



Thompson Announces Congressional Art Competition
PAGE 10

Gracie Sanderson is Soroptimist Young Woman of the Month
PAGE 10



Dixon Independent Voice

The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Dixon

VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 13

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MARCH 27, 2026

SEE INSIDE

SHOWCASE YOUR SKILLS AT THE DIXON MAY FAIR



PAGE 3

THE END IS IN SIGHT



PAGE 8

POLICE LOG



PAGE 3



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Dixon High Hosts Irish Heritage Celebration



Students at Dixon High School gathered in the school gym during lunch to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a campuswide event highlighting Irish American heritage. School mascot Rammy the Ram also appeared at the event, posing for photos with students. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) -Students at Dixon High School gathered in the school gym at 555 College Way during their lunch period to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a campuswide event highlighting Irish American heritage.

The celebration featured a variety of activity stations, including games such as guessing the number of coins on a table, "Outsmart the Leprechaun," and estimating marshmallows in a container. Students also participated in face painting, received temporary



The celebration featured a variety of activity stations, including face-painting and temporary tattoos. Photo by Nicolas Brown

tattoos and explored informational displays on Irish American history.

Green and white decorations filled the gym, where shamrocks, balloons and

a large banner were set up by the school's leadership club and teacher Kristina Gregory. Students were given green bandanas upon entering as Celtic music played throughout the space.

Snacks included shamrock-shaped cookies and green-dyed soda, which were distributed at a designated table staffed by student volunteers.

Gregory, who teaches English 9, Ethnic Studies and World History, said the idea for the event stemmed from both student representation and prior campus activities.

Continued on page 3

Council Hears Annual Police Report

Expanded staffing results in reduced crime rates

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - At the March 17 meeting of the Dixon City Council, Police Chief Robert Thompson presented the Dixon Police Department annual report.

Chief Thompson said officers responded to 16,506 total incidents last year, with an overall average response time of 4 minutes and 33 seconds for priority calls. They also had the highest staffing levels ever in the history of the department. There are only a few vacant positions, and additional candidates are currently being processed.

Comparing crime statistics year over year, 2025 saw an overall drop in serious offenses like burglary theft, assault and vandalism. At a 22 percent reduction, Thompson said this translated to almost 200 fewer crimes against persons and property in Dixon: "This didn't happen by accident. ... We can tie a direct correlation to the availability of police resources to investigate thoroughly and clear these crimes as they happen, and also to provide a deterrent factor because the presence of police is so prevalent."

Rates of drug offenses, disorderly conduct and trespassing all increased last year, but Thompson said this is due to an increase in proactive enforcement and targeted patrols, not necessarily an increase in the actual rate of incidents.

Thompson said there was one active homicide case last year, the first in eight years, but it was quickly cleared and submitted for prosecution. He said the department has an 85 percent clearance rate for serious crimes, which is much higher than average.

The report also highlighted the drone team, school resource officers, the cadet program, the volunteer program, the mobile field force and the public safety training center.

Mayor Steven Bird said, "I think it's impressive that the more serious crimes have actually come down as our population increased, and that's something you should be proud of."

The council also considered the 2025 General Plan Annual Progress Report, Housing Element Annual Progress Report and Housing Successor Agency Annual Report, which must be filed each year with the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Dixon General Plan
Continued on page 3

Local Landmark Wins Top Business Award

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) -Dawson's Bar & Grill, 105 N. First St., was named 2025 Business of the Year during the Celebrate Dixon 2026 event, recognizing the downtown establishment's longstanding role in the community and continued local involvement.

Owners Jill and Greg Orr accepted the honor, describing the recognition as a significant milestone for both the business and its connection to Dixon residents.

"It was overwhelming. I have never been happier because to me, everything we do is based on how we feel about the community," said Jill Orr. "Probably the most honored I've ever been getting an award."

She added that the recognition also reflects broader changes in the city's downtown area.

"I just have to say I'm proud of our downtown, the way it's evolved, the



Alongside Dawson's, Jill Orr is also the President of the Downtown Dixon Business Association, responsible for events such as The Art and Wine Stroll, Brewski Fest and the Annual Tree lighting Festival. Photo by Nicolas Brown

way it looks," she said. "We made it a place that people want to come."

Greg Orr said the award represents years of work and support from customers.

"Dawson's represents Jill and me and all the time we've put into it," he said.

"We just appreciate anyone who has taken our patronage."

The business, which traces its origins back to 1908, has long been a fixture in Dixon. According to Jill Orr, it began as a cigar store that later became a gathering place

for local residents.

"It was a lot of farmers and the men around town," she said. "They would play pinochle and they would bet crops, livestock."

Artifacts from that era, including the original table and chairs used for the
Continued on page 2

Local Landmark Wins Top Business Award



Dawson's Bar & Grill, 105 N. First St., was named 2025 Business of the Year during the Celebrate Dixon 2026 event, recognizing the downtown establishment's longstanding role in the community and continued local involvement. The award was accepted by owners Greg (left) and Jill (right) Orr. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1

games, remain preserved and are currently stored at the Dixon Historical Society Museum.

Over time, the establishment evolved into a bar and grill while maintaining its historical identity. Jill Orr said that legacy contributes to its distinctiveness.

"To me, it's iconic, it's historic, and when you go by it, you like looking at it and going to it," she said. "It makes me feel so proud."

The Orrs said they faced multiple challenges after purchasing the business, including reopening a property that had been closed for a year.

"We had to clean it from top to bottom," said Jill Orr. "We pressure-washed it for two days."

The couple also worked under a three-week timeline to meet licensing requirements before opening. Additional challenges included operating during the COVID-19 pandemic and navigating ongoing economic conditions.

Community involvement has remained a central focus for the business. Jill Orr said the restaurant supports local organizations and events through donations and sponsorships.

"If anyone has an event, we'll put posters up inside," she said. "If it's a nonprofit benefitting the kids, or scholarships, we donate as much as we can."

She added that the business has contributed to youth sports teams and local events, including a \$10,000 donation to the Dixon May Fair.

Both owners emphasized customer service as a key factor in maintaining consistency and quality.

"Our team is amazing," said Jill Orr. "They work really hard and strive really hard to offer the best service."

Greg Orr said attentiveness to both staff and customer feedback is essential.

"We are very vigilant about our staff and kitchen," he said. "We watch what's going on and we listen to our customers."

The Orrs said their approach has evolved over the past decade as they continue to refine operations and support their employees.

"You want to make sure the customers appreciate and enjoy us, and it comes down to employees," said Greg Orr.

Jill Orr said the Business of the Year recognition could strengthen the restaurant's reputation moving forward.

"When people see that, they know you're doing things right," she said.

Greg Orr noted that other businesses in Dixon also contribute significantly to the community.

"There was a lot of other great businesses that could have won," he said.

Looking ahead, Jill Orr said the focus will remain on continued improvement and engagement with the community.

"All I know is we're going to continue doing what we're doing," she said. "People's points of view open you up to things you didn't see before. I'm always trying to educate myself."

For more information, visit dixondawsons.com or call 707-678-2067. ★

CORRECTION

In the March 20 Dixon Independent Voice story, "Rodriguez Western Wear Plans Expansion with New Boutique Location" the owners of Rodriguez Western Wear were mistakenly credited as Mayra and Robert Rodriguez. While Mayra is correct, her husband's name is Michael Rodriguez.

Dixon News Briefs



Uptown Collective is hosting a paint party from 2 to 4 p.m. March 28. Held at the shop, 115 E. A St., attendees can expect a relaxed afternoon of painting and fresh air in the courtyard behind Uptown Collective for \$30 per person. All supplies will be provided. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By MPG Staff

Dixon High Sports

Dixon High School Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Baseball Teams will compete at home at 4:15 p.m. March 27. Hosted at Dixon High School, 555 College Way, the Rams will take on the Destiny Christian Academy Lions.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit dixonramsathletics.com or call 707-693-6330.

Breakfast with the Bunny

Kiwanis Club of Dixon is hosting a family breakfast from 9 to 11 a.m. March 28 in honor of Easter. The event, held at American Legion hall, 1305 N. First St., will include a pancake and sausage breakfast for \$5 and an all-you-can-eat breakfast for \$10. Funds will support children in the community.

For more information, visit Dixon Calendar and Events Facebook page or call 707-635-3303.

Free Smoke Alarm Event

The Senior/Multi-use Center is hosting a free smoke alarm and fire prevention education event with American Red Cross from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 25. Held at the Multi-use Center, 201 S. Fifth St., Dixon residents who sign up will receive free 10-year smoke alarm installation, alarm checks and a personalized fire escape plan on the day of the event.

For more information, visit the City of Dixon, CA Facebook page or call 707-678-7022.

Cornhole Tournament

Dixon Schools Athletics Boosters is hosting the Third Annual Cornhole Tournament at 2 p.m. April 11. Held at Solano Brewing Co., 5500 Weber Rd., Vacaville, the event costs \$100 per team to register. Registration is available on the Scoreholio app. Corporate and Head Tournament sponsorship options are available as well. All skill levels are welcome.

For more information, visit the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Facebook page or call 707-678-2650.

Dixon Community Theater Coloring Contest

Dixon Community Theater (DCT) is hosting a coloring contest in anticipation of its next major production, "Cinderella." From March 15 to April 10, entrants can pick up coloring sheets at partnered locations or download them directly from the community theater's website. Once the entry is complete, it can be scanned and emailed in or turned in in-person to partnered locations. Four age groups will be represented, with five winners in each group. Winners will receive tickets to "Cinderella," as well as access to an invite-only pre-show party and prizes.

Winners will be chosen by the cast and DCT members.

For more information, visit dixon-communitytheater.org or email info@dixoncommunitytheater.org.

MLB Saturday at the Moose Lodge

Dixon Moose Lodge #1120 is hosting Major League Baseball (MLB) Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 28. Held at the lodge, 180 W. B St., MLB games will be streamed throughout the day with game day deals on offer, including \$2 domestic beer and \$2 hot dogs and hamburgers.

For more information, visit Dixon Moose Lodge's new page on Facebook or call 707-678-8917.

33rd Annual Golf Tournament

Soroptimist International of Dixon is hosting its 33rd Annual Golf Tournament at 7:30 a.m. April 10. Held at Paradise Valley Golf Course, 3990 Paradise Valley Rd., Fairfield, the event includes lunch, raffle prizes and awards following play. Entry costs \$175 and entry forms and fees are due March 31.

For more information, visit Soroptimist International of Dixon on Facebook or email djlj1983@gmail.com.

Dixon Chamber Connections Networking

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. April 16. 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.

Villains Benefit Concert

Dixon Community Theater is hosting a one-night-only benefit concert at 6 p.m. March 29. Held at Dixon Performing Arts Center, 555 College Way, the event will feature some of the most talented vocalists in the area, bringing to life a collection of some of the most notorious villain songs performed on stage. All proceeds will support upcoming 2026 musical productions.

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

Paint Party at Uptown Collective

Uptown Collective is hosting a paint party from 2 to 4 p.m. March 28. Held at the shop, 115 E. A St., attendees can expect a relaxed afternoon of painting and fresh air in the courtyard behind Uptown Collective for \$30 per person. All supplies will be provided.

For more information, visit dixonchamber.org or email lillyofthearts@gmail.com. ★

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Council Hears Annual Police Report

Showcase Your Skills at the Dixon May Fair

Continued from page 1

2040, adopted in 2021, guides physical development within the city and establishes a long-range vision for the community. The annual report outlines the city's methods for implementing the General Plan goals, ensuring it continues to effectively guide growth, use of public funds, and the development, preservation and conservation of open space, land and natural resources.

Staff highlighted successful implementation steps outlined in the plan, including updating the Housing Element in 2023 and updating the Zoning Ordinance in 2024.

The council voted 4-0 to approve the report, with Councilmember Thom Bogue absent.

Next, the council considered the appointment of retired annuitant Bruce Barrette to serve as the Interim Public Works Director.

The position is vacant due to a recent retirement, and the city is moving forward with the recruitment process. But that process can take time to complete, so they need someone available now to manage operations in the Public Works Department, providing day-to-day leadership and supporting the department staff.

Barrette has extensive public works experience, and staff recommended him as the best candidate to fill the interim position. He will be paid \$100 per hour, with a maximum of 960 hours per fiscal year.

Barrette addressed the council and said he was looking forward to the opportunity to serve the city. The council voted 4-0 to approve the appointment.

Finance Director Kate Zawadzki recommended council approve purchase agreements for two trailers from Mobile Modular. The trailers have been leased since 2022, with one in use at the police department firing range training facility and the other as the finance annex space near City Hall.

The additional office space has been essential in accommodating expanded staffing levels to maintain city services. And while the city initially thought the use would be temporary, there are no plans to expand city facilities, so the trailers will likely remain in use long term.

In installation and lease costs so far, the city has paid \$51,138 for the training facility trailer and \$108,710 for the finance trailer. Zawadzki said that each year the lease rate increases to the updated cost of a new trailer, with annual increases expected between 10 to 20 percent.

Purchasing the training facility and finance trailers, at a cost not to exceed \$84,500 and \$158,800, respectively, will save the city money over time. Zawadzki recommended using reserve funds to cover to purchase cost.

The council voted 4-0 to approve the purchases.

The next meeting of the Dixon City Council is scheduled for April 7. ★

Dixon May Fair News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The 149th Dixon May Fair is honoring the tradition that has made it an iconic community event. If you'd like to join in the celebration, it's time to sign up to participate in the annual competitions at the fair, May 7 to 10. Showcase your talents by entering one of the hundreds of categories available for adults and children. The 2026 Exhibitor Guidebook lists them all. Most categories are open to residents of the State of California.

Entering your projects at the fair is easy and can be done online at dixonmayfair.com. The Exhibit Guidebook can be viewed online and entry forms can be downloaded at dixonmayfair.com. Click on Fair Information, then click Enter your Stuff, complete and sign your entry form and return it to the Fair office with any



Entering projects at the fair is easy and can be done online at dixonmayfair.com. The Exhibit Guidebook can also be viewed, and entry forms can be downloaded at the website as well. Photo courtesy of Dixon May Fair

fees by the deadline date. While most entry forms are due April 10, the actual exhibits are not due until closer to the fair, as outlined in the guidebook. Dixon May Fair starts Thursday, May 7 and

continues through Sunday, May 10 with Special Day discounts for children and seniors. For information on how to participate, visit dixonmayfair.com and the Facebook page for up-to-date information. ★

Dixon High Hosts Irish Heritage Celebration



Student leadership played a central role in organizing the event. According to Ethnic Studies Teacher Kristina Gregory, students assisted with planning, decorating and running activity stations. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1

"I was inspired to organize a St. Patrick's Day event as we have many students who are Irish-American and St. Patrick's Day is a huge day of celebration," said Gregory. "We had a holiday rally for Valentine's Day, and I thought, 'Why not St. Patrick's Day?' It was another way to recognize all the different student cultures that make up our high school community."

The event also connected to the school's Ethnic Studies curriculum, which was introduced this academic year. Gregory said the course includes a European Studies unit that examines the histories of several countries, including Ireland.

"For the story of the Irish people, in class we talked about the Potato Famine and the assistance from the Choctaw Nation," she said. "This helps show solidarity between two different ethnicities and also brings to light a history that we never learn."

Gregory added that the course also explores topics such as the Irish Republican Army and the role of nationalism and religion in Irish history.

Student leadership played a central role in organizing the event. Gregory said students assisted with planning, decorating and running activity stations.

"They made the signs for the tables, the photo backdrop, blew up balloons, set up the tables, helped at the tables with my Ethnic Studies student volunteers, provided the music and cleaned up afterwards," said Gregory.

Additional support came from AVID students and staff, who helped with cleanup

efforts following the event.

The celebration drew a large turnout, with much of the student body attending throughout the lunch period. Gregory said initial feedback indicated a positive response from students.

"This is our first year celebrating St. Patrick's Day, but I think that it was well received from what I observed," she said.

School mascot Rammy the Ram also appeared at the event, posing for photos with students. The mascot wore a green cape and shamrock stickers in keeping with the theme.

Gregory said events like the St. Patrick's Day celebration are intended to foster cultural awareness and provide opportunities for students to connect with different backgrounds.

"I think that these events help contribute to a broader understanding of cultural diversity on our campus," said Gregory. "It gives people a time to 'shine' in who they are and that they are not invisible on our campus."

Gregory said she plans to continue organizing similar events throughout the school year, including activities that recognize women's history, disability awareness and other cultural heritage months.

"The message that I hope that students took away from this St. Patrick's Day celebration is the history of the holiday, the history and voices of the Irish/Irish-American peoples, breaking stereotypes, but most importantly, a sense of pride and connection," she said.

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

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



DIXON POLICE LOG

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

- 0822 Non-injury traffic accident reported in the 2100 block of North First Street.
- 0919 Found property report taken at the police department.
- 1830 Threats report taken at the police department lobby.

Tuesday, March 17

- 1950 Domestic violence investigation.

Monday, March 16

- 1148 Restraining order violation reported in the police department lobby.
- 1206 Non-injury traffic accident reported in the area of West A Street and Pitt School Road.
- 1435 Non-injury traffic accident reported in the area of Curry Road and WB 80.
- 0120 Vehicle accident in the 700 block of West A Street led to the arrest of Demi Holder (32) of Woodland for DUI.

Sunday, March 15

- 0822 Vandalism report taken in the 100 block of Dorset Drive.
- 1439 Suspicious vehicle reported in the 1400 block of Ary Lane resulted in the arrest of Lynn Ruiz (69) for possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. She was cited and released with a citation.
- 1830 Burglary report at a residence in the 2000 block of Folsom Fair Circle.
- 0130 Domestic violence investigation in the 1500 block of Ferrero Drive.

Saturday, March 14

- 1812 Welfare check in the 400 block of La Esperanza Drive.
- 2312 A juvenile arrested for being in violation of drunk in public, obstruct an officer, resisting arrest and assault. Juvenile was taken to Juvenile Hall.
- 0254 A public nuisance and probation violation arrest report was taken in the 300 block of West C Street. Officers contacted (S) Oscar Orozco (35) of Dixon, and he was taken to Solano County Jail.

Friday, March 13

- 1237 Vandalism Report 2000 block Maze Way.
- 1400 During follow-up Investigation on a stolen vehicle from March 12, officers received information the vehicle was posted for sale online. Officers coordinated a meeting with the seller in Fairfield. Officers located the vehicle, conducted a traffic stop and arrested Louis Dydo (26) of Sacramento. He was booked into the Solano County Jail for Vehicle Theft, Possession of a stolen vehicle, theft by false pretenses, passing fictitious bills, possession of fictitious bills, possession of a controlled substance, possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, false evidence of registration, driving on a suspended license, and conspiracy.
- 1420 Traffic Stop South Eighth Street at Elm Drive. Driver was cited and released for driving on a suspended license, and the vehicle was towed to All About Towing.
- 1515 Domestic Battery Report 600 block Amesbury Drive. Miriam Vazquez (23) of Vacaville was arrested and booked into the Solano County Jail.
- 1630 Theft report 2000 block North First Street.
- 1854 An assault with a deadly weapon arrest report was taken in the 500 block of North Almond Street. Officers contacted (S) Gerardo Solano (38) of Dixon. Solano was arrested and transported to the Solano County Jail.
- 0125 A found property report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

Thursday, March 12

- 0909 Lost Property Report 200 block East Dorset Drive.
- 1248 Missing Person Report 1400 block Ferrero Drive. Missing Person was located and returned to the residence.
- 1430 Stolen Vehicle Report 2000 block Mariposa Drive.

Wednesday, March 11

- 0720 Theft report 1300 block North Lincoln Street.
- 0820 Collision Report Industrial Way.
- 1300 Fraud Report at Dixon Police Department.
- 1300 Missing Person report 1400 block Ferrero Drive. The Missing Person was located.
- 1330 Fraud Report at Dixon Police Department.
- 1430 Pedestrian Stop 800 block Mistler Street. Ricardo Ortiz (34) of Dixon was cited and released on an outstanding bench warrant.
- 1450 Firearms Surrender at Dixon Police Department.
- 1944 Lost cell phone report.
- 2034 Domestic violence report in the 1400 block of Rehrmann Drive.
- 2316 Threats report at the police department lobby.

Tuesday, March 10

- 1236 Confidential report taken in 1500 Marenda Drive.
- 1313 Threats report taken at Dixon High School.
- 1451 Bicycle stop in the 100 block of North Adams Street resulted in the arrest of Nathan Fontes-Garcia (19) for a misdemeanor warrant. He went to county jail.
- 1618 Confidential report taken at the police department.
- 1821 Oscar Orozco (31) of Dixon was contacted in the 1900 block of North First Street and arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia, under the influence of drugs and violation of probation.
- 1915 Vehicle accident overpass to North First Street.
- 1917 Vehicle accident on Dorset Drive and North First Street.
- 1940 Missing person report in the 1400 block of Ferrero Drive. Missing person located.

Monday, March 9

- 0939 Information report taken at the police department lobby for ammo destruction.
- 1356 Battery report at Northwest Park involving juveniles.

LOCAL ARREST RECORDS

Find out what's happening in your local area

Arrest Logs updated daily

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Spring Title Roundup

Spring is here, and it's the perfect time to fall into a great new read. These titles will whisk readers into fairy tales, fantasy, deep thought, and even into a great mystery.



The Redwood Bargain

by Markelle Grabo; Page Street YA

A gothic fairytale retelling of Grimm's fairytale of The Dwarf, The Fox and The Princess.

Kitchen maid Katrien longs for freedom, and when she sees the opportunity to pose as her Lord's stepdaughter, Lady Zaviera. For 7 years in exchange for her freedom, she quickly accepts. However, impersonating a noblewoman isn't as easy as she expected. As three maids have gone before her, and none were able to fool the Redwood man. Katrien knows she must do everything she can, yet the more time she spends with Lady Zaviera learning from her, the more her affections start to change. Now caught between duty, honor, and freedom, she must do everything she can to save herself and those she loves, or lose her life.

Once For Yes

by Allie Millington; Feiwel and Friends

Allie Millington once again delivers strong, powerful storytelling that leads to thought-provoking insight. The Odenburgh is an apartment building that has kept its inhabitants safe and warm, but also has been there for all their many problems. For the Odenburgh, he knows he can't get attached to the inhabitants, for they always leave. But when the Oldenburgh is sold and set for demolition, the finality of everything finally sets in.

For Prue, one of Odenburgh's inhabitants, this news is especially horrible, and she refuses to leave. This is the last place her sister was before she lost her forever. Once Prue hatches a plan to save her home, the Odenburgh immediately jumps in, flickering lights, jamming the elevator, and even triggering fire alarms. Together, they know they can save it. Then Prue meets the boy across the street, and she quickly discovers he is the one person who can help fill the gaps in her sister's story.

Heartwarming and emotional, *Once for Yes* is the middle-grade story that can be read by all ages. Asking and answering questions while having readers go through every range of emotions.

Lies Between Us

by Jessica Goodman; Putnam

The Gold Sisters and Silver Brothers have lived quite an idyllic life, growing up in side-by-side waterfront mansions. They have known each other their whole lives and even feel like family.

But one summer everything changes. A change that will factor in everything they knew about their town, their friends, and their family. Now their houses are shrouded in secrets, suspicion, and fear. But what they're all hiding from one another could be the fracture that breaks them all.

A gripping, thrilling mystery that will have readers shocked and guessing all the way through. ★



Dare to Live Without Limits

by Bryan Golden

Focus and Clarity Under Pressure



It is challenging to think clearly when you are under pressure and stress. Under those circumstances you will feel drained. You have little time or energy to focus. So how do people manage focus and clarity when under pressure?

The key to functioning well under pressure is lots of practice beforehand. This entails first developing skills without pressure followed by a great deal of additional practice under tension. When things are in disarray, you will automatically act in a manner based on your training.

There are many occupations that incorporate this preparation. Consider what's required for a person to become a pilot. The first step is to learn basic flying skills during good weather on a calm day. Next, the pilot learns to fly with various winds and at night. A flight simulator is utilized to develop flying techniques under a variety of adverse conditions that would be too dangerous to learn in an actual airplane.

When a pilot encounters actual unfavorable conditions in the air, his training kicks in enabling him to remain clear and focused under pressure. Because of the constant, repetitive training, he doesn't freeze up or panic.

Here are some other professions in which extensive practice is necessary to achieve focus and clarity under pressure: police officer, racecar driver, soldier, fireman, actor, athlete, emergency room doctor, boxer, and martial artist. To become competent in any of them requires intense training prior to encountering real life situations.

It's easy to spot someone who has not had adequate practice. They will invariably freeze up under pressure and either fail to take appropriate action or make bad decisions. It's not magic, just a matter of sufficient preparation.

Obviously, stressful situations are not confined to those in specific occupations. Anyone can encounter them at any time. How can you maintain focus and clarity under pressure when there is no way to predict what situations you will have to deal with?

The process starts with realizing that you will encounter problems and there is a solution for each one. Next, appreciate adversity as an opportunity to practice remaining calm. Handling minor obstacles provide great experience you can apply to major ones.

Use your power of visualization to create a mental simulator where you can rehearse various scenarios and your ideal responses. This is an extremely effective method of conditioning yourself to remain calm under many different circumstances. The process of visualization can be as effective as actual experiences for conditioning your mind.

When you are under pressure, don't make rash decisions. Always think before acting. Few situations require an immediate response. Take time to intelligently assess your options before taking action. When possible, seek the advice of someone who has successfully dealt with a situation similar to yours. It is also helpful to step back from your problem to enhance your ability to view it objectively.

Another great way to get practice is to help others overcome their obstacles. It's easier to think clearly when the problem you need to solve is not your own. The experience you gain can then be applied when you have to maintain clarity for yourself.

In situations demanding quick action, think rather than panic. Your objective is to make the best possible decision with the information you have at hand. Create a list of positives and negatives of each option. Chose the option with the most positives.

It is very simple. The more obstacles you overcome, the greater your focus and clarity under pressure. With clear thinking you will make better decisions.

NOW AVAILABLE: "Dare to Live Without Limits," the book. Visit www.BryanGolden.com or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com or write him c/o this paper. © 2026 Bryan Golden ★



Riley Reviews

PREVIEW OF THE 2026 TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING

A Film and TV Review
by Tim Riley

TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL

The 2026 edition of the TCM Classic Film Festival, coming to heart of Hollywood on April 30th for four days where movie lovers from around the world can gather to experience classic movies on the big screen, has its theme of "The World Comes to Hollywood."

The film industry publication, "The Hollywood Reporter," published an article earlier this year about how Los Angeles' hold on Hollywood film and TV production is slipping, noting data showing a sharp decline in film projects in the city over the past three years.

The article mentions that "superhero movies have fled to London," and three major studios (Netflix, Paramount and Lionsgate) "have inked expansive deals to build or lease new production bases in New Jersey."

It is no phenomenon that states like Louisiana, Texas and New Mexico, among others, offer generous tax incentives. Georgia is known as the "Hollywood of the South," while Illinois benefits from Chicago's production scene. Even New York offers a tax credit program to be a major hub for film and TV.

The TCM Festival's theme of "The World Comes to Hollywood" is predicated, as its website notes, on "a remarkable merging of immense creativity and shrewd business sense" that established the film-making capital of the world in Hollywood, USA.

The theme celebrates that "men and women of disparate talents and distinct styles journeyed from around the globe to America, already fluent in the same language of cinema as industry veterans, to create and collaborate, and in many instances, just to live another day."

The film industry is likely to live another day, but maybe not as much in Los Angeles. Still in the planning stage, TCM has announced a slate of films that cover a wide range of programming themes, including its central theme.

The 70th anniversary of "Anastasia" is celebrated with this historical drama in which Ingrid Bergman stars as a mysterious amnesiac woman who comes to believe she is the lost Grand Duchess Anastasia of Russia.

Her likeness to the missing royal proves so convincing that even her greatest doubters begin to believe she's the genuine article. Ingrid Bergman won the Academy Award for Best Actress for "Anastasia."

"Gaslight" is a 1944 psychological thriller directed by George Cukor, and starring Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman and Joseph Cotton. This is film for which Ingrid Bergman won her first Academy Award for Best Actress.

Bergman's Paula inherits the London

townhouse of her late aunt, a famous opera singer. Paula wanted to follow in her footsteps by studying opera and ended up being charmed and marrying her accompanist, Gregory Anton (Charles Boyer).

Gregory hides a secret of his dual personality, as his former self is connected to the demise of Paula's late aunt. As a result, Gregory is trying to drive Paula insane to distract her from his criminal acts.

Celebrating its 60th anniversary, "Arabesque" stars Gregory Peck opposite Sophia Loren in director Stanley Donen's stylish spy thriller about an American professor entangled in a web of espionage with a glamorous woman.

Peck's professor gets embroiled in international intrigue when he's asked to decode a cryptic Arabian message, and Loren's the mysterious beauty who helps him crack the code. The best part of the film is the presence of two great stars working together.

Only three years earlier, Donen directed "Charade," a romantic screwball comedy mystery film set in Paris where Cary Grant, playing several characters as part of his work for the U.S. government, gets involved with Audrey Hepburn in a caper involving her late husband's ties to missing gold.

Hepburn's widow is eluding three crooks who want the fortune stolen by her murdered husband, and it's up to Grant's handsome, mysterious stranger and Walter Matthau's CIA agent to save her. Who can she really trust is the fun part of this film.

"Arabesque," with its nod to an Alfred Hitchcock theme of an innocent protagonist thrust into perilous situations, would make a great double bill with "Charade," which is truly a superior film.

Audrey Hepburn's career is further celebrated with the screening of 1961's "Breakfast at Tiffany's," where she stars as enigmatic socialite Holly Golightly in this adaptation of Truman Capote's renowned novella.

The naïve, eccentric Holly has weekly visits with an incarcerated mobster and gets involved with George Peppard's struggling writer who moves into her apartment building. Hepburn's style and performance earn an Academy Award nomination for Best Actress.

So far, the oldest film scheduled for the festival is 1932's "Blonde Venus," starring Marlene Dietrich and Cary Grant in director Josef von Sternberg's pre-Code drama about a nightclub singer whose efforts to support her ill husband turn into scandal.

Marlene Dietrich, who started her career as a chorus girl, returns to the stage billed as "Blonde Venus," where she meets Cary Grant's Nick Townsend, a wealthy politician and frequent patron of the nightclub.

The scandal for Dietrich's Helen Faraday is when she starts an affair with Grant's playboy, and after a lot of family drama she eventually makes her way to Paris. ★



Iran War Strands California Farm Exports

The U.S.-Israeli war with Iran, now in its third week, is taking a toll on California's high-value agriculture sector. In addition to causing sharp increases in fuel and fertilizer costs, the war has disrupted access to key export markets. Since the war began on Feb. 28, Iran has responded to U.S. attacks by effectively closing the Strait of Hormuz, a crucial shipping route, and paralyzing commercial ports in nearby countries that host U.S. military bases. Robert Verloop, CEO of the California Walnut Board and Commission, said 70,000 tons of walnuts, or about 10% of the billion-dollar sector's yearly production, were either en route to the Middle East or scheduled to be shipped there this month. "That certainly is at risk," Verloop said. Tulare County nut exporter Bikram Hundal said one vessel carrying a shipment of his was diverted to the Netherlands, while another was rerouted to Algeria. "It's going to be a loss," Hundal said.

Could Tea be California's Next Cash Crop?

Aside from water, tea is the most widely consumed beverage in the world. It can be found in almost 80% of U.S. households, according to the Tea Association of the USA Inc. More than 160 million Americans drink tea, yet tea isn't grown domestically. Atef Swelam, director of the University of California Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Fresno County, would like to see California farmers

capitalize on this untapped market. "We import about 120 million pounds of tea into the U.S. annually, spending about \$6 billion," Swelam said. He added that as San Joaquin Valley farmland is retired to comply with California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the niche crop could give growers a way to maximize profit per acre. This week, farmers are invited to the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center to learn about opportunities for growing and marketing the crop.

Tomato Agreement Aims to Manage Parasitic Weed

Beginning this season, processing tomato growers, haulers and harvesters will come under mandatory state compliance agreements designed to contain and manage the parasitic weed broomrape. The California Department of Food and Agriculture introduced the agreements, which spell out equipment sanitation and broomrape risks, just before the 2025 season as part of a soft launch. This season, the agreements will be required to be signed by all parties before tomatoes are moved from a field, said Michelle Dennis, CDFA Integrated Pest Control Branch chief. The reason for the tough stance is the potential economic impact the weed poses to the state's processing tomato industry, said Brad Hanson, a University of California Cooperative Extension weed specialist. "It means you can go from a pretty small problem to a pretty big problem in short order," he said. ★

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TRUSTEE SALE
to this case, T.S.# 25-10766CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder,"

you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (916) 939-0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-10766CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days

after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. 3 File No.:25-10766CA If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. For Pre Sale Information Log On To: www.nationwideposting.com or Call: (916) 939-0772. For Post Sale Results please visit www.affinadefault.com or Call (866) 932-0360 Dated: February 26, 2026 By: Carlos Quezada

Foreclosure Associate Affinia Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 (833) 290-7452 4 File No.:25-10766CA LEGAL DESCRIPTION EXHIBIT A LOT 122, AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN MAP ENTITLED: "CREEKSIDE", FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, ON JUNE 2, 1978, IN BOOK 35 OF MAPS, PAGE 1. EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL OIL, GAS, CASINGHEAD GAS, ASPHALTUM AND OTHER HYDROCARBONS AND ALL CHEMICAL GAS, NOW OR HEREAFTER FOUND, SITUATED OR LOCATED IN ALL OR ANY PART OR

PORTION OF THE LANDS DESCRIBED, LYING MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED FEET (500') BELOW THE SURFACE THEREOF, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO SLANT DRILL FOR AND REMOVE ALL OR ANY OF SAID OIL, GAS, CASINGHEAD GAS, ASPHALTUM AND OTHER HYDROCARBONS AND CHEMICAL GAS LYING BELOW A DEPTH OF MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED FEET (500') BELOW THE SURFACE THEREOF, AND THE RIGHT TO GRANT LEASES FOR ALL OR ANY OF SAID PURPOSES; BUT WITHOUT ANY RIGHT WHATSOEVER TO ENTER UPON THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND OR UPON ANY PART

OF SAID LANDS WITHIN FIVE HUNDRED FEET (500') VERTICAL DISTANCE BELOW THE SURFACE THEREOF, AS EXCEPTED IN THE GRANT DEED EXECUTED BY DONALD MILLER, ET UX, RECORDED JANUARY 30, 1978 IN BOOK 1978, PAGE 6734, SERIES NO. 4145, SOLANO COUNTY OFFICIAL RECORDS. NPP0485499 To: DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 03/13/2026, 03/20/2026, 03/27/2026 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 3-27-2026

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000293
The following persons are doing business as: Balvary, 3936 Danbury Way, Fairfield, CA 94533 Jaspreet Kaur, 3936 Danbury Way, Fairfield, CA 94533. Date filed in Solano County: February 19, 2026. 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 February 18, 2031. 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: March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
BALVARY 3-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000359
The following persons are doing business as: OP Auto, 497 Edison Court Suite C, Fairfield, CA 94534 OP Auto Group LLC, 497 Edison Court Suite C, Fairfield, CA 94534. Date filed in Solano County: February 26, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 25, 2031. 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: March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
OP 3-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000292
The following persons are doing business as: Millennium Child Development Center, 1520 N Lincoln Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Salutory Sportsclubs, Inc, 1520 N Lincoln Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: February 19, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: August 30, 2006
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 February 18, 2031. 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: March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2026
MILLENNIUM 4-3-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000397
The following persons are doing business as: Parish Termite and Pest Management, 2575 Duncan Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Structured Pest Control and Home Services Inc., 2575 Duncan Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: March 5, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 2, 2026
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 March 4, 2031. 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: March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2026
PARISH 4-10-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000468
The following persons are doing business as: Rooter Cowboy Plumbing, 834 Blossom Avenue, Suisun City, CA 94585. Angel Rodriguez, 834 Blossom Avenue, Suisun City, CA 94585. Date filed in Solano County: March 13, 2026. 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 March 12, 2031. 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: March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2026
ROOTER 4-17-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000500
The following persons are doing business as: Minermods, 255 Primrose Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687. RTC Enterprise 2025 LLC, 255 Primrose Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687. Date filed in Solano County: March 18, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration March 17, 2031. 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: March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2026
MINERMODS 4-17-26

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-01407
Antonio Gerard Silvera filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Antonio Gerard Silvera to Antonio Gerard Epperson. 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. April 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department 3, Room 301, Hall of Justice, 600 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533. Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer
Dated: February 20, 2026
Publish: March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2026
SILVERA 4-3-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-01289
Caleb Antonio Silvera filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Caleb Antonio Silvera to Caleb Antonio Epperson. 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. April 16, 2026, 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: March 2, 2026
Publish: March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2026
EPPERSON 4-3-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-02048
Dominique Simone Lopez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Dominique Simone Lopez to Nayeli Simone Lopez. 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. May 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Department 3, Room 301, Hall of Justice, 600 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533 Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer
Dated: March 10, 2026
Publish: March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2026
LOPEZ 4-17-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF PAULA RENEE DUNN CASE NO. PR26-00126
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Paula Renee Dunn.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Antoine Killian, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Antoine Killian be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: April 8, 2026, 9:30 a.m. in Dept 22; Old Solano Courthouse, 580 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: James Du Charme, Du Charme & Cohen, 610 Tisdale Avenue, - Mare Island, Vallejo, CA 94592; 707-556-3099
Publish: March 20, 27, April 3, 2026
DUNN 4-3-26

TRUSTEE SALE
APN: 0115-141-050 TS No.: 25-10766CA TSG Order No.: 250624724 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED JUNE 13, 2013. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Affinia Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded June 19, 2013 as

Document No.: 201300061466 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California, executed by: Nathaniel L Lofton, a single person, as Trustor, will be sold AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER for cash (payable in full at time of sale by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said deed of trust in the property situated in said county and state, and as more fully described in the above referenced deed of trust. As more fully described in the attached legal description. See Exhibit A. Sale Date: April 6, 2026 Sale Time: 9:30 AM Sale Location: At the Santa Clara Street entrance to the City Hall at 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590 2 File No.:25-10766CA The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 705 W Creekside Circle, Dixon, CA 95620. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$94,699.97 (Estimated) as of . Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call, (916) 939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website, www.nationwideposting.com, for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Dixon City Council adopted Ordinance No. 26-004, approving a Development Agreement By and Between the City of Dixon and M.E.H.C, Inc. a California Corporation doing business as Dixon Wellness for continued operation of a cannabis dispensary located at 1150 North First Street, Units B and C (APN 0115-130-480).

Dixon Wellness currently operates as a commercial cannabis dispensary within the City pursuant to an existing Development Agreement scheduled to expire in March 2026. The Amended and Restated Development Agreement substantially retains the core terms of the prior agreement, while modifying the public benefit payment structure and requiring compliance with the City's recently amended cannabis business regulations. In addition, the proposed agreement authorizes Dixon Wellness to conduct cannabis deliveries within the City, subject to applicable regulatory requirements.

This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Dixon City Council held on the 3rd day of March 2026, and adopted at a regular meeting of the Dixon City Council held on the 17th day of March 2026, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Hendershot, Johnson, Ernest, Bird
NOES: None
ABSENT: Bogue
ABSTAIN: None

A copy of the full text of the adopted ordinance is available for public review at City Hall, 600 East A Street, Dixon, CA 95620 or at www.cityofdixonca.gov.

Kristin M. Janisch
Elected City Clerk

Dixon Independent Voice 3-27-2026

CITY OF DIXON NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the City of Dixon will receive Pre-qualification Questionnaires for:

GENERAL CONTRACTOR SERVICES FOR: FIRE STATION 82 PROJECT # 410-106

LOCATION OF WORK: 653 Pitt School Road, Dixon, CA 95620, Solano County.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The City of Dixon seeks to pre-qualify General Contractors for the construction of Fire Station 82 (Project) and hereby invites sealed pre-qualification submittals from licensed Contractors (Contractors).

Notice is hereby given that the City of Dixon has determined that general contractor bidders on this Project must be pre-qualified prior to submitting a bid on this Project. The pre-qualification evaluation is solely for the purpose of determining which general building contractors (Contractors) are deemed qualified to successfully construct the Project.

Only Contractors in possession of a valid Class A or B Contractor's license are allowed to bid on the Project.

It is **mandatory** that all Contractors who intend to submit a bid fully complete the pre-qualification questionnaire, provide all requested materials, and be approved by the City of Dixon to be on the final list of qualified bidders.

FILING OF SUBMITTALS DUE: on or before 3:00 PM, Thursday, APRIL 2, 2026

There **will not** be a pre-submittal meeting.

Questions regarding any part of the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire must be submitted in writing via e-mail to Andrew MacDonald, P.E., Consultant Engineer, at amacdonald@cityofdixonca.gov.

All written requests for Pre-Qualification Questionnaire clarifications must be received no later than 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

A copy of the Request, Questionnaire, and all required materials may be obtained by logging on www.blueprintexpress.com/dixon or by calling BPXpress Reprographics at (707) 745-3593.

All contractors must submit their pre-qualification questionnaire and provide all requested materials online through the BPXpress bid portal to be considered responsive.

It is the sole responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire is received prior to the specified date and time.

Each Pre-Qualification Questionnaire and requested materials must be submitted using the forms provided by the City of Dixon.

Submittals may be withdrawn at any time prior to 3:00 p.m. on April 2, 2026

A City of Dixon business license is required prior to the award of the project.

CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION OF WORKERS:

All Contractors shall be licensed under the provisions of the Business and Professions Code to do the type of work contemplated in the Project. In accordance with Public Contract Code section 3300, the City has determined that a Class A or B State contractor's license is required for this project.

In addition, the Contractor shall ensure that all workers, including those employed by subcontractors, are properly trained and certified for the work they perform throughout the term of the project.

LABOR CODE REQUIREMENTS:

Pursuant to Section 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code, the successful bidder and all subcontractors shall pay not less than the per diem wage rate as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. The prevailing rate and scale of wages of this contract is the determination made by the Director of Industrial Relations as applicable to Solano County. A copy of the Determination is on file at the office of the City Clerk.

The Contractor shall, in the performance of the work and improvements, conform to the Labor Code of the State of California and other laws of the State of California applicable hereto.

Pursuant to Section 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code, the daily penalty for failure to comply with prevailing wage should be an amount not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200). Additionally, the minimum penalty on each calendar day, for each worker paid less than the prevailing wage rate, may not be less than forty dollars (\$40), and eighty dollars (\$80) if the contractor or subcontractor has been assessed a penalty within the previous three years for failing to meet its prevailing wage obligations on a separate contract. A willful prevailing wage violation shall be assessed a penalty of between thirty dollars (\$30) and one hundred twenty dollars (\$120).

The work covered by this agreement is a "public work" as that term is defined in California Labor Code, Division 2, Part 7, and Chapter 1. Bidders are advised that if they intend to use a craft or classification not shown on the general wage determination, they shall be required to pay the wage rate of that craft or classification most clearly related to it, as shown in the determinations.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT:

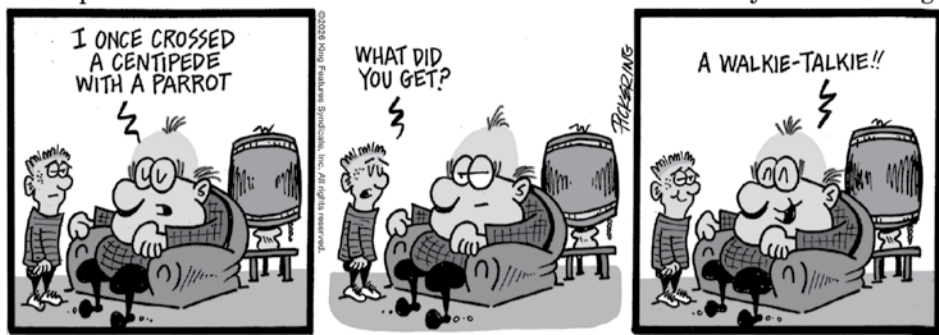
The City of Dixon is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity and values diversity among all our team members. The City does not discriminate in employment decisions on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, disability, age, marital status, medical condition, or any other legally protected status. We welcome and encourage you to assign your qualified minority, female, veteran, and disabled clients to meet our staffing needs.

Dixon Independent Voice 3-20, 3-27-2026

COMICS & PUZZLES

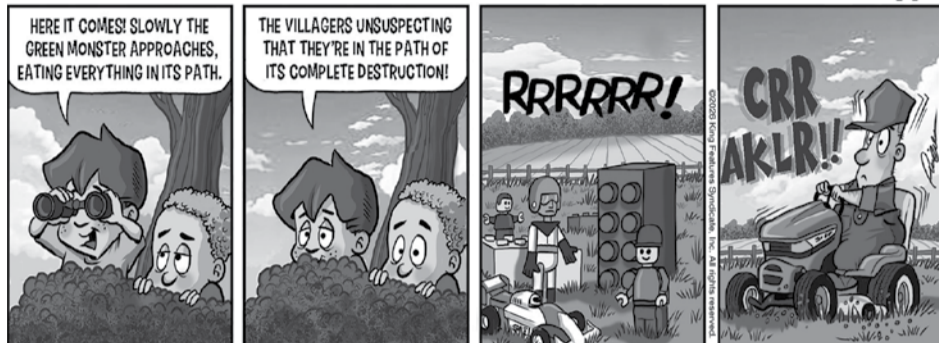
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

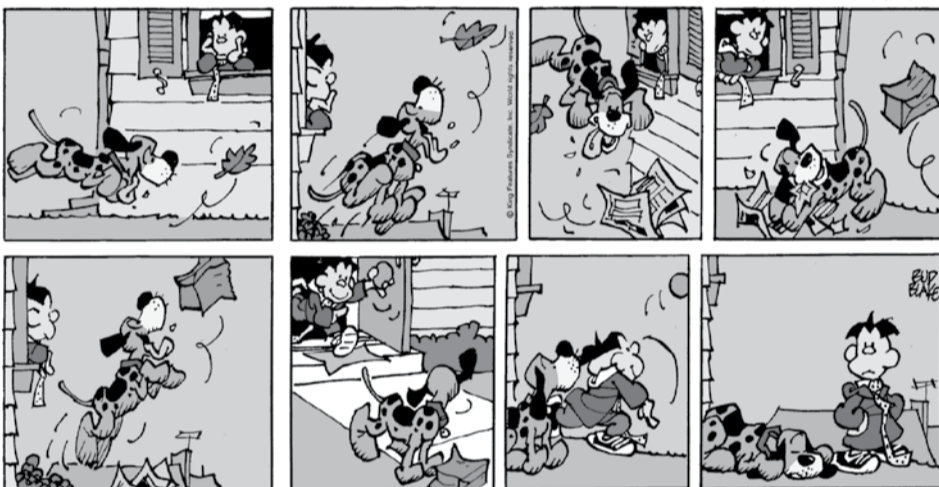
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Meter is moved. 2. Foot on dress in window is missing. 3. Finger is moved. 4. Tag on dress is thinner. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Aving is not as wide.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



CRIM THE BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Smacks
 - Marketing pop-ups
 - Kindred
 - Jeopardy
 - Dog foot
 - Threepold
 - Throat dangler
 - Mogul rider
 - Right-hand page
 - "Lady Gaga: "You and me could write a bad..."
 - "Missy Elliott: "Get Ur..."
 - Exclamation of disgust
 - At the apex
 - Pérignon of champagne fame
 - Two-masted vessel
 - Cast out
 - Larger-than-life
 - Electrical resistance units
 - Star bursts
 - Silicate mineral
 - Alexander, for short
 - ... of the valley
 - Sushi option
 - Alpine lift
 - Impose a tax
 - Forward and email, e.g.
 - Made in Vegas
 - Siren's domain
 - Cajole
 - "Drake: "I need a... dance"
 - "Adele: "We could've had it all... in the deep"
 - "Olivia Rodrigo: "I got my..."
 - Earliest stage of sickness
 - Ribonucleic acid, acr.
 - Tipi, alt. sp.
 - Drugstore shampoo brand
 - Many, many moons
 - Witchy woman
 - ... Spumante
 - Ovine mom
 - Chinese green tea
- DOWN**
- Horse prod
 - Left, Latin prefix
 - ... lily
 - Pilaff or plov
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 - Location of altar
 - ... Prescott of Dallas Cowboys
 - Swiftie's idol
 - Geometric calculation
 - ... the Can
 - "Ariana Grande: "Cause I'm so... you"
 - Glowing gas
 - Trephination tool
 - "Maroon 5: "The... that controlled my mind"
 - Actor Lowe
 - Sheriff of Nottingham's collection container
 - Raise doubts
 - Suppose
 - #40 Across, pl.
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 - Long-lasting Steelers coach
 - Brown and such
 - Topical remedy
 - "Outkast: "...!"

CROSSWORD

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WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The End Is in Sight

Things are happening in Sactown and not every Kings fan is happy. Yes, even though our hometown ballers have won five out of the last eight games, there are long time Kings fans that aren't entirely thrilled.

This is because with each win the Kings statistically have a lesser chance of garnishing the No. 1 pick, or even a top four pick in the upcoming NBA draft.

So, what's the option. To intentionally try to lose a game. I hope our team never stoops to such measures. Tanking is a matter left better to the commissioner's office, and I have no doubt Adam Silver has ideas to fix the problem. In the meantime, playing the youngsters and getting a look at as many players as possible, all while giving it their best effort is why fans are buying tickets.

Sunday afternoon saw a raucous Golden One Arena heartily applauding a consistent effort by the Kings as hometown favorite Malik Monk decided to put on a show, scoring 32 points and adding six assists to boot.

Devin Carter, finally getting a chance to play on a consistent basis, chipped in with 16 points, five rebounds, and three assists.

Maxime Raynaud added a double-double with 22 points and 10 rebounds and has been winning fans literally all season with his consistent play.

The question remains can he complement Domantas Sabonis and play alongside him, or will he become just a capable backup for Sabonis when he's not on the floor.

Although I wish nothing but good things for Raynaud, I think the Kings have found a good backup center for years to come, but I'm not seeing the shot blocking ability that I would like to see from a 7-footer.

In the 126-122 win over the Brooklyn Nets the fans got to see newcomer Patrick Baldwin perform, and Patrick wasted no time in putting up nine points and shooting three for four from 3-point land.

Doug McDermott did the same and the Kings will be faced with some uncomfortable decisions in the off season as they make decisions on who to keep and who to let go. Sadly, McDermott's 3-point shooting could have been used all season, but coach Christie relegated this talented sharpshooter

to the bench for the majority of the season for reasons that have never been very clear.

Yes. Decisions will be made and not all Kings fans are going to like them. Names like Precious Achiuwa, Dylan Cardwell, Devin Carter and others are not promised next season, although I believe all the aforementioned need to come back next year.

The draft will be a mystery until the ping pong balls do their thing but just know this Kings fans. This year's draft is deep, and whether the Kings choose #1 or #7 there is going to be a player with the talent to make the Sacramento Kings a better team.

More than anything what this franchise needs is people that can assess talent better than in the past. People that can separate the wheat from the chaff, the blue chippers from the pretenders.

Please, no more Marvin Bagleys or Thomas Robinsons. Surely, we can do better than the past has seen, and I'm convinced we will.

So, have heart Kings fans and let's continue to put our hands together for players like Russell Westbrook that is breaking all-time records right in front of our hometown fans!

Westbrook has been a bright spot all season and has done everything asked of him.

I'm hoping the younger players have been paying attention because there is much to learn from this can't miss future hall-of-famer.

Here's some positive but I believe very accurate news.

The Sacramento Kings are closer to becoming a playoff team than the NBA expects.

I don't like to dog on a coaching staff, but with the talent the Kings have and even in spite of the bad luck they've had with injuries, this team should have won 30 games.

Coach Christie is like a young rookie finding his way, but he has to do better than spout out that the Kings must play tough defense.

Start with being a better free-throw shooting team and take it from there.

Let's stick together and look forward to a winning 2027!

All the best! ★

It's Supposed to be a Race for Governor, but Candidates and Voters Seem Disengaged



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The shortage and costs of housing are, by any rational standard, one of California's most pressing issues, which is why several thousand advocates of affordable shelter gathered in Sacramento last week to ponder potential solutions.

Housing California, the event's sponsor, invited candidates for governor to participate in a panel discussion of how they would approach the housing crisis.

Neither of the two Republican candidates, Steve Hilton and Chad Bianco, appeared, which was not surprising given the left-leaning tenor of the event.

It was, however, odd that only four of the eight Democratic candidates showed up, since it was a terrific opportunity for them to impress a large audience of political activists, with just a few weeks remaining before voters begin marking and mailing their ballots for the June 2 primary election.

Of the four who participated in the housing panel, just one candidate, billionaire Tom Steyer, is in the top tier of candidates, as revealed in a new poll by the UC-Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies, with just barely 10% support.

The other three — state school Superintendent Tony Thurmond, former Los

Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and former state Controller Betty Yee — collectively garnered just 6% support among the sample of voters, with Thurmond and Yee at 1% each.

Although California is a thoroughly blue state, the two Republicans were 1 and 2 in the poll, thus feeding worries among Democratic leaders that they could wind up that way in the June 2 voting if none of the Democrats catches fire.

Among the Democrats, Congressman Eric Swalwell and former Congresswoman Katie Porter polled highest at 13% each, followed by Steyer at 10%, former Attorney General Xavier Becerra at 5%, with Villaraigosa and San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan at 4%.

Mark DiCamillo, director of the poll, told the Los Angeles Times he is stunned by how fragmented and disengaged voters are about choosing the state's next governor.

"This is historic for me," DiCamillo said, "and especially given that none of the candidates have really a positive image rating with voters, also startling. I mean, perhaps one of the reasons why voters are disengaged, they're just not enthusiastic about any of the candidates. They're kind of sleepwalking to this election."

The lethargic nature of the contest is also demonstrated by the inability of the California Federation of Unions to settle on one Democrat, instead giving endorsements to four of the eight.

One could say, therefore, that the passive attitude of candidates vis-a-vis this

week's housing conference captures the broader lack of enthusiasm among candidates and voters.

This should be a referendum on how California deals with not only housing and homelessness but the many other issues that Gavin Newsom will leave behind when he exits the office next January, almost certainly embarking on a quest for the White House.

However, the gubernatorial campaign so far has revealed very few differences among the eight Democratic candidates on those issues, nor any truly novel proposals. In response to questions about housing, homelessness, health care and living costs, the four who did participate in Thursday's panel generally responded that they would spend a lot more money and impose new taxes on corporations and wealthy Californians to pay for it.

Given the paucity of new ideas and the overall lethargy, one could almost hope that Hilton and Bianco do finish 1-2 and give the state a Republican governor for the first time in two decades. The Capitol conflict that would ensue as a GOP governor battles with a Legislature dominated by Democrats would at least be interesting.

It would be karmic justice for a Democratic Party that apparently is incapable of generating enough energy to power a light bulb.

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. ★

Social Security Matters

Help! Social Security Reduced my Monthly Payment



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: My last Social Security payment decreased by about \$400, so I went to my online SS account and found a November 2025 letter explaining that my 2024 tax return showed a greatly enlarged AGI (Adjusted Gross Income). Thus, SSA decided to withdraw monies, as of Jan 2026, from my bank account because I'd owed far more monies to them! The letter itemized my greatly diminished 2026 SSA monthly payment, explaining should my next tax return show a regular AGI, then SSA would return my SS income to regular amounts (and return every prior month's deficits?). Said letter also mentioned an optional recourse, that of compiling an "Appeal" to regain my ongoing decreased income! The extra amounts now withdrawn for Medicare Parts A and D alone are outrageously high. I'm a retired senior citizen on a fixed income.

According to SSA, my having sold a piece of land in 2024 allows SSA to decrease my SS income! Has this become a common practice against USA (senior) citizens? Thank you in advance for your input! **Signed: Feeling Wronged**

Dear Feeling Wronged: From what you have shared, it appears that your SS benefit amount has been affected by a provision known as

"IRMAA" (Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount). IRMAA isn't really a Social Security issue, rather it is a Medicare premium thing. But when IRMAA applies, it reduces your net Social Security payment because Medicare premiums are automatically taken from your Social Security benefit, thus making your net SS payment less. If you look at your gross Social Security payment (at your online "my Social Security" account) you will see that your gross SS payment did not change, but your Medicare premium did, thus affecting your net SS payment.

IRMAA, essentially, makes Medicare a "means tested" program, where those with a higher AGI can pay a higher Medicare Part B (and Part D) premium. However, IRMAA is usually based on AGI from two years prior to the current year (because your current AGI information isn't available from the IRS when Medicare premiums are determined in October of each year). FYI, you may have received a notice in the mail in early December telling you what your 2026 Social Security and Medicare amounts would be. In a nutshell, the land you sold in 2024 apparently increased your AGI to exceed the base IRMAA thresholds (which are \$109,000 if you file your taxes as a single, or \$218,000 if you file your income tax as "married/jointly"). And the IRMAA supplements are "progressive" (higher if your AGI is more), so if your Medicare premiums went up by about \$400 (about twice the 2026 standard premium) it's likely that your 2024 AGI was over \$137,000 if you filed as a single (or over \$274,000 if you filed as "married/jointly"). FYI, you can see the 2026 IRMAA brackets/

premium amounts at this link: www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/medicare-premiums.html

A couple of additional points:

- Your Medicare premiums will, indeed, revert to the standard amounts for 2027, if your 2025 AGI amount is under the IRMAA threshold for your tax filing status.

- There is no premium for Medicare Part A (which is coverage for inpatient hospitalization care) because you are receiving Social Security benefits. However, there is a premium for Part B of Medicare (which is coverage for outpatient medical services), and you must also separately pay a premium for Part D (which is coverage for prescription drugs offered by private insurers). And these IRMAA supplements apply even if you have a Medicare Advantage plan from a private insurer.

Unfortunately, your only "recourse" is, as SSA suggested, to appeal the IRMAA supplement, but that is usually successful only if you can prove you had a "life changing event" which caused (or will cause) your AGI to be less than that used to determine your IRMAA surcharge. Your best option at this point will likely be to appeal using a "Request for Reconsideration" (Form SSA-561) asking that your 2026 Medicare premium be based on a recent year's (e.g., 2025) lower income.

Finally, IRMAA isn't really a new thing — it was enacted in 2003, effective in 2007. But it does have a profound effect on many seniors, as I explained in this article I recently published on the topic: <https://amacfoundation.org/irmaa-a-medicare-surprise/>

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. ★



Iran is Challenging a Bedrock of American Geopolitical Power

oil, but aluminum, fertilizers and any number of other products are being affected. If shipping in the strait remains as constrained as it is now for months rather than weeks, the economic damage could become intolerable.

Iran is the equivalent of a piratical Barbary state that is managing to undermine a defining element of American geopolitical strategy, despite the beating that it is taking otherwise. We have two carrier strike groups in the region, representing alone more firepower than many nations can muster, and the Iranians have some missiles, drones and mines -- and yet, they've effectively closed the strait and we, for now, can't reopen it.

This is a stark demonstration of asymmetrical power, and the longer it goes on, the more it will look like a national humiliation. There's no one who is going to bail us out because we have a world-class navy, whereas our allies don't -- even if they wanted to help.

Trump would like to muster an international force to reopen the strait, but Germany has rebuffed him, and the Japanese and Australians aren't interested. France is putting together a force -- to deploy after the end of hostilities. Imagine if that had been our attitude about the Battle of Belleau Wood. The fact of the matter, though, is that allied countries aren't going to think it's possible to reopen the strait if we haven't managed to do it on our own.

The reason why we have the Fifth Fleet, one of the most awesome naval forces ever assembled in the history of mankind, is to protect the sea lanes in the Middle East.

That the Strait of Hormuz is now effectively closed is not just a blow to the global economy and a key point of leverage for the Iranian regime, it is an assault against one of the foundations of American power.

Guarding the safe passage of commerce has been a core Anglo-American commitment for a couple of centuries, with the baton of naval leadership passing from the British to the United States around the time of World War II.

British naval preeminence in the 19th century contributed to the creation of the modern world by enabling relatively safe and inexpensive global commerce. We have done the same in the post-World War II era.

This has never been an entirely altruistic endeavor, since -- as two commercially oriented nations heavily involved in international trade -- the U.K. and the U.S. benefited mightily from the arrangements guaranteed by their warships. But so did everyone else.

Just consider the global pain from the current effective closure of the strait, which is being felt at the pump in the U.S. and threatens to hammer Europe and countries throughout Asia. Not just

Trump's two basic options are to seek some unsatisfactory accommodation with the Iranians that ends in a ceasefire -- with the Iranians having demonstrated their de facto control of one of the most consequential waterways in the world -- or to break their grip on the strait by force of arms, perhaps up to and including the deployment of ground forces to secure the shores of the strait.

Trump seems inclined to bludgeon the strait free of Iranian control. U.S. officials say we could begin naval escorts in a matter of weeks, and they worked during the Tanker War between Iran and Iraq in the 1980s.

The great 19th-century naval strategist Alfred Thayer Mahan argued, "Control of the sea by maritime commerce and naval supremacy means predominant influence in the world." This was the experience of the British, and has been ours for a long time. "The necessity of a navy," Mahan also said, "springs from the existence of peaceful shipping and disappears with it."

In the Strait of Hormuz right now, peaceful shipping has largely disappeared, while we are deploying a mighty navy. If our forces can't restore free navigation, it will represent a significant failure of a traditional pillar of U.S. power.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2026 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

UC Davis Athletics Director Named NACDA Athletics Director Of the Year

UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - University of California, Davis, Director of Athletics Rocko DeLuca has been named a 2025-26 NACDA Athletics Director of the Year (ADOY), the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) announced.

DeLuca was selected as one of 28 recipients across seven divisions of college athletics and represents the Division I FCS level. The award recognizes athletics directors for their commitment to student-athletes, campuses and communities while demonstrating outstanding leadership within intercollegiate athletics.

“Rocko DeLuca and his family are important members of the Aggie community and strong representatives of UC Davis,” Chancellor Gary S. May said. “He’s had a transformative impact elevating academic achievement among our student-athletes, delivering championship performances and strategically positioning Aggie Athletics through meaningful resource enhancement. Rocko has led with integrity, vision and purpose. This recognition reflects the strong trajectory of



University of California, Davis, Director of Athletics Rocko DeLuca has been recognized as the 2025-26 NACDA Athletics Director of the Year (ADOY) by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA). Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

our athletics program and we are proud of the leadership Rocko continues to provide UC Davis.”

The NACDA Athletics Director of the Year program, now in its 28th year, honors administrators who exemplify excellence in leadership, program development and service to higher education.

Since becoming UC Davis Director of Athletics in 2021, DeLuca has guided Aggie Athletics through a period of

significant competitive, academic and strategic growth. Under his leadership, UC Davis student-athletes have achieved a program-record 93% Graduation Success Rate, ranking among the top 10 nationally, while Aggie teams have captured 13 conference championships and 29 individual conference titles.

DeLuca has also led major initiatives that position UC Davis Athletics for long-term success, including the department’s

IGNITE strategic plan; Aggie Ascent, a long-term vision for the future of our facilities; and the university’s upcoming transition to the Mountain West Conference beginning July 1, 2026.

“I am honored and humbled to be recognized by NACDA along with my peers, and I am grateful to those on the selection committee for the recognition,” said DeLuca. “Ultimately, this award reflects the incredible student-athletes, coaches and staff

who make Aggie Athletics what it is.” They work hard each and every day to represent UC Davis with pride, and their commitment to excellence in competition, in the classroom and in our community is what drives the success of our programs. I am fortunate to work alongside such a dedicated group who care deeply about the student-athlete experience and about doing things the right way.

“Chancellor Gary May and our campus leadership team have been incredible partners to me and to Aggie Athletics and they recognize the importance of a strong athletics program within the university community. Finally, I want to recognize our fans, alumni and donors who believe in what we’re building and who continue to help us build tremendous momentum for our programs. Together, we are positioning UC Davis Athletics for an exciting future and the opportunities that lie ahead.”

Recipients of the NACDA Athletics Director of the Year award will be recognized during the 61st Annual NACDA & Affiliates Convention, held June 7-10 in Las Vegas. Award winners will be honored during the Association-Wide Featured Session on Tuesday, June 9 at Mandalay Bay Resort. ★

Beavers Shutout Porterville and Sequoias

American River College Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - ARC men’s tennis took a trip south to the central valley to take on Porterville and College of the Sequoias.

Against Porterville, Tijme Brunner stepped up to the #1 position and won in dominant fashion by the score of 6-1, 6-2 against the Porterville #1, Knautilus Vankham. Rudy Golen was even more dominating at #2 against Samuel Campos, winning without dropping a single game.

AJ Dipotra stepped into the lineup and also earned a 6-0, 6-0 victory. On Day 2 of the trip the Beavers took on the # 7 team in NorCal, The College of the Sequoias Giants. It was another one-sided victory for ARC, winning the dual



ARC men’s tennis took a trip south to the central valley to take on Porterville and College of the Sequoias. Photo courtesy of American River College Athletics

match 9-0.

The Giants competed well, pushing ARC at the #1 doubles position, with the Beaver team of Landon Arendt/Tijme Brunner closed out a 9-7 victory after a hard-fought battle. In the singles, ARC put in their best performance of the season, beating the

competitive COS players at each position without any Beaver player dropping more than 4 games.

Arendt beat a tough opponent, Robert Dan, at the #1 spot by the score of 6-0, 6-4. Carson Parent dropped the fewest amount of games at #6, winning by the score of 6-0, 6-1. ★

Republic FC Signs Brooks Doolittle



Brooks Doolittle joins a group of six current and former Academy players on this year’s first team roster. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Republic FC announced March 6 the addition of academy player Brooks Doolittle to the club’s first team roster. The goalkeeper has signed a USL Academy Contract, pending league and federation approval, and will be eligible to play in first team matches in 2026.

“Bringing academy players onto the first team and introducing them to its environment prepares them for the next level,” said Republic FC Head Coach Neill Collins, “This is not an opportunity that everyone gets, and we’re looking forward to seeing how Brooks continues to grow from it.”

A Greenbrae, California native, Doolittle is a new addition to Republic FC’s academy. Since joining the Indomitable Club just last year, he has earned seven clean sheets in 12 appearances. Prior to his appearance with SRFC, the 6’3” seventeen-year-old played for San Jose Earthquakes Academy and Bay Area Surf. He has also received invitations to both U.S. Soccer ID camps and

national training camps.

Doolittle joins a group of six current and former Academy players on this year’s first team roster. Da’vian Kimbrough, Blake Willey and Chibi Ukaegbu have risen through the ranks to sign professional contracts with their hometown team, while defenders Rohan Chivukula and Luke Strassburg signed USL Academy Contracts in December. USL Academy Contracts allow academy players the chance to train and compete with the first team in professional matches while retaining their NCAA eligibility.

Since its inception in 2015, Republic FC’s Academy has created a strong, local pipeline of youth players ready for professional-level competition, with over 40 players earning the opportunity to join the first team on USL Academy contracts and over 25 going on to sign professional contracts with Republic FC or other clubs. In 2025, players from Sacramento’s youth academy combined for 80 gameday roster selections, 56 appearances and over 3,000 minutes.

Tickets are available now at SacRepublicFC.com. ★

Riva Picks Up Second Big Sky Honor of 2026

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Junior Irene Riva capped off an unbeaten 4-0 week by earning Big Sky Conference Player of the Week laurels, helping the No. 66 Sacramento State women’s tennis team to wins over Cal State Fullerton and league rival Northern Arizona last week.

The award is Riva’s second of the season and the fourth by a Hornet this year along with teammates Lou Baudouin (Feb. 11) and Reese Walker (Feb. 25). The four awards are the most by any Big Sky school this season while Riva collected the fifth of her career, tying her for fifth on the program’s all-time list with former teammate Mayya Gorbunova (2023-24) and Tatsiana Kapshai (2010-12). Alongside partner Palina Saulevich, Riva posted a



The award is Riva’s second of the season and the fourth by a Hornet this year along with teammates Lou Baudouin (Feb. 11) and Reese Walker (Feb. 25). Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

pair of doubles wins to start each match, clinching the doubles point against the Titans with a 7-5 win at No. 1, then followed that up with a tiebreaker victory against the Lumberjacks to help Sacramento State sweep the doubles point for only the second time this season — the first since the regular season opener.

In singles, Riva extended her personal winning streak to five straight matches with a pair of straight set wins at the No. 3 spot in the lineup. Her win over Fullerton’s Amelia Zylberman clinched the 4-2 win over the Titans and she added another straight set win over NAU’s Andrea Noguera to close out the weekend. ★

ARC Wins Big 8 Invite

American River College Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Despite coming off a hard week of training, ARC delivered an impressive performance to win the Big 8 Invite. The team showed resilience and depth across both swimming and diving events.

Sasha Samoylovich stayed right on her rested times and led the team in scoring, helping set the tone for ARC’s strong showing. Ella Hanson also continued her momentum from a breakout meet the previous weekend, managing to swim close

to those same fast times.

Amber Inderkum took on the 100 fly for the first time and turned in a very respectable 1:05, while Meg Gardner tackled the 200 fly and dropped an impressive eight seconds from her previous best.

The diving crew added valuable points as well. Ashley Johnson dominated the boards, winning both events, while Arie Black placed third. Bridget Adams also contributed key top-three finishes on both boards, helping secure crucial points for the team.

Overall, it was a strong team effort and a great result for ARC after a demanding week of training. ★



Gracie Sanderson is Soroptimist Young Woman of the Month



From left, Gracie Sanderson is March's Young Woman of the Month chosen by the English Department at Dixon High School. She was joined by Dixon High School Teacher Alexandra Shaffer and Soroptimist President Barbara Rigdon. Photo courtesy of Soroptimist International of Dixon

Soroptimist International of Dixon News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - "'Hamilton,' the musical, instantly became my favorite and gave me the motivation to pursue acting as a career," said Gracie Sanderson. "Theatre became a space that I felt protected and understood."

Gracie Sanderson is March's Young Woman of the Month chosen by the English Department at Dixon High School. Alexandra Shaffer, English teacher and color guard coach, notes that as captain of the color guard this year, Sanderson has had

to make a lot of logistical decisions along with the pressure and expectations placed on her shoulders, but Sanderson always succeeds with a smile on her face. She holds a high line for success, but she helps the team members achieve success while supporting them. Sanderson has excelled in drama as an AVID tutor and a successful AP student.

"She is the hardest working student I have ever taught," said Shaffer.

Sanderson is the daughter of Alex Sanderson, Monica Robbins and Brian Robbins. She has two siblings, Ryan and Hazel. Sanderson is grateful to

her parents for allowing her to dream, and they never turned down her creativity and taught her to never give up, no matter how hard it is.

Sanderson is president of the drama club and has been in numerous theatre productions. In 2024, she attended a four-week camp in Los Angeles called the California State Summer School for the Arts, where she trained and became a California Arts Scholar. She has directed all the productions in the last two years that the drama club has put on.

As she continues her education, she doesn't just want to be famous, but she wants to use what she learns to give back to her community and others by supporting easy access to arts education and creating spaces where young people can be seen, heard and valued, giving them confidence, purpose and a sense of belonging. She wants to study theatre in college and become an actress in the future. Sanderson has applied to many universities, but she hopes to attend New York University. Sanderson auditioned for Juilliard School as well.

Soroptimist International of Dixon members see a bright future for Sanderson. Congratulations, Sanderson, and good luck with your future pursuits! ★

Thompson Announces Congressional Art Competition



Last year's winner, Isabella Macias (Second from Right) of Napa County, took top honors for her acrylic piece "Representation Matters," which is currently on display in the Capitol. Photo courtesy of the Office of Mike Thompson

Office of Mike Thompson News Release

CALIFORNIA (MPG) - Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) announced March 17 the 2026 Congressional Art Competition, open to all high school students in California's Fourth Congressional District.

"Every year, I look forward to the Congressional Art Competition. It is a wonderful chance to showcase the incredible talent of students across our district," said Thompson. "I encourage all high school students to submit their artwork."

The winning piece will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year. The grand prize winner will also receive round-trip travel for themselves and a guest to Washington, D.C. for an awards ceremony (date to be announced).

Last year's winner, Isabella Macias of Napa County, took top honors for her acrylic piece "Representation Matters," which is currently on display in the Capitol.

To enter, students must complete the online registration form by April 10, then drop off their artwork at one of Rep. Thompson's district offices by 5 p.m. April 22. Thompson's offices are located at 2721

Napa Valley Corporate Drive in Napa, 2300 County Center Drive, Suite A100 in Santa Rosa and 622 Main St., Suite 106 in Woodland.

Submissions will be judged by a panel of local artists and art experts, with the winner announced following the deadline.

Eligibility and Requirements

Accepted media includes paintings (oil, acrylic, watercolor), drawings (pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, ink, markers), collages (two-dimensional only), prints (lithograph, silkscreen, block print), mixed media, computer-generated art and photography.

Size and weight limits: Up to 28 by 28 inches, no more than 4 inches deep and no more than 15 pounds. Winning entries must be framed and remain within these dimensions.

Originality: All work must be original in concept, design and execution, and must not violate U.S. copyright law. Copies of existing photos, paintings, or advertisements created by others will not be accepted. Work must be submitted in its original medium – scanned reproductions are not eligible.

For more information, call 707-542-7182 or email CA04ArtCompetition@mail.house.gov. ★

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