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Dixon

Independent Voice

The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Dixon

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JULY 31, 2026

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Third Color Run on the Horizon



Anderson Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will hold its third annual Color Run Sept. 25, continuing the fundraising tradition. Photo courtesy of Anderson PTO

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Anderson Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will hold its third annual Color Run Sept. 25, continuing a fundraising tradition that supports student programs while bringing families together for a day of school spirit and outdoor fun.

The Anderson PTO, recognized as Dixon's 2025 Nonprofit of the Year during the Celebrate Dixon awards in March, organizes the event to raise money for student activities, classroom resources and campus improvements.

Lindsay Snyder, an Anderson Elementary teacher and PTO member, said her dual role



The Anderson PTO, recognized as Dixon's 2025 Nonprofit of the Year during the Celebrate Dixon awards in March, organizes the event to raise money for student activities, classroom resources and campus improvements. Photo courtesy of Anderson PTO

helps bridge the needs of students and the organization's efforts.

"I love that I can share the needs of students to our PTO because of my firsthand interactions with students," said Snyder. "At the end of the day, everything the PTO does is for

our Roadrunners. We have a large group of adults with all different ideas and perspectives that want the best for our kids."

The Color Run began after the PTO partnered with Booster for a successful school read-a-thon. The inaugural event was held at John Knight Middle School after Anderson Elementary students were temporarily relocated because of a power outage. The event was open to the community and proved popular enough to become an annual tradition.

The 2025 event marked the first Color Run held on the Anderson Elementary campus during the school day.

"It takes place during

Continued on page 3

City Council Approves Promotions for New City Manager, Assistant City Manager

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - At the July 7 meeting, the Dixon City Council considered the annual assessment of the Dixon Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District for Zones 1-10.

There were no increases proposed to the assessments this year, aside from the annual adjustment allowed in Zone 10, the Valley Glen Development Area. Based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the percentage increase for this zone is approximately 2.48%.

Rates in Zones 1-9 have not increased since 1993, although costs for street-light energy, maintenance, and water have risen annually.

The total amount expected to be collected from all zone assessments is \$216,677, which does not cover the costs of maintenance. For fiscal year 2026-27, a general fund contribution of \$241,111 will be required to cover the shortfall.

Interim Public Works Director Bruce Barrette said, "This is just not a sustainable method of funding these types of things." He said the budget includes funding to start the Prop. 218 process to look at increasing the assessments for all zones to ensure they cover actual costs.

City Attorney Douglas White said while the Prop. 218 process is part of upcoming city plans, there has been a question of whether it's the right time to pursue increased assessments — since residents are already facing higher costs across the board. But some areas of the city pay significantly higher assessments than others, so White said it is an issue that needs to be addressed. The city will need to find a way to spread the costs more efficiently and stop relying on the general fund to subsidize these services.

Mayor Steven Bird said it would make sense if everyone were paying equal rates.

Vice Mayor Jim Ernest agreed that the current process is not fair and should be addressed.

Councilmember Thom Bogue suggested this should be a future agenda item for a full discussion.

The council voted 3-0 to approve the report and the assessments, with

Continued on page 3

DCT Casts 33 Youths in 'The Addams Family'

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon Community Theater is preparing to bring "The Addams Family Musical Young@Part" to the stage this fall, featuring 33 young performers in a production designed to develop theater skills while providing local children with opportunities to perform.

Performances are scheduled for Oct. 9-11 and Oct. 16-18 at the Dixon Community Performing Arts Center.

Approximately 34 young performers auditioned for the production, according to Kelly Pidgeon James, vice president of Dixon Community Theater and the show's director. James said the production team was impressed not only by the performers' abilities but also by their commitment throughout the audition process.

"The thing I believe we



Dixon Community Theater is preparing to bring "The Addams Family Musical Young@Part" to the stage this fall, featuring 33 young performers in a production designed to develop theater skills while providing local children with opportunities to perform. Photo by Nicolas Brown

were most impressed by was the willingness to try," said James. "Every child who auditioned, regardless of past experience, age or ability, gave it their all throughout every part of the process."

James said the large number of talented auditionees led the theater to make an unprecedented casting decision.

"This show is the first show that we made the decision to double cast many of the principal roles," she said. "Specific roles like Wednesday will be split between two different performers who will play the character on an alternating schedule."

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MEMORIAL

RICHARD LEROY BELLO, SR. — 02/10/1944 - 07/04/2026



It is with great heartache that the family of Richard Leroy Bello, Sr., a lifelong resident of Dixon and Woodland, announce his peaceful passing at his home in Dixon on July 4, 2026, at the age of 82. Rick famously stopped counting his age at 39 when his first grandchild was born, proudly claiming to be 39 years old until his final days.

Born to the late William Bello and the late Carmen (Bello) Dutra, Rick graduated from Dixon High School. After working early on at Stoeven Bros. in Dixon, he dedicated 55 years of his life as an electrician with the IBEW and served the City of Sacramento as a building inspector for another 10 years.

Rick's life changed forever when he met his true match, Jan, under the iconic Milk Farm sign in Dixon. Their beautiful 60-year marriage was a real-life version of "I Love Lucy"—filled with lively banter, hilarious antics, and deep devotion. Together they raised their family in Woodland before retiring back to Rick's beloved family ranch house in Dixon. There he loved feeding the birds by his koi pond with his devoted dog at his feet.

An avid outdoorsman, mentor, and master storyteller, Rick embraced archery, fishing, hunting, muzzleloading, and scuba diving. Throughout the years, he was a member of the Dixon Boat Club, Yolo Sportsmen's Association, Hastings Island Hunting Club, Yolo Bowmen, and Yolo Frontloader's Club.

Rick is survived by his beloved wife, Jan; his children, Cynthia (Brent) and Rick Jr. (Megan); six grandchildren, Karissa (Derek), Ashley, Toni, Courtney, Kyle, and Kayla; four great-grandchildren, Jackson, Cash, Brock, and Dixie; niece, Becky and his dog, Olive.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Olde Vets Hall in Dixon on August 23rd at 11:00 AM – those who knew Rick are welcome to attend.

Dixon Prepares for Fall Sports Season

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Youth sports organizations and local schools are gearing up for a busy fall season, with registration opportunities, opening events and competition scheduled across Dixon in the coming weeks.

Dixon Little League has opened early registration for its inaugural Dixon Fall Ball season. Registration began July 27 and continues through Aug. 20. The league's first fall baseball season is tentatively scheduled to run from mid-September through Nov. 1.

League officials said the program is designed to help players continue developing their baseball skills while providing competitive play and opportunities for athletes of all experience levels. Organizers said registration opened earlier than usual to allow families additional time to reserve a spot for the season.

For more information, visit dixonlittleleague.org or email support@dixonlittleleague.org.

Dixon Youth Football and Cheer concluded registration for its fall tackle football season on July 25. The organization's first day of practice is scheduled for Aug. 3, with players asked to bring water, wear shorts and cleats, and bring their helmets.

Before the season begins, the organization hosted a Football and Cheer Camp on July 25 for participants interested in football or cheerleading. The event featured instruction from Dixon High School athletes and allowed families to meet coaches before the season. Lunch was provided, and participants were encouraged to bring appropriate athletic attire and water bottles.

For more information, visit dixonyfc.com/home.

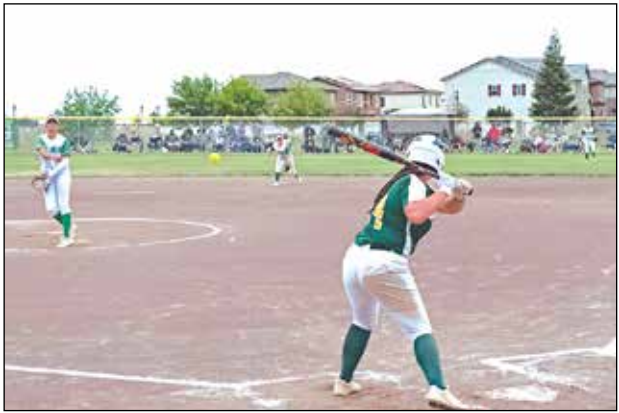
Dixon Girls Softball also completed registration for its Fall Ball season on July 26. League officials reported that 91 players were registered for the 2026 season, an increase from 53 in 2025. The fall schedule includes two practices each week and Sunday doubleheader games.

For more information, visit dixongirlssoftball.com or email info@dixongirlssoftball.com.

Dixon Leon Soccer Club will mark the start of its



Dixon Little League has opened early registration for its inaugural Dixon Fall Ball season. Registration began July 27 and continues through Aug. 20. The league's first fall baseball season is tentatively scheduled to run from mid-September through Nov. 1. Photo by Nicolas Brown



Dixon Girls Softball also completed registration for its Fall Ball season on July 26. League officials reported that 91 players were registered for the 2026 season, an increase from 53 in 2025. Photo by Nicolas Brown



At the high school level, Dixon High School has released its varsity football schedule. The Rams will open with an away game against San Juan on Aug. 28 before returning home to host Winters on Sept. 4 and Colfax on Sept. 11. Photo courtesy of Dixon Unified School District

season by hosting its first alumni game at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Hall Park turf field, 285 E. Chestnut St. The Opening Day celebration will begin with hot dogs served at 5:45 p.m., followed by the alumni match. Leon merchandise will be available while supplies last.

For more information, visit dixonleonsc.com/home or email dixonleonsc@gmail.com.

Although its competitive season begins later in the year, Dixon Youth Basketball has opened registration for its winter league, which remains available through Nov. 1. The program serves players in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade and features age-based divisions. Player assessments

Dixon News Briefs

By MPG Staff

Downtown Dixon Farmer's Market

Downtown Dixon Business Association (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.

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.

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

Chamber Networking Lunch

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 20. 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 dixonchamber.org or call 707-678-2650.

Bingo Fundraiser

American Legion Post 208 will host a Bingo Fundraiser from 1 to 4 p.m. Aug. 2 at Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. Doors open at noon. Admission is \$30 for 10 games with six cards per game, and additional cards will be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit the organization's community programs.

For more information, visit American Legion Post 208 on Facebook or call 530-304-5385.

Art and Wine Stroll

Downtown Dixon Business Association will present its fourth annual Art and Wine Stroll Aug. 22. The event is expected to feature local wineries, food trucks, live music, art displays and shopping throughout downtown. Organizers said proceeds will help fund future community events,



Dixon Family Services will host its annual Comedy Night fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 8. The event, held at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St., includes dinner, raffle prizes, desserts and live entertainment. Comedian Jeff Applebaum (pictured) will serve as master of ceremonies after being invited by returning performer David Studebaker. Photo courtesy of Dixon Family Services

including the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Festival on Dec. 5.

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

Under the Valley Moon

Solano Midnight Sun Breast Cancer Foundation will conclude the month's fundraising activities with Under the Valley Moon at 5 p.m. Aug. 29 at Bella Vista Farms, 7108 State Highway 113. The event will feature a Napa-style lobster boil, hosted bar, live entertainment, auctions and raffles.

For more information, visit Solano Midnight Sun Breast Cancer Foundation or call 707-469-9909.

Read to a Dog

Dixon Library is hosting Read to a Dog from noon to 1 p.m. July 27. 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.

Bunco Night

Joystick Gaming Lounge will host its monthly Bunco Night from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 27. 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.

DFS Comedy Night

Dixon Family Services will host its annual Comedy Night fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 8. The event, held at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St., includes dinner, raffle prizes, desserts and live entertainment. Comedian Jeff Applebaum will serve as master of ceremonies after being invited by returning performer David Studebaker.

For more information, visit givebut-ter.com/DFSComedyNight2026 or email info@dixonfamilyservices.org. ★



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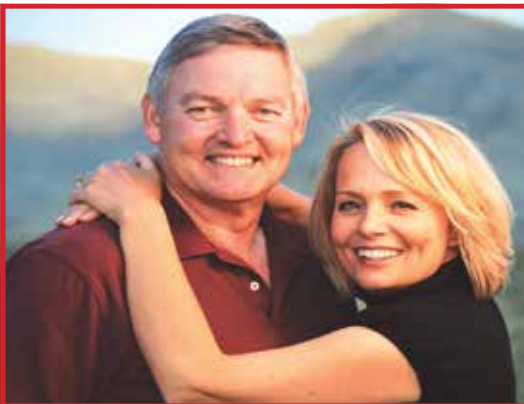
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Third Color Run on the Horizon



Funds raised through the Color Run will support physical education equipment, art classroom supplies and the PTO's campaign to purchase a new digital marquee for the school. Photo courtesy of Anderson PTO

Continued from page 1
the school day and allows kids to be outside, running or walking and getting messy," said Snyder. "It's a great way to make memories and to raise funds for our school."

During the event, students are grouped by grade level and have about 30 minutes to walk or run laps around the school's track. Families can watch from a designated viewing area in the center of the track. Students may choose whether they want colored powder tossed on them or prefer to remain color-free.

The Dixon Fire Department joins parent volunteers in throwing the colored powder, and every student and staff member receives a commemorative event T-shirt provided by the PTO. At the conclusion of the event, leaf blowers are used to gently remove the color powder.

Funds raised through the Color Run will support physical education equipment, art classroom supplies and the PTO's campaign to purchase a new digital marquee for the school. The electronic sign will display announcements, school events and other information for families.

Snyder said PTO fundraising has made a measurable difference for students.

"Last year our Color Run funds allowed the fourth grade to take our annual field

trip to Coloma because they helped support bus costs," she said. "Bus costs are outrageous and schools do not have funding for them. We were able to take the trip with no cost to our students."

She said parent volunteers remain essential to the success of the organization's events.

"Whether they are helping pass out prizes, distributing flyers, posting graphics to social media or throwing color, we couldn't do it without them," said Snyder. "Their commitment and dedication is appreciated and the efforts do not go unnoticed."

Beyond the Color Run, the PTO plans to introduce new spirit wear, including hoodies for the first time, while continuing established campus traditions throughout the school year. The organization also will host its annual Fall Festival in late October and welcomes partnerships with local businesses and community members interested in supporting Anderson Elementary.

"We look forward to another fantastic year," said Snyder. "Thank you to the amazing students, families, staff and community for always continuing to show up and support Anderson."

For more information, visit Anderson Elementary PTO on Facebook or email andersonroadrunnerspto@gmail.com. ★

DCT Casts 33 Youths in 'The Addams Family'



Auditions for the upcoming production were hosted July 12, 13, 14 and 19. Callbacks were held on July 20 and 21, during which an unprecedented 33 young actors were cast for "The Addams Family," several of whom will play dual roles. Photo by Nicolas Brown

Continued from page 1

The final cast includes 33 children, with performers alternating in several leading roles while also portraying Addams Family ancestors in other performances.

James selected the Young@Part edition of the Broadway musical because it offers a condensed version suitable for younger performers while retaining familiar characters that appeal to audiences of all ages.

"The Addams Family Musical Young@Part gives local children the opportunity to participate in a more mainstream production," she said. "Additionally, the familiar characters appeal to all age groups and this show has plenty of roles to accommodate as many children as possible who want to participate."

To help participants balance theater with school and extracurricular activities, rehearsals are scheduled after school, generally last less than two hours and are limited to as few days each week as possible.

James said the production provides opportunities for young actors to build confidence, develop teamwork and gain experience both on and off the stage.

"From auditions to rehearsals and performances, they gain valuable experience expressing themselves and overcoming stage fright," she said. "Our cast members must work together, support one another and rely on each other to bring the story to life."

The production team includes James as director, veteran actor Stevie Carr as assistant director, musical director Kaitlyn McEowen, choreographer Bella Reeder and dance captain Irie Carr. James said the

creative staff combines professional experience with a focus on youth education.

"Our goal is to provide our young performers with the highest quality instruction and support," said James. "Every participant has the opportunity to learn, grow and shine on stage."

Although community outreach events are still being scheduled, Dixon Community Theater continues to partner with local schools, businesses and organizations to support performing arts opportunities. The organization works closely with Dixon Unified School District, which provides rehearsal space and access to the Dixon Community Performing Arts Center.

Local businesses also support productions through sponsorships and program advertising. James thanked Dixon Unified School District, Mountain Mike's Pizza and The Lewis Group for supporting this year's production.

Looking ahead to opening night, James said she hopes audiences recognize both the performers' accomplishments and the value of youth theater.

"I hope everyone who attends one of our upcoming performances will see the joy these young performers experience on stage, as well as the confidence, growth and dedication they have developed throughout the process," she said. "I also hope they will see Dixon Community Theater's unwavering commitment to creating meaningful performing arts opportunities for the youth in our community."

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



City Editor Wanted for Dixon Independent Voice

We are seeking a part-time City Editor for this local newspaper.

Previous reporting or editing experience is necessary. Position includes covering or reporting on four or five stories per week. Must be able to take quality photographs for publication. Hours are flexible, with most work performed in our local office. This is not a remote or work from home position. Position includes other light office duty and attending public events.

Hours expected are 5 hours daily from Monday through Friday. Covering events on some Saturdays would mean adjusting the weekday work schedule.

Dixon Independent Voice is a member of Messenger Publishing Group. Check out the company at www.mpg8.com. This employment position is open now.

To apply, send your resume and cover letter to Publisher@mpg8.com.

City Council Approves Promotions for New City Manager, Assistant City Manager

Continued from page 1

Councilmembers Don Hendershot and Kevin Johnson absent.

The council held a public hearing for the annual process of sending past-due residential Recology accounts to the property tax roll for collection. This year, there were 249 delinquent accounts with a total of \$78,973 in unpaid charges.

The council voted 3-0 to the collection of these funds.

The council also considered a new employment agreement with Assistant City Manager Melissa Eads, moving her into the city manager position upon the retirement of City Manager Jim Lindley. Lindley will retire on the last day of July, so Eads will officially step into the role on Aug. 1.

City Attorney White said the five-year contract shows the city and Eads have a mutual dedication for stability in this position. The recommended salary is \$290,000 per year, based on compensation in comparable cities. The agreement also includes an annual cost-of-living increase and an elective home loan assistance program to support her relocation to Dixon.

Councilmember Bogue explained that the city attorney and city manager are employees of the city council, so those positions don't require public input on the hiring process: "So, as we select them, you select us." Bogue said he is always conservative about costs, so he had some

concerns about the salary level, but he's impressed with Eads' "energy and dedication," as well as her vision for moving the city forward.

Vice Mayor Ernest said the council wanted to ensure a smooth transition after Lindley's retirement, and bringing Eads on as assistant city manager first gave them the opportunity to see her quality of work. "She's getting things done," said Ernest. "I think we're making the right choice here."

The council voted 3-0 to approve the employment agreement.

In a related item, the council considered promoting Finance Director Kate Zawadzki to the position of assistant city manager. This is also a five-year agreement, with a recommended salary of \$250,000 and annual cost-of-living increases. Zawadzki will also be maintaining the functions of finance director in addition to her increased responsibility as assistant city manager.

Councilmember Bogue said he "couldn't think of a better person" for filling this role.

Ernest agreed, stating that Zawadzki is always looking ahead "and gives it to us straight."

Mayor Bird said, "It's well deserved." The council voted 3-0 to approve the employment agreement.

The next meeting of the Dixon City Council took place July 21. ★

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Trenton Stuart Birdies His Way to Sacramento County Men’s Amateur Title



Trenton Stuart closed the 2026 Sacramento County Men’s Amateur Championship with a victory. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Golf Council



The championship was conducted by the Sacramento Golf Council. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Golf Council



Champion Trenton Stuart with Tournament Director Scott Bland. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Golf Council

Sacramento Golf Council News Release

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Trenton Stuart closed with a flourish, sinking a birdie on the 18th hole to seal the 2026 Sacramento County Men's Amateur Championship at Ancil Hoffman Golf Course on July 11-12. Stuart fired a scorching final-round 67 to match his opening-round 67, finishing at 134 for

the 36-hole event — good for an impressive 10 under par, two-stroke victory. The incoming UC Davis golfer secured another victory before heading to Davis this fall where he will compete at the collegiate level.

Jacob Garibaldi, an up-and-coming talent in the region, pushed Stuart to the finish, posting a blistering 65 in round one before backing it up with a 71 to take second at 136. A tight battle

for third came down to a three-way tie at 138, with Landon Abalateo, Johnny Thut and Zaid Khan all tied after two rounds of steady golf.

Now in its 62nd year, the Sacramento County Men's Amateur remains one of Northern California's premier amateur tests — a 36-hole stroke-play gauntlet open only to golfers carrying a GHIN index of 3.0 or better. This year's field drew 108 of the region's top amateurs

to Ancil Hoffman for two days of high-stakes competition.

The championship was conducted by the Sacramento Golf Council, which oversees all city and county amateur golf championships throughout the region, with Scott Bland serving as Tournament Chairman.

For more information about upcoming Sacramento Golf Council events, visit sacgolfcouncil.org. ★

Women’s Basketball Completes Coaching Staff with Addition of Teaunsha Robinson

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Teaunsha “Tee” Robinson, who spent the 2025-26 season as an assistant coach and director of player development at Delaware State, has been named an assistant coach with the Sacramento State women’s basketball program, Head Coach Aaron Kallhoff announced July 21. “Tee is a great addition to our program,” Kallhoff said. “She’s a relentless worker and will be great for our student-athletes. I was looking for someone that can relate well with our players, instill great knowledge and help move the program forward. Tee was that person and I’m grateful she decided to make Sacramento State home.”

Robinson was a part of a staff that helped the Hornets (of the Delaware State variety) rank second in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference in both field goal percentage and three-point percentage, while standing among the top five in scoring defense, three-point percentage defense, rebounding defense, assist-to-turnover ratio, blocks and assists.

She helped mentor and develop a pair of MEAC All-Rookie Team selections in Amya Scott and Liliana Harrison, who combined for six conference rookie of the week awards.

“I’d like to thank Coach Kallhoff and Sacramento State for giving me this opportunity and I look forward to helping provide a championship environment for our student-athletes and our fans,” Robinson said. “I’m truly looking forward to continue building upon the culture that has been established here while developing new skills and strategies to help student-athletes advance in their careers both on and off the court.”

Prior to her year in Dover, Robinson spent three years as an assistant coach, co-recruiting coordinator, and director of player development at Paris Junior College in Texas. During her time with the Dragons, she helped



Teaunsha Robinson has been named an assistant coach with the Sacramento State women’s basketball program, Head Coach Aaron Kallhoff announced on Tuesday. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

seven student-athletes sign with four-year schools -- three of those moving on to Division I programs, another signing with a Division II program and three more joining NAIA schools.

During her time at Paris, she aided in developing three all-conference players, a pair of All-Region 14 selections, two NJCAA Top 40 All-Stars and two participants selected for the NCAA Basketball Academy. One of her charges, Naveah Brown, set the school single-season record for three-pointers made, shot 42 percent from beyond the arc and ranked No. 2 in the nation in

three-pointers en route to Women’s Basketball Coaches Association honorable mention All-America honors for two-year colleges in 2025.

In addition to her college coaching experience, Robinson has also served as the Chief of Coaches, Head Coach and Head Trainer with the Indianapolis Belles AAU program since 2020, as well as serving as the girl’s junior varsity head coach and varsity assistant coach (2012-20) at her prep alma mater Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. She coached the school’s junior varsity squad to three city championship and three more city crowns on the varsity side as well as three regional championships and a state championship appearance. In 2019-20, she helped the Lady Engineers to a No. 1 ranking in the city and region with a 22-1 record.

Two players from that team, Dasia Towns and Ajae Petty, earned All-Metro honors and went on to continue in their careers at Virginia Commonwealth and LSU, respectively.

Robinson is also the owner of Organized CHA02 (CHAOS), a development ecosystem that provides athletes of all levels with elite basketball training, social and emotional learning support and career awareness.

A four-year letter winner at Bowie State in Maryland from 2007-11, Robinson was a three-time Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Rookie of the Week and was named to the league’s All-Rookie Team selection as a freshman in 2008, before going on to pick-up All-CIAA honors in each of the next three seasons — including first-team laurels as a junior in 2010. She was also a CIAA All-Tournament Team choice as a sophomore in 2009 and is a member of the Bulldogs’ 1,000-point club.

She helped Bowie State to a pair of conference eastern division championship in her first two seasons and a pair of conference runner-up finishes as a sophomore and junior — including a final number eight regional ranking and an appearance in the Division II Top 25 in 2010.

Robinson graduated from Bowie State with a bachelor’s degree in business management in 2012, and went on to earn her master’s degree in education with a minor in career technology education in 2022 from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. ★

Republic FC Signs Experienced Attacker Alfredo Midence

Republic FC Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Republic FC announced the club has signed attacker Alfredo Midence (pronunciation: mee-DEHN-say) through the end of the 2026 season. He will be added to the team’s roster pending league and federation approval. Per club policy, the terms of the contract were not disclosed.

“With the second half of season to play, we’re bolstering the roster with a young, dynamic player who can contribute in multiple attacking roles,” said Republic FC President and General Manager Tim Holt. “Alfredo will add depth to the roster as we enter an

important stretch in the schedule as the Western Conference table continues to shift and get more competitive.”

“I’m incredibly excited to join Sacramento Republic FC,” said Midence. “From the first conversations with the club, I could feel the ambition and the passion behind this organization. I can’t wait to meet my teammates, play in front of the fans, and give

everything I have to help this team

achieve great things. Let’s get to work.”

Midence made his professional debut with California club Central Valley Fuego in 2024 and quickly became a stand-out player in USL League One. With eight assists – as well as two goals – he earned the Golden Playmaker Award and was named the USL League One Young Player of the Year in his debut campaign. Among the

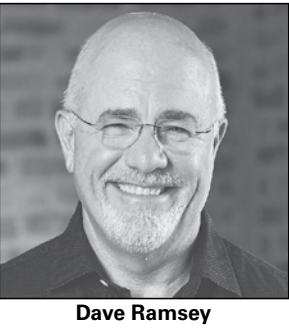
40 players eligible for the annual league-wide honor, he finished first in assists, goal contributions and chances created.

The breakout performance earned him a spot on Lexington’s SC roster in the club’s inaugural USL Championship season in 2025. Across all competitions in two seasons at Lexington, Midence recorded two goals and seven assists in 30 appearances. In 2025, he spent eight matches on loan with USL League One side Charlotte Independence, where he recorded one goal and four assists in the first quarter of the season.

Born in Honduras, Midence moved to Maryland as a teenager and joined the D.C. United Academy. ★



Republic FC announced the club has signed attacker Alfredo Midence through the end of the 2026 season. Photo courtesy of Republic FC.



Dave Ramsey Says

You're Really Just Trading One Expense for Another

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are on Baby Step 2 of your plan, and we're paying off our debt as quickly as possible. I've even put my motorcycle up for sale for \$5,000 to help us get out of debt faster. The other day, a guy offered me \$500 cash and a fishing boat for the bike. I've always really wanted a boat, but picking up a toy feels weird when we're trying to get out of debt. Plus, the money portion of the deal would only make a tiny dent in what we owe. What do you think about this?

— Gordon

Dear Gordon,

I'm proud of you two for working to get control of your finances. And I've got to admit, the deal this guy offered is kind of interesting. Odd, but interesting!

At this stage of the game, though, I think you

and your wife should sit down together and ask yourselves what your real goal is. If the goal is to own a boat, then you could accomplish that easily. If your goal is to get out of debt and get control of your finances, then this deal isn't really the best way to go. It seems like a cool transaction on the surface, especially if you like being on the water. But the upkeep and maintenance on boats can really add up. And that means more hassles and expenses in your lives.

I think you already knew this, Gordon, but in my mind getting out of debt as quickly as possible comes first. There's plenty of time later for you to save up and buy a nice boat *after* you get control of your money. In this scenario, you're really just trading one recreational vehicle—and the accompanying expenses—for another.

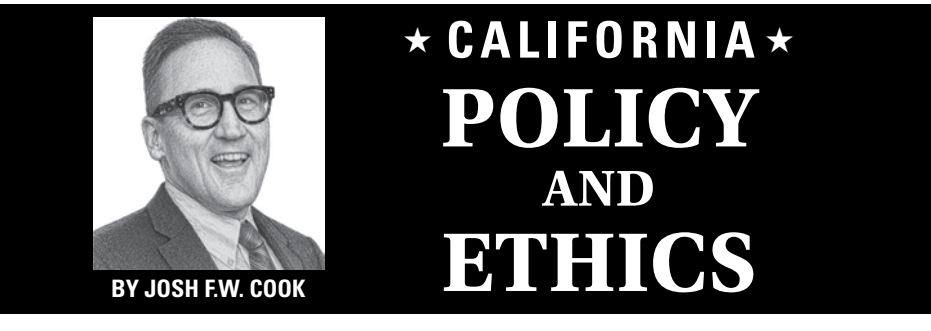
If you're on Baby Step 2, it means you've already

got \$1,000 in the bank for emergencies, and you've moved on to paying off all your debt, except for your home. This tells me you two are motivated, but the idea of a boat has caused your resolve to get a little shaky.

So, if you're looking for someone to tell you forget the boat, and stay on track with getting control of your lives and money, I'm your guy. Don't do the deal!

— Dave

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



The Ukraine Effect: Cheap High-Tech Weapons and California

By Josh Cook

The California congressional delegation should treat advances in high-tech warfare as both economic development and a national security opportunity.

First, expand and protect flexible contracting authorities so that companies with combat-proven systems can move from prototype and early operational use into sustained production without restarting the full traditional acquisition clock. Second, insist on metrics that reward cost-per-effect and iteration speed, not just unit cost or exquisite performance. Third, ensure that the growing autonomy and unmanned budget lines are structured to favor competition from non-traditional suppliers rather than defaulting to the usual primes. Fourth, use oversight to demand that lessons from Ukraine and similar conflicts are rapidly translated into requirements documents instead of being filtered through legacy assumptions.

This is not about abandoning all high-end platforms. It is about recognizing that the force needs both and cannot afford to shoot down \$16,000 drones with \$ 6 million missiles.

California's companies are already building the affordable, software-centric half. The procurement system must be made capable of absorbing them at the volume the threat environment requires. Failure means California's innovation advantage is partially wasted, jobs and capital migrate or underperform, and the Department of War continues to buy for the last war.

At the same time, the next one is already being fought with different tools. Acquisition reform language appears regularly in National Defense Authorization Acts, and appropriators have shown willingness to fund autonomy lines more explicitly. California members sit in key positions—Defense Appropriations subcommittee leadership and districts that contain both traditional bases and the new tech companies. That leverage is underused if it is applied only to protecting existing programs rather than forcing structural change that lets cheaper, high-tech systems scale.

The Ukrainians adapted because they had to, because the war was on their doorstep. We should adapt our processes before that happens. ★



Riley Reviews

“RIDE OR DIE” DELIVERS BINGE-WORTHY THRILLING ACTION EXCITEMENT

A Film and TV Review
by Tim Riley

“RIDE OR DIE” on Amazon Prime

As a colloquial expression, “ride or die” conjures the state of unbending loyalty between friends even during stressful circumstances where behavior could turn reckless or dangerous.

“Thelma & Louise” comes to mind when Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis embarked on a road trip fraught with trying conditions that ensnared the two women on the run with unforeseen peril which epitomized the “ride or die” ethos of backing up your partner.

As for Amazon Prime's eight-episode action caper “Ride or Die,” Octavia Spencer's Debbie Claybourne and Hannah Waddingham's Judith Burton are best friends, but one of them hasn't been forthcoming about her professional life.

The opening scene finds a woman aiming a high-powered rifle at a man on the deck of an Austrian ski resort, and yet she hesitates to pull the trigger but not for having any qualms for executing the kill.

That woman turns out to be Judith, a skilled assassin operating under the code name “Whiptail,” who decides contrary to the instructions from a distant handler to kill her target up close and personal, stabbing him with a steak knife in the presence of many witnesses.

On the other hand, Debbie is married to a member of the British Parliament, David Clayborne (Jamie Parker). Outside of an informal advisory role for her husband, her ordinary life includes book club with a bunch of staid middle-aged women.

While Judith's secretive life involves international missions to take out supposedly bad guys, Debbie's most daring activity is finding a way to beat the line to enter an antique show to snag the best premium objects.

For all Debbie knows, Judith works as a forensic accountant who travels a lot for conferences. The fake job makes for a nice cover. After all, who is going to take an interest in a profession that sounds a bit dull?

Meanwhile, Debbie set aside her ambitions after graduating from an Ivy League law school after falling in love and relocating to England to start a family with an ambitious politician.

For Debbie, the truth of the matter is that she's done more than be a supportive spouse of a member of Parliament. Not the most charismatic figure, David would not have gotten far in his aspirations without the help of his wife.

After the slipshod hit in Austria, Judith is warned by her colleague Sam (Calam Lynch) that she's on so much thin ice

with the shadowy government agency's chief, The Director (Bill Nighy), that her next job must follow the rules or else.

Guessed to be about 50 years old, Judith might be pushed out of work just for her age. Having no desire to retire, the angry assassin insists on taking on another assignment, promising to follow protocols.

At a charity event, Judith is tasked with eliminating crime syndicate boss Billy Donovan (Ed Skrein) by using poison. Debbie is also attending the same gala at which the lives of both women are upended.

On the way to the party, Debbie is shattered to learn that her husband wants a divorce, perhaps to cover up his involvement in money laundering. Meanwhile, Judith is unable to go through with killing her target.

The night ends with a bunch of men getting killed, and Judith must protect Debbie from harm, at which time she learns the truth of her best friend's background. Circumstances force them to flee across Europe, evading an assortment of criminals as well as Interpol.

The espionage world in which Judith toils includes layers of other interesting characters. For one thing, Judith's adversary is the deranged assassin Ana (Sylvia Hoeks), a frightening villain relentless in her unhinged pursuit.

On a better note, the mother-daughter team of Mrs. Williams (Cathy Tyson) and Queenie (Savannah Steyn), who have great rapport, run a shoe repair shop that is a front for supplying weapons and tech gadgets for the assassination agency.

There's practically no end to the number of bad guys to be dealt with. Even The Director proves to be ruthless, cunning and without any sensitivity to those under his command during missions, such that his leadership of a global assassination bureau is disturbingly sinister.

“Ride or Die” excels more than just for the high-octane action; the pairing of Octavia Spencer and Hannah Waddingham allows each to display their talent for a flexibly complicated relationship that nevertheless results in great on-screen chemistry.

Waddingham, the English actress and singer, reveals her ability to be a tough cookie who could carry an action picture with the same panache and resilience of Keanu Reeves' John Wick or in the same vein of Liam Neeson's operative seeking brutal revenge.

Sprinkled with humor, “Ride or Die” is binge-worthy fun for the adventurous dynamic of the two leads who bring an exciting twist to the spectacular action tropes that wouldn't work in a lesser piece of work ★

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Ask DR. UNIVERSE

Would it have been possible to domesticate bears instead of wolves?

- Florian, Austria

Dear Florian,

Humans have lived in partnership with cats like me for a long time. The earliest evidence for our friendship is 9,500 years old. Archaeologists found cat and human remains buried together.

But that's nothing compared to how long humans and dogs have hung out. They might've been a duo for 30,000 years.

I asked my friend Sean Farley if that could have happened with bears instead. He's a wildlife biologist in Alaska. He studied at the Washington State University Bear Center.

He told me that wolf biology made them good candidates to live with humans. That includes their social structure and physical needs. Bears...not so much.

Dogs share a common ancestor with gray wolves.

Sometime between 11,000 years ago and 32,000 years ago, dogs split from wolves on the family tree.

Scientists think those dog-wolves probably domesticated themselves.

Back then, humans were hunter-gatherers. Over time, some wolves became less fearful of humans. They became friendlier and more dog-like. They would have been great partners for hunters.

That probably wouldn't have worked with bears. Bears don't live and work together as a pack.

“Bears recognize a hierarchy, but it's based more on size and dominance and fear—not a hierarchy of working together,” Farley said. “Even black bears can take down prey much larger than themselves by themselves. But for wolves to take down a moose, it really takes the pack effort to do it.”

Plus, bears are massive—and ancient bears were even bigger. Think about the prehistoric cave bear. It definitely lived around humans. That ginormous bear weighed as much as 2,000 pounds. It would take tons of food to maintain their size.

As they sat by the fire, humans probably tossed bones and bits of meat to friendly wolves. That would have been a steady food source for them. But scraps wouldn't be enough to feed a bear.

Baby bears would be kind of a problem, too.

Wolf pups stay inside a den with their mother for a few weeks. Then they're big enough to run and play with the pack.

Bear cubs are born while their mother hibernates. And they're altricial—or super helpless. They won't come out of the den for months.

“They don't look anything like the bear cubs that you see running around in the springtime,” Farley said. “They can't do anything except scream and nurse. And they're like that for several months.”

That long hibernation and those needy babies wouldn't have worked with the early human lifestyle. Hunter-gatherers moved around a lot. They traveled to find food and shelter from the weather. They met up with other groups of people. Humans would have had to change their whole lives to try to domesticate a bear.

I guess humans couldn't bear the huge cost of trying to befriend those furry guys.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

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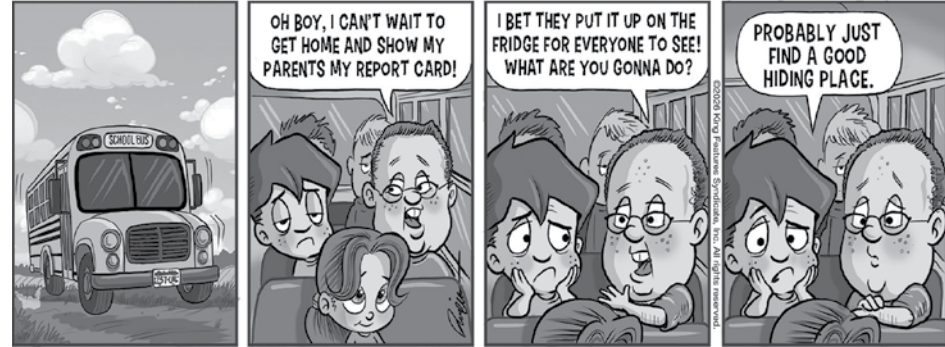
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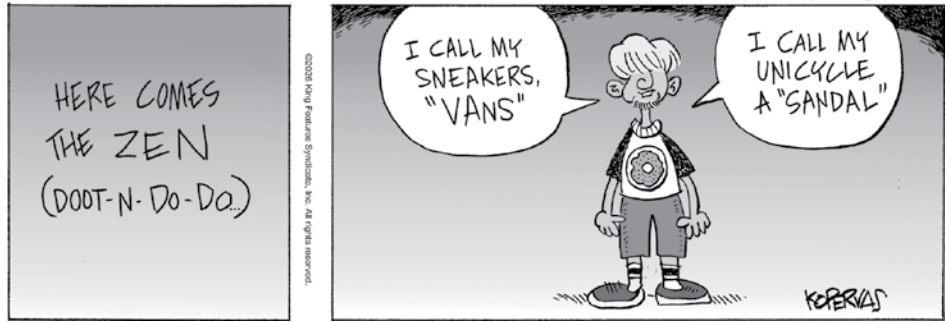
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Amber Waves



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Out on a Limb

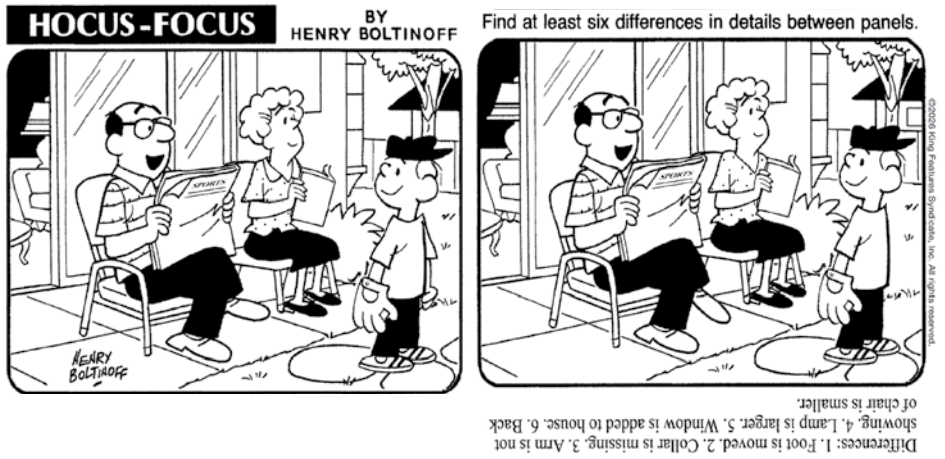
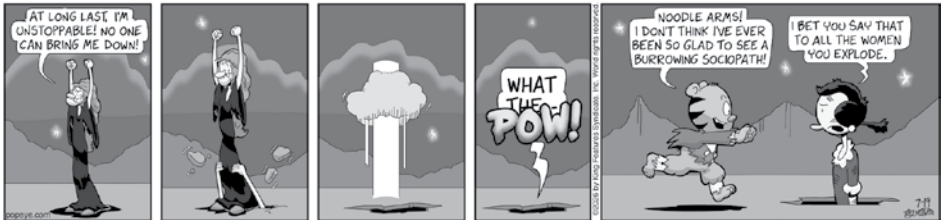
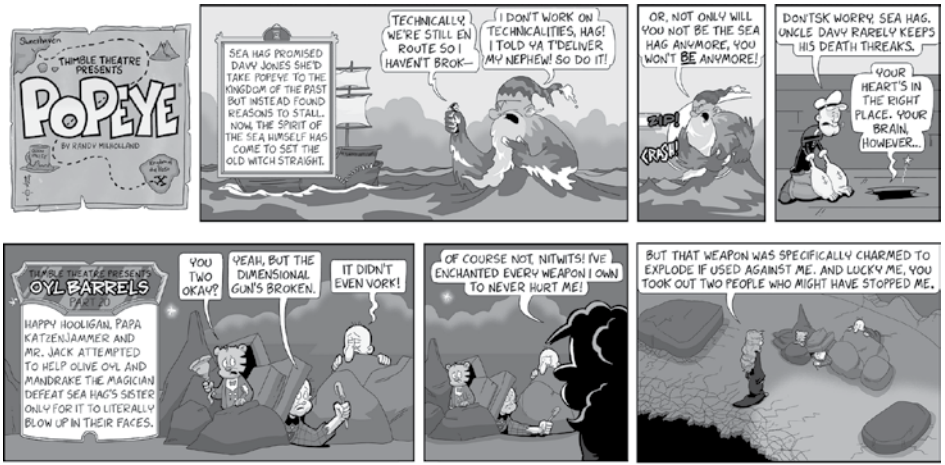


by Gary Kopervas

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE



by Dave T. Phipps



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CLUES

ACROSS
1. Charlie "Bird" Parker's sax
5. Mary ____, business-woman extraordinaire
8. Downloadable smartphone purchase
11. In ____ of
12. Greek salad staple
13. Appraisal
15. Law school prerequisite, acr.
16. "Once ____ a Time in America"
17. Dictum, pl.
18. * ____ press, Johannes Gutenberg's invention
20. "Sittin' On the Dock of the Bay" singer
21. In need of a muffler
22. Make a choice
23. *Genghis Khan's ____ Empire
26. Intima, pl.
30. Fertility clinic stock
31. Tranquil
34. Famous Steeler coach, Chuck ____
35. Twisted cotton thread
37. Key next to spacebar
38. Like a gymnast
39. Naysayer's favorite prefix
40. Develop, as in story
42. ____-AFTRA
43. Famous fox of fable
45. Like a smell of soil
47. *World's first 24-hour TV news network, acr.
48. Molten rock
50. Smoke plus fog
52. *First Roman emperor
55. Part of foot, pl.
56. Chowder protein
57. Pelvic parts
59. Are not
60. *Homesteader's purchase, sing.
61. "____ the good die young"
62. *Pres. during the Cuban Missile Crisis
63. It is
64. Fermented rice brew

DOWN
1. Pledge of Allegiance ending
2. Talk like Daffy
3. Eye drop
4. Day trip
5. Flat-topped military caps
6. Lack of muscle tension
7. Opposite of yin
8. Mushroom spore sacs
9. Benatar and Morita, e.g.
10. Money in Myanmar
12. Pointless
13. Take as one's own
14. * ____ Bull, Lakota's famous leader
19. Gallows' rope
22. *World War ____, 1914-18
23. Wisdom tooth, e.g.
24. Sheep-like
25. Highly unpleasant
26. "He's Just Not That ____ You"
27. Damp
28. Islam's Supreme Being
29. Lament for the dead
32. Writer Ayn
33. Rudolph's friend Hermey, e.g.
36. *One of Mount Rushmore presidents
38. *First President in the White House
40. Cremation ashes
41. Peanut or pea, e.g.
44. Emotional turmoil
46. 2:1 and 3:1, e.g.
48. Defraud
49. Petri dish jellies
50. Feudal lord's servant
51. Humble and docile
52. Frozen bowl berry
53. Arm bone
54. *The ____ Road, ancient East-West trade route
55. Pilgrimage to Mecca
58. Pirate's "yes"

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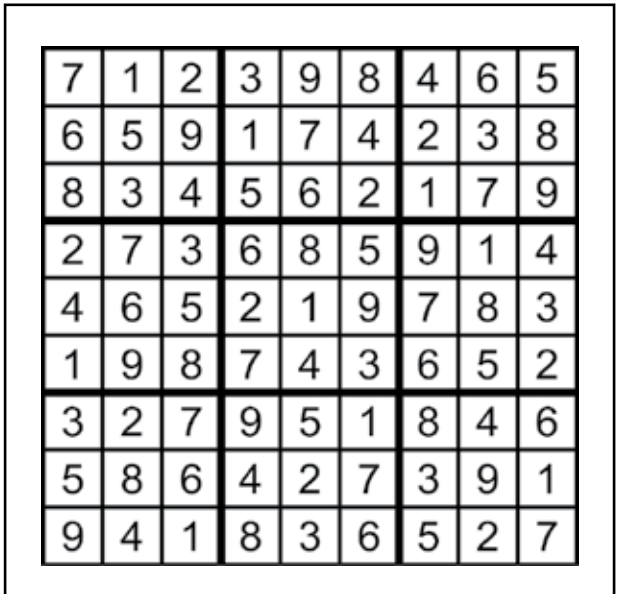
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95620.

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Court, Dixon, CA 95620.

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N/A

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CASTILLOS 7-31-26

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STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001181
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Ryan Brown, 2401 Waterman
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Publish: July 10, 17, 24, August 1, 2026

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STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001168
The following persons are doing
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Life Support, Castillo's Legal
Support and Document Services,
Dixon Express Auto Registration
Center, 1450 Ary Lane Suite D,

Patriot Way, Valor Drive, Crimson Lane, Hope Court, and Homestead Way (Village 13 Bellera at Homestead) - Request for a Design Review (DR26-0254) approval for 3 model homes for Homestead Phase 4/Village 13 with four available styles for each model (Mediterranean, Farmhouse, Craftsman, and Contemporary). Each style would also have four different color pallets. This phase/village of Homestead include 58 residential lots; Per Chapter 18.23 of the Dixon Municipal Code, Design Review is required for model homes for residential subdivisions. APN: 0114-012-120 ; Zoning Districts: Residential Medium Density –Southwest Dixon Specific Plan (RM-SWSP); Ethan Meltzer with K. Hovnanian Homes, applicant; Clifton Taylor, owner; File No: PLAPP26-0253, DR26-0254.

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. The City Council certified the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan. In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21166, as implemented by CEQA Guidelines 15162, the project is consistent with the EIR and determined that no circumstances giving rise to a requirement for a subsequent or supplemental EIR are present requiring such subsequent or supplemental document. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

Contact Scott Greeley, Associate Planner at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115 or sgreeley@cityofdixonca.gov. You can also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

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

PROJECT:

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001168
The following persons are doing
business as: Castillo's Legal
Life Support, Castillo's Legal
Support and Document Services,
Dixon Express Auto Registration
Center, 1450 Ary Lane Suite D,

Patriot Way, Valor Drive, Crimson Lane, Hope Court, and Homestead Way (Village 13 Bellera at Homestead) - Request for a Design Review (DR26-0254) approval for 3 model homes for Homestead Phase 4/Village 13 with four available styles for each model (Mediterranean, Farmhouse, Craftsman, and Contemporary). Each style would also have four different color pallets. This phase/village of Homestead include 58 residential lots; Per Chapter 18.23 of the Dixon Municipal Code, Design Review is required for model homes for residential subdivisions. APN: 0114-012-120 ; Zoning Districts: Residential Medium Density –Southwest Dixon Specific Plan (RM-SWSP); Ethan Meltzer with K. Hovnanian Homes, applicant; Clifton Taylor, owner; File No: PLAPP26-0253, DR26-0254.

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. The City Council certified the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan. In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21166, as implemented by CEQA Guidelines 15162, the project is consistent with the EIR and determined that no circumstances giving rise to a requirement for a subsequent or supplemental EIR are present requiring such subsequent or supplemental document. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is in an environmentally-sensitive area, further study may be required.

HEARING DATE
& LOCATION:

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will be physically open to the public. All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or remotely participating via video conferencing at <http://www.zoom.us> or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment.

MORE
INFORMATION:

Contact Scott Greeley, Associate Planner at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115 or sgreeley@cityofdixonca.gov. You can also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting at <https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos>.

WHAT WILL
HAPPEN:

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

PUBLIC
COMMENTS:

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

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
LOREN BOBBY JOE WOLFF
CASE NO. PR25-00729

To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi-
tors, and contingent creditors of
and persons who may be other-
wise interested in the will or es-
tate, or both, of Loren Bobby Joe
Wolff.

A Petition for Probate has been
filed by Chris Wolff, in the Superior
Court of California, County of
Solano, requesting Annalisa
Alvarado, CLPF be appointed
as personal representative(s) to
administer the estate of the deced-
ent.

The petition requests the deced-
ent's will and codicils, if any, be
admitted to probate. The will and
any codicils are available for ex-
amination 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 admin-
istration 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:
September 2, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
in Dept 22; Superior Court of
California, County of Solano, 580
Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting
of the petition, you should appear
at the hearing and state your ob-
jections or file written objections
with the court before the hearing.
Your appearance may be in per-
son 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 representa-
tive, 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 au-
thority 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 in-
terested in the estate, you may
file with the court a Request for
Special Notice (form DE-154) of
the filing of an inventory and ap-
praisal 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: Grace
Manago, 612 Seagull Drive,
Suisun, CA 94585; 707-761-2135
Publish: July 17, 24, 31, 2026
PRITCHARD 7-31-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
EDWARD JOHN PRITCHARD
CASE NO. PR26-00257

To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi-
tors, and contingent creditors of
and persons who may be other-
wise interested in the will or es-
tate, or both, of Edward John
Pritchard.

A Petition for Probate has
been filed by Grace Manago, in
the Superior Court of California,
County of Solano, requesting
Grace Manago be appointed as
personal representative(s) to ad-
minister the estate of the deced-
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CASE NO. PR26-00257

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ent's will and codicils, if any, be
admitted to probate. The will and
any codicils are available for ex-
amination 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 admin-
istration 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:
August 20, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
in Dept 22; Superior Court of
California, County of Solano, 580
Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting
of the petition, you should appear
at the hearing and state your ob-
jections or file written objections
with the court before the hearing.
Your appearance may be in per-
son 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 representa-
tive, 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 OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
EDWARD JOHN PRITCHARD
CASE NO. PR26-00257

To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi-
tors, and contingent creditors of
and persons who may be other-
wise interested in the will or es-
tate, or both, of Edward John
Pritchard.

A Petition for Probate has
been filed by Grace Manago, in
the Superior Court of California,
County of Solano, requesting
Grace Manago be appointed as
personal representative(s) to ad-
minister the estate of the deced-
ent.

The petition requests the deced-
ent's will and codicils, if any, be
admitted to probate. The will and
any codicils are available for ex-
amination in the file kept by the
court.

The petition requests authority
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later of either (1) four months from
the date of first issuance of letters
to a general personal representa-
tive, as defined in section 58(b) of
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son or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or
a contingent creditor of the de

Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

Alcoholics Anonymous – If you want to drink, that’s your business. If you want to stop drinking, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous at 800-970-9040 for either local meeting information or to speak to someone.

American Legion Dinners – Every Friday night at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. Prices range from \$12 to \$17 depending on menu. Live music every Friday. Live band first and third Fridays.

Bingo – Is played every Monday and Wednesday at the Senior/Multi-Use Center, 201 S. 5th St., beginning at 12 p.m. Call 707-678-7022 for more information.

Friendship Services of Solano County – Do you spend a lot of time alone? Would you like a telephone companion? Call Friendship Service at 707-644-9062 x242 or 707-644-8909 and ask Cyndi about becoming a client. It’s free. A program of Catholic Social Services. A provider of the Napa-Solano Area Agency on Aging. Email: friendship@csssolano.org.

Meals on Wheels – Homebound seniors can receive meals delivered to their homes by calling 707-425-0638. Lunch also served at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 South 5th St. at 11:30 a.m. M-F. Reservations required – call 707-425-0638 one day in advance.

Regular Meetings:

Al-Anon – Family and friends of alcoholics can get support through Al-Anon, which meets Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

American Legion – Dixon Post 208 meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St.. For information, call 707-678-6308. Also visit us online at www.dixonveterans.org/Legion.

American Legion Auxiliary – Dixon Post 208 meets at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St.. For information, contact Pat Holland (President) at 707-678-3685 or Leah Marlin (Vice President) at 530-304-5385. Visit us online at www.dixon-veterans.org/Legion.

Anderson PTO – Meets monthly at 7 p.m. at Anderson Elementary School, 415 East C St. Email andersonroadrunnerspto@gmail.com for dates.

Bids For Kids – Is a volunteer organization created to promote and foster youth participation in agriculture. Anyone interested in this endeavor is welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meeting. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact secretary, Lisa Dage at 707-246-5623, fivedages@sbcglobal.net or president, James Fuller at 916-952-0167, jameskfuller@yahoo.com.

Boy Scout Troop 152 – Meets Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Social Hall at United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson. Scouts is for boys 11 to 18 years old. Contact Matt at 707-685-1750 or email scoutmaster@troop152dixon.com for more information. Check us out on the web @ troop152dixon.com.

Chief Solano Kennel Club, Inc. meetings – at 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday at the Elmira Fire Station. Call Linda at phone below to RSVP. Open to everyone. No July meeting. For info call 446-7492 or visit www.chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

Chief Solano Kennel Club, Inc. classes – Puppy Socialization 6:20 to 6:50 p.m. (4 to 12 mos), Beginning Obedience 7 to 7:40 p.m. (4 mos & older) indoor training classes on Wednesdays at the Elmira Fire Station, as well as Conformation classes at 7:50 to 8:30 p.m. for those who show dogs or are interested in showing their dogs. Classes are open to everyone and their canine companions. Classes are not appropriate for aggression issues. Discounts for Seniors 55 and over, Juniors under 16, and those who have adopted a dog from the Humane Society, a breed rescue group, or your local shelter. Bring adoption certificate when you register. Visit www.chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

CITY OF DIXON: The following meetings are held in the Council Chamber at 600 East A St. The agendas are available before meetings at www.ci.dixon.ca.us. For further information, call 707-678-7000 and ask for the City Clerk’s office, Planning Dept., Parks & Recreation Dept., or Transportation Dept.

City Council – Meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Commission – Meets the third Wednesday of every EVEN month at 7 p.m.

Dixon Adult Literacy Program – Solano County Library Adult Literacy Services is seeking volunteers to help an adult with their reading, writing, or English-speaking skills at the Dixon Public Library. No experience necessary, flexible hours. All training and materials are provided. Contact: Literacy@solanocounty.com or 707-784-1526.

Dixon Boat Club – Meets first Thursday of the month. For more information, call Butch at 707-678-3622.

Dixon Downtown Business Association – Dedicated to enhancing the business environment and promoting the revitalization of downtown Dixon as the cultural center of the community. Merchant meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at various locations. Log onto www.downtowndixonca.com, email DDROAC@yahoo.com, or call 707-678-8400 for more information.

Dixon Game & Conservation Club – Meetings on second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Game Club Building on East Mayes. For more information, contact John Kett at 916-284-4683.

Dixon Historical Society – Meets quarterly on the third Sunday of Feb., Apr., Aug., and Oct. from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall located at 209 N. Jefferson St. in Dixon. Meetings include a historical representation and announcements of upcoming events. Anyone interested in the history of Dixon, and its surrounding areas, is welcome! You do not need to be a member to attend, and all presentations are free to the community. The Dixon History Museum is open for visits, Thursdays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For further information, please contact us at www.dixonhistoricalsociety.org. Email dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or call 707-693-3044.

Dixon Kiwanis Club – an International civic organization serving the community through enhancing children’s lives meets on the fourth

Monday of each month at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Conference Room. Call Kristin Janisch at 918-840-0785 for more information.

Dixon Lions Club – Since 1954, the Dixon Lions Club is a group of local people who identify needs within our Dixon community and work together to fulfill those needs. Internationally our 45,867 clubs & more than 1,347,322 members make us the world’s largest service club organization. We meet first/third Wednesdays at Bud’s Pub & Grill from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Website: <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/dixonca>. Facebook page: Dixon Lions Club.

Dixon Rotary Club – Meets on most Wednesdays at noon at The Creative Space, 160 West A. St., Dixon. Rotary is the world’s first and oldest service club organization with over 1.4 million members working locally and internationally to improve health and sanitation, combat hunger, provide education, and promote peace. For more information and meeting confirmation, contact Rotary President Marlene Vega at 707-678-9368.

Dixon Scottish Cultural Association – Open to anyone who is interested in celebrating Scottish culture. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St. For details, visit <https://scot-sindixon.us/>.

Dixon Senior Club – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dixon Senior Multi-Use Center, 201 S. Fifth St. For more info, call 678-7022.

Dixon Toastmasters/Public Speaking Club – Need to speak in front of people? Want to improve your communication skills? Want to have fun learning? Check us out! We meet Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Living Hope Church. For more info, call or text Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or Rose Cooke at 707-297-0918.

Dixon Women’s Improvement Club – From September through May of each year, the Dixon Women’s Improvement Club dedicated to the betterment of Dixon, meets on the third Wednesday of the month for stimulating presentations, activities, and friendships. Meetings are held at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Dixon Youth Soccer

Board Meetings – The board will meet the third Tuesday of each month, except for December, at the Sutter West Medical Center Conference Room, at 7 p.m.

Domestic Violence Support Group – Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345.

Dry Dock – This Alcoholics Anonymous group meets Mondays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. at Dixon United Methodist Church, corner of B and N. Jefferson St.

Fairfield/Suisun Bass Reapers – Meets first Tuesday of each month at RoundTable Pizza, 5085 Business Center Drive, Fairfield. For more info, call 707-429-3239.

Friends of the Dixon Public Library – Meets at the library on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. For more information, call 707-624-0144.

Gretchen Higgins Parent Teacher Organization – We meet the second Monday of each month in the library at our school. Email ohptol525@gmail.com for more information.

Independent Order of Oddfellows Montezuma Lodge #172 – Meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 111 West A. St., Dixon above Bud’s. For more info, call Jason 530-400-0281 or Ed 916-837-6865.

Lambtown Committee – Meets third Monday each month at 6 p.m. at Veteran’s Hall. Email John Knight at johnknightpto@gmail.com

Living With Cancer – Support Group for people who have or have had cancer meets the first, third, and fifth Tuesday of every month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Dining conference room at Woodland Memorial Hospital, 1325 Cottonwood St., Woodland. Free.

Narcotics Anonymous – Open meetings are held every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Dixon United Methodist, 209 N. Jefferson St. (Corner of West B and N. Jefferson). For helpline information and other meetings, go to www.napasolanona.org.

Northern Solano Democratic Club (NSDC) – Meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at IBEW, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville (behind Home Depot). For

more information, contact Jeanie White 615-260-7896 or email pres.nsdc@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northernnsdc.

NSDC Democrats in Action – Monthly lunch meeting is every fourth Thursday at noon at Fuso Italian Restaurant at 535 Main St., Vacaville. Meet to discuss actions that can be taken towards local, state, and national political issues. See above for contacts.

Promises AA Group – Meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

Sexual Assault Support Group – Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345.

Solano County Mental Health Education – Monthly presentations on various topics will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 2101 Courage Dr., Fairfield. Call Rachel Ford at 707-784-8362 for more information and monthly topic.

Sons of the American Legion – Meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Dixon American Legion Post 208 Hall. For information, call Wayne Holland at 707-301-0941.

Soroptimist International of Dixon – Meets Thursdays at noon at the Dixon United Methodist Church (20 N. Jefferson). Call President Barbara Rigdon at 408-306-7390. Mail: P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA 95620.

36th District Agricultural Assn. – Board of Directors meet the second Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. in the board room located at 655 S. First St. (Dixon May Fair)

Tremont Teachers and Parents Association – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Tremont School. For more information contact 678-9533.

Toastmasters – Meets every other Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. Contact Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or email her at mendezlynda55@yahoo.com

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) – Dixon Post 8151 meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St. For information, contact Cecil Dennings (Commander) at 209-395-8019. Also visit us online at m.facebook.com/DixonVFW. ★

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

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TRUSTEE SALE

ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, or cash equivalent if deemed acceptable to the trustee, cashier’s check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. **BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.** Trustor(s): **TAMMY STEWART, A MARRIED**

WOMAN AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY Recorded: **6/10/2022** as **Instrument No. 202200040584** of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of **SOLANO** County, California; Date of Sale: **8/17/2026 at 09:30 AM** Place of Sale: **At the Santa Clara Street entrance to the City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590** Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: **\$749,296.52** The purported property address is: **625 CYPRESS ST, DIXON, CA 95620** Assessor’s Parcel No. : **0114-143-100** All bidders, at the date, time, and place of the scheduled sale, will be required to show satisfactory support to the auctioneer of their ability to pay the amount they intend to bid, unless arrangements have been made with the trustee prior to the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priori-

ty, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call **866-539-4173** for information regarding the trustee’s sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-25-1011391-AB**. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO TENANT:** You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction

pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an “eligible tenant buyer,” you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call **866-645-7711**, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-25-1011391-AB** to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an “eligible tenant buyer” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT:** Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee’s sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility

to the auctioneer at the trustee’s sale or shall have it delivered to **QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION** by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee’s sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE POST-SALE OVER BIDDERS:** For post-sale information in accordance with Section 2924m(e) of the California Civil Code, use file number **CA-25-1011391-AB** and call **(866) 645-7711** or log-in to: <http://www.qualityloan.com>. The above statutorily mandated notices to Tenant, Prospective Owner-Occupant, and Prospective Post-Sale Over Bidders are brief summaries of what may be required under Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. Compliance with all relevant provisions will be required. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser’s sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor,

the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary’s Agent, or the Beneficiary’s Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right’s against the real property only. Date: **QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 866-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 866-539-4173 Or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com Post-Sale Information (CCC 2924m(e)): (866) 645-7711 Reinstatement or Payoff Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION TS No.: CA-25-1011391-AB IDSPub #0315916 7/24/2026 7/31/2026 8/7/2026 DIXON INDEPENDENT VOICE 8-7-26**


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CHP Awards More Than \$41 Million to Combat Impaired Driving Across California

Funding Supports Enforcement, Education and Forensic Testing Statewide



These grants support education, strengthen enforcement efforts to remove impaired drivers from our roads and expand research and forensic testing to improve traffic safety across the state. Photo designed by Magnific

California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) today announced more than \$41 million in grant funding for 183 California law enforcement agencies, crime laboratories, local government agencies and nonprofit organizations to strengthen efforts to prevent and reduce impaired driving.

Funding comes through the voter-approved Proposition 64, which directs the CHP to administer grants for impaired driving education, prevention and enforcement programs. The grants also fund forensic toxicology testing at crime laboratories. Program revenue comes from taxes on cannabis and cannabis products sold in California. “The substantial

increase in grant funding this year will help even more communities keep California’s roadways safe. These grants support education, strengthen enforcement efforts to remove impaired drivers from our roads and expand research and forensic testing to improve traffic safety across the state,” said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee.

The CHP awarded grants to 160 law enforcement agencies to support impaired-driving enforcement across California. In addition to enforcement operations, agencies will use the funding to train drug recognition evaluators, expand their ability to identify drug-impaired drivers and conduct public education campaigns through community events and presentations.

The CHP awarded grants to expand public

education. Twelve agencies received education grants to raise public awareness of impaired driving laws and to educate Californians about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The CHP grant funds also support improved forensic testing and advancing DUI data collection. Ten agencies received two-year toxicology crime laboratory grants to reduce forensic testing backlogs, improve laboratory capacity and purchase or upgrade testing equipment. Additionally, one medical examiner’s office received a two-year grant to improve data collection for impaired-driving cases.

A complete list of the 2026 grant recipients is available on the CHP website. The CHP expects to open the next grant



application period in early 2027. Additional information on the Cannabis Tax

Fund Grant Program is available on the CHP website at chp.ca.gov. ★



Researchers Study Potential of Agave Crop

Agave, a succulent long grown in parts of Mexico to make tequila and mezcal, has in recent years attracted the attention of California farmers seeking options as they face water shortages and the prospect of fallowing land. The drought-resilient crop has demonstrated commercially viable yields with less than a tenth of the water usage needed for many tree crops. To help farmers, experts are ramping up research on cultivating agave in California and exploring various potential markets for the crop. According to researchers, the long-term potential of California’s budding agave sector may depend on learning which practices traditionally used to grow the plant in Mexico need to be altered for the state’s various growing environments and which varieties grow best in California. “We want to see which ones, depending on the variety, will thrive in the Central Valley so we could take the risk for the farmers,” said Ángel Reyna, president of Madera Community College, which earlier this year planted 20 agave varieties in a test plot.

Mechanical Harvest Research Bolsters Table Olive Prospects

California table olive producers have endured a challenging decade. Once an important crop in the Golden State—particularly in Butte, Glenn, Tehama, San Joaquin and Tulare counties—high picking costs, relentless foreign competition and a shift to more promising crops have shrunk the sector. Today, more than 60% of the state’s olive acreage is dedicated to oil production rather than canning. Research being conducted by a team of University of California researchers, including farm adviser Becky Wheeler-Dykes, is aimed at

improving mechanical harvest efficiency for table olives to save on labor costs. For the past three years, the researchers have been testing the use of the synthetic ethylene precursor Accede, which loosens fruit attachment, requiring less force from trunk shakers to remove the fruit and allowing more olives to be harvested at once. The product is not yet registered for use on olives. Wheeler-Dykes said the UC team has been collecting the required data for registration and expressed hope that Accede will become registered by next year.

Overnight Guests Add Key Revenue Stream For Farms

More California farms and ranches are incorporating small-scale overnight camping into their operations. The trend comes as farms seek to diversify their incomes amid rising land ownership costs, water uncertainty and fluctuating crop prices, according to the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources. It was also boosted by Assembly Bill 518, state legislation approved last year that created a new state category for small nature-based campsites so that they no longer need a commercial occupancy permit. “It is a positive that agricultural producers may have more options to diversify their income in a way that is compatible with their farming business and that invites the public to appreciate the beauty of California’s agricultural lands,” said Rachael Callahan, statewide agritourism coordinator for the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. “It is promising that policymakers are thoughtfully engaging with how to create new opportunities for farmers and ranchers, and remove barriers, to ultimately strengthen farm viability.” ★



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