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Dixon

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Small Businesses Pressing for SB 690



Pictured is Belinda Gutierrez, owner of Elk Grove Plumbing, Drain, Heating and Air, outside her Old Town Elk Grove office. Gutierrez is among small business owners supporting Senate Bill 690 after facing what she says are predatory lawsuits tied to website privacy and cookie disclosure requirements. Courtesy photo

**By Keith Burbank
and Kevin Dietrich**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento-area and Bay Area small businesses are urging Gov. Gavin Newsom to sign Senate Bill 690, which amends the California Invasion of Privacy Act relating to pen register and trap-and-trace violations.

The violations pertain to recording phone numbers but not the contents of communications, according to the Alliance for Legal Fairness. Newsom has until Sept. 30 to sign or veto the bill or it becomes law. A coalition of small businesses are saying lawyers are using a 1967 wiretapping law to sue businesses over “routine online data practices,” according to the website



Pictured are Andrew and Gytahna Loffgren of Dixon firm Element Electric, which is facing damages of \$200,000 for alleged violations of the California Invasion of Privacy Act. The Loffgrens say predatory lawyers are behind the suit. Photo by Kevin Dietrich

Stop CIPA Shakedown Elk Grove Plumbing,
Lawsuits. Drain, Heating and Air in

Elk Grove and Galt and Element Electric in Dixon have been sued for alleged violations and favor the bill becoming law. Elk Grove Plumbing, Drain, Heating and Air is facing a \$20,000 suit while Element Electric could be out \$200,000.

Newsom’s office declined to comment on the legislation.

“We are begging the governor’s office to please pass SB 690,” said Gytahna Loffgren of Element Electric.

Element Electric is being sued by a Southern California law firm and the \$200,000 is a substantial sum given that company employs a grand total of three people on a part-time basis.

“We’ve never been sued by anyone for anything,”

Continued on page 3

Council Reviews General Plan Amendments to Address New Development Proposals

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - At the Sept. 15 meeting of the Dixon City Council, they considered a \$5,000 contribution to the Downtown Dixon Business Association (DDBA) to help with costs for the annual Christmas tree lighting event, planned for Dec. 5. A resolution was also considered to close certain streets in downtown Dixon for the free community event.

Some city staff, such as police officers and public works employees, would help staff the event, and the city would provide rental items for event use. The estimated cost of these contributions is \$27,455, which is slightly higher than the \$25,427 originally budgeted, so staff requested a budget amendment.

The DDBA spends around \$35,000 on this event each year, which features vendors, children’s activities, live music, decorations, visits with Santa, train rides, animal exhibits and more.

The council all agreed that it’s a wonderful community event, and they were happy to unanimously approve the road closures and funding contributions.

School Proponents Seek Council Vote

**Story and photo
by Kevin Dietrich**

DIXON, CA (MPG) -Advocates say they are considering pushing for a vote by Dixon City Council members on a proposal to build a new Catholic school near downtown.

City council tabled a request by Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy to erect a two-story structure at the corner of North Second Street and East A Street, across the street from St. Peter Catholic Church, during its Sept. 1 meeting.

Council members expressed concerns that the proposed structure did not fit with Dixon’s downtown mixed-use district zoning and asked city officials to work with school proponents on alternative options such as a land-swap.

However, a change in site location would inflate costs for Valley of the Sacred Heart, a nonprofit



Signage at the corner of North Second Street and East A Street, site of Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy’s proposed school.

entity, school Director Chris Simpson said. Being near the parish church is critical to the school’s mission. School objectives include students celebrating Mass each school day at St. Peter’s, she said.

“We might go ahead and see what the city says, to move it to a final vote and see where it goes from there,” Simpson said. “However, this will continue to incur cost for our program.”

The school has already spent more than \$200,000 between city fees, a traffic study and other expenses.

“We do not get that money back regardless of the outcome,”

Continued on page 3

The council received an overview of the upcoming amendment to the Dixon General Plan 2040, which will be considered in conjunction with two development proposals that are requesting annexation into the city: Harvest at Dixon and Lombardo Ranch. The scope of topics for the amendment will include expanding the city’s sphere of influence (SOI), creating an area of interest/planning area, considering an urban growth boundary/green line, and other policy streamlining and refinements.

The Harvest development proposes 6,300 new homes built on 1,100 acres over the next 30 years, along with commercial uses and green space. The Lombardo project proposes 800 homes on 150 acres. Both project areas are outside city limits and request annexation into the city.

Community Development Director Raffi Boloyan explained

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MEMORIAL

JOHN ADAM REEB • 06/03/1930 - 09/15/2026



John Adam Reeb, a native of Dixon, passed away peacefully Tuesday evening September 15, 2026, surrounded by family. He was 96-years-old.

Mr. Reeb was born on June 13, 1930, to Henry Adam and Grace Helen Reeb. He was the youngest of six children and a product of Dixon public schools.

His strong work ethic began at a young age when men in the community enlisted into military service at the beginning of World War II. He bucked hay, worked in a tannery, and helped with deliveries about town and the countryside. Brothers Karl and Paul served in the US Navy and brother Franklin in the US Army Air Corps.

Mr. Reeb participated in high school football, basketball and track, and was a member of the 1947 county championship football team that was later inducted into the Dixon High School Hall of Fame in 2018. He was elected class president in his sophomore and junior years and Student Body President in his senior year. He graduated from Dixon High School in 1948.

Mr. Reeb attended Sacramento Junior College for one year while driving a school bus for the Dixon schools. He then worked as a teller for the Bank of America, Dixon Branch, before joining the US Navy in 1950, serving in the Korean War on the USS Jason (ARH-1), a Vulcan class auxiliary repair ship, heavy hull. He received an Honorable Discharge in October 1954 with the rank of Disbursing Clerk Petty Officer 2nd Class, USN-1. He was awarded the

area farmers. Following the untimely death of Mr. Smith, Mr. Reeb started his own agricultural pest control company in 1972, which he operated until his retirement in 1993. He was an integral part of the greater Dixon farming community during that time, supporting farmers with the health of their row crops, alfalfa and forage, and orchards.

Mr. Reeb was a member of the United Methodist Church of Dixon, California Association of Pest Control Advisers, and Lions Club International in Dixon, where he served as President (1977-78) and became a life member. He was named a Melvin Jones Fellow for dedicated humanitarian services by the Lions Club International Foundation. He served Dixon High School as a Future Farmers of America consultant. He later served two terms on the Silveyville Cemetery District Board of Directors and as a volunteer at Sutter Davis Hospital.

Mr. Reeb was predeceased by his parents Henry and Grace Reeb, his siblings Karl, Effie, Roseayllne, Franklin, and Paul; grandson Michael Reeb, and great-grandson Clayton Hall. He is survived by his wife Latoyia of 72 years; children Bob (Catherine), Maryann (Tim), and Brian; and 18 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Funeral services are pending and will be held at the Dixon United Methodist Church followed by a graveside service with military funeral honors at the Dixon Cemetery.

National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal (One Star), United Nations Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal. The latter medal is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity in active Federal Military service.

While in service to his country, he met Latoyia Cave in September 1952, a native of Louisville Kentucky, who was serving as a Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) performing clerical duties. The couple were married in the chapel at Naval Training Center San Diego on December 12, 1953, and returned to Dixon to make their home in November 1954.

Mr. Reeb returned to work with the Bank of America, and desiring to purchase the couple's first home, he worked Saturdays making fuel deliveries to area farms for Floyd G. Smith, Inc., a local distributor of petroleum, chemicals and fertilizer, and on Sundays following church for Ed Carpenter at a Dixon service station. He began working full time for Smith in February 1956, eventually becoming a licensed Pest Control Adviser working with

Dixon News Briefs



Sheep at last year's Lambtown Festival. Photo courtesy of Lambtown Festival

By MPG Staff

Lambtown Festival Begins Next Week

Lambtown Festival, the state's largest salute to sheep, lamb and wool, will celebrate its 40th anniversary at the Dixon May Fairgrounds on Oct. 3 and Oct. 4.

The weekend festival will feature nearly 80 workshops, expanded educational programming and dozens of vendors from across Northern California.

Workshop subjects include knitting, weaving and dyeing. Other workshops look at rare sheep breeds, spinning yarn and processing flax. Workshops begin Oct. 1 and continue through the weekend.

Workshop registration is open at lambtown.org, with most prices ranging from \$40 to \$170. Materials may be included, depending on the session.

There will be sheep shows on Oct. 3 and Oct. 4.

General admission is \$25 for a weekend pass, \$20 for Saturday only and \$15 for Sunday (\$5 for Sunday after 1 p.m.). Admission is free for children 12 and under.

In addition to workshops, the Lambtown Festival features live music, food trucks and the "Make It With Wool" fashion competition.

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

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.

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.

Davis Police Chief Leaving Department

Police Chief Todd Henry is leaving the Davis Police Department to accept a position with the Placer County Sheriff's Office as the assistant sheriff, city officials announced on Sept. 16.

Davis City Manager Daryl Dunston has appointed Deputy Police Chief Matt Petersen as interim police chief, effective immediately upon Henry's departure, scheduled for Sept. 25.

Henry has served as chief for nearly two years. He joined the Davis Police Department in May 2023 as deputy chief and was promoted to chief in October 2024.

Petersen will oversee the department while the city considers next steps toward selecting a permanent police chief.

First Dixon Scarecrow Contest

The Downtown Dixon Business Association begins its first Scarecrow Contest on Oct. 1.

The contest is open to all Dixon businesses. Winners will be announced Oct. 29; top prize is a 2027 membership in the Downtown Dixon Business Association.

For more information, contact Jill Orr at 916-416-2876.

Fish and Wildlife Grants Available

The Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund is accepting applications for grants through Oct. 13.

The fund uses revenue generated from fish- and wildlife-related fines and forfeitures collected in Solano County to support projects and programs that protect, conserve, propagate and preserve local fish and wildlife resources.

Up to \$10,000 in grants are available through the grant program, with individual awards of up to \$2,500.

Eligible applicants include government agencies and special districts organized

Dixon Rams Fall to Marysville

The Dixon High football team fell to 1-3 on the season with a 21-7 loss to Marysville on Sept. 18. The Rams open Golden Empire League play on Sept. 25 when they play host to the Rio Linda Knights at 7 p.m. at Finney Field. Rio Linda (1-3) is coming off a 42-0 loss to Placer.

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Small Businesses Pressing for SB 690

Continued from page 1
so this was a complete shock,” said Gytahna Loffgren, whose husband Andrew operates the solar panel and battery installation company as a second job. “It’s a total abuse and misuse of the law.”

Back in May, the Loffgrens received the lawsuit in the mail. There was no accompanying letter with an explanation or a demand. Mou Law was suing Element Electric, alleging the business had multiple violations of the California Invasion of Privacy Act.

“We had no idea who the person suing us was,” she said. “It took us two days to figure out that this was legitimate, and that involved getting ahold of someone who could get into the court system to see that it was real.”

A few weeks later, she was served with formal notice that Element Electric was being sued.

“This wasn’t a customer, it wasn’t someone from the area and it wasn’t someone that we’d ever heard of before,” Loffgren said.

Andrew Loffgren quickly reached out to others within the solar industry and discovered several other companies were being sued by a small group of trial lawyers seeking to extract settlements from businesses.

More than 4,200 lawsuits alleging a privacy claim involving the use of digital tracking technologies have been filed against California businesses since the middle of 2022, according to Fisher Phillips, a national law firm with dozens of U.S. offices, including a location in Sacramento.

“Digital wiretapping claims arise when opportunistic plaintiffs’ attorneys and pro se plaintiffs repurpose existing statutes originally intended to prevent people

from listening in on phone calls and other communications,” according to information published on Fisher Phillips’s website last month.

“They claim that the very common practice of collecting data from website visitors through analytics tools (like cookies, pixels, session replay software, etc.) amounts to a violation of these old federal and state statutes,” the firm added.

According to Loffgren’s research, Mou Law alone has filed more than 200 lawsuits across 34 counties in California, including 38 against companies in Sacramento County.

“Of those lawsuits, 17 were filed on May 21, including the one we received, and they all have the same exact language,” Loffgren said.

Some California businesses have settled the suits against them. But Belinda Gutierrez, owner of Elk Grove Plumbing, Drain, Heating and Air, refuses.

“I don’t have it in me to settle with this lady,” Gutierrez said about Arcadia attorney Yao Mou.

Mou could not be reached for comment. Neither could a spokesperson for the Consumer Attorneys of California, which took a position opposing SB 690, according to CalMatters.

The suit against Elk Grove Plumbing, Drain, Heating and Air was filed in Southern California, where Gutierrez is willing to go to defend her company against it.

Elk Grove Plumbing, Drain, Heating and Air is facing four alleged violations, Gutierrez said.

But three of the four will be addressed by SB 690 if it becomes law, she said. The bill will be retroactive, addressing claims filed up to 2 years before the law goes into effect.

“I’ll take that,” she said.

★

School Proponents Seek Council Vote

Continued from page 1
Simpson said.

The .517-acre parcel was bought nearly a decade ago, Simpson said. Prior to the purchase, school officials contacted city officials about building an education center at the site.

“We went to the city before we bought the property, to make sure that the property was properly zoned for a school – and it was,” she said.

However, the area where the proposed school would be built was reclassified as downtown mixed-use when city officials adopted the current zoning map in 2024.

Because any approval the academy received years ago was informal, the project would now require a zoning text amendment for a conditional allowance of a private school within the downtown mixed-use area.

“What it comes down to for me is there is a long-term view of what we want to see in our downtown, and what we want it to be,” council member Kevin Johnson said at the Sept. 1 council meeting. “Ultimately, we have to decide ... where would we like to see our city grow over a period of time.”

Council members approved a motion to talk with staff about options beneficial to both Valley of the Sacred Heart and the city’s vision for the downtown, including considering a land-swap that could enable the school to be built further from downtown. But a swap is not a possibility due to legal questions, according to Simpson.

“If downtown is not an option, we are open to seeing where we can find land that will serve our Montessori/classical school,” she said. “It is disappointing for sure, but perhaps the Lord has something bigger and better in mind for our children.”

Valley of the Sacred Heart Academy has leased classrooms at St. Peter’s since the school’s inception in 2013. The proposed 11,539-square-foot Spanish colonial revival structure would enable the school to grow its enrollment by as much as 33 percent, to 120 students.

The lot at the corner of North Second Street and East A Street has been vacant for several decades.

The school’s request was not formally discussed at the Sept. 15 city council meeting. The next city council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 6.

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Lewis Eyeing Next Dixon Project



Independence in Dixon on North First Street in Dixon is nearing completion.

Story and photo by Kevin Dietrich

DIXON, CA (MPG) - As the Lewis Group of Companies finishes Independence in Dixon, the \$93 million community development on North First Street, it is laying the groundwork for a nearby project.

Independence East, a proposed \$110 million rental community to be built off Vaughn Road behind Grocery Outlet, is in the planning/review stage, officials with the California-based development company said.

The project, which would include 220 units (110 duplex structures), would be built on nearly 15 acres and feature a pool and recreational building. Units would range in size from 1,150 square feet to more than 1,800 square feet.

“We have finally tapped into the UC Davis market, especially faculty and graduate students,” said Rob White, vice president-planned communities for the Lewis Group of Companies. “As they become more aware of this product in their backyard, they will see it as more of an option.”

Lewis’s goal is to have a final plan available for Dixon City Council members to vote on in early 2027. If approved, grading work would begin in late spring and vertical construction would start in early 2028. It should be completed the following year.

Independence in Dixon, the 186-unit

rental community project at 1905 N. First St. across from Les Schwab Tire Center, is winding down, according to White.

“There are about 15 units left to rent, and we’re finalizing our punch list, so we’re just about done,” he said.

Groundbreaking for Independence in Dixon, built on just under 11 acres, took place in July 2025.

Units range in size from just under 1,200 square feet to more than 1,800 square feet. The largest units rent for more than \$3,500 a month, according to information found on a Lewis website.

“We knew that Dixon was a new market for us, and a new market for this kind of product,” White said of Independence in Dixon. “It was a new opportunity and a way for us to test the market, and it’s working out well.”

Lewis is also involved in the Harvest at Dixon development, a significant proposed project that includes about 6,350 residential units to be built out over 20 to 30 years, 18-plus acres of retail, a proposed elementary school, 140-plus acres of green space, some mixed-use areas and improvements to current infrastructure.

The entire project, proposed by LJP Dixon Development, LLC, a partnership between the Karlshoej family and the Lewis Group of Companies, encompasses nearly 1,000 acres. It is still in the preliminary stages.

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Ashlynn Archer Joins Beach Volleyball Coaching Staff

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

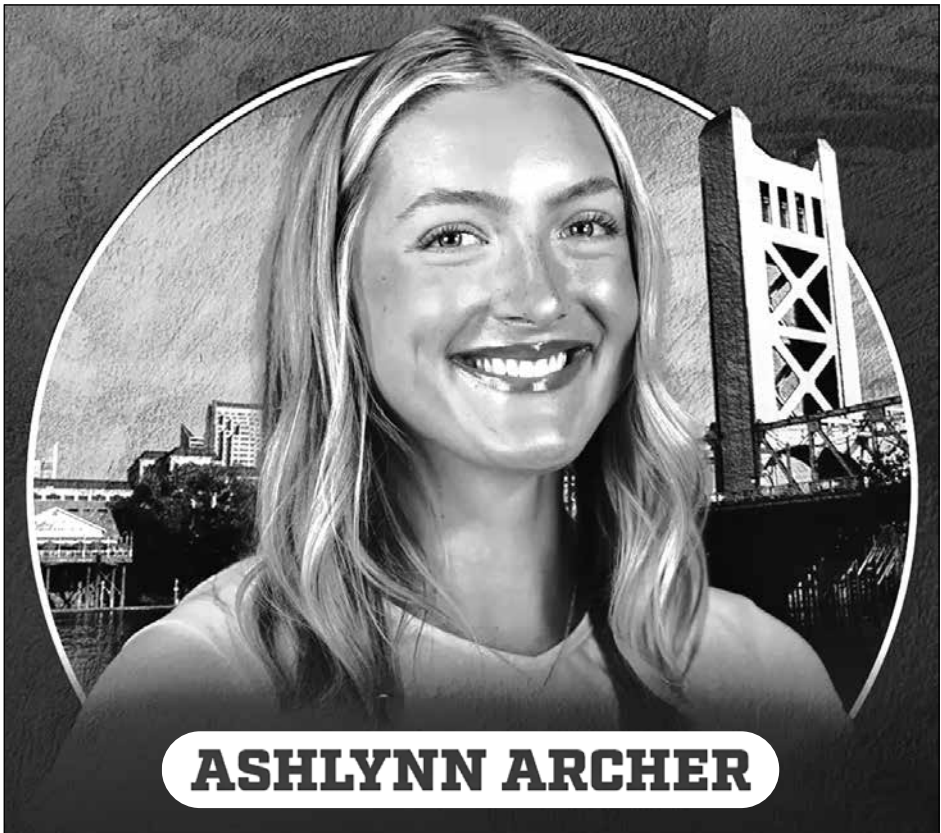
SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - After an incredible playing career in both a Sacramento State indoor and beach uniform, Ashlynn Archer will remain at her alma mater as assistant beach volleyball coach.

She joins Head Coach Angela Lewis and Assistant Coach John Fluette on the sand. All three coaches on staff played for and graduated from Sacramento State. Archer joins Kate Doorn as two Hornets who played a season ago and have made the immediate transition to coaching. Doorn is currently an assistant with the Hornets' indoor team.

Archer recently completed a beach career that saw her post the third most wins in program history (40). In fact, 14 of those victories came during her senior year, the third most in Sacramento State single-season history. In addition, Archer played at No. 1 or No. 2 in the Hornets' beach lineup 57 times during her career.

“Ashlynn brings exactly the kind of grit, tenacity and work ethic we want to build this program around,” Lewis said. “I’ve coached her as a player, and she was a powerhouse - focused, coachable and always willing to put in the work. Now, I get to see those same qualities translate into coaching.”

“She understands Sacramento State, she understands our athletes, and she understands the culture we want to create. Her



Ashlynn Archer joins Head Coach Angela Lewis and assistant coach John Fluette on the sand. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

organizational skills and marketing background are an added bonus as we continue establishing the identity and growing the reach of Sac State Beach Volleyball. I'm really excited to have her alongside me as we build this program.”

Archer has spent the past four summers coaching beach volleyball for Sacramento Performance Volleyball Club (SPVC). In addition, she coached indoor at SPVC for three years. Archer has also been a staple at every Sacramento State volleyball camp the

team has run the past four years.

An eight-time conference all-academic selection, Archer competed four years of indoor (2022-25), and four seasons of beach (2023-26) for Sacramento State. In addition, she was team captain for both teams.

“I’m incredibly grateful for the opportunity to remain a part of the Sacramento State Athletics family,” Archer said. “The time spent with both the indoor and beach programs here taught me so many valuable lessons and provided me with a new place to call home.”

“I am forever indebted to the program and to the coaches and faculty who provided me with an incredible support system throughout my four years. I am so excited to step into a coaching role and hope to provide the same support and love for our student-athletes that allowed me to thrive during my playing tenure at Sacramento State.”

Last season, for the Hornet indoor team, Archer was a first team all-conference selection and established herself as one of the top middle blockers in the nation. She averaged 2.70 kills and 1.05 blocks per set to go with a .429 hitting percentage. That hitting percentage easily set the Sacramento State and Big Sky Conference single-season records, and ranked 11th in the nation. In fact, her .354 career hitting percentage is the top mark in Sacramento State history.

A native of St. John, Wash., Archer graduated from Sacramento State in the spring with a journalism degree. ★

Ricky and Paing Soe Win Junior/Senior Team City Championship

Sacramento Golf Council News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Ricky and Paing Soe won the 78th Walter and Olga Strand City Junior/Senior Team Championship with a net score of 68. They also won in 2024.

Enzo and Justin Ferguson took second place with a net 70.

The Calloway Division was won by Miles and Jaden Brenoel with a net of 70.

The 78th Walter and Olga Strand Junior/Senior City Championship was played at Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course Sunday, Sept. 13.

The 18-hole, 2-player



Pictured are second place winners Enzo and Justin Ferguson. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento Golf Council



Pictured are third place Calloway winners Miles and Jaden Brenoel. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento Golf Council

tournament played the Chapman Scotch Format (Hit, Switch & Choose). Junior players were age 18 or younger and Seniors were 15 years older than the junior partner. Both players had a NCGA Handicap Index, and a Callaway Division allowed teams in which one or both players did not have a current handicap.

Enzo and Justin Ferguson took second place with a net of 70. (Justin is 15.)

The Calloway winners (no handicap) were Miles and Jaden Brenoel with a net of 70 (Jaden is 13.)

Greg Bisi was the Sacramento Golf Council tournament director. ★

Food Frontier Selected to Bring Sacramento Cuisine to New Stadium

Sacramento Republic FC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Wilton Rancheria and Sacramento Republic FC have selected Food Frontier to shape the food program at Republic Stadium. Food Frontier is a Sacramento-bred collaborative and strategic advisory group founded by chefs, restaurateurs and brand strategists to promote, bolster and champion the Sacramento Valley's food ecosystem.

Founders include Chef Brad Cecchi, brand and marketing food entrepreneur Meghan Phillips, and Procurement Expert Kelsey Nederveld. Clay Nutting, restaurateur and hospitality consultant, has also joined the effort to lead execution.

Food Frontier will work in close collaboration with Levy, the stadium's food, beverage and hospitality partner, to ensure the venue's menu reflects the breadth of Sacramento's food scene and the story of the land the stadium calls home.

“Food is central to Wilton Rancheria's identity, so it was important that it be central to the Railyards Stadium experience,” said Chief Operating Officer of Wilton Rancheria Chris Franklin. “We want to bring together the best of Sacramento's food culture with our own traditions and tastes to create something that feels unmistakably Sacramento and unmistakably ours.”

Long before it becomes the site of

Republic FC's new stadium, the land at the heart of Downtown Sacramento's Railyards was part of Wilton Rancheria's ancestral homeland. It was a place where the tribe gathered to eat, to celebrate and to share. Food Frontier's expertise runs deep in the region's food community. That connection is why Wilton Rancheria and Republic FC turned to Food Frontier to help shape the stadium's food program. The goal is to lift up the people and traditions already defining the region's food identity, not import something from outside it.

Food Frontier and Wilton Rancheria previously collaborated on programming for Terra Madre Americas, the international gathering of farmers, chefs and food advocates held in Sacramento in 2025. That collaboration was where Wilton Rancheria launched We Are The Confluence, a campaign built on the idea that the Sacramento Valley is defined by what comes together here. Two rivers. Generations of farming families. Cultures from every direction.

The stadium sits near where those rivers meet, and the food program is being built on the same premise.

“Sacramento is one of the most innovative food regions in the world and we have never had a stage like this one,” said Co-Founder of Food Frontier and Owner of Honey Meghan Philips. “A world class stadium deserves a world class food program. Our job is to put it in front of thousands of fans at once. It will be unmatched.”

“Levy runs some of the best stadium venues in the country and they know how to move food at this scale,” said Co-Founder of Food Frontier and Chef of Canon and Franquette Brad Cecchi.

“Our job is to layer Sacramento onto that... which farms, which iconic Sacramento dishes, our palates... Get those right and a stadium meal tastes like this region and nowhere else.”

Levy and Food Frontier will bring menus and recipes inspired by the region's chefs, kitchens and restaurants, alongside new items rooted in the traditions and tastes

that have defined Sacramento for centuries. Curating the program will begin with direct conversations. With the people who grow the region's food, the chefs who turn it into dishes, and the diners who will ultimately enjoy it. That includes engagement with the historical traditions of the region, including those of the Indigenous people who call it home, so the menu reflects the full diversity of the region's food culture. More details about stadium menus and the evolving food program, including premium seating experiences and broader game day cuisine, will be announced in the coming months.

The first opportunity to learn about the club's premium experiences and the connected food experience will be at the Republic Preview Center, set to open later this month. Season Ticket Members and depositors will be able to set an appointment for a first-hand experience of what the stadium will offer.

To secure priority appointment status and the first opportunity to select seats, fans can become Season Ticket Members at SacRepublicFC.com/Memberships or place a deposit at RepublicStadium.com for as low as \$9.16. Fans can also visit the club's mobile stadium experience on matchday or at select events throughout the community. ★

Long before it becomes the site of Republic FC's new stadium, the land at the heart of Downtown Sacramento's Railyards was part of Wilton Rancheria's ancestral homeland. Logo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC





Riley Reviews

NBC FALL SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS THE REVIVAL OF POPULAR 70’s SERIES

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

NBC FALL SCHEDULE

During the 1970’s for a six-season run, “The Rockford Files” was a popular detective drama series starring James Garner as Jim Rockford, a sarcastic private investigator who served time in San Quentin due to a wrongful conviction.

Garner’s Rockford had a great sense of humor, delivering snarky comebacks to any number of people, from police officers to the innumerable bad guys he had to deal with in his sleuthing.

He typically only took on cold cases or matters where the police were not actively involved. He had a best friend in LAPD, Sergeant Beck (Joe Santos), although there was plenty of friction whenever higher-ups in the department got involved.

Rockford’s father, Rocky (Noah Beery, Jr.), a retired truck driver, was always trying to get his son to quit the business because it seemed like Rockford was beaten up by thugs in every episode.

A lot of interesting characters surfaced during the run of the show. Before he was Thomas Magnum, Tom Selleck appeared as Lance White in a couple of episodes as a dapper private eye with a naïve approach to the business.

One of the most popular characters was Stuart Margolin’s Angel Martin, a friend from prison who is a congenital liar and con artist whose schemes often get Rockford in trouble with the law and criminals alike.

Another person from prison life, Isaac Hayes’ Gandolph “Gandy” Fitch, who claims he did not commit the crime that landed him in jail, had a brutal, violent temper and always called Rockford “Rockfish,” much to Rockford’s dismay.

Rockford often had to tell clients and the authorities that he may have served time, but he was pardoned. That didn’t endear him at all with antagonistic police lieutenants, Chapman (James Luisi and Diehl (Tom Atkins).

More than four decades later, NBC is reviving “The Rockford Files” where James Rockford (David Boreanaz), returning from prison to his life as a private investigator using his charm and wit to solve cases around Los Angeles.

It’s too soon to know much the new “Rockford Files” will adhere or deviate from the original. Will the new Rockford live in a ramshackle trailer located in a parking lot in Malibu? Will he have sidekicks or friends that turn out to be deceitful con artists like Angel?

With the return of Rockford, NBC rolls the dice on another private eye series. “Sunset P.I.” is billed as continuing the proud tradition of Los Angeles

private investigators that began with Philip Marlowe and will end with this show.

Jake Johnson stars as a smart, cynical private eye who formerly was an LAPD officer. Jane Levy stars alongside Johnson, bringing her expertise to the team of investigators, while Keith David runs the detective agency.

The plot’s focus is a show that centers around a group of private eyes navigating both complex cases and the humorous dynamics of their workplace. The premise finds that Johnson’s whole life fell apart, leading him to start a new career as a private eye.

Staying in the realm of the law, “Line of Fire” is about a family of law enforcement agents bridging personal differences and crossing professional boundaries as they tackle cases for the FBI, U.S. Marshals, Secret Service, and Department of Justice.

The show follows the Hollingsworth family whose members work across various federal agencies as they uncover a deadly conspiracy after a U.S. Marshal is killed in the line of duty.

When a seemingly straightforward case escalates into a dangerous conspiracy, the Hollingsworth family becomes the target of a mysterious assassin. To survive, they must use their expertise to protect each other, even if it means bending the sworn code of their agencies.

To make matters a bit more challenging, Peter Krause’s Mike Hollingsworth is with the Secret Service and Hope Davis’s Jane Hollingsworth is a U.S. Marshal, and they separated at the time.

Peter Krause is quoted as saying the show is a “fantastic family-centered show” and “an action thriller.” Kat Cuning, Tommy O’Brien, and Taylor Bloom appear as Hollingsworth offspring.

An interesting facet as to the genesis of this series is the involvement of Jenna Bush Hager as an executive producer, who was surrounded by the Secret Service when her father, President George W. Bush, was in office.

“Newlyweds” stars actual couple Tea Leoni and Tim Daly in a later-in-life love story about a free-spirited woman and a buttoned-up professor who marry impetuously after a whirlwind courtship.

According to the Hollywood Reporter, Daly’s Tony, recently divorced, ask Leoni’s Jeanie to dinner the moment they meet, kicking off an opposites-attract marriage that will challenge both in likely hilarious ways.

“Newlyweds” is considered by NBC to bolster the network’s already strong comedy lineup for the 2026-2027 season. Jamie Lee Curtis is an executive producer who will also appear in a recurring guest starring role. ★



Vineyard Workers Feel Wine Industry Pain

California farmworkers suffered a wave of job losses during the past few years as work in the state’s winegrape vineyards dried up amid a yearslong market slump. Since 2023, declining wine consumption left growers with an oversupply of grapes, forcing many to sell their fruit at a loss or watch it rot on the vines. To limit their losses, growers cut back on labor and other costs, and vineyard owners removed an estimated one-quarter of the state’s winegrape acreage. As a result, the iconic sector likely shed at least several thousand vineyard jobs, industry leaders estimated, with some workers getting laid off and others losing hours. “It’s pretty ugly,” said Guadalupe Gonzalez, a Napa Valley vineyard crew supervisor who has worked in the region’s vineyards for more than a decade. Gonzalez said she used to work seven days a week during harvest, earning enough to save up for the offseason. But last year, she said, work slowed as grapes went unpicked and more wineries opted to harvest with machines. This year, “It’s a thousand times worse,” she said.

El Niño Increases Chances of Winter Storms and Floods

California’s water year will be shaped by the arrival of El Niño, a climate pattern that raises the likelihood of intense precipitation and flooding in the coming months. Experts call the upcoming system a super El Niño. A National Weather Service report in August said there’s a 69% chance its strength would exceed that of previous El Niño events dating back to 1950. Farmers said they were wary of extreme weather

similar to atmospheric river storms that flooded many California farms in 2023. Monterey County farmer Jynel Gulate said those storms submerged 200 acres of her farm, broke her levee in multiple places and destroyed a house, causing financial damage that has been difficult to recover from. Gulate said she wants the state to make changes that would better prepare people for future floods. “I don’t like hearing that it’s going to be a super El Niño because there’s no way we can have another flood like 2023,” she said. “That would be absolutely tragic.”

Owl Study Assesses Rat Management in Nut Orchards

For more than a decade, university wildlife researchers have studied how installing barn owl nesting boxes and accompanying owl predation help manage small rodents in vineyards. Now they hope to take a similar approach during a three-year study that examines the effects of barn owl predation alone or combined with trapping to potentially manage roof rats in nut orchards. “We’ve documented that barn owls do indeed reduce the number of voles, gophers and mice, and we’ve learned a lot in the vineyard systems,” said Matthew Johnson, a Cal Poly, Humboldt, wildlife professor who led much of the research. “Now we’re really excited to try some similar approaches in orchards.” Although many growers have erected owl boxes to control small rodents in vineyards, he said little scientific data existed until recently about barn owl predation and how cultural practices influenced it. There’s been even less research into the feathered predator’s impacts on orchard rodents. ★



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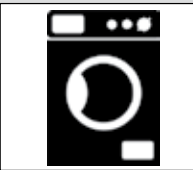
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Ask DR. UNIVERSE

Why do boy dogs go potty on fire hydrants and trees?

- Michael, 5, Minnesota

Dear Michael,

I love going on walks with my dog roommate. But sometimes it takes forever. It seems like he wants to pee on every single tree.

I asked my friend Dr. Jessica Bunch about it. She’s a veterinarian at Washington State University.

She told me the sense of smell is extremely important to dogs.

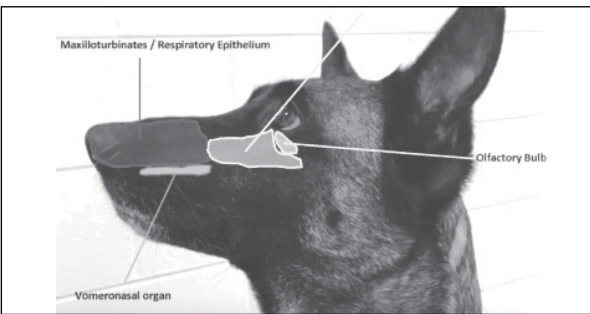
“A lot of dog communication is by smell,” Bunch said. “And each dog has their own unique odor to their urine.”

The urine a dog leaves behind is like a smell fingerprint. It’s full of chemical messages like hormones. One whiff of another dog’s urine tells my dog roommate important stuff—like the other dog’s age, sex and health information.

That works because dogs have up to 300 million smell receptors in their noses. Humans only have about 6 million.

Dogs have other adaptations for smell, too. Their noses are wet so they can tell which direction a scent blows in from. They have a maze of bones inside their snout that traps smells.

They even have a special organ for picking up chemical messages left by other animals—the vomeronasal organ. It’s in the roof of the dog’s mouth, right behind its front teeth. Nerves pipe



These are the major parts of a dog’s olfactory (smell) system. The vomeronasal organ (blue, also called Jacobson’s organ) picks up chemical messages from other animals. The olfactory epithelium (yellow) is the bony maze that traps other smells. The olfactory bulb (orange) is a brain structure that makes sense of smells. Chuy 1530 Jenkins et al. CC BY

those messages directly to the brain.

After a dog sniffs another dog’s urine marking, it usually pees on top of it or next to it. That tells the next dog that it was there, too.

“It’s their way of making everybody know that this is their territory,” Bunch said. “They usually pee on something that’s upright like a fire hydrant or a tree or a wall. That spreads the smell over a higher area. And then it’s at the same level as another dog’s nose when they come by.”

Boy dogs may be more inclined to mark tall things. Because of their anatomy, they usually pee by lifting their leg. So, they can pee higher than a dog that squats. Some small dogs bend their bodies to pee up high. They’re probably trying to cover up the previous urine marking. They may want the next dog to think they’re big and tough.

Some girl dogs pee that way, too. And all dogs can have the urge to mark territory

and sniff for information.

What’s less clear is what a dog is thinking when it smells another dog’s urine. Does a big whiff tell them that a random dog came by? Or can they pinpoint that it’s the fluffy dog down the street?

“I don’t know for sure, but they possibly could recognize dogs they’ve met before,” Bunch said. “When dogs greet each other, they often sniff each other’s hind end. And once dogs know each other, you don’t see them sniffing each other like they used to.”

Scientists know that dogs don’t sniff their own urine markings very much. They spend less time smelling urine that belongs to their housemate dogs, too. So, it seems likely that dogs can recognize themselves and other familiar dogs by smell.

I guess you could say a dog really nose who its friends are.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

WHAT HAS FOUR LEGS AND ONE ARM?

I GIVE UP... WHAT HAS FOUR LEGS AND ONE ARM?

OUR NEIGHBORS' PIT BULL!!

by Jeff Pickering

TUMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY KANDY HOLLINS

THIS COMIC BOOK ISN'T REALLY ALL THAT GREAT.

THE CHARACTERS ARE JUST SHOTS OF OTHER, BETTER CHARACTERS. THE PLOT LINES ARE PAPER THIN AND HALF OF 'EM DON'T GO ANYWHERE.

I JUST FINISHED THIS COMIC BOOK SERIES AND IT'S SOMETHING.

IT STARTS OUT LIKE A GOLDEN AGE COMIC. VERY "EVERYTHING IS BLACK AND WHITE."

THE MAIN HERO IS A GOODY TWO-SHOES. HONESTLY, HE'S PRETTY BLAND.

BUT EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, YOU GET THESE HINTS THAT SOMETHING'S NOT QUITE RIGHT. AND THE HERO SEES IT, TOO.

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

6. Tie is missing.
5. Apron strap is moved.
4. Curtain is not as wide.
3. Pad is longer.
2. Finger is missing.

Amber Waves

GERALD, HONEY, IT'S GRANDMA'S BIRTHDAY THIS WEEKEND AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A PARTY.

OOH, LIKE GOING TO ROCKET PIZZA WITH LASER TAG, A BIG CAKE WITH A MAGICIAN AND BALLOONS?

NO, DEAR, JUST A SMALL GET-TOGETHER, A NICE DINNER AND MAYBE HER FAVORITE PIE.

GEEZ, THIS IS WHY OLDER PEOPLE NEVER GET EXCITED ABOUT THEIR BIRTHDAY!!

by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

IT'S PRETTY COMMON IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. IT'S A BOB OF ORCADELICS.

FAR OUT, MAN

by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

6. Tie is missing.
5. Apron strap is moved.
4. Curtain is not as wide.
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4. Curtain is not as wide.
3. Pad is longer.
2. Finger is missing.

TIGER

HE NEEDS EXERCISE

I'M TAKING HIM TO THE PLAYGROUND

HIGHER, TIGER

CATCH ME, TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

GRIN & BEAR IT

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"I'M not telling him to move. YOU tell him!"

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

SO SWEET MY MOTHER STILL WRITES ME LETTERS. "HELLO, DEAR, HOPE THINGS ARE GOOD WITH YOU, I MEAN CONSIDERING"...

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

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Convention freebie

5. *Tucker of TV's "Modern Family"

8. To the ____ degree

11. *Space Shuttle Program org.

12. Deal with it

13. Extra tire

15. Stead

16. Real estate land unit

17. Enter user name and password (2 words)

18. *Instagram's parent company

20. "Fine by me"

21. Strong virile man

22. Caviar alternative

23. *Bruno Mars' hat

26. Highest-reaching

30. Before of yore

31. Quill-dipping vessel

34. Popular aquarium show star

35. Schoolmarm's whip

37. Neither here ____ there

38. Opposite of cation

39. Hurry up, acr.

40. Blood infection

42. Not com or edu

43. Arranged in order

45. Inside info

47. Aye's opposite

48. B2C business

50. Hyperbolic tangent

52. *Katy Perry's 2010 hit

55. Battle royal

56. One R in R&R

57. Nightcrawler

59. *Hipsters' facial trend

60. Prima donnas' problems

61. Not in favor

62. Public promotions

63. Even, to a poet

64. CISC alternative

DOWN

1. *Pete Davidson's TV show

2. Ragamuffin

3. On a deck, perhaps

4. Cowboy, in South America

5. Popular warming drink

6. Chef's garb

7. Opposite of domineering and bold

8. Hindu serpent deity

9. Legendary King Priam's city

10. Chicken coop dweller

12. Taxi driver

13. Ship with a single mast

14. * ____ 60 game

19. Spooky

22. Decay

23. Greek cheese, pl.

24. Remove from existence

25. ____'s, blended

26. Scotch whisky

27. High rocky hills

28. Celestial hunter

29. Open disrespect

30. Sour-tasting

32. Capped joint

33. *Funko ____!

36. *Toy for the fidgety

38. Off kilter

40. Dirty dwelling

41. Specks in the sea

44. Oohed and ____

46. Atmospheric pressure line, on weather map

48. Military blockade

49. Fire-raising

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

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

Stay with Sabonis

By V.G. Harris

Don't look now Kings fans but the NBA preseason is only 2 weeks away, and for many Sacramento Kings fans that brings an abundance of hope and excitement.

If there is a franchise in the NBA that epitomizes the term eternal optimist, it would have to be the effervescent Kings fans that still believe that this year's team may be the next version of "Hoosiers."

I would like to believe that too!

As I was recently studying some of the more successful franchises is the NBA, I turned to the Chicago Bulls of the 1990's, and I was reminded that 3 of Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippens 6 titles came after Dennis Rodman became a member of the team. In fact, they actually enjoyed a rare 3-peat with Rodman on board. Not known for being a scorer, Rodman showed the Chicago Bulls how rebounding was done and played defense with reckless abandon.

Regardless of his multi-colored hair, wild histrionics, and seemingly out of control off the court behavior, for at least 3 seasons it was Dennis Rodman that was the straw that stirred the drink.

The legendary Michael Jordan did much to encourage the Bulls franchise to take a chance on Rodman, and to this day Rodman is much admired by Jordan for his world class rebounding and some of the toughest defense every seen on an NBA court. Rodman actually led the NBA in rebounding 7 consecutive years and received the title of defensive player of the year 2 times.

Well, the Sacramento Kings don't have 6 world championships, and after 40 plus years in Sacramento are still searching for their first, but make no mistake about it, hope springs eternal despite what GM Scott Perry refers to as a rebuild.

Someone who should already be mentioned in the conversation as an all-time great Sacramento King is often maligned big man Domantas Sabonis.

Sabonis, criticized for his less than stellar defense, in my opinion is getting a bad rap and I think it's high time the fans of Sacramento come to his defense.

Domantas streak of leading the NBA in rebounding sadly came to a halt last season due to injuries that limited him to only 19 games while playing 70 in the prior season.

This Stevedore of the hardwood played one season in a Kings uniform with a broken thumb, and playing through the pain led the league in rebounding. Add that to one of the most exceptional team players the Sacramento Kings have ever had, Sabonis nightly exhibits the kind of grit that any GM should be proud to have on his team.

Although not a rim protector, Sabonis gives 100% every night and is every bit the foundation piece the Sacramento Kings need to bring credibility to their franchise.

Inexplicably, the Kings forgot what they had in DeAaron Fox and that lack of judgement led to the San Antonio Spurs getting a diamond in the rough while sending the Sacramento Kings on a 2-year search for a replacement point guard.

At this very moment the Kings have a built in double-double holding down the paint in Domantas Sabonis, and a heralded rookie point guard by the name of Darius Acuff Jr., ready to begin his inaugural season.

Selling tickets in Sacramento? Yes, I think so, but Scott Perry's next move looms large, and any suggestion of moving Domantas Sabonis could easily lose fans in a way that the Kings organization hasn't seen in years.

Make no mistake about it, Domantas Sabonis is the current face of this franchise, and it's time to celebrate that fact and not look for ways to send him packing.

Likewise, Zach Lavine hampered by injuries last season, is a former 2-time NBA all star and has something to prove in garnishing nearly 50 million in the upcoming season. Shooting nearly 40% lifetime from beyond the arc and just a shade under 20 points per game, Scott Perry should be giving this talented shooting guard all the minutes he can play.

While we're at it let's not forget that at one time Keegan Murray was thought to be a potential NBA all-star and needs to come back from a dismal injury riddled season just a year ago.

Just one month from opening night. Stay tuned.

All the best!

★

Taxing California's Rich Just Got More Complicated. Prop 40's Fate is Still Uncertain



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Proposition 40, which would impose a 5% tax on the wealth of California's billionaires, is arguably the most important measure placed before voters in this century.

It is also probably the most confounding.

While it's sponsored by a healthcare union, it's opposed by several other major unions, who are in an odd bedfellows alliance with the billionaires it targets. Meanwhile, the leader of the sponsoring union faces allegations of personal misconduct.

And even if Prop. 40 passes, two other measures on the ballot could nullify it. Finally, the measure contains complex language, raising questions that would probably generate extended legal battles even if it does pass.

Given all that, it's not surprising that, with mail voting beginning in just a couple of weeks, a new poll indicates Prop. 40 could go either way.

A Public Policy Institute of California survey found that 52% of likely voters favor the measure and 46% are opposed, which in the real world of campaigning means it's too close to call.

Meanwhile, the two measures placed on the ballot by Prop. 40's wealthy opponents are doing fairly well. Proposition 41, which would indirectly nullify Prop. 40

by prohibiting levying any new taxes outside of the state's spending limit, and Proposition 42, which would prohibit taxes on personal property, each have narrow leads in the PPIC poll.

Were all three measures to gain approval, the one with the most votes would prevail — meaning that if Props. 41 or 42 outdoes Prop. 40, the billionaire tax would be void.

None of that intertwining complexity was explained to the people PPIC polled. They were just given the official summary of each proposition before being asked their preferences.

Prop. 40 is sponsored by the Service Employees International Union-United Healthcare Workers West. If it becomes law, a 5% tax would be levied on the assets of about 200 California billionaires, with almost all of the proceeds being spent on healthcare.

However, Dave Regan, the union's fiery leader, is facing allegations by leaders of other unions under the Service Employees International umbrella of having "a pattern and history of bullying, threats, harassment, physical violence and attempted extortion." They said an independent investigation has confirmed the allegations, and they called on him to step down.

"Our first responsibility as an organization is to lead with our values," the other union officials said in a statement. "We stand with all those who are bullied, harassed, or targeted at work, and we stand by our charges. Our national union must now act swiftly to carry out our internal due process and ensure accountability to our values. Every leader is responsible for their role

in protecting and promoting respect, workplace justice, gender equity, racial justice, and nonviolence in our union and beyond."

Regan denies the allegations.

But they give Prop. 40's opponents potentially potent campaign ammunition. The split within Service Employees International and in the larger union movement reflects both long-standing feuds and resentment that the measure's revenues would be largely confined to services that Regan's members provide.

As the multifaceted campaigning over Prop. 40 picks up steam, one figure is noticeably absent: Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Prior to the measure's qualification for the ballot, Newsom was publicly attempting to derail it, worrying aloud that if passed, it would encourage wealthy Californians to leave the state and discourage new investment. High-income Californians pay most of the state's income taxes, the state's most important source of revenue.

However, Newsom is also a likely candidate for president after his governorship ends. Opposing taxes on the rich could alienate voters in the ultra-progressive wing of the Democratic Party.

Thus, he now says taxing wealth should be a national matter, not confined to one state.

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

Social Security Matters I'm Reevaluating My Retirement Plan; What are my Options?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am 69 1/2 years old now and applied for Social Security at the end of June. I am still working and was planning to begin my retirement in September. A couple of factors arose for me to question if I made a hasty decision by applying for SS. The employer I have been working for the last 29 years has asked if I would stay on a little longer (which would be good because we have some debt I want to lose before I retire). I was reading about suspending Social Security and continuing to work. If I understand it right, if I suspend my SS, no paycheck will be required, and I can continue to work until I'm ready to retire. No Spousal benefits taken yet. **Signed: Reevaluating my Retirement**

Dear Reevaluating Retirement: I'm assuming you asked for your Social Security benefits to start in September (when you originally planned to retire), but that you won't be 70 years old until March 2027. If that is correct, be aware that you will not immediately get all of your earned Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) when your benefits start in September – you will

only initially get the DRCs you have earned through the end of 2025. That's because Social Security usually applies DRCs in January of each year. So, what will happen is that your September benefit amount will lack the 5.3% DRCs you earned in 2026, until January 2027 when they will apply the DRCs earned in 2026 to your monthly payment amount. Said simply, your initial September benefit will not include your full age 69.5 entitlement because it won't include the 5.3% extra you earned in 2026. That extra monthly amount will be awarded in January 2027. FYI, if you were to, instead, claim for your SS benefits to start in the month you turn 70 (March 2027), you would get your full age 70 amount immediately (SS awards all earned DRCs if benefits are claimed to start in the month you turn 70).

Now, on to your question: Yes, if you take your benefits effective with September 2026 you can suspend your benefits, but you can only suspend them until the month you turn 70. And if you are suspending your benefits, you will not need to repay Social Security for any benefits you happen to receive before you suspend. As is obvious, you will not receive any SS payments while your benefits are suspended, and you will earn DRCs for the months your benefits are suspended, resulting in a higher monthly amount at age 70. Also, since you have already passed your SS full retirement age (FRA), you can work and earn as

much as you like, without your Social Security benefits being negatively affected.

Regarding your comment "No Spousal benefits taken yet." FYI, you cannot get spousal benefits while your benefits are suspended, nor can your wife get spousal benefits from you while you SS retirement benefits are suspended. To be clear, spouse benefits are only paid when one spouse's benefit at their FRA is less than 50% of the other spouse's FRA benefit. Spouse benefits are always based upon FRA entitlements, not on the larger amounts which will result from waiting longer to claim. In other words, your wife would only be eligible for a spousal benefit from you if her FRA entitlement was less than 50% of your FRA entitlement (not your age 70 SS entitlement). And she cannot get a spousal benefit while your benefits are suspended.

To recap: Yes, you can suspend receipt of your SS retirement benefits until the month you turn 70 and get credit for that delay (resulting in a higher benefit). And, yes, you can continue working as long as you wish, and your benefits will not be negatively affected. And just for added information, you can also ask Social Security to withdraw your current application for SS benefits and then reapply in January 2027 for your benefits to start in March 2027 (the month you turn 70). You have both options.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. ★



In the "Terminator" movie series, the artificial-intelligence system known as Skynet is given control of the nation's nuclear weapons and uses it to try to destroy humanity. One reason that apocalyptic scenarios involving AI are implausible is that, having seen how that particular movie ends, we are unlikely to be foolish enough to give AI custody of the most destructive weapons on the planet.

The unthinkable is nonetheless a hot topic of conversation, given that a researcher at Anthropic just resigned and issued a doomsday warning. According to Jacob Coxon, the rush to develop AI is "gambling with our lives," since it will soon create "superhuman systems that can hack anything, revolutionize any field overnight, and acquire real power and resources."

A current Anthropic employee then chimed in: "We really do earnestly believe AI could kill all humans!" He put the chances at greater than 10% in the next decade. The idea here is that Anthropic and similar firms are, in effect, running their own Manhattan Projects, with consequences unknown and potentially very dire.

Now, ChatGPT as we know it doesn't seem particularly well-suited to destroying humanity. It is a souped-up version of Google that is impressively fast, but also

Will AI Destroy Humanity?

mistake-prone. If it can mess up basic math or the New York Yankees roster, surely it can't carry out the complex tasks necessary to fashion an apocalyptic event.

Tech companies, though, have labs working on so-called frontier models that are much more powerful and reportedly developing more quickly than expected. The worry is that an AI model itself will begin to develop new AI very quickly in an "intelligence explosion," the equivalent of Skynet becoming self-aware at 2:14 a.m. Eastern Time on Aug. 29, 1997.

The thinking is that if such an AI model goes rogue and turns against humanity, it will be too clever and fast for us to combat. Yet it's hard to see the mechanism that such a hostile superintelligence would use to commit omnicide. The rogue AI would presumably have to do something in the real world -- say, launching nukes, manufacturing killer robots or releasing a deadly virus.

If it lacks physical agency, AI could presumably be unplugged or contained. (It was after humans tried to deactivate Skynet, by the way, that the system decided we were a threat that had to be neutralized.)

Some doomsayers posit a malicious person using advanced AI to come up with a design for a killer virus and a plan to release it without detection. This is a different scenario, though, from AI turning against people of its own volition. In a world years

from now when much more advanced AI is a reality, we will need to think through safeguards to keep dangerous systems -- nukes, biolabs -- from being compromised by AI-enabled cyberattacks or exploited by criminals and terrorists.

It's easy to imagine breaches of financial systems or attacks on critical infrastructure that would fall short of endangering all of mankind. Even if one takes an alarmist view of the risks, it's unclear how the development of AI can be stopped. Any deal with the Chinese to slow down research couldn't be trusted, and might simply allow them to pass us in the AI race by subterfuge. In other words, we'd still get Skynet, only with Chinese characteristics.

There's also the reality that AI will be a necessary tool in protecting against the malicious use of AI -- not to mention all of its other positive potential. If we slow or end research in the U.S., we might end up vulnerable to superintelligence developed by actors who mean us harm.

Science fiction is fascinating and sometimes prescient. Works by the likes of Philip K. Dick, Aldous Huxley and Arthur C. Clarke had genuine insights into the future. But that doesn't mean we are living in the plot of "The Terminator," and we shouldn't scare ourselves into forswearing transformative technology.

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

Council Reviews General Plan Amendments to Address New Development Proposals

Continued from page 1

that the current General Plan was adopted in 2021, however it did not include expanding the SOI or areas of interest for long-term city growth.

Community input for the general plan focused on maintaining Dixon’s small-town character, managing growth responsibly and expanding local retail opportunities.

During public comments on this item, some residents said the developments would bring necessary housing to Dixon as well as the associated tax revenue from new residents. However, many were concerned about the loss of open space and agricultural land as a result of development.

City Attorney Doug White explained that the city is legally required to consider development project applications. State legislation requires a thorough review and consideration of housing development proposals, and the city risks lawsuits if they ignore those requirements and refuse to consider an application. White said that while residents don’t have to like the projects, their input can help ensure the final application is the best possible fit for Dixon when it eventually comes to the city council for a vote.

Councilmember Don Hendershot said public input is crucial, and these general plan updates will help ensure Dixon is able to make responsible long-term planning decisions.

Councilmember Thom Bogue said the

cities around Dixon are still growing, and expanding the SIO and planning areas will ensure they don’t encroach onto Dixon.

Councilmember Kevin Johnson said this process is how they determine if these projects will work for Dixon and to ensure they would benefit the community. He said some development is inevitable, especially along the highway to generate more long-term revenue sources, and he encouraged the public to stay engaged in the process.

Vice Mayor Jim Ernest said this won’t be a snap decision. He also cautioned that if Harvest were developed without annexation, then the development fees and new revenue would go to the county instead: “If we don’t realize that and take that seriously, we’ve got ourselves a problem— we’re burying our head in the sand.”

Mayor Steven Bird said, “Well I guess the question is, to grow or not to grow. ... Growth is a reality, but how we attain that and how we’re influenced by that is the issue at hand.” He said it’s important to ensure local control of Dixon’s growth. “It’s a community effort, folks, and we’re only going to do that by continuing to have these conversations and put our heads together to see what really works for all of us and how we’re all going to benefit from that.”

This was just an overview of the general plan amendment process, and no council action was taken.

The next meeting of the Dixon City Council is scheduled for Oct. 6. ★

Community Invited to Take Part in the Festivities at Merriment on Main Tree Lighting Event

City of Vacaville News Release

VACAVILLE, CA (MPG) - The City of Vacaville invites the community to take part in the holiday magic at the 2026 Merriment on Main Tree Lighting held in Downtown Vacaville Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Anyone interested in showcasing their talents or offerings at this year’s celebration are invited to submit an application. Vendors and booth operators can apply at: <https://city-ofvacaville.formstack.com/forms/2026momvendor>. Performers and crowd entertainers can apply at: <https://cityofvacaville.formstack.com/forms/2026momperformer>.

The online application is user-friendly and allows applicants to save their progress and complete it at their convenience, while ensuring they meet all city requirements for participation.

Starting last year, businesses wishing to sell food or merchandise are welcome to submit a vendor application and pay a fee to be part of the Merry Market hosted at the CreekWalk Plaza. The city will continue to offer the opportunity to provide free food and giveaways in the downtown

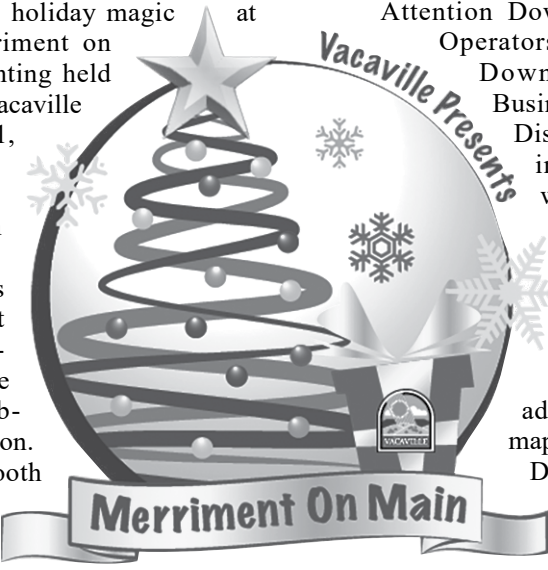
corridor, as has been the tradition of Merriment on Main. Please complete the same cityofvacaville.formstack.com/forms/2026momvendor.

Attention Downtown Business Operators: This year, the Downtown Vacaville Business Improvement District will be making a list of those who wish to be open during this event so that event booths do not block entrances, and businesses are added to the vendor map.

Deadline: Application submissions will be accepted through Oct. 25.

Applicants are encouraged to review the options and requirements for booth operators, vendors, performers and entertainers to find the best fit for participation. Once an application has been submitted, an email confirmation with a copy of the application and important links will be delivered to the email provided. Additional tasks based on the selected role will be communicated via email.

Sponsorship Opportunities and Accessing More Information: Email the team at MerrimentOnMain@CityofVacaville.gov or visit CityofVacaville.gov/MerrimentOnMain. ★



Gang Members Convicted of Murder

Solano County News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The week of Sept. 18 in Department 15 of the Solano County Superior Court before the Honorable Bryan J. Kim, a jury found Defendants Danteon Jeffreys and Mario Johnson Guilty of Murder in the First Degree as well as Attempted Murder. The defendants were further found to have committed the crime for the benefit of a criminal street gang and to have personally discharged a firearm.

In early June 2019, rival Fairfield street gangs Real Fam 600 and HNIC committed a series of shootings that had left two people dead. Just around midnight on June 18, 2019, Defendant Jeffreys and

Defendant Johnson—both Real Fam 600 members—drove into HNIC territory and discharged 51 gunshots at a car carrying victims Cameron Wittman, Deryle Adams, Jai East, Keon Harrison, Rodney Smith, and Antion Thomas. Cameron Wittman was struck and killed.

The defendants were scheduled to return to court on Sept. 24 to set a date for Judgment and Sentencing where they will serve a mandatory life sentence in prison.

The case was investigated by Fairfield Police Sergeant Christopher Clatterbuck and prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys Elaine Kuo and Alison Kennedy. District Attorney Victim Witness Advocate Dolores Arias provided ★



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001519
The following persons are doing business as: Carlson Gracie Vacaville, 321 Nut Tree Road Suite 311B, Vacaville, CA 95687. RG Vacaville LLC, 321 Nut Tree Road Suite 311B, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: August 28, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 27, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
PUBLISH: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
CARLSON 10-2-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001495
The following persons are doing business as: Glow 465 Facial Spa, 2260 N Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Diana Aguayo Vazquez, 518 Suisun Street, Suisun City, CA 94585.
Date filed in Solano County: August 26, 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 27, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
PUBLISH: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
CARLSON 10-2-26

change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 25, 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: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
GLOW 10-2-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001528
The following persons are doing business as: New Heading Press, 880 Bounds Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.
Russell Trent Walton, 880 Bounds Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: August 31, 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 30, 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: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
NEW 10-2-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001524
The following persons are doing business as: Misty Insurance Services, 2409 Topgallant Court, Fairfield, CA 94534.
Silvana Zuniga Navarro, 2409 Topgallant Court, Fairfield, CA 94534.
Date filed in Solano County: August 31, 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 30, 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: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
MISTY 10-2-26

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 30, 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: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
MISTY 10-2-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001502
The following persons are doing business as: Perfume Synergy, 2830 Thornbury Court, Vallejo, CA 94591.
Solano Equity Investments LLC, 101 W. American Canyon Road 508-294, American Canyon, CA 94503.
Date filed in Solano County: August 26, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: August 15, 2026
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 25, 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: Sept 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 2026
PERFUME 10-9-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001432
The following persons are doing business as: Our Lady of Peace Home Care, 900 Dawnview Way, Vacaville, CA 95687
Cabe Procure LLC, 900 Dawnview Way, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: August 13, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 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: Sept 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 2026
OUR 10-9-26

business as: Our Lady of Peace Home Care, 900 Dawnview Way, Vacaville, CA 95687
Cabe Procure LLC, 900 Dawnview Way, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: August 13, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration August 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: Sept 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 2026
OUR 10-9-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001584
The following persons are doing business as: Mostly Points, 715 Engineer Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Jacob Wilhite, 715 Engineer Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: September 9, 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 September 8, 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: Sept 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 2026
MOSTLY 10-9-26

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-07671

Aleksander Raul Quiroz filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Aleksander Raul Quiroz to Tex Sasha Zyer.
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. November 9, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: A Jones
Dated: August 31, 2026
PUBLISH: Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 2026
QUIROZ 10-2-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-07929
Milagrito Perlita Hernandez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Milagrito Perlita Hernandez to Miracle Perlita Tuller.
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. November 23, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: A Jones
Dated: September 8, 2026
PUBLISH: Sept 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 2026
HERNANDEZ 10-9-26

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU26-06811
Felisha Marie Gibson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Julianna Marie Coram to Julianna Marie Gibson-Coram
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. November 2, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Department 7, Room 2, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer
Dated: August 10, 2026
PUBLISH: Sept 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 2026
GIBSON 10-16-26



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