Is
Breast Cancer
Awareness
Month**



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so the members of Soroptimist International of Dixon took time to support those in need and celebrate the survivors. Photo courtesy of Freepik

**Soroptimist
International of Dixon
News Release**

DIXON, CA (MPG) - October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time to create awareness, honor those lives affected by breast cancer, give our support to those in need and celebrate the survivors.

The Soroptimist Club of Dixon took time this month to do that.

The club has a banner originally initiated at the annual golf tournament and better known as the Pink Hole. The banner is dedicated to those who have battled all types of cancer: the survivors and those who are no longer with us.

“Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women worldwide. In 2022, approximately 2.3- million women were diagnosed and another 670,000 died from the disease, reports the World Health Organization in October,” said an anonymous survivor. “People hear early detection is crucial for successful treatment but are often hesitant because they don’t think it’s important enough and whatever they are experiencing or are just too busy right now, put it off. Early detection can mean the person’s treatment options are better and so is the outcome. If in doubt check it out; don’t wait and see what happens, take action, make that doctor’s appointment.

Early detection includes breast self-exam, regular exams and/or mammograms, and knowing your body. This is the time to remember how important you are to everyone around you, so take that step, according to Soroptimist members. According to the American Cancer Society, when breast cancer is detected early and is in the localized stage, the five-year relative survival rate is 99%.

Soroptimist Club of Dixon is proud to remember and honor all survivors.

“We decide the first day of our cancer diagnosis whether we are going to be victims or survivors. We decide to muster up all our strength to fight to win. We decide to stay positive and not let cancer define us,” according to the anonymous survivor. ★

Brewski Fest Draws Record Crowd

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Downtown Dixon welcomed beer lovers from across the region Oct. 18 for the 15th annual Brewski Fest, a craft beer stroll that brought in more than 250 attendees and featured 16 breweries from across California.

Organized by the Downtown Dixon Business Association, Brewski Fest ran from 4 to 8 p.m. and served as a fundraiser for the city’s annual Christmas Tree Lighting Festival. According to the association’s President Jill Orr, the event saw a turnout of approximately 255 participants, which is up from 220 last year.

“Brewski Fest started 15 years ago as a counterpart to our wine stroll,” said Orr. “We thought, ‘Why not do one for beer too?’ Both events help fund the Christmas lighting, which is a huge community



Downtown Dixon welcomed beer lovers from across the region Oct. 18 for the 15th annual Brewski Fest, a craft beer stroll that brought in more than 250 attendees and featured 16 breweries from across California. Photo by Nicolas Brown

tradition.” Guests checked in at Pardi Plaza, where they received commemorative glasses and event maps. Seventeen downtown businesses hosted beer tasting stations, including Bud’s Pub & Grill,

Rohwer Insurance, Luke’s Lounge and the newly opened Rodriguez Western Wear, located in the former Dixon Tribune building.

Featured breweries included Ruhstaller, which served four different beers, Sierra Nevada with its

seasonal Oktoberfest, and other regional favorites such as Lagunitas, Cali-Squeeze, Farmers Brewing Co., and Blue Lagoon.

A new attraction at this year’s event was live music from local band

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Dixon News Briefs

Brewski Fest Draws Record Crowd



The 24th annual Ryukyukan International Karate and Kobudo tournament, organized by Ramtown Karate, returns at 8 a.m. Nov. 8. Held in the Dixon High School Gymnasium, 555 College Way, the event is significant in the martial arts community, celebrating the traditions of Okinawan and Japanese karate. Photo courtesy of Ramtown Karate

By MPG Staff

Dixon Chamber Connections Networking

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 6. This free in-person event, held at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, allows local professionals to connect. Offering a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring business cards.

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

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 High School Football

The Dixon High School Rams Football Team have a home game Oct. 24. Hosted at Dixon High School, 555 College Way, games will begin at 5 p.m. for Junior Varsity and 7 p.m. for Varsity. The Rams will take on the Natomas Nighthawks.

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

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 soroptimist-dixon@gmail.com.

G3 Team vs. Team Submission Grappling Tournament

Gladiators of the Third Millennium, in partnership with Dixon High School Rams' Vault, is hosting a Team versus Team grappling competition Nov. 15. Held at Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way, the event offers a series of high-level Brazilian jiu-jitsu and grappling martial arts competitions among competitors from around the world. Tickets are \$30 per person.

For more information, visit @

[g3millennium](https://www.instagram.com/g3millennium) on Instagram or call Team Alpha at 707-353-0442.

Trick and Trunk or Treat

The Downtown Dixon Business Association is hosting downtown trick-or-treating from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 31. The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is also hosting Trunk or Treat from 2 to 5 p.m. 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 Youth Basketball Registration

Dixon Youth Basketball has opened registration for its winter season. Kids from 5th to 8th grade who are interested in playing youth basketball should register online by Nov. 2. Notably, game days have been moved to Saturdays for the Winter 2026 season.

For more information or to apply, visit dixonyouthbasketball.com or email secretary@dixonyouthbasketball.com.

Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

The Silveyville Cemetery District is hosting a Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration from 1 to 5 p.m. Nov. 2. Held at Silveyville Cemetery, 800 S. First St., the free community event will feature music, dancing, food, vendors and remembrance activities.

For more information, visit dixonchamber.org or call 707-678-5578.

Ryukyukan Returns

The 24th annual Ryukyukan International Karate and Kobudo tournament, organized by Ramtown Karate, returns at 8 a.m. Nov. 8. Held in the Dixon High School Gymnasium, 555 College Way, the event is significant in the martial arts community, celebrating the traditions of Okinawan and Japanese Karate. The tournament begins at 9:30 a.m., and the knockdown weigh-in begins at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, visit ramtownkarate.com/tournament/ or call 707-678-4899.

Kids Homework Help

Dixon Library is hosting after-school homework help, courtesy of Dixon High School Key Club, from 4 to 5 p.m. Oct. 27. Held at the library, 230 N. First St., the free event is on a first come, first served basis, and space is limited.

For more information, visit solanolib.net/info/events or call 1-866-572-7587. ★



A new attraction at this year's event was live music from local band Smokehouse Reunion, which performed throughout the evening. According to Downtown Dixon Business Association President Jill Orr, music elevates the entire experience of Brewski Fest. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1

Smokehouse Reunion, which performed throughout the evening.

"Adding live music really elevated the whole experience," said Orr. "It made downtown feel lively and festive."

The event also brought a boost to local businesses. Events such as Brewski Fest are critical to downtown Dixon's economic vitality, according to Orr.

"It brings synergy to downtown. People discover new shops, like Rodriguez Western Wear, and experience Dixon for the first time," said Orr. "It's a great way to bring foot traffic and get people excited about our local businesses."

To ensure public safety, the Downtown Dixon Business Association coordinated with local police and hired two officers to remain on-site throughout the event.

The Downtown Dixon Business Association is preparing for several upcoming community events, including the Halloween Hunt from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 31, a



Seventeen downtown businesses hosted beer tasting stations, including Bud's Pub & Grill, Rohwer Insurance, Luke's Lounge and the newly opened Rodriguez Western Wear in the former Dixon Tribune building. The Rodriguez family (pictured) was happy to participate in the event. Photo by Nicolas Brown

family-friendly trick-or-treat event involving downtown businesses. The Holiday Open House is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 22, featuring treats, raffles and an opportunity for children to meet Santa Claus.

Applications for the Christmas Tree Lighting Festival parade floats are now open. All entries must be decorated with lights and provide their own power source. More information can be found at downtowndixonca.com or on the Downtown Dixon Business Association Facebook page.

Orr offered thanks to community partners who helped decorate the downtown area, including Cool Patch Pumpkins, Barrett Hay Services and the volunteer team responsible for maintaining and painting the wooden holiday decorations.

"The fundraiser was extremely successful," said Orr. "We had great weather, great beer and a fantastic group of people. It's all about creating a space that people want to visit."

For more information, visit downtowndixonca.com/events or call 707-678-8400. ★



To ensure public safety, the Downtown Dixon Business Association coordinated with local police and hired two officers to remain on-site throughout the event. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Grapplers to Compete in Tournament

Continued from page 1

disciplined athletes, maybe even future UFC fighters."

The Nov. 15 tournament marks the first G3 team-based grappling event in Dixon. Three-person teams, each fighter weighing under 175 pounds, will compete in a bracket-style format for the \$1,500 grand prize. Superfights featuring elite regional competitors and professional-level talent will take place throughout the day.

Approximately 70 athletes are expected, including participants from Brazil, Japan and Russia, Prado said.

The day begins with children's matches and amateur kickboxing bouts before the main tournament kicks off at 5 p.m.

All matches will follow submission-only rules, with no striking allowed.

"It's all jiu-jitsu," said Prado. "Make your opponent submit, no punching, just grappling."

The tournament is being presented in partnership with Dixon High School and the school's Rams Vault program, which serves students and families in need through a clothing and food resource center. Proceeds from the event will help fund the Vault's ongoing efforts.

"This event aligns with our values

at Dixon High," said Principal Angela Brown. "Martial arts promotes discipline, respect and physical fitness, all of which support academic success and positive student behavior."

Sponsors include Sabor De Minas Brazilian Steakhouse, VForce Private Security and the Dixon Rams' Vault. The winning team's cash prize will be paid through sponsor contributions.

"This is not just about competition," said Prado. "It's about inspiring Dixon's youth, showing them what they can achieve through hard work and discipline. Dixon has great athletes, not just in martial arts, but in all sports."

The event will be live streamed globally and is expected to draw significant attention from the martial arts community. Prado, who coaches alongside world champion Kevem Felipe, recently launched a mixed martial arts (MMA) class to further recruit and train young athletes.

"This is just the beginning," Prado said. "We're building something special here in Dixon."

For more information, visit @prometheusglover on Instagram or call Team Alpha at 707-353-0442. ★

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Kid-Friendly Halloween Events Set to Haunt Dixon

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon families can expect a full lineup of Halloween festivities this October, with a variety of kid-focused events planned throughout the city.

With Downtown Dixon's Trick-or-Treating event from 1 to 4 p.m. and the Chamber of Commerce's Trunk or Treat from 2 to 5 p.m. Oct. 31, Dixonites might not realize the sheer volume of family-centered Halloween Haunts available in town.

The celebration begins early with a Trunk or Treat event at Ron Dupratt Ford from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 25. Located at 1760 N. Lincoln St., attendees can enjoy complimentary Vio's Coffee and Donuts (while supplies last), and view dozens of decorated classic Ford Mustangs.

Also on Oct. 25, Farmstead at Dixon will host a Trunk or Treat from 2 to 4 p.m., featuring candy, games and crafts. The event is



Dixon families can expect a full lineup of Halloween festivities this October, with a variety of kid-focused events planned throughout the city. Photo by Nicolas Brown

designed to provide a safe and festive environment for families.

Girl Scout Troop 149 will hold a Trunk or Treat event from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at the American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St.

Sponsored by Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Golden Sunflower SU119, the event includes games and candy. An adult must accompany children.

On Oct. 31, the Dixon Library

at 230 N. First St. will offer a free haunted maze from noon to 2 p.m., open to all ages. The maze will include spooky surprises and treats for those who complete the course. Later that night,

Cornerstone Baptist Church, 185 W. Cherry St., will host Halloween activities from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., offering candy, cotton candy and popcorn.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 305 N. Lincoln St., will hold a Halloween Festival from 5 to 7 p.m. Oct. 31 with carnival games followed by trunk or treating. Costumes are encouraged, although masks and weapons are prohibited.

Freedom Church at 470 E. H St. will present its annual Jesus Fest from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., featuring a petting zoo, carnival games, rock wall, bounce houses and more.

Mountain Mike's Pizza at 1700 N. First St. is offering a Halloween special through Oct. 31: children 12 and under in costume receive a free mini pizza, and all customers get 15% off their total bill.

As scary as the Halloween season can be, Dixon organizations continue to support a festive atmosphere for all ages. ★

Youth Actors Take a Bow

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Community Theater premiered its comedic production of Robert Louis Stevenson's swash-buckling classic "Treasure Island" on Oct. 17, Oct. 18 and Oct. 19.

The eventful weekend saw a cast of 27 actors, most of them children from 6 to 16 years old, entertain Dixonites with a tale of adventure, betrayal and laughs a plenty.

Every showing of the play began with an introduction from Dixon Community



The 27-person cast of Dixon Community Theater's "Treasure Island" take a bow at the end of a successful performance. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Theater President Cheryl Sommers where she thanked those who made the production possible, including the stage manager, set crew, lighting

and sound technicians, the music director and concessions.

Sommers went on to announce future Dixon Community Theater

productions in 2026, such as "Cinderella," "Young Frankenstein" and a murder mystery event catered to adults.

The "Treasure Island"

performance was almost three hours long, having 16 scenes and four original songs written by music director Angie Wolfe.

The show was narrated by Angie Abrew playing Jackie Avery.

The young actors were given a standing ovation as they concluded their performances.

Dixon Community Theater's next production will be Dixon's Great Big Little Christmas Show, with performances at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 5 and Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Dec. 7. The show will be held in Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way.

For more information, visit dixoncommunitytheater.org or call 707-903-8387. ★

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Virtual Speaker Series Hosted by Genealogical Society



Melinda Kashuba is a professional genealogist and owner of Kashuba Research Services, a genealogical and historical research company. Her popular book, "Walking with Your Ancestors: A Genealogist's Guide to Using Maps and Geography," joins a long list of articles in numerous genealogical magazines and other publications. Photo courtesy of Solano County Genealogical Society

Solano County Genealogical Society News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Genealogical Society will host a virtual Speaker Series presentation on Nov. 1st.

Our speaker, Dr. Melinda Kashuba will present "Using Maps in Genealogy". This free event begins at 11:00 a.m. and the public is welcome to attend. Just send an email to scgs@scgsca.org no later than 4 p.m. Oct. 31 and request an invite.

Explore the fascinating world of maps to unlock the secrets of your ancestry! In this session, we'll explore the diverse ways genealogists use maps, demonstrating their power through various types. Discover the historical depth of topographic maps, the detailed insights into property ownership in county atlas maps, and neighborhood reconstruction available through fire insurance maps.

We'll highlight free, digitized collections available online, including resources from the Library of Congress and the David Rumsey Map Collection, among others. Additionally, we'll guide you through alternative methods of location searching using online gazetteers, making it easier to trace the geographical footprints of your ancestors.

Melinda Kashuba is a professional genealogist and owner of Kashuba Research Services, a genealogical and historical research company. Her popular book, "Walking with Your Ancestors: A Genealogist's Guide to Using Maps and Geography," joins a long list of articles in numerous genealogical magazines and other publications. She is a Course Coordinator and faculty member at Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and faculty member at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy.

Her genealogical specialties include 19th century and contemporary genealogical records in California including maps and land records. She holds a PhD in geography from the University of California, Los Angeles and taught geography for fifteen years at a Northern California Community College. ★



Riley Reviews

"THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION" SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ON PBS

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION" ON PBS

The United States of America is on the cusp of its "semiquincentennial," a scholarly term for a 250-year anniversary celebration that we will enjoy in less than a year. It could also be called a bisesequincentennial or sestercentennial, if you want to sound even more academic.

Prolific documentary filmmaker Ken Burns ("The Civil War" and "Baseball"), known for studiously recounting important historical and cultural events mostly in series on public television, delivers next month a six-episode, 12-hour documentary on America's founding.

Approaching the 250th anniversary of the United States of America, "The American Revolution" to run on PBS examines how thirteen colonies on the Atlantic coast rose in rebellion, won their independence, and established a new form of government that radically reshaped the continent.

In a PBS press conference with the nation's TV critics, Ken Burns observed that his documentary project began in 2015, and though he could get it financed from a premium cable or streaming service, he would not have gotten ten years to complete the series.

It's no surprise that PBS has been the home for so many of Burns' documentary series, as he noted that "there is no other place where this film could have been made but PBS," and "the key to the value of public television" is the ability to take time to do it right.

From our time growing up in school studying American history, we have a feel for the greatness of George Washington as war hero and the father of our country. With this series, Burns goes deeper to arrive at the view that without Washington, "we don't have a country."

Our first president is described by Burns as "a conflicted and complicated person and deeply flawed," who made rash decisions on the battlefield, "risking his life and therefore the cause."

As the commander of the Continental Army, Washington, in the view of Burns, made two extraordinarily bad tactical maneuvers, first at the Battle of Long Island, where he left his left flank exposed.

Secondly, the reason the Patriots were at Valley Forge and not in Philadelphia is because Washington did the same thing at the big battle of Brandywine, where he left the right flank exposed.

Despite the mistakes, Burns said Washington was "the only person who could have kept everybody together" in the battle for independence. Washington had "the political savvy to be able to work with Congress" and "an ability to inspire people

in the dead of night to fight."

Burns expressed his amazement at how long and bloody was the revolutionary war, and how anybody involved in the war "didn't know they were who they were. George Washington didn't know he was going to be George Washington," meaning, of course, becoming our greatest president.

David Schmidt, producer and co-director along with Burns and Sarah Botstein, succinctly observed that the revolution resulted in "the creation of a nation, of a republic that we've kept for 250 years. It's the war that won our independence, American independence."

What surprised Schmidt in his research is that what unlocks the key to the war is that the three things of the "republic, union, and independence, were actually not the goals at the outset of this war."

In his view, Schmidt found that the start of war was about "standing up to tyranny, liberating Boston, restoring things to the way they used to be under the British empire, and it's only the course of the war that makes independence, union, and republic necessary."

Given his fondness for baseball, Burns described the story they tell as being "assiduous in essentially being umpires, calling balls and strikes about everyone and introducing you to scores of other people," leading to an entryway to feel patriotic about the story.

Building on the perspective of the story, Burns went on to say that the revolution was "one of the most important events in world history. It's certainly the most consequential revolution, as we say, but I think it's the most important event since the birth of Christ."

"The American Revolution" series can be summed up as an expansive look at the virtues and contradictions of the war and the birth of the United States of America, where the documentary follows dozens of figures from a variety of backgrounds.

Viewers will experience the war through the memories of the men and women who experienced it: the rank-and-file Continental soldiers and American militiamen (some of them teenagers), patriotic political and military leaders, and British Army officers and American Loyalists.

Also in the mix are Native soldiers and civilians, enslaved and free African-Americans, German soldiers in the British service, French and Spanish allies, and various civilians living in North America, Loyalist as well as Patriot, including many made refugees by the war.

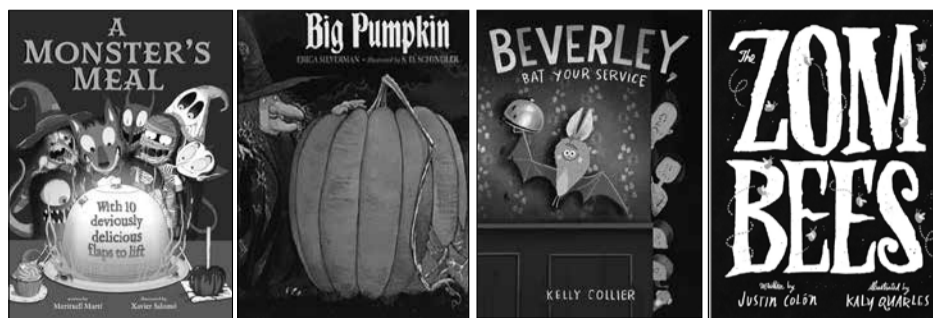
A school of thought contends that Burns' 1990 documentary "The Civil War" on the American Civil War of the nineteenth century was his best work. "The American Revolution" may prove to be a contender as his finest masterpiece. ★



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

It's Time for Halloween!

Fun and Spooky reads to make sure every young reader is ready for Halloween.



A Monster's Meal

by Meritxell Marti and Xavier Salomo; Abrams

Chef Frankenfurter has gathered all the monsters far and wide for the Annual feast for Fiends. What did he cook for his ghoulish friends? From mummy to the wicked witch, and even the monster under the bed? Just lift the dome to find out. But wait – a surprise guest – who might have the most revolting and terrifying meal of them all.

A delightfully fun lift-the-flap book full of ghoulish delights and monstrous treats. A fun Halloween adventure that will have young readers ready to prepare their own monster meal.

Big Pumpkin

by Erica Silverman

and S.D. Schindler; Aladdin

There once was a witch who dreamed of pumpkin pie, so she planted a seed. That seed grew and grew until it was a pumpkin too large to move. Along came a ghost who said he could move the pumpkin, but alas, it was too big for him to do so. More of whose friends came by, and all of them were unable to move the pumpkin. What will they all do? After all, it's only hours away until Halloween.

A fun story that highlights the power of accepting help and working together in a fun Halloween theme.

Beverly, Bat Your Service

by Kelly Collier; Atheneum

Beverly Bat has been waiting for the day to welcome guests. He has read all the books and knows exactly what to do. Then one day, his dreams come true, and a human family comes to visit.

Unfortunately, Beverly's idea of welcoming isn't quite what they expected. Will Beverly ever be able to entertain guests again?

A witty, fun story that will have little ones rolling in laughter, while also being pleasantly surprised by the ending.

This Year, A Which

by Zoey Abbott; Atheneum

This year, a little girl is ready to be a scary, and frightful for Halloween. Enough with the cute costumes of her past. But after weeks of preparation, she may have become too frightening. Will she end up being the scary one she dreamed of, or go back to the safety of cute and cuddly?

This book is a beautiful and entertaining story of a little girl forging her own path of independence.

Zombie and Brain are Friends

by Stephanie V.W. Lucianovic, Laan Cham; Bloomsbury

Zeb's family are farmers, brain farmers. After all, what else do zombies eat? But one day, Zeb meets the cutest and cuddliest brain he'd ever seen, and he knew he had to keep him. But brains are food, not friends! What is Zeb to do?

In a hilarious turn of farm raised animals, this story explores the love friendship and acceptance of an unlikely friendship

The Zombees

by Justin Colon and Kaly Quarles;

Simon & Schuster

Zombees have invaded the town. Have they come to eat their brains or deliver a treat?

Follow this fun rhyming story, a quick and enjoyable read that will have you laughing at the zombies' tick or treat. ★

Judge Dismisses Grand Jury Indictment Against Egghead Vandals

Yolo County District Attorney News Release

YOLO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Judge Sonia Cortés of the Yolo County Superior Court dismissed a grand jury indictment against defendants Nathan Orr, (32), Lysandra Dasilva (32) and Cheyenne Xiong (22), all from Davis, on Oct. 14.

The indictment alleged that on May 24, 2024, conspirators Orr, Dasilva and Xiong spray painted University of California, Davis' famed Egghead statues, as well as many other buildings and signs, as part of a coordinated vandalism attack across the campus. The vandals' messages criticized the Israel-Palestine conflict and UC Davis leadership.

UC Davis Police Department officers captured Dasilva and Xiong fleeing the scene of the crime, according to the District Attorney's office, and the crimes resulted in more than \$4,200 in damages. UC Davis police forwarded the case to the District Attorney's Office and requested formal charges.

On July 19, 2024, a criminal Grand Jury of Yolo County citizens indicted Orr, Dasilva and Xiong on charges of felony vandalism and felony conspiracy; both Dasilva and Xiong were additionally indicted on misdemeanor charges of resisting, obstructing or delaying a peace officer.

On Oct. 14, Cortes dismissed the indictment against all defendants, over the

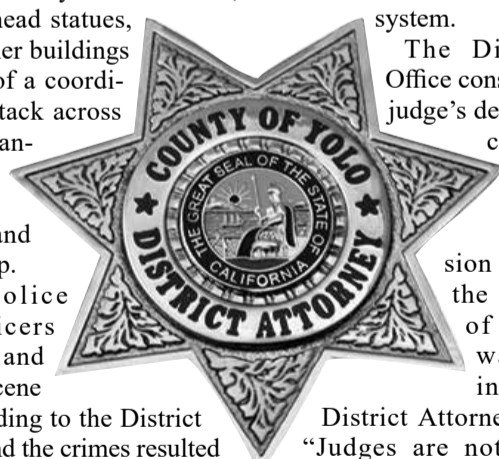
objections of the D.A., citing their willingness to pay restitution, their lack of criminal record and 12 hours of community service they had each voluntarily completed.

In addition, an official representative from UC Davis indicated that community service that included an understanding of efforts undertaken to maintain the statutes would be beneficial and that the university did not object to a resolution to the case that fell outside the criminal justice system.

The District Attorney's Office consistently opposed the judge's decision to dismiss the case, arguing that it was an illegal court diversion.

"The judge's decision to entirely dismiss the felony indictment of the grand jury was unprecedented in my experience,"

District Attorney Jeff Reisig said. "Judges are not generally authorized to unilaterally divert criminals indicted by the grand jury. We believe that Judge Cortes' decision was improper. "Moreover, the decision by the official UC Davis representative to recommend against a criminal conviction flies in the face of their original request and referral for criminal prosecution and creates a dangerous precedent for future cases of such conduct, suggesting similar criminal behavior at UC Davis will be treated with kid gloves. This outcome is not good for public safety in our communities." ★



Hamilton Announces Candidacy for County Board of Education

TAMIKA HAMILTON
For Board of Education

Invest in Our Children's Future →



If elected, Tamika Hamilton plans to prioritize parental engagement, fiscal accountability, student safety and stronger career readiness programs that give students more opportunities after graduation. Photo courtesy of Hamilton for Board of Education 2026

Hamilton for Board of Education 2026 News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Air Force veteran, nonprofit leader and community advocate Tamika Hamilton has officially launched her campaign for the Solano County Board of Education, pledging to bring bold leadership, parental engagement and transparency back to our schools.

A mother of four and longtime Solano County resident, Hamilton said that her campaign is focused on putting students and parents first while ensuring that public schools are safe, effective and responsive to community needs.

"Our schools should be places where every child can reach their full potential and every parent has a voice," Hamilton said. "I'm running to restore trust, transparency and excellence in education across Solano County."

Hamilton's journey has been defined by service and connection. Growing up in a family that believed in public service, she learned early that leadership demands sacrifice, vision, and heart. After serving more than two decades in the United States Air Force, Hamilton shifted her focus to community impact by advancing initiatives in youth development, community safety and equity in resources.

As a nonprofit director in the

Sacramento region, she has worked to connect underserved neighborhoods to critical educational, social and economic resources, ensuring that no child is left behind because of their ZIP code or background.

If elected, Hamilton plans to prioritize parental engagement, fiscal accountability, student safety and stronger career readiness programs that give students more opportunities after graduation.

"I'm running because I believe our schools should be places where every child can thrive and every parent has a voice," Hamilton said. "We can strengthen our schools when parents, teachers, and community leaders work together to do what's best for our kids."

If elected, Hamilton pledges to focus on a voice for every parent and student, ensuring schools have the resources to keep our kids safe; smart resource stewardship, investing in early intervention, mental health supports, and community services; transparent leadership, with decision-making visible and accountable; and partnership over partisanship, working alongside parents and teachers to find consensus-based solutions.

For more information about Hamilton's campaign for Solano County Board of Education and to learn how you can engage, volunteer or contribute, visit TamikaHamilton.com. ★

Voting in California's 2025 Special Election

How to Make Sure Your Ballot is Secure and Counted



Pictured is California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D. Photo courtesy of the California Secretary of State

By Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.
California Secretary of State

As voters across the state prepare to make their voices heard on Prop 50 — arguably one of the most important elections in California's history — it's essential their ballots are cast with confidence that their vote will be counted securely and on time.

There has been some misinformation surrounding ballots leading up to the Statewide Special Election on Nov. 4, and voters must understand the safeguards put in place to protect every ballot.

California ballots are designed with multiple layers of security. It is against the law to tamper with a ballot. Whether a voter chooses to vote by mail, drop off a ballot at a secure location, or vote in person, rules and regulations ensure ballots are not tampered with.

How to Vote Securely by Mail

Mail ballots are sent to every registered voter in the state. Each envelope is carefully tracked from the moment it's issued, and every ballot returned undergoes signature verification and inspection. Election officials check for any irregularities, such as damage to the envelope, or other signs it was compromised, before the ballot envelope is opened. If there's a red flag, the voter will be notified and corrective action taken.

To make sure a mail ballot is counted, it must be postmarked on or before Election Day, Nov. 4. In some areas, the U.S. Postal Service may not postmark mail until the following day, so it's recommended to

send ballots early. If mailing on Election Day, ask a postal employee at your local post office for a manual postmark to confirm it was mailed on time.

Secure Ballot Drop-Off

When returning a ballot in person, use only official, county-operated locations. Secure ballot drop boxes are constructed with tamper-resistant materials, locked, and anchored in place. Each box is regularly emptied by trained, bipartisan election staff following strict chain-of-custody procedures. Ballots can also be returned at any vote center, polling place, or county elections office, where election workers directly accept and track them through the county's system.

Voting Safely at Polling Places and Voting Centers

Voting in person is another secure and reliable option for California voters. Polling places and vote centers are staffed by trained election workers who follow strict procedures to verify each voter, issue the correct ballot, and ensure every vote is properly recorded.

Ballots cast in person are immediately placed into secure ballot boxes or scanned using approved voting equipment that is tested and certified before every election.

These locations also provide language assistance, replacement ballots if one was lost or damaged, and same-day voter registration when needed.

Still have Questions and Concerns?

Voters who have questions about their ballots or the security of voting should go to a trusted source such as the Secretary of State's office, which offers voter hotlines in multiple languages including Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Thai, and more. Another option is to visit your county elections office. A complete list can be found at sos.ca.gov/elections.

Additionally, the state provides tools to check when your ballot is received and counted, giving voters peace of mind and reinforcing the transparency of the process.

By taking the time to plan your vote, verify your registration, and use official information sources, you strengthen both your voice and the integrity of our elections. Make sure your voice is heard on Nov. 4. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

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.) Publish: October 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: October 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 17, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025 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: October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025 HANDY 10-31-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001450

The following persons are doing business as: Brighton Company, 56 Brighton Drive, Vallejo, CA 94591.

Jennifer Bulosan, 56 Brighton Drive, Vallejo, CA 94591. Date filed in Solano County: September 25, 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 24, 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 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 2025 MAK 11-7-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001516

The following persons are doing business as: Mak Dental, 480 Redwood Street, Suite 13, Vallejo, CA 94590. Dental Office of Mounir N. Guirguis DDS, Inc., 4424 Winterberry Court, Concord, CA 94521. Date filed in Solano County: October 14, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 1, 2016

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration October 13, 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 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 2025 MAK 11-14-25

business, and professions code.) Publish: Oct 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 2025 BRIGHTON 11-7-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001516

The following persons are doing business as: Mak Dental, 480 Redwood Street, Suite 13, Vallejo, CA 94590. Dental Office of Mounir N. Guirguis DDS, Inc., 4424 Winterberry Court, Concord, CA 94521. Date filed in Solano County: October 14, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 1, 2016

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration October 13, 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 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 2025 MAK 11-14-25

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This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration October 13, 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 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 2025 MAK 11-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001516

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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 pe-

tion 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

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU25-06558

Katherine Webber Caderao filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Katherine Webber Caderao to Katherine Clare Webber.

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

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 pe-

tion 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



LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will conduct a Lien Sale Auction on November 17, 2025, at 11:00 AM. This is authorized by Division 8, Chapter 10 of the California Business and Professions Code. CASH ONLY. All items must be removed from the property immediately after sale.

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Dixon Independent Voice 10-24, 10-31-2025

COMICS & PUZZLES

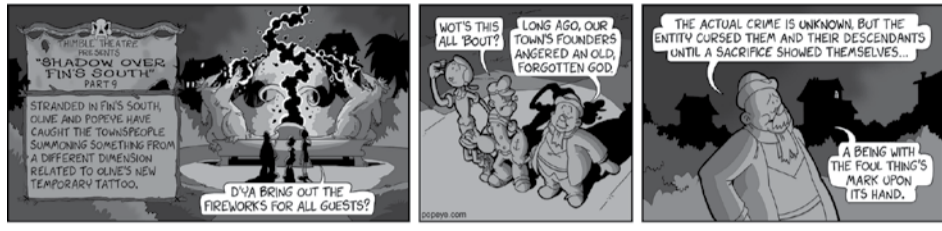
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HOCUS-FOCUS

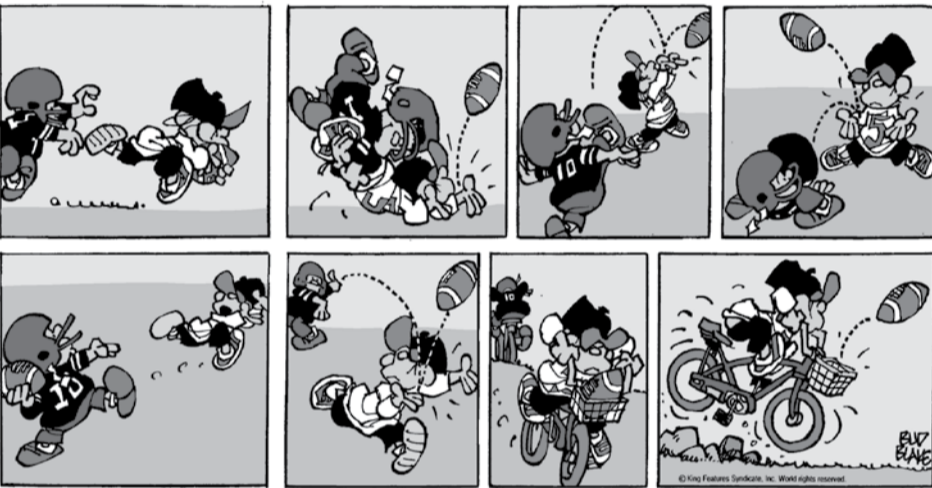
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



GRIN and BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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CLUES

- CROSSWORD**
- ACROSS
 1. Eye affliction
 5. Nickname
 8. Christmas tree variety
 11. Not we
 12. Use a whetstone
 13. Lyric poem
 15. New Haven University
 16. Unrivaled
 17. Buenos follower
 18. *Number one pumpkin-growing state
 20. Phishing attack
 21. Dead to the world
 22. Albanian money
 23. *One, two, ___'s coming for you"
 26. Harasses
 30. Bloodshot
 31. System of news-groups on Internet
 34. Muscular strength
 35. Not odds
 37. Zedong of China
 38. Do penitence
 39. Form of wrestling
 40. Certain Native American dwelling
 42. Cleopatra's cause of death, supposedly
 43. *___ O'Rourke of "Poltergeist"
 45. *Silver ammo, useful against werewolves, sing.
 47. Rooster's girlfriend
 48. Seattle's ___ Needle
 50. Sportscaster Andrews
 52. *One of two first ever fun size candy bars
 55. Unbroken mustang
 56. In ___ of
 57. Lash mark
 59. Missouri River tributary
 60. Chooses
 61. *Rice of "The Vampire Chronicles" fame
 62. ___ the fields we go"
 63. Turkish title of respect
 64. Oxen's harness
- DOWN
 1. Hog haven
 2. Like certain ice tea
 3. Holler
 4. Pupil protector
 5. Driver's license sticker
 6. Dark
 7. #63 Across, pl.
 8. Forum, pl.
 9. Previously mentioned, acr.
 10. Hi-___ monitor
 12. Pooh's repast, pl.
 13. Drawing support
 14. *Bobby ___ of "Monster Mash" fame
 19. River in India
 22. Auction batch
 23. Like classic TV's Prince
 24. Variety show
 25. a.k.a. dropsy
 26. *What witch's familiar says
 27. Sandbar
 28. Sometimes it's perfect
 29. Hid under a rug
 32. Independent chieftain
 33. Old horse
 36. *What Michael Myers says
 38. Without self-control

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Campaign Launched to Increase Awareness of Childhood Lead Poisoning

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health Division, is hosting an information campaign during Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, observed Oct. 19 to 25. This year's theme, "Nutrition as Prevention," highlights how a healthy diet rich in calcium, iron and vitamin C can help reduce lead absorption

in the body. The campaign features educational community presentations held at several Solano County library branches.

"The purpose of this campaign is to remind parents and caregivers that lead poisoning can be detrimental to young children's health and development. It's important for parents and caregivers to ask their child's doctor about blood lead testing," said Yolanda Smaldino, Public Health Nurse and Childhood Lead

Poisoning Prevention Program Coordinator for Solano County.

Lead poisoning can seriously affect a child's brain and nervous system. A blood lead test is the only way to detect lead poisoning in children. In California, children may be exposed through lead-contaminated dust or soil, deteriorating lead-based paint or lead dust carried home on parents' work clothes. Other sources of exposure include certain imported ceramics, painted objects, home remedies, traditional cosmetics,

imported spices or candies and activities involving lead products such as soldering, stained-glass work or handling bullets and fishing sinkers.

Solano County's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program works to reduce the risk of lead exposure in children and young adults through education, screening and care. The program provides year-round services—including case management, environmental surveillance and community education.

As part of these prevention efforts, all parents and caregivers of young children are invited to attend these educational presentations to learn how to protect their children from this serious environmental disease. Educational pamphlets and brochures are also available upon request at 707-469-4596.

For additional information and resources on childhood lead poisoning prevention, please visit the Solano County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program page. ★

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Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

American Legion

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-spt@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.nsdcm@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 mende-zlynda55@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. ★



Organic Seal Helps Boost 'Phenomenal' date Market

Fresh California dates hit grocery store shelves last month after harvest for Medjool dates, the state's top variety, began in the Coachella Valley in early September. Growers and marketers say demand is high for the fruit, especially among health-conscious consumers. "Dates are on fire," said Amanda Sains, vice president of marketing at Joolies, a date company based in the Coachella Valley. "They are doing phenomenal right now." An added selling point for many California dates is that they're grown using organic farming methods. About 78% of dates grown in Riverside County, which dominates U.S. date production, are certified organic. Growers say multiple factors, including market forces and the nature of date production, encouraged them to grow the fruit organically. "It's not a fad," Riverside County farmer Albert Keck said. "It's a major part of the industry now."

Almond Prices Rise as Crop Yields Lag Behind Forecast

California almond growers were largely skeptical when the U.S. Department of Agriculture in July forecast a 3-billion-pound crop in its "objective measurement" report. The high crop forecast caused almond prices to drop nearly 20% overnight, erasing roughly a billion dollars from the total crop value and eliminating the profit margin for many farmers. Now, well into harvest, prices have recovered as growers and handlers report smaller crop yields. "Now that

we're processing, prices have already returned to pre-estimate levels because the crop is nowhere near 3 billion pounds," Stanislaus County almond grower and huller Paul Vermeulen told Ag Alert® in a field report. Ryan Indart, who grows almonds in Fresno County, gave a similar assessment in a recent field report. "Now that harvest started, everybody has realized, including the buyer market, that the objective estimate was woefully inaccurate," Indart said. "Prices are coming back up, which is good."

California Researchers Work to Breed Better Beans

At the annual Dry Bean Field Day in August, University of California, Davis, researchers described advancements in breeding and upcoming consumer testing to determine preferences for lima, black-eyed and garbanzo beans. "This event is a chance to get the growers' thoughts on some of the next varietal candidates likely to come out of the breeding programs," said Christine Diepenbrock, a UC Davis assistant professor of plant sciences and an organizer of the field day. Colusa County farmer Jim Wallace said the university's bean breeding program has created "every important variety that we're producing in California today." Wallace added that newer varieties have not only improved flavor but have also increased yields. "But when you go all the way back to my father's farm, he'd get 15 to 18 bags of limas, and that was acceptable," he said. "Today, we're producing high 20s and low 30s."

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Dr. Glenn Mollette

Your Relationships and Second Chances

Well Kings fans, the preseason is behind us, and there is one difference between last year's results and this year. Thanks to a stirring 117-116 win over the Los Angeles Lakers Friday night the Kings will enter the regular season on a winning note.

Fans will remember that one year ago with Mike Brown at the helm, the Kings ran through the preseason without a single win and finished the first 20 games of the regular season with a sorry win/loss record. That tepid beginning would be a catalyst that would eventually lead to the dismissal of coach Brown and bring on Doug Christie as the interim head coach.

Now one win certainly doesn't portend a definite turnaround, but winning never hurts, and what came out of the win over L.A. was very telling.

After a less than stellar beginning for newly acquired point guard Dennis Schroder, the much-traveled guard broke out of a scoring slump with a rousing 25 points to lead all scorers on the Kings team. Moreover, Schroder looked like the veteran NBA point guard he is, and was impressive the way he managed the game and distributed the ball.

Certainly, it's a huge relief for Doug Christie in light of losing forward Keegan Murray for probably the next 6 weeks, and Domantas Sabonis pulling a hamstring that will limit his action entering the upcoming season.

Fortunately, the injury to Sabonis does not appear to be severe, so there is optimism that he will be back sooner rather than later.

The prevailing question going into the Laker game was who will fill the vacated minutes of Keegan Murray, and can the Kings find any kind of a flow as it relates to their offensive schemes? Although the Kings competed from start to finish, that question wasn't completely answered in the one-point win over the hometown Lakers, but we at least got a glimpse of what might be going through the coaches mind.

Isaac Jones finally got some quality minutes logging 23, and played solidly with 10 points, 3 rebounds, and 2 assists off the bench.

Dario Saric added 10 points of his own and 6 rebounds. Dario played 25 minutes

and while not sterling, was solid on both ends of the floor.

Keon Ellis returned to form with a stirring 20 points in 26 minutes of action, and it appears likely that these 3 players will be called upon to fill in for the largest portion of minutes replacing Keegan Murray.

The key question is whether Doug Christie can turn the injury to Keegan Murray into something positive, and that would be using these minutes wisely to bring on players that have the most to give.

I continue to be an advocate of Isaac Jones, largely because he has never been given enough court time to see his full repertoire, and given his size and length, Isaac is difficult for opposing teams to guard around the rim. He is particularly adept at finishing lobbs and has a soft touch in the low post.

Dario Saric has been around longer, and I think the Kings know what they can expect from him, but let's use this time wisely to find out who else we have that can be a key contributor.

Another bright spot was the play of 2nd round draft choice Max Raynauld, who added 9 points and 2 boards in only 16 minutes, and is appearing to be more and more comfortable with every game.

Not be overlooked is the stellar play of Nique Clifford who has become the bastion of consistency. Nique played 33 minutes giving the Kings a much needed 13 points, 5 boards, and 7 big assists. Clifford has played the preseason as a standout on both ends of the floor and is giving everyone notice that this rookie is NBA ready.

Can Kings fans get excited with only one win to show for their preseason endeavors? You bet they can!

Friday night's game was a win over a quality team led by svelte Luca Doncic, and it was accomplished with Sabonis, Murray, and Malik Monk on the sidelines!

Don't underestimate the contribution that this future hall-of-famer, Russell Westbrook, has to offer, and if he can fit in with his new teammates, Westbrook could be the unforeseen x-factor that the Kings so badly need.

All the best!
Your thoughts are always welcome at vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com. ★

Do you give people a second chance? The joy of life is usually found in our relationships. Family, friends, co-workers, business partners, military comrades, fellow Republicans or Democrats, fellow church members, recreational buddies, team mates and more. These are the people we know. We spend our time with them.

These relationships engulf our lives. We work, pray, love, succeed, fail, laugh and hurt with these people. While many of these life relationships are fulfilling, often they can be disappointing and negatively impact our lives. An old saying from a country preacher is, "To live there above with those we love will be glory, but to live here below with those we know is a different story."

Usually, life's greatest disappointments come from the very people we count on. They are the ones who hurt or disappoint us in some way. There is the marriage partner who fails or hurts us. There is the sibling, child or even parent who may break our hearts. Or, maybe it's the business partner who stabbed you in the back. It may have been the people at church who judged, condemned and then shunned you. Yet, you figured out that your relationship is with God and not with them. However, if we all have a good relationship with God, he will enable us to help, love and forgive each other. Most of us need a lot of that.

Too often people disappoint us because

we have unrealistic expectations. Other people are just like you and me. They aren't perfect and do dumb stuff just as you and I do. We all have done and said things that disappointed others. None of us are perfect.

Somehow we have to extend grace to others and hope that they will extend some to us. We all need grace. If you point your finger at someone you will have four pointing back at you.

We will continue on with our acquaintances, friends, relatives and those with whom we work and play. To try to do otherwise means we would have to live in a cave, on a remote island, or up on a hill somewhere in isolation. Possibly, this is where you are in life and where you desire to be, totally separated from everyone. It might work for a while. Especially if you are trying to write a book, finish a project or complete a special task.

The biblical character Joseph had his heart broken by his brothers who betrayed him and sold him into slavery. Years later he saved all of them from starving to death and took care of them for the rest of their lives. His story is one of true grace, forgiveness and taking the higher road with those who had treated him so badly. Most of us would say, "Hurt me once, shame on you. Hurt me twice, shame on me." Therefore, you will have to contemplate to whom you give a second change. ★

Still No Progress After Newsom's Housing Pledge



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Eight years ago, as he began his campaign for governor, Gavin Newsom described fixing the state's chronic housing shortage as a moral imperative.

"This is a question of who we are," Newsom wrote in 2017. "Housing is a fundamental human need — let's not forget the human face behind the dire statistics."

"Housing instability can cause genuine mental and physical adversity," he added, "and lead to insufferable decisions: no one should have to choose between paying rent or buying groceries. Knowing that too many Californians face this kind of anxiety breaks my heart."

Newsom pledged that as governor he would lead the effort to develop 3.5 million new housing units by 2025, "because our solutions must be as bold as the problem is big."

"I realize building 3.5 million new housing units is an audacious goal," Newsom continued, "but it's achievable. There is no silver bullet to solve this crisis. We need to attack the problem on multiple fronts by generating more funding for affordable housing, implementing regulatory reform and creating new financial incentives for local jurisdictions that produce housing while penalizing those that fall short."

The 3.5 million-unit goal was never anywhere near realistic. It would have required increasing construction from about 100,000 units a year when he made the pledge to more than 400,000, doubling peak production in this century.

That said, Newsom has over the almost seven years of his governorship, pretty much, done what he said he'd do to increase housing. He has signed multiple bills meant to speed up housing permits by eliminating state and local legal impediments, capped by two major measures this year.

Newsom signed Assembly Bill 130, which makes it more difficult to use the California Environmental Quality Act as a tool to block housing projects, and Senate Bill 79, which overrides local government land use authority to authorize multi-family, multi-story housing projects near transit stops.

Meanwhile Newsom's Department of Housing and Community Development has set statewide goals of 180,000 new units a year and 2.5 million units over eight years. It also imposed ambitious quotas on local governments to designate land for residential development and cracked down on communities that impede multi-family projects for low- and moderate-income families.

The latter effort responds to the most acute aspect of California's shortage — housing the nearly 35% of Californians who are living in poverty or near-poverty, mostly due to housing costs that are among the nation's highest.

With the enactment of AB 130 and SB 79, the looming conclusion of Newsom's governorship and the

likelihood that he will run for president, it's time to appraise results.

Has the production of housing in California substantially increased? Unfortunately, no.

At the time Newsom made his pledge, about 100,000 units were being built each year, with the net increase substantially lower due to losses by fire or destruction. Eight years later, it's virtually unchanged, no matter which authority one consults.

The Census Bureau reports that between 2019, when Newsom took office, and 2024 new housing permits in California ranged from a high of 120,780 units in 2022 to a low of 101,546 last year. Newsom's own budget agrees with the Census Bureau's data for the same period and projects future construction through 2028 at 100,000 to 104,000 units a year.

Clearly, even though systemic barriers to housing construction have been eased, many developers have been unable to see housing in California as a good investment. The COVID-19 pandemic, which had massive economic impacts, and increases in interest rates to battle inflation also have had an effect.

Housing is far more complicated than Newsom depicted it when he made his promises. He gets a 'B' for effort — and an 'F' for results.

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. ★

Why does my tummy rumble when I'm hungry?

- Jules 5, Maine

Dear Jules,

Sometimes my stomach growls so loudly that other people can hear it. It's pretty awkward in meetings.

I asked my friend Ed Johnson why that happens. He teaches classes about the human body in the School of Biological Sciences at Washington State University.

He told me the rumbling noise happens because of what's going on inside your gut. "The sounds you hear are the fluid and gas

Your digestive tract moves so much that you have a whole section of your nervous system dedicated to controlling that movement. Johnson told me there are about half a million nerve cells doing that job—about the same number you have in your spinal cord.

As the fluid and gas move around, they make a grumbling noise. But why does it happen when you're peckish?

When your stomach is empty, your body releases the hormone ghrelin. It's a chemical

This is bacteria called Bifidobacterium longum. It lives in the digestive tract and helps digest sugars from plants and human milk. It's the most abundant bacteria in the guts of babies.
Photo: Li Zhao et al. CC BY 4.0

that's in your digestive tract moving around," Johnson said.

The digestive system cycles through a lot of fluid—about 9 liters every single day. That's the same as four-and-a-half 2-liter soda bottles.

Some of that liquid comes from the water you drink. Some is gastric juice made by specialized cells in your stomach's lining.

There's a lot of gas in there, too. It's made by friendly bacteria that live in your gut. They help you break down food and make vitamins. As they do that work, they release gas—up to 1.5 liters each day.

All that fluid and gas doesn't just sit there. There's a thick layer of smooth muscle in your digestive tract that moves them along and stirs them around.

"The muscle squeezes down on the contents to push it along," Johnson said. "It's an action like you're milking a cow, squeezing and pushing the food through. And it also makes a mixing motion to move digested nutrients around so they can reach the lining and be absorbed."

messenger. It signals your brain to give you the hungry feeling. It also tells your digestive tract to get ready for food.

Your digestive system responds by cranking up the squeezing, pushing, mixing motions—because it expects food to show up soon.

When all that liquidy-, gas-y movement happens to an empty stomach, the rumbling sounds are louder. There's nothing in there to muffle the noise. So, you—and maybe the people around you—can hear a big, resounding growl from your guts.

Scientists call that sound "borborygmus." The term comes from an ancient Greek word made to mimic the sound.

I guess people have been wondering about that rumbling sound for a long time. They had no idea it involves a whole ecosystem inside your tummy—and a complex messaging network that links your brain to your gut.

It's honestly a lot to digest.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

Hey California!



Special Election NOV 4th

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DON'T DELAY. VOTE TODAY!



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