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Dixon

Independent Voice

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SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

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Nonprofit Community Celebrates America’s 250th

The Capitol’s Rose Garden Claimed Site for 150,000 Pounds of Food Distributed to Nonprofits



Nonprofit organization, Asian Resources Inc. pose with the packaged foods outside the JustServe booth. Photo courtesy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day-Saints

By Ryley Metten

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - What better way to celebrate the 250th anniversary of America than to give back to the many communities in our country?

On Tuesday, Aug. 25, an America250 truck parked at the State Capitol Park World Peace Rose Garden on 15th Street and delivered 40,000 pounds of food to local nonprofits. The morning drop-off kicked off a larger Sacramento County distribution of over 150,000 pounds of food.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day-Saints has collaborated with America250 to deliver 250



27 local non-profit organizations and religious organizations then picked up the food following a speech which praised the efforts of this campaign and volunteers. Photo courtesy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day-Saints

truckloads of food to cities in all 50 states. As a result of this compassionate effort, communities

all around California will receive about 100 food trucks.

Robin Cook, a western states spokeswoman for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints spoke about the compassionate effort of this campaign.

“This is our way of celebrating America. By working together with people who are not always like us. America is great because we have always been a country that comes together when we confront difficulties. We could have just dropped the food off at a warehouse of a big food bank; instead, we decided to try a little

Continued on page 3

Dixon Fire Responds to Second-Alarm Structure Fire on Putah Creek Road



Just before 6 a.m., Aug. 31, the Dixon Fire Department received a 911 call for a reported residential structure fire in the 5000 block of Putah Creek Road in Winters, within the Dixon Fire Protection District.

Dixon Fire Department News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Just before 6 a.m., Aug. 31, the Dixon Fire Department received a 911 call for a reported residential structure fire in the 5000 block of Putah Creek Road in Winters, within the Dixon Fire Protection District.

A first-alarm response was initiated, and upon arrival, crews found an active structure fire and began an offensive attack. Following a roof collapse, crews transitioned to defensive operations to safely continue firefighting efforts. A second alarm was requested, bringing additional resources from neighboring agencies to assist. The fire remains very active, with more than 40 personnel currently on scene working to bring the incident under control. Crews are expected to remain on scene for several hours.

All occupants and pets are safely out of the residence and no injuries have been reported.

Putah Creek Road is currently closed between McNeil Road and Stevenson Bridge Road. Please avoid the area and allow emergency personnel to continue working safely.

The Dixon Fire Department would like to thank Winters Fire Department, UC Davis Fire Department, Davis Fire Department, Vacaville Fire Department, Vacaville Fire Protection District, Fairfield Fire Department, West Plainfield Fire Department and Woodland Fire Department, as well as PG&E, the Solano County Sheriff’s Office and the California Highway Patrol, for their assistance with this incident. We greatly appreciate the continued partnership and support of all agencies involved. ★

Thompson Presents Check to the City of Vacaville to Build Affordable Housing

Office of Mike Thompson News Release

VACAVILLE, CA (MPG) - Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) presented a \$250,000 check to the City of Vacaville to build ten affordable single-family semi-detached duet homes in the city.

“Proud to have secured \$250,000 for the City of Vacaville to build affordable housing,” said Thompson. “Affordability and homeownership are on everyone’s mind right now, and this project will give hard-working, low-income families an opportunity to purchase a home they would not otherwise have been able to, providing them with stability and an opportunity to build their savings.”

“We are grateful for Congressman Thompson’s continued partnership and leadership in



The funding will go to the City of Vacaville to build ten single-family semi-detached homes. Photo courtesy of the Office of Mike Thompson

expanding housing opportunities in our community,” said Savita Chaudhary, Vacaville’s city manager. “This \$250,000 investment in Harmony Village helps turn the dream of homeownership into a real opportunity for local families. Through our partnership with Habitat for Humanity, we are creating permanently affordable homes that strengthen neighborhoods, promote stability, and expand access to safe, high-quality housing for those who need it most. This is the power of meaningful

Continued on page 3

West Nile Virus Activity Detected in Solano County

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health Division, and the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District (SCMAD) have confirmed that two mosquito pools (mosquitoes collected in a trap) have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). These are the first mosquito samples to test positive for WNV in Solano County in 2026.

“This is an important reminder that mosquito-borne illnesses like West Nile Virus are present in our area,” said Dr. Cameron Kaiser, acting health officer for the Solano County Health & Social Services, Public Health Division. “You can take simple precautions to avoid mosquito bites, particularly when spending time outdoors, and reduce mosquitoes breeding where you live.”

The first positive sample was collected on Aug. 11, 2026, from the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area. The second sample was collected on Aug. 19, 2026, in a rural area of northern Dixon. There are currently no confirmed human cases of WNV in Solano County. As of Aug. 14, 2026, the California Department of Public Health reports that there have been 30 human cases statewide this year.

West Nile virus is transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. People may reduce the risk of contracting mosquito-borne illness by following these guidelines:

Dawn and dusk

Mosquitoes are most active in the early morning and evening. Residents should avoid being outside at these times. If you are outdoors, wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants and use insect repellent.

Drain standing water

Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Residents should eliminate all sources of standing water on their property and drain empty flowerpots, buckets, barrels, old car tires, rain gutters and pet bowls. If you have an ornamental pond, contact SCMAD at (707) 437-1116 for free mosquito fish.

DEET and other repellents

Insect repellents help keep mosquitoes from biting. Apply an EPA-registered insect

repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, IR3535 or para-methane-diol products per the manufacturer's instructions.

Doors and windows

Residents should ensure that their doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep mosquitoes out. Repair or replace screens with tears or holes.

Most people (about four out of five) infected with the West Nile virus will not develop any symptoms. About one out of five will develop mild flu-like symptoms, including fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting and swollen lymph glands. However, about one percent (about 1 in 150) of persons with WNV infections will develop severe neurological disease. In rare cases, WNV infection can be fatal.

Anyone can be infected with WNV, but people who are 60 years of age and older, and those with certain medical conditions, like cancer, diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease and people who have received organ transplants or medications that alter their immune system, are at greater risk of developing severe illness and complications.

The SCMAD staff are taking additional steps to monitor and control mosquito activity in the affected areas.

“The Solano County Mosquito Abatement District (SCMAD) will respond to these WNV detections by continuing surveillance efforts in the areas where the mosquitoes were originally collected,” stated Bret Barner, the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District Biologist. “This will include setting mosquito traps, sampling mosquitoes, and inspecting mosquito breeding sources throughout the area. District staff will focus on reducing the mosquito population through treatment applications. Residents should protect themselves from mosquito bites by draining sources of standing water around their homes and reporting any increased mosquito activity or neglected swimming pools to us at (707) 437-1116. Helpful resources, including tips and recommendations, can be found on our website at SolanoMosquito.com.”

Residents are encouraged to report dead birds online at www.WestNile.Ca.Gov or by calling 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473). ★

Dixon News Briefs



The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from noon to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 17. This free in-person event, held at Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, allows local professionals to connect. Photo courtesy of the Dixon Chamber of Commerce

By MPG Staff

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. Sept. 17. This free in-person event, held at Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, allows local professionals to connect. Offering a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring business cards. Lunch is provided.

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

Fall Water Aerobics

The city of Dixon is hosting a low-impact water aerobics class from Aug. 9 to Oct. 4. Held at Pat Granucci Aquatic Center, 450 E. Mayes St., the class is catered for attendees 14 years and older and daily admission costs \$6 for the

general public and \$4.50 for seniors 55 and older. The class is available from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Sundays and from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fridays.

For more information, visit cityofdixon-ca.gov/departments/recreation or call 707-343-8162.

Tai Chi

Tai Chi classes are starting at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 S. Fifth Street, Sept. 3 and will take place Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. There is a new class special at \$5 per drop-in. Benefits of tai chi include improved balance and coordination, increased flexibility and strength, reducing stress and promote mindfulness, and low-impact exercise for all ages.

All are welcome – no experience necessary.

Senior Resource Fair

The Advocates for Dixon Seniors present the 24th annual Senior Resource Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9 at Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center 201 S. Fifth St., Dixon. Information and resources will be provided from a variety of participants in the areas of safety, health care, transportation, utilities, elder law, fitness, nutrition, benefits and recreation. The event is free to the public and features giveaways and raffles. For information, call 707-678-7022.

Solano Home & Garden Show

The Fall Home Show will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 19 and 20 at the Dixon Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St. The regional home improvement and gardening expo will feature vendors, landscaping ideas, home products, demonstrations and local businesses serving homeowners.

Tickets will be sold at the gate, cash only. General admission is \$8. For more information, visit www.solanohome-show.com/. ★

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Nonprofit Community Celebrates America’s 250th

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harder and connect with our fellow Americans in joint service,” Cook said.

Parked on 15th Street, the America250 semitruck unloaded commodities such as rice, peanut butter, potatoes, flour, sugar, pudding, carrots, onions, pasta, tomato sauce and other staples. 27 local non-profit organizations and religious organizations then picked up the food following a speech which praised the efforts of the campaign and volunteers.

In the speech’s welcoming remarks, Mayor Kevin McCarty addressed the American people and thanked the organizers of the event for bringing food to families in need.

“As we celebrate 250 years of this amazing country, the United States of America, at 175 years of statehood, I wanted to thank the organizers and JustServe and the America250 Coalition for thinking about Sacramento. For thinking about our city, our Capital City. So, we appreciate the effort to help families in need here, and we reflect on how we're all one community here in this Capital City of Sacramento,” said McCarty.

Director of Operations at the



Parked on 15th Street, an America250 semitruck unloaded commodities such as rice, peanut butter, potatoes, flour, sugar, pudding, carrots, onions, pasta, tomato sauce and other staples. Photo by Ryley Metten

Sunrise Christian Food Ministry, April Jacek explained that this is one of the many contributions that her organization volunteers for to give back to the community.

“We were also in The Giving Machine at the Roseville Galleria. It is a beautiful ongoing relationship that we have with the community, with the LDS church, we have service missionaries that come serve at the food closet, so

it’s a win all the way around,” said Jacek.

Elected officials also gathered at the event to help with the distribution and address the organizers. 10th District Assembly Member, Stephanie Nguyen, explained the immense impact the food being donated will have on families in need.

“I think any family seeing a list of the items that are being

distributed would just be over the moon at how they can hold onto some of these items for a while and don’t have to use right away,” Nguyen said.

This humanitarian campaign is especially important now, not only is it the 250th anniversary of America but American families are struggling now more than ever to put food on the table. Food banks across the country report

demand far above pre-pandemic levels, with working families, children and seniors making up a large share of those seeking help.

“This is one of the most, amazing charitable undertakings you will ever witness. The scale of it is staggering, nationally 250 trucks, millions of meals, on a statewide basis, a hundred trucks here in this community in Sacramento County, 150,000 plus pounds, 40,000 just in that truck right here,” Congressman Kevin Kiley said while pointing to the semitruck being unloaded by volunteers.

Kiley explained how this campaign is also an ode to hope and reminder that we are stronger when we come together.

“The number of organizations that have come together and collaborated to make this happen is truly inspiring. I think it provides hope, not just for the individual families who are in need but for all of us, that we can solve problems in a way that makes life better,” said Kiley.

As we burst fireworks on the Fourth of July and hang American flags outside the front porch, this campaign reminds us of what it truly means to be proud to be an American. ★

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

DIXON POLICE LOG



Friday, August 14, 2026

2241 Officers responded to a welfare check on a citizen at the intersection of West Walnut St and South First St. Harold Barfield (49-year-old male) of Dixon was arrested for Battery on a Peace Officer, Public Intoxication and Resisting, Obstructing or Delaying an Officer.

0129 A traffic stop was initiated at Stratford Ave and Parkgreen Dr. Logan Graves (19-year-old male) of Vacaville was arrested for DUI.

0235 A traffic stop was initiated in the 1400 block of Ary Ln. Joshua Black-Shellfair (32-year-old male) of Dixon was arrested for DUI.

Saturday, August 15, 2026

1617 Violation of a restraining order investigation in the 800 block of Newgate Drive.

1855 An information report was taken at the Dixon PD range facility.

2048 A collision report was taken in the 1500 block of West H St.

2127 A collision report was taken in the area of Pitt School Rd and West H St.

0130 A burglary report was taken in the 300 block of Industrial way.

0138 An information report was taken in the 400 block of Ellesmere Dr.

Sunday, August 16, 2026

0836 A D.U.I arrest report was taken in the 800 block of Camelia Dr. Officers contacted (S) Nathan Koster (21) of Dixon. Koster was cited and released to a sober adult.

0938 A vandalism report was taken in the 300 block of West Walnut St.

1033 Suspicious Circumstance report was taken in the 2000 block of Cattle Ct.

1303 A threats report was taken in the 300 block of Schooner Ridge Ct.

2126 Hit and run accident reported in the area of Pitt School Road and Homestead. A light pole was knocked down.

Monday, August 17, 2026

1034 A vandalism report was taken at the intersection of Plaza Ct at Gateway Dr.

1213 A court order violation report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

1428 A traffic collision report was taken at the intersection of South Jackson at West Chestnut St.

1522 A possession of suspected narcotics, drug paraphernalia and probation violation arrest report was taken in the 700 block of Humboldt Dr. Officers contacted (S) Raymond Wisniewski (64) of Dixon. He was arrested and taken to the Solano County Jail.

16488 A disorderly conduct arrest was taken in the 100 block of West B St. Officers contacted (S) Monica Lujan (53) of Dixon. Lujan was arrested and taken to the Solano County Jail. She was later released pursuant to 849 (b) P.C.

Thompson Presents Check to the City of Vacaville to Build Affordable Housing

Continued from page 1
collaboration—thank you for championing housing affordability and investing in our community’s future.”
“We are extremely grateful to Congressman Thompson and the City of Vacaville for this funding for Harmony Village!” said Andrew Killeen, CEO of Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity. “It represents a critical component of the capital stack that is helping to turn all of our plans for this 10-home development into a reality – a reality that will provide 10 local, low-income families with an opportunity to buy the houses that they will help us build in partnership.”
The funding will go to the City of Vacaville to build ten single-family semi-detached homes. This neighborhood, once constructed, will be easily accessible through public transportation, conveniently located near retail stores, and surrounded by reliable infrastructure and city resources.
The funding for this project is part of the \$14,351,487 secured this year by Thompson for community projects in our district.
Each year, Members of Congress may direct federal funding to a limited number of community projects through the appropriations process. Under this program, each House member may submit a limited number of requests on behalf of their district for competitive review by the House Appropriations Committee. Projects selected for funding must meet strict transparency and accountability requirements before being included in federal appropriations legislation. ★

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Republic FC Selects Levy to Craft New Stadium Hospitality Experience



Levy aims to create approachable yet elevated takes on stadium classic fare – signature items like hot dogs, chicken tenders and burgers combining flavor and value for fans throughout the stadium. Photo courtesy of Levy



The fan experience at Republic FC matches will be crafted with Levy's culinary creativity, insights and best-in-class technology from elite soccer-first venues around the globe. Photo courtesy of Levy



Creating an enhanced fan experience is at the center of Republic FC's vision for its 20,000-seat home. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Republic FC announced that Levy has been selected to lead the food, beverage and hospitality experience at the club's new stadium currently under construction, set to open in 2028.

Levy, the market leader in sports and entertainment hospitality, will work closely with Republic FC to craft a culinary experience showcasing the best of Sacramento and Northern California in every aspect, from famed local restaurants in concessions and farm-to-table local sourcing to dining destinations designed for convenience, speed and affordability. The new stadium will be a true showcase for premier hospitality and fan experiences in the heart of downtown Sacramento.

"Sacramento's culinary identity gives our new home an unmatched advantage on gameday, and by partnering with Levy, we'll be able to enhance the fan experience through regional favorites, the best ingredients, and investments in speed and technology," said Republic

FC President & General Manager Tim Holt. "Every bite and beverage at the stadium is crucial to providing a memorable matchday, and we're pushing new boundaries with Levy at our side."

"Republic FC's new stadium will be among the world's top soccer venues," said Andy Lansing, CEO of Levy. "But what makes it special goes beyond just the incredible amenities, it's that it features a fan experience that could only exist in Sacramento. We're bringing the region to life through truly farm-to-table menus and elevated culinary service. This is a house built for Sacramento, and a home stadium that sets a new bar for match day hospitality."

Creating an enhanced fan experience is at the center of Republic FC's vision for its 20,000-seat home. Levy's depth of knowledge will elevate Republic FC's venue to the top tier of global soccer, with Sacramento's diverse and nationally celebrated food and drink culture impacting every element of food and beverage on matchday. Levy has had a hand in shaping the hospitality experience at many of the most innovative new soccer venues built over the last

decade, from Energizer Park in St. Louis and TQL Stadium in Cincinnati to Austin's Q2 Stadium, among others. Levy's soccer partners extend across all levels of MLS, USL and NWSL, and through its extended global footprint Levy serves fans across the biggest leagues in Europe. Levy also maintains a strong culinary and hospitality team based in Northern California, partnering with major sports and entertainment venues that include Levi's Stadium, Sonoma Raceway, as well as University of California and Stanford University athletic venues.

The fan experience at Republic FC matches will be crafted with Levy's culinary creativity, insights and best-in-class technology from elite soccer-first venues around the globe. In the coming months, Republic FC and Levy will share additional information about concessions menus that are tailored by season, incorporating local chefs and restaurants, and a premium, all-inclusive hospitality experience that will reflect the theme of "Sacramento Elegance" which influenced the design of all clubs, lounges and suites throughout the venue.

Levy aims to create approachable yet elevated takes on stadium classic fare – signature items like hot dogs, chicken tenders and burgers combining flavor and value for fans throughout the stadium.

The stadium will feature a robust network of over 50 concession stands and carts, including more than a dozen grab and go speed lanes with expedited self-checkout to get fans in their seats and back to the action.

Additionally, a year-round culinary program for private and group events on non-matchdays will become a national standard for hospitality.

Republic Preview Center will open in late September and provide season ticket members, depositors and fans with an inside look at what the club's new home will have to offer. To receive top priority for seat selection at Republic Stadium, fans can purchase a Season Ticket Membership for the 2027 season now at SacRepublicFC.com/Memberships. Fans can also place a refundable deposit at RepublicStadium.com, or visit the club's mobile stadium experience center on matchdays or at select events throughout the community. ★

Giles Nets Big West Offensive Weekly Honors

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State senior forward Zac Giles was named The Big West Offensive Player of the Week on Monday, Aug. 24 after helping the Hornets to a pair of solid showings against UC Davis and nationally ranked Grand Canyon.

The weekly honor is the first in Giles' career and the first offensive weekly honor from the league office since Donovan Sessoms earned the award on Oct. 21, 2024. It is only the ninth offensive player of the week award for a Hornet since they joined the conference back in 2012.

Giles had a hand in all three of Sacramento State's goals against the Aggies, drawing the foul that resulted in a penalty and led to the Hornets' first goal of

the match in the eighth minute. In the 39th minute, the senior netted his first score of the season for a 2-0 lead before the half, knifing through a pair of defenders before punching one past the UC Davis keeper.

He then had the primary assist on teammate Sean Battistessa's goal in the 68th minute, sending a ball to the top of the six-yard box where Battistessa timed his run perfectly to poke it in for a 3-0 advantage.

It was the first multi-point match for a Sacramento State player since Sessoms (hat trick) and Simon Vaca-Lorenzi (two assists) did so on Oct. 19, 2024, in a 3-1 win against UC Santa Barbara.

Three days later, Giles played all 90 minutes against the No. 21-ranked Lopes, finishing with a team-high two shots and putting one of those on frame in a narrow 1-0 defeat. ★



Sacramento State senior forward Zac Giles was named The Big West Offensive Player of the Week on Monday, Aug. 24. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

Confidence Defines Aggies' Special Teams Unit

UC Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Special teams can change a game in an instant through field position, timely execution and explosive plays. A well-placed punt can pin an opponent deep. A clean operation can turn a late drive into points. One crease in the return game can immediately shift field position and momentum.

As UC Davis prepares for the 2026 season, the Aggies enter with experience at several important spots alongside new faces stepping into key roles within the unit.

"Our group is going to be a group that hangs its hat on its work ethic, and we are a group that's going to play with a lot of confidence," special teams coordinator Cody vonAppen said.

That group includes veteran long snapper Joseph Adema, sophomore long snapper Conner Hergert and junior punter Dylan Mauro, along with a collection of young specialists preparing to contribute.

The most established returning specialist is Mauro, who handled nearly all of the Aggies' punting responsibilities during his first season in Davis.

Mauro punted 40 times for 1,774 yards in 2025, averaging 44.4 yards per attempt. Nine of those punts traveled at least 50 yards, 13 landed inside the opponent's 20-yard line and 16 resulted in fair catches. His season included a career-long 67-yard punt against Southern Utah and a 58-yard average against Idaho State.

Mauro also contributed beyond traditional punts. He completed his only passing attempt for 27 yards and converted a two-point attempt on the ground against Southern Utah, giving UC Davis another option when an

opportunity presents itself.

The Aggies also return Adema, who provided consistency throughout the 2025 season. The senior served as the primary long snapper on field goals, point-after attempts and punts, giving UC Davis an experienced presence at a position where precision and reliability are essential.

Hergert adds another option at long snapper as the Aggies continue building depth throughout the specialist group.

Placekicker represents the unit's largest transition following the departure of Hunter Ridley. Ridley accounted for a team-leading 89 points last season, converting 14 field goals and 47 point-after attempts.

UC Davis' group of kickers includes sophomore kicker and punter Tyler Hughes, sophomore Missouri transfer Robert "Robbie" Meyer and freshman Daniel Amoako, a product of Summit High School in the Inland Empire. While

the group is young in terms of collegiate game experience, fall camp provided each player with opportunities to perform under pressure and establish consistency.

"Our job is to recruit and develop young men to reach their potential," vonAppen said. "I think you do that by connecting with them on and off the field—just being there for them, mentoring them throughout and creating a culture where they can be themselves and do their best work."

UC Davis opened the 2026 season on Saturday, Aug. 29, after press time, when the Aggies visited Portland State. ★

Sacramento Kings to Honor Hall of Fame Coach Rick Adelman

Sacramento Kings News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Kings announced Aug. 24, that players will wear a commemorative black band on the upper-left shoulder of their jerseys throughout the 2026-27 NBA season to honor Hall of Fame coach Rick Adelman, recognizing one of the most influential figures in franchise history.

The tribute commemorates Adelman's extraordinary impact on the Kings organization, the city of Sacramento and generations of fans. From 1998 to 2006, Coach Adelman led the Kings to eight consecutive playoff appearances and a franchise-record 395 regular-season victories. Under his leadership, the Kings became known as "The Greatest Show on Court," capturing the heart of a city and basketball fans around the world.

"Rick Adelman's impact on our franchise extends far beyond the court," said Sacramento Kings Chief



The tribute commemorates Hall of Fame coach Rick Adelman's extraordinary impact on the Kings organization. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento Kings

Operating Officer Matina Kolokotronis. "He built a culture of excellence, inspired generations of players and fans, and helped shape the identity of both our organization and our city. Wearing this commemorative band throughout the season is a meaningful way to honor his extraordinary legacy and contributions."

Adelman's connection to the franchise spans both his playing and coaching careers. Before leading the Kings from the sidelines, he played for the Kansas City-Omaha Kings during the 1973-74 and 1974-75 seasons. ★

UC Davis Doctoral Candidate Honored

By Kathy Keatley Garvey, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - UC Davis doctoral candidate Carla-Cristina “CC” de Melo Edwards of the lab of medical entomologist-geneticist Geoffrey Attardo, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology, is the newly selected recipient of the 2026 Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology (MUVE) Student Recognition Award in Medical Entomology for a PhD Student from the Entomological Society of America (ESA).

The award recognizes graduate students for their accomplishments and potential in medical entomology. Edwards will be formally recognized at the MUVE business session during the ESA annual meeting, set Nov. 8-11 in Columbus, Ohio.

In addition, Edwards was awarded a 2026–2027 Sagehen Research Grant for her project, “Evaluation of Raman Spectroscopy for Characterizing Insecticide-Associated Biochemical Variation in California Mosquito Populations Using UC Natural Reserve Sites.” The \$2,000 award will

support her field research. The project uses Raman spectroscopy to investigate biochemical variation associated with insecticide exposure and resistance in California mosquito populations.

Edwards, projected to receive her doctorate in 2027, focuses her research on investigating the physiological mechanisms underlying pyrethroid resistance in *Aedes aegypti* (the yellow fever mosquito).

Edwards was a McNair scholar at Baylor University, where she received her bachelor's degree in biology, with a concentration in cell and molecular biology, in 2021.

"I became interested in the mosquito field through my undergraduate research, studying the sensory and oviposition responses of *Aedes aegypti* in relation to the compound geosmin," she said.

She received her master's degree in biology from Texas Tech University, Lubbock, where her thesis focused on medical entomology and vector biology. She investigated the effects of microplastics in relation to *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* (the Asian tiger mosquito). ★

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Riley Reviews

**LIFETIME REAL LIFE STORIES;
NEW FILM AND TV DVD RELEASES**

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

LIFETIME REAL LIFE STORIES

With remembrance of the horrific attack on September 11th twenty-five years ago, the Lifetime Channel features “Robin Roberts Presents Angel in the Rubble: The Genelle Guzman Story” film.

The movie recounts the extraordinary survival of Genelle Guzman (Sherri Shepherd), a New York City transit worker who was buried beneath the collapse of the North Tower on 9/11 and trapped for 27 harrowing hours.”

As she fought to stay alive, Genelle reflected on her life and the faith she had left behind, praying for deliverance and promising to change if given another chance.

Her prayers were answered when a man named Paul found her in the debris and remained by her side until rescuers pulled her to safety – the final survivor recovered from Ground Zero.

When Genelle later searched for Paul to thank him, no one could confirm he was ever there, leading her to believe he was an angel sent to save her and guide her toward the renewed life she had promised while buried beneath the rubble.

Dondre Whitfield portrays Genelle’s boyfriend Roger McMillan and the film is based on her memoir “Angel in the Rubble: How I Survived for 27 Hours under the World Trade Center Debris.”

Now living on New York’s Long Island and married to Roger McMillan, Genelle Guzman-McMillan was working that fateful morning on the 64th floor of the North Tower. Along with co-workers, Genelle managed to get to the 13th floor by stairs before the walls caved in.

Trapped in an air pocket, Genelle suffered severe leg injuries, head trauma and swelling, and cuts across her body. She underwent multiple surgeries and extensive therapy to avoid amputation and learn to walk.

Genelle returned to work as an administrative supervisor for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey at LaGuardia Airport. She also serves as a motivational speaker, inspiring others with her strength and faith.

Inspired by actual events and Tammy L. King’s memoir “Exit Row,” the film “Sole Survivor of Flight 119” stars acclaimed actress Joy Bryant (“Parenthood for Life”) and Sarah Wayne Callies (“The Walking Dead,” “Prison Break”) in a powerful story of courage and the will to survive.

After a routine flight takes a harrowing turn, Lisa Foster (Callies) survives a devastating plane crash deep in the Mexican jungle. As the sole survivor, she must rely on resourcefulness, inner strength and faith to endure the unforgiving wilderness and find her way home to her young daughter.

Meanwhile, Rebecca Till (Bryant), an airline executive who narrowly missed boarding Flight 119, is assigned to assist the families of the missing passengers.

As Rebecca forms an unlikely bond with Lisa’s loved ones, the final text Lisa sent moments before the crash, provides a breakthrough in the search, setting both women on an extraordinary journey that will challenge their beliefs and forever change their lives.

Also inspired by actual events, “The Ocean Between Them” stars Rebecca Gayheart (“Once Upon a Time in Hollywood”) as Joan, a devoted mother whose world is upended when her daughter Miranda disappears at sea.

After a heated argument send Miranda (Jessica Lord “Find Me in Paris”) out kayaking alone, an unexpected storm leaves her stranded in the ocean. As she battles the elements to stay alive, Joan refuses to give up, launching a relentless search that tests her resolve and pushes her beyond her limits.

Facing unimaginable odds, both women discover astonishing strength and the unbreakable bond that connects them – even across the vast ocean.

Karl Walcott (“Riverdale”) also stars as Luke, local bartender who becomes one of Joan’s strongest allies in the search for Miranda with Georgia Dane, the real-life daughter of Rebecca Gayheart and Eric Dane, appearing as Joan’s younger daughter Ashley.

**UPCOMING FILM
AND TV DVD RELEASES**

The upcoming DVD release of “The Militia” tells the story of Daniel Pierce, a dangerously driven teenager who wants nothing more than to join the local militia and stand up to the government just like his father.

But when his dad goes into hiding after skipping bail, Daniel recruits his friends to form their own group in a reckless attempt to confront the local sheriff and rescue him.

Filmmaker Dylan King Welter claims the film is “a cautionary tale about the dark places that blind allegiance can take us. The aim was to make a discussion piece where no matter your political leanings we can all agree that actions have consequences.”

The Netflix original TV series “Untamed” is on the horizon features Eric Bana’s Kyle Tucker, a National Park Service investigative agent, still grieving over the loss of his young son six years prior, working to enforce human law in nature’s vast territories.

When the death of a brutal death begins, Turner finds himself on a collision course with the dark secrets hidden within the park and within his own past.

Among the main characters, Sam Neill’s Paul Souter is the chief park ranger of Yosemite and Rosemarie DeWitt’s Jill Bodwin is Turner’s ex-wife and a realtor. ★



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DR. UNIVERSE

Why are the keyboard keys not in ABC order?

- Arnaaz, 10, New Jersey



Later patent applications show alternatives to the QWERTY keyboard—like the XPMCH keyboard (right). A patent application is a request to the government by someone who wants to own an invention. It’s a primary source. Courtesy photo

Dear Arnaaz,

I’m typing this answer on a QWERTY keyboard. It’s called that because those are the top letters, reading left to right.

I asked my friend Erin Hvizdak about it. She’s a librarian at Washington State University. She’s also a trained historian.

It turns out that a version of the QWERTY keyboard hit the market in the 1870s. It was part of a new device called a typewriter.

But nobody is sure why inventor Christopher Sholes organized the keyboard that way.

Many people think the keyboard's design slowed down typists. That kept the type hammers from jamming. Especially for letters close together.

But some experts say that doesn’t make sense. Sholes’ first typewriter was for a specific kind of worker.

“The early adopters were telegraph operators,” Hvizdak said. “Some say the layout is this way because Sholes felt that was the most efficient way to type. And the keyboard was like the ones telegraph operators used.”

Telegraph operators listened for messages sent in Morse code. Then they transcribed the dots and dashes back into letters. The goal of this new technology was to help them work faster—not slow them down.

Sholes even got feedback from telegraph operators. He probably moved keys to put tricky Morse code letters close together.

Soon, typewriters became common in offices and schools. Sholes wasn’t sure QWERTY was the best design. He designed other keyboards, too. So did other inventors. But by then, people were used to QWERTY. It even stuck around when computers replaced typewriters.

So, how did we find this answer?

A simple search turns up lots of people telling the hammer-jamming story to explain the keyboard. Hvizdak dug deeper. She read papers written by scientists. She tracked down primary sources. Those are original documents from the time.

Hvizdak told me a good strategy is to start with an encyclopedia. That’s written by experts. Then a specialist checks the facts. It has a list of sources the author used. You can read that source material yourself.

You can always ask a librarian at your school or public library for help. If you’re in Washington, pop into a WSU library.

“Anybody can use our library,” Hvizdak said. “You can just walk up and ask a question. I would love that!”

I guess you could say librarians are the helpful type.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

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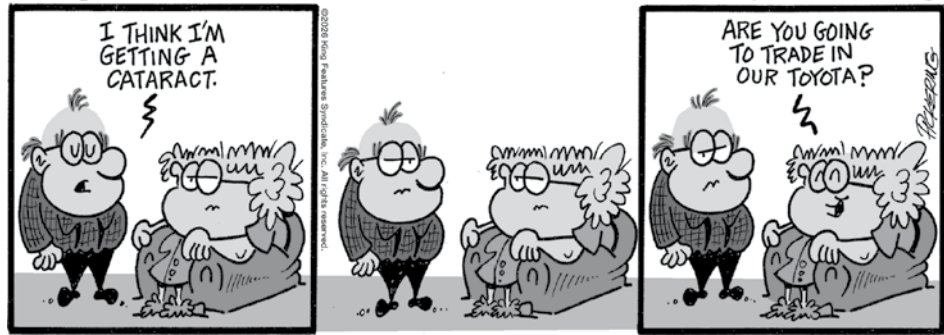
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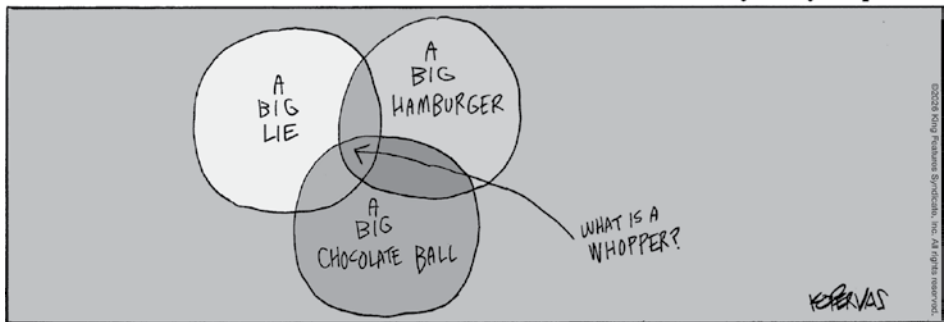
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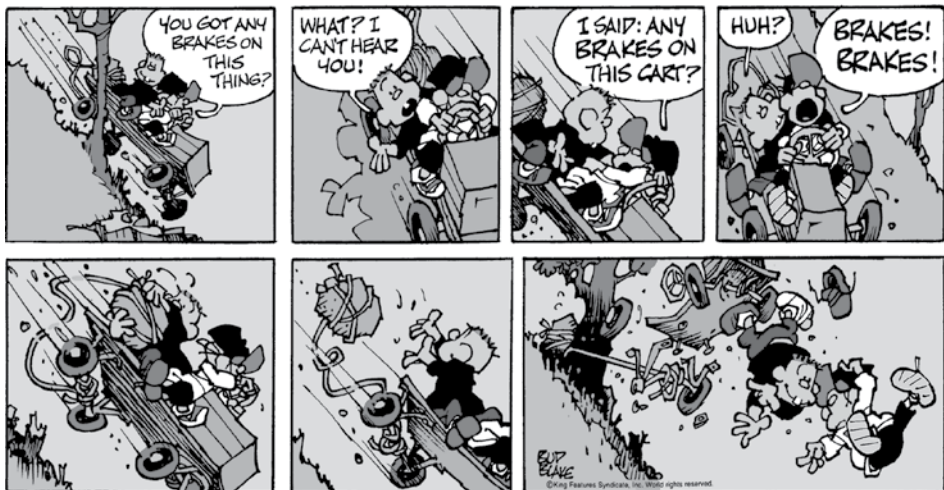
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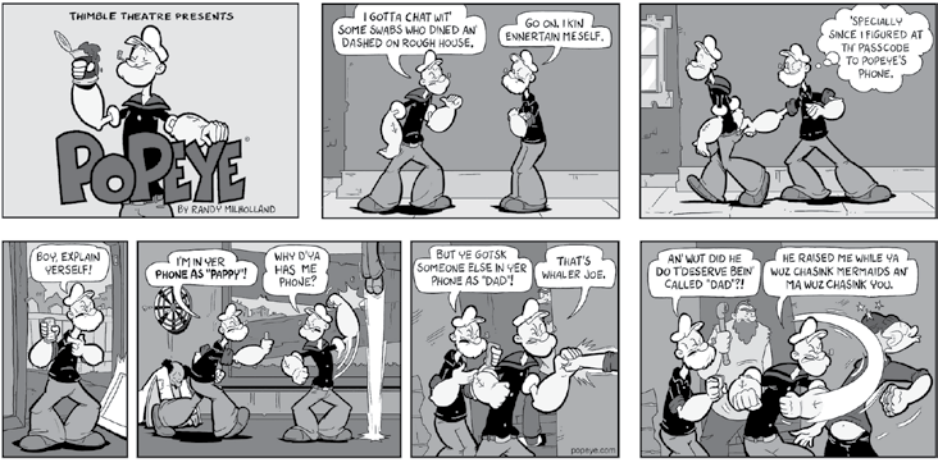
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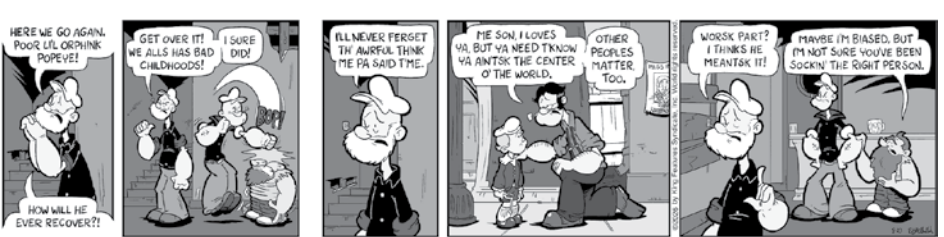
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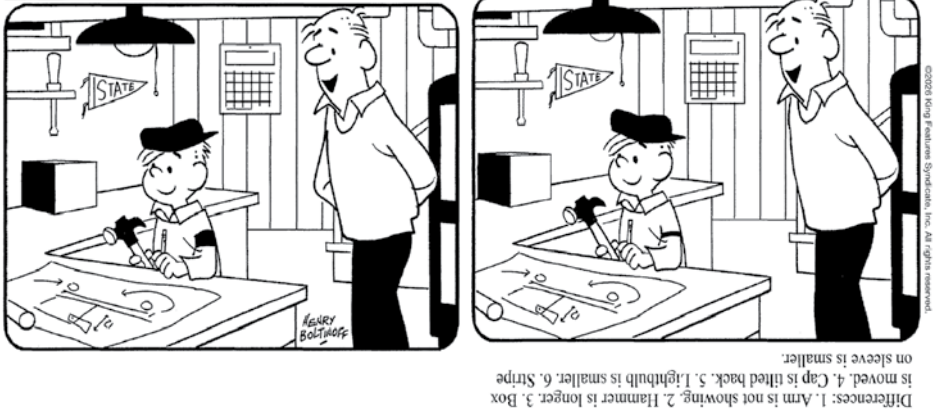
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ACROSS

- Ancient Peruvian
- Hit the slopes
- Bro or sis
- Thomas the Engine's warning
- "Sun, e.g.
- Twist and distort
- Carpenter's groove
- *Jupiter's inner "ring"
- MC Hammer's "2 2 Quit"
- *It makes up the majority of Jupiter's mass
- Narrative poem
- "When ____ Cry" by Prince
- Louisville Slugger
- Chase
- Puffy cloud
- Nurses' org.
- Frozen drink
- Ricci of fashion
- Same as climate
- Buddy Holly's "Peggy"
- Knight's breastplate
- Flying toy
- a.k.a. pennant
- Possesses
- Appetizer
- Like certain pine
- Large edible mushroom
- ____ Arts, or fine arts
- Disparaging remark
- *The largest moon in the Solar System
- *Jupiter's Great Red Spot
- Up it in poker
- Exclamation of disgust
- Famous diarist Samuel ____
- Like decorated cake
- Reply from a tunnel
- Tarzan's adoptive dad
- Neither here ____ there
- Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, acr.

DOWN

- It would
- Master of ark
- Buffalo Bill's last name
- In conflict (2 words)
- Coach-and-four
- Type of leaf cabbage, pl.
- *Reason for Mars' redness
- Kind of palm
- Author Murdoch
- Sandwich with acronym name
- Snow mover
- Flash of light
- *Farthest planet from sun in our Solar System
- Make awake
- Opposite of vend
- Gets ready for a trip
- Dark
- Indian restaurant yogurt staple
- ____ Zhen in "Fist of Fury"
- *The Solar System spans roughly 1.6 ____ years
- Uniate church member
- Impudent
- ____-friendly

CROSSWORD

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

The Starting Lineup

By V.G. Harris

The official start of the NBA season is less than 60 days away, so do the Sacramento Kings have any idea what their starting lineup will look like?

After thoroughly disrespecting both Zach Lavine and Domantas Sabonis by constantly telling the listening world that neither of these players can play defense, and attempting to trade both to any team interested, it looks likely that both will be announced in the starting lineup opening night.

I have stated my disgust with the organization’s rhetoric as it relates to what either of these past all stars can’t do, and it’s about time to start beating the drum and telling the Sacramento faithful what they can do.

For starters, both Sabonis and Lavine are talented enough to start on 90% of the NBA teams today, and as for playing defense, it’s high time the coaching staff stood up and took a bow. Defense just doesn’t automatically happen, it has to be taught, and it appears that this coaching staff is short on teachers as to how NBA defense should be played.

The knock on Sabonis is largely without foundation, and although not a rim protector, Sabonis is a more than an adequate defender.

Bottom line is that Lavine has been thrown under the bus and never has Sacramento Kings fans stood for that type of coaching. Time to change the game plan, start appreciating what you have, and start coaching what you want to have.

As for the rest of the starting lineup, it would appear that alongside Sabonis and Lavine will be fifth year starter Keegan Murray, this year’s first round draft choice Darius Acuff Jr., and a player that the Sacramento fan base probably doesn’t recognize. His name is De’Andre Hunter and sadly played in only two games last season, after coming to the Kings by way of the Cleveland Cavaliers. Hunter sustained an eye injury that required surgery and sidelined him for the remainder of the 2025-26 season.

The good news is that Hunter has been reasonably durable over his career and played his first five seasons plus with the Atlanta Hawks. A career 14 per game scorer in the NBA,

Hunter was awarded the NABC defensive player of the year in his sophomore season with the Virginia Cavaliers while in college. That bodes well for a Kings team begging for defensive help.

The fourth pick overall in the 2019 draft, Hunter may have slightly underachieved his draft status thus far, but he is no stranger to the starting lineup, and Kings fans won’t get any deer in the headlights looks from newcomer De’Andre Hunter.

If in fact the starting lineup presents itself to be Sabonis, Lavine, Murray, Acuff and Hunter, there remain a couple of significant questions.

Number one can the Kings find a chemistry early with these five players and avoid injuries while they are learning to play together?

Does this coaching staff have the acumen to teach the defensive strategies that they are so good at giving lip service to? So far, I’ve nothing to lead me to believe coach Christie knows how to coach NBA defense but I’m open to being wrong and glad if I am.

Lastly, can the coaching staff develop an aggressive bench? This is not an insignificant thing. First and foremost, know the talent sitting on the bench and *develop* it!

Play Malik Monk and start giving him the respect he deserves.

After Monk my No. 1 concern is finding minutes for second round draft choice Emanuel Sharpe, who drafted 45th overall was an absolute steal in this year’s draft.

Leaving a stellar college career behind, Sharpe set the record for the Houston Cougar’s in three pointers made and was highly acclaimed for his high intensity defense and attack style offensive. Play him!

Find minutes for first round draft choice Alex Karaban. Don’t waste valuable draft choices and send them to the G league.

Don’t look now but Ben Simmons was just in town for a workout, and I for one have absolutely no interest in an injury ridden player with a highly questionable interest in playing basketball. Please, take a pass on this guy and let’s pay more attention to the draft class that just entered the building.

Stay tuned Kings fans because anything can change between now and Oct. 20.

All the best!

California’s Budget Is So Convoluted That Even Experts Are Perplexed at What It Contains



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

There was a time, not too many years ago, when drafting and enacting California’s budgets was a fairly transparent and straightforward process.

The governor and legislators would agree on what revenues the state’s tax systems were likely to produce in the coming year and then dicker over how the money would be spent. There were disagreements, of course, particularly when Republicans had enough legislative seats to have a say in the outcome. But in the main, the voting public would have an understanding, through news coverage, of how their tax dollars were being spent.

It’s difficult to pinpoint exactly when the process became opaque and the budget became a hodgepodge of phantom revenues, accounting gimmicks and off-the-books loans. However, there has been a quantum leap in opacity and complexity during Gavin Newsom’s governorship, a consequence of having one political party so dominant that it’s completely insulated from accountability.

Newsom and legislators can – and do – spend billions of dollars more than revenues cover. They paper over the gaps with what they call “solutions,” then brag that their

budgets are balanced.

The 2026-27 budget that was enacted in June, said to be \$351.7 billion (plus \$188 billion in federal funds), is the latest example. It’s so convoluted that the Legislature’s own budget adviser, Legislative Analyst Gabe Petek, and his staff of fiscal experts, are somewhat perplexed about what Newsom and legislators wrought.

Petek says as much in a new breakdown of the budget. “In most years, we would describe the size of the budget problem (or budget surplus) the Legislature addressed (or allocated) and the mix of choices that make up that total. This year, neither framing fits the budget package as neatly,” Petek says.

He goes on to describe elements of the budget that seem contradictory, such as increasing spending that overshoots historically high revenues and depending on reserves and loans to cover the outgo while also placing more money into a new “surplus holding account.”

Although the budget package includes some traditional budget solutions, “taken altogether, this makes the budget condition difficult to describe concisely,” Petek says. To rationalize the budget’s contents, Petek divides his analysis into “budget choices on both sides of the ledger,” one covering the spending side and the other on how the gap between income and outgo was closed.

Petek calculates that the budget “includes about \$14 billion in budget solutions” to close the gap, primarily tapping reserves and borrowing. The loan

is accomplished by withholding \$3.9 billion in aid to local school systems mandated by the state constitution, money that must be eventually paid.

However, Petek points out that that \$14 billion in “solutions” is less than the \$18.5 billion operating deficit Newsom’s administration estimates during the fiscal year, thus continuing the deficit spending that has marked all of Newsom’s second term budgets.

They stem from Newsom’s 2022 declaration that the state had a \$97.5 surplus, due to mushrooming income tax revenues. That led to a sharp increase in spending, but the surplus turned out to be a mirage and the administration eventually acknowledged it overestimated revenues over four years by \$165 billion.

Petek’s analysis notes that the state has not maintained a cumulative account of how much money it owes from five years of covering operational deficits, but his staff has calculated the “wall of debt” at \$29.2 billion, including the \$3.9 billion in school aid being withheld this year.

A jaundiced view of the ongoing deficits and the debt that’s been amassed to cover them might be that they are Newsom’s training to become president, given the federal governments chronic deficits and its \$40 trillion national debt.

Dan Walters is one of the most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state’s political, economic, social and demographic trends.

Social Security Matters

Will Social Security Run Out of Money Soon?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I’m concerned about Social Security running out of funding, since I rely on it for my income and I’m at an age where my having to go back to work is not an option I can consider. The job market for people my age is slim. I’ve been reading reports and it doesn’t sound reassuring. Your thoughts?

Signed: Concerned Senior

Dear Concerned Senior: Thanks for sharing your concerns. This topic is a fairly complicated one, but I’ll do my best to explain it.

Social Security income (from payroll taxes, interest on reserves, and income tax on SS benefits) has been insufficient to pay 100% of SS benefit obligations since about 2020. Since that time, SS has been drawing money from the Social Security Trust Fund reserves to pay full monthly benefits to everyone. In 2020, there was nearly \$3 trillion in SS reserves held in the

SS Trust Funds, but as of the end of 2025, those reserves have dwindled to about \$2.56 trillion because they are being used to pay full SS benefits to all. Without program reform, the SS trust funds will be fully depleted in 2032, which would result in an across-the-board cut of about 22% to everyone’s monthly SS payment. And that would be devastating to millions of Americans!

However, Congress is acutely aware of this issue; they have been for years but have largely ignored previous warnings. Now, however, those predicted benefit cuts are dangerously close to becoming a reality. As a result, we are beginning to see serious (even bipartisan) discussions in Congress about reforming Social Security to restore it to solvency to avoid future benefit cuts.

For our part, AMAC and the AMAC Foundation have been working on a proposal to restore SS to full solvency for generations, and we have offered our proposal to various Congressional Representatives and to the SSA Commissioner and his executive staff. Our proposal has been well received, and we are very optimistic that Congress will finally take real action to

restore SS to solvency to avoid any benefit cuts. Frankly, doing otherwise would amount to political suicide!

At AMAC, we are closely monitoring this situation and are very proactive in Washington, D.C. to ensure that benefits are not cut in 2032, and we will continue our vigorous efforts and our vigilance to avoid Social Security insolvency. We are confident that Congress will act in time to avoid any reduction in SS benefits, and you can stay informed of our efforts by watching our AMAC Social Security information website – www.socialsecurityreport.org.

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We have met the enemy -- and it is watching us. There’s a growing backlash against Flock cameras, the automated license plate readers that have become ubiquitous across the country.

The cameras take images of license plates, which are then stored in a searchable database that police departments can query in the course of investigations. Opponents of the cameras consider them an instrument of Big Brother, who’s not only watching, but constantly recording and tracking. Vandals have disabled and stolen the Flock cameras and even shot them. There’s a movement to get jurisdictions to cancel their contracts with Flock (the leading such company, but not the only one), and it has met with some success.

Los Angeles just let its contract with Flock lapse, citing “serious concerns around civil liberties and civil rights issues.” There’s a reason, though, that police departments so rapidly adopted the cameras -- they are an extremely useful investigative tool.

It is certainly true that the technology, like any power we give the police, can be misused. According to The Washington Post, “Authorities have charged or accused at least 50 law-enforcement officers of using license-plate readers for unauthorized purposes, including to stalk their exes.” The Post calls the abuse “rampant,” but 50 documented cases

Don’t Fear Flock Cameras

isn’t a large number given the widespread use of these devices: There are 120,000 Flock cameras across the United States scanning license plates 20 billion times a month.

It is understandable that people don’t like the idea that they are, in effect, living in a panopticon. But license plate readers aren’t the only offender. There are all sorts of other surveillance cameras, many of them privately owned and operated, that the police access during investigations. We let our mobile phones and various apps track us all day long. And something like 60 million households have Ring or other security cameras that record what’s happening on their property and often in the immediate surroundings.

The only reliable way to ensure that you aren’t being recorded is to stay inside -- and draw the curtains. Officers who abuse the license-plate readers deserve to be fired and, if appropriate, charged with crimes, which is often what happens. Strict rules around what constitutes a legitimate query of the system and routine audits should make it harder for rogue officers to use the cameras for nefarious purposes.

The police officials who are advocating for Flock aren’t doing it so the cops can track the average person’s trip to the grocery store or yoga studio. The cameras routinely aid in the identification and apprehension of the perpetrators of serious crimes, the location of missing persons and the recovery of stolen cars.

According to the Jack-

sonville, Florida, sheriff’s office, since 2024, the cameras have “helped solve 15 murders, 17 kidnappings, six forcible sex offenses, nearly 100 shootings and 172 missing-persons cases.”

A website set up by Charles Lehman of the Manhattan Institute is tracking news items about Flock contributing to successful police work. There are such stories every day, all over the country. Two recent entries related the arrest of an armed robbery suspect in Grass Valley, California, and the rescue of two kidnapped teenage girls in Bulloch County, Georgia. After getting a tip, the authorities used Flock to find the suspect in the Brown University shooting last year.

Perhaps these crimes would get solved anyway, but if even a fraction of them didn’t, Flock would be making a meaningful contribution to public safety. It used to be that America had, in effect, ungoverned spaces where malefactors could hide in plain sight. To use an extreme example, the Symbionese Liberation Army operated for a couple of years out of various safe houses in the San Francisco Bay area during the 1970s, something almost unimaginable in our technologically advanced age of constant information sharing.

Rolling back Flock won’t reverse this tectonic change that’s been decades in the making, but it will deny law enforcement a valuable asset.

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

Finding Capacity and Resilience

Exploring Somatic Therapy and Dream Work with Nicole Lemaster, LFMT, SEP

By Abbey Wicks

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Nicole Lemaster considers herself to be more than just a therapist. She considers herself a healer.

With more than a decade of experience, Lemaster is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and a Somatic Experiencing Practitioner (SEP).

As a somatic therapist, she takes a body-centered approach in helping clients find relief from trauma stored in the body. Stored trauma might show up as chronic pain, difficulty sleeping or not being able to enjoy the present moment. Her work guides her clients to nervous system regulation and finding a state of homeostasis.

Lemaster’s journey to becoming a somatic therapist stemmed from her own lived trauma. She identifies with the wounded healer archetype, or a person whose

personal trauma and pain becomes their source of helping others.

She specializes in patients with PTSD, complex PTSD and shock trauma. Anxiety and depression usually end up in the cluster with those other diagnoses, Lemaster said. However, this type of therapy can benefit clients who aren’t experiencing these disorders.

“The nervous system work is profound, and it can literally support people who haven’t had these types of shock traumas or complex traumas from their developmental years,” Lemaster said.

Working with nervous systems led Lemaster to start her own dream coaching business, Moonbeam Dream, where she offers sessions such as DreamSphere, a five-week program and Auralis, a nine-week program.

“The same nervous system work that helps you get over symptoms also supports

you having the capacity to tolerate visibility or have courage,” Lemaster said.

Lemaster said somatic therapy might be considered by patients who are feeling stuck and not benefiting from traditional talk therapy or continue to engage in patterns or habits that they know are harmful.

“There’s like on lay of guilt and shame for being able to see it, but their system still doesn’t have the capacity to do it different.” Lemaster said this same idea applies to fear around pursuing a dream.

According to an article from Harvard Health, “Typical talk therapies such as CBT engage only the mind, not the body, encouraging people to become aware of disturbing thoughts and behavior patterns and work to change them. But in somatic therapy, the body is the starting point to achieve healing.”

Lemaster explained the

natural pendulum of the nervous system; it wants to go back to homeostasis.

“What it learns throughout time, it gets conditioned for survival,” she said. She explained it as the system finding a way to manage a stressful situation and continuing to exist in that state because that’s what helped the person survive, even if that is not its true state of homeostasis. This creates tension stored in the body.

Somatic therapy involves showing your nervous system that it can reset, that it is safe.

According to Lemaster, a supported nervous system looks like capacity and resilience. The buzzword concept of being “zenned out” oversimplifies the work that is being done within the nervous system, Lemaster said.

“It is being able to go to that space,” Lemaster said. “But an actual nervous system that is regulated is like

‘Oh, there’s some high charge stress I know how to activate, and after it’s done, I’m able to deactivate.’”

Lemaster explained the process of a somatic therapy session as mirroring back to her clients what she sees in their body language.

“My whole hope is to build safe enough, self-trust, self-love, self-intimacy, self-empowerment and it has nothing to do with me because I’m just mirroring back what your body’s already doing,” Lemaster said. “I’m just helping you know it’s there and trust yourself.”

It’s building a well of resources to pull from and a safe space to pendulate back to. “So often when people are hurting, they can’t locate pleasure as easily or what’s good.”

According to Lemaster, it’s very common for people to experience microdoses of regulation, like taking a deep breath or noticing something

beautiful in nature. Somatic therapy can help people become fully conscious of that regulation.

Nervous system regulation plays a significant role in pursuing dreams, something Lemaster realized throughout her work as a therapist.

“To create your dream, you need to be in alignment and authentic and vulnerable,” Lemaster said.

An unregulated nervous system might shut down to keep you safe from experiencing that vulnerability, LeMaster said. Building resilience lends itself to pursuing dreams with courage.

“Because dreams are precious,” Lemaster said.

Lemaster’s book “WTF Am I Even Doing: A Nervous System Workbook To Support Mind Body Alignment” is available on Amazon. She can be found on social media @interconnectedheart and @coleyology. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 20260001237 The following persons are doing business as: Stellium Interpreting, 305 Ridgecrest Circle, Suisun City, CA 94585. William Torres, 305 Ridgecrest Circle, Suisun City, CA 94585. Date filed in Solano County: July 13, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 12, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: August 14, 21, 28, Sept 4, 2026 STELLIUM 9-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001348 The following persons are doing business as: F.T. Trucking, 430 Priddy Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. Francisco Torres, 430 Priddy Drive, Dixon, CA 95620 Date filed in Solano County: July 30, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 29, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: August 14, 21, 28, Sept 4, 2026 FT 9-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001423 The following persons are doing business as: Holistic Services Consulting, 212 Stonyford Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687. Vanessa Audelo, 212 Stonyford Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687. Date filed in Solano County: August 12, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days

after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 11, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: August 21, 28, Sept 4, 11, 2026 HOLISTIC 9-11-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001331 The following persons are doing business as: Aldugrand Construction, Alduvera Supply, Alduauto, 8024 Claret Court, Vacaville, CA 95687. Aldugrand, 8024 Claret Court, Vacaville, CA 95687. Date filed in Solano County: July 29, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 23, 2026 This Business is conducted by: Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration July 28, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: August 28, Sept 4, 11, 18, 2026 ALDUGRAND 9-18-26

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE # 2026001073 The following person(s) has/ have abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Hardy & Kin, 1800 Margurite Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. The Fictitious Business Name referred to above was filed in Solano County on June 12, 2026, File Number: 2026001073 Amina Hardy, 1800 Margurite Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. This business is conducted by: An Individual Filed with the Clerk of Solano County on August 4, 2026. Publish: August 28, Sept 4, 11, 18, 2026 AMINA 9-18-26

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-07094 Jirachaya Smith filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jirachaya Smith to Jayne Jirachaya Smith THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection

that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. October 1, 2026, 8:30 a.m. Department 8, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533 Judge of the Superior Court: Wendy Getty Dated: July 31, 2026 Publish: August 14, 21, 28, Sept 4, 2026 SMITH 9-4-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-07579

Nicole Valderama Alvarez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Lorenzo Leonardo Valderrama to Lorenzo Leonardo Valderrama Jacinto.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. October 1, 2026, 8:30 a.m. Department 8, Room 1, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533 Judge of the Superior Court: Wendy Getty Dated: August 12, 2026 Publish: August 21, 28, Sept 4, 11, 2026 ALVAREZ 9-11-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF CARY FELCIANO CASE NO. PR26-00510

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

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Lisa Anne McCann, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Lisa Anne McCann be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: October 5, 2026, 9:30 a.m. in

Dept 22; Old Solano Courthouse, 580 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Watson, Hoffe & Hass, 3700 Barrett Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805; 510-237-3700 Publish: September 4, 11, 18, 2026 FELCIANO 9-18-26

TRUSTEE SALE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-26-1052974-BF Order No.: 260242998-CA-VOI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/25/2024. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. 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): Taylor Lyn Rogers, A Single Woman and Devin Abrew, A Single Man, As Joint Tenants Recorded: 4/26/2024 as Instrument No. 202400017498 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of SOLANO

County, California; Date of Sale: 10/2/2026 at 09:00 AM Place of Sale: At the Santa Clara St. Entrance of the Vallejo City Hall, located at 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$496,849.87 The purported property address is: 550 W CREEKSIDE CIR, DIXON, CA 95620 Assessor's Parcel No.: 0115-142-070 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, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-280-2832 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-26-1052974-BF. 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-26-1052974-BF 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-26-1052974-BF and call (866) 645-7711 or login 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: 800-280-2832 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-26-1052974-BF IDSPub #0316808 9/4/2026 9/11/2026 9/18/2026 DIXON INDEPENDENT 9-18-26**





★ CALIFORNIA ★
**POLICY
AND
ETHICS**
BY JOSH F.W. COOK

Prop. 5 Gutting a 100-Year-Old Corruption Reform

By Josh Cook

The recall was never meant to hand power to politicians — it was meant to take power away from them and the railroads that controlled them.

California voters wrote the recall into the Constitution in 1911 as part of Hiram Johnson’s Progressive reforms, aimed at breaking the Southern Pacific Railroad’s grip and the machines that treated public office as private property. It passed with 76.8 percent of the vote. The tool has always been used sparingly. Of roughly 180 attempts to recall state officials since 1911, only eleven reached the ballot, and only six succeeded — including Gray Davis in 2003 and Josh Newman in 2018.

Proposition 5 was written by that same Josh Newman, the Democrat voters recalled over a gas-tax vote. That history makes Prop 5 look less like reform and more like payback against a system that held him accountable— Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, and the state Democratic Party back it. The case for it seems to be lacking a real reason to act.

Supporters say a crowded replacement field can let someone win with a mere plurality, that the two-question ballot confuses voters, and that recalls invite partisan shortcuts. But a plurality winner

is just how multi-candidate races work — the fix isn’t stripping the choice from voters and handing it to succession rules or a later process controlled by the same political class Progressives sought to restrain. Ballot confusion is a design problem, not a reason to erase one of the two core decisions.

Facts matter - with only six successes out of 180 attempts, frivolous recalls aren’t the epidemic supporters claim; running a recall is already its own deterrent. The 2003 Davis recall shows the system working: voters fired a governor and chose his replacement on the same ballot. Prop 5 would have turned that into a vacancy filled by the lieutenant governor — then Democrat Cruz Bustamante — or a separate election under different rules.

The recall exists because voters didn’t trust politicians to police themselves; Prop 5 shifts power back toward those same institutions. Most other states fill vacancies by succession. California chose differently on purpose — to give voters, not the existing order, the last word.

When the painter is bad, you should get to fire him and hire the one you want, not his brother. Vote no on Prop 5. Keep replacements in voters’ hands.

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What UC Davis Lab Discovered About Aphids and Milkweed



Oleander aphids infesting narrow-leaved milkweed. Photo by Louie Yang

By Kathy Keatley Garvey, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - Those aphids infesting your milkweed plants offer a surprising benefit.

Newly published UC Davis research suggests that the honeydew produced by aphids on milkweed plants increases plant growth.

“We found that the addition of honeydew at accumulated levels reduced total inorganic soil nitrogen by 48.8 percent relative to controls,” said community ecologist Louie Yang, a professor in the UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology. “Unexpectedly, milkweed seedlings were 90 percent taller and had 4.2 times greater dry biomass in honeydew-conditioned soil than in the control group.”

The Louie Yang lab set out to answer whether “seasonal pulses of accumulated aphid (*Aphis nerii*) honeydew reduce the availability of soil nitrogen below milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) host plants, and how honeydew-conditioned soil affects the relative seedling growth of host plants and other, potentially competing plant species.”

The team, which included three UC Davis student researchers, Lizbeth Gonzalez, Sarah Solis and Prabhjot Singh--hypothesized that: “honeydew would reduce plant-available nitrogen in the soil, reflecting the expectation for increased microbial immobilization in response to high carbon inputs, and reduced nitrogen availability would have a greater negative effect on the growth of cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) than milkweed, reflecting the expectation of greater nitrogen limitation in disturbance-adapted, non-native, annual plant species compared with native, perennial plants.”

The scientists, however, did not observe any effects on the growth of cheatgrass and yellow star-thistle seedlings. “These results suggest the possibility of a positive plant-herbivore-soil feedback for milkweeds, mediated by aphid honeydew,” they

wrote.

The research, “Aphid Honeydew Reduces Soil Nitrogen and Increases Host Plant Growth,” is published online in the journal, “Oecologia,” an international journal dedicated to publishing innovative ecological research of broad interest.

“This study contributes to our understanding of plant-herbivore-soil interactions,” Yang said. “Previously, aphids in this system were known for their direct effects on host plant traits and aboveground, plant-mediated indirect effects on other members of the milkweed-associated arthropod community. However, our results indicate that aphids may also affect their host plants and the surrounding community through a below-ground, honeydew-mediated pathway. More broadly, this work underscores the potentially important role of herbivore-soil interactions on community and ecosystem processes.”

The authors noted that “Few studies have examined honeydew as a potential mechanism of plant-soil (or plant-herbivore-soil) feedbacks. In the context of multispecies plant-soil feedbacks, a focal plant could potentially benefit from reducing nutrient availability in the soil if competing plants experience stronger negative effects than the focal plant.”

In their abstract, the team pointed out that “Plants are known to affect their soils in ways that can have positive or negative effects on themselves and other plants,” a process known as plant–soil feedback. “However, less is known about the potential for herbivores to change the soil in ways that affect plant growth.”

The research began with the researchers germinating narrow-leaved milkweed seeds under controlled conditions in a UC Davis Orchard Park Research Facility.

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Food & Farm NEWS

Almond Hulls Being Tested for Use as food ingredient

An independent review panel’s designation of almond hull powder as generally safe for human consumption represents a “major milestone” that opens the door for its use as an ingredient in granola, cereals, baked goods and other foods, according to a researcher at the Almond Board of California. Toxicology, genotoxicity and environmental containment exposure assessments found no safety concerns at intended use levels, the almond board announced. The panel finalized its findings this past spring and submitted them to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. With nearly 1.4 million bearing acres of almonds in California, the crop generates large quantities of byproducts such as hulls, which are currently used primarily as livestock feed. The findings could be “transformational for the industry” in that they create a pathway for value creation from almond hulls, said Guangwei Huang, the almond board’s associate director of food research and technology.

Wolf Reports Show Continued Livestock Losses, More Packs

California’s gray wolf population continues to expand and reproduce, while livestock depredations remain concentrated in several Northern California areas, according to several new reports from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The latest CDFW livestock report, updated Aug. 10, lists 108 investigations conducted so far in 2026. The cases include confirmed, probable, possible and unknown wolf involvement, as well as incidents ultimately determined to be

unrelated to wolves. The most significant recent activity remains in Siskiyou, Lassen and Modoc counties. With California seeing more established packs, more pups and continued movement by individual wolves across county lines, ranchers are encouraged to monitor wolf activity and promptly report suspected losses as the state’s wolf population expands.

Mothballing Offers Middle Ground in Wine Downturn

Oversupply of grapes, declining consumer demand and rising production costs are forcing California winegrape growers to make choices about whether to keep farming or tear out their vines. Some are trying a third option: “mothballing,” a term borrowed from storing equipment or other assets out of service while preserving them for future use. In vineyards, it means temporarily halting production while maintaining vines with minimal labor and inputs so they can be returned to full production when market conditions improve. The practice remains relatively rare, but interest is growing. Christopher Chen, a University of California Cooperative Extension viticulture adviser for Mendocino, Sonoma and Lake counties, estimates mothballing can now be seen in roughly one in 20 vineyards in his region, up from virtually none three years ago. Chen is studying the practice to fill a major information gap. “I don’t know that there’s any information in the viticulture books on what to do if you’re tight on cash and the industry has collapsed,” said Chase Thornhill, owner and general manager of Mendocino Wine Company in Ukiah. ★