



Donate to Keep Adaptive Riding Program Open
PAGE 8

Dixon Hopping with November Community Events
PAGE 3



Dixon Independent Voice

The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Dixon

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

OCTOBER 31, 2025

SEE INSIDE

POLICE LOG



PAGE 5

UC DAVIS PROFESSOR HONORED



PAGE 8

FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS

By Amy Shane



PAGE 4

Defeat All Cancer Walk



Dixon High School students and staff joined together Oct. 24 for the school's annual Defeat All Cancer Walk, an event aimed at raising awareness and showing support for those affected by cancer. The Dixon High School cheerleaders led the charge. Photos by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon High School students and staff joined together Oct. 24 for the school's annual Defeat All Cancer Walk, an event aimed at raising awareness and showing support for those affected by cancer.

More than 1,000 participants, including students and staff, participated in the walk from 11:14 to 11:55 a.m. on the Dixon High School campus, 555 College Way. The event was led by Principal Angela Brown and organized by the school's Leadership Club.

Before the walk began, teachers escorted their classes to the campus side



Students were corralled by Leadership Club members and campus supervisors. Madison Wartson (left), a member of leadership and the black student union, considers the event significant as she has family members struggling with breast cancer.

gate, where Brown welcomed the crowd and gave a brief safety overview.

"Good morning, DHS family," said Brown. "Today, we come together

as a community to show strength, compassion and hope for those who are fighting, for those who have overcome and in memory of those we have lost. Every step we take today represents unity, support and the belief that together, we can make a difference."

Following her remarks, the school observed a five-minute moment of silence to honor lives lost to cancer.

Participants then walked a loop around campus, guided by campus supervisors and the Leadership Security Team. Dixon High cheerleaders led the walk, carrying a large banner reading "They All Matter

Continued on page 7

Council Approves Budget Amendments

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Finance Director Kate Zawadzki gave an update about the final budget totals for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 that ended June, stating that the projected ending fund balance was \$17.3 million, with 57.5% reserves and a \$1.1 million surplus, at the Oct. 21 Dixon City Council meeting.

A deficit was initially predicted, Zawadzki said, but special sales tax revenues were higher than expected and there were some savings in salaries and expenses, due to vacant positions. The biggest change was in on-call consultant fees, which were budgeted higher than the city's actual use.

Of the surplus, \$500,000 is being carried over into the current budget to complete projects not finished last fiscal year. Zawadzki said that leaves \$0.6 million available for reprogramming.

Looking at the first quarter budget projections, Zawadzki said, the expected ending fund balance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 is \$16.1 million, with ending reserves at 48.1%. There is a deficit prediction of \$1.2 million but with the surplus carryover of \$500,000, the deficit is adjusted to \$0.7 million.

Zawadzki clarified that \$866,209 of that projected deficit is one-time expenditures, "so you still have a structurally balanced budget at this time. It's just the carryovers that are making it look skewed."

Staff requested budget amendments to align with current projections and council direction on how to re-allocate the available surplus funds.

During public comment, a resident said that he worried that the projected deficits are due to overspending.

"Our community is in a growth phase and it can be difficult to project the revenues," Zawadzki said.

It is typical to operate with a potential projected deficit because the city uses conservative revenue estimates, according to the finance director.

"The worst thing that I could do is present to you that you have funds available to spend that you don't have," Zawadzki said. "So while our expense projections are generally fairly accurate throughout the year, the revenues can be difficult."

Property taxes and sales taxes are both currently growing, Zawadzki said, but if development

Continued on page 8

Mountain Mike's Opens Largest Location Yet

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Mountain Mike's Pizza opened the doors to its largest restaurant ever in Dixon on Oct. 16, drawing large crowds for a community-centered grand opening celebration. Having opened officially Aug. 15, the pizzeria, located at 1700 N. First St., has introduced itself to the community in full force.

Owner Gurjeet "Happy" Singh, a Dixon resident and local business owner, said the decision to bring the popular pizza chain to town was personal.

"My family and I live in Dixon and we wanted to expand the brand in our community," said Singh. "We want to make the restaurant the go-to spot for celebrations, game days and a place where families can come together."

The new location features three private party rooms that can host up to 100 guests, an arcade with more than 25 games, 14



Gurjeet "Happy" Singh said his vision for Mountain Mike's in Dixon extends well beyond pizza. He hopes to strengthen community ties by partnering with local schools, nonprofit organizations and first responders. Photo by Nicolas Brown

75-inch televisions and a beer bar with 10 taps pouring local brews. Singh said the restaurant also offers the restaurant also offers NFL Sunday Ticket and a unique "pizza angel wing" photo wall for social media sharing.

The grand opening event included live music, performances from Dixon Dance Studio and Ram Town Karate and giveaways such as 100 free mini pizzas and a raffle for free pizza for a year. Local organizations,

including Dixon Youth Football and Basketball, were recognized during the event. Throughout the event, 25% of sales were donated to both youth sports organizations.

Continued on page 3



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Dixon Residents, There's a Pattern Here.

Different Cities. Same Legal Advice.

Is Atwater Being Taken for a Ride by City Attorney?

Merced – Merced Sun Star – Letter to the Editor

"The city of Dixon, where White is also **city attorney**, hired him and in his first year he ran up a bill of nearly \$1 million; his first month here his bill was \$96K!

"Why is Atwater now under the control of Doug White from the law firm Churchwell-White?"

"It seems that White is running the meter on yet one more city gullible enough to contract for his services."

City Spends \$28K to Edit 44 Words

Dixon – Independent Voice, Oct. 28, 2021

"The city of Dixon spent \$28,454.20 on a legal action ... to have 44 words stricken...**City Attorney** Doug White of White Brenner, LLP argued that the 44 words were misleading"

Atwater attorney charged \$715,000 in a year. Here's why he's leaving the city

Atwater – Merced Sun-Star, May 29, 2019

"Doug White of Churchwell White has been the **city attorney** in Atwater for more than a year... White's been a controversial employee, drawing ire from some residents who argued he was overcharging the city."

The Turlock Web of Corruption

Turlock - Dixon Independent Voice, April 23, 2020 -

Commentary by Michael Ceremello

"The city of Turlock...is having financial difficulties...why would they retain Churchwell/White, which has a reputation of driving up attorney fees to a million dollars a year?"

"The city of Patterson paid \$4.5 million over 4 and one half years, Dixon was at a million last year, and technically bankrupt Atwater was on the road to that amount before White resigned as their **city attorney**." [Ceremello Wrote]

Frustrations mount with delays and transparency concerns amid litigation

Patterson – Patterson Irrigator, Feb. 13, 2025

"Beckman also wrote a letter to Mayor Michael Clauzel and Patterson City Council saying the **city attorney** denied him and the entire home building industry the ability to speak with the mayor and/or any council member..."

"The advice you and the council have been given by your attorney is patently illegal and should be rescinded immediately" [Beckman Wrote]

Is it time for Dixon residents to question their City Attorney's track record?

Is it time for Dixon city leadership to question if they're getting good legal advice?

Is it time for Dixon taxpayers to ask if they are being taken for a ride?

Learn more about your City Attorney's actions at:

EXPOSINGPATTERSON.COM

Mountain Mike's Opens Largest Location Yet

Continued from page 1

"My child is on the Dixon Youth Basketball Team and we've supported various events throughout the season," said Singh. "This is part of how we give back to the community."

Dixon High School's Rams' Vault program also participated in the festivities, selling merchandise to raise funds for food and essential supplies. The student-led program operates a resource center providing clothing and food to community members in need.

"We are selling merchandise and the money we fundraise will be used to buy food and more resources for the vault," said Valeria Gamino, a program representative.

Singh said his vision for Mountain Mike's in Dixon extends well beyond pizza. He hopes to strengthen community ties by partnering with local schools, nonprofit organizations and first responders.

"We have been donating pizzas to nonprofit events, like the Tree Planting Ceremony at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, and to athletes at Dixon High School," said Singh. "From connections made at this



The new location features three private party rooms that can host up to 100 guests, an arcade with more than 25 games, 14 75-inch televisions and a beer bar with 10 taps pouring local brews. The restaurant also offers NFL Sunday Ticket and a unique "pizza angel wing" photo wall for social media sharing. Photos by Nicolas Brown

event, we plan to continue attending chamber meetings, supporting local teachers and dropping pizzas off to first responders."

Singh also thanked the Dixon Chamber of Commerce and neighboring businesses for

their support. "This is a really nice community and we need more places for parties," said Singh. "We're grateful for how the locals have supported us so far."

Mountain Mike's in Dixon

offers a weekday lunch buffet from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for \$13.99 and a new dinner buffet from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays for \$14.99.

"We have something for everyone," said Singh. "Once locals taste our pizza and

experience everything the restaurant has to offer, we know they will come back."

For more information, visit mountainmikespizza.com/locations/dixon-n-1st-st or call 707-681-9500. ★



Mountain Mike's Pizza opened the doors to its largest restaurant ever in Dixon on Oct. 16, drawing large crowds for a community-centered grand opening celebration. Owner and Dixon resident Gurjeet "Happy" Singh wants to make it the go-to destination for celebrations in town.



Dixon High School's Rams' Vault program also participated in the festivities, selling merchandise to raise funds for food and essential supplies. The student-led program operates a resource center providing clothing and food to community members in need.

Dixon Hopping with November Community Events

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon residents will have several opportunities to connect, celebrate and give back during a busy month of November community events.

The Friends of the Dixon Public Library will kick off the month with a bag sale from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 1 at 220 N. First St., next to the library. Attendees can fill a provided grocery bag with books for \$5, with proceeds supporting Dixon Library programs. The Children's Room will remain open at regular prices, and payment will be accepted by cash or check.

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Nov. 2, when residents are reminded to turn clocks back one hour.

Keep Dixon Green will host its Fall Fundraiser



Joystick Gaming Lounge will celebrate its one-year anniversary from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 15 at 420 Gateway Drive, Suite C. Photos by Nicolas Brown

from 5 to 8 p.m. Nov. 7 at Pedro's Cocina, 1425 Market Lane. The \$30 event will feature raffle prizes, a silent auction and refreshments. Tickets are available at Uptown Collective, 115 E. A St., or online at keepdixon-green.com.

The Dixon High School Hall of Fame Inductee Dinner will be held Nov. 8 at Madden Hall on the

Dixon May Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St. This year's inductees are Dan Caldwell (Class of 1958), Cindy Duncan (1969), John Alarcon (1975), Keith Jones (1988), Patrick Denofrio (1991), Michelle Bello (2009) and Madison Dwellley (2013). Honorees also include Coach Gabe Villasenor, special contributor Willis Simpson, and the 1954 Boys' Basketball



The Dixon High School Hall of Fame Inductee Dinner will be held Nov. 8 at Madden Hall on the Dixon May Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St.

Team coached by Archie Yelle. Tickets are available through Oct. 31 at dixonhighhalloffame.com/dinner-tickets.

Families can join the Every Baking Moment "Mommy or Daddy and Me" Thanksgiving Cookie Class at 10 a.m. Nov. 22. The 90-minute session costs \$40 and includes all supplies. Instructor Renee will lead the class, and space

is limited. To register, call or text 707-693-0112. For more information, visit everybakingmoment.com.

Crafters can attend the "Saturday Crop and Create" event at It's All About the Scrapbook, 1670 N. Lincoln St., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 15. Participants will receive a six-foot table, Wi-Fi and power access. Tickets are available at itsalaboutthescrapbook.com.

Joystick Gaming Lounge will celebrate its one-year anniversary from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 15 at 420 Gateway Drive, Suite C. The day will include a 1 p.m. ribbon cutting, performances by Dixon Dance Studio at 2:30 p.m. and Ramtown Karate at 4 p.m., along with food trucks, arcade specials, retail discounts and prize giveaways.

Silveyville Christmas Tree Farm, 6248 Silveyville Road, will open for the season Nov. 22. The farm will operate from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Monday, closing Tuesdays and Thanksgiving Day.

With fundraisers, family activities, and holiday traditions on the calendar, November offers Dixon residents a full lineup of events to gather, celebrate and support their community. ★

"KEEP DIXON GREEN" FALL FUNDRAISER DINNER

Join us for a fun evening of dinner, music, raffle prizes, silent auction & good Company

Friday, Nov. 7th, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
 Pedro's Cocina - 1425 Market Lane, Dixon, CA
 Tickets at: keepdixongreen.com

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Dixon News Briefs



Dixon Girls Softball has opened registration for the spring 2026 season. Early registration ends Oct. 31 but regular registration begins Nov. 1 and runs through Dec. 31. Photo by Nicolas Brown

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.

Dixon High School Football

The Dixon High School Rams Football Team has an away game Oct. 31. Hosted at Rio Linda High School, 6309 Dry Creek Rd., Rio Linda, games will begin at 5 p.m. for Junior Varsity and 7 p.m. for

Varsity. The Rams will take on the Rio Linda Knights.

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.

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.

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 from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. 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.

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.

Dixon Library Book Club

Dixon Library is hosting its monthly morning book club meeting from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 13. The morning book club is a monthly, adult-oriented group that will be reading "The Housemaid" by Freida McFaden. Coffee and tea will be provided for attendees, and the meeting itself will be in the library's front room, 230 N. First St.

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

Dixon Girls Softball Registration

Dixon Girls Softball has opened registration for the Spring 2026 season. Early registration ends Oct. 31, but regular registration begins Nov. 1 until Dec. 31. Early registration costs \$200 per player, whereas regular registration costs \$225. Dixon Girls Softball is also looking for dedicated and enthusiastic coaches to join their 12U Travel and 10U Select team for the upcoming season.

For more information, or to register, visit dixongirlssoftball.com or email infor@dixongirlssoftball.com. Coaching applications are available on the Dixon Girls Softball Facebook page.

Autumn Breeze Car Show

Farmstead at Dixon is hosting a car show from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 8. Held at Farmstead, 350 Gateway Dr., the free event will include car exhibits, refreshments and local vendors. All ages are welcome. Car and vendor entrants should email rsvp@farmsteadatdixon.com or call 707-676-5060.

For more information, visit farmsteadatdixon.com or email Info@farmsteadatdixon.com. ★



Riley Reviews

"DMV" WORKPLACE COMEDY THRIVES ON BUMBLING BUREAUCRATIC TROPES

A Film and TV Review
by Tim Riley

"DMV" on CBS

According to legend and online sources that might be somewhat reliable, the British character actor Edmund Gwenn, best known for portraying Kris Kringle in 1947's "Miracle on 34th Street," expressed the sentiment, if not the exact quote, "Dying is Easy. Comedy is Hard."

That axiom is truer today than ever, as the shortage of comedy in films and television should be evident to anyone. Perhaps, political correctness run amok may have been the death knell for comedy that is edgy or insulting.

The relative scarcity of comedy might be the result of a lack of originality. Consider how many films today are remakes, and that's not just taking into account the surfeit of superhero stories that operate on a nearly identical premise.

Comedy is hard because there are too many constraints on what is considered acceptable humor. Think about how many people are easily offended by provocative jokes. Could the hilarious "Blazing Saddles" even be contemplated now? Not very likely.

Anyone easily offended by off-color humor or offensive material should never venture to a comedy club. Standup comedians don't mind controversy; they seem to relish it – to wit, performers like Bill Burr, Dave Chappelle, and Dale Quinn, among others.

Lamenting the dearth of comedy, whether it is provocative or even mainstream, is evident in the current state of television comedy generally. "DMV" on CBS is the only new comedy debuting on a broadcast network this fall.

The premise of basing a comedy on one of the most dreaded places does present a challenge. After all, a trip to the DMV ranks with other awful things in life, such as having a tax return audited, getting a root canal, and preparing for a colonoscopy.

The East Hollywood DMV is divided mainly by two categories of workers, namely the driving examiners and the paper pushers. In the former group, Harriet Dyer stands out as Colette, a single woman in her thirties hoping to get noticed by surfer dude Noa (Alex Tarrant), the hunky new documents processor.

In the premier episode, Colette's first test is with a Norman Bates-type creepy dude with mother issues, followed by a hair-raising drive with an elderly woman who knocks down every cone, and then incredulously asks if she passed.

"Saturday Night Live" veteran Tim Meadows' Gregg is a curmudgeonly former English teacher, who unlike some of his colleagues has resigned himself to a life sentence

of grinding away in a stultified bureaucracy.

Looking and acting at times like a nightclub bouncer on steroids, Vic (Tony Cavalero) revels in sarcasm, mostly directing barbs at Colette for how she hardly ever fails any of the driving test takers. Vic's fashion statement is a wardrobe of ugly tight-fitting shirts.

Newly promoted to office manager is Barb (Molly Kearney), whose insecurity might prove to be an impediment in dealing with a pair of efficiency consultants evaluating whether the East Hollywood branch should be shuttered.

One of the funnier scenes involves DMV photographer Ceci (Gigi Zumbado) trying to take a headshot of Barb to hang in the office, while her subject ridiculously gyrates and mugs for the camera.

Meanwhile, Colette would like to make a move to get Noa's attention, but an attractive co-worker nicknamed Hot Kristen (Samantha Helt) gets in the way. Eventually, Colette awkwardly strikes up a connection with the newcomer by talking about a rescue dog.

Visitors to the DMV provide comic relief, especially when an obnoxious guy (Mark Feuerstein) shows up with an expired passport to get a Real ID license, and becomes incensed when Noa turns him away for not following the rules for documentation.

Aside from Catherine Heine's short story about a very big-hearted driving examiner inspiring "DMV," co-creator Dana Klein informed critics at a CBS press conference that two of her daughters took multiple tries to pass their driving test, leading to spending too much time at the DMV.

While sitting in the waiting room and dealing with forms, Klein came to the realization that the DMV is "the perfect setting for a workplace comedy" and "the idea of a show about people who work at a place that is notoriously despised was really interesting to me."

Klein's creative partner, Matt Kuhn, related that his vision of the show was to "explore all the fun and heart of everyday working life for the good people at the DMV," who mostly "don't want to be there any more than you do."

While Kuhn's view that the folks at the DMV are "doing their best to help you and get through their day, often navigating seemingly conflicting and frustrating regulations to do so," may be overly charitable, nobody looks forward to a trip to the bureaucratic nightmare of the DMV.

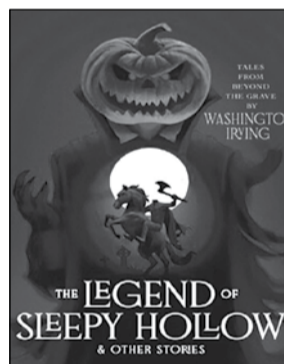
The challenge for the writers and the actors in "DMV" is how to make a dreary, depressing workplace consistently funny for an entire season. There are some funny as well as cringe-worthy moments that send mixed signals. The verdict remains unknown about whether the show has legs for a good run. ★



BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📱 [amy_fortheloveofbooks](https://www.instagram.com/amy_fortheloveofbooks)

Celebrate Halloween with New and Classic Nostalgia

What is Halloween night without the classic? From *Headless Horsemen*, *Frankenstein's monster*, to *haunted carnivals*, there are thrills and chills just around every corner.



The Legend of Sleepy Hollow & Other Stories

by Washington Irving; Aladdin

While readers might have seen the Disney cartoon classic, the 1999 film, or even the TV series, the story of Ichabod Crane and Katrina Van Tassel is a familiar tale.

However, where did the story originally originate? Washington Irving first published his haunting tale in 1820, where it gained immediate popularity and has remained in print ever since. Follow the spellbinding story of the anxious little town where the townspeople fear the ride of the Headless Horseman, who is forever in search of his head. But interlaced within the story of a ghost rider is that of a timid schoolmaster, Ichabod Crane, and his love for the breathtaking Katrina Van Tassel, who has also caught the eye of the enigmatic Abraham "Brom Bones" Van Brunt. But will an encounter with the Horseman change their fate?

Filled with Washington Irving's other works as well, this book is the perfect collection of short stories to fill any haunted evening with the perfect dose of corpses, ghosts, and creatures of all kinds.

Are You Afraid of the Dark?

The Tale of the Vanishing Circus

by Kayla Cottingham; Amulet Books

With a strong dose of '90s nostalgia, Nickelodeon revamps the beloved TV series, *Are You Afraid of the Dark*, for a whole new



generation. With the stories also captured in a new book series, fans can revisit them again and again.

Follow 13-year-old Riley Beasley as she and her best friend Genna discover a mysterious circus run by the teenage ringleader, Starr. Both girls were in awe of the new circus and instantly drawn to the mystique. But all too quickly, things started to feel just a little too unsettling. A circus that seems alluring is also a little odd when they discover that there are no adults anywhere.

Quickly, they realize that there are more secrets than magic, and their friendship could face the ultimate test. A truly captivating new series that is perfect for two generations. A perfect echo of the TV series, captured in a hardback book.

Make Me a Monster

by Kalynn Bayron; Bloomsbury

As a mortician's assistant at her parents' funeral home, Meka's life was not ordinary. However, she does have a boyfriend that she is absolutely in love with, and it's finally time to tell him, then tragedy strikes. Now Meka's life is surrounded by death, and dead that don't stay dead. Quickly, Meka discovers that the family business is more than she thought, and learning the truth might be one worth dying for.

With the essence of *Frankenstein* tinged with romance, *Make Me a Monster* is the go-to young adult book that will have readers looking at monsters in a whole new light. ★



LOCAL ARREST RECORDS

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ARREST LOGS UPDATED DAILY

Persons listed in this log from the Dixon Police Department are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Only activities deemed significant by the Police Dept. are included.

DIXON POLICE LOG

Saturday, October 04, 2025
 2025 Anthony Perez (34) of Elk Grove was contacted in the intersection of Pitt School Road and Stratford Avenue and arrested for DUI causing great bodily injury.

Friday, October 03, 2025
 0832 Theft reported in the 1000 block of Wake Forest Court.
 0834 Informational report taken in the 200 block of West A Street.
 0835 Suspicious circumstance reported in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road.
 1052 Vehicle burglary reported in the 1200 block of Princeton Way.
 1746 Theft reported in the 1800 block of Orange Blossom Lane.
 1746 Theft from a residence that occurred in March 2025 in the 1800 block of Orange Blossom Lane.
 2240 Tesla Stilwell (35) of Vacaville was arrested for an outstanding warrant, and passenger Jesse Gonzales was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia in the 1400 block of Ary Lane.
 2352 Battery between family members in the 1300 block of North Lincoln Street.



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Dixon's Independent Voice Adjudicated For and By the County of Solano, Adjudication No. FCS030046 - November 24, 2008

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

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. 2025001535
 The following persons are doing business as: Neighborhood Christian School, 955 E A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.
 Norcal Christian Schools Inc, 955 E A Street, Dixon, CA 95620.
 Date filed in Solano County: October 17, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 1979
 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 16, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
 Publish: Oct 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 2025
 NORCAL 11-21-25

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 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 21, 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 October 20, 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 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 2025
 TALLY 11-21-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025001531
 The following persons are doing business as: Little Spool House, 810 June Court, Dixon, CA 95620.
 Brooke Cancas, 810 June Court, Dixon, CA 95620.
 Date filed in Solano County: October 16, 2025. The Registrant

commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2025
 This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration October 15, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
 Publish: Oct 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 2025
 LITTLE 11-21-25

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 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: Wendy Getty
 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.

DIXON SELF STORAGE
 1410 REGENCY PKWY
 DIXON, CA 95620-4500

UNIT D076 - CLAYTON BOLING - gym equipment, bench press, treadmill, power cage, weights, 3-wheel scooter
 UNIT D072 - CLAYTON BOLING - stair master, elliptical machine, 2 headboards and footboard sets, 2 wood shelving units, mattress, chairs, water machine, bedding clothes, gym equipment
 Bond # 0342850

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

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

PROJECT: **Zoning Code Text Amendments** – This project represents City-initiated amendments to the City of Dixon's Zoning Ordinance in order to implement certain housing-related provisions and maintain consistency between the Dixon Municipal Code and California state law. These amendments will incorporate new provisions for affordable housing development on certain previously-identified sites and align a number of City chapters related to Affordable Housing Density Bonuses and Accessory Dwelling Unit development with recent changes to California state law (File No: PA25-21, PDR225-0228).

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. It has been determined that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and no environmental review will be completed. This project qualifies for a Statutory Exemption from the provisions of the CEQA Guidelines under 14 CRR Section 15268(a) [Ministerial Projects].

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm.** This meeting will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) at which they will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

MORE INFORMATION: Please contact **Austin Forde, Associate Planner** at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1126, or aforde@cityofdixonca.gov. You may also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to PlanningCommission@cityofdixonca.gov or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, Planning Commission, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the Planning Commission and will become part of the official record but will not be read aloud at the meeting

You may also attend the public hearing at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may: 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand," or 2) via teleconference press "9."

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

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

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

Dixon Independent Voice 10-31-2025

COMICS & PUZZLES

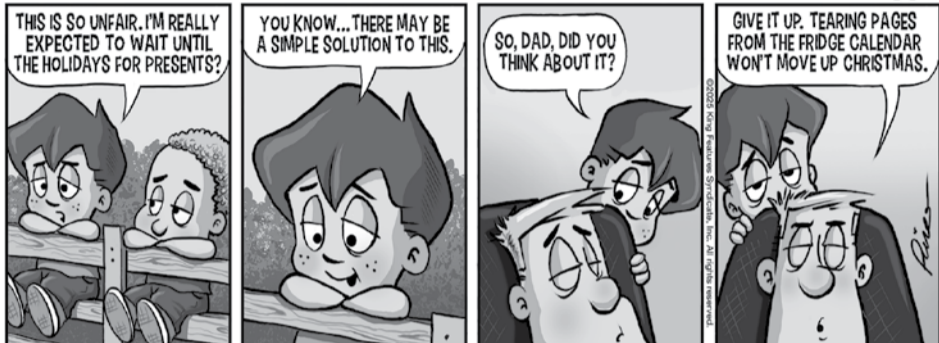
The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

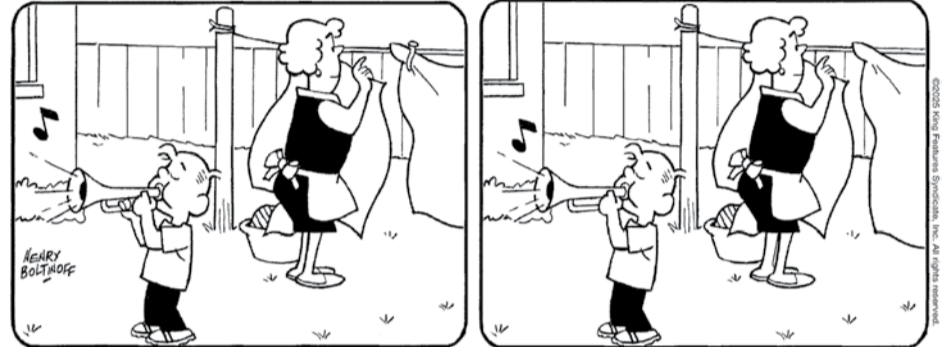


Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

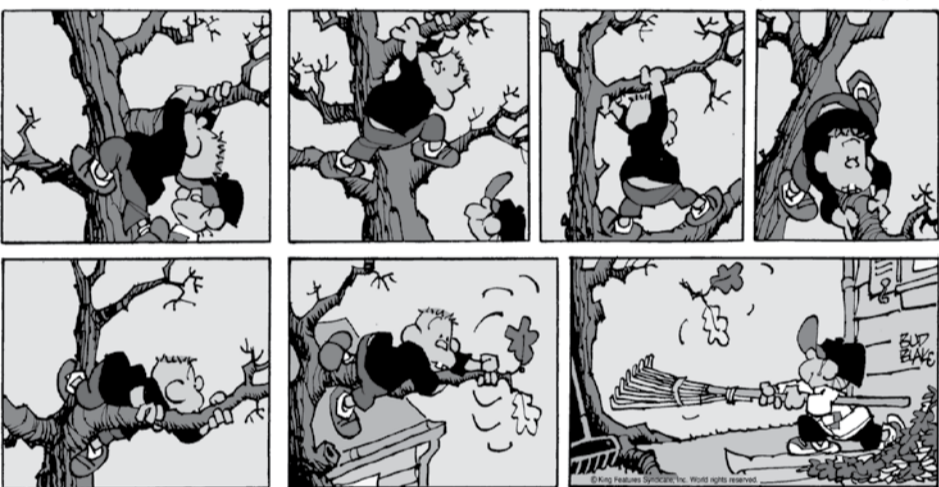
HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Music note is moved; 2. Leg is moved; 3. Clothespin is missing; 4. Sheet is longer; 5. Window is wider; 6. Arm is not showing.

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

GRIN AND BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

"We can scratch one more sitter from the list. ... Your mother recognized my voice."

E	B	B	S		M	E	T		P	E	A	L			
B	E	A	T		M	E	R	E		R	I	N	G	S	
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P	O	L	Y			S	A	N			E	K	E	D	

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • IN THE WOODS

CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Flows' partners
 - "When Harry ____ Sally..."
 - Sound of laughter
 - **"Hide" behind the bush
 - Bébé's mother
 - *Age units in the woods
 - Rum cake
 - Placido Domingo's solo, e.g.
 - Concluded
 - **"Into the Woods" star Anna
 - Come clean, with up
 - Terra ____
 - Urge Spot to attack
 - One of seven gnomes
 - Prior to the present (3 words)
 - FEMA provisions, e.g.
 - Erratum, pl.
 - Int. org. in Brussels
 - Merge
 - Time frame
 - Right-hand page
 - 1920s art style
 - Cause of wheezing
 - Like The Hot Chili Peppers
 - God we ____ on U.S. currency
 - Some vipers
 - Clairvoyant's gift
 - Source of chocolate
 - Form of payment
 - *Edible fungus
 - Multi-layered cake
 - Mélange
 - Utah's national park
 - Bake an egg
 - Plural of #22 Down
 - **"the Woods" play and movie
 - Prefix for multiple
 - Japanese honorific
 - Barely got by
- DOWN**
- Singular of #1 Across
 - *Woodpecker's pecker
 - *One lost in the woods
 - Posture
 - Boy Scout's badge
 - "Fear of Flying" author ____ Jong
 - *Furniture wood
 - *Conifer's dropping
 - Peters out
 - Def Leppard's "Rock of ____"
 - Psychedelic drug, acr.
 - St. Valentine, e.g.
 - Equip again
 - One of Seven Dwarfs
 - Rejuvenating spot
 - ____ Arabia
 - Wrinkle-prone fabric
 - Declaration of Independence, e.g.
 - 2002 Winter Olympics state
 - Mother-of-pearl
 - Weasel's cousin
 - *Golf's great
 - Catch one's breath
 - A in MOMA
 - *Scientific study in woodlands
 - Meteorologist's tool
 - Nile reptile
 - Masculine one and proud of it, pl.
 - Theater greeter

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11		
12					13				14					
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55									56			57		58
59									60			61		
62									63			64		

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5	8	3	1	7	6	2	9	4
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8	1	9	4	6	7	3	5	2
1	5	4	6	2	9	8	7	3
2	9	6	7	3	8	4	1	5
7	3	8	5	4	1	6	2	9

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Defeat All Cancer Walk

Continued from page 1

— Find the Cure.” The banner was signed by students and staff in recognition of cancer survivors and those who lost their lives.

Live music played throughout the event, adding to the atmosphere of reflection and solidarity.

Senior Madison Wartson, a Black Student Union member, said the event has personal

meaning.

“I have had many family members who have had breast cancer,” said Wartson. “Acknowledging and supporting them and their struggle is extremely important.”

Superintendent Brett Barley also attended the walk and praised the school community for its involvement.

“This is a disease that takes far too many people far too soon

and it affects everyone across the country,” said Barley. “To see our students out here supporting such a cause is inspiring.”

After completing the campus loop, participants returned to the quad for refreshments, including hot cocoa, cookies, Capri Suns, bottled water and Gatorade. Students and staff mingled and reflected on the morning’s event before returning to class.

Earlier in the day, Leadership

Club members prepared snack bags for students. The event concluded without major issues and marked another successful year of Dixon High School’s continuing efforts to promote awareness and compassion within its community.

In related news, the school announced that its Campus Beautification Day, originally scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 25, was postponed due to expected

rain. The event will now take place from 8 a.m. to noon Nov. 1 at Dixon High School.

“We still plan to plant, paint and spruce up our school to show our Ram Pride and create a welcoming space for all,” the school said in a statement. “Bring your gloves, energy, and school spirit; we’ll provide supplies.”

For more information, visit the Dixon High School Facebook page or call 707-693-6330. ★

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Main Office Address: 2508 Garfield Ave., Suite A,
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information. The *Dixon Independent Voice* is published
weekly on Friday.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



Donate to Keep Adaptive Riding Program Open

Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation, one of Northern California's leading adaptive riding programs for people with developmental disabilities, has launched an emergency fundraising campaign to sustain its operations.

The program draws students from throughout Northern California, especially Sacramento County, Yolo County and surrounding counties.

According to Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation (T.R.O.T.R.) board President Shannon Johnson Personeni, the Woodland-based nonprofit organization is facing unprecedented financial strain, due to rising costs for insurance, staffing, facility upkeep and animal care.

"Despite cutting non-essential expenses and stretching every dollar, we have been forced to release over 60% of our instructors, eliminate more than half of our weekly program hours and turn away nearly 75% of our riding students," Personeni said. "Just to stabilize our core operations and prevent further losses, we must raise at least \$45,000 by Dec. 1."

Personeni, who founded Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation in 2005, is a certified therapeutic riding instructor and an equine specialist in mental health and learning, accredited through the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International.

"Demand for our services has been growing at an astonishing rate," Personeni said. "We typically have several hundred people on our waiting list. The lives of these children and adults could be transformed by the therapeutic power of horses if we can remain



Instructor Debbie and Leo tack up Cindy Lu for a lesson. Photo courtesy of Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation



India and Mr. B share a moment. Two hearts. One healing moment. Photo courtesy of Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation



Shannon Personeni rescues the horses and they rescue us. Photo courtesy of Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation

open to serve them."

Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation combines recreational riding instruction with principles of physical, occupational and social-emotional therapy. It serves students with conditions such as autism, attention-deficit disorder/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD), brain and spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy,

developmental delays, Down syndrome, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy and learning challenges, as well as mental, emotional, visual and hearing impairments.

"A horse's stride mimics the human gait, which stimulates the rider's physical and cognitive development," Personeni said. "This gentle, rhythmic motion enhances balance, muscle

control, coordination, posture and body awareness. By interacting with their horses, riders also learn trust, patience and self-control while developing communication and social skills."

In addition to serving riders with disabilities, Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation operates a rehabilitation program for horses off the racetrack. Many of these horses arrive after neglect, abandonment or career-ending injuries. "With

training, care and compassion, they become part of our adaptive riding program or are placed in loving permanent homes," Personeni said.

Community members, businesses and foundations are encouraged to contribute to this urgent effort by donating at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/keep-trotr-alive> or contacting Therapeutic Riding and Off-Track Rehabilitation at info@TROTR.org. ★

UC Davis Professor Honored for Citrus Pest Research

UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - UC Davis Distinguished Professor Walter Leal recently received an award from the citrus research organization, Fundecitrus, São Paulo, Brazil, in recognition of his "outstanding contribution to citriculture," emphasizing his work on the Asian citrus psyllid and a Lepidopteran pest named "bicho furão" (citrus fruit borer).

Leal, a member of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology faculty and a former professor and chair of the UC Davis Department of Entomology, is the first U.S.-based researcher to receive the Fundecitrus award.

A native of Brazil and a Fellow of both the Entomological Society of America and the Entomological Society of Brazil, Leal is the principal investigator of a research agreement between UC Davis and the Fundecitrus-Fund for Protection of Citriculture, based in São Paulo.

Leal's discovery of the sex pheromone of the Asian citrus psyllid -- which spreads the deadly citrus greening disease, Huanglongbing (HLB) -- may result in the insect version of "The Fatal Attraction." The team is now working on a formulation to be used in traps.

The Asian citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citris*, is a sap-sucking bug that is



UC Davis Distinguished Professor Walter Leal (left) with Juliano Ayres, executive director of Fundecitrus, São Paulo, Brazil. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

one of two confirmed vectors of Huanglongbing disease. A native of Asia, it is found in parts of the Middle East, South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean. It was first detected in the United States in 1998 (Palm Beach County, Florida) and is now also found in Louisiana, Georgia, Arizona, South Carolina, Texas, and since 2003, in California (San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast counties, including San Luis Obispo.)

Former UC Cooperative Extension advisor Surendra Dara of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties (now at the University of Hawaii, Mānoa) earlier said that "The Asian citrus psyllid is a major threat to the multibillion-dollar citrus industry in the United States. When an insect pest vectors a deadly

disease, the threat is more serious and Asian citrus psyllid being an invasive pest made it more challenging. Discovery of a sex pheromone by Dr. Leal's team is a major breakthrough not just for managing a dangerous invasive pest, but also a significant contribution to environmental sustainability. I envision this pheromone becoming a clean, green, mean weapon in the integrated pest management arsenal against Asian citrus psyllid."

Integrated pest management specialist and UC Davis Distinguished Professor Emeritus (on recall) Frank Zalom, of the UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology and a past president of the Entomological Society of America, earlier hailed the discovery as a "significant

breakthrough in preventing the spread of this serious citrus insect, and may offer a less toxic method for its control." He was not involved in the study.

Pheromones and other semiochemicals are widely used in agriculture and medical entomology. "Growers use them as lures in trapping systems for monitoring and surveillance, as well as for strategies for controlling populations, such as mating disruption and attraction-and-kill systems," Leal said.

Asian citrus psyllid feeds on new leaf growth of oranges, lemons, mandarins, grapefruit and other citrus, as well as some related plants. Infected psyllids can transmit the bacterium *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*, which causes the fatal citrus disease. An early symptom of Huanglongbing disease in citrus is the yellowing of leaves on an individual limb or in a sector of a tree's canopy.

Citrus trees infected with Huanglongbing usually die within five years, according to the UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program. There is no known cure. "The only way to protect trees is to prevent spread of the Huanglongbing pathogen in the first place, by controlling psyllid populations and removing and destroying any infected trees," UC Integrated Pest Management says on its website. ★

Council Approves Budget Amendments

Continued from page 1

suddenly slows, then the city will make strategic changes to the budget as needed to ensure the reserves are not drawn down too far.

The budget amendments were approved 4-0, with Mayor Steven Bird absent. Staff will monitor revenues and expenses and a mid-year budget update will be presented next March.

City Council next considered a purchase agreement for a new fire engine from Golden State Fire Apparatus. The build time for a new engine is 49 to 53 months, so the expected delivery would be in 2030.

Under the Dixon Fire Department's engine replacement plan, engines spend their first 10 years as front-line vehicles and the next 10 years as reserves. Engines are also eligible for reserve status when they reach 100,000 miles. Engine 84, a 2008 model with 125,622 miles, has undergone major engine repairs over the last 15 years and is eligible for replacement under the plan guidelines.

A new engine will cost \$1.06 million if pre-paid or \$1.27 million if paid on delivery. The Dixon Fire Protection District has committed to covering 30% of the cost, because approximately 30% of calls for fire service are outside the Dixon city limits.

During public comments, a resident expressed concern that the city could lose money if the engine was paid up front and the company was to go bankrupt and be unable to fulfill the order.

Vice Mayor Thom Bogue asked if there is insurance on the purchase agreement and staff said that there is a

performance bond to protect the city's investment.

The council voted 4-0 to approve the purchase with the pre-paid option and to use the surplus funds from fiscal year 2024-2025 to cover the cost.

The council considered a resolution to ratify City Manager Jim Lindley's appointment of Melissa Eads to the position of assistant city manager, along with an accompanying budget adjustment for a \$250,000 base salary plus additional benefits.

Lindley said that Eads has "a track record of success" with many years of experience as a city administrator in Sonora and Angels Camp. She also served as executive director of the Calaveras Council of Governments.

"We would like to bring her on to learn my job," said Lindley, so there is a replacement for when he eventually retires.

Lindley added that there is plenty of development going on in the city and it would be beneficial to have another person share the workload.

Eads said that she is grateful for the opportunity.

"I'm looking forward to it and it's wonderful to meet the City of Dixon."

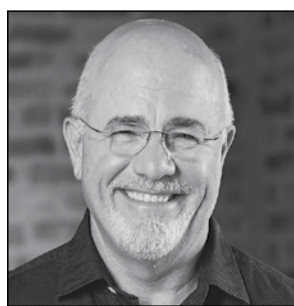
Council members welcomed Eads to the city and said this position will fill an important need. They voted 4-0 to approve the appointment.

City Attorney Douglas White also announced that City Manager Lindley recently received the distinction of being the longest serving city manager in California in a single city.

The next Dixon City Council meeting is scheduled for Nov. 4. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says

Big Inheritance Coming . . . Is a Prenup a Good Idea?

the crazies. Let's say you marry a great guy, then his deadbeat cousin, a guy you're suddenly related to by marriage, shows up asking for \$10,000 to open a pizza place. Never mind that he can't even boil water. Your guy says, "Don't look at me. We've got a prenup." He looks at you, and you smile, offer him a glass of water and send Cousin Eddie on his way.

Believe it or not, that kind of stuff actually happens. Sometimes it's the parents asking for a hand-out, sometimes it's the kids — it doesn't really matter. But it can drive a wedge between you and your spouse. Making and maintaining a good marriage is difficult. It's hard work. You don't need that kind of stuff creeping in and making things even harder.

Do you see what I'm saying? In my mind, the prenup is not to protect you from the guy you married. He's probably okay. Especially if you two are mature adults who took plenty of time getting to know each other before you walked down the aisle. And if you've been through a divorce, you probably feel that side of things a whole lot deeper than most folks.

Now, I still don't rec-

ommend prenups where small amounts of money are concerned. I remember one couple who each had normal finances and average net worths. The boyfriend wanted a prenup based on the fact he had a 1967 Ford Mustang. I flat out told her not to marry the guy because he loved a car more than he loved her. That's practically planning a divorce.

And Sarah, remember this: Wealth magnifies everything. The good and the bad. If someone who has a temper becomes wealthy, they become a bully. If they're compassionate and generous to start with, they become what we call philanthropists. Kindness and generosity become their personal brand. That's the kind of person you want to marry.

— Dave

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

Dear Dave,

What are your thoughts on prenuptial agreements? I'm a divorced single mom with two boys, and I'm their primary caregiver. I'd like to get married again one day if the right man comes along. The reason I ask about prenups is I'm expecting to receive an inheritance of about \$5 million sometime in the future. Would it be a good idea for someone in my situation?

— Sarah

Dear Sarah,

In a situation like yours, I'd recommend a prenup. Full disclosure: Years ago, I used to be completely against them. I'd tell folks not to get married if they loved money and material stuff more than they loved the person they planned to marry. But after doing decades of financial coaching and even crisis counseling, I changed my tune. The reason I changed my mind is that I started to realize just how many weirdos are out there.

When a dramatic amount of money is involved, a prenup can actually help the married couple by adding an extra level of protection between you and

The NBA season is in full swing, and the Sacramento Kings have had a shaky start getting out of the gate.

The good news is that after 3 games the Kings could easily find themselves 3-0 instead of the anemic 1-2 that they currently find themselves.

Sunday night's loss to the visiting Los Angeles Lakers was a winnable game, just as the opener against the Phoenix Suns was a winnable game. What both games had in common were two distinct threads, that I believe capsulize the direct cause of coming out on the losing end. These two reasons are not an anomaly and are a hold-over from the results of last season.

Reason #1. Terrible free throw shooting! The Kings after 3 games are shooting an atrocious 64% from the charity stripe and this is the #1 contributor to both losses sustained in the early going.

How does that rank with other NBA teams you ask? Would you believe dead last. That's right, last place among all other teams.

Reason #2. To add insult to injury the Kings are the worst team in the NBA guarding the 3-point line. For all of last season, the Kings finished once again, dead last in the NBA, allowing opposing teams to shoot a league high 38% against them.

Opinions matter, but statistics don't lie. The Kings, and in particular the coaching staff that have been talking defense since before the start of training camp, have access to the same statistics that I do. When every other team in the NBA guards the 3-point line better than you do, the question is what are you going to do about it?

I've heard coach Christie go on and on about team defense, being active, deflecting passes, and many other defensive factors, but I'm not hearing about the glaring problem that is purely losing them games. With the number of coaches that NBA teams carry today, you would think someone would be focused on the best practices for guarding effectively the 3-point line.

In Sunday night's game against the Lakers, poor perimeter defense allowed a shorthanded team to take a game away that for all intents and purposes should

have been the Kings. Yes, once again it came down to terrible free throw shooting by the Kings, and the fact that no one could stop the point guard for the opposing team. Austin Reeves went off with a career night scoring 51 points and torching the Sacramento Kings from beyond the arc, going 6 for 10 from 3-point land. Reeves was a one-man wrecking crew gathering 11 rebounds and handing out 9 assists in what was certainly his best game as an NBA player.

While I give credit to Austin Reeves for his incredible performance, at what point do the Kings shut down some of his offensive. Mid-range jumpers are one thing, but wide-open looks from beyond the arc constitute a recipe for a losing night.

Add to that 41 made free throws by the Lakers on 89% shooting compared to the Kings 12 made free throws at 66%, and this close game simply wasn't one that the Kings could win.

Simply stated, get out of the NBA cellar now, and put a renewed emphasis on free throw shooting! Every player on an individual basis must take accountability and begin the process of improving his free throw shooting. Two games that the Kings could not afford to lose are in the loss column, and it is largely if not directly because of their inability to make an uncontested shot from 15 feet away, over and over again.

When a team is losing and it's a mystery why, everyone should be worried, but when the nemesis is known, get busy and fix the problem!

The Kings are about to embark on a nasty road trip beginning in Oklahoma City Tuesday night, and facing the defending NBA champs will be no easy task. So, let's control what we can, and not allow the Thunder to beat us from the free throw line. It's a tall order to best the Thunder on their home floor, but I've seen this team do it before, so I refuse to count them out.

Take to heart the two areas I've cited and let the rest play itself out.

Welcome back Domantas Sabonis and may he stay healthy!

All the best Kings fans!
Your thoughts are always welcome at vgarrisriskingsfan@gmail.com. ★

Bay Area Transit Measure Tests Voters' Taste for Higher Sales Taxes



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The three largest sources of revenue for California governments are taxes on personal income, real estate and retail sales — and increasing them ranges from difficult to bordering on impossible.

Raising income tax rates requires legislative approval by two-thirds voting majorities or voter approval via ballot measure. After winning a second stint as governor in 2010, Jerry Brown persuaded voters to temporarily increase taxes on high-income Californians (and a token increase in the sales tax) to close a budget deficit.

A ballot measure in 2016 extended that income surtax to 2030. It's likely public employee unions and their allies will seek another extension via ballot measure in 2028.

Property tax rates are frozen by the state constitution, thanks to passage of Proposition 13 in 1978, and efforts to repeal or modify property tax limits have failed at the polls.

That leaves sales taxes, divvied up among state and local governments, as the state's most flexible levy.

The current basic rate is 7.25% on taxable goods, and that's what it is in some rural counties. State law limits any additional tax on sales to 2 percentage points,

so theoretically the highest legal rate including local, voter-approved increases, is 9.25%.

However, actual sales tax rates range as high as 10.75% because local officials routinely ask the Legislature to exceed the 2% cap, and the requests are virtually certain to be granted.

This month Gov. Gavin Newsom signed bills granting three jurisdictions permission to exceed the cap, including a 1% increase in San Luis Obispo County and a 0.25% boost for the Monterey-Salinas Transit District.

The third and most important would be a 0.5% hike in Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo and Contra Costa counties, plus 1% in the City and County of San Francisco, all to prop up Bay Area Rapid Transit and other transit services in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Bay Area measure, Senate Bill 63, would maintain the new levies — estimated to raise just over \$1 billion a year — for 14 years if approved by voters. It results from several years of effort by the region's political and civic leaders to shore up transit systems, which saw ridership and farebox revenues plunge during the COVID-19 pandemic.

How the issue will be presented to Bay Area voters is uncertain. Under current law, were the newly formed Transportation Revenue Measure District to place the tax hike on next year's ballot, it would require approval by two-thirds of those voting, which could be difficult to muster.

However the state Supreme Court has declared, albeit indirectly, that tax increases placed on the ballot via initiative petition require only a simple majority for approval, and many of the local surtaxes in recent years have been enacted via initiative to take advantage of that dictum.

Last year, the court invalidated a ballot measure that would have reversed the policy on tax votes. Anti-tax groups such as the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association are planning another such measure for 2026.

Backers of the Bay Area transit tax hike are apparently prepared to use the initiative process if polling indicates it's the only pathway to enactment. Were it to pass, sales taxes would top 11% in some cities and counties, close to the nation's highest retail sales levies.

The Tax Foundation, a Washington, DC-based organization that tracks tax policy, says that Louisiana, at 10.11%, has the highest average sales tax of any state. It calculates California's average to be 8.98%, the nation's seventh highest.

So, one might wonder, at what point does a high sales tax rate become a factor in consumer decisions? Some Bay Area cities and counties will be testing that out if the proposed transit tax is imposed.

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 do glow-in-the-dark things light up when it's dark?

— Haygarth, 5, United Kingdom

Dear Haygarth,

I love glow-in-the-dark stickers. I leave them next to a sunny window for a little while. Then turn off the lights and watch them glow.

I asked my friend Hergen Eilers how those stickers work. He's a physicist at Washington State University.

He told me that glow-in-the-dark things use a type of phosphorescence. That means they absorb energy—like light—and then glow. A material that can do that is called a phosphor.

Glowing in the dark works because of electrons.

Everything in the universe is made of atoms. That includes you, me, whatever you're reading this note on—and glow-in-the-dark stickers.

All those atoms are made of protons, neutrons and electrons. Protons and neutrons stick together in the middle of the atom. Electrons make a cloud around them.

Sometimes we say electrons are in orbitals. That's a way to describe where an electron could be and how much energy it has.

Electrons with lots of energy are farther away from the middle of the atom. They're in a higher orbital. Electrons with less energy are closer to the middle. They're in a lower orbital.

Things glow-in-the-dark because electrons can move to different orbitals.

"Light of relatively high energy comes in," Eilers said. "One of the electrons absorbs it

and is kicked into a higher orbit. Typically, it then falls back pretty rapidly and emits some light."

So, light hits a phosphor—a glow-in-the-dark thing. The electrons in the phosphor suck in the light's energy. All that extra energy makes those electrons zoom to higher orbitals.

Then, the electrons burp out the extra energy as light. They fall back down to their usual orbital.

If it happened just like that, the glow of the burped-out light wouldn't be very exciting. It would happen too fast. But phosphors aren't perfect. Nothing in nature is perfect.

The tiny flaws in a phosphor—like missing atoms—make little nooks or holes. When electrons zoom up to higher orbitals, they can get trapped in those holes.

"Sooner or later—sometimes minutes, sometimes hours or even days—the trapped electrons come back down," Eilers said. "That's what you're seeing in the dark."

My glow-in-the-dark stickers glow because electrons in the sticker have gotten stuck in itty bitty flaws that act like traps. Then the electrons let out the extra energy and fall back through the traps to their normal places.

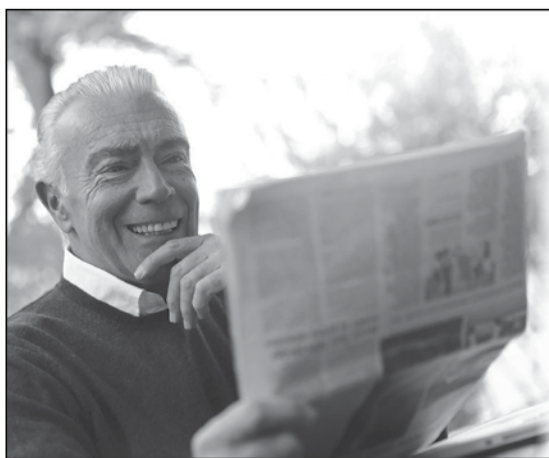
Without those flaws, glow-in-the-dark stuff wouldn't work. I guess cool things happen because nature is an imperfect glow-getter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe



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