

Thanksgiving Travel Expected to Slightly Increase

PAGE **3**

We Wish Our Readers A Happy Thanksgiving

Dixon
Independent Voice

The Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Dixon

VOLUME **34** • ISSUE **47** | *Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993* | NOVEMBER 20, **2026**

SEE INSIDE

VFW LEADS VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



PAGE **2**

BLUE ANGELS TO HEADLINE 2027 AIRSHOW



PAGE **3**

FOOD & FARM NEWS



PAGE **4**

Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

PRSRTD STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CARMICHAEL, CA
PERMIT NO. 350
OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER

Back to Basics for DUSD



Dixon Montessori Charter School is one of several area schools that the Dixon Unified School District had said it would put bond money toward had Measure U passed.

Story and photo by Kevin Dietrich

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Just days after the defeat of Measure U, the $49 million general obligation bond placed on the ballot by the Dixon Unified School District Board of Trustees, district officials said they're preparing to move forward.

"The projects that need to happen in the district aren't going to go away," said District Superintendent Brett Barley. "We will need to refresh our master facilities plan and look at how we will go about addressing the $200 million in needed upgrades without any new money coming in."

Measure U was rejected by Dixon-area voters, 53.85 percent to 46.15 percent on Nov. 3. The results have not yet been certified by the Solano County Registrar of Voters, but the bond required 55 percent approval to pass.

Money from Measure U would have gone toward repairing and upgrading aging classrooms, roofs, plumbing, technology and electrical infrastructure; upgrading disabled access; and installing security systems, fire alarms and fencing.

Dixon residents are still paying for bond measures passed in 2002 and 2016. They rebuffed a school bond in 2012, as well.

Barley said the district has funds to take care of basic repairs, but bigger projects such as those laid out in the 2024 Master Facilities Plan could total as much as $202 million.

"Anderson Elementary alone is a $30 million project, and we just don't have that kind of money sitting in a bank somewhere," Barley said. "The need isn't going away, and I think people want to ensure that Dixon children have access to a quality education."

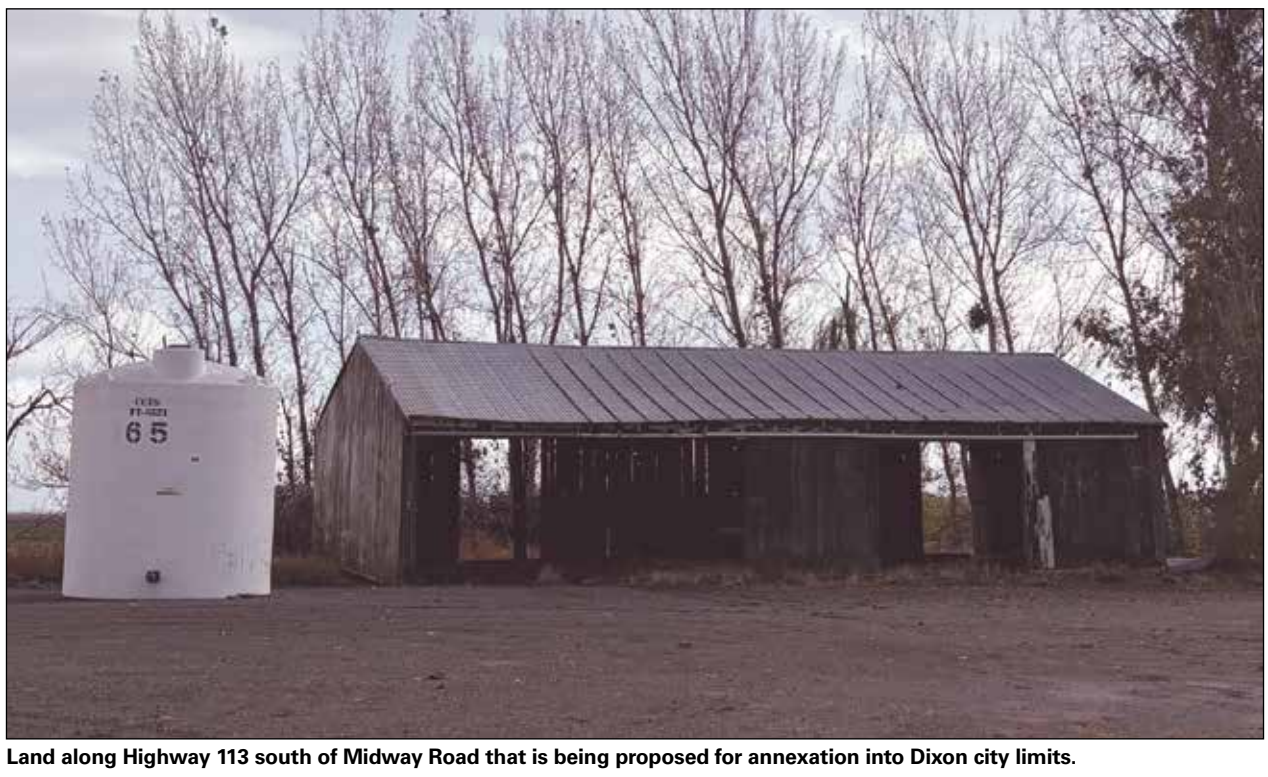
Barley, interviewed on Nov. 10, said it was still too early to determine why the bond measure was defeated, but said outreach efforts may not have been entirely successful.

"There are big parts of the community that maybe don't have kids in school and may not be familiar with the conditions of our schools," he said. "We need to figure a way to get in front of those people."

Dixon's school bond wasn't the only one to fail to pass voter scrutiny. Of 86 school district bond measures on the Nov. 3 ballot in California, 36 appeared headed to defeat.

Continued on page 4

Commission Views Proposed Changes to General Plan



Land along Highway 113 south of Midway Road that is being proposed for annexation into Dixon city limits.

Story and photo by Kevin Dietrich

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Dixon continues to move forward with amending its General Plan 2040, the comprehensive policy blueprint for the city's growth and development over the coming decades.

City officials presented the proposed amendment to the Dixon Planning Commission on Nov. 10. These included changes in areas being considered beyond current Dixon city limits.

"Unlike other cities in Solano County that plan for growth and expansion, the current Dixon General Plan essentially confines planning to the city limits, except for a small area along the city's

Continued on page 9

City of Dixon Launches Shop Local Campaign to Support Local Businesses

City of Dixon News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The City of Dixon is proud to launch Shop Local Dixon, a community-focused campaign celebrating the local businesses, restaurants, entrepreneurs and merchants that contribute to Dixon's unique character.

Choosing to shop local is a simple way to make a meaningful difference in our city, whether dining at a neighborhood restaurant or picking up a gift downtown. Every purchase made at a Dixon business supports local entrepreneurs, sustains jobs and keeps the community thriving.

Shopping in Dixon also doubles as a civic investment. Local sales tax revenue directly funds public safety, road improvements, neighborhood parks and other city services. When shopping dollars are taken out of town, that tax revenue improves services in other communities instead of Dixon.

Through Shop Local Dixon, the city will spotlight the diverse businesses, products, services and experiences. The campaign will highlight opportunities for residents to discover new favorites, explore the variety of businesses Dixon has to offer, check out seasonal offerings and find unique gifts and goods right here in our own community.

By encouraging everyone to explore all that Dixon has to offer, the campaign aims to strengthen connections between businesses and the community while raising awareness of the many shopping, dining and service options available locally.

"We are incredibly proud of the vibrant business community we have here in Dixon," said Mayor Steve Bird. "Our local businesses create jobs, bring people together and help make Dixon the special community it is."

Community members are encouraged to follow the City of Dixon's official social media channels to discover these features and share their own experiences supporting Dixon businesses using #ShopLocalDixon on their posts. ★

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

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

1013 Death Investigation Report in the 200 block of East D Street. Decedent was located and declared deceased during a welfare check. No suspicious circumstances were present, and the decedent was released by the Solano County Coroner's office to the next of kin.

1023 487 PC, Grand Theft report, taken in the 700 block of North 1st Street.

1052 Non-injury traffic collision report, taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

1104 Mental Health Hold in the 1200 block of Cunningham Drive. Subject was transported to hospital without incident.

1352 11350 H&S Possession of Heroin and 1377 H&S, Possession of Methamphetamine, arrest in the 800 block of North Adams Street. Suspect Danielle Thomas, 46-year-old from Carmichael, was arrested without incident. She was cited and released.

1537 Found property report taken in the 1800 block of North 1st Street.

1847 Officers responded to a report of a possible battery in the 900 block of Norton Ct. Jose Torres (53 year old male of Sacramento) was arrested for a violation of a court order.

Thursday, November 5, 2026

1013 Death Investigation Report in 600 block of West Cherry Avenue. Decedent was located and declared deceased during a welfare check. No suspicious circumstances were present, and the decedent was released to the Solano County Coroner's office.

1011 594 PC, Vandalism report, taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

1247 Warrants and 529 (a)(3) PC, False identification to a police officer arrest, in the 1400 block of Ary Lane. Suspect was arrested without incident. Suspect was medically cleared for incarceration and booked into Solano County Jail.

1637 288 PC, Lewd Act with a Child report, taken in the temporary PD lobby.

1824 Officers responded to a report of a violation of a court order in the 1300 block of West H St. Brandon Brown (40 year old male of Vacaville) was arrested for violation of a court order.

1843 Officers responded to a report of an elder/dependent abuse in the 500 block of S. Jefferson.

2049 Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the 1300 block of Commercial Way. Roberto Galindo (27 year old male of Stockton) was arrested for driving on a suspended license for DUI and probation violation.

0002 Officers initiated a traffic stop near East A St and Doyle Ln. Sandra Angelica Galvan (27 year old female of Dixon) was arrested for driving under the influence of a drug.

Friday, November 6, 2026

1136 Information report taken in the 400 block of East A Street.

1458 Oscar Delatorre (38) of Dixon was placed under arrest in the 800 block of N. Washington St. for an outstanding warrant.

1606 Lost property report take at the Temporary Police Department Lobby.

1629 Shoplifting report taken in the 2000 block of North 1st Street.

2111 Officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop on a bicyclist in the 1100 block of Pitt School Rd. Nathan Moreno (44 year old male of Dixon) was arrested on an outstanding out of county warrant.

Saturday, November 7, 2026

0913 777 W&I, Violation of a Juvenile Court order arrest, in the 700 block of North Lincoln Street. Suspect was arrested without incident. Suspect was transported to Solano County Jail and booked.

0153 Officers self-initiated contact with individuals in the 200 block of S. Jackson. A sexual battery report was taken.

0153 Officers completed an information report in the 100 block of S. First St.

0232 Officers contacted Nathan Koster (21 year old male of Dixon) in the 100 block of S First St. He was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

Sunday, November 8, 2026

1312 Fraud report taken by phone. Frauds are occurring in Texas.

1417 Threats report taken in the 1600 block of Weyand Way.

1616 Domestic dispute reported in the 1500 block of Valley Glen Drive.

1731 Robert Mbithi (24) of Fairfield was arrested for domestic violence in the 1000 block of Amhurst Ave.

0050 Stolen vehicle recovered in the area of North 6th Street and Walnut Park Avenue.

Monday, November 9, 2026

0840 Death investigation in the 400 block of North Jefferson Street.

1407 Death investigation in the 400 block of South Adams Street.

0030 Confidential report taken in PD lobby.

0130 Paul Hall (38) of Arkansas was contacted in the 200 block of East Dorset and arrested for outstanding warrants.

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

1101 Domestic dispute reported in the 2200 block of Mourning Dove Drive also resulted in the service or a restraining order.

1702 Found wallet reported at Hall Park.

2030 Theft from a residence in the 1500 block of Omaha Ct.

2321 Female placed on a mental health hold.

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

1445 Theft report taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

1448 Child custody dispute reported in the 200 block of South 8th Street.

1652 Confidential report taken in the 500 block of Spruce Street.

2003 Brandon Lepenske (46) of Dixon was arrested for several sex related crimes involving minors.





Dixon News Briefs



Commander Sterling Koliba of Dixon Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8151, right, was among several VFM members who attended the Veterans Day flag-raising ceremony in Woodland. Photo courtesy of Dixon Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8151

By MPG Staff

VFW Leads Veterans Day Ceremony

Veterans, families, community members and local leaders came together on Nov. 11 to hold a Veterans Day flag-raising ceremony outside the county's Veterans Services Office in Woodland.

The ceremony included remarks from retired Yolo County Judge and U.S. Army veteran Dave Rosenberg, along with members of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. Members of American Legion Post 77 conducted the ceremonial flag raising, and Davis Local Vocals performed the National Anthem. Members of the Dixon Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8151 also took part.

The cost for the new flagpole was estimated at approximately $20,000. Half the money came from Rosenberg and his wife, and half from Yolo County.

Yolo County's Veterans Services Office provides free assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors seeking federal, state and local benefits and services.

Eight Inducted into Dixon Hall of Fame

The 2026 Dixon Hall of Fame Induction Dinner was held Nov. 14 at the Dixon May Fair.

Eight individual athletes, one coach, one special contributor and one team were inducted into the Dixon Hall of Fame.

Individual inductees were: Bill Wilson, Class of 1936; Steve Jones, Class of 1959; Mike Palmer, Class of 1965; Roger Lozano, Class of 1972; Jesse Castillo, Class of 1980; Joseph Carrion, Class of 1994; Kara Bessighini, Class of 2006; and Devan Turner, Class of 2016.

Ed Eusebio was selected in the coaching category and Wes O'Neill in the special contributor class. The 2012 boys golf team was recognized in the team category.

Padilla Takes Top Honors at Ryukyukan Tourney



Daniela Setka of Dixon won the gold medal in traditional Okinawan weapons during the Ryukyukan International Karate Tournament, held Nov. 7, at Dixon High School. Photo courtesy of Ramtown Karate

The 25th annual Ryukyukan International Karate Tournament, held Nov. 7 at Dixon High School, brought in 300 competitors from 45 dojos, including individuals from as far away as Japan and Ukraine.

Among strong performances from Dixon individuals was Ryan Padilla, 43, who won the Men's Super Heavyweight Knockdown Gold Cup Championship, the tournament's headline Knockdown event.

Also, Mary-Etta Ridley, 13, took first place in both Olympic-style fighting and Knockdown Fighting, and Daniela Setka, 26, a longtime Dixon Ace Hardware employee, won the gold medal in traditional Okinawan weapons (kobudo).

All three train at Ramtown Karate, whose 50-plus competitors earned numerous gold medals and swept several Knockdown podiums.

About 500 spectators came to watch, and more than 50 local volunteers helped make it happen.

The November tournament is among California's largest and longest-running traditional karate tournaments, with competitors this year ranging in age from 5 to 64. It began in 2001.

Dixon Drops Season Finale, 25-8

The Dixon High football team ended its 2026 season with a 25-8 road loss to Fairfield on Nov. 13.

The Rams scored in the third quarter to cut the Fairfield lead to 13-8 but couldn't put any more points on the board.

Dixon ended the season with a 2-9 overall record and a 1-5 mark in Golden Empire League action.

Yolo Residents Admitted Free to SMUD Museum

Yolo County residents are invited to enjoy free admission to Yolo Day at the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity in Sacramento from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Nov. 21.

The event offers families an opportunity to enjoy one of the region's leading science museums at no cost.

Located at 400 Jibboom Street in Sacramento, the museum features interactive exhibits that bring science, technology, engineering and nature to life. Visitors can explore exhibits at their own pace, take part in hands-on learning experiences and discover new ways to engage with the world around them.

Admission is free for Yolo County residents, but tickets are available on a first-come, first-served. To request tickets, email Viviana.Dazo@YoloCounty.gov with the following information: first and last name; email address; phone number; address; and number of adults and children attending (children under age 2 do not need to be counted).

Dixon to Offer Babysitting Course

Dixon Recreation will be offering a course on babysitting, beginning later this month.

The course is designed for ages 10-16 and covers basic childcare, essential babysitting skills and American Red Cross certification.

The first class meets from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 23 through Nov. 25, while the second class meets from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 28 through Dec. 30.

Cost is $105 for residents. For more information, go to the city of Dixon Recreation page at https://www.cityofdixonca.gov/departments/Recreation.

Bunco at Dixon Moose Lodge

Bunco at the Dixon Moose Lodge will take place at 12:30 p.m., Dec. 12, at 180 N. B St.

The event includes prizes, with food and beverages available for purchase. Cost is $20 per attendee. Moose members and their guests are welcome.

For more information, call Sherry Haight at 916-704-7875.

Festival of Trees Set for Dec. 12

The Dixon Kiwanis Festival of Trees will take place from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 12 at the American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St., Dixon.

Photos with Santa will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 12.

For more information, call 707-635-3303. ★

Thanksgiving Travel Expected to Slightly Increase in California Compared to Last Year

This year's forecast projects 81.5 million people will leave town for the holiday nationwide

AAA Northern California News Release



AAA projects more than 1.1 million Californians to fly to their destination for the Thanksgiving holiday. Photo by JESHOOTS-com and Pixabay

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Less people are expected to travel this Thanksgiving across the country, bringing to an end a three-year streak of record Thanksgiving travel that began in 2023. AAA projects nearly 81.5 million people will travel at least 50 miles from home for Thanksgiving between Tuesday, Nov. 24 and Monday, Nov. 30. This year's domestic travel forecast represents a 0.1% decline which is about 121,000 fewer travelers.

In California, AAA expects about 11 million people to travel over the 6-day holiday weekend, representing a 0.6% increase in the number of people across the state.

"Thanksgiving represents quality time with family and friends, and for many people that requires traveling to see loved ones," said Doug Johnson, spokesperson for AAA Mountain West Group. "After three years of record highs, the number of travelers is slightly lower partly because of higher travel costs. But travelers won't notice much of a difference on the roads and at the airports, since projected volumes remain near record levels."

While road trips and flights will experience a decline this year, all other modes of transportation including cruises will be on the rise.

Thanksgiving Travelers by Mode of Transportation

By Car: AAA projects roughly 9.6 million Californians will travel by car, a 0.5% increase from 2025. Nationwide, 72.9 million people will travel by car for the Thanksgiving holiday, a slight drop from last year when 73.1 million travelers took road trips. This year's projected decrease is due in part to record high gas prices. The months of August, September, and October set new monthly records at the pump, and November could also do the same. The national average on Thanksgiving Day has never been above $4 per gallon. The highest Thanksgiving at the pump was in 2022 at $3.58. For most holiday travelers, driving remains the cheapest and easiest way to get around. Nearly 90% of Thanksgiving travelers are expected to hit the road. AAA encourages drivers to have their vehicles inspected by a trusted auto repair shop to ensure they are road trip ready.

By Air: AAA projects more than 1.1 million Californians to fly to their destination for the holiday. Nationwide, 5.96 million travelers will take domestic flights for Thanksgiving, a 0.2% decrease over last year. According to AAA data, travelers are paying 15% more for roundtrip domestic flights, averaging $800 per ticket.

By Other Modes: AAA projects more than 322,000 Californians, and 2.6 million people nationwide will take buses, trains, and cruises, representing a 4.1% increase from last year.

The Tuesday and Wednesday before the holiday and Sunday and Monday following the holiday will be the busiest days on the road. Drivers should consider hitting the road in the morning hours to avoid traffic congestion as the worst times for travel will be in the afternoon and early evening hours.

Leaving your vehicle parked at an airport or in a driveway while traveling can slowly drain your battery. Cold weather can also impact your battery as frigid temperatures can reduce the amount of power needed to start the engine. AAA Northern California sees a 15% increase in battery service calls around Thanksgiving.

To protect your vehicle from battery failure AAA Northern California recommends:

Keep your battery clean by scraping away any white, crusty corrosion from your battery. This cleaning is included with the AAA Mobile Battery Service.

Fill up your fuel tank at least half way and drive the vehicle weekly.

Use a trickle charger: If you are traveling without your car, hook it up to a battery tender or trickle charger to maintain a healthy, slow charge. These are available for roadside purchase through most Fleets and ICS Mobile Battery Service providers.

Turn off accessories, start with your radio, heater, headlights and seat warmers before you turn off the ignition so the battery doesn't have the extra load when you start it next. ★

Blue Angels to Headline 2027 Airshow

California Capital Airshow returns March 20-21

California Capital Airshow News Release



The world-famous U.S. Navy Blue Angels return for the 2027 California Capital Airshow March 20-21, 2027. Photo courtesy of Mark E. Loper

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Get ready, Sacramento! The roar of jet engines, breathtaking aerial performances and the thrill of flight are returning to the skies over Mather Airport as the California Capital Airshow (CCA) announces its 2027 dates, March 20-21, headlined by the world-famous U.S. Navy Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron.

Following an extraordinary 20th anniversary celebration that welcomed more than 100,000 spectators, the California Capital Airshow is keeping the momentum soaring with another action-packed weekend of world-class aviation entertainment, interactive experiences and family-friendly fun.

Known for their breathtaking formations, extraordinary precision and high-speed maneuvers, the Blue Angels are among the most celebrated military jet demonstration teams in the world. Their highly anticipated return to Sacramento promises to deliver an unforgettable display of skill, teamwork and the power of flight.

"After the incredible energy and excitement of our 20th anniversary celebration, we're ready to take that momentum into 2027," said Chief Executive Officer of the California Capital Airshow Darcy Brewer. "There's nothing quite like the sight and sound of the Blue Angels overhead, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome them back to Sacramento. We're already working to create another spectacular weekend that brings our community together, inspires the next generation, and reminds us all why we love aviation."

Presented in partnership with Sacramento County and the City of Rancho Cordova, the 2027 Airshow will feature an exciting lineup of military and civilian performers, captivating ground displays and immersive experiences that bring aviation to life. From heart-pounding aerial demonstrations to opportunities for young aviation enthusiasts to explore aircraft, meet pilots, and discover careers in aviation and aerospace, the California Capital Airshow offers something for every generation.



Fans eager to experience the Blue Angels and everything the 2027 California Capital Airshow has in store are encouraged to save the date for March 20-21, 2027. Photo courtesy of Mark E. Loper

And this is just the beginning. Additional performers, special attractions and event details will be announced in the months ahead.

Fans eager to experience the Blue Angels and everything the 2027 California Capital Airshow has in store are encouraged to save the date for March 20-21, 2027, and sign up to become an AIR SHOW INSIDER® at CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com.

AIR SHOW INSIDERS® receive first access to discounted tickets, exciting performer announcements, and exclusive event updates, ensuring they don't miss a moment as the countdown to the 2027 Airshow begins.

Mark your calendars. Spread the word. The Blue Angels are coming to Sacramento!

About the California Capital Airshow

Established in 2004, the California Capital Airshow 501(c)3 plans and operates the exciting, family-friendly annual event designed to honor the Sacramento region's rich aviation heritage and veterans while using the power and magic of flight to inspire young people. CCA gives back to the community through scholarships, charitable group donations and exciting educational youth programming throughout the year. For more information about the airshow, performers, and discount tickets, visit www.californiacapitalairshow.com ★

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Informing, Empowering & Engaging Readers With Their Community



Becoming Local Problem Solvers: Curiosity, Compassion and Collaboration

By Patsy McGavock

Over the past few weeks, we've explored politics as people and policy, and finding common ground without surrendering our principles. We've learned from legislators in California's Problem Solvers Caucus. What they described were human skills, not legislative ones. How do we put those skills to work here, where we live? How do we find the courage to begin?

Two weeks after a defining midterm election, some may feel finally heard. Others may wonder whether their voices still matter. We are experiencing this moment differently. But we are still neighbors.

Let's step back to June. A German visitor attending the World Cup reportedly observed, "If you want to hate America, read the news. If you want to love it — drive through it." Initially concerned for his safety, he came to love America through the hospitality of its people.

Perhaps that's part of our challenge. Political labels can make strangers of neighbors. Better understanding one another can challenge our assumptions. As Assemblywoman Anamarie Ávila Farías described it, we live in "50 shades of blue" — or red. Our experiences, values and ideas don't fit neatly into opposing camps.

Nothing shuts down a conversation faster than defensiveness and fear. We can enter a discussion prepared to protect ourselves from an adversary or prepared to understand someone whose concerns differ from our own.

Consider an exercise. Participants stand in a circle. Each chooses an adversary, trying to keep a defender between them. The room becomes a scramble as everyone moves away from someone else.

Now reverse the assignment. Each chooses someone to protect, staying between them and a perceived threat. Suddenly, everyone moves toward the center. (Try it at home. It's immediate and remarkable.)

In the public square, how do we meet on common ground? Expect collaboration and assume goodwill, and you will bring collaboration and goodwill. Defend it.

I've been considering three essential tools:

Curiosity helps us discover what matters. Compassion helps us recognize why it matters to others. Collaboration helps bring people, ideas and resources together to do something about it.

Our strongest disagreements may become part of the solution, revealing aspects we might otherwise overlook. We can discover shared concerns, identify non-negotiables, then bring different perspectives, knowledge and resources together to develop solutions.

We can be the local expression of the cross-partisan collaboration we've been learning about.

It begins with listening.

You can't meet a need you don't understand. Listening isn't simply about understanding the problem. It's about understanding the person.

Ask first. Listen. Understand. And in understanding, find a purpose bigger than either of you.

Our differences don't disappear, but they become smaller beside what we're trying to accomplish together. That tempers our listening with humility. We collaborate better. Listen better. Consider more possibilities. And we develop a more complete solution.

We don't have to start from scratch.

Matt Hedges, chief of staff to Sacramento County Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez, shared an observation: "The core of the community is full of people who truly want to help. Overflowing." People who care, organizations doing good work and networks of relationships.

The challenge, he explained, is connecting them.

Think of that potential we could set in motion!

We've discussed our community hubs with wheels already turning: chambers, community councils, service clubs and libraries. Places to learn, find partners and discover who's working on the concerns we've noticed.

Connecting people is a beginning. Shared purpose helps us keep moving.

Sheri Merrick, executive director of the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce, offered encouragement in a conversation last year: "If you're doing it for the right reason, you will always be moving forward. You'll be doing it for the reasons that make your heart happy."

That sense of purpose can sustain us when progress is slow, or our first ideas don't work.

Writing this column often takes me beyond my comfort zone, including interviewing legislators. Yet I've discovered a natural progression: Each conversation deepens my understanding and introduces me to another person who may be part of a solution. I've discovered those people are closer than we imagine.

Next time, we'll explore how these connections can help us become effective advocates, bringing neighbors, nonprofits and government together to address the needs of our communities, and perhaps our nation.

Patsy is a volunteer community writer informing, empowering and engaging readers with their community. Connect with Patsy at PatsyMcGaovck.JustServe@gmail.com. ★

Back to Basics for DUSD

Continued from page 1

These included Measure B, the Winters Joint Unified School District's $29.9 million bond; Measure H, a bid by Live Oak Unified School District in Sutter County to issue a $33.2 million bond; and Measure M, Sacramento City Unified School District's attempt to raise $10 million annually by adding a per-parcel increase to property tax bills.

School bonds on pace to pass include Measure D, a $300 million bond by Natomas Unified School District, and Measure E, a $197 million bond by the Center Joint Unified School District. Both districts are in Sacramento County.

If passed, Measure U would have resulted in an estimated $30 tax increase per $100,000 of property for area residents. With the median sale price of a home in Dixon at approximately $640,000, that would have meant an additional $192 a year in property taxes.

That's in addition to what residents are already paying for Measure J, the 2002 general obligation bond which raised $29.4 million, and Measure Q, the 2016 general obligation bond which secured $30.4 million. ★

Ask DR. UNIVERSE

Do bugs have hearts and brains?

– Nick

This updated Ask Dr. Universe story originally published February 2015.

Dear Nick,

All mammals have hearts and brains. It's something you and I have in common.

Our four-chambered hearts pump blood around our bodies. That's how we move oxygen and waste.

Our brains sit inside our skulls. They're how we think, sense the world around us, and move our bodies.

I asked my friend Laura Lavine if bugs have those organs, too. She's an insect scientist at Washington State University.

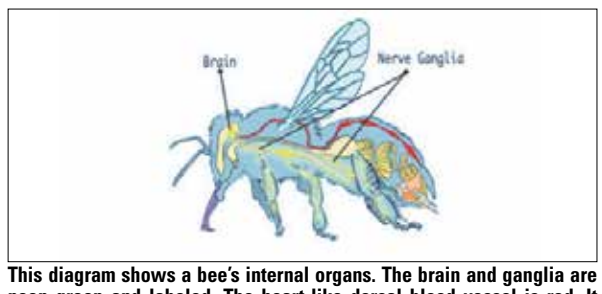
It turns out insects aren't mammals like us. They aren't even vertebrate animals with backbones. They're arthropods.

An arthropod has a "skeleton" on the outside—an exoskeleton. That's a hard outer shell that protects and supports its body. To grow, an arthropod secretes a new exoskeleton and sheds its old one. Arthropods also have jointed limbs and segmented bodies.

Tons of animals are arthropods. That includes all insects, arachnids (spiders, mites, ticks and scorpions), crustaceans (crabs, lobsters, shrimp and pill bugs) and myriapods (centipedes and millipedes).

Your heart is part of a closed circulatory system. Your blood travels inside blood vessels. Your heart pumps oxygen-rich blood all over your body.

An arthropod has an open circulatory system. Its "blood" is called hemolymph. It mostly flows freely inside the arthropod's body.



This diagram shows a bee's internal organs. The brain and ganglia are neon green and labeled. The heart-like dorsal blood vessel is red. It pumps the blood forward to the brain. (Bee's Internal Sensory Receptors, Nebraska Public Media, Used under PBS download and share license)

Lavine told me that some insects ooze a little hemolymph when they're threatened. That's called reflex bleeding. That can be toxic or just send a message.

"It warns the attacker that they're dangerous," she said. "Then they escape."

Unlike your blood, hemolymph doesn't usually carry oxygen. Insects don't even have lungs. They take in oxygen through a row of tiny openings on their sides called spiracles.

Then they pipe that oxygen directly to their cells through a system of tiny tubes called tracheae.

Insects have just one blood vessel. That's sort of like a heart. It runs along the insect's back. It pumps hemolymph from the insect's rear end to its head.

That bathes the brain in the insect's head with nutrients and chemical messages. Then the hemolymph sloshes through the insect's whole body.

But the insect brain isn't as centralized as the mammal brain.

An insect's brain connects to a long nerve cord that run along its belly. Along this cord are bundles of nerve cells called ganglia. They help control different body parts. The brain and ganglia work together to help an insect sense its surroundings and respond to them.

That takes less energy than powering one big brain. It also maximizes how fast an insect can act.

"If you had little brains everywhere else, you would also be much quicker," Lavine said.

It's not always easy to relate to animals that are so different from us. But that's just how we each adapted to our environments. And those brains give some insects sophisticated abilities—like bees sniffing out bombs or diseases.

I guess you could say that's just another way to bee an animal, surviving on planet Earth.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe



Market, Prices Strengthen for Sweet Potato Growers

After suffering from a post-COVID hangover, California's sweet potato industry appears to be recovering with stabilized acreage and improved prices during the past year. "Beginning last year, things finally started getting better, mostly because there were short crops in Mississippi and North Carolina because of weather," said Scott Stoddard, a farm adviser with the University of California Cooperative Extension. Jeremy Fookes, director of sales for Livingston-based A.V. Thomas Produce, a sweet potato grower, packer and shipper, agreed. "Compared to last season, this season definitely has some strength to it for growers, especially with the supply situation," he said. "It's one of those seasons where there's an opportunity to be a little bit firmer with pricing, but it needed to be so with not having a bumper crop and having higher input costs." Harvest of this year's crop started unusually early in late July and will taper off this month.

California FFA students win in Agricultural Proficiency

Six California high school students were named winners of Agricultural Proficiency Awards during the 99th National FFA Convention & Expo held in Indianapolis last month. The awards honor FFA members who, through supervised agricultural experiences, or SAEs, have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. Students compete in areas ranging from agricultural communications to wildlife management. This year's winners are Saray Madriz Alcaraz of the Madera FFA Chapter for small animal production and care; Clarke Conrad of the Merced-El Capitan FFA for specialty animal production; Gauge Goehring of the Galt FFA for swine production; Jackson Alves of the Hamilton City-Hamilton FFA for diversified crop production; Elliott Kramer of the Galt FFA for environmental science and natural resources management; and Derek Rulon of the Cottonwood-West Valley FFA for wildlife production and management. Meanwhile, Hanford FFA was one of three chapters that won the #SpeakAg Showcase competition.

Commentary: Lessons Learned from Being a Dot on Bankruptcy Map

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Law Center this year launched Data on Economic and Bankruptcy Trends in Agriculture, or DEBT, which maps agricultural bankruptcies with the aim of providing a picture of the number of farms facing financial distress. The map features 1,401 dots, each of which represents a farm bankruptcy filed since 2021. One of the dots represents the family farm of Jenny Lester Moffitt, vice president of farmland protection and strategic priorities for American Farmland Trust. "If we truly value what farms and farmers provide, we cannot wait until bankruptcy to decide they are worth saving," Lester Moffitt wrote in a recent Ag Alert® commentary. "We need strong markets, earlier financial and business support, conservation investments that strengthen economic resilience, better tools for managing debt and realistic pathways for the next generation to remain on the land." ★

We are your neighbors
nextdoor
Dixon Independent Voice
Stop by for a visit
nextdoor.com/page/dixon-independent-voice

Be a part of something important
Local Writers Wanted
We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.
MPG
Call us today at 916-773-1111

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS
MPG



Riley Reviews

"WILD HORSE NINE" A DARK COMEDY SUSTAINED BY ITS LEAD CHARACTERS

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"WILD HORSE NINE" Rated R

Knowing just a little about Latin American history from over a half-century ago puts "Wild Horse Nine" into perspective about the intrigue of underlying geopolitical issues that rocked a nation.

In 1970, Chile elected its first Marxist president in Salvador Allende, who had served in the government in several roles, including senator and cabinet minister, until his tenure came to an end during a military coup led by Chilean commander-in-chief General Augusto Pinochet.

Another thing to understand is that the film's Irish writer and director Martin McDonagh is known for being controversial with his chaotic, nihilistic humor and pushing boundaries of decency.

The source of this quote may come the British paper The Guardian and it says a lot about his style, "McDonagh is used to creating headlines in Britain and Ireland with his dark tales laced with black humour and flowing with stage blood."

The irrepressible McDonagh has scored triumphs probably more in stage plays than film, and one of his craziest theatrical productions was the black comedy "The Lieutenant of Inishmore," where blood splattered on stage to the shock of patrons.

The central character in "The Lieutenant of Inishmore" was Irish terrorist Padraic, considered too insane to be in the Irish Republican Army, who went on a wild killing spree when his beloved cat Wee Thomas was believed to have been fatally run over by a bicycle.

With the story of two CIA agents, Chris Carlisle (John Malkovich) and Lee Chesterfield (Sam Rockwell), sent to Santiago, Chile seemingly for the clandestine purposes of setting a coup in motion before they head over to Easter Island, "Wild Horse Nine" has its own share of insanity.

While waiting at the airport for their flight to the remote and sparsely populated island that is a special territory of Chile, Chris and Lee meet two college students going the same way.

Monica (Mariana di Girolamo) and Alicia (Ailin Salas) are intrigued by the banter of Chris and Lee, who claim to be with the CIA while also contradicting that claim, much to the consternation of the students.

Taking the same journey to Rapa Nui (as the locals call Easter Island), Monica and Alicia are politically aligned with the Chilean president as they speak fondly of the Allende regime. Chris can't resist telling them to enjoy their democracy while they can.

On the 2,000-mile plane ride, Chris and Lee start talking about their number of kills in their government service, of which the veteran Chris has so considerably more that he tells Lee, "I've killed people in countries you can't even spell."

While the insults between the duo continue, Lee doesn't even bother to answer Chris' challenge to spell Czechoslovakia. Lee is the straight man who shows an increasing lack of patience with Chris's propensity to lie about everything, a trait that soon annoys Monica during an encounter at a beach.

Even though Chris has been a mentor, Lee is growing frustrated with his companion's erratic behavior and use of morphine to ease the pain of his terminal cancer and his propensity to start talking about secrets the CIA would rather keep buried.

What does Chris, who was in Dallas in November 1963, know about the Kennedy assassination? Why is the agency concerned about Chris writing memoirs to be published only after his imminent death?

Nearing the end, Chris reflects on his life choices and career through a Dictaphone and Super 8mm recordings by Lee. What might be on the reel of film he carries in his pocket before handing it over to Lee?

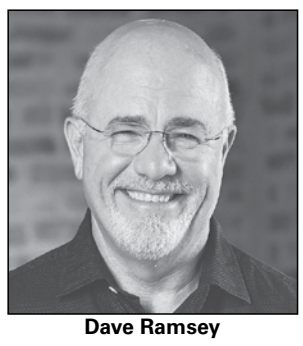
Why does Chris suddenly want to go to Venice instead of remaining in Rapa Nui? After all, he blathers on about seeing the giant "big heads" on the island, referring to the landmark stone statues carved by the early Rapa Nui people, and then claims that if you've seen one head, you've seen them all.

What little suspense is found here goes to the appearance of the pair's CIA boss MJ (Steve Buscemi), the Chile bureau chief, who insists that Chris not leave the island alive, considering his knowledge of agency secrets he seems prepared to reveal.

As far as McDonagh's films may foretell the pattern of "Wild Horse Nine," look no further than his 2008 film "In Bruges," the story of two British hitmen (Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson) hiding out in the Belgian city after a hit goes wrong.

More than a story about clandestine efforts on foreign land, "Wild Horse Nine" is a character study in the mold of "In Bruges" where we learn about the friendship of two spooks shaped by decades of secrecy, loyalty and moral compromise.

John Malkovich and Sam Rockwell are the perfect pairing, with the former's cerebral amoral character and the latter's offbeat charisma nicely elevated by McDonagh's wickedly clever dialogue that makes their story compelling as well as entertaining. ★



Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says

Contentment, Gratitude and Priorities

Dear Dave,

My husband loves his job, works a regular schedule and he makes over $180,000 a year. I love my work as a part-time substitute teacher in our local school system. We are debt-free, except for our home, and we've already invested and saved enough money to where we'll have a very comfortable retirement in a few years. My husband asked me the other day how I'd feel about finding a full-time job, so we can build more wealth. I don't really want to do this, but I wondered about your thoughts on our situation.

– Mira

Dear Mira,

You two have a responsibility to take care of each other and your own household, first and foremost. You didn't give me many numbers to go on, but from what you've told me it sounds like you're doing a really good job of that. Congratulations!

But to be honest, I'm not a big fan of the idea of you taking on a full-time job *only* to build more wealth—especially if you guys are in great shape financially, and you love what you're already doing. Sure, having a bunch of wealth allows you to do things you wouldn't otherwise be able to do. It can also help ensure a good, stable quality of life and put you in a position to be extremely generous. But if you have to surrender the joy in life to do it, all in the name of simply increasing your amount of wealth to an even higher level, I don't like that idea.

I want you to think about something. Contentment has nothing to do with how many hours you work, or how many zeroes are in your bank account. Contentment has to do with your state of being. It's connected to your happiness, your sense of gratitude and your priorities. The idea that contentment is on the same spectrum as ambition? I disagree with that notion wholeheartedly.

People should do something with their lives that they feel called to do and enjoy. Now, if your kids are going hungry, and your bills aren't getting paid, you need to put your head down and do what it takes to get on the right path. But in my mind, you guys are in a great place!

– Dave

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



Popp Talk

With Mary Jane Popp

Thanksgiving Fact or Fiction

Let's take a look at some of the stories we hear about the Pilgrims, like who they were and how they lived. First of all, they didn't call themselves Pilgrims. They called themselves "Saints" and "First Comers." Of the 102 people on the Mayflower, only 50 were so-called Pilgrims. The others were members of the Church of England who had signed on simply as laborers, soldiers, or those who were looking to gain property in the "New World."

MYTH In pictures and pageants we see them in black and white clothing with buckled shoes and top hats. **FACT**. They didn't wear buckled shoes. The myth that they dressed like this stems from the popular clothing style of the day in England. They didn't wear buckled hats either. They simply wore much cheaper leather laces to tie up their shoes and hold up their pants. They also didn't wear only black and white. Their common garb was quite colorful. They only wore black and gray on Sundays. The rest of the time they wore heavily dyed clothing in many colors that could be achieved with natural dyes. Here's an example, a Pilgrim by the name of Brewster left his clothing in his will to someone. Here's what he left… "one blew cloth suit, green drawers, a violet clothe coat, black silk stockings, sky blew garters, red grosgrain suit, red waistcoat, tawny colored suit with silver buttons." Seems pretty bright to me.

Then came the meal both Pilgrims and Native Americans ate. Turkey and all the fixins' right? **MYTH**. Yes, wild turkey was on the menu but what about mashed potatoes? **FACT**. Dream on. At the time that first Thanksgiving happened, most Europeans had never even seen a potato. Same goes for the Native Americans. Corn was likely on the menu, but mushy, turned into a thick porridge that you can slurp down with a spoon. **MYTH**. It was all turkey and corn. **FACT**. Turkey, venison, lots of lobsters and other seafood even eels and mussels, and all the vegetables that they had planted from onions, beans, spinach, lettuce and other greens was on the menu. **MYTH**. Had to have pumpkin pies. **FACT**. Pilgrims liked pumpkins. But they hollowed them out, filled them with milk and honey to make a custard, and then roasted the orange orbs in hot ashes. No pies! They were out of luck because you need butter and wheat flour. They didn't have much of either.

MYTH. They loved cranberry sauce. **FACT**. By fall of 1621, Pilgrims were essentially out of sugar. So, no cranberry sauce. It was a new little berry to them. Native Americans made dyes out of cranberries. **MYTH**. It was called Thanksgiving. **FACT**. That first get together was in fact a harvest festival celebrated in October not November. They were just grateful to be alive as half of their company died during the first bleak winter.

Let's face it, we have so much to be thankful for…family and friends, good eats and lots of football. ★

HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND BLESSINGS TO ALL!



Caltrans Receives $480,000 Grant to Strengthen Highway Safety

Caltrans News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Caltrans announced Nov. 17 that it received approximately $480,000 in grant funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to help expand and improve traffic data collection that will help support safety on the state highway system.

Caltrans analyzes a wide variety of data sets to help evaluate road safety, including lane conditions, intersection and shoulder types, traffic controls, speed limits and traffic volumes. The federal fiscal year 2027 funding for the program will help streamline the collection and is provided by a grant from OTS through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"Strengthening California's roadway data helps us better understand crash patterns and make smarter safety investments. This grant will boost our ability to improve safety statewide and advance our goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries," said Dina El-Tawansy, director of Caltrans.

"Accurate and timely traffic records data helps inform our understanding of the most urgent traffic safety issues in California communities. By funding modern reporting systems, we're helping agencies streamline how critical information is collected and shared to strengthen effective, data driven strategies that make our roads safer," said Stephanie Dougherty, director of the California Office of Traffic Safety.

The funds will support data collection of average annual daily traffic (AADT) on non-Federal Aid System (NFAS) roads, which include rural roads, collector roads that feed into the state highway system and urban local roads.

The funds will also support statewide outreach and coordination with local and regional agencies, including Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), cities, counties and tribal agencies.

Caltrans is aligning departmental operations with the Safe System approach, which identifies several interconnected elements to achieve a vision of zero fatalities and serious injuries – safe road users, safe roads, safe speeds, safe vehicles and post-crash care.

As part of this policy, Caltrans commits to prioritizing "safety first" in highway planning, operation, construction and maintenance; focusing on eliminating the most serious crashes; and eliminating race, age, ability and transportation mode-based disparities in road safety outcomes by addressing historic and current barriers to transportation access and safety.

Safety is also one of the key pillars of the Caltrans 2024–2028 Strategic Plan. Caltrans is committed to maintaining and improving the state's transportation network to make it safer, more reliable and climate resilient.

For more information about transportation and other infrastructure projects funded with state and federal investments, visit build.ca.gov. ★

Local Classifieds

Advertise in your local community newspaper
Call 916-773-1111

For Sale

V-8 (Cadillac Engine) in 1995 Oldsmobile Aurora. 64,000 original miles. Must take whole car. Transmission is no good. $500 or best offer. Call 530-742-9144 and leave message. (TFN)

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff!
Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!

916-773-1111

MPG



GOT LOCAL NEWS?
Call (916) 773-1111

Health/Wellness

XOSIALX – Get Social. Be EXCEPTIONAL XILERATE is redefining energy for everyone. It provides an authentic, jitter-free boost that appeals to both regular energy drink users, and those who may have avoided them due to artificial ingredients or harsh effects. FREE TO JOIN. www.anderson.xosialx.com (TFN)

Are You a Pro?
Get the word out!
Advertise in the Classifieds
Call 916-773-1111

Advertise in your local community newspaper
Call (916) 773-1111

Landscaping/ Maintenance

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, HANDYMAN, MANY FIELDS: Irrigation (manual or automatic) installation or repair; cement, mow strips, masonary (walls & columns), retaining walls; fence installation (wood, vinyl, chain-link, iron); plumbing; mowing, edging, clean-up, hauling; pruning (all kinds of fruit or shade trees); tree removal, rock, bark or sod. Call Andy 530-701-8098. (TFN)

Need Help?
Hire A Pro!

Do You Need Your Legal Ads Published?
We can help.
Call us now to place your legal advertising!
916-773-1111
All legal ads published by Messenger Publishing Group.

CALL A PROFESSIONAL

GET TO KNOW GREINER!
New customers take $50 OFF your first service
Heating & A/C maintenance, repair & replacement
Water heater repair & replacement
Solar installation
Home performance, efficiency & comfort
Greiner HEATING · AIR · ELECTRIC
Call Us Today! (916) 545-1784
www.iTrustGreiner.com
NP-0120 CA #365955

Crest Jewelers
• Jewelry
• Watches
• Sales
• Repair
WE BUY SCRAP GOLD!!
Family-owned with pride by the Macias family since 1987!
1296 West Capitol Ave (at Safeway Center) • 371-6440

MORE TIME ON YOUR BUSINESS
...and less time managing payroll
FREE PAYROLL PROCESSING FOR ONE MONTH IF YOU CALL NOW!
PINNACLE EMPLOYEE SERVICES
916-760-7227
www.pinnacleh ro.com

LYTLE CONSTRUCTION INC.
Remodeling and Design
Award-Winning Design/Build Firm
Serving Sacramento for more than 38 years
Certified Kitchen & Bath Remodeler
• Additions
• Kitchens
• Bathrooms
• Custom Cabinetry
FREE Consultation
916-422-6639
LIC# 480492 www.lytleconstruction.com

PROFESSIONAL PET WASTE REMOVAL SERVICE
Total clean
SCOOP TEAM
HONEST SERVICE. FAIR PRICING. SPOTLESS RESULTS.
916-250-2506
WWW.TOTALCLEANSCOOPTEAM.COM

Bobby's Seven Day Barber Shop
Open Everyday!
1040 West Capitol Ave Suite E (Behind Subway)
West Sacramento, CA 95691
Bobby Luna
(916) 371-4676
Next to City Hall
Corner of West Capitol and Merkley

S&Y Cleaning Services
Weekly • Bi-Weekly • Monthly • One Time
Weekends • Move-Ins • Move-Outs
Lots of References on Request
Gift Certificates Available
(707) 689-6532
FREE ESTIMATES

We live where you live
We understand your propane service needs.
WE ARE Pro-Gas
ALLIED PROPANE
(707) 678-8500
1700 N. First Street | Dixon
RobL@alliedprogas.com

Please call for a free in-home estimate!
HOUSE OF FLOORS
QUALITY WITH FRIENDLY SERVICE
Hardwood-Laminate-Luxury Vinyl-Carpet-Tile-& More
1690 N. Lincoln Street • Dixon, CA 95620
(707) 676-5385
houseoffloors@att.net • www.houseoffloors.org

Be a part of something important
Local Writers Wanted
We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.
MPG Call us today at 916-773-1111

Pregnant? Worried?
We Can Help!
All services are free & completely Confidential.
Info on Pregnancy, Adoption & Abstinence
Post-Abortion, Miscarriage & Stillbirth Counseling
707-449-8991
Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center
138 S. Orchard St. Vacaville

To Advertise Call 916.773.1111

FOLLOW US
for Local News and much more!
Dixon Independent Voice
Facebook: @DIVMPG8

There are hundreds of
LOCAL EVENTS
Waiting to be discovered at
independentvoice.com/calendar
Theater Concerts Crafts Fitness Dining Cultural Groups Museums Gatherings Clubs Festivals Expos Classes Spiritual Support Groups



Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl

Dixon Independent Voice is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@mpg8.com. **Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher." If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.**

Dixon Independent Voice

Serving Dixon and Solano County since 1993

It is the intent of the *Dixon Independent Voice* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The *Dixon Independent Voice* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the *Dixon Independent Voice* are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the *Dixon Independent Voice* is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to:
Dixon Independent Voice
100 N. Adams, Dixon, CA 95620

Subscription rate is $52 per year within Dixon and Solano County. $72 per year (Mail only).

Main Office Address: 2508 Garfield Ave., Suite A, Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The *Dixon Independent Voice* is published weekly on Friday.

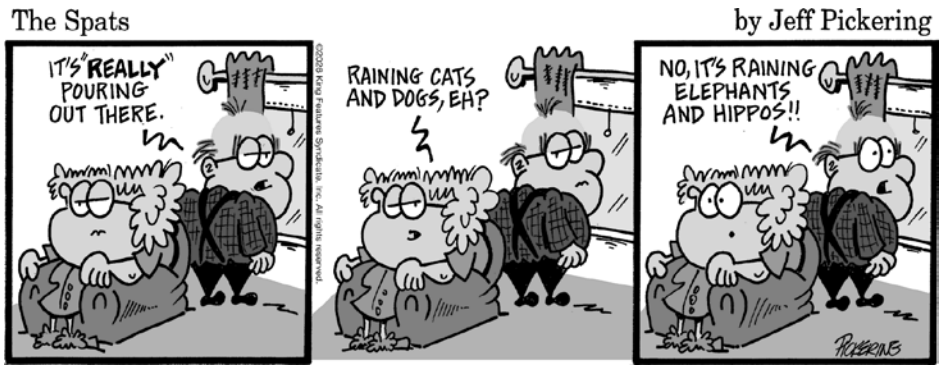
We are proud members of these newspaper associations.

MPG

CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

COMICS & PUZZLES

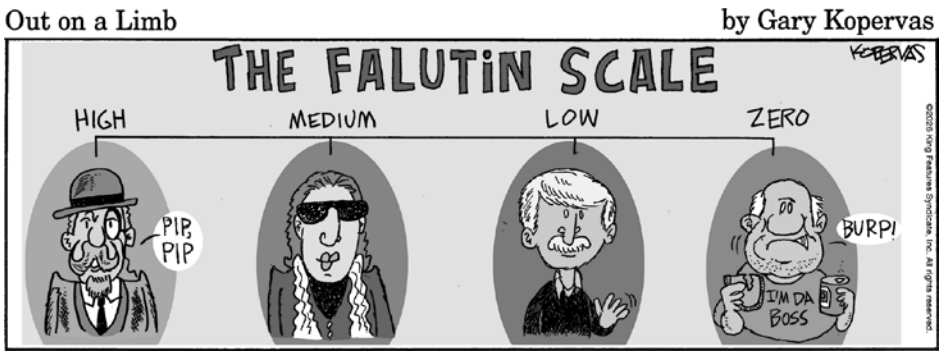
The Spats by Jeff Pickering



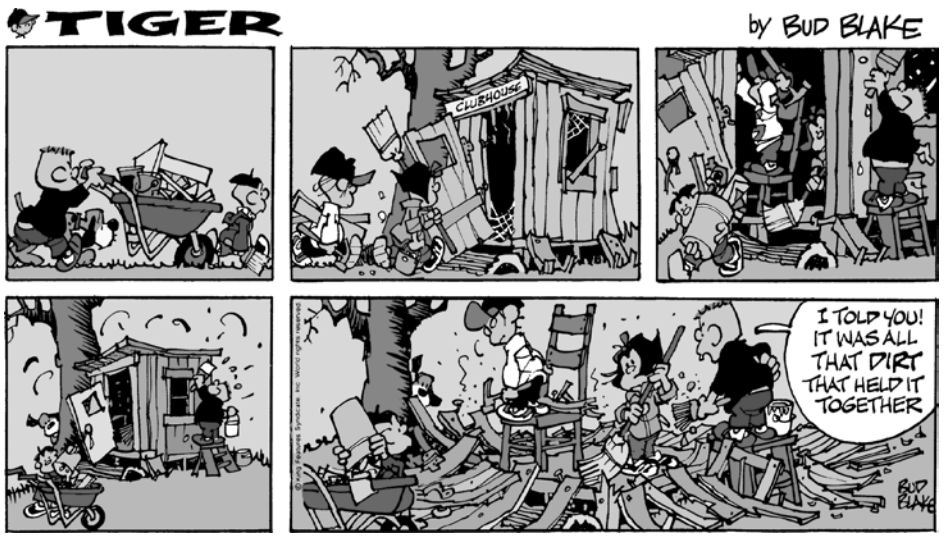
Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

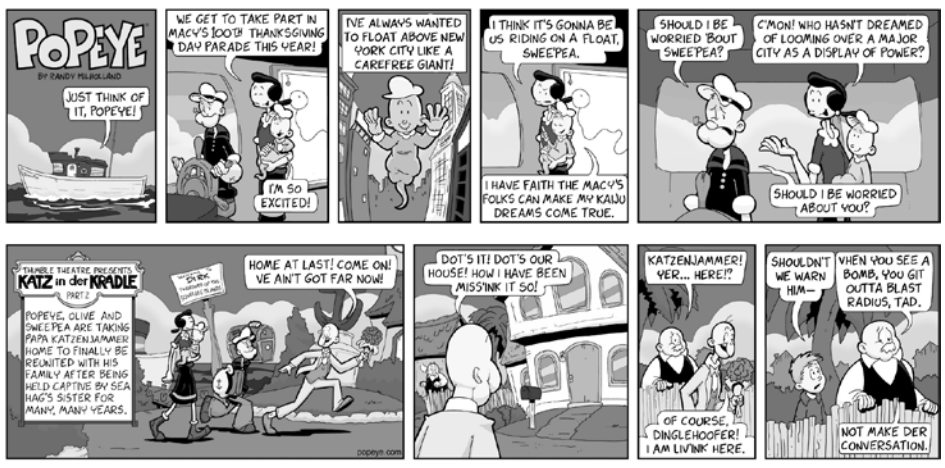


Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas



TIGER by BUD BLAKE





HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Pencil is missing. 2. Tie is missing. 3. Pocket is missing. 4. Arm is longer. 5. Light is not as long. 6. Fingers are not showing on clipboard.



"We've had a few minor problems ... misdemeanors, mostly."

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps





STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • CARTOON CHARACTERS

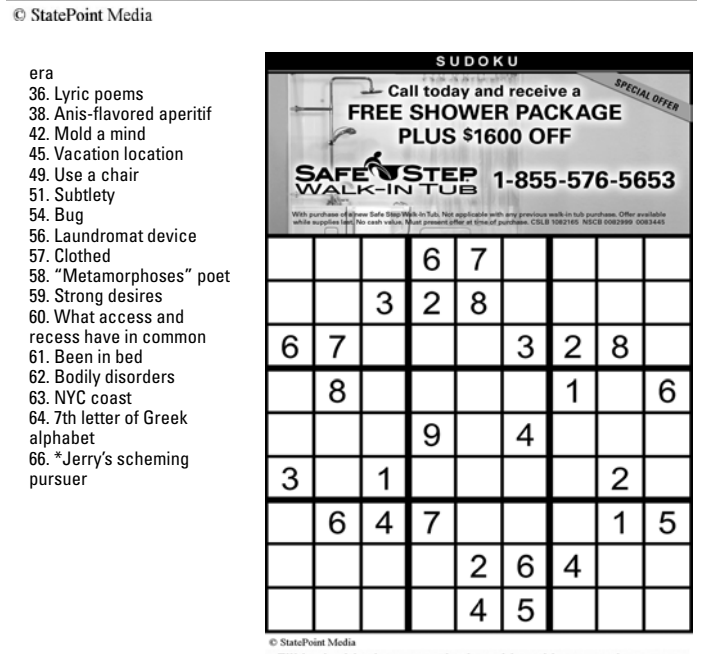
CLUES

ACROSS
1. Had, with thou
6. Not NFC
9. Sinbad's seven
13. Intense
14. George Gershwin's brother
15. Exclamation of regret, arch.
16. *Speed ____ in the 1960s cartoon
17. Neither's partner
18. Aggressive
19. *Electric-type Pokemon
21. *The Sailor Man
23. Grazing field
24. *Marge to Homer
25. Amazon's entertainment acquisition, acr.
28. Ocean motion
30. Remote
35. Miscellany
37. Narc's unit
39. Russian money
40. "Atlas Shrugged" author
41. Adam Sandler's "____ Gems"
43. One of three square ones
44. More true
46. Do like goo
47. Hindu dress
48. Approvals
50. Express complaint
52. Witch's work
53. Location
55. Cow chew
57. *Road Runner's nemesis
60. *"Peanuts" protagonist
64. Young eel
65. "He ____ and drank the precious Words..."
67. African antelope
68. Tarnish
69. Message in a bottle, acr.
70. Plasters, as on a ship
71. Puts two and two together
72. Emergency responder, acr.
73. Hollywood director Lubitsch

DOWN
1. "Jack and the Beanstalk" strings
2. Popular smoothie berry
3. *Donald or Baby Huey
4. *What Gru does to the moon
5. Three-line poem
6. Japan's indigenous people
7. To's follower
8. Carpus, pl.
9. Uncontrolled swerve
10. "Piece of cake!"
11. Advil target
12. Limit, to some
15. Come into view
20. Kind of #5 Down
22. Mosquito enemy!
24. Wilkommen, in U.S.
25. *Grandson of Rick Sanchez
26. Sunlight interference
27. Subtraction sign
29. *Pet of Bedrock City
31. Eggnog spiker, pl.
32. West African spiritual practice
33. Bell-bottoms bottom
34. *Cat of silent animation era
36. Lyric poems
38. Anis-flavored aperitif
42. Mold a mind
45. Vacation location
49. Use a chair
51. Subtlety
54. Bug
56. Laundromat device
57. Clothed
58. "Metamorphoses" poet
59. Strong desires
60. What access and recess have in common
61. Been in bed
62. Bodily disorders
63. NYC coast
64. 7th letter of Greek alphabet
66. *Jerry's scheming pursuer

CROSSWORD





© StatePoint Media

SUDOKU

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

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff! Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!

MPG

916.773.1111

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



Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

Three Things

By V.G. Harris

Do the Sacramento Kings fans want to see a winning team? Of course they do, but most think that this season is already a lost one. That is not true and if the Kings can cure three things expect a turnaround.

Number one: A change in leadership and culture has to happen as soon as possible. The offense is old and predicable and opposing teams are taking advantage of it every night. The players are putting forth a diligent effort, but the mission is not one everyone understands, and that is essential to having a winning team.

Number two: The 3-point shot is a miscarriage of justice on both ends of the court. On offense the Kings don't get nearly enough open looks and as a result don't shoot as many 3's as the competition on a nightly basis. On the defensive end the Kings simply don't know how to guard the 3-point line and the combination of these two glaring faults is a recipe for disaster.

Number three: Sacramento must develop a culture of winning, or they are in jeopardy of mishandling Darius Acuff Jr.'s rookie season. Yes, Darius is doing well in most respects, but when asked by reporters about the difference between college and NBA ball, Darius replied it was the losing. He has been used to a culture of winning from the time he was in high school, and for the first time he's faced with something he doesn't know how to fix.

Coach Christie has had a preseason and a dozen games to find a combination of FIVE players that can work as a team and compliment each other, and all the Sacramento fans see are different lineups every night. Combine that with lack of a culture or a collective effort in how to plant the flag, and it's no wonder the Kings have managed one win to date.

It's obvious to everyone in the arena that something has to change, and in witnessing last nights contest against the mighty Oklahoma City Thunder, it was hard to watch a normally controlled Domantas Sabonis losing his composure and nearly getting a technical foul for language. I can't remember a time that I've seen Domantas so upset, and it's a direct result of the constant losing.

Many pundits and fans alike have said the Kings don't have the horses, but there is more than enough talent on this team to get the job done.

Do they need to add more talent? Of course they do, and I have no doubt that GM Scott Perry will do exactly that.

In the meantime, is it possible for the organization to not broadcast to the entire world what they are trying to do. By now the NBA has clearly got the message that due to expensive contracts the Kings would like to move both Domantas Sabonis and Zach Lavine. Stop it!

Successful trades happen when you play your cards close to the vest, and that is not something that the Kings are good at doing.

How about celebrating the virtues of Domantas and Zach and picturing them for the leaders and all-stars that they are. Both are playing well and are legitimate leaders on this team.

Zach was out in Sunday's game against the Thunder due to an illness, but his 3-point shooting has been an asset, and he is expected back soon.

Sunday's game saw Nique Clifford on the floor but not in a Sacramento Kings uniform. Traded to the Thunder just days ago for two second round draft choices, the Kings brought an end to a project that never took off.

Sadly, the 24th pick in the 2025 draft never gave the Sacramento Kings what they were looking for, and I give Scott Perry recognition for finally realizing that and making room for players with a future on this team.

Maxime Renauld will be back from injury soon, but with the acquisition of seven-foot Mason Plumlee, it is likely his playing time will be impacted. Like Nique Clifford, Renauld has had a tepid impact overall, and his future lies in all probability in a back up role, whether on the Kings roster or elsewhere.

Pay attention Kings fans to the three things the Kings need to accomplish and post your thoughts on my website at thekingskorner.com.

All the best! ★

By Emptying Death Row, Newsom Broke a Promise and Disregarded the Will of Voters



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Gov. Gavin Newsom's decision to commute the death sentences of 548 inmates just weeks before he leaves office is the latest episode in California's 70-year-long political, legal and philosophical debate over capital punishment.

It also adds complexity, because Newsom's unilateral efforts to stop executions violate promises he made while running for governor to honor voters' support of the death penalty.

While Newsom's actions might bolster his standing among center-left Democratic voters in a potential presidential campaign, a Pew Research Center poll in August found 68% of Americans see the death penalty as justified for those who commit murder. That's 6 percentage points higher than the support in a 2021 poll.

A little history: California adopted capital punishment about when it became a state in 1850, but initially executions were done by counties. The state took over in 1893, and since then 514 people have been put to death, according to state records.

Serious efforts to abolish California's death penalty date from the 1950s, when Caryl Chessman, dubbed the "Red Light Bandit," faced execution for a series of robberies and sexual assaults — but no murders — in the 1940s and became a symbol for death penalty opponents.

Chessman's fate finally landed with Democratic Gov. Pat Brown, who personally opposed capital punishment. In 1960, on the eve of Chessman's execution, Brown's 21-year-old son, Jerry, pleaded for a reprieve and urged him to seek legislative repeal. The elder Brown agreed but the Legislature balked, and Chessman was executed on May 2, 1960.

During the 1970s, California's death penalty underwent a dizzying series of legal and political moves — sometimes in effect, sometimes not, depending on the latest decree from the state Supreme Court, action by the Legislature or ballot measure.

Voters had the last word in a 1978 pro-death-penalty ballot measure. However, Jerry Brown, who had become governor, appointed several members of the Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice Rose Bird, who consistently rejected death sentences. Voters ousted Bird and two other justices in 1986.

Executions resumed in the 1990s, and there have been 13 since. The last was triple murderer Clarence Ray Allen in 2006.

In 2012 and again in 2016, voters rejected ballot measures to repeal the death penalty while passing a 2016 measure aimed at speeding up capital punishment appeals.

Enter Newsom, who was elected lieutenant governor in 2010 and obviously wanted to become governor. In 2016, when asked about the death penalty by the Modesto Bee, Newsom said he would "be accountable to the will of the voters" if elected governor.

"I would not get my personal opinions in the way of the public's right to make a determination of where they want to take us," he said.

While campaigning in 2018, Newsom said he didn't "want to get ahead of the will of the voters" and wanted to "give the voters a chance to reconsider."

However, shortly after inauguration in 2019, Newsom issued a moratorium on executions but ducked questions about asking voters to repeal capital punishment, which would have been the honorable way to proceed. Instead he waited until the final weeks of his governorship to commute death sentences, subject to state Supreme Court ratification of some cases.

"I take this action because I firmly believe that state-sanctioned killing is incompatible with California's values, undermines the foundation of our legal system, and diminishes each of us," Newsom said in an open letter. "I know we cannot execute people in our imperfect legal system and remain true to our core values, first among them justice and human decency."

Newsom insists he respects voters, "but the constitution also gave every governor clemency authority, and that power exists for moments when law as applied cannot be squared with justice. For me, this is that moment."

The authority he cites was aimed at righting perceived injustices on a case-by-case basis.

Newsom's blanket clemency distorts that process, thumbs his nose at California voters and dishonors victims of horrendous crimes and their grieving families.

We'll learn whether it also impacts his presumed presidential ambitions.

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 Got an Overpayment Notice from Social Security; What Should I Do?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I received a letter from Social Security saying they overpaid me $12,703 in SS benefits. The letter said "We reduce Social Security benefits if you receive a government pension. We reduce benefits by two-thirds of the amount of your pension. Your benefit is less than two-thirds of the pension. For this reason, we cannot pay you."

FYI, I do receive a pension based on work not covered by Social Security taxes. My problem is that I don't fully understand this. This could be correct, but it doesn't seem right to come back wanting money I didn't ask for. I appreciate your time in getting back and letting me know if there is anything else I could be doing, or if they are entitled to go ahead and get the SS payments back. Thanks. ***Signed: Confused about Owing Social Security***

Dear Confused: From what you have shared, it appears that Social Security has determined that you were subject to a rule called the "Government Pension Offset" (GPO). FYI, the GPO was a provision which reduced Social Security spousal and/or survivor benefits for anyone who had a "non-covered" government pension (that is, a pension earned without contributing to Social Security). It's likely that SS paid you full benefits, but that the GPO should have reduced (or eliminated) the benefits they paid, had they known about your "uncovered" government pension. And that is likely the source of the $12,300 overpayment notice you received.

However, the GPO rule was repealed in January 2025 and no longer applies. In other words, those who have a "non-covered" government pension (a pension earned without contributing to SS) are now no longer subjected to reduced benefits under the GPO. The repeal legislation also provided for retroactivity back to January 2024, so the notice you received from Social Security was probably referring to SS benefits you received prior to 2024. If that is the case, then the notice you received is likely accurate and would need to be repaid. However, if the notice is referring to spousal or survivor benefits you received after December 2023, then it would be in error.

The best way to find out would be for you to file an appeal to Social Security, e.g., a "Request for Reconsideration" (form SSA-561), which will cause an independent review within Social Security to see if you are, indeed, required to repay those SS benefits, or whether you should pay something less (or nothing at all). Just remember that when you actually received the SS benefits in question is the key factor – if you had a non-covered government pension while receiving SS spouse or survivor benefits before 2024, then the overpayment notice you received is likely valid. If not, an appeal as I described above should resolve the issue for you.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (http://amacfoundation.org/services) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). ★



Britain owes no one an apology

When is the Muslim world going to apologize for its slave raids in Central and Eastern Europe that made off with millions of captives? Not any time soon, we can assume, since no one is asking it to apologize, and presumably no one ever will.

The same isn't true in the U.K., where there is a hot debate over whether the country should apologize for its participation in the trans-Atlantic slave trade in what would be a stark expression of double standards and Western guilt.

Prime Minister Andy Burnham, whose contemporary Labour Party has a taste for self-abasement, wants to have "difficult conversations" over such an apology, and says that it's "the patriotic thing to do." He is "offering a structured dialogue with those affected by the trans-Atlantic slave trade," never mind that Britain abolished the trade more than two centuries ago.

It's perverse for the U.K. -- pressured by Caribbean countries within the Commonwealth -- to consider a formal apology, given that slavery was a universal phenomenon and Britain had an honored role in snuffing it out.

The ancient Egyptians embraced slavery, and so did the Greeks and Romans. Often, enslavement was the price of military defeat in the ancient world. After the fall of the Roman Empire in the West, the Byzantines, the Vikings and Central Asian societies all relied on slave labor.

They weren't alone; the institution spanned every type of society. Historian Stewart Gordon notes that Ethiopia's legal code in the mid-13th century "recognized slaves as central to the economy and defined the acquisition and holding of slaves as the natural order of things." In the 16th century, he writes, Ethiopia "was a full slave society."

The trans-Atlantic slave trade couldn't have operated without the participation of West African rulers, who took slavery for granted before European slavers showed up and continued the practice after they left.

Something that's almost never mentioned in the debate over accountability for slavery is that North African slave traders enslaved enormous numbers of white Europeans between the 16th and 18th centuries.

Also inconvenient to an anti-Western narrative is that, as James Walvin writes in his "A Short History of Slavery," "Islamic societies were characterized by the widespread and generally unchallenged use of slavery. Indeed, slavery was commonplace throughout Arabia well before the rise of Islam. But as Islam spread between the eighth and 15th centuries, and especially to black Africa, it extended and confirmed the commonplace use of slavery and slave trading."

As part of the so-called Arab slave trade, more than a million slaves were taken from East Africa in the 19th century, and the flow continued apace into the 20th century. According to Gordon, "Perhaps the last large-scale movement of East African slaves to the Middle East was in the 1920s."

As for Britain, beginning in earnest in the 17th century, it became a central cog in the trans-Atlantic slave trade, an industrial-scale enterprise of stomach-turning cruelty. Its ships transported millions of slaves, while the plantation economies of its Caribbean possessions depended on slave labor.

Then, in an extraordinary triumph of morality over unjust profit-making, William Wilberforce and his fellow abolitionists convinced British society to abolish the slave trade and eventually slavery itself. If the institution of slavery was very old, the influence of this Christian-driven attitude to human rights was new. The British went further than simply turning their back on slavery, and used their navy to suppress the slave trade and their diplomatic sway to push other countries to give up the trade as well.

At considerable cost to itself in terms of military effort and financial resources (it paid off Spain, for instance), the U.K. did much more than its share to make abolition the international norm, on top of its other outsized contributions to the creation of the modern world. Rather than contemplating a groveling apology, the attitude of the U.K. should be: "A simple 'thank you' will suffice."

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

(c) 2026 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

Commission Views Proposed Changes to General Plan

Continued from page 1

eastern border and small areas around the north side of four Interstate-80 interchanges," according to a report prepared by Dixon Community Development Director Raffi Boloyan.

General Plan 2040, approved in 2021, did not include expansion of the city's sphere of influence or creation of areas of interest outside the city's current boundaries to identify long-term growth options for Dixon.

A sphere of influence is an area where the city plans for future growth in the coming years, while an area of interest is outside both the city limits and spheres of influence where no development is currently proposed. Identifying the latter allows for city involvement where other municipal entities may be considering development options, enabling the city to retain a voice.

Growth areas can only be annexed into the city limits once they are within the sphere of interest. Without an amendment to the General Plan, the likely limits of annexation for Dixon over the life of the current plan would be capped at the 887 acres initially identified in 1996, the report stated.

Under an amended General Plan 2040, Officials are considering annexing more than 2,000 acres southeast of Dixon, where the Harvest and Lombardo Ranch projects have been proposed, along with parcels that are not part of either project.

Harvest at Dixon is a proposal to build approximately 6,300 homes over 25 years. It would also include a neighborhood commercial center, parks and recreation areas. Lombardo Ranch is a proposed 825-home development.

The amended plan would also add more than 2,100 acres to the city's sphere of influence, to identify where the city could grow next, Boloyan said.

In the latest iteration of its general plan, Dixon is proposing reducing the acreage in its north sphere of interest, along I-80, from 1,768 acres to 790 acres, and slightly increasing the size of its east sphere of interest, which runs roughly from Pedrick to Robben Road and includes a smaller area that runs to Kidwell Road, to 1,326 acres.

The city is also proposing a sphere of influence along the intersection of Pedrick Road and East A Street of about 75 acres. This would add the full Pedrick Road right-of-way so that the entire roadway stays within the city's future boundary.

The amendment also pinpoints a green line, which would be the limit of Dixon's urban services boundary and be supported by an agricultural buffer. The green line would set an outer limit for future transit, transportation and infrastructure planning.

Proposed changes to the general plan must be approved by both city officials and the Solano Local Agency Formation Commission.

The next step in the lengthy process is the release of the draft environmental impact report on the amendment, expected to be published early next year. A final environmental impact report and general plan amendment could be completed by mid-2027, with adoption possible by year-end.★

www.IndependentVoice.com

Legal Advertising
916-483-0946

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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

2508 Garfield Ave. • Ste. A
Carmichael, CA 95608

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001787
The following persons are doing business as: East Bay Screenprint LLC, 1110 Colusa Street, Vallejo, CA 94590.
East Bay Screenprint LLC, 1110 Colusa Street, Vallejo, CA 94590.
Date filed in Solano County: October 15, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on September 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 October 14, 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: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
EAST 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001818
The following persons are doing business as: Passion to Heal Family Counseling, Inc, 2750 North Texas Street Suite 350E, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Passion to Heal Family Counseling, Inc, 2750 North Texas Street Suite 350E, Fairfield, CA 94533.
Date filed in Solano County: October 19, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on N/A
This Business is conducted by: A 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 October 18, 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: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
PASSION 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001717
The following persons are doing business as: Abel To Do It Construction, 2110 Mariposa Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.
Abel Chavez-Tovar, 2110 Mariposa Drive, Dixon, CA 95620.
Date filed in Solano County: October 5, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on September 28, 2026
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 October 4, 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: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
ABEL 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001853
The following persons are doing business as: Solano Auto Repair, 210 Manatee Street, Suisun City, CA 94585
GB Mechanics LLC, 210 Manatee Street, Suisun City, CA 94585.
Date filed in Solano County: October 23, 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 October 26, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: November 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
SOLANO 11-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001864
The following persons are doing business as: Flexincomeplanners, Cents & Sheets, 809 Maple Avenue, Vallejo, CA 94591
Daniel Scott Sanchez, 809 Maple Avenue, Vallejo, CA 94591.
Date filed in Solano County: October 27, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 17, 2026
This Business is conducted by: 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 October 22, 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: November 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
FLEX 11-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001875
The following persons are doing business as: Hyperion Tax Services, 845 Sage Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687
Nicholas Cavanaugh, 845 Sage Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: October 28, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration October 22, 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: November 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026
HYPERION 11-27-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001901
The following persons are doing business as: Stone Editorial, Stone Age Distractions, Lithosludos, Kimberlily Boutique, 1961 Marshall Road, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Stone Creative Studios, LLC, 200 Prairie Court, Unit 1051, Vacaville, CA 95696.
Date filed in Solano County: November 2, 2026. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 4, 2022
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 November 1, 2031. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
STONE 12-4-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026001908
The following persons are doing business as: Nimax Lenders, 4380 Sonoma Boulevard Suite #156, Vallejo, CA 94589.
Nimax Gold and Jewelry LLC, 729 Placer Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687.
Date filed in Solano County: November 4, 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 November 3, 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: Nov 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 2026
NIMAX 12-11-26

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE # 2021002417
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Rapid First Plumbing, Rapid Rooter Plumbing, 5013 Roberts Avenue Suite B, McClellan, CA 95652.
The Fictitious Business Name referred to above was filed in Solano County on December 15, 2021, File Number: 2021002417
Rov Enterprises, Inc., 5013 Roberts Avenue Suite B, McClellan, CA 95652
This business is conducted by: A Corporation
Filed with the Clerk of Solano County on September 8, 2026.
Publish: Nov 13, 20, 27, Dec 4, 2026
RAPID 12-4-26

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #CU26-09582
Charles Joseph Tamondong Ching filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Charles Joseph Tamondong Ching to Charles Manuel Tamondong Soriano.
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. December 7, 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: October 13, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
CHING 11-20-26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JACK O. BERRY
CASE NO. PR26-00634
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Jack O. Berry.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Teresa Bibian Montoya, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, requesting Teresa Bibian Montoya 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: December 10, 2026, 9:30 a.m. in Dept 22; Solano Superior Court, County of Solano, 580 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your 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: Barbara Sonin, 21 Court Street, Woodland, CA 95695; 530-662-2226
Publish: November 6, 13, 20, 2026
BERRY 11-20-26

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILTIES COMMISSION (CPUC)

Beginning on January 1, 2027, the water bills of California Water Service (Cal Water) customers in the Diablo Ranch Region's Dixon area will reflect a pass-through of changes in wholesale water charges by the Zone 7 Water Agency. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the state agency that regulates Cal Water, has determined that expenses for wholesale water, pump taxes, and purchased power are not under the company's control, and that a pass-through of those costs to customers is just and reasonable if properly calculated. Cal Water is also requesting to change rates for costs associated with completed infrastructure projects previously authorized by the CPUC in Decision 24-03-042.

On or around November 15, 2026, Cal Water will file Advice Letter 2603 to request authority to change its annual revenue in the Diablo Ranch Region by $267,559 or 0.65%. Pending the CPUC's review of Cal Water's calculations, the rate will be effective on January 1, 2027. With the increase, a typical monthly bill for a Dixon residential customer with a 5/8" x 3/4" meter who uses 7 CCF of water (which is 7,000 cubic feet, or approximately 5,236 gallons) per month will decrease by $1.97 or 2.50%.

On or around November 15, 2026, Cal Water will file Advice Letter 2605 to request authority to change revenues in the Diablo Ranch Region to recover recently completed and previously authorized infrastructure improvements. In the advice letter, Cal Water requests additional revenue of $63,683 or 0.15% of currently authorized revenue. If approved, effective January 1, 2027, a typical monthly bill for a Dixon residential customer with a 5/8" x 3/4" meter who uses 7 CCF of water (which is 7,000 cubic feet, or approximately 5,236 gallons) per month will decrease by $2.18 or 2.76%. Although previously authorized by the CPUC in in Decision 24-03-042 as part of the utility's triennial rate review process, the project's cost could only be recovered through a rate increase after it was completed.

A copy of Advice Letters 2603 and 2605 will be available on the internet at **https://www.calwater.com/rates-advice-letters/** (please select the Dixon (Diablo Ranch Region) District from the drop-down menu), and may also be obtained from the company's local offices by calling (707) 678-5928. You may also contact the company's headquarters by mailing the Rates Department at 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598, or by calling (408) 367-8200 and asking for the Rates Department.

Cal Water offers many programs to help you manage your water bill including a low-income Customer Assistance Program (CAP), water-saving appliance/device rebates, and other conservation programs. Please visit our website at **www.calwater.com** to take advantage of these opportunities.

Protests and Responses. Anyone may respond to or protest this filing. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the CPUC in its evaluation. A protest objects to the filing in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based, and shall provide citations or proof where available to allow staff to properly consider the protest. The grounds for protests are:

1. The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the filing.
2. The relief requested in the filing would violate statute or CPUC order, or is not authorized by statute or CPUC order on which the utility relies.
3. The analysis, calculations, or data in the filing contains material error or omissions.
4. The relief requested in the filing is pending before the CPUC in a formal proceeding, or
5. The relief requested in the filing requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the filing process, or
6 The relief requested in the filing is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided that such a protest may not be made where it would require relitigating a prior order of the CPUC).

A response or protest must be made in writing and received by the CPUC's Water Division by December 15, 2026, the end of the comment period. The response or protest should be either emailed to water.division@cpuc.ca.gov or mailed to Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd Floor, CPUC 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102. On the same date the response or protest is sent to the Water Division, it must also be either emailed to **cwsrates@calwater.com** or mailed to Rates Department, California Water Service, 1720 North First St., San Jose, CA, 95112.

CNS-4096446#

Dixon Independent Voice 11-20-2026

MPG

Giles Named Offensive Player of the Year

Five Hornets Listed on Men's Soccer Honor Roll

Sacramento State Athletics News Release



Sacramento State senior Zac Giles was named The Big West Offensive Player of the Year. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State senior Zac Giles was named The Big West Offensive Player of the Year and earned a spot on the first team while four other Hornet players were named to the league's postseason honor roll as voted on by the head coaches and announced on Nov. 6.

Giles becomes the first-ever Sacramento State men's soccer student-athlete to be named the top offensive player in The Big West and joins Midfielder of the Year Paul Geyer (2017) and Freshman of the Year Benji Kikanovic (2018) as major award winners in the league since the Hornets joined the conference in 2012.

The Lincoln, Calif., native is also the first Sacramento State player to be named player of the year in any conference since Ernesto Carranza took home the award in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation in 2009.

In also earning a spot in the all-conference first team, Giles became only the seventh Hornet to earn that honor in the program's Big West era, joining Donovan Sessoms (2024), Austin Wehner (2022), Cylus Sandoval (2017), Geyer (2017), Chimdum Mez (2014) and Matt Linenberger (2012).

Joining Giles on the honor roll is junior midfielder Hiroshi Yang on the second team, Sean Battistessa and Nick Strangio on the honorable mention team, and newcomer Adrian Alvarenga on the league's all-rookie team. The group represents the most All-Big West honorees for the program since Sacramento State placed five on the all-conference team and had three more on what was then known as the all-freshman team.

Enjoying a storybook senior season, Giles finished with 11 goals and five assists for 27 points, putting 39 of his school single-season record 72 shots on goal. A three-time Big West Offensive Player of the Week and two-time National Team of the Week selection by Top Drawer Soccer, Giles finished the regular season atop The Big West in shots, shots per match (4.24), shots on goal, shots on goal per match (2.29), goals, points, and points per match (1.59), while finishing tied for fifth in assists.

He set a school Division I era single-match record with four goals in a 5-1 win at CSUN on Oct. 24 for his first career hat trick, while his eight points in that contest were tied for the most in a single match in school history. Giles wrapped up the year ranked tied for eighth on the single-season list in goals and tied for seventh in points while adding school single-season records in points per match (1.59) and shots.

Yang finished third on the team with 12 points thanks to four goals and four assists, ranking second on the team with 39 shots and 17 on goal. He netted his first goal of the season — and the first for the team in 2026 — in the season-opening win over UC Davis, then added a brace against UC Riverside (Sept. 23) and the team's opener against Cal State Bakersfield (Oct. 3).

Two of his assists came in a 4-2 victory over Pacific and added helpers against UC San Diego (Oct. 14) and CSUN (Oct. 24). One of his two goals in the win over the Highlanders was selected as the No. 9 play of the day in ESPN SportsCenter Top 10 plays.

Battistessa finished second on the team with 14 points on six goals and two assists, staring 16 of the team's 17 matches. The Fair Oaks, Calif., native also scored in the regular season opener against UC Davis and added a three-point performance in a win over UC San Diego (Oct. 14). He also scored against San Jose State (Sept. 6), Pacific (Sept. 17), UC Santa Barbara (Sept. 30) and Cal State Bakersfield (Oct. 3).

Strangio was a mainstay on the back line for the Hornets in 15 starts while adding a pair of goals against Saint Mary's and CSUN, while Alvarenga joined him in his rookie season, collecting a pair of assists in the process against UC Santa Barbara and Gonzaga.

All four all-conference honors were the first of their respective careers, while Alvarenga gave the Hornets a representative on the league's all-rookie team for the third consecutive season and became the 17th Hornet freshman to be recognized overall. ★

Memo Rodriguez and Lee Desmond Named to USL Championship All-League Teams

Sacramento Republic FC News Release



Midfielder Memo Rodriguez earned a spot on the All-League First Team and defender Lee Desmond was named to the All-League Second Team on Nov. 10. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Nov. 10, USL Championship announced the 2026 All-League Teams. Republic FC was represented twice among the top players from the season, with midfielder Memo Rodriguez earning a spot on the All-League First Team and defender Lee Desmond named to the All-League Second Team.

"Memo and Lee have been invaluable to our success this year – both on and off the pitch – and we're incredibly proud to see them deservedly recognized as All-League players," said Republic FC President and General Manager Tim Holt. "Both play an important role in setting the standard for our club, and their leadership remains key as we continue our postseason push."

Rodriguez led the league's midfielder corps with 16 goal contributions and played a key role in Sacramento's stellar form in the second half of the campaign. After suffering an injury early in the season, he worked his way back into form and scored his first goal for Republic FC on July 25. A week later, he recorded three assists in a 5-0 win over Sporting Club Jacksonville.

In Week 30, Memo led the Indomitable Club past New Mexico United with a two-goal, one-assist performance that earned him Player of the Week honors. He then went on to play a massive part in Republic FC's 13-game undefeated streak to close out the regular season, posting nine goal contributions in the final six matches. He earned recognition consistently throughout the year as a six-time Team of the Week honoree and finalist for October Player of the Month.

Team Captain Desmond has earned his first selection to the All-League Second Team after posting his best single-season performance since joining Republic FC in 2022. The 31-year-old centerback was on the pitch for all but 45 minutes of the regular season and led the team with 150 clearances and 159 duels won, while maintaining an 84% passing accuracy. With Desmond anchoring the backline, Sacramento posted double-digit clean sheets for the fifth consecutive year and conceded just 28 goals to lead the Western Conference. He also contributed on the other end of the pitch with two goals, including one in his monumental 400th career appearance on Aug. 1. ★

Kamaria Charlo Named Hawk of the Week

Consumnes River College News Release



Women's basketball student-athlete Kamaria Charlo has been named the CRC Athletics Hawk of the Week following an impressive two-game stretch that helped the Hawks extend their season-opening winning streak to 4-0. Photo courtesy of Consumnes River College

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Cosumnes River College women's basketball student-athlete Kamaria Charlo has been named the CRC Athletics Hawk of the Week following an impressive two-game stretch that helped the Hawks extend their season-opening winning streak to 4-0.

Charlo delivered a standout offensive performance throughout the week, totaling 42 points, six rebounds, five assists and seven steals across wins over Feather River College and College of San Mateo.

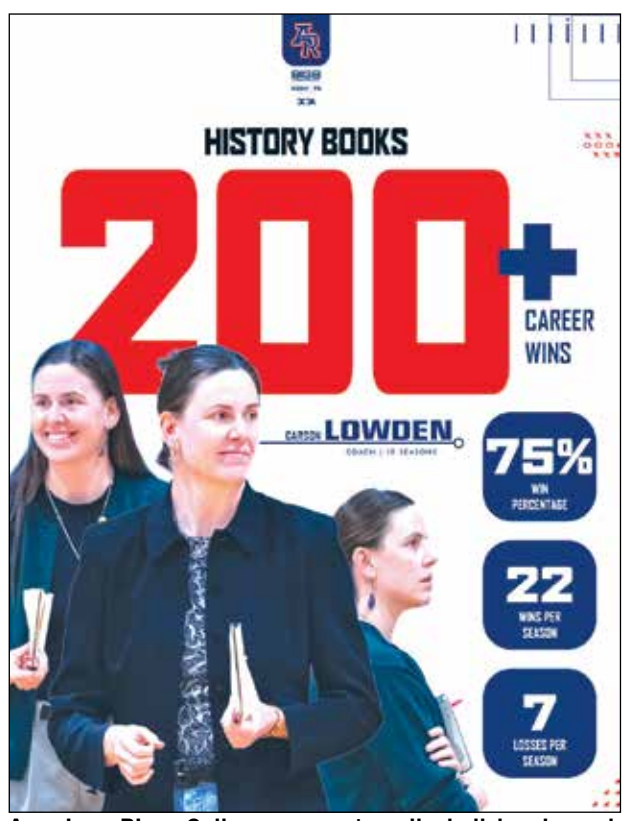
In the Hawks' 60-44 home victory over Feather River on November 5, Charlo finished with 11 points, five rebounds, three assists and three steals, contributing on both ends of the floor as Cosumnes River earned the win at Clark Court.

She followed that performance with a career-best offensive showing against College of San Mateo on November 7, pouring in 31 points to help the Hawks secure a convincing 79-53 road victory. Charlo shot 12-of-23 from the field, including an impressive 6-of-12 from beyond the arc, while adding four steals and two assists.

Her six three-pointers and 31-point performance highlighted a dominant road effort as the Hawks closed out the week with consecutive victories, remaining undefeated at 4-0 to open the season. ★

Lowden Secures Historic 200th Career Win as Beavers Dominate

American River College News Release



American River College women's volleyball head coach Carson Lowden secured her 200th career victory in a win over Diablo Valley. Photo courtesy of American River College

PLESANT HILL, CA (MPG) - American River College women's volleyball head coach Carson Lowden secured her 200th career victory in spectacular fashion, leading the Beavers to a commanding 3-0 sweep on the road against Diablo Valley College.

The historic milestone underscores Lowden's elite tenure at American River College, where she has built the Beavers into a perennial powerhouse. Her squad left no room for doubt on the Vikings' home court, executing a flawless game plan to earn the sweep in straight sets.

The Beavers asserted their dominance from the opening serve, controlling the tempo and keeping Diablo Valley out of system. ARC took the first set 25-17 before putting on a masterclass in the second and third frames, capturing them 25-10 and 25-9 respectively. ★