



Air District Celebrates Winners of Annual Clean Air Contest
PAGE 9

Celebrate Father's Day!



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SEE INSIDE

SUMMER READING ROUND UP



PAGE 3

CONGRESSIONAL GUNFIGHTERS AT RAILROAD DAYS



PAGE 4



HEADQUARTERS CLOSE FOR RENOVATION AND EXPANSION

PAGE 3



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Railroad Days Returns with Family Fun



Dixon residents and visitors will have an opportunity to explore the city's railroad heritage during Railroad Days, a two-day community event scheduled for June 20-21 at the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park, 230 N. First St. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon residents and visitors will have an opportunity to explore the city's railroad heritage during Railroad Days, a two-day community event scheduled for June 20-21 at the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park, 230 N. First St. The free event will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day and feature family-friendly activities, historical presentations, railroad exhibits and live re-enactments celebrating the role rail transportation played in the city's development. According to Downtown



Visitors can expect a variety of attractions, including railroad model displays, children's activities, face painting, gold panning and historical presentations. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Dixon Business Association President Jill Orr, Railroad Days was created to honor the railroad history that helped establish the community. "It all came from the fact that Dixon became a town because of the railroad, so it was a given Dixon should do something to honor that history," said Orr. Visitors can expect

a variety of attractions, including railroad model displays, children's activities, face painting, gold panning and historical presentations. Members of the Dixon Historical Society will share information about the city's past, while re-enactors will portray figures from California's Gold Rush era. "We have children's activities, railroad modelers will be there, Dixon Historical Society will be speaking of the history regarding the Gold Rush days, we'll have true-to-form re-enactments," Orr said. "It's a great weekend for families to come

Continued on page 2

Council Approves Planning Map for Review of New Housing Developments

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - At the June 2 meeting, the Dixon City Council heard a presentation about the Dixon Grown outreach meetings and considered maps for a revised Notice of Preparation (NOP) and general plan amendments associated with the Harvest at Dixon and Lombardo Ranch projects. The goal of Dixon Grown was to create a platform for community engagement and input regarding potential development, to ensure projects are evaluated with a focus on thoughtful growth that balances economic progress and resident priorities.

Staff said various workshops and outreach efforts showed residents want to maintain the city's agricultural identity, revitalize the downtown area and support more in-fill development. There was a lot of concern about rapid growth, as well as a preference for developer-funded infrastructure rather than increases to residents' taxes. There are two major development projects currently under consideration. Harvest at Dixon proposes up to 6,300 housing units on 890 acres, built out over 30 years. Located southeast of Dixon, outside city limits, the proposal requested a general plan amendment to annex it into the city.

Lombardo Ranch proposes up to 800 housing units mixed in with commercial uses on 147 acres southwest of Dixon. This project location is also outside city limits and requested annexation. Community Development Director Raffi Boloyan explained that these proposals and annexation requests provide an opportunity for the city to make general plan amendments and consider an expansion of Dixon's Sphere of Influence (SOI), a legal boundary that allows for more input on regional development near the city.

Submitting the NOP will initiate the environmental review process, with both proposed projects considered together for a coordinated evaluation to guide decision making. The city is about a year away from any possible vote on these development proposals. The environmental review must be completed, in addition to a public comment period. And any

Continued on page 10

Buckhorn BBQ & Grill Opens

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Buckhorn BBQ & Grill has officially opened its newest restaurant in Dixon, bringing its California-style barbecue and tri-tip-focused menu to the city's growing dining scene. Located at 1460 Ary Lane, the restaurant held a soft opening on June 5 and is currently continuing staff training as it prepares for full operations, according to General Manager Josh Webb. "We did a soft opening June 5," said Webb. "We're still in our soft opening, still getting our staff trained."

The Dixon restaurant features a spacious dining area with wooden booths and bar seating, as well as a patio for outdoor dining. Guests can choose from approximately nine beers on tap, including selections from local breweries, along with a full bar serving cocktails and wine. The location also offers takeout



The restaurant held a soft opening on June 5 and is currently continuing staff training as it prepares for full operations, according to General Manager Josh Webb. Photo by Nicolas Brown

service through a dedicated pickup window. Customers can access online ordering and loyalty rewards through the Buckhorn mobile app. Buckhorn's roots trace back to Napa, where thousands of tri-tip sandwiches were sold at the Chef's Market on Friday nights. The success of those sales

inspired the creation of the first Buckhorn Grill, which opened in San Francisco's Metreon in 1999. The company later expanded from its original Buckhorn Steakhouse concept into several restaurant brands, including Buckhorn BBQ & Grill. Webb said Dixon was a natural choice

for expansion. "Dixon needs more restaurants for its community, and our food quality and general style are a natural fit," he said. "You've got a lot of classic Americana out here and, I mean, we serve meat and beer — who doesn't love that?"

Continued on page 3

Railroad Days Returns with Family Fun

*Continued from page 1
and enjoy.”*

Additional attractions include a trading post where attendees can purchase themed souvenirs such as bandanas, train whistles and T-shirts. A replica train depot display will also be featured during the event.

The celebration highlights a pivotal chapter in Dixon's history. According to the Dixon Historical Society, the city's origins date to 1868 when landowner Thomas Dickson donated 10 acres for the California Pacific Railroad. Residents of nearby Silveyville relocated closer to the new rail line, leading to the establishment of what was initially known as Dicksonville.

Rail transportation quickly became central to the area's economy, providing a faster and less expensive means of shipping agricultural products than stagecoaches or boats. Over time, the railroad transformed Dixon into a regional agricultural center.

Orr said the event will showcase how significant the community was during California's early agricultural expansion.

"Dixon was once one of the largest agricultural providers for food in California and for other countries," she said. "The trains would transfer food to San Francisco, and it would go all over the world."

She noted that as many as 150 wagons carrying crops and goods passed



Members of the Dixon Historical Society will share information about the city's past as well as an authentic blacksmithing demonstration by museum curator Frank McKinney. Photo by Nicolas Brown

through Dixon daily during its agricultural peak.

Organizers also view Railroad Days as an opportunity to support local businesses and encourage residents and visitors to spend time downtown.

"Everything we do brings commerce to our community," said Orr. "A lot of the time people get off work, head down the freeway and go home because they're tired, but this is a way for people to come down, check out our stores, check out our restaurants and enjoy."

She said the event helps showcase the unique businesses and services available in Dixon's downtown district.

Beyond its economic impact, Orr said Railroad Days serves an educational purpose by connecting younger generations with the city's history.

"It's a great big thing for our children

to understand how we became a town today," she said. "People meet people that they've never met. It's a way to bring people together and to get to know your community."

Looking ahead, organizers hope to continue expanding Railroad Days by attracting additional railroad modelers and enhancing exhibits in future years.

For now, Orr said the event remains focused on providing an affordable experience for local families.

"This is a nice, affordable event for families to attend for the day," she said. "There's no admission."

Railroad Days will be held June 20-21 at the Dixon Women's Improvement Club Park, 230 N. First St., in downtown Dixon.

For more information, visit downtowndixonca.com or email dixondowntownba@yahoo.com. ★

Dixon News Briefs



Dixon Toastmasters are hosting a series of meetings open to the public from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. every second and fourth Tuesday. Held in-person at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 1700 N. First St., the meeting will have a simultaneous virtual option, allowing attendees to participate over Zoom. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By MPG Staff

Four Star Farm Horse Camp

Four Star Farm is offering a beginner to intermediate horseback riding camp beginning in mid-June. The farm, 7445 Pitt School Road, will have activities such as horseback riding, art projects and horsemanship for children aged 6 to 13 years old. Listed sessions are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and include July 9 to 10 and August 3 to 7. Sessions cost \$695 per participant.

For more information, visit fourstarfarm.com or call 707-312-1119.

Fort Sutter Antique Motorcycle Swap Meet

Fort Sutter Antique Motorcycle Association is hosting its annual swap meet and show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both June 19 and 20. Held at the Dixon May Fair, 655 S. First St., the event will include competition, vendors and plenty of antique bikes for enthusiasts.

For more information, visit fortsutteramca.org/upcoming-events/ or call 707-678-5529.

Dixon Family Services Fireworks Sale

Dixon Family Services will be selling fireworks from June 28 to July 4. The booth, held at Grocery Outlet, 2400 N. First St. will be selling TNT Fireworks to raise funds to support services offered by the nonprofit. Interested parties can also support the cause through volunteering to man the booth, but only those 18 and older are eligible.

For more information, visit Dixon Family Services on Facebook or call 707-678-0442.

Bunco Night

Joystick Gaming Lounge will host its monthly Bunco Night from 6 to 8 p.m. June 25. 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.

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

Primetime Barbershop Grand Re-opening

Primetime Barbershop, in partnership with the Dixon Chamber of Commerce, is hosting its grand re-opening from 1 to 2 p.m. June 27. Hosted at 145 E. A St., the event will celebrate the business's new location in downtown Dixon.

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

Downtown Dixon Farmer's Market

Downtown Dixon Business Association's (DDBA) is hosting the Downtown Dixon Weekly Farmer's Market, held every Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. through Oct. 28. Hosted at Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St, the event, sponsored by the City of Dixon, features organic fruits and vegetables, fresh-baked breads, hot food vendors, live music and opportunities to meet local farmers.

For more information, visit downtowndixonca.com/events or email dixondowntonba@yahoo.com.

Third Annual Dixon Food Pantry Golf Tournament

Cornerstone Baptist Church is hosting the Third Annual Dixon Food Pantry Golf Tournament at 8:30 a.m. June 20. Held at Cypress Lakes Golf Course, 5601 Meridian Road in Vacaville, registration for the event costs \$125 per person and includes lunch and raffle prizes. Proceeds will benefit the church's food pantry program.

For more information, visit Cornerstone Baptist Church on Facebook or call 707-678-5234.

Harvest Table Talk

Harvest at Dixon is hosting a causal talk series to interact with the community and allow them to ask questions throughout the month of June. The final session will be in-person from 1 to 3 p.m. June 30 at Pedro's Cocina, 1425 Market Lane.

For more information, visit harvestatdixon.com or call 707-710-8277.

Toastmasters Open House

Dixon Toastmasters are hosting a series of meetings open to the public from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. every second and fourth Tuesday. Held in-person at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 1700 N. First St., the meeting will have a simultaneous virtual option, allowing attendees to participate over Zoom.

For more information or to receive the Zoom link, visit Dixon 6870 Toastmasters Club on Facebook, call 916-801-6234 or email toastmaster.lou@gmail.com

Read to a Dog

Dixon Library is hosting Read to a Dog from noon to 1 p.m. June 22. Hosted at the library, 230 N. First St., the activity provides children ages five to 12 with the opportunity to read aloud to certified therapy dogs. The program offers a relaxed, non-judgmental environment aimed at improving reading fluency and building positive reading experiences.

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

Ask DR. UNIVERSE

Why does Smoke make Bees Calm?

- Kovas, 10, Washington State

Dear Kovas,

When I work honey bee hives, I always wear a beekeeping veil. It protects my head and face from bee stings.

That's important because a honey bee colony is a superorganism. It's made of thousands of individuals. They work together like one living thing.

If that superorganism feels threatened, I might get stung—a lot.

I talked about it with my friend Brandon Hopkins. He's a honey bee scientist at Washington State University. He told me that smoke interferes with the way honey bees communicate with each other.

Nearly every biological process in your body is managed by hormones. They're chemical messages that travel in your blood. That's how your body sleeps, eats and uses energy, reproduces, responds to stress and handles stuff like your body temperature.

Honey bees work together using pheromones. Those are ecto-hormones. They're chemical messages that travel through the air between individual bees.

That's how a honey bee colony works and sleeps, finds food and feeds each other, reproduces, responds to stress and handles the temp inside the hive.

One of these chemical messages is called alarm pheromone.

"When someone comes



This bee is sending out a pheromone from cells near its stinger. That spot is the Nasonov gland. It produces homing pheromone, which helps bees find their hive and each other. The Koschevnikov gland produces alarm pheromone. It's a little further down on the belly side of the bee's abdomen. © Björn Appel CC BY-SA 3.0

along and tries to get into the hive, honey bees release alarm pheromone," Hopkins said. "Then they work together to protect the developing brood and food resources."

When I open a hive, that's scary for bees. Everything important to them is in there—their relatives, their babies, all the food they've gathered and stored.

So, the bees tell each other about the threat. They start pumping out alarm pheromone. It's made of more than 40 chemicals. One smells like artificial banana candy—and people can smell it.

Alarm pheromone is made and secreted by a gland near the bee's stinger. It travels through the air. Receptors on the antennae of other bees pick up the chemical message.

Now all those bees know I'm breaking into their hive. They can work together to defend their colony.

That's bad for me because bee stings hurt—and can be deadly for people who are allergic. It's also bad for the bees. Honey bees have barbed stingers. The sharp barbs get stuck in elastic skin like ours. So, a honey bee can only sting us one time, and then it dies.

That's why I use a bee smoker before I open a hive.

The smoke makes it hard for alarm pheromone to travel in the air. It interferes with how the bees pick up the chemical message. Plus, smoke seems to reduce how much alarm pheromone each bee pumps out.

If the bees don't pick up the alarm message, they won't respond like I'm a threat. I can work the hive without scaring them.

Some bees change their behavior after smoking.

"When you smoke the bees, you'll see some of them with their heads stuck in the honey and nectar cells in the comb," Hopkins said. "They're gorging themselves on honey."

Nobody is sure why bees do that. But even if some bees pick up the alarm message, the bees snarfing up honey will be too busy to attack me. Then I can get away and try again when the bees are calm.

Smoke is just a tool that helps us "bee" respectful caretakers of these important animals.

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Buckhorn BBQ & Grill Opens

Summer Reading Round Up



Buckhorn BBQ & Grill, 1460 Ary Lane, has officially opened its newest restaurant in Dixon, bringing its California-style barbecue and tri-tip-focused menu to the city's growing dining scene. Photo by Nicolas Brown



Dixon Library is offering a variety of educational and recreational programs throughout the summer, including its annual summer reading program. The Summer Reading Program concludes July 22 with a Foam Party and Ice Cream Social. Photo courtesy of Dixon Library

Continued from page 1

The restaurant currently employs about 40 people between front-of-house and kitchen operations. Webb said many of those employees are local residents.

"Most of our hiring pool is Dixonites," he said. "We wanted to bring jobs to the area as well as a good dining experience."

The menu emphasizes tri-tip, a cut of beef commonly associated with California barbecue traditions.

"I would say the tri-tip is something we focus heavily on," said Webb. "We consider ourselves California BBQ and focus on the tri-tip. Everything is a labor of love to get this product where it needs to be."

Future menu additions are under consideration, including steak offerings currently available at the company's Vacaville location, steak bites and potentially prime rib on Sundays.

While no Dixon-specific promotions have been announced, the restaurant offers a weekday happy hour from 2 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

According to Webb, community support during the restaurant's first weeks of operation has exceeded expectations.

"Amazing," he said when asked about the response. "I couldn't be more blessed with the way the community has come out for us. It's been very busy right off the bat, and everyone has been very patient with the hiccups that come with new staff and a new restaurant."

The company also plans to become involved in the community through partnerships with local schools and organizations

once operations are fully established.

"...Anything we can be a part of once we get to the point where we're settled," said Webb.

For its first year in Dixon, Webb said the restaurant's focus will remain on customer service and consistency.

"Right now, our only goal is to provide a great experience for the community," he said. "I think you provide a good product, a good experience, and the sales will follow."

For first-time visitors, Webb recommends the restaurant's family feasts and platters, which are designed to serve larger groups at a reasonable price. He also highlighted the restaurant's protein-focused menu options.

He said the restaurant aims to provide residents with another local dining choice without requiring travel to neighboring communities.

"People in Dixon have to commute all over for work or different dining experiences," said Webb. "We want to offer something where people don't have to travel 15 to 20 minutes for a good meal; it's just good to have more options in town."

Buckhorn BBQ & Grill is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. As of press time, the restaurant is still in the training and prep phase, and hours may vary weekly.

For more information, visit buckhorngrill.com/locations/dixon/ or call 707-635-7140. ★

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Library is offering a variety of educational and recreational programs throughout the summer, including free meals for youth, literacy activities, hands-on workshops and family entertainment.

In partnership with Dixon Unified School District, the library, located at 230 N. First St., is hosting Lunch at the Library from 11 a.m. to noon every weekday until July 24. The program provides free lunches and games for school-aged children and teens. Meals are available while supplies last and must be eaten on site. A child must be present to receive a meal. Lunches will not be served June 19 or July 3.

Teen-focused programming continues throughout the summer. Summer Smoothies for Teens takes place every Wednesday at 1 p.m. until July 22. The library also partners with Patelco Credit Union to offer financial literacy workshops for teens and teens aged 10 to 18. The next session is scheduled from 1 to 2 p.m. July 1 and will cover topics including budgeting, savings and credit scores. Registration is

recommended but not required.

The library's Summer Reading Program features a series of free Wednesday morning presentations and performances for families.

Magician Perry Yan will kick off the lineup from 10 to 11 a.m. June 24. His show combines magic, comedy and storytelling for audiences of all ages.

From 10 to 11 a.m. July 1, representatives from NorCalBats will present a program about bats and their role in local ecosystems. The organization rescues, rehabilitates and releases bats throughout Northern California while promoting public education about the animals and their environmental benefits.

Mad Science will visit the library from 10 to 11 a.m. July 8 with a program focused on air pressure and flight. The presentation will include demonstrations designed to explain scientific concepts through interactive experiments.

Award-winning ventriloquist Marc Griffiths will perform from 10 to 11 a.m. July 15. Griffiths' family-friendly show features comedy and a cast of puppet characters.

The Summer Reading Program concludes

from 10 to 11 a.m. July 22 with a Foam Party and Ice Cream Social. Participants can cool off in non-toxic foam while dancing to music and enjoying ice cream. Bathing suits, towels and swimming goggles are recommended.

Families looking for reading opportunities beyond the library can also participate in the Third Annual Dixon Reading Trail, organized by Joy's Book Nook. The free program includes 10 locations throughout Dixon, including local businesses, community organizations and the library itself.

Participants can visit each location, read or browse a featured book, collect stamps and earn a prize upon completing the trail. All locations now have materials available, though some displays may still be in the process of being set up. The reading trail will remain open throughout the summer, allowing families to participate at their own pace.

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

For more information about the Reading Trail, join the Dixon Reading Trail 2026 Facebook Group. ★

Dixon Police Department Headquarters Close for Renovation and Expansion

Dixon Police Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Police Department has temporarily closed its headquarters at 201 W. A St. as of June 15 as the facility undergoes a major renovation and expansion project expected to be completed in summer 2027. The project will add a second story to the building, fulfilling a design that has been in place since the station's original construction in 1989.

The renovation is funded primarily through developer impact fees collected as part of the city's growth over the past several decades.

"This project is something we have been working toward for a long time, and it represents an exciting next step in the evolution of both our city and our department," said Dixon Police Chief Robert Thompson. "The men and women of the Dixon Police Department deserve a facility that reflects the quality of service they provide every day, and the Dixon community deserves a police department that is built for the future. We are grateful to the City and to the developers whose investments are making this possible."

City Manager Jim Lindley echoed that enthusiasm.

"The expansion of our Police Department headquarters is a direct reflection of Dixon's growth and our

commitment to investing in the infrastructure that keeps our community safe," said Lindley. "This has been a long time coming, and we are proud to deliver it without placing any burden on our taxpayers."

While the headquarters is closed, all public-facing police services will continue without interruption. Residents who need in-person assistance from the police department are asked to visit the temporary public service counter located at the Dixon Fire Department, 205 Ford Way, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For non-emergency matters by phone, the department's direct line at 707-678-7070 will remain in service during business hours. For emergencies, residents should always call 9-1-1.

A callbox located at the police station will remain active 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and connects directly to Dixon Police and Fire dispatch center. An officer can be dispatched to the station upon request through the callbox.

No significant traffic impacts are anticipated in the area surrounding 201 W. A St. during the construction period. Residents and businesses near the site are encouraged to check dixonpoliceca.gov for any updates related to construction activity.

The Dixon Police Department will provide regular project updates to the community as construction progresses. ★



E-Bike Program Expands Access to Clean Transportation

Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, along with the Yolo County Sustainability Division, have launched a new incentive program to help residents purchase certified e-bikes. Applications for the Pedal Forward: E-bike Incentive Program are now open and close on July 27. Applications are available online at www.ysaqmd.org/ebike in English, Russian and Spanish.

"We're excited to partner with Yolo County to make e-bikes more accessible to local residents," said Air District Board Chair Jim Ernest. "When used safely, e-bikes can help people replace everyday car trips with a cleaner, more affordable way to travel."

Pedal Forward is designed to give residents, especially those who qualify as low-income, access to zero-emission transportation options and reduce vehicle-related air pollution. The program provides monetary vouchers to residents to cover up to 100 percent of the cost of a new, eligible e-bike and safety equipment. The standard voucher amount is \$750, and an enhanced voucher of \$1,500 is available to eligible low-income applicants. Yolo County Health and Human Services will also offer free helmets to low-income voucher recipients.

To ensure accessibility, vouchers will be awarded through a random drawing. Only one voucher will be awarded per household. Approximately 80 to 120 vouchers will be available this year, depending on the number of standard and enhanced vouchers awarded. All voucher recipients will be required to take an online safety training course. Vouchers may only be redeemed with local participating bike shops that will also reinforce safety training and verify e-bike eligibility.

"Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector is critical to achieving the County's climate goals," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Sheila Allen, who also sits on the Air District Board. "We want to encourage people to use e-bikes as an alternative to driving, which will help reduce emissions while supporting healthier, more active lifestyles. We are also glad to offer enhanced vouchers to lower-income community members to make emission-free transportation accessible for all."

E-bikes have a battery and electric motor that can be activated to help with pedaling, making the bikes go faster and making it easier to travel longer distances. All e-bikes purchased through the Pedal Forward program must be Class 1 or Class 2 models and must be certified to Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 2271, UL 2849, or European Standard EN 15194 for fire safety while charging. Class 1 e-bikes only use pedal-assist to go up to 20 miles per hour. Class 2 e-bikes have both pedal assist and a throttle, with a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour.

Funding for the Pedal Forward: E-bike Incentive Program is provided by the Yolo County Landfill Out-of-County Tip Fee Surcharge, the California Air Resources Board's Community Air Protection Incentives Program and the California Office of Transportation Safety.

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's mission is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution. As a public health agency, the district is responsible for safeguarding air quality and overseeing air pollution control in Yolo and northeastern Solano counties, including the cities of Dixon, Rio Vista and Vacaville. For more information, visit ysaqmd.org. Connect with the Air District via Facebook, X, LinkedIn and Nextdoor. ★

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Congressional Gunfighters at Dixon Railroad Days



The Congressional Gunfighters of America is a professional re-enactment group that will perform shows at Women's Improvement Club Park, 230 N. First St., at 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. June 20 and 21. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Downtown Dixon Business Association News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Congressional Gunfighters of America is a professional re-enactment group that is dedicated to preserving Old West Living History from the period of the 1870s to the 1890s. They are a "Pro-Law" group that always has the "good guys" winning in the end. The club members specialize in live

entertainment. Some have appeared in films and on television. They utilize period-correct clothing, weapons and "Hollywood Blanks."

Please join them as they perform shows at Women's Improvement Club Park, 230 N. First St., at 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. June 20 and 21.

The Congressional Gunfighters are very honored to be a part of Dixon Railroad Days! ★



Riley Reviews

"M.I.A." REVENGE THRILLER DRIVEN BY ONE WOMAN'S QUEST TO AVENGE

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"M.I.A." on Peacock

The path to a South Florida drug-running enterprise may have its inspiration, at least thematically, in a money laundering operation located on the Lake of the Ozarks summer resort region in central Missouri.

"Ozark," co-created by Bill Dubuque, was a crime drama series in which Jason Bateman and Laura Linney, as married couple Marty and Wendy Byrde, moved their family from a Chicago suburb to Osage Beach, Missouri, after laundering money for a Mexican drug cartel went amiss.

The snafu with the cartel put the Byrdes in the predicament of having to launder \$500 million in five years, and to clear this massive debt they settled on a tourist area where they bought up businesses such as a bar, strip club, and riverboat casino.

The Peacock drama series "M.I.A." is a crime thriller also created by Bill Dubuque, which leads to the notion that this story about drug-running in the Florida Keys is perhaps similar in concept to "Ozark."

That's like saying the "Mission: Impossible" films are too much like the James Bond or Jason Bourne films. Sure, there may be some truth to this analogy, but what matters here is whether "M.I.A." offers enough compelling characters and story to follow down a familiar direction.

Arguably, the weight of an illicit family business falls on Etta Tiger Jonze (Shannon Gisela), when her entire family is murdered. As the first episode begins and ends with the voice of Etta saying "Killers aren't born. They're made," violence is soon to follow with revenge on her mind.

In the beginning, all seems normal in the Florida Keys as the Jonze family marina offers sportfishing charters. Etta is first seen taking tourists on a boat tour of swamp land to spot alligators, while she entertains them as if they were on the Jungle Cruise at Disneyland.

Daniel Jonze (David Denman) and his wife Leah (Danay Garcia), along with their two sons, run the Tiger-Jonze marina in Key Largo which is not generating wealth with just fishing expeditions and swamp tours.

Etta is not unfamiliar with the illicit family trade, and to her parents' chagrin she wants to be a part of it, even though they have plans for her to enter college.

Considered the smartest member of the Jonze clan, Etta has a photographic memory that will serve her well if she ends up at the University of Miami. But she really wants to participate in the family side business of transporting

drugs while outwitting pursuits by the DEA.

The Rojas cartel has been using the Jonze charter boats as drug mules for twenty years. However, change is coming because the cartel boss Isaac Rojas (Edward James Olmos) is facing the end of life.

The drug business now goes to the sons, Mateo (Maurice Compte), a natural born killer, and Samuel (Gerardo Celasco), who appears initially to lack the same ruthless instincts of his brother.

The brains of the cartel might be Elias Perez (Alberto Guerra), deemed the best enforcer in the cartel who proves to be so psychotic that he tosses a servant into Isaac's coffin for burial at sea because the great khans of Mongolia did the same to secure care in the afterlife.

Meanwhile, the Rojas brothers must chart the course of the cartel, with Mateo insisting they need another revenue stream with a similar profit margin and Samuel reminding him that dealing narcotics is equally lucrative.

The next run by the Jonze family turns out to be problematic for several reasons. For one, the cartel demands an immediate delivery that usually takes weeks of planning to avoid detection by the authorities.

Much worse, the cartel decides to get into human trafficking of young girls. Etta's moral code finds this repugnant, and her father bluntly tells that if she wants to be in the family business, "This is the life. We don't make choices. We weigh the risk and live with it."

These words about living with risk of a criminal enterprise prove to be prophetic, because a decision that Etta makes about transporting human cargo results in a deadly disaster for her family.

The killers figure wrongly that they annihilated the entire Jonze family, not considering that Etta was alive and free to put together her revenge list of twelve people she vows to kill.

After an unwelcome encounter, Etta gets rescued from the ocean by Haitian immigrant Lovely (Brittany Adebumola) and her neurodivergent brother Stanley (Dylan T. Jackson), and winds up with jobs at a Miami club and cleaning motel rooms while planning revenge.

Killing a bunch of bad dudes takes time, and in the meantime, we are treated to a series of subplots, like Etta get reunited with an aunt she never knew, striking up a romance with a college student, and working for a lady (Tovah Feldshuh) whose family perished in the Holocaust.

Shannon Gisela's Etta is the selling point for "M.I.A." as her likability factor is more than enough to get behind her revenge tour. ★

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The Best Game Plan? Getting Everyone Home Safely

AAA, MADD and Waymo remind soccer fans to plan safe rides home during the World Cup tournament

AAA Mountain West Group News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As the world's top soccer teams compete across North and Central America this summer, millions of fans will travel to matches and gather for watch parties. AAA, MADD, and Waymo are teaming up to ensure celebrations remain safe, encouraging fans to make a game plan for a safe ride before kickoff, because getting everyone home safely is the ultimate win.

"Nearly one-third of all impaired-driving traffic fatalities occur during the summer months. Major sporting events, like the World Cup, can further contribute to that risk as fans gather at stadiums, bars and watch parties across the country," said Doug Johnson, spokesperson for AAA Mountain West Group. "Impaired driving is 100% preventable, and choosing a safe ride home is one of the simplest ways to protect yourself and others."

Getting everyone to their destination is a shared goal for AAA and MADD, one that stretches beyond this summer's games.



AAA and MADD have launched a five-year initiative to reduce impaired-driving fatalities by 20% by 2030. Designed by Magnific.

AAA and MADD have launched a five-year initiative to reduce impaired-driving fatalities by 20% by 2030. By combining education, advocacy and innovative solutions, AAA and MADD are working to save lives.

"The world's biggest soccer matches are a time to celebrate,

but every fan needs a safe way home," said Stacey D. Stewart, CEO of MADD. "We're grateful to AAA for its leadership in road safety and to Waymo for making discount codes available to help fans make a plan to never drive impaired. Together we can prevent impaired driving,

protect our communities and save lives."

To help fans secure a safe ride home, Waymo is offering a \$5 off ride discount for the first 2,500 redemptions with the code "GOAL2026". The discount will be valid from June 11 through July 19, 2026 in all

Waymo owned and operated markets including Phoenix and San Francisco, helping make the safe choice the easy choice for fans heading to matches, watch parties and celebrations.

"Soccer has a unique ability to bring people together, whether they're cheering from the stands or celebrating with friends at a watch party," said Heather Aijian, Waymo's head of public affairs. "Waymo is proud to partner with AAA and MADD to help fans make safe transportation choices and get home safely after the match. By making sober rides more accessible, we can help keep the focus on the excitement of the game."

Nearly 12,000 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in the United States in 2024. Impaired driving continues to impact families and communities across the country, but it is a challenge we can overcome together. Every fan has a role to play by planning ahead, choosing a safe ride and encouraging friends to do the same. Working as a team, we can save lives and help ensure the only thing fans remember about the night is the excitement of the match. ★

Food Allergen Labeling Coming Soon to California Restaurants

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Effective July 1, California restaurants with 20 or more locations will now have to disclose food allergens under the Allergen Disclosure for Dining Experiences (ADDE) Act.

Restaurants must provide the information on their menu or in a digital format. If they provide it digitally, they can use an allergen list or allergen-specific menu. Restaurants utilizing digital means need to still offer a print option for those who don't have access to technology.

The allergens are milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, wheat, soy and sesame.

"With food allergies affecting more people each year, the ADDE Act's simple menu disclosure requirement can prevent potentially dangerous allergic reactions and save lives. Millions of Californians have food allergies," said Kenneth Mendez the president and CEO of the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) president and CEO. "Similar legislation is in place in the European Union and has been since 2014. Allergen disclosure works - it helps provide a better dining experience for people with food allergies



The Allergen Disclosure for Dining Experiences (ADDE) Act requires restaurant chains to provide food allergen information on their menu beginning July 1. Designed by Magnific.

and reduces the incidence of food allergy reactions. Not only does this law provide a level of protection for diners, it also helps restaurants attract loyal customers. The legislation is a win-win for California families and restaurants."

AAFA supported and co-sponsored the ADDE Act along with food allergy

advocates Robyn and Addie Lao - who at age 9 inspired dozens of other children and teens to rally support for this bill. AAFA helped recruit support from nearly 70 state and national organizations, more than 500 health care professionals, and over a thousand California residents.

AAFA provided testimony in legislative

hearings, hosted Capitol lobby days, hosted an informational webinar and advocate trainings, and communicated with the media about the bill's progress.

"We want to thank all the advocates who wrote their lawmakers, attended legislative hearings in Sacramento, and organized to make this law a reality," said Melanie Carver, AAFA's chief mission officer. "Your voices made a difference, and the result will be felt in thousands of restaurants as people with food allergies enjoy dining out with more confidence to navigate food allergens."

The legislative leader of the bill was Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley). As someone who has been hospitalized multiple times due to food allergies, Menjivar understands the challenge presented by dining in restaurants. Her leadership and personal experience helped propel the bill through the legislative process.

"After the bill goes into effect on July 1, 2026, I hope Addie and I can meet up for a meal to see the culmination of our efforts right there in black and white on the menu!" Senator Menjivar said.

For more information about the ADDE Act, visit <https://adde.food-regulations.org>. ★

Two California Salamanders Move Closer to Endangered Species Protection

Center for Biological Diversity News Release

CALIFORNIA (MPG) - The Center for Biological Diversity has scored a legal victory requiring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to finalize Endangered Species Act protections for the critically imperiled Kern Canyon and relictual slender salamanders by December 2026.

"I'm so glad these unusual and rare salamanders will finally get badly needed Endangered Species Act protections," said Tara Zuardo, a senior endangered species advocate at the Center. "These little amphibians help maintain the balance of forest and chaparral ecosystems in the southern Sierra Nevada and Kern River region. They could be one disaster away from extinction, so these protections are crucial for them and this stunning slice of California."

Among California amphibians, the salamanders rank among the state's most vulnerable vertebrates because of their tiny range, loss of historical populations and susceptibility to climate-driven drying and wildfire. With small ranges in the southern Sierra Nevada, decades of livestock grazing, logging and development—including construction of the Isabella Dam and State Route



Kern Canyon Slender Salamander, *Batrochoseps simatus*. Photo courtesy of Andreas Kettenburg

178 — have taken their toll on the species.

The Kern Canyon slender salamander is believed to survive at just nine sites and the relictual slender salamander at 12 sites. Relictual slender salamanders have been entirely lost from the Lower Kern River Canyon and could face

extinction if a large wildfire or a series of severe drought years affects the remaining places where they live.

Following the Center's 2012 legal petition, the Service proposed protecting the Kern Canyon slender salamander as threatened and the relictual slender salamander as

endangered in October 2022, triggering a one-year deadline to finalize those protections. This agreement resolves a March 2025 Center lawsuit over the agency's failure to finalize those listings and provide Endangered Species Act protection for both species.

Both species of salamanders

live close to water, including seeps and streams, under logs, leaf litter and rocks. They are thought to be highly sedentary, not moving far from where they were born. They've persisted through major climatic changes in the southern Sierra Nevada, while remaining isolated in tiny pockets of suitable habitat. ★

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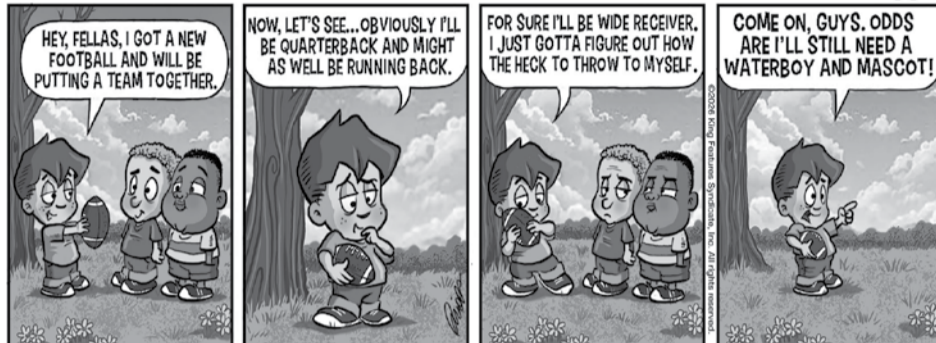
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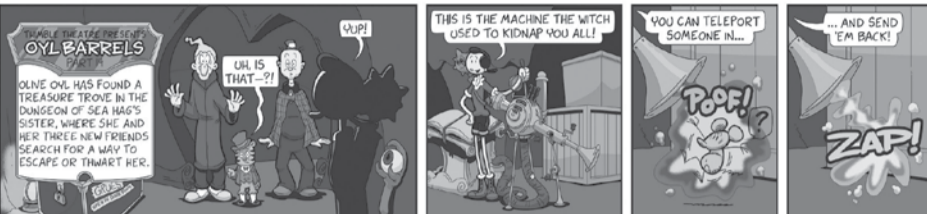
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Box is larger. 2. Tie is longer. 3. Ruffing is longer. 4. Hat is larger. 5. House is wider. 6. Jacket sleeve is longer.

GRIN and BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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CLUES

- ACROSS
- Last name behind Waldorf Astoria
 - Hawaiian flower garland
 - What beanstalk did
 - Pack animal
 - Charged particle
 - Lacking guile
 - Lumen per square meter, pl.
 - Crime scene evidence, acr.
 - Roast host
 - "Unalienable ones in the Declaration of Independence"
 - "Colony that originally abstained from voting on independence"
 - Baba of "One Thousand and One Nights"
 - Parsley or basil, e.g.
 - Mountain peak
 - "Four Declaration signers were alums of this CT Ivy Leaguer"
 - Most mature, as in fruit
 - It must go on?
 - Small brook
 - "...to assume among the powers of the..."
 - Cap and gown accessory
 - Where there's trouble
 - Rani's dress
 - Useful quality
 - Volcano off Sicily coast
 - State on Old Glory
 - Dionysus' follower
 - Dems' opponents
 - Not divisible by two
 - Like certain people's glasses
 - Australia's flightless bird
 - "First Declaration of Independence signer"
 - "Self-evident ones"
 - Not a minor
 - "...it or lose it!"
 - Songs for two
 - Formally surrenders land
 - "Last name of the only brothers to both sign the Declaration"
 - Last Supper cup
 - "If you only...!"
 - Boy
 - Item in diary
- DOWN
- *...men are created equal
 - Talk like a drunk
 - Fare ride
 - Opposite of alpha
 - In a foolhardy manner
 - Jar covers
 - Long, long time
 - Stupid or silly
 - Risqu
 - Puerto
 - ...and anon
 - 168 hours
 - Rookie
 - Beauty pageant winner's headgear
 - Make a blunder
 - Serfdom, archaically speaking
 - Indian black tea
 - Capital of Tibet
 - One's entourage
 - Liberty's partner
 - Permission to leave
 - Muse of love poetry
 - Nickname for a certain violin
 - *Certain George, with The
 - **...in the course of human events...
 - Like TV's famous ranger
 - Candle shape
 - Fortune teller's deck, pl.
 - Who is Bugs Bunny talking to?
 - Blemish
 - Cranial bones + facial bones
 - Driver's 180
 - Bypass firewall, illegally
 - Yemeni port
 - Classic art subject
 - Ball of yarn
 - Started during the Ryder Cup, e.g.
 - Miami basketballer
 - Cookbook direction
 - Shining one in "America the Beautiful"
 - Sylvester Stallone's nickname

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



New York Wins

The word epic is very often overused, but not when it comes to this past weekend.

Never in memory have I ever seen the world of sports on more of a world stage in the United States of America than it was this past weekend.

History was made and certainly for the residents of New York City, it was life changing.

While soccer fans had the privilege of witnessing the U.S. soccer team defeat Paraguay in the opening match of the world cup 4-1, others sat glued to their TV sets as the New York Knickerbockers became the 2025-26 world champions in the game of basketball. A 53-year hiatus was broken as the Knicks posted a low scoring 94-90 win over the favored San Antonio Spurs and their sensational center, seven-foot-four Victor Wembanyama.

Richard Nixon was president when the Knicks last won a world championship, and many wondered if they would ever win one again.

Ironically, the New York Knicks last reached the final in 1999 against none other than the Sacramento Spurs and were dispatched in five games.

While the world looked on the Knicks of 2026 turned the tables on the favored Spurs and consummated a world championship in just five games.

While New York City wildly celebrated, the Carolina Hurricanes of the NHL hoisted the Stanley cup trophy by defeating the Las Vegas Golden Knights 3-0 and closing out their rivals in six games.

Perhaps more hand clapping could be heard across America than any time since the end of World War II. Yes sports fans, this was truly a weekend for the ages.

A closer look at the upstart Knicks reveals that *team* basketball in the true sense of the word is alive and well.

Many pundits and sport fans alike simply did not believe the San Antonio Spurs could dispatch the world champion Oklahoma City Thunder, but after a series for the ages, that's exactly what they did. It took the full seven games, but Victor Wembanyama made his presence felt and led his team to the finals.

Not many believed anyone would outscore

Victor Wembanyama, but the ubiquitous Jalen Brunson averaged an eye popping 32 points per game while staying on the hardwood for over 39 minutes every night.

A three-time all-star with the Knicks, this amazing six-foot-two guard was inexplicably drafted in the second round of the 2018 NBA draft by the Dallas Mavericks, meaning once again as with Luka Doncic, add Jalen Brunson to the list of candidates that the Sacramento Kings passed up on to get none other than Marvin Bagley.

Hard to believe? Yes, and as all eyes turn to the 2026 NBA draft less than two weeks away, let's hope that new G.M. Scott Perry has something more auspicious in store for Kings fans.

Darius Acuff Jr. remains a possible but unlikely prospect as he is projected to go fifth or sixth, but anything can happen on draft night. More likely options for the Kings drafting No. 7 are Kingston Flemings or Mikel Brown, who are both big guards and not a forward that represents the most critical need for the Kings.

The past two years have seen Sacramento draft point guards that are still with the team. That would be Devin Carter and Nique Clifford who have both shown flashes, but have yet to make a statement that says, "I'm your point guard of the future!"

After exiting DeAaron Fox, the Kings have simply failed to replace him with anything that bears a resemblance, and at some point, Sacramento will have to tap someone on the shoulder and say, "you're my guy."

A world class point guard was just on full display for the world to see, and at six-foot-two he put the Knicks on his back and took them to the NBA championship. An incredible performance that culminated with 45 points in the final and deciding game.

Yes, Sacramento has had an abysmal drafting history but just as New York changed their fortunes, the Sacramento Kings have the ability to do the same.

So, break out the popcorn and find yourself a comfortable seat, Kings fans, because this year's draft is just days away, and I for one believe fortunes are about to change.

All the best! ★

California Has a Top-Ranked Economy. It's Also One of the Nation's Most Unequal



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California's next governor — most likely former Attorney General Xavier Becerra — will inherit a raft of knotty, unresolved issues.

Some, such as the high rate of homelessness and very high cost of living, pre-date current Gov. Gavin Newsom. Others, such as the chronic multibillion-dollar budget deficit and stubbornly high unemployment rate, arose more recently.

A perennial question about such issues is whether they are unique to or more pronounced in California than other states. Comparisons are difficult because definitions vary and comparable data are difficult to track down.

By coincidence, however, two recent academic studies shed light on how California stands vis-a-vis the nation's 49 other states.

One is called "State of the States," an offshoot of a "State of the Nation" research project sponsored by Tulane University's Murphy Institute that aims to cut through partisan chatter and define the nation's most cogent issues.

The study found "California ranks higher, on average, on the topics of Economy (1), Trust (3), Mental Health (3), and Children and Families (3), but lower on Work and Labor Force (48), Inequality

(49), and Environment (50). California also outperforms its West neighbors in 3 of the 14 topics and is improving over time on 9 of the 31 measures."

Although California's political figures, most notably Newsom, like to depict the state as a leader on socioeconomic equity and environmental protection, it's at or near the bottom on both issues. It's also close to the bottom on educational achievement, volunteerism and freedom of the press.

Texas, one of the states often compared to California, generally does better on the issues where California has fallen behind, such as freedom of the press. However, it too, has some glaring deficiencies, such as environment and voter participation.

The second study comes from the Berkeley Economy & Society Initiative, a project at UC Berkeley backed by the Hewlett Foundation. It issued two in a series of reports on California's high cost of living.

The first report declares "California is less affordable and poorer than it should be given the strength of our economy," and "is systematically more expensive" than other places with similar median incomes.

"Unaffordability doesn't just create and worsen poverty," it noted. "People are voting against California's high costs with their feet. Throughout its history, California has been a magnet for migrants from other states chasing opportunity. Not any longer.

"Since the 2008 recession, California has experienced sustained domestic out-migration. The trend has accelerated in more recent

years. Between 2020 and 2024, California had the second-lowest net migration to/from other states, as a percentage of the population, following only New York. We present evidence indicating that unaffordability is a primary cause of California's migration inversion."

The project's second report delves into the causes of unaffordability, declaring, "In our analysis, the foremost driver of high costs in California is a policy regime that makes it difficult to build the physical infrastructure we need to deliver housing, energy, water, and other essentials.

"Growth restrictions drive unaffordability primarily by reducing housing supply and increasing housing costs. They also contribute to high energy and transportation costs by increasing the price tag on critical public infrastructure — creating downstream costs for consumers."

The report also lists a series of steps California could take to attack unaffordability, including embracing factory-built housing and innovative financing models to spur affordable housing the state needs.

This is just a brief overview of what the two research projects have to say about California's issues compared to other states. If the next governor and legislators are serious about improving the state's standing, they should dive into the details.

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

Why Don't We Have a Minimum Social Security Benefit?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I think we should have a Social Security baseline of \$2,500 for each person. When I retire, my Social Security benefit will not be enough to survive. There are many of us who worked low paying jobs all our lives because we raised families and only started saving later in life. Considering all the money our government wastes on the other countries and welfare programs for people who have not worked, it seems unfair that they will not reward those of us who contributed to society all our lives. **Signed: Needs More Social Security.**

Dear Needs More: For information, the concept of a "minimum" Social Security benefit is not new and, indeed, already exists - but it is one which few beneficiaries qualify for. The so-called "special minimum benefit" was meant to lift low-earning workers above the poverty line, but less than 32,000 SS beneficiaries (out of about 59 million retirees) currently qualify. That's because Social Security's benefit formula turns out to be more generous because it is based on lifetime earnings (wages), while the "special

minimum benefit" program is based on consumer prices. That causes the SS benefit formula to provide a higher SS benefit than is provided by the "special minimum benefit" option. In other words, people get a higher benefit because their SS benefit is based upon their actual lifetime earnings vs. an artificially created special minimum benefit. In short, the existing SS benefit formula usually provides more than the established "special minimum benefit."

The SS benefit program is based on each person's average monthly income over their lifetime. However, it is very important to understand that the program is also designed to provide a higher monthly benefit to those with a lower lifetime income. Thus, the percentage of "replacement income" for those with lower lifetime earnings is more than it is for those with higher lifetime earnings. Typically, a lower-lifetime income person will get about 40% of their average pre-retirement monthly income as their Social Security benefit, whereas a higher-income person will get about 20% or less of their pre-retirement monthly average income. In this way, Social Security is already a "progressive" program. But it's important to understand also that Social Security, from its beginning, was never meant to provide 100% of a person's income needs in retirement. Thus, each beneficiary should plan to supplement their retirement income in other ways (such as retirement savings,

investment income, working longer, working part-time, etc.).

Having said that, it is also important to know that Social Security is a completely self-sustaining program and not dependent on general public funding, which would make it more susceptible to political shenanigans (imagine giving re-election seeking politicians easy access to Social Security's separately held resources). While it is certainly true that the government spends freely on "welfare programs" for those who have not worked, Social Security is not a program which is dependent on government largesse. Rather, it is a benefit which is earned by working and contributing to the program, which provides retirement benefits based upon each person's average lifetime work income.

If you expect financial difficulties when you retire, I encourage you to visit this website sponsored by the National Council on Aging (www.benefitscheckup.org). Here you can enter your zip code and find many public programs which you might be eligible for where you live, including assistance with healthcare costs, housing, utilities, etc.

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). ★



In 2016, the conservative writer Mike Anton made a galvanizing case for Donald Trump in his famous "Flight 93" essay, arguing that the stakes in the contest between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton were existential.

His contention that a Clinton win would cement Democratic electoral dominance forever, such that Republicans needed to charge the cockpit or die, was implausible at the time and seems more so in retrospect.

If Hillary had won in 2016, in all likelihood, she would have been gone in 2020, washed away by the pandemic just like Trump was.

This time, though, really might be different. Democrats are now seriously contemplating measures that wouldn't have occurred to Hillary Clinton circa 2016. Endorsing some version of court-packing, or "court reform," as Democrats insist on calling it, is becoming orthodoxy among mainstream Democrats.

Several weeks ago, James Carville said that Democrats should pack the Court and add the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico as states in 2028 if they get unified control of Washington.

The immediate past Democratic presidential nominee, who has some chance of winning the 2028 Democratic nomination, Kamala Harris, associated herself with the same ideas. She added abolishing the Electoral College to the list.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, who eas-

How to Kill the Supreme Court in One Easy Step

ily could be the Speaker of the House next year, has said: "In the new Congress, we're going to have to do something about this Supreme Court, and let me be very clear: Everything is on the table."

The top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, Jamie Raskin, has fashioned a reason why the Supreme Court needs to be expanded by four justices (supposedly, the number of justices should match the number of federal circuits at 13).

If all these ideas were to become consensus Democratic agenda items in 2028, they would constitute one of the most radical political platforms of a major political party in American history.

Court-packing alone would be a seismic, system-changing event, as would abolishing the Electoral College, which has been foundational to our presidential elections from the beginning.

The common theme of all of this would be guaranteeing outcomes -- four new progressive justices, four new Democratic senators -- in blatant power grabs undermining the legitimacy of the institutions in question.

What would a world look like where a substantial portion of the country thinks the Supreme Court is a sham, and not because the court is issuing unwelcome opinions, but because the court has been arbitrarily changed to produce a predetermined ideological result through a grotesque end-run around the rules?

Democrats will say Republicans have already done this, even though the GOP operated within standard procedures to forge the cur-

rent conservative majority. Did Republicans play hardball? Sure. But their influence on the composition of the court depended on winning presidential and senate elections, and taking advantage of fortuitous timing to confirm justices the way they've always been confirmed.

Manufacturing new seats out of nothing, or forcing the retirements of conservative justices by fiat, would be a blatant rigging of the court. If a portion of the country thinks that it no longer needs to abide by the Court's decisions, that obviously creates the predicate for serious civil strife. The same is true if Congress is no longer seen as legitimate after it is packed with newly minted Democratic senators.

Democrats feel justified in embracing any means to match and exceed Trump's comprehensive aggressiveness. Trump's provocations -- the lawfare, the executive overreach, the wars without congressional authorization, the gerrymandering -- all have ample precedent among prior Democratic presidents. Democrats, of course, don't see it that way, and they fear and loathe Donald Trump more than they have any other Republican president.

In reaction, should they sweep in 2028, they may try to push the American constitutional order past an event horizon from which it will never return. In other words, 12 years after the GOP was told to charge the cockpit or die, the stakes for our system really could be existential.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Air District Celebrates Winners of Annual Clean Air Contest

Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Twelve students from across Yolo and northeastern Solano counties were recently recognized as winners of the 2026 Clean Air Art Contest by the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Board of Directors and staff. Through exceptional artwork created with colored pencils, crayons, markers, pens and paint, the students used their artistic talents to bring this year's theme, "Heroes for Clean Air," to life.

"Thank you to all the students who participated in the contest and created such fantastic artwork," said Gretchen Bennett, executive director of the District. "Choosing the winners was incredibly difficult because of the high quality of the entries. We especially enjoy seeing students who participate year after year and watching their artistic talents grow."

The District received 80 submissions from students in transitional kindergarten through ninth grade this year, representing 16 local schools across the region. The contest serves as one of many ways the Air District engages local communities while promoting awareness of the connection between air quality, public health and the environment.

Instead of being featured in the District's traditional annual calendar, this year's winning artwork will appear on stickers and other promotional giveaway items distributed at community events later this year. Each winner also received a gift card in recognition of their achievement. All winning artwork can be viewed online at www.ysaqmd.org/classrooms.

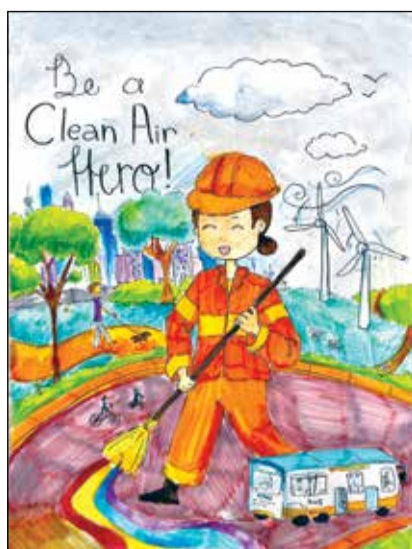
The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management

District's mission is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution. As a public health agency, the District is responsible for safeguarding air quality and overseeing air pollution control in Yolo and northeastern Solano counties, including the cities of Dixon, Rio Vista and Vacaville. For more information, visit ysaqmd.org. Connect with the Air District via Facebook, X, LinkedIn and Nextdoor.

In the transitional kindergarten through second grade division, first place went to Kira Rehe, a first-grade student at Our Lady of Grace in West Sacramento. Lillian Ong, a second-grade student at Fred T. Korematsu Elementary School in Davis, earned second place. Hiro Bissell, also a second-grade student at Fred T. Korematsu Elementary, placed third, while fellow second-grader Olive Zhang finished fourth.

In the third-grade division, Ophelia Watkins of Robert E. Willett Elementary School in Davis and Elena Rodriguez of Orchard Elementary School in Vacaville tied for first place. Ava Rehe of Our Lady of Grace in West Sacramento earned second place, and Olivia Elaine Brown of Fred T. Korematsu Elementary School in Davis placed third.

In the fourth- through ninth-grade division, Elizabeth Chen, an eighth-grade student at Frances Harper Junior High School in Davis, won first place. Lydia Foo, a ninth-grade student at Frances Harper, took second place. Ryan Rose Lavelle, a fifth-grade student at Shirley Rominger Intermediate School in Winters, placed third, and Mariam Mahmoud, a ninth-grade student at Da Vinci High School in Davis, earned fourth place.



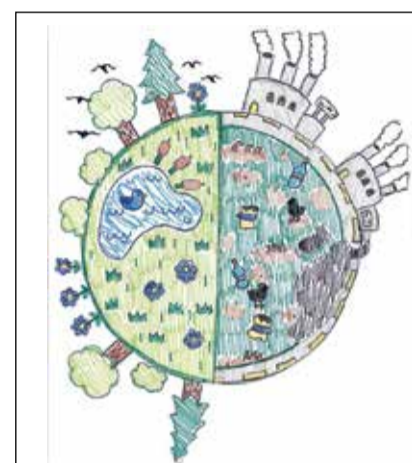
In the fourth- through ninth-grade division, Elizabeth Chen, an eighth-grade student at Frances Harper Junior High School in Davis, won first place. Courtesy photo



In the transitional kindergarten through second grade division, first place went to Kira Rehe, a first-grade student at Our Lady of Grace in West Sacramento. Courtesy photo



Elena Rodriguez of Orchard Elementary School in Vacaville tied for first place in the third-grade division. Courtesy photo



Ophelia Watkins of Robert E. Willett Elementary School in Davis tied for first place in the third-grade division. Courtesy photo

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000859
The following persons are doing business as: C and C Studio, 241 West A Street Unit A, Dixon, CA 95620.

Cristina Ramos and Christian Vega Sanchez, 412 La Esperanza Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: May 11, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: General Partnership. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration May 10, 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: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026
STUDIO 6-19-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000910
The following persons are doing business as: Route 88 Fab Shop, 529 North Adams Unit B, Dixon, CA 95620.

Adrian Olivares Frausto, 529 North Adams Unit B, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: May 20, 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 April 28, 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: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026
TRUE 6-19-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000742
The following persons are doing business as: Food Tree Field, 4870 McCune Road, Winters, CA 95694.

Barnini Lee, 4870 McCune Road Winters, CA 95694.
Date filed in Solano County: April 22, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2022

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 April 21, 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: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026
FOOD 6-19-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000924
The following persons are doing business as: Northern Star Landscaping, 266 Sungate Court, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Jose Brisenos Sosa, 266 Sungate Court, Vacaville, CA 95688.
Date filed in Solano County: May 21, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 2, 2017

This Business is conducted by: General Partnership. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office

of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration May 20, 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: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026
NORTHERN 6-19-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000790
The following persons are doing business as: True Reflex It, 3069 Alamo Drive #1049, Vacaville, CA 95687.

Jordan Bruckopoulos, 3069 Alamo Drive #1049, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: April 29, 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 April 28, 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: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026
TRUE 6-19-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000742
The following persons are doing business as: Food Tree Field, 4870 McCune Road, Winters, CA 95694.

Barnini Lee, 4870 McCune Road Winters, CA 95694.
Date filed in Solano County: April 22, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2022

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 April 21, 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: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026
FOOD 6-19-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000961
The following persons are doing

business as: Just Work Training, 2404 Lake Club Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Mentally Strong LLC, 2404 Lake Club Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Date filed in Solano County: May 28, 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 May 27, 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: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026
JUST 6-26-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000767
The following persons are doing business as: Just Work Fitness, 2404 Lake Club Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534.

Melina Armstead, 2404 Lake Club Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534.
Date filed in Solano County: April 27, 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 April 26, 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: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026
WORK 6-26-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000903
The following persons are doing business as: Turboride, 1350 Travis Boulevard, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Sergio Cardenas-Mata, 11630 Arroyo Avenue, Hesperia, CA 92345.
Date filed in Solano County: May 18, 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 May 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: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026
TURBORIDE 6-26-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000982
The following persons are doing business as: Agudelevision, 5313 Dynasty Court, Fairfield, CA 94534.

Abigail Agudelo, 5313 Dynasty Court, Fairfield, CA 94534.
Date filed in Solano County: June 2, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: June 1, 2024

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 June 1, 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: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026
AGUDELEVISION 7-3-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000964
The following persons are doing business as: Lone Star Welding, 525 Amesbury Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.

Nestor Gonzalez, 525 Amesbury Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: May 28, 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 May 27, 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: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026
LONE 7-3-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026000991
The following persons are doing business as: Cozy Crumb Bakery, 1310 Hawthorne Court, Dixon, CA 95620.

Cozy Crumb Bakery LLC, 1310 Hawthorne Court, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: June 2, 2026. The Registrant com-

menced 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 June 1, 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: June 19, 26, July 3, 10, 2026
COZY 7-10-26

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-04037

Ching-Dao Kong, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Ching-Dao Kong to Daniel Ching-Dao Kong. 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. July 8, 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: May 13, 2026
Publish: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026
KONG 6-26-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-04031

Isaias Villegas Gudino filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Isaias Villegas Gudino to Isaias Preciado 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. July 6, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer
Dated: May 6, 2026
Publish: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026
GUDINO 7-3-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF HANS JOACHIM ROEPER CASE NO. PR26-00340

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Hans Joachim Roeper.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Joanne Marie Roeper-Klein, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Joanne Marie Roeper-Klein be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

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: July 16, 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 Petitioner is: Joanne Marie Roeper-Klein, 2128 Byron Road, Sacramento, CA 94533; 916-799-4347
Publish: June 12, 19, 26, 2026
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All Aboard for Dixon Railroad Days June 20-21

Downtown Dixon Business Association News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Downtown Dixon Business Association invites the community to climb aboard for Railroad Days, a family-friendly celebration of Dixon's railroad heritage and pioneering past. Discover how the railroad helped shape Dixon during the Gold Rush era by connecting communities, transporting livestock and agricultural products, and fueling the growth of what would become one of California's most important farming regions. What began as a simple railroad stop grew into the thriving community we know today.

Featured Attractions

Strike it rich with gold panning, just like the prospectors of the 1800s. Step into the Old West with exciting shootouts, costumed characters and living history demonstrations. Watch traditional blacksmithing in action

as skilled craftsmen forge metal and demonstrate horseshoeing techniques.

Train enthusiasts of all ages will enjoy detailed model railroad layouts featuring miniature trains, towns, landscapes and scenes inspired by railroad history. Visit a recreated frontier jail to imagine life in the Wild West, learn about frontier justice and capture memorable photos.

Railroad Days offers hands-on activities, educational exhibits and engaging demonstrations that bring local history to life, making it a great opportunity for families to learn about Dixon's railroad roots. Celebrate Father's Day weekend with a trip to Railroad Days, where train lovers, history buffs and families alike will find something to enjoy.

Join us from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 20-21 in Historic Downtown Dixon to celebrate Dixon's railroad legacy with a weekend of history, entertainment and community spirit. ★



Growers use Pressure Bombs to Fine-Tune Irrigation

Using pressure chambers, commonly called pressure bombs, has been compared to taking the "blood pressure" of a plant to tell how stressed for water it is. The technique has been around since the 1970s, but it's been slow to catch on. A survey by the California Department of Food and Agriculture in the early 2020s found pressure bombs were used on only about 16% of perennial crops. Now, as farmers face more pressure from electrical rates, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and overall water availability, growers said pressure bombs can help farms better steward their water. San Joaquin County walnut farmer Richard Thompson has been a longtime fan of using pressure bombs to schedule irrigations. "I won't do too much irrigation until I know I can get a good reading with the pressure bomb," Thompson said. Not only does the device help him avoid under- or overwatering his trees, but it also helps to time irrigations to Pacific Gas & Electric Co.'s cheaper off-peak weekend periods.

Moth Damage Rises as Growers Await New Insecticide

Broccoli and other brassica growers along California's Central Coast are bracing for another devastating season of infestations of the diamondback moth, but state regulators appear in no hurry to approve a new federally registered insecticide that could alleviate the damage. Escalating pressure from the insect has led to rising production expenses that

can cost growers up to tens of thousands of dollars per acre, according to a recent industry report. The pest has developed increased resistance to the suite of chemical treatments available to growers. Help could be on the way in the form of isocycloseram, a novel, broad-spectrum insecticide. The product was registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency last fall and can be used in most states. But the treatment remains under review by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, whose spokesman, Juvenio Guerra, offered no specific timeline as to when the review will be complete.

USDA Confirms New World Screwworm Cases in Texas

The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed multiple cases of New World screwworm cases in Texas this month. The flesh-eating pest was eradicated from North America decades ago but made a resurgence in Mexico beginning in November 2024. It poses a significant threat to cattle and can also affect other livestock, wildlife, pets and in rare cases people. "The re-emergence of New World screwworm in the United States after 60 years will have an immediate impact on farmers and ranchers in the affected areas," American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall said in a statement. "We are confident that the longstanding coordination between the states and USDA will enable a quick response and hopefully limit the negative impacts and resulting market volatility." ★

Assemblywoman Wilson's Statement on Fatal Fairfield Shooting

Office of Lori Wilson News Release

FAIRFIELD, CA (MPG) - Regarding the fatal shooting Wednesday, June 3 in Fairfield that followed a high school graduation ceremony:

"My heart is heavy," said Assemblywoman Lori Wilson. "What should have been a night of celebration

for Sem Yeto High School turned into tragedy due to senseless violence. My thoughts and prayers are with everyone impacted. The Fairfield Police Department encourages anyone with information related to this incident to contact the Fairfield Police Investigations Tip Line at 707-428-7345 or email juneincidenttips@fairfield.ca.gov." ★

Council Approves Planning Map for Review of New Housing Developments

Continued from page 1

annexations will ultimately have to go through California's Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO) process, even if they are approved by the city first.

Based on community input, staff reduced the expanded SOI areas included in the original NOP map, but a property owner north of Highway 80 requested inclusion. So, the council had two possible maps to consider, the revised and the alternative.

During public comments, some residents thought it made sense to include areas across the highway in the SOI because commercial growth along that corridor could benefit the city. Others expressed concerns that too much growth would cause Dixon to lose the open space and farmland that make it special. A representative for the group Keep Dixon Green said they are not opposed to development but would like to see more in-fill development on existing vacant land already zoned for residential or commercial.

City Attorney Douglas White clarified that none of these projects were initiated by the city. These are development proposals that the city is legally required to consider. He also explained the SOI is "protectionist," because it gives the city input on areas the county might consider developing along Dixon's boundaries.

Councilmember Kevin Johnson said everyone on the council loves Dixon and wants to do what's best for it. He said expanding the SOI protects local control, and a larger analysis area gives them more information to ensure well-planned, thoughtful growth with infrastructure to support it.

Mayor Steven Bird said he doesn't want the county or state to dictate what Dixon can do, so it's important to maintain as much local control as possible. He preferred the original NOP map prior to any revisions because it studied the largest area.

The council voted to approve the alternative map, which had a larger area of the two under consideration, with Johnson dissenting.

Finally, the council considered

approving the replacement of the 2026 Grillin-n-Chillin event with the Downtown Dixon Cars & Qs event, organized by the Downtown Dixon Business Association (DDBA) on June 27. The approval would include street closures, city support and the reallocation of \$29,071 in special event funding.

All these approvals were originally intended for Grillin-n-Chillin, a long-running event put on by the local nonprofit Dixon Action Team (DAT), which was cancelled this year due to funding issues after a lawsuit was filed against DAT and the City of Dixon.

A member of DAT spoke during public comment to question why the city would bend the rules about event permits and road closures for a "copy-cat" event being organized at the last minute, "while the DDBA capitalizes on our devastating loss" by taking over an event started by DAT. She also expressed sadness that the city had offered no support as they navigate this lawsuit, since she said the reason they can't fund the event is because they have to cover the cost of the city's legal fees in addition to their own.

A representative of the DDBA said they were trying their best to bring a similar event to benefit the community, because so many people were disappointed that the event was cancelled.

Mayor Bird asked if DDBA intended to yield the event back to DAT next year if they're able to take it back over. The DDBA rep said she wasn't sure what would happen and suggested maybe there'd be two events next year.

City Attorney White explained that the lawsuit triggered liability insurance coverage, and it is DAT's event insurance that should be covering the costs. He offered to speak with them after the meeting to clarify the process.

The councilmembers all said they want Grillin-n-Chillin back next year, while also thanking DDBA for stepping up this year. They voted to approve the replacement and reallocation of funds for the new event, with Mayor Bird adding that DAT will have the city's support when they're ready to host the event again. ★



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