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Dixon Independent Voice

The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Dixon

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Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

JUNE 26, 2026

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All Aboard for Railroad Days



Families, history enthusiasts and community members gathered at Women's Improvement Park on June 20 and 21 for Railroad Days, a celebration of Dixon's railroad heritage. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Families, history enthusiasts and community members gathered at Women's Improvement Park on June 20 and 21 for Railroad Days, a celebration of Dixon's railroad heritage hosted by the Downtown Dixon Business Association with support from the Dixon Historical Society and local sponsors.

Held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days at 230 N. First St., the event featured living history demonstrations, educational exhibits and family activities designed to showcase the railroad's role in shaping Dixon and the



Visitors explored gold panning stations, model railroad layouts, blacksmith demonstrations and an old-time jail display while learning about the city's origins as a railroad town. Photo by Nicolas Brown

surrounding region.

Visitors explored gold panning stations, model railroad layouts, blacksmith demonstrations

and an old-time jail display while learning about the city's origins as a railroad town. Throughout the weekend, families

wandered through the park enjoying exhibits and re-enactments that recreated aspects of life in Northern California during the late 19th century.

One of the event's featured attractions was the Congressional Gunfighters of America, a professional living history group dedicated to preserving Old West history from the 1870s through the 1890s. The group performed daily reenactments featuring period-correct clothing, firearms and frontier storylines.

The Dixon Historical Society participated through exhibits at its museum and

Continued on page 3

Council Won't Support SB 1087

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - At the June 16 meeting of the Dixon City Council, Councilmember Don Hendershot asked for discussion on a consent calendar item, a potential Letter of Support for Senate Bill 1087, the Sustainable Communities Strategy Modernization Act.

Staff explained the bill aims to provide more flexibility in funding mechanisms for transportation projects, with a focus on plans that include a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Councilmember Thom Bogue worried that the bill would focus on more enforcement against local jurisdictions rather than easing regulatory burdens. In particular, he worried about a required eight-year emission standards update.

Staff explained that the eight-year update is already an existing state law requirement, and the proposed bill would align that requirement with the sustainable community strategies emission report, which is currently required every four years. This way, both can be completed on the same cycle, reducing the regulatory burden on local jurisdictions.

Vice Mayor Jim Ernest suggested that California's conservation movement has complicated other processes, creating a "gridlock." He said this bill could be a way of "threading the needle between the conservation...but making the process easier." He added that Solano Transportation Authority supports the bill, and as they're a frequent regional partner to the city, he was inclined to support it as well.

A representative for STA called in, stating that the bill should reduce bureaucratic hurdles and streamline project implementation. But he wasn't yet able to provide complete details about potential impacts on local residents or businesses, so Hendershot and Bogue both felt there was not enough clarity at this time to support the bill.

The council voted 3-2 not to support the bill, with Vice Mayor Ernest and Councilmember Kevin Johnson dissenting.

The council also considered an agreement with the Dixon Independent Voice newspaper for legal notice publications. After an open bidding process for 2026-27 fiscal year service, Dixon Independent Voice was the only responsive bidder. They were also the selected bidder for the

Continued on page 10

Dixon Prepares for Busy July Schedule



The City of Dixon will host its annual Fourth of July celebration at Hall Park, 450 Hall Park Drive, including recreation swim, pickleball, live music, and a fireworks show at 9:15 p.m. Photo by Nicolas Brown

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Residents will have several opportunities to celebrate, learn and connect with the community throughout July, with events ranging from Independence Day

festivities and youth recreation programs to community gatherings and specialty shows.

The City of Dixon will host its annual Fourth of July celebration at Hall Park, 450 Hall Park Drive. Activities begin with recreation swim

from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Pat Granucci Aquatics Center, 450 E. Mayes St. Pickleball activities in Hall Park will include open play and instruction from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by round-robin play from 6 to 8 p.m.

Continued on page 3

New Fireworks Ordinance, Fourth of July Enforcement Plan

Dixon Police Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - With Independence Day approaching, the Dixon Police Department wants residents to know that the City has new fireworks rules and will be using its Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), commonly known as a drone, for enforcement.

Under the City's updated fireworks ordinance (Dixon Municipal Code Chapter 9.02), dangerous and illegal fireworks are prohibited at all times, and every violation carries a fine of \$1,000. Each individual firework discharged in violation is a separate violation, and there is no maximum limit.

The ordinance also holds property owners and hosts accountable. Under the new social host provision, a person who allows fireworks to be used in violation of the ordinance on property they own or control can be cited, even if they did not personally light them. If illegal fireworks are being set off at your home, you can be held responsible.

On the Fourth of July, the Police Department will deploy its drone team to

identify the people and locations responsible for illegal fireworks and direct patrol officers to respond, confiscate fireworks and issue citations. The drone also records and documents what it observes. That means even if officers are unable to respond to the location that night, the violation will be recorded, and the responsible party will receive a citation in

the mail the following week. In short, even if you are not contacted that night, you may still receive a \$1,000 citation.

Safe and Sane fireworks, which carry the State Fire Marshal "Safe and Sane" seal, are legal in Dixon only during the permitted period and only between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. They may not be set off on City property or on certain designated streets. Any other fireworks, including any that fly into the air or explode, are illegal.

The Department encourages everyone to enjoy the holiday safely and to come out to the City's Independence Day fireworks display at Hall Park. To report illegal fireworks, call the Dixon Police Department non-emergency line at 707-678-7080. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. ★



Dixon News Briefs



Downtown Dixon Business Association is hosting Cars and Qs from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 27. Held throughout Downtown Dixon, the event offers a classic car and truck show, BBQ competition, street vendors, live music and local business specials. 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.

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 joystick-dixon.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.

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

Dixon Teen Center Hiring

Dixon Teen Center is looking to hire a Teen Center Coordinator. The requirements of the position include excellent people skills, especially with teens, coordination experience, and availability every Friday and Saturday from 4 to 8 p.m.

For more information or to apply, visit Dixon Teen Center on Facebook or call either 707-695-2724 or 707-344-3544.

Cars & Qs

Downtown Dixon Business Association is hosting Cars and Qs from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 27. Held throughout Downtown Dixon, the event offers a classic car and truck show, BBQ competition, street vendors, live music and local business specials.

For more information visit Downtown Dixon CA Business Association on Facebook or email dixondowntonba@yahoo.com.

Chamber Networking Lunch

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. July 16. This free in-person event, held at Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, allows local professionals to connect. Offering a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring business cards. Lunch is provided.

For more information, visit dixon-chamber.org or call 707-678-2650. ★

Update on Death Investigation in the Area of Milk Farm Road

Dixon Police Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Police Department has provided an update, as of press time on the death investigation reported on June 21 in the area of Milk Farm Road.

The deceased individual, an adult male, was found in an advanced state of decomposition in a brush area off the roadway and is believed to have been deceased for an extended period. Investigators believe the individual may have been living in the area at the time of death and may have been homeless. An autopsy has been conducted; results, including an official cause of death, remain pending. At this time, no obvious signs of foul play have been identified, though the investigation remains active and the death continues to be treated with appropriate caution while the

Coroner's Office completes its findings.

The identity of the individual has not yet been confirmed. At the time of discovery, the individual was wearing a red and white long-sleeved flannel shirt, dark colored jean pants and black boots. The Dixon Police Department is asking anyone who may recognize this description, or who may have information about a missing person matching this description, to come forward.

Anyone with information related to this individual's identity, or who observed activity in the Milk Farm Road area in recent weeks, is asked to contact the Dixon Police Department at 707-678-7070.

This remains an active and ongoing investigation. The Dixon Police Department will provide further updates as information becomes available. ★

Solano County Appoints Alexander Tengolics as Assistant County Administrator

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Solano County Administrator Ian M. Goldberg recently announced the appointment of Alexander (Alex) Tengolics as the county's new Assistant County Administrator. Tengolics will join the County Administrator's Office (CAO) starting June 22 and will help lead county operations, strategic initiatives, budget and fiscal planning, policy implementation and organizational management efforts across all county departments.

"We are excited to welcome Tengolics to Solano County's executive leadership team," said Goldberg. "He brings a strong combination of operational leadership, fiscal management expertise and collaborative problem-solving skills that will greatly benefit our organization and the residents we serve. I'm excited to have another strong member joining the CAO team as we continue supporting our departments, improving organizational performance and advancing the Board's priorities for Solano County."

Tengolics brings more than a decade of progressively responsible public sector leadership experience, most recently serving as director of strategic operations for Yolo County. In that role, he advised the county administrator on major operational issues, including budget development and balancing strategies, labor relations, economic development, land use and infrastructure, governmental affairs and policy initiatives. He also served as Yolo

County's chief labor negotiator, leading negotiations with the county's ten bargaining units and helping secure timely labor agreements.

Prior to serving as director of strategic operations, Tengolics held several leadership and governmental affairs positions with Yolo County. He also previously held the role of executive director of the Yolo Habitat Conservancy, where he implemented the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan and led operational and fiscal restructuring efforts that improved long-term sustainability. During his tenure in Yolo County, he also secured millions of dollars in state appropriations and project funding, negotiated major interagency agreements, managed county economic development initiatives, and led efforts to improve operational efficiency and service delivery.

"I am honored for the opportunity to join Solano County and serve the community in this role," said Tengolics. "I look forward to working collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors, county leadership, employees and community partners to support the county's mission and continue delivering high-quality services to residents."

Tengolics holds a Master of Public Service and Administration from Texas A&M University, a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego, and completed the Executive Leadership Program at the University of California, Davis. ★

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All Aboard for Railroad Days

Dixon Prepares for Busy July Schedule



Held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days at 230 N. First St., the event featured living history demonstrations, educational exhibits and family activities designed to showcase the railroad's role in shaping Dixon and the surrounding region. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1

demonstrations at the park. Historical Society Curator Frank McKinney operated a blacksmith shop demonstration, while museum visitors viewed train exhibits, newly installed displays and educational materials highlighting Dixon's past.

"Our curator, Frank McKinney, set up his blacksmith shop at the DWIC Library Park," said Dixon Historical Society President Kim Schroeder-Evans. "Back at the museum, we had a train exhibit, new exhibits, History in a Suitcase and merchandise featuring our new logo."

Schroeder-Evans said the Historical Society's involvement is closely tied to its mission of preserving local history.

"It's important because it's important to us to preserve the history of Dixon and the surrounding areas, and we hope that attendees will learn something new about Dixon's history as it is connected to the railroad," she said.

According to Schroeder-Evans, Dixon's railroad history began in August 1868 with the California Pacific Railroad. The line was later acquired by the Central Pacific Railroad, then the Southern Pacific Railroad, and today operates as part of the Union Pacific Railroad system.

She noted that the Gold Rush era and the arrival of the railroad were closely connected. As miners sought new opportunities, communities such as Silveyville, Tremont and Maine Prairie emerged in the region. Once the railroad was

established, many residents and businesses relocated closer to the tracks to take advantage of transportation and commerce opportunities.

"The Gold Rush brought people from all over the world," said Schroeder-Evans. "One of the things people don't always realize is how connected those communities were to the railroad."

She also highlighted the contributions of Chinese immigrants, who she said completed much of the railroad construction in California after facing discrimination in mining camps. Dixon eventually became home to its own Chinatown, where Chinese American residents established businesses that served the growing community.

Schroeder-Evans said the Historical Society works to make local history relevant to younger generations by recognizing the contributions of all cultural groups connected to Dixon's development, including Native Wintun people, Los Californios, Chinese immigrants and others who helped shape the region.

"I have always loved history, and in particular how each cultural group has contributed to that history," she said.

Through hands-on activities, historical demonstrations and educational exhibits, Railroad Days offered attendees an opportunity to explore the railroad legacy that helped transform Dixon from a small stop along the tracks into the community it is today. ★



Smokehouse Reunion will provide live music from 6 to 9 p.m. Food trucks will be available in the Aquatics Center parking lot beginning at 6 p.m. Photo courtesy of Dixon Chamber of Commerce

Continued from page 1

Smokehouse Reunion will provide live music from 6 to 9 p.m. Food trucks will be available in the Aquatics Center parking lot beginning at 6 p.m. The evening will conclude with a fireworks show scheduled for 9:15 p.m.

The celebration is part of the city's recognition of Independence Day and the upcoming America250 anniversary observance.

For more information, visit City of Dixon, CA on Facebook.

Additional Independence Day activities will be available at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St., where the Napa Solano Veteran Riders will host a Fourth of July celebration at 8 p.m. July 4. The event will feature complimentary food and beverages, live music by DJ Reaper and a fireworks display.

American Legion Post 208 will also operate a fireworks stand in the Safeway Shopping Center parking lot, 1235 Stratford Ave., from June 28 through July 4 as a fundraiser supporting local veterans and Veterans Memorial Hall.

For more information, visit American Legion Post 208 on Facebook or email alpost208@aol.com.

The City of Dixon Parks and Recreation Department will offer swimming instruction throughout July, including private lessons and classes for beginning through advanced

swimmers. A Junior Lifeguard Camp is scheduled for July 20 to 24 for youth aged 10 to 14. Participants will learn CPR, basic first aid and water safety skills while gaining experience designed to prepare them for future lifeguard certification courses.

For more information, visit cityofdixonca.gov/departments/Recreation or call 707-678-7000.

Community members can also attend Dixon Grown's Popsicles in the Park series, which offers opportunities to meet local elected officials and city staff while enjoying complimentary frozen treats. Events are scheduled at parks throughout the month, including Northwest Park, 1100 Parkgreen Drive, at 6 p.m. July 9, Pardi Plaza, 132 E. A St., at noon July 11, Hall Park Amphitheatre at 6 p.m. July 13, Bowen Park, Pitt School rd. and Sunflower Way, at 6 p.m. July 23 and Veterans Park, 1300 Valley Glen Drive, at 6 p.m. July 29.

For more information, visit dixongrown.com/Popsicles-in-the-Park/

Later in the month, collectors and families can attend the Dixon Toy Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 25 at the Dixon May Fair grounds, 655 S. First St. The event will feature approximately 50 vendors specializing in vintage toys. Admission is free for children.

For more information, visit dixonmayfair.com/event/dixon-toy-show/ or call 707-678-5529. ★



★ CALIFORNIA ★ POLICY AND ETHICS

BY JOSH F.W. COOK

CA Loves to Fight Trump

The State Water Project Can't Move Without FED Help

By Josh Cook

The relicensing of the Oroville Dam hydroelectric facilities has been underway for more than two decades. The Oroville Dam is the cornerstone of the State Water Project, delivering water to 27 million Southern Californians and irrigating 750,000 acres of farmland in the Central Valley. The dam generates about 2.2 billion kilowatt-hours of hydroelectric power annually, enough to power hundreds of thousands of homes.

Although the California Department of Water Resources and many local stakeholders reached a settlement estimated to provide roughly \$1 billion in environmental, recreational, cultural, and other community impact benefits, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has yet to issue a new license, and the project continues to operate under annual extensions.

One big new issue: not all California tribes with cultural and historical rights to the Feather River have signed onto the relicensing process. They were consulted, but then left out of the process, the money, the changes in water allocations, and the signing ceremony.

Mooretwon Rancheria, Berry Creek Rancheria, and Enterprise Rancheria Maudus all have lands in the FERC boundary; indeed, the Enterprise Tribe has original village sites at the very bottom of Lake Oroville. Hard for CA to say the Indians have not experienced impacts from the project. Across the country, tribes have had a non-stop series of wins in FERC relicensing agreements and community impact settlements.

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe participated in a \$325 million restoration project, while the Yurok Tribe, Karuk Tribe,

Hoopa Valley Tribe, and Klamath Tribes were part of a \$250-\$400 million Klamath settlement. The Skokomish Indian Tribe secured more than \$15 million, and tribes participating in the Columbia River Basin agreements—including the Yakama Nation, Nez Perce Tribe, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs—received more than \$1 billion in new federal funding for restoration and fish passage improvements.

Meanwhile, Butte County has stood up a website quantifying the costs to the community by a project that exports billions in water and power far beyond county boundaries. The website, ourwatertheirpower.org, shows specific promises the State made to get the FERC license 70 years ago and how often the State has not followed through and, worse, added costs to the community as locals watch millions of dollars go downstream to meet the needs of urban areas and farmers that compete with them in the global ag market.

The County has complained about the State's failures for years. This time, the County has quantified the costs; the tribes can legally compel the Federal government to address them. The last time the State applied for a FERC license, the local tribes were too poor and lacked the capacity to speak out on environmental, fisheries, and economic issues.

As the numbers above indicate, Tribes have been successful when they stand up for their communities. As California plans for a water future in which Central Valley interests cannot pump unlimited groundwater, and droughts are more frequent, cooperation with the Federal Government; the EPA, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and other agencies will be essential. How that moves forward is a policy issue that will affect all Californians. ★

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

ORDER TO SHOW FOR
CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO
SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #CU26-04307

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 de-

ceased, 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
ROEPER 6-26-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
RAY DAVID BRIONES
CASE NO. PR26-00381

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or

both, of: RAY DAVID BRIONES A Petition for Probate has been filed by BRIANNE R. BRIONES in the Superior Court of California, County of SOLANO.

The Petition for Probate requests that BRIANNE R. BRIONES be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or 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 on 7/23/2026 at 9:30 A.M. in Dept. 22 Room N/A located at 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 decedent, 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 a person 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.

Attorney for Petitioner: MICHAEL RINNE, 391 TAYLOR BLVD. SUITE 220, PLEASANT HILL, CA 94523, Telephone: 925-322-1521

6/26, 7/3, 7/10/26
CNS-4054653#
DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE
7-10-26



Riley Reviews

FOX NETWORK SEEKS TO KEEP WINNING SLATE WITH ITS FALL PROGRAMS

A Film and TV Review
by Tim Riley

FALL PROGRAMS ON FOX
NETWORK

A standard procedure for the network television industry is to unveil their upcoming programming slate to the national advertising community during what they call an “upfront presentation.”

The FOX network boastfully claims to deliver a full lineup of hit shows this fall and expand “its winning slate with the return of a global sensation, fresh creative voices and compelling new series.”

FOX has a slew of unscripted series being renewed too numerous to mention. Several are coming back for a second season, including “Fear Factor: House of Fear;” “Gordan Ramsay’s Secret Service;” and “Celebrity Weakest Link.”

Returning series for a second season include the drama “Memory of a Killer” and the comedy “Best Medicine.” Series coming back for a third season include the dramas “Doc” and “Murder in a Small Town.”

“Baywatch,” which first hit the screens in 1989, became the most-watched show in the world, airing in more than 200 countries and at its peak reaching more than a billion viewers weekly.

Its global appeal drove tourism to Southern California and helped define the beach culture for generations. “Baywatch” is coming back to celebrate the franchise’s enduring legacy, while re-energizing it for today’s global audience.

Fans can expect all the adrenaline-fueled rescues, tangled relationships, complicated chemistry and beachside heroics that defined the original – now with an entirely new cast, contemporary trappings, tensions and challenges, and a renewed mission to protect the California shoreline.

The new series finds wild-child legacy character Hobie Buchannon (Stephen Amell) serving as a Baywatch Captain, following in the footsteps of his legendary father, Mitch (famously portrayed by David Hasselhoff).

Hobie’s world is turned upside down when his daughter Charlie Vale (Jessica Belkin) shows up on his doorstep eager to carry on the Buchannon family legacy.

The series also stars Shay Mitchell as Trina, LaGrassie as Brad, Thaddeus Ladd as Harrison, Noah Beck as Luke, and Brooks Nader as Selene. In recurring roles, Livvy Dunne will make her acting debut as Grace and David Chokachi will reprise his original series character of Cody Madison.

An all-new espionage thriller, “The Interrogator” finds British actor-comedian Stephen Fry (“Blackadder”) in the hat trick role as the series’ star, writer and executive producer.

The show’s focus centers on former MI6 agent Gordon Henry (Fry) and

his handpicked team of brilliant outsiders. When conventional methods have failed, Henry’s quirky charm and superior intellect make him the only man able to lockpick the minds of the world’s most dangerous criminals.

Lisa Ann Woodrow (Jenna Elfman) oversees Henry’s cases. Once a rising star within the CIA, her career was derailed after a mission went wrong, leading to the D.I.A. where she now serves as handler for Henry’s team.

Though Woodrow challenges Henry and the two often clash, Henry is always seven steps ahead while Woodrow is rarely more than five steps ahead. If the math is correct, Henry is most likely ahead by two steps.

The most recent member of the team is Astrid (Jessica Sula), a sharp and idealistic criminal psychologist new to the spy world but a natural fit. As Henry’s somewhat estranged daughter, she shares his instinct for reading people and talent for deception, using her manipulative skills for good.

Louis (Michael Beach), the first member that Henry brought onto his team, is a dry-witted tech expert with a hidden past. A true jack-of-all-trades, he’s the voice in Henry’s ear with facts and figures, and his closest ally, confidant and moral compass.

Luke Kleintank’s Voss, a former Special Forces soldier and Army whistleblower, serves as one of Henry’s trusted analysts. A quiet, outdoorsy Colorado native with a strong moral code, he prefers dogs to people, except for his secret, unlikely romance that can only stay secret for so long.

Florence (Maria Zhang) is the most idealistic and optimistic team member. She handles all things related to computers, from hacking, gathering and decrypting evidence to creating forgeries and deepfakes to lead Henry’s subjects astray.

For new unscripted programming, FOX flips the script on dating with its bold new series “Marriage Market,” in which singles ready for marriage relinquish total control of their love lives to their closest family members, who marry them off at a market like no other.

Hosted by actress, comedian and podcaster Whitney Cummings, the series welcomes singles, who are officially over swiping, ghosting and endless first dates, into an actual Marriage Market.

The singles are up for trying something radical – putting their love lives in the hands of family members that know them best and risking it all for one shot at forever in an arranged marriage.

The rules are simple. When two families believe they’ve found a match, their singles are introduced and engaged on the spot with the goal of making it to the altar. From there, the couples and their families move in together to navigate real-life compatibility.

“Marriage Market” may be a foreign concept to us, but in other parts of the world arranged marriages still occur. ★



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Why are Human Babies so Helpless Compared to Other Mammals?

- Ruby, 10, Florida

Dear Ruby,

As a kitten, I needed my mom for a long time. She fed me and kept me safe—for 12 whole weeks.

That’s nothing compared to my human friends. Where I live, human parents provide for their kids into their 20s.

I asked my friend Courtney Meehan why humans grow up so slowly. She’s an anthropologist at Washington State University. She studies child development and parenting all over the world.

It turns out human babies are born helpless because of how human bodies and societies evolved.

It started with two adaptations: walking upright and big brains.

Human ancestors climbed lots of trees. They walked on all fours. Then some of them began walking upright. That helped humans reach food and carry it. It made it easier to scan for predators. It saved energy and kept them cooler.

Eventually, early humans became the walking, tool-using people you probably imagine. They tried new foods and started cooking over a fire. That made food easier to chew and digest. So, the human jaw and digestive system adjusted. Changes to our diet help support our bigger brains. But walking upright reshaped the pelvis. That made it super hard to birth big-headed babies.

Humans adapted by giving birth earlier, when the baby’s head is smaller. That means newborn babies are smaller



This is a model of a newborn baby’s skull. It’s made of 7 bone pieces connected by joints called sutures. That allows the skull to flex a little bit during birth. The open spaces between bones are fontanelles, or soft spots. They’re protected by tough tissue—but babies need extra gentle care while they’re open. The fontanelles usually close by the baby’s second birthday. Courtesy photo

and extra helpless. They’ll grow a lot as babies. By the first birthday, a baby’s brain doubles in size—and the head grows about 5 inches.

“This trade-off happens,” Meehan said. “We give birth to more highly dependent offspring, and it takes us a long time to rear them to independence. But the benefit of that is our large, complex brains are really attuned to social interactions and language.”

Many animals rely on the instincts they’re born with. Baby spiders just know how to spin a web. Kittens and cougar cubs automatically climb up to avoid danger.

But little humans need to learn most things. They learn to talk. They figure out how to tell who’s in their group. They learn how to behave around other people.

That’s important because humans live in fission-fusion

societies. Their groups change a lot. Some early humans went off to hunt or forage. Then they came back together again. Today, many families go to school or work. Then they come back together. Sometimes human groups stay apart for a long time—like over the summer or even for years. Human brains keep track of who’s important and how to interact with them—even if it’s been a while.

Meehan told me that there’s one strategy humans use that other great apes don’t. They sometimes have children with small age gaps—so they still require a lot of care. Other great ape juveniles are more independent before their mother has another baby.

“To support that, we help each other with child-rearing,” Meehan said. “Among other primates like chimpanzees, you don’t often see moms sharing their infants very widely.”

That task sharing is called alloparenting. Alloparents can be family members, friends or teachers. They all work together to raise the kids.

How much that happens varies a lot. Parenting looks different for different humans adapting to where they live—and helping their young succeed.

That kind of variability makes humans stronger. For nature, it’s a big-brainer.

Sincerely,
Dr. Universe

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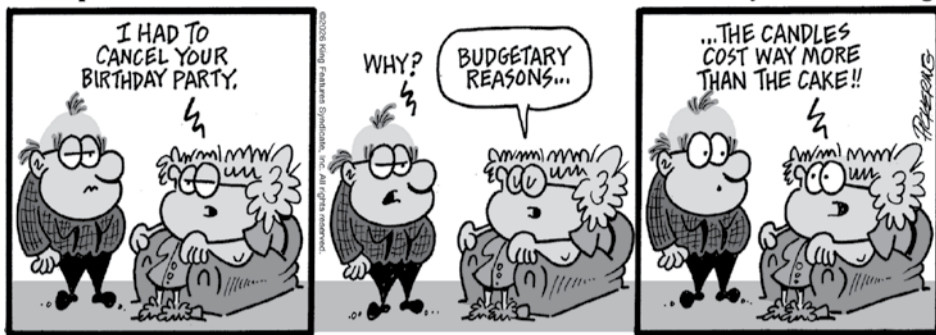
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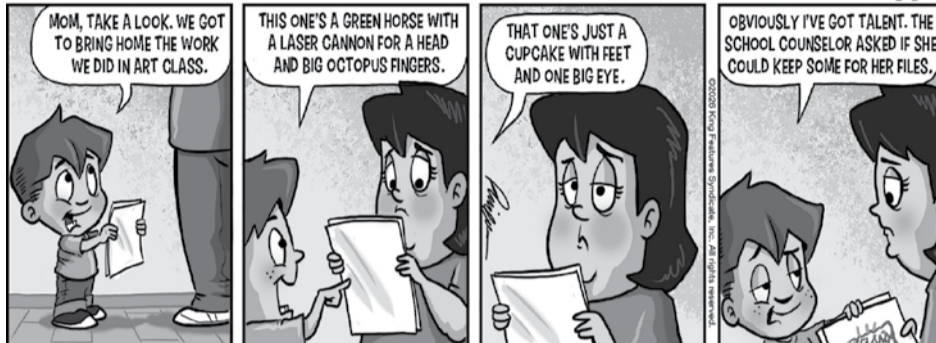
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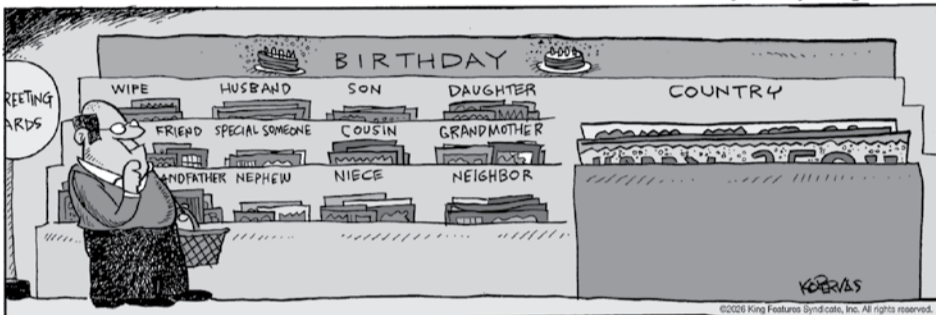
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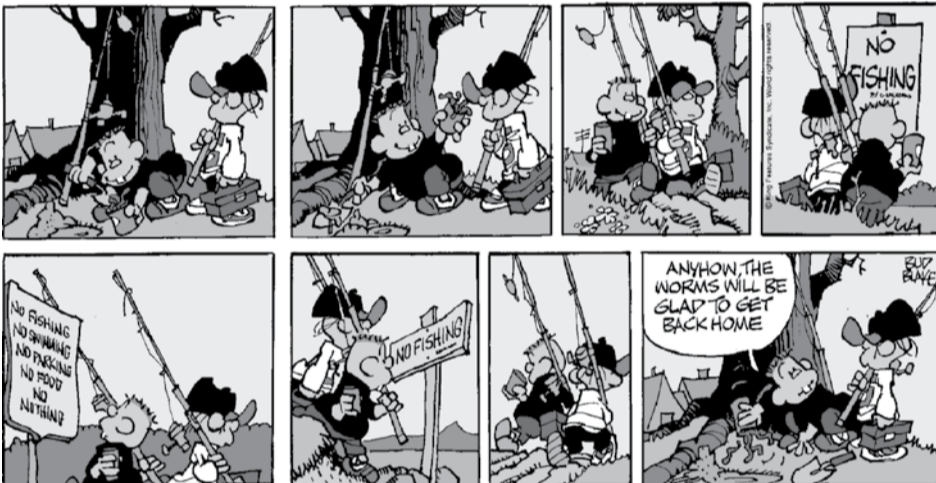
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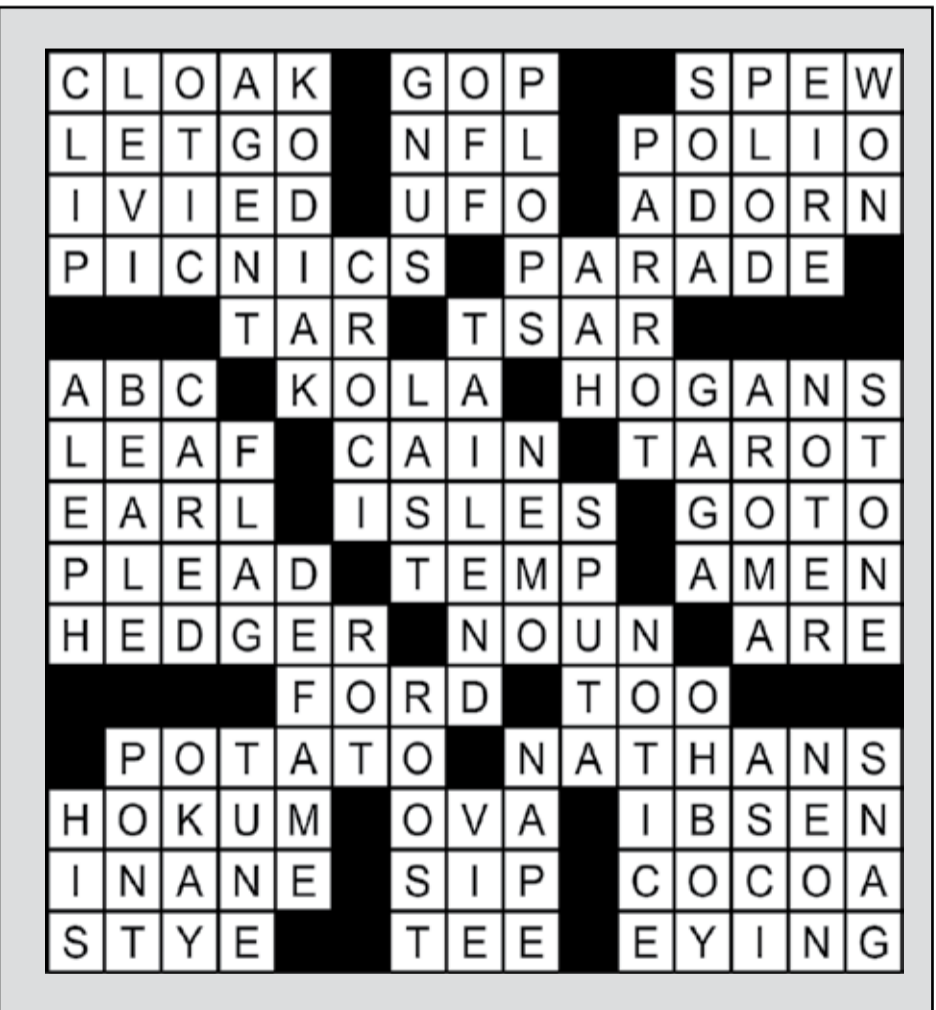
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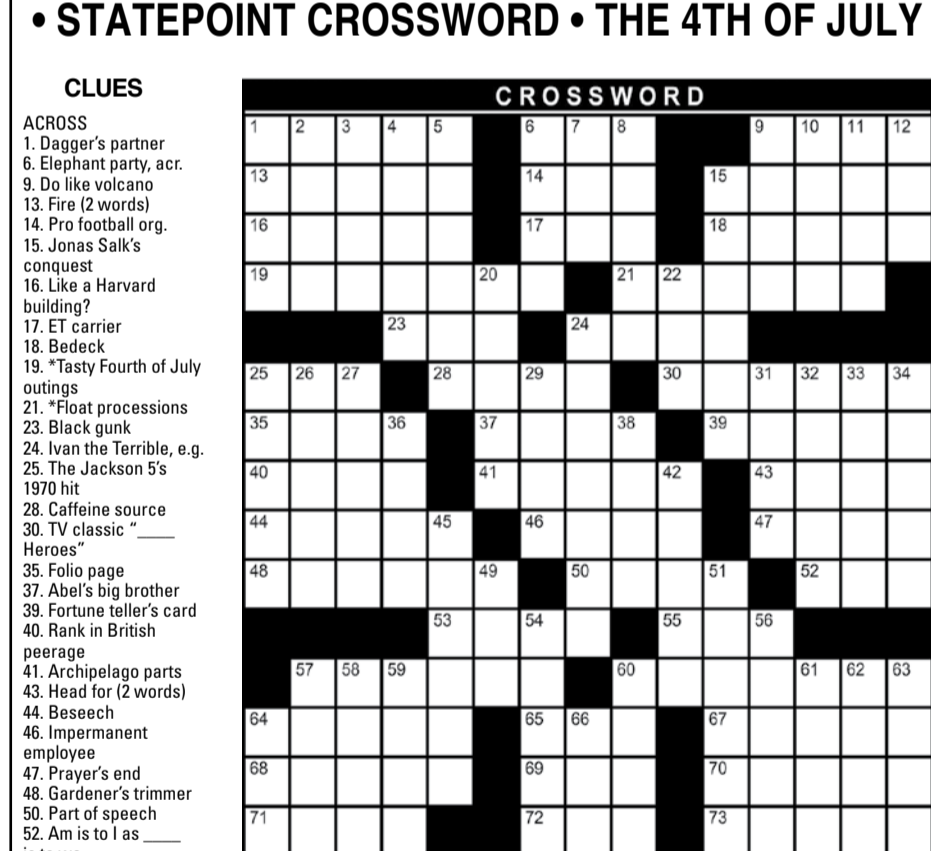
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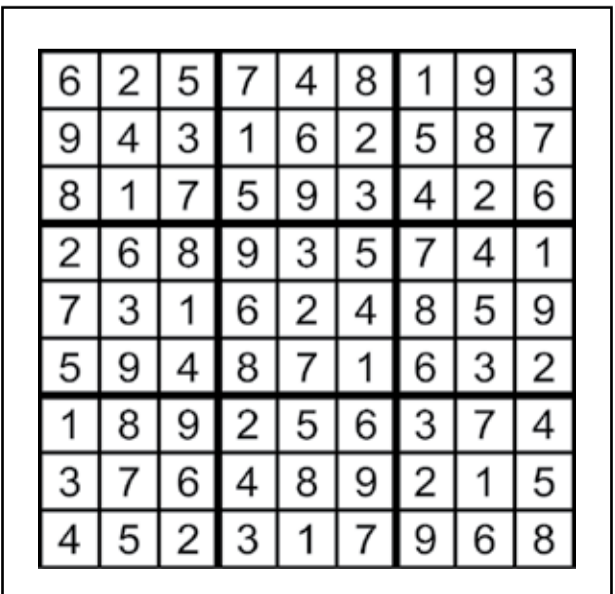
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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Draft Night is Here

By V.G. Harris

While the wild celebrations go on in the city of New York, and Jalen Brunson has been given the key to the city, NBA fans all over America wait like a four-year-old at Christmas for the NBA draft to take place.

The long-awaited draft will finally bring into focus what G.M. Scott Perry is all about. No more inaction and waiting to see what other teams will do, it's time to show up and let the Sacramento Kings fans get a glimpse into who they really have.

Much discussion has taken place with so many mock drafts, and most pundits are reciting names in their sleep.

While sharpshooter Darius Acuff Jr. remains a longshot possibility, a likely candidate that will still be available as the Kings pick at No. 7 is none other than Kingston Flemings, and that is not a bad thing.

For the Houston Cougars last season, Kingston scored 16 points per game with four rebounds and five assists, and while those numbers aren't gawdy, they are certainly respectable.

Listed at six-foot-four with an average wingspan, it's his on-court presence and basketball I.Q. that have teams interested in taking a closer look.

Without a doubt Kingston has competition, and names like Mikel Brown and Braydon Burries top the list that Kingston will have to contend with. Still, Kingston has the intangibles that matter, and among them is a strong family presence that continues to support his journey. Raised in a tight-knit Texas home, Kingston understands the team concept, and although I don't pretend to know the mind of Scott Perry, Kingston Flemings passes the litmus test.

Now is the time for the Sacramento franchise to come home with a sold pick and not something that brings up nightmares from the past. No more Marvin Bagley's or Thomas Robinson's. Now is the time to not get cute or to try and show the league that you know better than they do.

I'm not wanting to see an overseas candidate come out of nowhere. Staring this franchise in the face are solid players that can

make a difference on a team that is in rebuilding mode.

Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither will the Sacramento Kings build a team overnight.

The No. 7 pick in this year's draft needs to be a player that will make an impact, but he doesn't have to be a franchise player to make a difference.

No Luka Doncic or Cooper Flagg waiting this time around, but just as Jalen Brunson was selected 33rd overall in the second round, anything can happen if you don't try and get too creative.

I've said before and I'll say again, the foundation of this team is Domantas Sabonis, and there's a reason why so many teams have an interest in trading for him. Domantas is a game changer, a consummate team player that never takes a night off, and a true leader that young players can aspire to.

Tuesday night is finally here, and it needs to be Christmas time for the Sacramento Kings. Make a sensible selection and feel good that you've just made your team better.

Go back to work and help Keegan Murray to find his shot again. In particular, the past two seasons Keegan looks like the player who's lost his confidence, and it's up to Doug Christie and staff to build his confidence back and remind him that he's the guy that led the entire nation in scoring while playing for the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Russell Westbrook, who last season exceeded everyone's expectations, is eager to return for one more season with the Sacramento Kings, and this year with a healthy team he can make an even bigger difference than he did last year.

It's time to celebrate Kings fans because having a top ten pick in the draft is not something to be taken lightly.

If the experts are to be believed, this is one of the deepest drafts in decades, and the Kings enjoy not only a first-round pick, but two second-round picks as well.

Tuesday night will reveal how well Scott Perry and staff have done their homework, but don't be too surprised if you hear the name Kingston Flemings!

All the best Kings fans because a better season is just around the corner! ★

Minimum Wage Hikes to Offset High Living Costs. There's a Downside



By Dan Walters,
CALMatters.org

There are three immutable aspects of economic life in California today.

No. 1, Californians face the nation's highest cost of living. It is 11% higher than the national average, according to the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis, including rents 53% higher than average and utilities 63% higher. It's why California also has the nation's highest poverty rate.

No. 2, the high cost of living, especially for housing, is the most important factor in the out-migration of Californians to other states. It has led to a net loss of 900,000 people since 2015, according to the Public Policy Institute of California.

No. 3, California's unemployment rate, currently 5.3% of its labor force, has been among the highest of any state for the last half-decade, with more than a million jobless workers. It rises to 10.1% when it's broadened to discouraged job seekers and those who work part-time but want full employment. This alternative measure is also the nation's highest.

The response to these economic conditions from the state's mostly Democratic politicians has been an amalgam of high concept policy changes, one-time or short-term allocations of relief money and micro-managing wages.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Legislature, for example, have enacted dozens of laws and administrative directives aimed at making it easier to build new housing, especially for low- and moderate-income families and, in theory, tempering housing costs.

However, the actual rate of new housing construction of all kinds has been stuck at about 100,000 units a year. Newsom's latest state budget projects only fractional gains, to about 115,000 units, through 2030.

When the budget's revenues allow — or at least appear to allow — the state has appropriated funds for direct relief to Californians mired in poverty, such as an earned income tax credit or even cash distributions.

Increasingly, state and local officials also have responded to ever-increasing costs of living by increasing minimum wages.

A new report from the Virginia-based Employment Policies Institute reveals that California is the most active state in setting new and higher wages for specific economic sectors. It has 8 of the nation's 10 largest local minimum wage increases taking in effect in July.

When California, after much political angst, decreed a \$20 minimum wage for fast food workers three years ago and created an agency to oversee that industry's employment conditions, it ignited a debate over impact that's still raging.

Proponents have ginned up studies that purport to prove that the higher wages had little or no negative effects on employment and consumer prices. Critics have countered with studies saying that \$20 wages forced fast food

operators to raise prices and reduce their staffs.

Newsom and the Legislature also set higher wages for healthcare industry employees. Local city and county officials have decreed new wage levels for particular economic segments, such as the hotel industry in Los Angeles and amusement parks in San Diego.

The Los Angeles City Council set a \$30 minimum wage for hotel and airport workers on the theory that travelers from elsewhere would bear the costs, but last month postponed implementation until after the 2028 Olympics. In return, the business community canceled a ballot measure to eliminate the city's gross receipts tax, a major city revenue source.

The tactic of raising minimum wages to offset rising living costs shows no signs of abating. Currently, for example, the Service Employees International Union is sponsoring legislation, Senate Bill 1203, that would increase the training requirements for private security guards but also empower the state Industrial Welfare Commission to set new and presumably higher minimum wages for such guards.

This may be a circular economic firing squad. Higher wages can lead to higher consumer costs, which increases pressure for higher wages and pushes those caught in the middle, trying to survive, to lower-cost states.

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 They Just Create Individual Social Security Accounts?



By Russell Gloor,
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Regarding Social Security's financial issues, three people contributing to Social Security for every one beneficiary sounds to me like a surplus. If they had given workers their own accounts, similar to a 401k, where they could manage their own money, it would have worked out more favorably for retirees. President George W Bush suggested these changes, but it was shot down by Congress.

The average worker now pays a 6.2% Social Security tax. If the government had bumped it up to say 7%, I don't believe that me or anyone else would have cried too hard. There are ways of correcting this before the SS reserves are depleted, hopefully, Congress will address Social Security's financing soon. **Signed: Skeptical Senior**

Dear Skeptical: Believe it or not, putting SS contributions (from payroll taxes) into separate

individual accounts is not really a good idea. For information, most people get back all payroll taxes they contributed to Social Security within about 5 years of receiving SS benefits. Even with decent public market returns, some individual separate accounts would eventually run out of money, causing some to lose Social Security benefits before they die, meaning they would likely live in poverty. People are now collecting benefits (on average) for decades, and the current SS format means that even those who contribute only a small amount will collect benefits no matter how long they live. Remember, the primary purpose of the SS program is to reduce poverty in America.

FYI, President Bush's plan had opposition in the 2005 Congress largely because of the cost to transition to that plan, and the fear that investments in the public markets subjected individual retirement savings to unacceptable risk. In any case, few have since advocated investing Social Security funds in the public financial markets because of the risks and the political backlash. And adding a small amount to the FICA/SECA payroll tax rate only somewhat mitigates the problem - it doesn't completely solve it. I'm afraid that

Social Security's financial issues are more complex than that and can't be fully solved by a small increase in SS payroll taxes.

You are right - Congress can (and, we are confident, will) address this, and hopefully soon. For its part, AMAC (the Association of Mature American Citizens) and the AMAC Foundation have been evaluating this issue for years and have developed a Social Security reform plan for Congress to consider (see this). And we are actively promoting our reform plan in Washington, D.C. Please know that we share your concerns about the future of Social Security and will continue to work hard to ensure the program is here for many generations.

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The spirit of Buchenwald lives on, we are supposed to believe, in the Israeli military operation in Gaza. It's nearly mandatory for progressive Democrats to denounce Israel for its alleged genocide, while Tucker Carlson and Hasan Piker -- radical influencers on the right and left, respectively -- say that the moral offense is the same as the Holocaust, even if the scale is less extensive.

Israel's haters surely enjoy the perversity of accusing the Jewish state of the same enormity that contributed to its creation, of comparing the Jews to heinous murderers of Jews. The charge is a grotesque libel.

If Israel wanted to kill everyone in Gaza, it could do it easily. What we have witnessed in the Hamas-controlled territory is not a genocide -- the deliberate destruction of a people -- but an urban battle.

Warfare in urban environments is almost always highly destructive. When the Iraqi army retook Mosul from ISIS in 2016-2017 with our air support, tens of thousands of buildings were damaged or destroyed and an estimated 80% of the Old City.

Vietnam gave us the famous (perhaps apocryphal) line, "We had to destroy the city in order to save it." The city in question was Ben Tre, infiltrated by the Viet Cong during the Tet Offensive in 1968. We used airstrikes, heli-

The Perverse Genocide Charge

copter gunships, artillery and ground troops to extricate the communist forces, and the Mekong Delta town suffered extensive damage, even though the fighting only lasted days.

The old imperial capital of Hue suffered the same fate, but on a larger scale. Communist forces took most of the city and dug in, requiring street-to-street combat over a period of months to take it back. About half the city was damaged or destroyed.

The lesson is that cities never fare well when they are the locus of combat, whether Seoul or Pyongyang during the Korean War, Manila or Stalingrad during World War II, Vicksburg or Charleston during the Civil War.

Civilians inevitably suffer and die. This is true of even the most honored military operations. The Allied invasion of Normandy killed 20,000 French civilians as cities such as Rouen and Le Havre were pulverized by our bombardment. Why would anyone expect Gaza, one of the most densely populated places on Earth, to be different? Hamas spent years and massive resources tunneling and fortifying, making Gaza into a bristling armed camp difficult to subdue.

Sure enough, it has taken a grinding, years-long campaign to substantially reduce Hamas. Israel's detractors profess to detect "genocidal intent" in harsh things that Israeli officials have said about Gaza, but these statements have typically been aimed at Hamas.

If Israel wanted to commit genocide against the Gazans, Prime Minister

Bibi Netanyahu wouldn't have sought to accommodate Hamas for years, in the hopes that a major war could be avoided. The Oct. 7 attack exposed this as a grievous misjudgment. It's hard to believe that any society, having experienced the unspeakable crimes visited on its people that day, would have concluded, "Well, we can't do anything in response -- even recover our hostages -- because combat in Gaza will be too destructive."

Hamas intertwined its military infrastructure with civilian facilities, and made military use of hospitals, mosques and schools. Its fighters posed as medical personnel and journalists. Everything was geared to making it as difficult as possible to target Hamas without collateral damage, creating the predicate for denouncing Israel for war crimes.

As military expert John Spencer points out, Israel takes steps to avoid civilian harm: "It warns before attacks using text messages, phone calls, leaflets and broadcasts. It opens safe corridors and pauses operations so civilians can leave combat areas. It tracks civilian presence down to the building level."

TITLE: None of this matters, though. The ultimate perversity is that Hamas has genocidal intent against the Jews. Yet, it is the war against this cruel terror group that is being used to associate the Jewish state with one of history's worst crimes.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Jacob Giribaldi and Peyton Chan Win the 58th County Junior Championship

Sacramento Golf Council News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The 58th Sacramento County Junior Championship was held June 15-16 at Mather Golf Course.

Jacob Garibaldi claimed the Boys Overall Championship, playing in the 16-18 age group with a score of 68/68/136.

Zac Reidt Barragan captured first, Sudhaamsuram Parvataneni, second and Johnny Thut, third in the boys 16-18 division.

On the girls' side, Peyton Chan, playing in the Girls 14-15 division scored 72/68/140 to win the Overall Girls title. The overall champion comes from the 16-18 and 14-15 age groups.

First place in Girls 16-18 went to Allison Chan with a score of 73/71/144.



Jacob Garibaldi claims the Boys Overall Championship. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Golf Council



Peyton Chan claims the Overall Girls title. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Golf Council

Sakura Watanabe was second and Angelina Santiago, third.

Additional flight winners include Theo Stoop (Boys 14-15 Champion), Cole Vieira (Boys 12-13 Champion), Olivia Lee (Girls 14-15 Champion) and Audrey Nakamura (Girls 12-13 Champion).

The Sacramento County Junior Championship, now in its 58th year, is a premier event hosted by the Sacramento Golf Council, drawing top junior talent from across the region. The tournament is open to boys and girls ages 12-18 and is contested in age-based divisions over 36 holes.

The 2026 event was directed by Tony Paulson of the Sacramento Golf Council.

For more information, contact Vi McNally at mcnally.viola0@gmail.com or call 916-896-7766. ★

Sacramento State Men's Soccer Announces New Schedule for New-Look 2026

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento State men's soccer program announced a 17-match regular season slate for the upcoming 2026 season, which features a unique partnership for the second half of the schedule once Big West Conference play begins.

With only three soccer playing members on the men's side in the new-look Pac-12 Conference, the league entered into a scheduling agreement designed to strengthen and sustain Division I men's soccer opportunities across the region. As part of the partnership, league newcomer California Baptist, Cal Poly, UC Riverside, and UC San Diego will compete as affiliate members of the Pac-12 alongside Oregon State, San Diego State, and Gonzaga.

The Big West will feature the Hornets, newcomer Utah Valley, Cal State Bakersfield, Cal State Fullerton, CSUN, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Barbara.

Sacramento State will face each of its Big West rivals once along with crossover games against Gonzaga (Oct. 7), UC San Diego (Oct. 14), and Oregon State (Oct. 21). The crossover games will not count toward the league standings



The first game of the 2026 Sacramento State Men's Soccer Season is Aug. 8 vs. the Broncos at Santa Clara in an exhibition match. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

with four schools qualifying for the Big West Championship at the end of the year.

The Hornets tune-up for the regular season grind with three exhibitions, traveling to both Santa Clara (Aug. 8) and Stanford (Aug. 12) while hosting Menlo College (Aug. 15).

Regular season play begins in earnest with back-to-back home matches, renewing the Causeway rivalry with UC Davis at home in the season opener on Aug. 20,

before hosting Grand Canyon three days later.

The Hornets then hit the road for their next four contests, making trips to Saint Mary's (Aug. 27), Utah Tech (Aug. 31), San Jose State (Sept. 6), and San Diego State (Sept. 11).

Sacramento State closes out non-conference play with home matches against Pacific (Sept. 17) and UC Riverside (Sept. 23) before opening the Big West slate against UC Santa Barbara on the

road on Sept. 30. The Big West home opener has the Hornets hosting Cal State Bakersfield on Oct. 3, with league home matches against UC Irvine (Oct. 17) and Cal State Fullerton (Oct. 31) to follow.

On the road, Sacramento State faces Utah Valley (Oct. 10) and CSUN (Oct. 24) in league play.

This year's Big West Championship begins on Nov. 7 with the semifinal round, with the championship match to follow on

Nov. 14. NCAA Tournament play begins five days later on Nov. 19.

2026 Sacramento State Men's Soccer Schedule:

Aug. 8 - at Santa Clara (exhibition), 7:30 p.m.; Aug. 12 - at Stanford (exhibition), 3 p.m.; Aug. 15 - vs. Menlo College, 5 p.m.; Aug. 20 - vs. UC Davis, 5 p.m.; Aug. 23 - vs. Grand Canyon, 5 p.m.; Aug. 27 - at Saint Mary's, 5 p.m.; Aug. 31 - at Utah Tech, 7 p.m.; Sept. 6 - at San Jose State, 7 p.m.; Sept. 11 - at San Diego State, 7 p.m.; Sept. 17 - vs. Pacific, 4 p.m.; Sept. 23 - vs. UC Riverside (DH), 1 p.m.; Sept. 30 - at UC Santa Barbara, 7 p.m. (Big West Conference match); Oct. 3 - vs. Cal State Bakersfield, 4 p.m. (Big West Conference match); Oct. 7 - vs. Gonzaga, 4 p.m.; Oct. 10 - at Utah Valley, 6 p.m. (Big West Conference match); Oct. 14 - vs. UC San Diego, 4 p.m.; Oct. 17 - vs. UC Irvine (DH), 4 p.m. (Big West Conference match); Oct. 21 - at Oregon State, 7 p.m.; Oct. 24 - at CSUN, 7 p.m. (Big West Conference match); Oct. 31 - vs. Cal State Fullerton, 3 p.m. (Big West Conference match); Nov. 7 - Big West Championship Semifinals; Nov. 14 - Big West Championship Final; Nov. 19-Dec. 14 - NCAA Tournament. ★

UC Davis Softball Head Coach Erin Thorpe Announces Retirement

UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - After 12 seasons leading the UC Davis softball program and almost three decades in collegiate coaching, UC Davis Softball Head Coach Erin Thorpe has announced her retirement from coaching.

Thorpe leaves behind one of the most successful eras in program history, during which she guided the Aggies to sustained success while helping countless student-athletes grow, on and off the field.

Thorpe finishes her UC Davis tenure as the second-winningest coach in program history with 273 victories and is just the third coach in school history to surpass the 200-win mark. Across a 23-year head coaching career that included stops at UC Davis, Boise State and Whittier College, Thorpe compiled 496 career victories, including 446 at the Division I level.

"After 23 seasons in coaching, including 12 unforgettable years at UC Davis, retiring is both bittersweet and deeply meaningful," said Thorpe. "I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have worked with so many dedicated assistant coaches, remarkable players, and wonderful colleagues throughout my career. We experienced wins, milestones, and accomplishments that I will always be proud of, but the relationships we built, the lessons we shared, and the moments we experienced together are what will always matter to me most. Thank you to everyone who has been part of this journey. It has truly been one of the great honors of my life."

"Erin's career at UC Davis reflects a remarkable commitment to our university,



After 12 seasons leading the UC Davis softball program and almost three decades in collegiate coaching, UC Davis Softball Head Coach Erin Thorpe has announced her retirement from coaching. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

to our student-athletes and to the sport of softball," said Director of Athletics Rocko DeLuca. "She led the program with dedication and helped guide it through significant moments in its history. We appreciate all that she has contributed to UC Davis Athletics and wish Erin and her family the very best as she begins this next chapter in her journey."

Thorpe's final season at UC Davis was one of the most successful in program history as the Aggies set a new standard in the Big West Conference and positioned themselves for continued success heading into the Mountain West Conference.

The Aggies posted 17 conference victories in 2026, the program's most ever in

the Big West Conference, and earned the program's first appearance in the Big West Championship Tournament. Along the way, UC Davis recorded a signature victory over Cal State Fullerton, which was ranked No. 4 in the national mid-major poll at the time, and completed a historic road sweep of Long Beach State.

Throughout her tenure, Thorpe coached some of the most accomplished student-athletes in program history. Brooke Yanez became the program's first All-American under her leadership in 2019, while Anna Dethlefsen earned Big West Player of the Year honors in 2023. Thorpe also guided Yanez to Big West Pitcher of the Year recognition in 2019 and helped Ashley Sawai

earn Big West Freshman Pitcher of the Year honors in 2024. Since Thorpe took over the program in 2015, Aggies have earned 41 All-Big West selections and seven National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Region honors.

Several Aggies also etched their names into the record book during Thorpe's tenure. Anna Dethlefsen became the first player in program history to surpass 100 career stolen bases, finishing with 110 and ranking second in Big West Conference history.

Other Aggies established numerous UC Davis Division I-era records, including Alyse Rojas in career and single-season batting average and on-base percentage, Sarah Starks in career and single-season home runs and career RBIs, Alexa Yanez in single-season wins, ERA and strikeouts, and Kenedi Brown in career wins and strikeouts. During Thorpe's final season, the Aggies set Division I-era program records for hits, doubles and walks while posting the second-highest totals in batting average and RBIs.

The Aggies also enjoyed several landmark seasons under Thorpe's leadership, including a 39-win campaign in 2019, which marks the program's highest win total since 2003.

Prior to arriving at UC Davis, Thorpe became the winningest coach in Boise State softball history. A former All-American student-athlete herself, Thorpe coached the Broncos' Tara Glover to the program's first All-America honor, and six players earned all-region recognition and 18 received all-conference accolades during her tenure in Boise. She was the head coach at Whittier College before taking over at Boise State. ★

Dixon Family Services to Host Summer Fundraisers

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Family Services (DFS) is preparing for two major summer fundraising efforts aimed at supporting programs that assist local families facing financial hardship and food insecurity.

The nonprofit organization will launch its inaugural fireworks fundraiser, "The Week of TNT for DFS," from June 28 through July 4 at Grocery Outlet, 2400 N. First St. The organization will also host its annual Comedy Night fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 8 at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St.

According to DFS Executive Director Cookie Powell, fundraising events have become increasingly important as demand for services continues to grow.

"We have historically had at least one fundraising event each year," said Powell. "In recent years, fundraising events have become even more necessary to keep our doors open, our lights on so to speak, so we can continue serving people who need our help."

The organization provides several programs designed to help residents navigate difficult circumstances. Its Information and Referral Program connects individuals and families with government agencies and nonprofit organizations that offer specialized services, including assistance for seniors, people experiencing homelessness, mental health support, legal services and other needs.

Dixon Family Services also operates a Basic Needs Program that helps qualifying low-income families with children pay rent and utility bills. In addition, its pantry program distributes food and household essentials to residents in need. Powell said the organization recently distributed diapers, paper products, food and other necessities to families with young children.

"Every day we get calls for



A local business recently sent a group of employees who brought their own tools and spent several hours trimming up Dixon Family Services' overgrown vegetation, refreshing the mulch and power-washing the building. Several volunteer projects happen at DFS throughout the year. Photo courtesy of Dixon Family Services



A local business recently sent a group of employees who brought their own tools and spent several hours trimming up Dixon Family Services' overgrown vegetation, refreshing the mulch and power-washing the building. Several volunteer projects happen at DFS throughout the year. Photo courtesy of Dixon Family Services

help from people who cannot keep up with their rent, utilities and other bills," said Powell. "People are just not making enough income to keep up with the rising costs of living."

This year marks the organization's first venture into fireworks sales. The Week of TNT will offer "safe, sane and legal" fireworks, with proceeds benefiting the nonprofit's programs.

"It's our first time selling fireworks, and naturally, we are a bit nervous about the entire process," said Powell. "We have no choice

but to go for it, and we hope the good people of Dixon will support us by coming to our booth."

Powell described the fundraiser as essential to meeting increased community needs.

"Because of many recent changes in government benefits, our caseload is higher than ever," said Powell. "With more funds, we can help more people, and we can help them in more tangible ways."

Comedy Night, which has become the organization's signature fundraising event, will



Comedy Night Aug. 8 will feature comedian Jeff Applebaum as master of ceremonies. Applebaum was invited by returning performer David Studebaker, who has appeared at previous Comedy Night events. Photo courtesy of Jeff Applebaum/Chutzpah Entertainment Inc.

return in August with a dinner, raffle prizes, desserts and live entertainment.

"Comedy Night is always a blast," said Powell. "People can expect to leave all of their stresses outside the door as they enter. Dress is casual, we want you to be comfortable when you are having your belly laughs."

This year's event will feature comedian Jeff Applebaum as master of ceremonies. Powell said Applebaum was invited by returning performer David Studebaker, who has appeared at previous Comedy Night events.

"Studebaker genuinely wants

to see DFS Comedy Night do well, so he asked his longtime friend and famous comedian, Jeff Applebaum, to be our comedian and master of ceremonies this year to freshen it up," said Powell. "We feel like we really scored with this because Applebaum is also very funny and very personable."

Organizers expect the event to continue its tradition of combining entertainment with community support.

"Comedy Night is an opportunity to support us while also having a fun night out, socializing, laughing and it all just feels so good," said Powell.

Volunteers and community partners play a significant role in both fundraising efforts. Board members serve on the Comedy Night and TNT committees, and additional volunteers continue to support event planning and operations.

"We could not do all we do without the support of volunteers," said Powell.

The organization is also seeking volunteers for future programs, including its annual Food for Families distribution and Adopt-a-Family program.

Kaiser Permanente is serving as the presenting sponsor of Comedy Night 2026 and also supports the organization's Basic Needs Program through community grants.

Residents seeking assistance or information about available resources are encouraged to contact Dixon Family Services by email at info@dixonfamilyservices.org. Staff members review inquiries and connect residents with appropriate services and referrals.

"We appreciate that you believe in the work we do, and that you choose to take action by being our partner and member of Team DFS," said Powell. "Together, we are helping people who are struggling to meet their most basic needs of food, housing and utilities right here in our community." ★

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Council Won't Support SB 1087

Continued from page 1
prior fiscal year, at \$27 per one column inch.

Publisher Paul Scholl spoke during the item, stating that the rate has not increased from the prior year, and city and

newspaper staff work well together, ensuring an efficient process.

The council voted unanimously to approve the contract.

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



Labor Expenses Push Farmers to Automate

Rising farm labor costs in recent years, combined with depressed crop prices, have pushed California farmers to seek labor-saving technology in an effort to remain financially viable, according to farmers and industry leaders. During the past decade, multiple state laws increased farm labor costs. Since 2016, the state's minimum wage increased 40%, rising faster than inflation and farm revenue. Meanwhile, California phased in an agricultural overtime law, entitling farmworkers to overtime benefits when they work more than eight hours a day or 40 hours a week. Josh Puckett, vice president of operations at Sierra Gold Nurseries in Yuba City, said the rising costs threatened the tree nursery's profitability. To adapt, the company invested in new technologies to reduce manual labor and make its operation more efficient. This month, where a potting line of 12 people once worked, a robot transplanted rootstock into pots of soil. In place of utility vehicles, autonomous shuttles ferried plants around the 65-acre facility. "We've implemented a lot more automation," Puckett said.

Policymakers, Agricultural Leaders Gather to Discuss Key Issues

Labor shortages, rising costs and water access emerged as key concerns for California farmers during discussions at the 2026 Agri-Pulse Food & Ag Issues Summit. The annual conference, held earlier this month in Sacramento,

brought together policymakers and agricultural leaders. Dan Sumner, an agricultural economist at the University of California, Davis, said changes affecting immigrant laborers have caused uncertainty for some farmers, with the threat of immigration raids worrying farmers and workers. "There's a bunch of fear out there, and I don't think it would take more than an incident or two to make real chaos for hired farm labor," Sumner said. "We really will see incredible stress on all of agriculture and, of course, the families involved."

Counties Struggle with New Abandoned Orchard Law

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." ★