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ELECTIONS

PRIMARY RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER



JOEL ROSENBAUM — THE REPORTER

Signs popping up all over town is sure sign that election day is just around the corner.

By Melissa Murphy
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Campaign signs popping up throughout the county and a rush of fliers in the mail make it clear that election day is around the corner.

Tuesday is the 2014 Primary Election and the choices for state and local government representation aren't lacking.

As in every election, Vote By Mail Ballots must be mailed in advance of Tuesday's election, otherwise they must be delivered by hand to a polling location. The Registrar of Voters warns that a vote-by-mail ballots that arrive late but with a postmark before Tuesday do not constitute a valid ballot, according to state election laws. Polling locations are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

"Ballots must be physically received by the Registrar of Voters office by 8 p.m.

Tuesday, June 3, to be part of the official count," said Assistant Registrar of Voters John Gardner. "Your vote is too important to take the risk."

Voters have several options when dropping off their vote-by-mail ballots, including:

- Anytime between now and June 3 at the Registrar's Office, located on the second floor of the County Administration Center, 675 Texas St., Fairfield.
- Anytime between now and June 3 at any City Clerk's office in the community.
- Curb-side on the corner of Union Avenue and Texas St., Fairfield on June 2 and June 3.
- At any Solano County polling location on Election Day, June 3

The Registrar also reminds vote-by-mail voters to sign their name in the signature box on the back of the ballot envelope. Voters should not sign the ac-

tual ballot.

People going to the polls to vote should check their sample ballot to find the address of their polling location. Some polling locations have changed since last election. Voters can also look up their polling location at www.solanocounty.com/elections.

So far, according to Gardner, Solano County has received some 20,000 vote-by-mail ballots, which is pretty typical for primary elections. Gardner said he expects at least a 35 percent voter turnout after polls close at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

He said it will be interesting to see how the election plays out since the voting is no longer broken up by political party and the top two who earn the most votes, if no one earns the majority, moves on to the November election.

Gardner add that there is still room for volunteers on election day. Call 784-6675 to see what positions are avail-

able.

Solano County's local elections include those running for District 3 and District 4 Supervisor as well as those running for District Attorney.

Incumbents Jim Spering, District 3, and John Vasquez, District 4, are both running for re-election.

Realtor Eugene Ray, businessman/farmer Gerald Cliff and Dixon City Councilman Thom Bogue are challenging Vasquez for his post.

Fairfield City Councilwoman Pam Bertani, businessman Michael Oman and businessman Steve Lowe are challenging Spering for his post.

Solano County District Attorney Don du Bain is seeking re-election and Deputy District Attorney Krishna Abrams is challenging him for the title.

Meanwhile, Dixon residents who reside in Assembly **PRIMARY » PAGE 10**

DOUBLE SLAYING

Defense wants to tie trial to other case

By Ryan Chalk
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Defense attorneys for a Vacaville man accused of the 2010 double slaying of two friends are hoping to draw a connection to an unrelated assault case that one veteran prosecutor labeled at sentencing, "one of the worst crimes this county has ever seen."

Testimony in the trial for Richard Calkins, 22, who is accused of the Nov. 16, 2010 gunshot slayings of two friends and the serious wounding of a third could be drawing to a close, that is, unless defense attorneys get to present testimony from an unrelated assault case that happened a month later and resulted in the assailant being sent to prison for life.

Testimony in Calkins' trial has indicated that he was possibly experiencing a "bad trip" while on psilocybin mushrooms when he is alleged to have fatally shot Richard Matcham Perez, 20, and Cameron Scott Silva, 20, at a William Street apartment. Also injured in the gunfire was Silva's girlfriend, Sarah Berkheimer, 23, who survived a gunshot wound to her face.

On Wednesday, Calkins' defense counsel, Chief Deputy Public Defender Oscar Bobrow told Judge Donna Stashyn that he would be seeking to introduce evidence from another 2010 case, one in which a Vacaville teenager was sentenced to 68 years-to-life in prison for breaking into a Balsam Way home on Dec. 12, 2010, where he carried out a brutal rape and stabbing of a 13-year-old girl and stabbed her 18-month-old brother multiple times as well.

CASE » PAGE 10

DIXON

Council wraps budget study

By Kimberly K. Fu
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Dixon leaders completed a two-part budget study session Wednesday, giving the OK to a draft budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15.

The final draft will be up for discussion June 10, when a public hearing will be held and a budget adoption scheduled.

For City Manager Jim Lindley, the matter was a job well done.

"(This is) the third balanced budget in a row, a truly balanced budget," Lindley emphasized, "after years of deficits."

He commended finance head and Deputy City Manager Joan Michaels Aguilar, and her team, for their efforts.

Last week's study session focused on the Gen- **COUNCIL » PAGE 10**

1928-2014

Author Maya Angelou dies at 86

By Hillel Italie
The Associated Press

NEW YORK » Maya Angelou was gratified, but not surprised by her extraordinary fortune.

"I'm not modest," she told The Associated Press in 2013. "I have no modesty. Modesty

is a learned behavior. But I do pray for humility, because humility comes from the inside out."

Her story awed millions. The young single mother who worked at strip clubs to earn a living later danced and sang on stages around the world. A black woman born poor

wrote and recited the most popular presidential inaugural poem in history. A childhood victim of rape, shamed into silence, eventually told her story through one of the most widely read memoirs of the past few decades.

Angelou, a Renaissance woman and cultural pioneer,

died Wednesday morning at her home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, her son, Guy B. Johnson, said in a statement. The 86-year-old had been a professor of American studies at Wake Forest University since 1982.

"She lived a life as a teacher, **ANGELOU » PAGE 10**

WATER PROJECT
Families worry about flooding cemeteries
A flood protection project meant to save the North Dakota's largest city is worrying smaller communities. **PAGE A7**



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BUSINESS

- ▼ Dow Jones Industrial 16,633.18 (-42.32)
- ▼ Standard & Poor's 1909.78 (-2.13)
- ▼ Nasdaq 4225.07 (-12.00)

VIDEO & PHOTO GALLERY
Vacaville fire station cooks a feast for vet
Firefighters honor WWII veteran Marvin Riehl, by making him a special dinner. WWW.THEREPORTER.COM

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