



**Mike Thompson
Announces Solano
County Woman
of the Year**

PAGE 3

**He is
Risen!**
Celebrate Easter



Dixon
Independent Voice
The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Dixon

VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 14

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

APRIL 3, 2026

**SEE
INSIDE**

**STUDENTS
PARTICIPATE
IN SALMON
RESEARCH PROJECT**



PAGE 10

**CITY PARKS
PHOTO CONTEST
NOW OPEN**



PAGE 2

AVORIO DENTAL
Open J. Patel, DDS, MAGD
**NO INSURANCE?
NO PROBLEM!**
\$108 New Patient Visit!
(Call for details)

- Cosmetic
- Implant
- Snoring & Sleep Apnea
- Emergency

916 483 5566
www.avoriodental.com
@doctorupenpatel



Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

PRSRTD STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CARMICHAEL, CA
PERMIT NO. 350
OR CURRENT
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Sara Echarte Named Ambassador of Year



Sara Echarte (left), manager of the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, was named the 2025 Ambassador of the Year during the annual Celebrate Dixon gala March 14. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Sara Echarte, manager of the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, was named the 2025 Ambassador of the Year during the annual Celebrate Dixon gala March 14.

Echarte said she was both honored and surprised when her name was announced.

"I was honored but also a little apprehensive because I'm so proud of my whole ambassador team," said Echarte. "I didn't think I was the right pick, but I'm so thankful and honored."

The Ambassador of the Year award recognizes individuals who contribute



The Ambassador of the Year award recognizes individuals who contribute to community engagement and support local businesses through chamber activities. Echarte said the recognition reflects collective effort rather than individual achievement. Photo courtesy of Harvest at Dixon/Dixon Chamber of Commerce

to community engagement and support local businesses through chamber activities. Echarte said the recognition reflects collective effort rather than individual achievement.

"It's nice to receive recognition for all your hard work and to be seen, but I don't do it for the recognition," said Echarte. "I do it to support a better community."

Over the past year, Echarte said she took pride in stepping into a leadership role during a period of transition for the chamber.

"I was really able to step into this new role after Shauna Manina's abrupt departure and really get

Continued on page 3

**Boogie All
Night with
KC and The
Sunshine
Band**

California State Fair
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - It's time to put on your "Boogie Shoes" and "Get Down Tonight" to "Shake Your Booty" with the original Sunshine Man himself, KC & The Sunshine Band at the California State Fair, Saturday, July 25, as part of the Toyota Concert Series on the Main Stage.

KC & The Sunshine Band have entertained audiences for more than 45 years and sold over 100 million records. They were the first act since The Beatles in 1964 to score four No. 1 pop singles in a 12-month span, with three also reaching No. 1 on the R&B chart.

Their 1976 album Part 3 went triple platinum and featured hits like "I'm Your Boogie Man," "Shake Your Booty," and "Keep It Comin' Love." More hits followed, including "Boogie Shoes" from the Saturday Night Fever soundtrack, "Please Don't Go," and "Yes, I'm Ready," a duet with Teri DeSario.

KC won Grammy Awards in 1978 for his work on the "Saturday Night Fever" soundtrack and received the NARAS Governor's Award in 2001. In 2002 KC received the coveted Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. KC's music is now being sampled by rappers, and whole new generations of fans have been introduced to his music.

"KC & The Sunshine Band is one of those groups that will have the crowd dancing for the entire concert," said Tom Martinez, CEO of Cal Expo & California State Fair. "Have a corndog, funnel cake, a turkey leg and then come and get your groove on."

All concerts are included with Fair admission. Guests who would like an up-close experience can purchase reserved seating. To purchase tickets visit www.CAStateFair.com.

The California State Fair runs from July 17 to Aug. 2. Gates open at 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and at 10 a.m. Friday through Sunday. ★

**April Brings Education,
Arts, Community to Dixon**

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - A range of educational programs, community events and performances are scheduled throughout Dixon in April, offering residents opportunities to engage in financial literacy, environmental education and the arts.

Two programs are scheduled for April 10 at the library. From 2 to 3:30 p.m., Sustainable Solano will present "Tree Guild 101," an educational session focused on building self-supporting, permaculture-based ecosystems around trees. That same afternoon, from 2 to 2:45 p.m., "Go With The Flow Juggling and Water Science" will offer an interactive presentation combining juggling, comedy and multimedia elements to teach water conservation. The program is open to ages 6 through adult.

A Teen Open Mic Poetry Night will be held from



April has several notable holidays, including Easter April 5, Tax Day April 15, Good Friday April 18 and Earth Day April 22. Photo by Nicolas Brown

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. April 16 in recognition of National Poetry Month. Participants may perform poetry or music, with acts limited to five minutes. Event organizers note

that vulgar language is prohibited.

For more information about Dixon Library events, visit solanolibrary.com or email rdgjertsen@solanocounty.gov.

Community members may also attend a fundraising event hosted by the Dixon Lions Club April 11. The drive-thru barbecue will run from 4 to 7 p.m.

Continued on page 2

**WE SUPPORT
OUR MILITARY**

April Brings Education, Arts, Community to Dixon

Continued from page 1
at Tractor Supply, 2000 N. First St. Meals include tri-tip, potato salad, beans and a dinner roll, with proceeds supporting local programs.

For more information, visit Dixon Lions Club on Facebook or call 510-388-3176.

Later in the month, Joystick Gaming Lounge, 420 Gateway Dr., Suite C, will host its monthly Bunco Night from 6 to 8 p.m. April 23 for \$20 per participant. The event includes prizes, with food and beverages available for purchase. Proceeds from beer and wine sales will benefit Kiwanis Club of Dixon.

For more information, visit joystickdixon.com or call 707-676-5697.

Dixon Community Theater will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella from April 24 through May 3 at the Dixon Performing Arts Center,



Joystick Gaming Lounge, 420 Gateway Dr., Suite C, is hosting its monthly Bunco Night from 6 to 8 p.m. April 23 for \$20 per participant. The event includes prizes, with food and beverages available for purchase. Proceeds from beer and wine sales will benefit Kiwanis Club of Dixon. Photo by Nicolas Brown

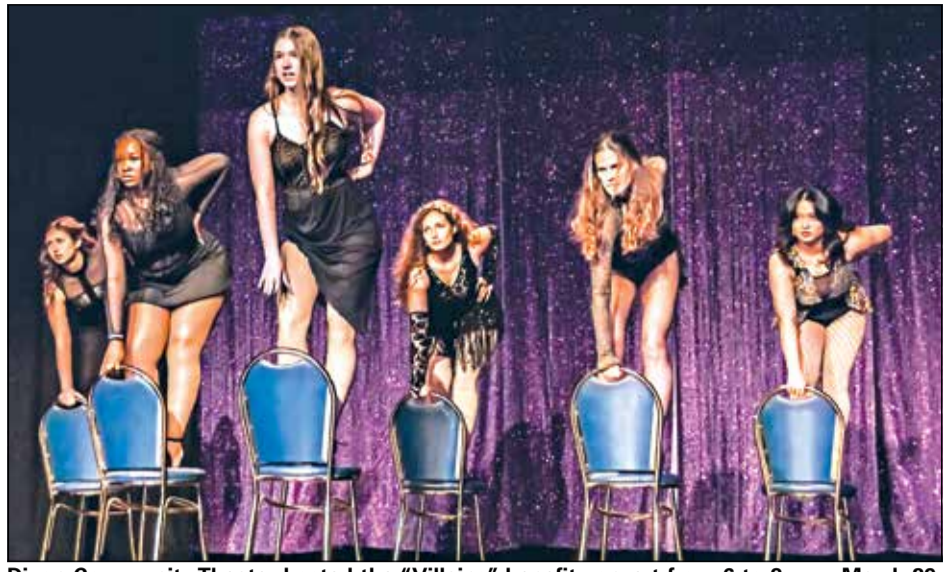
555 College Way. The production is staged in partnership with Dixon High School and the Dixon Unified School District, with students participating both on stage and behind the scenes.

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

dixoncommunitytheater.org.

National observances in April include Arab American Heritage Month, as well as holidays such as Easter on April 5, Tax Day on April 15, Good Friday on April 18 and Earth Day on April 22. National Library Week is observed April 19 through 25. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Dixon Community Theater hosted the "Villains" benefit concert from 6 to 8 p.m. March 29. Funds from the concert will benefit the theater's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella," premiering April 24. The theater is also hosting a coloring contest in anticipation of its next major production. Submission will be accepted until April 15. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By MPG Staff

Dixon High Sports

Dixon High School Boys Varsity Track Team will compete at home at 8 a.m. April 3. Hosted at Dixon High School, 555 College Way, the Rams will take on the Bella Vista High School Broncos.

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

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 dixoncommunitytheater.org or email info@dixoncommunitytheater.org.

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.

Lunch Bunch at Pedro's Cocina

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting another lunch bunch networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. April 21. Held at Pedro's Cocina, 1425 Market Lane, the free event offers guests a no-host lunch and networking opportunities.

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

Teen Open Mic Night

Dixon Library is hosting a Teen Open Mic Poetry Night from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. April 16 in recognition of National Poetry Month. Held at the library, 230 N. First St., the free event will see teen participants performing poetry or music, with acts limited to five minutes. Vulgar language is prohibited. Registration is recommended, but not required.

For more information about Dixon Library events, visit solanolibrary.com or email rdgjertsen@solanocounty.gov.

Drive Thru BBQ Fundraiser

Dixon Lions Club is hosting a fundraising event from 4 to 7 p.m. April 11. The drive-thru barbecue, held at Tractor Supply, 2000 N. First St., will help fund future programs. Meals include tri-tip, potato salad, beans and a dinner roll.

For more information, visit Dixon Lions Club on Facebook or call 510-388-3176.

Bunco Night

Joystick Gaming Lounge will host its monthly Bunco Night from 6 to 8 p.m. April 23. Held at the lounge, 420 Gateway Dr., Suite C, the event includes prizes, with food and beverages available for purchase. The event costs \$20 per attendee. Proceeds from beer and wine sales will benefit Kiwanis Club of Dixon. Notably, Kiwanis Club will host its monthly meeting at the lounge from 6 to 7:30 p.m. April 27.

For more information, visit joystickdixon.com or call 707-676-5697. ★

'Dixon Grown' Launches to Help Shape Community Together



City of Dixon News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The City of Dixon is proud to announce the launch of "Dixon Grown," a new community-wide outreach and engagement effort designed to pull back the curtain on local government, bring important conversations directly to the community and empower every resident to help guide the future we build together.

Under the theme "From our roots to our future," Dixon Grown is designed to help us navigate the road ahead while staying anchored to the roots that our community loves about Dixon. As a long-term resource, the initiative allows residents to learn about the rules and costs that define how our city moves forward, starting with a deep dive into Housing and Potential Growth — a priority set by the City Council to make sure residents have a clear, factual understanding of the process surrounding development projects being proposed in Dixon today.

"Dixon is at a pivotal moment, and we want to make sure our residents are coming along on this journey with us," said Dixon City Manager Jim Lindley. "Dixon Grown is about giving our community a seat at the table by sharing the same facts and policy roadmaps that we use at City Hall. We want every resident to feel empowered to participate, knowing exactly how the process works and what the real-world trade-offs are for our town."

The heart of the initiative is the new website, DixonGrown.com. This digital hub was built for transparency, offering a clear look at city projects and

development. Residents will have access to Project Snapshots, a simple tracker showing exactly where current development applications stand in the planning process.

Residents will also be able to view the Development Roadmap, an accessible breakdown of how a project goes from an idea to a finished building, including the City's role as the regulatory "referee" and what developers pay for.

Dixon Grown will also feature resources and FAQs; direct answers to common questions about traffic, infrastructure costs and how state laws affect our local control.

Throughout April, the city will host in-person sessions featuring the same foundational overview followed by small-group roundtable discussions. These sessions are designed for neighbors to work together, ask questions and share their priorities directly with city leadership.

"We all love Dixon for its charming character and agricultural roots," said Mayor Steve Bird. "As your neighbors and your City Council, we share the goal of protecting what makes this place special while planning for a healthy future. Dixon Grown is our way of making sure that as we move into our future, we grow together, with a shared understanding of the path ahead."

Residents are encouraged to visit DixonGrown.com to explore the resource hub and find more information, including details on the upcoming workshops and opportunities to provide direct input and pre-submit questions for the session Q&As. ★

City Parks Photo Contest Now Open

City of Davis News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - The City of Davis Parks and Community Services Department (PCS) is inviting the entire community to participate in the 2026 Community Photo Contest. This year's theme, "Community Connections," encourages participants to capture images that highlight what makes Davis parks meaningful to community members and visitors alike.

To be eligible, all submissions must feature a City of Davis park. Entries will be

accepted through June 5 at 11:59 p.m., and the contest is open to participants of all ages.

Participants will have the opportunity to win prizes, be featured in the Fall RecGuide and have their photos displayed in City Hall.

In addition, winners will be announced online in late June and recognized at a future Recreation and Park Commission meeting.

The cost for submission of up to five photos is \$10. To register, visit the City of Davis Parks and Community Services website Special Interest Classes page at: <https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/parks-and-community-services>. For more information, contact Alyssa Branum at abranum@cityofdavis.org. ★



FULL SERVICE BIKE SHOP

Professional Affordable Repairs
FAST SERVICE!

Tuesday - Friday 9:30 - 6:00 PM • Saturday 9:30 - 3:00 PM

539 N. Adams St., Dixon • 707.678.4330
fiskscyclery.com

Thompson Announces Solano County Woman of the Year



On March 22, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) announced that Margi Stern was chosen as the 2025 Solano County Woman of the Year. Each year, Rep. Thompson chooses women from California's Fourth Congressional District to honor for their positive contributions to our community. Photo courtesy of the Office of Mike Thompson

Office of Mike Thompson News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On March 22, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) announced that Margi Stern was chosen as the 2025 Solano County Woman of the Year. Each year, Rep. Thompson chooses women from California's Fourth Congressional District to honor for their positive contributions to our community.

"Margi has devoted her career to the betterment of her community. She worked as a Speech Language Pathologist for 37 years, 25 of which were in the Early Intervention Program, for the Solano County Office of Education. After retirement, she volunteered to lead support groups for the parents of children with special needs and worked to teach Parent Communication Skills at the Adult School," said Thompson. "In addition to being an incredible advocate for our special needs community, Margi is also passionate about eradicating injustice, promoting political participation and uplifting the women in her community. I am proud to recognize Margi as Solano County's Woman of the Year."

The Woman of the Year Recognition Ceremony was started in honor of Women's History Month to recognize the service of women in our community.

Women's History Month has its origin in California's Fourth District. In 1978,

the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women coordinated a "Woman's History Week" during the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. In 1980, a group of Sonoma County women founded the National Women's History Project (NWHP) in Santa Rosa, California. The goal of this organization was to highlight and recognize the historical national achievements made by women.

In partnership with other women advocacy groups and historians, the NWHP successfully lobbied for national recognition in 1980, with President Jimmy Carter declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. After this accomplishment, the NWHP began advocating for the entire month of March to be designated as Women's History Month. Seven years later, Congress officially passed legislation designating the entire month of March as Women's History Month. Every year since, Women's History Month has been recognized in March to uplift and celebrate the incredible contributions and accomplishments of American women.

A complete list of 2026 winners includes Voris Brumfield Reed, Lake County Woman of the Year, Leslie Lew, Napa County Woman of the Year, Margi Stern, Solano County Woman of the Year, Maricarmen Reyes Larios, Sonoma County Woman of the Year and Marisa Alcorta, Yolo County Woman of the Year. ★

Sara Echarte Named Ambassador of Year

Continued from page 1
feet on the ground and get out there to continue to keep the chamber functioning and working as smoothly as possible," she said. "That made me really proud."

Echarte described the past year as one marked by ongoing challenges, which she addressed with the help of a strong support network.

"Every day is an obstacle," said Echarte. "I have faced many obstacles in the last year, but I've been able to overcome them by having a village around me, whether it's the board, my husband or my personal friendships. I have a great support system around me. At the end of the day, it's not about me, it's about the community."

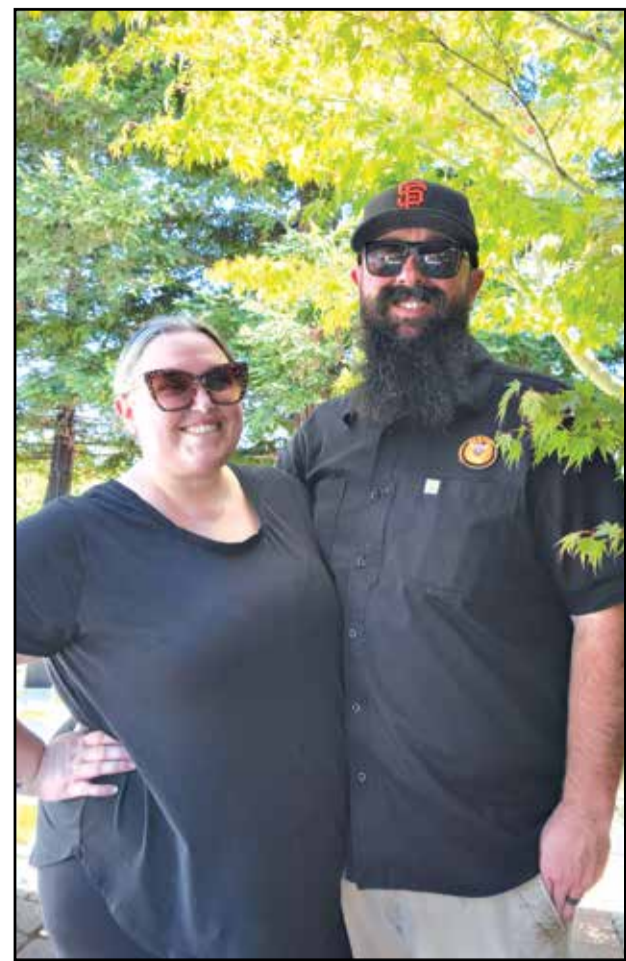
Serving as an ambassador also broadened her perspective on Dixon and its residents.

"Being an ambassador, I've really been able to form relationships with other business people in the community, people I may not normally cross paths with in regular life," said Echarte. "It's opened my eyes to older generations and the traditions of the community. That's given me a respect for the expectations of the community as a whole."

Echarte credited several individuals for their guidance and support, including Anna Deussenberry, Wendi Hendershot and Liz Guzman.

"I think Anna Deussenberry is someone I lean on a lot, who I trust and can get open honest feedback from," she said. "Also, Wendi Hendershot and Liz Guzman have been great."

For those considering involvement in the



Echarte described the past year as one marked by ongoing challenges, which she addressed with the help of a strong support network, including the board, her friends, her family and her husband Anthony Echarte (right). Photo courtesy of Sara Echarte

ambassador program or other community efforts, Echarte encouraged participation.

"If you're thinking about being an ambassador or getting involved, just get out there and do it," said Echarte. "Everyone is welcoming, and we need a younger generation to learn from our elders and keep Dixon exciting and special."

Echarte said balancing her ambassador responsibilities with family and work commitments has been manageable due to the supportive nature of the local community.

"With the chamber, it's always family first, business second, and chamber third, so everyone is very

understanding," she said. "They're all very welcoming, like I've brought my children to events, and they always feel very welcome."

Looking ahead, Echarte said she plans to focus on her role with the chamber full-time after stepping down as an ambassador. Her goals include increasing community engagement and expanding awareness of the chamber's mission.

"I want the chamber to be a desirable place where people want to join," said Echarte. "I want us to grow and be out in the community more and for people to understand what the chamber is." ★

Supervisors Approve Labor Agreements with Employee Groups

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On March 24, the Solano County Board of Supervisors approved labor agreements with multiple employee organizations representing a broad cross-section of the county workforce.

"I'm pleased the County and our labor partners have reached agreement on these contracts," said Ian M. Goldberg, Solano County Administrator. "These agreements are the result of thoughtful direction from the Board and collaborative efforts with our labor partners. We appreciate the dedication of our employee organizations and recognize the significant work by County staff, including the CAO's Office, Human Resources, County Counsel, Auditor-Controller's Office and our countywide financial teams, in making these agreements possible."

The agreements are the result of a collaborative, good-faith negotiation process that began in August 2025 between Solano County and its labor partners, including the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1021, the Solano HSS Association of Professional Employees (SHAPE), the International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers (IUOE) Local 39, the Association of Mid-Management Professionals at Solano County (AMMPS) and the International Professional and Technical Engineers (IPTE) Local 21. The approved agreements establish updated Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) through September 30, 2028.

Overview of Agreements

The agreements cover multiple bargaining units, including SEIU Local 1021 (Units 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, and extra-help Units 82, 87, 89, 90), SHAPE (Unit 6 – Health and Social Services Supervisors), IUOE Local 39 (Unit 10- Skilled Craft & Service Maintenance Employees), AMMPS (Unit 16- Mid-Management Professionals) and IPTE Local 21 (Unit 19 – Executive and Senior Management). All were previously ratified by union membership and reflect months of negotiations on wages, benefits and working conditions.

Key Contract Terms

The agreements include wage increases of 3% effective March 2026 with a \$1,200 lump-sum payment, 2% effective October

2026 with a \$500 lump-sum payment, and 1% effective July 2027, along with market-based salary adjustments for select classifications. Employees will continue to benefit from participation in CalPERS health plans, with the same County contribution rates as the previous MOU term (for example, 80% of the Region 1 Kaiser family rate minus the minimum employer contribution (MEC) and a \$50 monthly cafeteria plan contribution for employees with two or more dependents).

Additional Provisions and Enhancements

Additional provisions include increased bilingual pay, potential recruitment and retention stipends, and expanded safety collaboration. The agreements also update vacation accrual caps, bereavement leave, tuition reimbursement policies, standby pay and uniform allowances. Some provisions are specific to certain bargaining units, including administrative leave enhancements, contracting transparency measures and specialized compensation provisions.

Fiscal Impact and Implementation

The combined cost of the SEIU agreements (Units 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9) is projected to be approximately \$47 million through 2028, with additional costs anticipated for other bargaining units. These costs will be phased in over multiple fiscal years and are incorporated into the County's long-term financial planning. The combined cost of the agreements for Units 6, 10, 16 and 19 is projected at approximately \$15.9 million. The Board action today approved the terms of the tentative agreements reached by the parties' negotiators, and the County Administrative Officer and the Director of Human Resources are authorized to now finalize and execute these agreements in the form of completed Memoranda of Understanding.

The County continues to negotiate in good faith with the remaining labor organizations that have not yet reached agreement and looks forward to reaching fair and equitable agreements. In the meantime, all union and County proposals, MOUs, and benefit summaries are publicly available at SolanoCounty.gov under the "Labor Negotiations" section. This resource provides a clear and accessible record of all proposals. ★

GROCERY
OUTLET

bargain market

XTREME
VALUE™

EASTER
HEADQUARTERS

SAVE
UP TO
49%

IN THIS WEEK'S AD



\$1.99

SimplyGO Organic Broth,
32 oz Assorted varieties.



\$2.99

King's Hawaiian Original
Sweet Rolls, 12 ct



\$6.99

Tulips, 10 stem bunch
Colors vary by store.



\$3.99

Strawberries, 2 lb



\$3.49

Jelly Belly, Belly Flops, 16 oz



\$5.99

SimplyGO Shredded Cheese, 2 lb
Assorted varieties.

MARCH 25 - APRIL 5 ONLY!



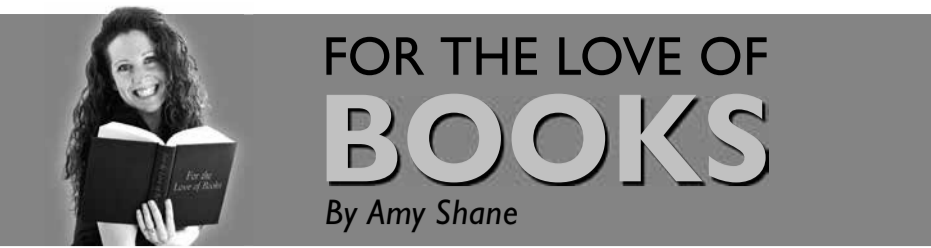
67¢
/LB

WHEN YOU SPEND \$50*
Smithfield, Sunny Valley, or Sugar Tree
Bone-In Spiral Sliced Half Ham

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

XTREME VALUE™

*Valid 3/25/26 - 4/5/26 only. Brand varies by store. While supplies last. Limit 1 \$50 minimum purchase must be in a single transaction and excludes ham, alcohol, meat, dairy, gift cards, tax & state bottle deposits. Exclusions vary by state. Discount taken at register.



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

Dearest Reader,

After almost 14 years as the For the Love of Books, Book Review Editor, this column is one of the hardest I've had to write, as the time has come to move on to my next amazing chapter.

When I began this journey, I could never have imagined how many readers would turn the page with me week after week, year after year. What started as a column about books became something much bigger: a conversation. Together, we celebrated beloved classics, discovered unexpected favorites, revisited childhood stories, attended events, and found comfort in the quiet companionship that only reading can offer.

Now, almost 700 columns later, my readership is its own family. This column has been an amazing adventure, connecting readers across the country with the love of reading. Through author interviews, book signings, local book events, cover loves, and book reviews.

You welcomed my thoughts into your homes, your morning coffee routines, your classrooms, your book clubs, and your late-night reading hours. Over the years, readers stopped me in grocery store aisles, reached out about recommendations, shared their favorite books, and reminded me that stories connect us in ways that feel both personal and universal. Those moments have meant more to me than I can fully express.

This column has never just been about books. It has been about memory, imagination, curiosity, and the shared experience of turning a page and finding yourself somewhere new. It has been about the way stories shape us, comfort us, and sometimes even change us.

As I step into my next chapter, I have the opportunity to share stories in a new way, while continuing to celebrate the nostalgia, meaning, and connections that stories bring into our lives. Though my path is shifting, the heart behind this column remains the same.

I carry deep gratitude for every reader who took this journey with me. Thank you for your loyalty, your enthusiasm, your thoughtful notes, and your willingness to explore new titles alongside me. Thank you for trusting me with your reading time — something I have never taken lightly.

While this chapter closes, the love of stories continues. Books remain waiting on shelves, conversations carry on, and the magic of reading lives wherever curiosity leads us.

After thirteen years, I'm turning the page — but the story, and my gratitude for you, will always remain.

With heartfelt thanks,

Amy



Riley Reviews

SCI-FI SAGA “PROJECT HAIL MARY” DELIGHTS WITH WHIMSY AND THRILLS

**A Film and TV Review
by Tim Riley**

“PROJECT HAIL MARY” Rated PG-13

The destruction of Earth by asteroids, comets or sinister forces has long been a staple of Hollywood science-fiction thrillers. H.G. Wells' classic novel “War of the Worlds” about a hostile Martian invasion of Earth was adapted for an authoritative science-fiction film in 1953.

As for comets or asteroids threatening Earth, 1998 proved to be a banner year with NASA recruiting oil drillers to save us from an asteroid the size of Texas in “Armageddon” and in “Deep Impact” a 7-mile-wide comet was on a collision course with our planet.

With “Project Hail Mary,” a fictional phenomenon called the Petrova Line, from Andy Weir's novel of the same name, represents a curved arc of infrared light emitted by what is called Astrophage, a microorganism that feeds on solar energy that results in a serious threat to alter Earth's climate.

Astrophage drains energy from all stars in the universe except apparently for the Tau Ceti solar system. What this means for Earth is that particles floating in space are diminishing the power of the sun. So much for global warming, as the threat moves toward a rapid encroachment of an Ice Age.

Enter Ryan Gosling's middle school biology teacher Ryland Grace, an unlikely and reluctant hero who reminds Eva Strat (Sandra Huller), the leader of an international task force, that he's neither an astronaut nor suitable for taking on a suicide mission.

With civilization facing imminent doom, desperate times call for desperate measures, and Dr. Grace (he's got a PhD) is a science nerd who has espoused apparently discredited theories but his potential for the mission is appreciated by Strat's efficiently German utilitarian judgment.

Waking up from an induced coma on a spaceship that is light years away from home, Grace discovers that he's wholly involved with a mission he wanted to avoid. The destination is to the one spot in the galaxy that is not affected by Astrophage.

The mission began with two experienced astronauts, Yao (Ken Leung) and Olesya (Milana Vayntrub), but unfortunately, they have accidentally died, and now Grace is alone and adrift in space, but as a math genius as well as scientist he adapts quickly to the task at hand.

Frequent flashbacks allow for more understanding of why Grace, whose molecular biology research was rejected by the science establishment, was picked for the mission. Grace may have been a lone scientific voice, but his proved to be the correct one.

Aside from his rapport with his students,

not much more is known about Grace outside of his unfortunate interaction with the scientific community and his sparring with the autocratic Eva Strat, who has more faith in him than he has in himself.

The outer space trip to Tau Ceti, which seems to be the only place immune to destruction, looks to be a one-way trip due to limits on available fuel. Without the other crew members, Grace must become a quick learner on handling spacecraft.

Facing isolation and loneliness, Grace is not alone for too long. An encounter with another much larger spaceship sent on an identical mission brings Grace into contact with an interesting alien being.

The sole survivor is a creature made of stone that has flexible limbs allowing it to move about in the manner of an ambulatory simian waving its arms. Communication between Grace and the creature that he calls Rocky begins tentatively with gestures.

The relationship between alien and human becomes a bonding exercise, where Grace and Rocky can eventually communicate verbally, with Rocky voiced by John Ortiz. The emotional connection between them turns into the heart of this space odyssey.

“Project Hail Mary” may remind some viewers of Christopher Nolan's 2014 science-fiction blockbuster “Interstellar,” where in the dystopian future Earth faces extinction that leads to a group of astronauts traveling through space searching for a new home for humanity.

Despite the fact most critics gave it positive reviews, I don't recall the Christopher Nolan epic with great enthusiasm for its space odyssey. To be fair, the visual effects were impressive.

For a sci-fi saga, “Project Hail Mary” works exceedingly well on an emotional level as this film proves to be a pleasant crowd-pleaser that is heartwarming and enjoyably entertaining and should be seen on the big screen.

Not enough credit can go to Ryan Gosling's superb performance as the likable Everyman with the effortless charm and sense of humor which infuses his friendship with the alien. His T-shirt collection alone illustrates his quirky playfulness.

“Project Hail Mary” is all the better due to Gosling's whimsical nature and easygoing charisma. Gosling owns this film the same way Tom Cruise is synonymous with the “Mission: Impossible” franchise.

“Project Hail Mary” is what Hollywood should strive to deliver, namely family-friendly entertainment, smart storytelling, and great characters.

The only possible drawback to “Project Hail Mary” is a running time slightly more than two-and-a-half hours, but rather than quibble about its length, this film should be enjoyed for being original and touchingly delightful. ★

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

Sunday, March 29, 2026

1441 Pedestrian stop in the 1400 block of Ary Lane resulted in the arrest of Brandon McCabe (38) of Dixon for 3 misdemeanor warrants. He was cited and released.

2138 Hit and Run investigation with property damage at Pitt School and West A Street.

Saturday, March 28

0830 Found wallet turned in.

1030 Fraud report taken in the police department lobby.

1834 Agency Assist report taken in the 300 block of Fountain Way.

2045 Information report taken in the 700 block of Vaughn Road.

1934 Agency Assist report taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

Friday, March 27

1112 An informational report taken at John Knight Middle School.

1931 532 PC, Fraud, report taken in the 500 block of South Jackson Street.

Thursday, March 26

1429 A battery report was taken at Dixon High School.

1653 A theft report was taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

1934 Information report taken in the 1200 block of Stratford Avenue.

Wednesday, March 25

0630 A battery report was taken in the 7000 block of Batavia Road.

1602 A traffic collision report was taken in the 1400 block of Regency Parkway.

1634 A habitually disobedient arrest citation was issued to a juvenile was cited and released to a parent.

Tuesday, March 24

1732 Battery report taken in the 600 block of Evans Road.

1730 Male was attacked with a bat on the bike path near Evans Road.

2115 Domestic violence investigation in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.

Monday, March 23

0834 Theft report taken in the 1700b block of North First Street.

1239 Hit and run traffic accident reported in the 2500 block of North First Street.

1400 Found property at Hall Park.

1500 Suspicious Circumstances 400 block East A Street.

1700 Traffic Collision 1500 block Base Court.

1750 Vandalism to a vehicle in the 400 block of West E Street.

2241 A domestic violence incident led to the arrest of Christian Metzger (35) of Woodland, who was arrested for domestic violence.

0031 Domestic violence incident led to the arrest of Marjon Stinson (33) of Dixon for felony domestic violence, kidnapping, felony battery, resisting arrest and felony vandalism.

Sunday, March 22

0842 Vandalism report taken at Savannah Park.

1215 Report of domestic violence in the 1100 block of North Lincoln Street.

1418 Non-injury traffic accident reported in the 500 block of North First Street.

1629 Battery report taken in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.

1704 Confidential report taken from Kaiser Vacaville.

1812 Restraining order served in the 2200 block of Mourning Dove Drive.

Saturday, March 21

1803 Agency Assist, Stalking, report taken in the 600 block of North Washington Street.

2024 Vehicle collision report, with no injuries, taken in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.

Friday, March 20

0758 Investigation report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

0819 A school resource officer report was taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

0821 A hit and run report was taken at the intersection of Pembroke Way at Stratford Avenue.

0948 A burglary report was taken in the 1600 block of West H Street.

2123 Driving under the influence, driving without required interlock device and driving with a suspended driver's license arrest at the intersection of EB80 and Pedrick Road. Suspect Phillip Williams (53- year-old, out of Richmond) was arrested. S-Williams blew a 0.26 on the Dreager. S-Williams was transported to Solano County Jail and booked without incident.

0149 Welfare check in the 1500 block of Palmer Court.

Thursday, March 19

0808 A found property report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.



Farm Bureau Leaders Advocate at Capitol

Farmers who serve on the California Farm Bureau Board of Directors gathered in Sacramento last week to meet with legislators and regulatory officials to advocate on issues that affect agriculture. Among the issues Farm Bureau board members spoke to lawmakers and their staff about were the recent increase in wolf-livestock conflicts, a proposed tax credit to offset the cost to farmers paying overtime wages, a bill that would require any wine labeled as “American” to be completely made from U.S.-grown grapes, and regulation of nitrate contamination in the state's water supply. Roger Everett, a Tulare County beekeeper and citrus farmer, described the Capitol visits as an opportunity for farmers to highlight agricultural issues that legislators from urban areas might not be aware of. “The majority of these people don't engage in agriculture,” Everett said. “It's on us to provide them with the information of our operations and what affects us, and how we're going to survive in the world they're trying to create for us.”

Mentorship Program Grows Next-Generation Farmers

The California Bountiful Foundation, a nonprofit research and education arm of the California Farm Bureau, created the Expanding Our Roots mentorship program to connect beginning farmers and ranchers with experienced producers who share practical, real-world knowledge. Through the program, mentors and mentees work through topics such as production planning, business management, market

access, navigating regulations, managing risk, adopting climate-smart practices, and accessing resources and grants. The program continues to grow. To date, 246 farmers from 46 counties have enrolled. Expanding Our Roots serves a diverse group of producers, including 62 participants who speak a language other than English. Carol Thong of Sonoma County said working with her mentor, Andrew Forchini, a winegrape grower in Sonoma County, helped her better understand vineyard operations and identify ways to reduce costs, helping her make more informed decisions on her operation.

Vision Tech Allows Dairies to Identify Lameness Early

Lameness is one of the main reasons a dairy cow will be culled from the herd due to cost of treatment and impacts on milk production and reproduction. It affects 90% of dairy cows at least once during their lifetime. But methods used to detect lameness did not significantly improve for years. Some dairy farms have begun to use vision technology, which allows them to detect and treat lameness earlier. The trademarked SmartSight system, for example, is an artificial intelligence-driven lameness detection tool that monitors cow locomotion and generates reports on lameness status before it may be visible. Early detection means fewer severe cases, milk production and fertility are preserved, and cow health and welfare are improved. “Lameness has been a huge unknown, but that is changing with vision technology,” said Joya McCarthy, technical product manager with Specialty Herd Solutions in Fresno. ★

Nominations Open for 2026 Golden Heart Awards

City of Davis News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - The City of Davis invites community members to submit nominations now through April 17 for the annual Golden Heart Awards. These awards recognize exceptional youth in the Davis community.

Nominations can be submitted in two different categories to help acknowledge youth who are "non-traditional achievers":

The Service Award recognizes individuals who have given significant service to an

expressed need in the community, to their peers and/or to their schools.

The Personal Challenge Award recognizes individuals who have overcome significant challenges in their lives.

In memory of Andrew Mockus, who was tragically killed in 1992, the City Council adopted the Recreation and Park Commission recommendation to create the Golden Heart Awards as a way to recognize outstanding youth in the community, especially those students who

are not typically recognized in other forums. The first award was presented in 1994.

"Through the Golden Heart Awards program, we honor the amazing accomplishments of Davis youth who have given of their time to focus on community service and those who have overcome considerable challenges in their lives," said Mayor Donna Neville. "We applaud their resilience, grit and compassion for others. Their work makes the Davis community a better place to live."

Nomination forms For the Golden Heart Awards are available at: <https://www.cityofdavis.org/goldenheartawards>. Community members are welcome to nominate a deserving Davis youth who is currently in the seventh through twelfth grade. Youth cannot nominate themselves nor can their parent/guardian nominate their youth.

Nomination forms are due no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, April 17 and must be submitted by email to Kellie Vitaich at kvitaich@cityofdavis.org or by

mail to City of Davis, Golden Heart Awards – ATTN: Kellie Vitaich, 23 Russell Blvd. Davis, CA 95616.

Nomination forms can also be dropped off in person at the Parks and Community Services Public Counter, located at City Hall, 23 Russell Blvd.

The awards will be presented at the May 19 City Council meeting. For more information, email Kellie Vitaich at: kvitaich@cityofdavis.org or <https://www.cityofdavis.org/goldenheartawards>. ★

Local Classifieds Advertise in your local community newspaper Call 916-773-1111

Classified Advertising
Sell Your Stuff!
Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!
916-773-1111

We Support Our Military

For Sale
V-8 (Cadillac Engine) in 1995 Oldsmobile Aurora. 64,000 original miles. Must take whole car. Transmission is no good. \$500 or best offer. Call 530-742-9144 and leave message. (TFN)

LEGAL ADS FOR SOLANO COUNTY?
916-773-1111

Are You a Pro?
Get the word out!
Advertise in the Classifieds
Call 916-773-1111

GOT LOCAL NEWS?
Call (916) 773-1111

Health/Wellness
XOSIALX – Get Social. Be EXCEPTIONAL XILERATE is redefining energy for everyone. It provides an authentic, jitter-free boost that appeals to both regular energy drink users, and those who may have avoided them due to artificial ingredients or harsh effects. FREE TO JOIN. www.canderson.xosialx.com (TFN)

MPG

Need Help?
Hire A Pro!
Buy and Shop Local!

Landscaping/Maintenance
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, HANDYMAN, MANY FIELDS: Irrigation (manual or automatic) installation or repair; cement, mow strips, masonry (walls & columns), retaining walls; fence installation (wood, vinyl, chain-link, iron); plumbing; mowing, edging, clean-up, hauling; pruning (all kinds of fruit or shade trees); tree removal, rock, bark or sod. Call Andy 530-701-8098. (TFN)

CALL A PROFESSIONAL

CLEANING
S & Y Cleaning Services
Weekly • Bi-Weekly • Monthly • One Time
Weekends • Move-Ins • Move-Outs
Lots of References on Request
Gift Certificates Available
(707) 689-6532
FREE ESTIMATES

PROPANE
We live where you live
We understand your propane service needs.
WE ARE **Pro-Gas**
ALLIED PROPANE
(707) 678-8500
1700 N. First Street | Dixon
RobL@alliedprogas.com

FLOORING
Please call for a free in-home estimate!
HOUSE OF FLOORS
QUALITY WITH FRIENDLY SERVICE
Hardwood-Laminate-Luxury Vinyl-Carpet-Tile-& More
1690 N. Lincoln Street • Dixon, CA 95620
(707) 676-5385
houseoffloors@att.net • www.houseoffloors.org

Be a part of something important
Local Writers Wanted
We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.
MPG Call us today at 916-773-1111

PREGNANCY
Pregnant? Worried? We Can Help!
All services are free & completely Confidential.
Info on Pregnancy, Adoption & Abstinence
Post-Abortion, Miscarriage & Stillbirth Counseling
707-449-8991
Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center
138 S. Orchard St. Vacaville

FOLLOW US
for Local News and much more!
Dixon Independent Voice
Facebook: @DIVMPG8

MPG
Advertise in your Local Community Newspaper
Call **916-773-1111**

We are your neighbors
nextdoor
Dixon Independent Voice
Stop by for a visit
nextdoor.com/page/dixon-independent-voice

LOCAL ARREST RECORDS
CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS
Find out what's happening in your local area at...
INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM
ARREST LOGS UPDATED DAILY

Dixon Independent Voice
Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993
It is the intent of the *Dixon Independent Voice* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.
The *Dixon Independent Voice* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the *Dixon Independent Voice* are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the *Dixon Independent Voice* is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.
Subscriptions should be mailed to:
Dixon Independent Voice
100 N. Adams, Dixon, CA 95620
Subscription rate is \$52 per year within Dixon and Solano County. \$72 per year (Mail only).
Main Office Address: 2508 Garfield Ave., Suite A, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The *Dixon Independent Voice* is published weekly on Friday.
We are proud members of these newspaper associations.
MPG **CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL**

Publisher, Paul V. Scholl
Dixon Independent Voice is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**
To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@mpg8.com.
Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher." If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

Applications Open for Commission Vacancies

City of Dixon News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The City of Dixon is currently accepting applications for the following vacancies on City Commissions:

Two (2) vacancies on the Planning Commission: The Planning Commission is an

advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to planning and land use. Commissioners serve four-year terms, with a maximum of two consecutive terms. Both vacancies are four-year terms expiring June 30, 2030. The Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of

every month. City residency is required. A stipend of \$100 per meeting attended is paid to each Commissioner.

Four (4) vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Commission: The Parks and Recreation Commission is an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining

to recreation and park facilities. Commissioners serve two-year terms, with a maximum of three consecutive terms. All vacancies are two-year terms expiring June 30, 2028. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. City residency is required. A stipend of \$75 per

meeting attended is paid to each Commissioner.

Interested Dixon residents may obtain an application at City Hall, 600 E. A Street, by calling 707-678-7000, or by visiting the City's website at cityofdixonca.gov. The deadline for filing applications is 5 p.m. April 24. ★

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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

Legal Advertising
916-483-0946

2508 Garfield Ave. • Ste. A
Carmichael, CA 95608

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

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

PROJECT: **The Campus/Dixon 257 Project - Vacant 260-Acre Site in Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan Area.** Consideration of an Ordinance for the 1st amendment to the Development Agreement for "The Campus" project, to consider changes to milestones related to construction of the municipal well. The Planning Commission will consider the 1st amendment and provide their recommendation to the City Council, which will consider the request for final action at a future, separately noticed, public hearing. No changes are proposed to the project itself, except for the milestones and timing of construction of the proposed water well. General Plan Designation: Campus Mixed Use (CAMU); *Zoning District:* Campus Mixed Use – Northeast Quadrant Specific Plan Overlay (CAMX-NESP); *Owner(s) and Applicant:* Dixon Venture, LLC; *Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN's):* 0111-040-010, -020, -030, -040, and 0111-080-050.

Consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the City of Dixon on March 18, 2025, certified a Final Environmental Impact Reports (EIR). A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program was adopted to reduce identified impacts the levels of impact to less than significant, with the exception of potential impacts related to Agricultural Resources, Air Quality and Transportation which remained as significant and unavoidable. The City of Dixon also adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations with respect to these potentially significant impacts. The certified FEIR and available for review at www.cityofdixonca.gov/environmentalreviewdocuments under the heading for "The Campus Project/Dixon 257."

HEARING DATE & LOCATION: **Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 7:00pm.** This meeting will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

MORE INFORMATION: **Contact Raffi Boloyan, Community Development Director at (707) 678-7000 x1114 or rboloyan@cityofdixonca.gov.** You can also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 pm (Mondays thru Thursdays) and 9:00am-5:00 pm (every other Friday). You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: The Planning Commission will review the proposed project, accept public comments, and provide a recommendation to the City Council, which will then consider the project and take action at a future, noticed public hearing. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and are welcome to express opinions on the project. A separate City Council hearing to consider the project and Planning Commission recommendation will be scheduled following the Planning Commission meeting and separate notice of such meeting will be provided.

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

You may also attend the public hearing at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand" 2) via teleconference press "9, or 3) email comments/questions to publiccomment@cityofdixon.us

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

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

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) or (707) 678-1489 (TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 4-3-2026

LIEN SALE AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will conduct a Lien Sale Auction on APRIL 20TH, 2026, at 10:00 AM. This is authorized by Division 8, Chapter 10 of the California Business and Professions Code. CASH ONLY. All items must be removed from the property immediately after sale.

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

UNIT D057 - RALPH HERRERA - mattress, portable fan, bed frame, garden tools, pillows, electric smoker, floor lamps, cooler, misc., bins and boxes

UNIT A097 - ROBERT BROCKEN - bike frame, laundry basket, car seat, books, misc. bags and totes with household items.

UNIT A123 - BARBARA VARGAS - lamp, toaster oven, tin cookie box, portable fan, ironing board, blanket, towels, clothing, board games

Bond # 0342850

Dixon Independent Voice 4-3, 4-10-2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

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. Salutary 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: Minermoods, 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
MINERMOODS 4-17-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000519
The following persons are doing business as: Tahoe Haus, 2108 N Street #9445, Sacramento, CA 95816.

Poopaw Solutions, 2108 N Street #9445, Sacramento, CA 95816. Date filed in Solano County: March 20, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 23, 2026

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 19, 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: April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026
POOPAW 4-24-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000459
The following persons are doing business as: Georgia Street Plaza, 301 Georgia Street, Vallejo, CA 94590. 5044 Peabody LLC, 440 N Barranca Avenue #9978, Covina, CA 91723.

Date filed in Solano County: March 12, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 5, 2026

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 11, 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: April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026
GEORGIA 4-24-26

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
EPPELSON 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 20, 2026 Publish: March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2026
LOPEZ 4-17-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-02376

Tenika Marquita Parks. filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Tenika Marquita Johnson to Tenika Marquita Parks

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 19, 2026 Publish: April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026
PARKS 4-24-26

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.

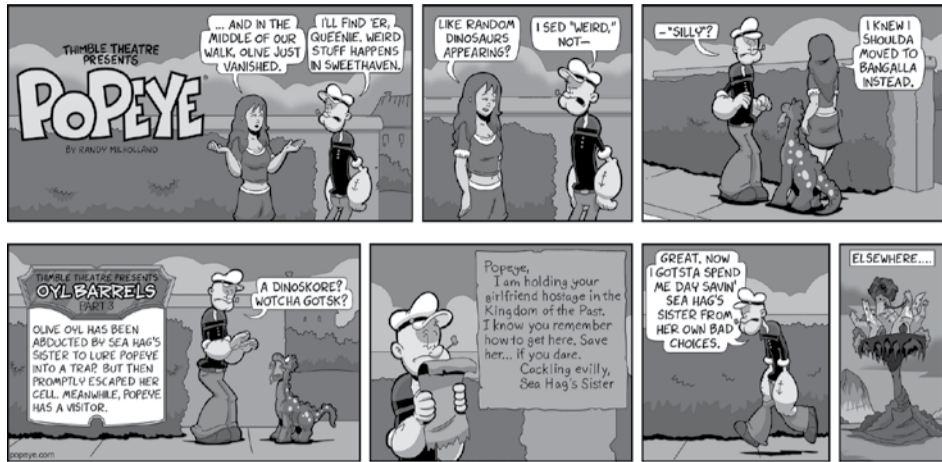
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special 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



COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



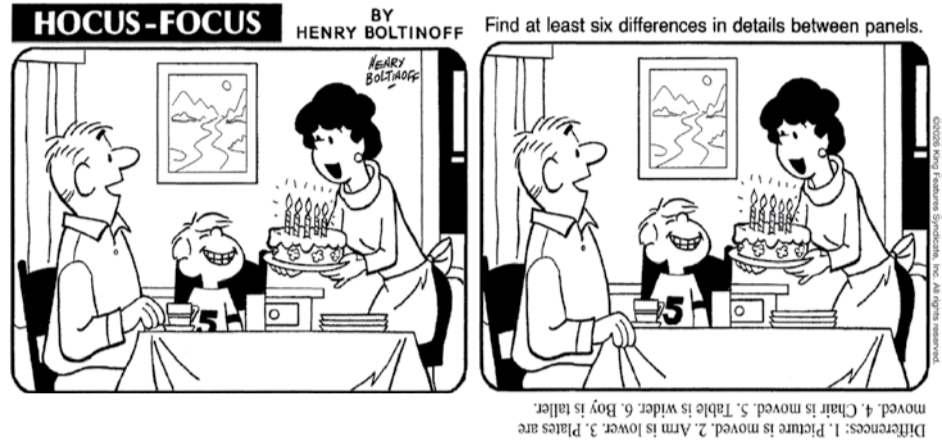
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



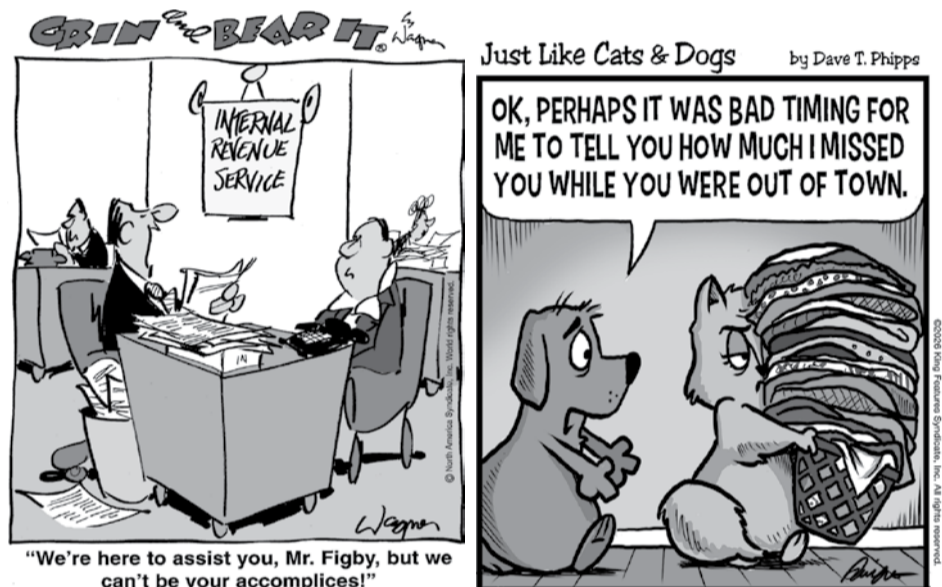
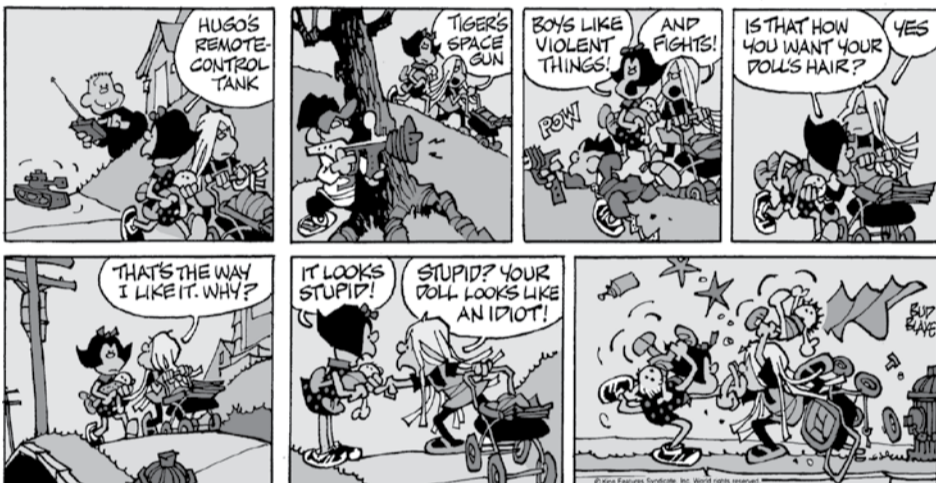
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



TIGER

by Bud Blake



S	T	U	N	T		O	P	T		T	U	B	A	
K	O	R	E	A		D	A	H		O	R	R	I	S
A	S	S	A	M		O	R	E		L	O	A	T	H
	H	A	T	T	E	R		F	I	D	D	L	E	
		H	A	J		E	T	C	H					
S	P	A		M	E	S	A		E	A	G	L	E	T
H	O	L	T		C	U	T	E		T	R	A	D	E
A	L	A	R		T	E	A	R	S		A	G	U	E
L	I	M	E	D		T	B	S	P		F	A	C	T
L	O	O	K	U	P		L	E	A	N		N	T	H
					M	O	R	E		R	E	S		
		H	A	N	D	L	E		T	E	A	C	U	P
B	A	Y	O	U		G	E			R	A	V	E	D
A	T	E	A	M		A	R	E		B	R	E	A	D
M	E	S	H			L	A	N		Y	E	A	S	T

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

- CLUES**
- CROSSWORD**
- ACROSS
 1. Double's trick
 6. Pick
 9. Marching band member
 13. North one or South one, in Asia
 14. Morse Code dash
 15. Root of iris
 16. Indian black tea
 17. Mother lode stuff
 18. Disinclined
 19. *Mad as a ___
 21. *Fit as a ___
 23. Pilgrimage to Mecca
 24. * ___ A Sketch
 25. R&R destination
 28. Table, in Mexico
 30. Aerie baby
 35. Otter's den
 37. * ___ as a button
 39. Type of union
 40. Axillary, in biology
 41. *Bored to ___
 43. Fit of shivering
 44. Treated with calcium hydroxide
 46. Recipe amt.
 47. Not fiction
 48. *Lawrence and DiCaprio movie "Don't ___"
 50. Like some hard times
 52. *To the ___ degree
 53. Not less
 55. *Hi-___ graphics
 57. *Fly off the ___
 60. *Storm in a ___
 63. Louisiana swamp
 64. * ___ whiz!
 66. Did like a lunatic
 68. Mr. T and friends
 69. *Am is to I a ___ is to we
 70. Certain pudding ingredient
 71. Mosquito net, e.g.
 72. Local area network
 73. Leavening agent
- DOWN
 1. Reggae's cousin
 2. Silly talk
 3. Minor one in the sky
 4. Not o'er
 5. Type of gong instrument
 6. * ___ Eaters
 7. * ___ for the course
 8. **Grand ___ Auto
 9. Walked on
 10. Caspian Sea feeder
 11. **Take a ___ Out of Crime
 12. Type of tree
 15. Idiom for outdated or trite (2 words)
 20. Tape deck button
 22. *Break the ___
 24. Palatable
 25. * ___ we dance?
 26. President Franklin Roosevelt's diagnosis
 27. **Remember the ___!
 29. Cooking grease
 31. Tennis 'Steffi
 32. Flotsam and jetsam alternative
 33. Something educed
 34. *By the skin of your ___
 36. Hiker's journey
 38. Gaelic language
 42. * ___ tire
 45. Lollipop brand
 49. D.C. mover and shaker
 51. Not very far
 54. Fit for a king
 56. Go "Boo!"
 57. *A ___-hate relationship
 58. Pirates' affirmatives
 59. Famous flood survivor
 60. *Nirvana's "Smells Like ___ Spirit"
 61. Iris holder
 62. *Three ___ in a pod
 63. "Kapov!"
 65. Pitcher's stat
 67. Banned insecticide, acr.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
13					14			15							
16					17			18							
19					20			21	22						
				23				24							
25	26	27		28		29		30		31	32	33	34		
35				36				38		39					
40								41		42		43			
44								45		46			47		
48								49		50		51	52		
								53		54		55	56		
	57	58	59							60			61	62	
63										64	65		66		67
68										69			70		
71										72			73		

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff! Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!

MPG

916.773.1111

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

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

MPG

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF** SPECIAL OFFER

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. See retailer for restrictions and details. ©2023 Safe Step Walk-In Tub. All rights reserved.

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

© StatePoint Media

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

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Look to the Draft!

With a total of six games to go, the Sacramento Kings have only three teams in the NBA with a worse winning record. That would be the Indiana Pacers and the Washington Wizards with 17 wins apiece, and the team that beat them Sunday, the Brooklyn Nets.

So, what does that mean for the Sactown boys exactly? It means that barring some unforeseen event, the Sacramento Kings are likely poised to qualify for one of the top selections in the upcoming NBA draft. And thankfully, we can finally put a stop to the conversation of tanking!

A professional and storied organization such as the NBA should never have to resort to finding a remedial method to combatting something as pernicious and utterly distasteful as actually trying to lose a contest.

I can't imagine what commissioner Adam Silver must be thinking, and David Stern must be turning over in his grave. Already significant fines have been metered out to teams that have shown evidence of intentionally losing games, and this needs to come to a stop once and for all.

No fan or season ticket holder ever buys a ticket to see his/her hometown team try to lose a game, and if this isn't stamped out now, the NBA will surely be in a world of hurt.

I was gratified to see the Philadelphia Nets put their best effort forward in Sunday night's game with nothing to play for but the gratification of a win.

Sacramento, with eight healthy players to suit up had an abysmal shooting night, scoring just 99 points while shooting 36/84 from the field.

With 19 wins for the season and only six games remaining, one thing is abundantly obvious. The Sacramento Kings will in all likelihood garnish one of the cherished high draft picks in the upcoming lottery.

Nothing is ever cast in stone, but the handwriting is on the wall, and it remains to be seen what acumen Scott Perry really has when it comes to assessing talent. Critical doesn't even begin to describe the importance of having the ability to pick players with the talent to succeed in the NBA, but soon we will see what this relatively new Sacramento GM is going to bring to the table.

Whether big man A.J. Dybantsa becomes available or possibly Cameron Boozer, either of these talented big men could change the landscape of the Kings team.

Yes, we know Rome wasn't built in a day, and I'm not expecting miracles, but sometimes the ping pong balls bounce your way, and just maybe this is the year.

Without a doubt this year's draft will take on monumental interest with the fan base in Sacramento, so let's continue watching the rookies perform and put this season of hurt in the rear-view mirror.

The question is, did we learn anything this year, because I certainly did.

The Kings problems are not relegated to the players alone, and serious question marks rest with regards to the coaching staff of the Sacramento organization. What if anything can be done will loom large as the Kings formulate their team, hopefully build around Domantas Sabonis, and present to the team and the fans a leadership base that has totally changed direction.

This can happen, whether it's getting better at what you do, or whether ownership has to step in and make sweeping changes, going into next season with a staff incapable of teaching players how to shoot free throws or play some semblance of defense, is simply unacceptable.

I would hesitate to guess what Vivek Ranadive is going to do, but the upcoming draft will probably determine which direction his decisions will take him.

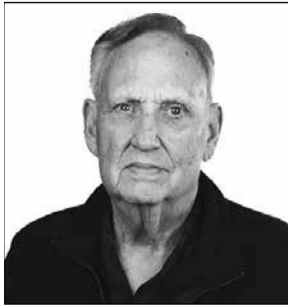
So, what's the good news? Good news is the Kings are poised to add an impact player in the draft, and there is abundant talent on this team that has been utterly devastated by injuries all year.

If there is anything positive about a 19-win season, it has been giving the Kings an opportunity to overhaul their roster from top to bottom while picking up castoff former first-round draft picks and giving them a thorough look. Former No. 7 pick in the 2020 NBA Draft, Killian Hayes has already signed a two-year contract.

A good draft, a healthy team, and 2026 can be filled with optimism, and that relates to wins!

All the best Kings fans! ★

Newsom May Spend \$19 Million to Sugarcoat California's Stalled Economy



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California hasn't had a truly balanced state budget for four or maybe five years, and the current one continues to overspend its revenues.

Nevertheless, Gov. Gavin Newsom wants to spend \$19 million on a marketing campaign to portray California as having a vibrant economy, to counter "myths driven by misinformation and political rhetoric."

"California and its business climate have been falsely and maliciously maligned for years, and the state has a right to tell the true story — California is a great place to live, work, invest and visit," Newsom spokesperson Tara Gallegos told the Los Angeles Times. "Setting the record straight will benefit every business, worker and resident of this state."

The solicitation of contractors for the campaign quotes a passage from Newsom's State of the State speech: "California has never been about perfection. It's about persistence. The courage of our convictions and the strength to embody them. That's the California Way."

It appears to be a \$19 million contribution from California taxpayers to Newsom's forthcoming campaign for the presidency. The state is

a target of ceaseless social media and internet criticism, some of it far-fetched but, unfortunately, much of it is deserved, such as its seemingly intractable homelessness crisis. Being from California would be one of the hurdles Newsom faces if he seeks the presidency.

The marketing campaign will attempt to put a positive spin on California's economy and business climate, echoing how Newsom typically responds when interviewers ask about corporate migrations and loss of population to other states. He cites California's having the globe's 4th largest economy were it a nation.

The hard fact, however, is that California's economy isn't doing so well these days, and it cannot be dismissed, as Newsom often does, as something dreamed up by political foes.

Take, for instance, a report that the Legislature's budget analyst, Gabe Petek, issued in 2024, describing California's economy as "sluggish."

"California's economy has been in an extended slowdown for the better part of two years, characterized by a soft labor market and weak consumer spending," Petek said, adding, "Outside of government and health care, the state has added no jobs in a year and a half. Similarly, the number of Californians who are unemployed is 25 percent higher than during the strong labor markets of 2019 and 2022. Consumer spending (measured by inflation-adjusted retail sales and taxable sales) has continued to decline throughout 2024."

This week, the California Center for Jobs & the Economy, an offshoot of the California Business

Roundtable, issued a report that mirrors and builds on what Petek said.

"California's economy in 2025 presents a troubling paradox," the detailed report declares. "While the state continues to rank among the largest economies in the world, the underlying data reveals an economy that is no longer delivering broad-based growth, opportunity, or stability."

"Rather than expanding," the report continues, "California's economy is increasingly defined by stagnation in job creation, erosion in its private sector base, and mounting structural challenges tied to affordability and competitiveness. Many of the state's headline strengths — particularly in technology — are masking deeper weaknesses across the broader economy. The data show an economy that has largely stalled since the pandemic recovery, with employment barely returning to pre-2020 levels, private sector job losses accelerating, and consumer activity weakening in real terms."

Newsom obviously wants to bury these sobering facts, but doing so undercuts his duty — as governor for another nine months — to be straight with Californians, not just conjure up taxpayer-financed propaganda.

He'll have plenty of time to spin fables after he's out of office and on the presidential campaign trail.

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

I'll be 70 on New Year's Day.

When Should I Apply for Social Security?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I was born on January 1st, 1958, so I believe Social Security considers me to be 70 as of December 2027. I'm planning on filing when I turn 70 to maximize the payment. I'm not sure if I should start in December, with the first payment in January 2028. Or should I start in January with the first payment in February 2028? I know I can start anytime, however I don't want to file before the maximum payment, even by one month. **Signed: Wanting Maximum Benefit**

Dear Wanting: You are correct that if your birth date is January 1, 1958, you are entitled to your full age 70 benefit in December 2027. So, if you claim your SS benefit

to start in December 2027 you will get your maximum benefit amount and you will receive that payment in January 2028 (on the 2nd Wednesday). Basically, anyone born on the first of any month is considered to have been born in the previous month for SS benefit purposes.

You can apply for your benefits up to 4 months prior to your birthday month, and SS usually suggests applying about 3 months in advance to give them time to process your application. When you complete the application, you will specify the month you wish your benefits to start, so applying early does not present a problem. You can either call SSA at 1.800.772.1213 to make an appointment to apply over the phone, or you can apply online at www.ssa.gov/apply.

The one thing you might want to do is put the following in the "Remarks" section of your application for SS benefits: "I do not wish to receive any retroactive Social Security benefits. I want my benefits

to become effective with the first month of my age 70 eligibility (December 2027 because I was born on the first of January)."

Including that remark will ensure that your benefit will be the full maximum amount you are entitled to at 70 years of age, without any reduction. And I congratulate you on choosing a strategy which maximizes your monthly benefit and will likely provide you with the most in cumulative lifetime Social Security benefits.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-dvisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★



The Israel Hoax

we've heard now suggests anything other than that he genuinely relishes killing Iran's leaders and destroying its weapons.

Temperamentally, Trump loves exercising power, always wants to do it on his own authority and seeks to preserve his options. It shouldn't be surprising, then, that as commander in chief of the world's most proficient military, he's been drawn to using and threatening force.

Israel didn't talk Trump into conducting his Venezuela raid, or menacing Denmark over Greenland, or looking to Cuba as his next potential target.

One argument, based on a distortion of remarks made by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, is that Israel forced Trump's hand; it was going to attack Iran no matter what, and we knew U.S. personnel would be hit by Iran in response and would be particularly vulnerable if we didn't hit Iran as well.

Check and mate, Bibi Netanyahu.

The idea, though, that Trump was too sheepish to stay Netanyahu's hand if the Israeli prime minister was about to launch a military operation that Trump opposed and was going to jeopardize American lives is preposterous.

Trump has been happy to say "no" to Netanyahu before. He pressured the Israeli leader into turning back planes at the end of the 12 Day War last June.

By alleging that Israel forced the U.S. into war, the isolationists think they are making a harsh criti-

cism of the Jewish state, but they are really damning Trump. What worse offense can a president of the United States commit than subjugating his own nation to a foreign power? It's a treasonous act that deserves impeachment and removal.

This is exactly why the Russian obsessives so delighted in believing that Trump was a tool of the Kremlin.

Most of the right-wing dissenters blanch at following their own logic. An alternative tack -- seen in intelligence official Joe Kent's resignation letter -- is to argue that Trump was fooled. Kent said there was "a misinformation campaign" that created an echo chamber "to deceive" the president.

This argument is still a stinging condemnation. It paints Trump as an easily manipulated naif, and on a consequential matter of war and peace. In reality, there was no broad-ranging media drumbeat for war and no wave of popular support. This, again, emphasizes how the decision was Trump's, and his alone.

The Russian hoax was, in part, driven by the left's shock at Trump's victory in 2016. Likewise, the isolationists are having trouble processing the fact that the president whom they invested so much in launched a major Middle Eastern war. But Trump was not owned by this faction of the right, any more than he is owned by Israel.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

(c) 2026 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

**WE SUPPORT
FIRST
RESPONDERS**



Messenger Publishing Group

Wilton Ranch, Republic FC to Build Region's Largest Sports Venue

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Wilton Rancheria and Sacramento Republic FC have announced that Republic Stadium at The Railyards will be constructed as a 20,000-plus seat soccer-first venue, forgoing the original plans to grow through phased expansion. The decision reflects the collective ambition of the club, its tribal ownership, and the Sacramento community – a commitment to build something worthy of the passion this region has long shown for its Indomitable Club.

The announcement builds on the momentum of the stadium's groundbreaking in August 2025 – the furthest the project had advanced in more than a decade. As construction became a reality, so did the scale of opportunity and Wilton Rancheria's ability to deliver a stadium that meets the full vision from day one.

"With this stadium, Wilton Rancheria is reclaiming our space and matching the ambition of the region," said Jesus Tarango, Chairman of Wilton Rancheria. "As a Tribe of firsts, we're proud to deliver a 20,000-plus seat, soccer-first stadium – the largest professional sports and entertainment venue in the region – and a home where community comes



Wilton Rancheria and Sacramento Republic FC have announced that Republic Stadium at The Railyards will be constructed as a 20,000-plus seat soccer-first venue, forgoing the original plans to grow through phased expansion. Photo courtesy of Republic FC/MANICA

together and our collective future takes shape."

"Building bigger is a catalytic investment in the long-term transformation of downtown Sacramento," said Chris Franklin, COO for Wilton Rancheria. "Wilton Rancheria is bringing the capital, vision, and execution needed to turn this site into a destination that drives economic impact, community connection, and sustained growth for the entire region."

"For years, we have known what our fans deserve and what this region is capable of supporting. The response to groundbreaking removed any

remaining doubt," said Republic FC Managing Partner Kevin Nagle. "A 20,000-seat Republic Stadium – with a roof over every seat, safe standing for our supporters and world-class amenities throughout – is not an overreach. It is exactly the venue Sacramento has earned, and we are proud to deliver it."

Republic Stadium is designed to set a new standard for the soccer and outdoor entertainment experience in Sacramento. In addition to an expanded capacity, various investments in fan experience and comfort will be elements of a world-class venue. The most prominent feature, as requested

by fans, will be the overhead canopy that will provide coverage for every seat. The four massive trusses weighing 3,800 tons – three times the tonnage of the Tower Bridge – across the top of the canopy will become distinct additions to Sacramento's skyline and be recognizable across sports. The open-air design, featuring perforated cladding and open corner terraces, will allow natural airflow and help fans take advantage of Sacramento's signature evening cooling, keeping the environment comfortable throughout the summer season.

Preparation work on the site was completed in late 2025.

Before the end of April, essential public infrastructure work including streets, utility work, and storm drains, will begin ahead of stadium foundations and then vertical construction. With the addition of the canopy structure and associated investments, construction will continue through 2027, with Republic Stadium on track to open in 2028 as the permanent home of the Indomitable Club and a premier destination for major soccer competitions, concerts and landmark events in Northern California. Republic Stadium will serve as the catalyst for a new Sacramento neighborhood — one that doubles the footprint of downtown, revitalizes a site that has sat vacant for half a century, and restores a connection to the ancestral home of Wilton Rancheria.

Fans interested in securing their place in Republic Stadium are encouraged to visit 20KStadium.com for information on deposit options and priority seating. Further announcements on stadium milestones, community programming, and additional development details will follow in the months ahead. Season Ticket Members and depositors will be among the first to check out the features and amenities of the stadium at the club's experience center that will open later this year. ★

Women's Soccer Adds Braun

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Janae Braun, who served as a volunteer assistant with the Sacramento State women's soccer program in 2025, has been added as a full-time assistant coach for the Hornets beginning with the 2026 campaign Head Coach Tim Strader announced on March 25.

"Janae brings a wealth of high-level experience, both as a professional player with international experience and as a coach, having gained valuable experience as a member of a successful Division I program," Strader said. "I am excited to begin this journey with her as I know the immeasurable impact she will have on our student-athletes' holistic development. Her passion, knowledge of the game and ability to genuinely connect with people instantly set her apart."

Braun (née Gonzalez) joined the Sacramento State sideline after spending two years as an assistant coach at her alma mater, UC Davis, from 2023-25 before being named interim head coach following the 2024 campaign during a coaching transition. She also served in the same capacity with the Hornets following the 2025 campaign prior to Strader's arrival in March of 2026.

"When assembling our coaching staff, it was my top priority to find coaches that are invested into mentoring student-athletes, have an ability to build quality relationships, while also understanding championship standards, and this is exactly what Janae is as a coach," Strader said. "We have big goals as a program, and I know the significant role she will have in helping us achieve them in the years to come."

In her first season with the Aggies, Braun helped guide UC Davis to a second-place finish in the competitive Big West Conference for the second straight season while mentoring five all-conference



Janae Braun, who served as a volunteer assistant with the Sacramento State women's soccer program in 2025, has been added as a full-time assistant coach. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

selections as the team went on to finish 10-7-2 overall and 6-2-2 in league play.

A year later, the Aggies finished 13-5-2 overall and duplicated their effort in league play in 2024, posting the most wins in school history since the 1998 team finished 13-6-1 overall.

She also has experience coaching at the club level, serving as head coach of two ECNL Davis Legacy Soccer Club youth teams from 2021-24, and was also an assistant varsity high school coach at Davis HS from 2018-19, helping the Blue Devils to a CIF Sac-Joaquin section title and a second-place finish at NorCal

Regionals.

As a student-athlete, Braun was a two-year letter winner for the Aggies in 2018-19 after spending her first two collegiate seasons at Santa Clara in 2015-16. A two-time Big West All-Academic selection, she earned All-Big West first team honors during her senior year after leading all Aggies in points (13), shots (34), and goals (six).

While with the Broncos, she was a West Coast Conference All-Freshman Team selection and a two-time WCC All-Academic Team honoree, finishing with four career goals and helping Santa Clara

to an NCAA "Sweet 16" berth in 2015 and a spot in the "Elite 8" in 2016.

She also brings with her an extensive international and professional playing resume, including stints as a member of the U17 Mexican Women's National Team which she helped win the 2013 CONCACAF crown while leading the team in goals (three) and assists (four) as only a junior in high school.

Braun also represented Mexico in the 2014 U17 Women's World Cup, where she was the team's leading scorer, netting goals in wins over Colombia and China during the group stage. Her goal against Colombia that put Mexico up, 3-0, was selected as the best goal of the U17 Women's World Cup by a public vote on FIFA.com.

Her international playing experience continued after graduating from UC Davis, where she signed a professional contract with Club América Femenil, an organization that competes in Liga BBVA MX Femenil, the highest division of women's soccer in Mexico. She also had a stint playing for Mazatlán F.C.

Following her pro career in Mexico, Braun has continued to have a successful career for the California Storm of the Women's Professional Soccer League, where she has been a vital piece, serving as a co-captain. Her highlights include helping the Storm secure the WPSL's Jerry Zanelli Cup in 2022 and the WPSL PAC North Championship in 2023, a year in which she also was named MVP.

Braun has also been a member of the first-ever United States Futsal National Team since 2023 and competed in the 2025 CONCACAF World Cup Qualifiers.

A native of Folsom, who prepped at Vista del Lago HS, Braun graduated from UC Davis with a bachelor's degree in communication in 2019 and she went on to earn her master's degree in communication management from USC in 2022. ★

Hailey Dommers Named Big 12 Defensive Player of the Week

UC Davis Athletics News Release

IRVING, TX (MPG) - For the second time this season, Hailey Dommers represents UC Davis lacrosse on the Big 12 weekly awards as the conference's Defensive Player

of the Week, announced on Wednesday, Mar. 25.

In the non-conference finale against Marquette on Monday afternoon, Dommers stifled the Golden Eagles offense by causing a career-high four turnovers while picking up a ground ball. This play helped

fuel her team's offense to a 7-0 run through the third and fourth quarter, rallying to tie things at 12 apiece with just minutes remaining.

In the Big 12, Dommers ranks third with 14 total caused turnovers while averaging 1.4 per game. ★



For the second time this season, Hailey Dommers represents UC Davis lacrosse on the Big 12 weekly awards as the conference's Defensive Player of the Week. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

Maine Prairie High Students Participate in Salmon Research Project

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Students at Maine Prairie High School are contributing to environmental research through the Spinning Salmon Citizen Science Research Project, a program hosted by the Solano County Office of Education that connects classrooms with scientists studying salmon health.

Now in its fourth year at the school, the project allows students to raise salmon from eggs and monitor their development while collecting data used by researchers worldwide. English teacher Lindsey Balidoy, who joined the project last year alongside science teacher Dina Flamik, said the experience has been both engaging and educational.

"We have 35 eggs, and the goal is, as they hatch and become juvenile salmon, we're seeing if they have TDC," said Balidoy.

TDC, or Thiamine Deficiency Complex, can affect salmon development and behavior. Students conducted twice-weekly observations, watching for symptoms such as corkscrew swimming, lethargy or death, and submitted their findings to an online research platform.

"The students are doing all of it," said Balidoy. "Researchers all over the world use our data."

This year's project presented unexpected challenges. After returning from winter break, students found many of the fish appeared to be missing.

"We didn't find any dead ones, they were just disappearing," said Balidoy. "There were no visible issues with the water quality."

This situation prompted students to expand beyond the standard curriculum and apply critical thinking skills. After several weeks of investigation, they discovered the fish had slipped beneath the tank's gravel into a hidden space.



Students at Maine Prairie High School are contributing to environmental research through the Spinning Salmon Citizen Science Research Project, a program hosted by the Solano County Office of Education that connects classrooms with scientists studying salmon health. Photo courtesy of Maine Prairie High School

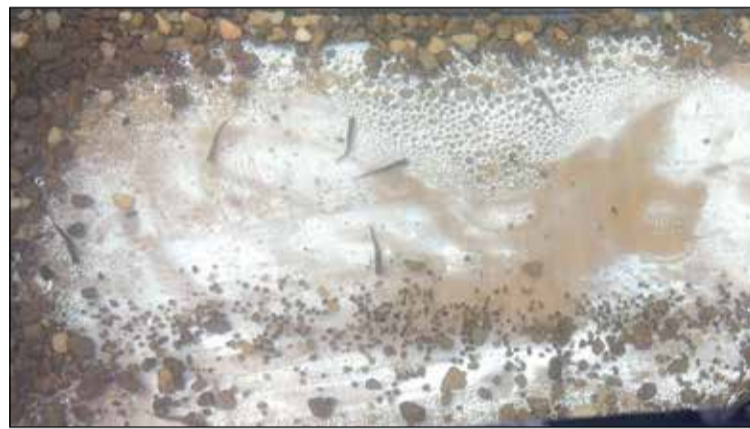
"We ended up finding 21 fish under the gravel that were alive and completely fine," said Balidoy. "It was a great learning moment."

Students worked with visiting researchers to retrieve and count the fish, documenting the process. Balidoy said the experience demonstrated strong student engagement and scientific inquiry.

"It was fantastic to see the students take the lead," she said.

About 45 to 50 students participated across English, English Language Development and environmental science classes.

The project culminates in the annual Salmon Showcase, where students present research and creative work related to their findings. This year's event is scheduled for April 14 in Fairfield and is open to families, peers and researchers,



This year's project presented unexpected challenges. After returning from winter break, students found many of the fish appeared to be missing. After several weeks of investigation, they discovered the fish had slipped beneath the tank's gravel into a hidden space. Photo courtesy of Maine Prairie High School

including participants from the University of California, Davis.

"Our salmon showcase is all the hard work the students have done over the project," said Balidoy. "They get to show it off."

Student projects include research on salmon's role in local ecosystems and tribal communities, as well as artistic pieces. Balidoy said the program helps students develop curiosity



In its fourth year at the school, the project allows students to raise salmon from eggs and monitor their development while collecting data used by researchers worldwide. The school received 35 eggs. Photo courtesy of Maine Prairie High School

and research skills through hands-on learning.

"This isn't just a topic I picked; it's a topic that affects us all," she said.

Students also gained field experience during a salmon release March 3 and explored cultural connections to salmon in their coursework.

Balidoy said the showcase highlights student achievement and community engagement.

"The community needs to see the good work that our students do," she said.

She encouraged community members to attend the event.

"It'll give you so much hope for what our youth are doing and thinking," said Balidoy. "Come celebrate with us."

Balidoy also credited the researchers who supported the program and the students who carried out the work.

"Without their inquiry and research, we wouldn't have such a vibrant showcase," she said.

According to Balidoy, the project offers students a unique opportunity to contribute to real-world scientific research while learning about the environmental importance of salmon. ★

Do You Need Your Legal Ads Published? 

We can help.

Call us now to place your legal advertising!

916-773-1111

All legal ads published by Messenger Publishing Group.



Single Again

Make the rest of your life the best of your life!

Are You Single Again?

SingleAgain.com is a website dedicated to helping people put their lives back together again after divorce, separation or the loss of their spouse.

Finding yourself single after years of being in a relationship can add a different kind of unknown stress to your daily life.

We provide articles and information from many sources to help you put all the pieces together so you can live a healthy and loving new life. When you first visit the website, be sure to make us one of your favorites. We publish many articles to help you along your new journey.

- Dating & Relationships
- Counseling & Advice
- Money & Finances
- Health
- Fashion & Beauty
- Consumer News
- Food & Recipes
- Travel
- Lifestyle
- Parenting

Visit SingleAgain.com today, get back out there and have some fun!

Single Again SingleAgain.com





LOCAL ARREST RECORDS

Find out what's happening in your local area at...

INDEPENDENTVOICE.COM

ARREST LOGS UPDATED DAILY

