ARDEN-CARMICHAEL NEWS

Your News in Your Hands June 25, 2009 www.valcomnews.com

New design bull's-eyed, but Target store still long way off Almost four years later, East Sacramento area still missing the Target See page 15

Fun on the Fourth in Carmichael

COMMUNITY CALENDAR, PAGES 20-23 • KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR, PAGES 6-7 • FACES AND PLACES, PAGE 10



A man, a dog and his life's journey See pages 6-7



Fathers, daughters hit the dance floor See page 10



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Photo courtesy "Happy Shooter" via Flickr at www.flickr.com/photos/happyshooter Carmichael Elks 51st annual Fourth of July Parade will start with engines from the Sacramento Metro Fire Department and the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard at 10:30 a.m. from the corner of Fair Oaks Boulevard and Marconi Avenue.

Finding Fun on the Fourth

Carmichael Elks 51st annual Fourth of July Parade

Special to the Arden-Carmichael News

It was during this country's founding that the forefathers of our nation placed a call to arms to help foster the independence the continent so intensely demanded. Today, a call goes out to Carmichael residents to help celebrate that illustrious declaration that created the experiment we call the United States of America.

Now's the time to join in a cornerstone tradition of Carmichael. All that's missing is you.

Community leader Ruthie Bolton, an Ólympic gold medalist and Sacramento Monarch's WNBA star (not to mention also a new mother), will act as Grand Marshal for the Carmichael Elks 51st annual Fourth of July Parade.

The parade theme "Honoring Čitizen Patriots," celebrates the accomplishments of Bolton and contributions of all American patriots.

"I can't think of any Fourth of July Parade that has had a mother and her new baby as parade grand marshals," noted parade coordinator Jim Warrick.

The parade will start with engines from the Sacramento Metro Fire Department and the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard at 10:30 a.m. from the corner of Fair Oaks Boulevard and Marconi Avenue.

More than 1,200 entries have signed up to march, float and ride along Fair Oaks Boulevard parade route to the Carmichael Elks Lodge on Cypress Avenue During the parade, travelers may use Garfield or California as alternate north south routes.

Fun and entertainment after the parade includes free swimming, live music and dancing, an outdoor BBQ, children's games, a hole-in-one contest, and parade awards at the Carmichael Elks Lodge.

For further information, call the Elks Lodge at 489-2103.



Photo courtesy About A Million to One via Flickr.com

Fireworks display in Carmichael

Independence Day celebrations will culminate the night of July 4 with the annual Fireworks Show at La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael, CA 95608. Beginning at 4 p.m., the Sacramento Firefighters Association will host free kids' activities, fire trucks, demos and music. The fireworks display begins at approximately 9:15 p.m. The Fireworks display is sponsored by the Carmichael Recreation and Park District and Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District and new this year, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Fighter Association. For more information: call (916) 485-5322 or visit www.carmichaelpark.com.

El Camino alum goes to big leagues

Special to the Arden-Carmichael News

Junior outfielder Tim Wheeler became Sacramento State's highest draft pick ever, after he was selected with the 32nd pick in the first round of the 2009 MLB Draft by the Colorado Rockies.

Wheeler, a native of Sacramento, became the school's first two-time first team all-Western Athletic Conference selection in 2009. The centerfielder hit .385 on the season with 18 home runs and 72 runs batted in, setting the school's single season RBI record in the process. He also broke the school's all-time RBI mark in just three seasons, boasting 142 in his career. Wheeler hit .457 on the season with runners in scoring position, and .451 with runners on base, while amassing 15 stolen bases and five outfield assists. Wheeler ranked in the top 30 nationally in six categories, with his highest ranking coming in RBI.

A product of El Camino High School, Wheeler was a third team preseason All-American by Baseball America after being named to the Cape Cod League All-Star team in the summer of 2008. He was named team MVP for the Orleans Cardinals in the league after leading his team in hits and leading the league in stolen bases.

As a sophomore in 2008, Wheeler hit .330 with three home runs, 43 RBI, and 10 stolen bases. He tied for the longest hitting streak in the WAC on the season, hitting safely in 20 consecutive games while posting 17 multi-hit games. In 2007 as a freshman, Wheeler hit .310 with six home runs, improving his average to .352 inside of WAC play.

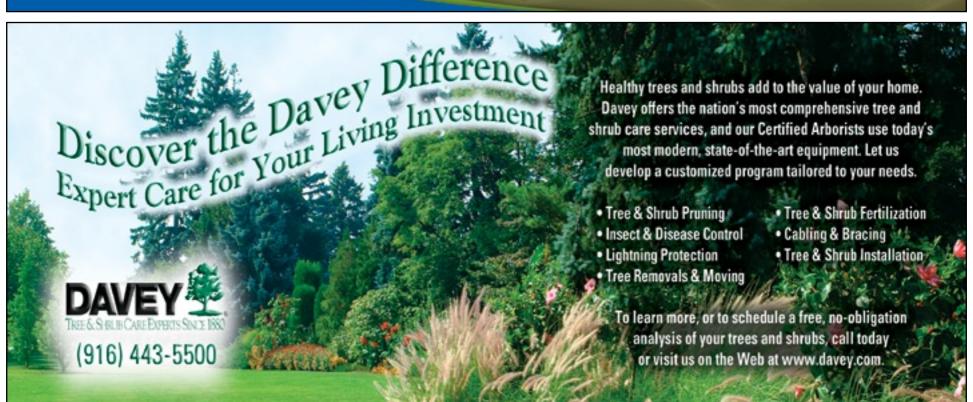
side of WAC play.

Prior to Wheeler, Erik Bennett (1989) and Chris Kinsey (2003) were the highest draft picks in the program's history, with both being selected in the fourth round. He was the only player from the WAC to be selected in the first round.



Tim Wheeler off to the Major Leagues





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Jensen Botanical Garden: 'Best hidden secret in Carmichael'

By LANCE ARMSTRONG Arden-Carmichael Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

In a meeting with the Arden-Carmichael News at the Carmichael Recreation and Park District office in Carmichael Park last week, Tracy Kerth, the park district's recreation services manager, referred to the Charles C. Jensen Botanical Garden as "the best hidden secret in Carmichael."

But Kerth added that she does not care for the 3.5-acre public garden to be a secret, but instead encourages people in the community to take the time to find out about this community asset and enjoy its many offerings.

"It's a wonderful jewel in Carmichael that a lot of people in the community don't even know exists and you can go down there, have a picnic and spend time there," Kerth said. "Fair Oaks (Boulevard) is a well-traveled street and many people are in a hurry, but if you just stop and take a turn in there and walk around, you'll find it's a very lovely place. It's an absolutely beautiful spot and it's the best hidden secret in Carmichael."

The garden, which carries the name of its founder, Charles C. Jensen, is described as an oasis by many of its visitors. Guests are invited to take advantage of the serene environment of the garden, which is located at 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd.

A space for solace

Despite its position directly off the boulevard, the garden carries with it a sort of peaceful sentiment, as if one was taking a walk in the wilderness — but a very wellgroomed wilderness, nonetheless.

The garden, which features a wide variety of plants and trees, manicured lawns, walkways, benches and a pair of bridges over a small creek bed, was a dream fulfilled by Jensen.

This dream began in 1958, when Jensen had the initial plants and trees of his garden delivered to his property, where he first lived in a tent

and then a shed with his wife Marguerite until his house was built on the property.

Among the first plants and trees to arrive to create his garden, which was developed as a place to be enjoyed by all, were magnolias, Japanese maples, azaleas and dogwoods.

Jensen's garden eventually drew attention for such attractions as its floral displays and its Coast and Dawn redwoods.

The garden, which was featured in a variety of newspaper articles, including an article in the New York Times, also served as a site for many weddings and picnics.

Jensen not only displayed plants and flowers, but he also sold them to visitors. And at times, he even gifted plants and flowers, including the long-stemmed, cut camellias, which he sent to First Lady Pat Nixon.

The words of Jensen, who was self-taught in gardening and horticulture and an advocate of unsprayed cultivation, are preserved on a plaque at the entrance to the garden.

These words include Jensen's straightforward philosophy regarding landscape design.

"Landscaping is a matter of simple engineering," Jensen said. "You need the right slope, right light, right water, right drainage and the right location for the right plant. And I pick only plants that grow easily in this area and give a lot of bloom with little extra care; then I arrange the plants so they are pleasing to the eye."

Jensen passed away in 1974 at the age of 80 and through the efforts of the Charles C. Jensen Botanical Garden, Inc., which was formed by a group of concerned local citizens, his property was saved from being subdivided.

Two years later, the Carmichael Recreation and Park District took over the ownership of Jensen's former property.

Kerth, who has worked for the park district for nearly 25 years, described the first time she saw the garden in 1987.

"When I first saw (the garden), there was a lot of ivy," Kerth said. "They've slowly



Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Lance Armstrong

The Charles C. Jensen Botanical Garden is a 3.5-acre public garden, which is known for its wide variety of plants and trees, manicured lawns, walkways, benches and a pair of bridges over a small creek bed. The garden, which is located at 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd., is open daily, from 8 a.m. to dusk.

gotten rid of the ivy to put in botanical-type plants in the garden."

Growing a better garden

In its post-Jensen-owned years, the garden received its largest assistance through the Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden, which formed in January 2004, as a result of an advertisement placed by the park district in search of volunteers to help with the garden.

Pat Rhine, master gardener and park liaison of the Friends

of the Jensen Botanical Garden, said that the first project of the Friends group was to tear down the old shed, where Jensen had lived with his wife prior to the completion of his home. The house is still present on the property and is leased to a tenant by the park district.

With intentions to restore Jensen's garden, the volunteer group has spent many hours clearing away beds of ivy and removing ivy off trees.

The group has also built a greenhouse on the property and has spent much time

See Garden, page 8

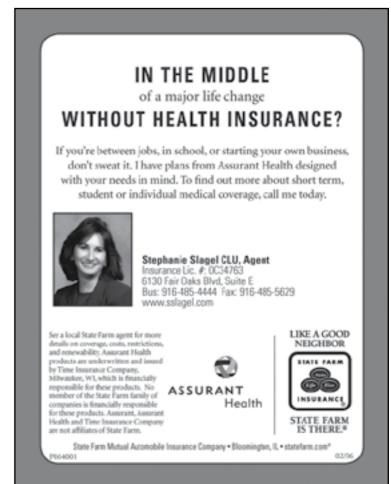


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A man and his dog: Getting to know a community fixture

By BENN HODAPP Arden-Carmichael News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

If you live near the intersection of Arden and Fair Oaks, you have likely seen him. Or to put it more accurately, seen them. If you frequent William B. Pond Park at the east end of Arden Way, you have certainly seen them. And if you haven't found reason enough to strike up a conversation with Donald Jae Barley and friend, doing so might just make your (and their) day.

Seeing someone move around in a scooter is a normal occurrence, but how often do vou see a beagle riding along like it's the most normal thing in the world? That's Donald's dog Marquisa, or Markie for short. Donald named her Marquisa because "she's a lady of property and she has people at command," he said.

With a goofy grin and a tongue hanging out the side of her mouth, it's easy to see how she commands this at-

Together, Donald and Markie have become local icons of sorts. But to call Donald an interesting man just because he has a cute dog would be an absolute injustice.

A mile in his shoes

Donald was born on June 9, 1950 in Red Bluff, Calif. and it was not long before tragedy struck he and his family. In December of 1951, when Donald was just a year and a half old, a house fire claimed the life of his five-year-old brother Evan.

Despite his age at the time of the event, Donald does recall certain parts of the event in chilling detail.

"I remember I was in a high chair and my mother was feeding me bananas," he said. "I remember seeing the fire go up the wall."

His mother had gone outside to hang clothes when the wood stove somehow caught the wall on fire. Donald's screams as the fire engulfed his right arm and head brought his mother running. She rescued Donald, but brother Evan, who had been outside with their mother, also ran inside. He went in to try to save the family dog. Before he could get out, both were lost in the fire.

The flames scarred Donald's arm from his hand up



Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Benn Hopdapp

Often seen in the area on his scooter, Donald Jae Barley and dog friend Marquisa (called Markie) are fixtures of the commu-

to his elbow. He removed his hat to explain that the fire ensured that he was never able to grow hair atop his head. But his mother faced a different kind of pain.

"I think she felt a great deal of shame and guilt because of Evan's death," he said. He is quick to defend her though. 'Of course it wasn't her fault."

Early on in his life, Donald moved around quite a bit. In fact, the four years that he has lived near the park is the longest he has ever stayed in one spot. Born in Red Bluff, lived in Eureka, Humboldt Bay, Shasta among others. His working life was filled with many outdoor jobs.

'I have always been an outdoors kind of guy," he said with a smile.

He worked in logging, farming, was an auto mechanic and used to pick daffodils seasonally. How many of us could say that we could be an auto mechanic or a logger with a stunted hand almost since birth? Not only that, but in his spare time he works with leather and wood using tools that he made himself. Leather bags that hang from his scooter (which he rides because of terrible arthritis) he made himself. Again, not bad for a guy with a "bad" hand.

A story he told about one of his jobs gave an insight into how much of a role dogs have played in his life. He explained that he got a job at an equipment rental place. He was told to show up for work the next day at 7 a.m.

"I got there early and there was no one there to let me in," he said. "So I hopped the fence and took a seat outside the office."

He explained that the boss lived above the office, and when he came down, he was astonished at what he saw. There was Donald, sitting quietly and calmly with the company's three doberman pinschers that were used as junkyard dogs.

"How did you do that?" the boss asked after several moments of shocked silence.

"They knew I wasn't up to anything," he said. "I've always just gotten along with dogs."

Man's best friend

To connect Markie to Donald, we must first run through Donald's line. He

See Donald, page 7





Donald: Canine companion Markie was gift from his granddaughter

Continued from page 6

and ex-wife Sherrie had two kids: Amber, 40, and Geoffrey, 37. Geoffrey has two kids of his own, Geoffrey Jr., 13, and Katy, 6. Amber has three kids, daughters D.J., 20, Cassie, 17, and Andi, 13. When Andi was 8 years old, she informed Donald that their beagle had given birth to puppies and was told, "Grandpa, you have a puppy now."

He talked about Markie's calm demeanor and that she was born that way.

"I can't take credit for that," he said.

As he sat there during the interview, he took several times to stop and say just how much that little dog means to him.

"I can't tell you how important she is to my mental health," he said. "She doesn't let me mope and she tells me when it's time to go out and do something."

Beyond that, Markie may have even saved Donald's life. Literally. About four years ago, Donald was out picking flowers when he suffered what he believes was some sort of allergic reaction. When he got home to his apartment, he collapsed in the doorway. "Markie called the ambulance," he said. Of course she didn't dial 911 and explain the situation, but what she did was just as good. She sat next to him and howled until someone came to see what was the matter. Twelve hours later Donald woke up in a hospital bed. The two are both literally and figuratively inseparable.

Meeting the man

If you see the two of them joy-riding down Arden Way or in the park enjoying the sunshine, don't think twice to start up a conversation.

"I have all kinds of conversations with people," he said. "About the weather, politics, religion, dogs, kids, birds..."

Of the people who surround him in the area, he said what was so clearly evident in his tales: "I love this community."

Know of someone in the community that needs to be profiled? Let us know. E-mail ryanrose@valcomnews.com.

A family fun night

American River Community Church, 3300 Walnut Ave. in Carmichael, presents "Family Friendly Comedy Night with Stephen B. The free event is Saturday, June 27, starting at 7 p.m. There will be free childcare, door prizes and refreshments. Donations will also be accepted at the door. For more information, call www.arcconline.org.



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Garden: 'Listen to the birds, sit and relax, take walks along the pathways'

landscaping and working to return the garden to its former colorful and visually pleasing existence.

Kerth said that she is pleased with the progress made by the Friends group at the garden and shared her own specific desire for the garden.

"I would like to see a garden house, you know, a place where garden clubs could meet," Kerth said. "We have the geranium club, we have the cactus and succulent. There are so many different groups that could help us make that a more beautiful spot."

Rhine said that there is no definite blueprint for re-creating the garden and noted that, in terms of plantings, "Jensen liked trying new plants" and the garden's appearance was "always changing."

Among the projects of the Friends group is to plant tulips every December and to keep the garden beautiful and colorful throughout each year.

Additionally, another garden project is the Daughters of the American Revolution's upcoming path for the blind, which will include brail signs identifying existing plants.

A community treasure

Carmichael resident Paul Tanner, one of the earliest Friends members, said that he is extremely passionate about helping to maintain and enhance the appearance of the garden.

Regarding the beauty of the garden, Tanner, who worked 400 hours in the garden last year, said that he enjoys its wide variety of plants, trees and wildlife, and added that his favorite trees in the garden are the dawn redwoods and a very large oak tree, which serves as a centerpiece of the garden.

Admiring this oak tree last week was Sylvia Bringas, who was raised in Carmichael.

That's a beautiful tree," Bringas said. "I bet its hundreds of years old and it probably saw Native Americans."

Bringas added that she enjoys coming to the garden to "listen to the birds, sit and relax, take walks along the pathways and see the many colorful flowers.

While visiting the garden last week, Ron Harlos, who lives within walking distance from the garden, said that Jensen's former property is one of the most peaceful places in the Sacramento area.

This place is incredibly peaceful," Harlos said. "It's a great place to get away, relax and be with nature."

Another Carmichael resident, Mallika Nair, added, "This place is very cute, tucked away and unexpected. It's a nice little oasis in the midst of suburbia."

Since many people remain unaware of this community "oasis," Rhine encourages others to become acquainted with the garden and if motivated enough, become a Friends volunteer.

Mr. Jensen enjoyed welcoming visitors to his garden and I believe he would be very pleased to see more people continue to enjoy the garden today," Rhine said. "And since maintaining a garden of this size is certain-



Sacramento resident Sylvia Bringas, who has fond memories of growing up in Carmichael, relaxes on one of the garden's benches.

ly no simple task, our Friends group would appreciate any assistance in helping to maintain the beauty of this wonderful community asset."

For information regarding volunteer work or how to provide a tax-deductable donation to the Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden, contact Pat Rhine at (530) 677-3179.

Pictured right; Paul Tanner, shown during a recent day volunteering at the garden, was the Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden's number one volunteer for 2008, in terms of hours worked. Tanner provided 400 hours of work in



Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Lance Armstrong

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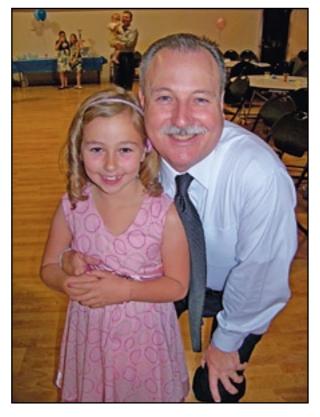


Faces and places

Mission Oaks holds annual Father and **Daughter Dance**

Inviting fathers, grandfathers, daughters and granddaughters from across the region, the Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District held their 8th annual Father/Daughter Dance June 19 at Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., in Carmichael. Dozens of doting dads and dancing daughters attended the event, enjoying good music and building great memories.

Photos courtesy Mission Oaks Community Center







A moving matter for seniors

Bv ART GERMAN Arden-Carmichael News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Members of the Older Women's League (also called OWL), an organization that supports the needs of older and mid-life women, were urged at a meeting this past week in the Hart Senior Center to oppose proposals to expand current freeway capacity in the Sacramento area and reduce frequency of service on buses and rapid transit lines.

The speaker was Karen Jacque, representing Neighbors Advocating Sustainable Transportation, which is fighting a current proposal by the State Department freeway between Watt Avenue and Sunrise Boulevard. The state also is seeking to cut back public transportation routes, and Jacque responded that such plans would increase congestion on freeways and make it difficult, especially for older persons who tend to switch from their cars to RT and buses.

Jacque noted that public transportation becomes increasingly important with age, as many can no longer depend on their cars and must rely on public transit to get around.

Some 50 OWL members and friends attended the June 20 meeting, which was chaired by OWL president Eunice Lycke. Deborah Rafter, who chairs OWL's transportation committee, assisted her.



Freeway growth opposed: Karen Jacque, right, whose NAST organization opposes freeway expan-





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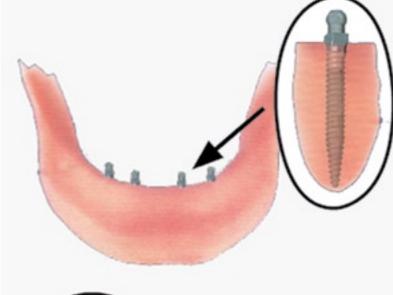


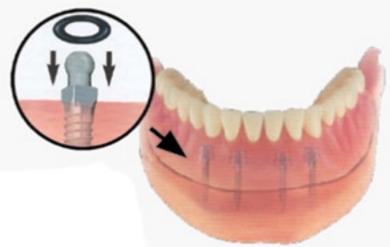
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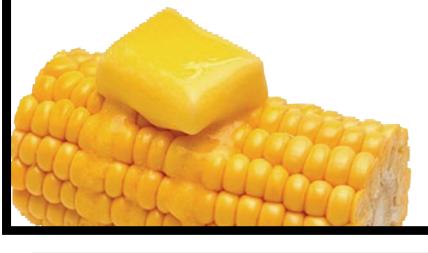
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New design bull's-eyed, but Target store still long way off

By BENN HODAPP Arden-Carmichael News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

The good news is that eastern Sacramento will add a Target store to its retail arsenal. The bad news is that the timeframe is anything but on

The location that the Target Corporation set its sights on was the former Golden 1 Credit Union headquarters building located at the corner of 65th Street and 4th Avenue. The 110,000-squarefoot building has been closed since 2005. Plans have been made on numerous occasions for the site to be made into a Target store, but the recent economic problems have stifled those ideas. The newest plan recently announced by the corporation is to simply renovate the existing building rather than expand it to accommodate for a Target retailer.

The biggest commitment that anyone can or will make officially is that the renovations could begin sometime this year with the new revised plan. Or, to borrow the lone statement at Target65thstreet.com, "The (site) for the Target store at 65th Street and 4th Avenue is under construction. Thank you for your patience."

Seems both sites are sty-

Public interest is high

As for the people who live around the proposed store location at 65th Street near Highway 50, they remain hopeful for a resolution.

"I'm looking forward to the Target store," nearby resident Hannah Keller said. "(The building) is kind of an eye sore right now. It's been closed up for years with boarded up windows and everything."

The new design promises to fit in with the style of the surrounding area without being too different from other nearby buildings.

'I like the idea of remodeling," Keller said. "It creates less waste and I'm sure they will make it look beautiful."

But it isn't just aesthetic reasons that have the neighborhood eagerly anticipating the store.

"The Target store is important for this part of town," Sacramento Čity Councilman Kevin McCarty said. "The area is very retail deficient."

He added that the people in the area surrounding the site seem very interested in the new addition. Keller agreed with McCarty.

"All malls are far away and there's nothing (nearby) like Target or Wal-Mart," she said.

One of the issues that concerns residents is the expected rise in traffic in the immediate area. But McCarty assures people that the Target store will come complete with a large parking lot that will hopefully ease traffic tension on the streets.

"Some people are worried about the traffic," McCarty said. "But it's a growth area and the store will really be a benefit."

As for Keller, she is not overly concerned with the traffic situation.

When we moved in about seven years ago it was all fields," she said. "We lived through all the construction work since then. We've gotten used to the traffic in the street."

Despite the new plan to renovate rather than rebuild, nothing is inevitable just yet.

'We hope to come to a resolution soon," McCarty said. "The community is working with (Target Corp.).'

The waiting game

Since the closing of the Golden 1 headquarters in 2005,



Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Ryan Rose The location for the new Target store would be the former Golden 1 Credit Union headquarters building located at the corner of 65th Street and 4th Avenue. The 110,000-square-foot building has been closed since 2005.

people have been waiting for something to happen with the building. As far as when residents can finally look forward to seeing the work done, Mc-Carty answered hopefully, but is ultimately unsure.

"It's all up to (Target Corp.)," he said. "I expected them to be halfway done already."

Keller said that she thinks the area is excited for the eventual Target store.

"I have some friends who complained when the plans were put on hold, but with the economy the way it is I can't blame (Target Corp.)," she said. "I'd rather they be responsible with their spending instead of overspend and go belly up like some other businesses.

Whenever the store does make its appearance in the local landscape, it will have at least one loyal customer. When asked if she will make use of the new store, Keller chuckled and answered with a resounding "Yes."

Are you eager for Target to move into East Sacramento? Let us know. Email ryanrose@ valcomnews.com.



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Answering your questions on local law enforcement

By OFFICER MICHELLE LAZARK Sacramento Police Department Special to The Land Park News

Editor's note: Ask Officer Michelle your question by emailing her at mlazark@pd.cityofsacramento. org or visit her online blog at http://blog.sacpd.org. home safety

Hello Michelle,

I saw your write up in "The Pocket News" magazine and had a question. I live in the Pocket. I used to live in the Washington D.C. area and the PD there

Police program to evaluate had a program were homeowners could get a appointment and have a PD officer come over and give a "crime prevention inspection" of their house to show weak areas and give tips on how to protect one's home and family.

Do we have anything like that in the city of Sacramen-

Thank you, Pettipaw

Dear Pettipaw,

We certainly do have such a program. We have Community Service Officers (CSO) at each of the police stations that can accommodate citizens in each part of the city. You can make an appointment with the CSO for your area. Her name is CSO Hutchison, and she can be reached at 277-6079. She will come to your home and look at your lighting, the foliage around your house, the locks around your doors and windows, as well as give you advice on how to safeguard your home. We also have information on our Web site at www. sacpd.org pertaining to personal safety as well on how to safeguard your home. Click on the Be safe" button to take you to

all of the areas. Check out our public service announcements here as well. Be safe!

Officer Michelle

Rummaging through garbage cans at night is disturbing to sleeping resident Dear Officer Michelle,

I like to sleep with the windows slightly open in my room to allow fresh air in when I am sleeping. However, on garbage and recycle collection nights, I have been woken by the sounds of someone going through the recycle cans and collecting the can's and glass bottles.

I am wondering if there is someone I can call to report this or someway to have this issue looked into to.

Thanks, Angel

Dear Angel,

This is a common problem. If you live in the city limits, you can call the Police Department's non-emergency number at 264-5471 and request an officer be dispatched. There is an ordinance that makes it illegal to rummage through recyclables. If you live in the county, call 874-5115 for their non-emergency number. Let the dispatcher know what is occurring. Try to get a description of the subject, whether he/she is on foot or riding a bike, etc. The responding of-ficer will stop and contact the subject. Some of the people are harmless and are only there to collect your recyclables to make money. There are others, however, who use the opportunity to look further onto your porch, in your vehicles and anywhere else an opportunity presents itself.

On a side note, be mindful of open windows. If it is the window in your room, that is one thing, but I would caution you about leaving other windows in your house open while you are sleeping. We have had cases of "cat burglars" who could make there way into homes through an open window. There are window locks you can install that allow you to open your windows a few inches so that you can still enjoy the delta breezes.

Take care, Officer Michelle

Safe place to live

Hi Officer Michelle,

I'm moving to the area from Southern California and I wanted to know of the safer areas to live while I attend Sacramento State. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated! Thanks,

Jabroni21

Dear jabroni21,

First of all, welcome in advance to Sacramento! You've chosen a great place to go to school. It's wise to do some research before deciding where to live in a city that's not familiar to you.

You can research crime statistics and crime maps by going to the Police Department's Web site at the Crime Summary link: http://www.sacpd. org/crime. More importantly, your best bet is to visit Sacramento well in advance of your move. Talk to people (including other students) about the city, drive around and get the feel of the city. Follow your instincts, too. For students new to a city, sometimes it can be most beneficial to be in a safe area near to the campus to make life easier in your first year.

Good luck and thanks for writing in!

Officer Michelle



No new high school for East Sacramento

SCUSD decides to hold off on the promise of a new high school

By MIRANDA MENESTRINA Arden-Carmichael News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Faced with the momentous task of cutting millions out of their budget and the difficult decision to close four schools, the Sacramento City Unified School District has also resolved not to open a new high school in East Sacramento—something that's been promised since they closed Sacramento High in 2003.

"It's not forgotten, but, at least for awhile, there are no immediate plans to move forward (with the opening)," said SCUSD Communications Officer, Maria Lopez.

The resolution to open a new high school was the result of a consent decree that came about after parents and the teachers union sued the district for closing Sacramento High School.

The closure

Receiving state funding due to underperformance issues, Sacramento High was shut after it failed to meet specific targets for two years in a row. Unfortunately, the closure of the historic school, the second oldest high school west of the Mississippi, left the students of College Greens, East Sacramento, Midtown, Oak Park, River Park and Tahoe Park without a traditional neighborhood high school.

And while the site became the new home for St. Hope, a public charter school, parents pleaded to have the district open a new high school nearby that that offered all the extra-curricular activities that they believed every high school student should be entitled to.

However, six years after the fact, that high school still doesn't exist.

District Efforts

The guidelines of the consent decree required SCUSD to open a small (roughly 500-800 students), comprehensive high school within two miles of the former Sacramento High's attendance area. In 2005, the district surveyed the involved neighborhoods, came up with several sites that could work and discussed ideas with the community.

In 2008, the conclusion was to renovate and use the

Photo courtesy

The historic halls of Sacramento High once housed many students from eastern Sacramento. Since the school's conversion into a charter school in 2003, the East Sacramento region has been left without a high school.

former Marian Anderson Elementary School facility at 2850 49th St. Looking for just 150 students for the first year, the district did an open enrollment.

"We only got 75 (students) and only half were confirmed to be registered by the deadline," said Tom Barentson, CFO and deputy superintendant of SCUSD. "Therefore, the board decided not to open a high school because of financial rea-

Future plans

The district has since put a group together to study just how great a need there is for a new high school, and what type of school that should be.

"There are a lot of families with young children moving into the downtown area and they are concerned that there's no neighborhood high school," Barentson stated. "They want a conclusion about where their kids will go."

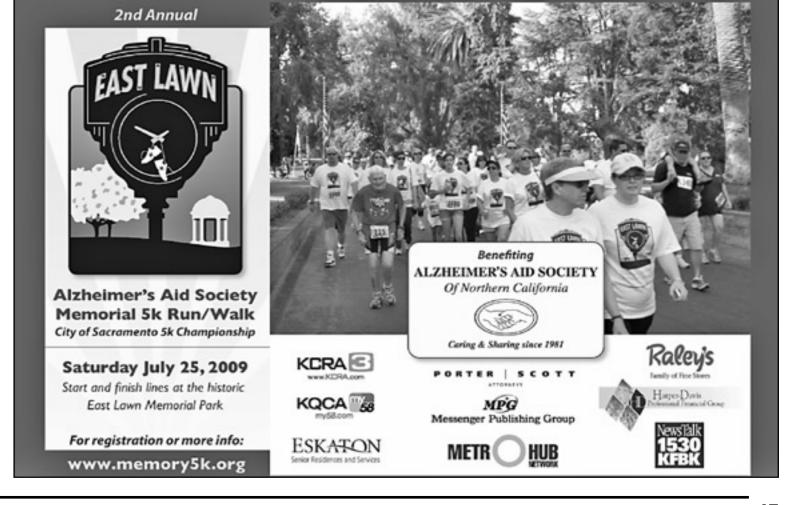
For now, Barentson is encouraged with the fact that

students who live in the former attendance area of Sacramento High have other "excellent" high schools in the area to go to, such as McClatchy, Hiram Johnson and

"Sac City is a great district," he said. "It's just heart wrenching what's happening (with the budget), but we have far more schools than most, so they need to be pared down and we need to do this with a plan, so that's what we're doing."



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CALENDAR

GET IN THE CALENDAR

Is your club, group, church, school, or organization having an upcoming event? Let us know. Send information about your event-including date, time, location, a brief description, cost (if any), and contact information—to Calendar, c/o Valley Community Newspapers, 2709 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818, or e-mail ryanrose@ valcomnews.com. Deadline is one week before publication. Priority is given to events that are in the community and/or of little or no cost.

JUNE

Pops in the Park

Councilman Steve Cohn and the Pops in the Park Committee are pleased to present the 15th annual "Pops in the Park" summer concert series. All concerts are free and open to the public and begin at 6:00 p.m. Food and beverages will be for sale. People should bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. The remaining concert is June 27 with Kate Gaffney at McKinley Park, 33rd and H streets. For additional information, please visit www.eastsacpopsinthepark.com or call (916) 808-5240.

Art at SFCA

The Sacramento Fine Arts Center presents"Inner Views" from June 9 through June 27. The event is sponsored by the Northern California Arts. The show will present original artwork by local artists. Visit the Sacramento Fine Arts Center at 5330-B Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. Visit them online at www.sacfinearts.org.

JUNE 24

Get OrderLee

Educate your mind via Carmichael Oak's educational series. Learn professional tips to simplify, clean clutter and better use your space and time at a seminar at 3 p.m. at Carmichael Oaks, 8350 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. The event is hosted with Lee Mahla, RSVP to 944-2323,

Senior Legal Hotline Workshop

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as "food stamps". Learn about how the program is changing, and how you may be one of the thousands of seniors missing out on this extra assistance. 1pm. Ethel Hart Senior Center, 915 27th Street, Free, 808-5462.

JUNE 26

Phonebill workshop

Free Phone Bill Workshop and Cinic, presented by Susan Sarinas of the Asian Community Center. Bring your phone bill and learn how to spot fraudulent charges that can save you money. Individual bill review offered. Event runs from 1 to 2 p.m. Ethel Hart Center, 915 27th St. Sign up in advance by visiting or calling 808-5462.

JUNE 27

Singles Summer Dance

Christian Singles Network, will hold a Summer Kickoff Dance for single adults Saturday, June 27, from 7 PM to 11:30

PM. at Carmichael Presbyterian Church, 5645 Marconi Ave., near Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael. The ticket price of \$15 presale or \$20 at the door includes hors d'oeuvres and the dance lessons. Most attendees fall between the ages of 35 to 65 but all ages are welcome. For more information, call 658-0606.

Annual Rummage Sale

Parkside Community Church's Annual Rummage Sale and Flea Market is Saturday, June 27 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Booths available to outside groups and individuals for \$25. Proceeds from the rummage sale benefit the non-profit Parkside Community Church at 5700 S. Land Park Dr. For more information, call 421-0492.

Skate Park fun

The La Sierra Skate Park, 5325 Engle Rd. in Carmichael, will host a day starting at 2 p.m. of music, skating and fun for kids of all ages. Music groups include local bands such as Ambrosia Caprice, The Captains of Spaceship Earth, Baconhawk, Takilma, Jeepster and Fishcatfish. There will be food, venders, skate demos, raffles and more. The cost is \$5 and sponsors include Alien Workshop and Habitat. For information, call Bob

Kerr at 480-0700 or Elizabeth Crisante at 483-7826.

JUNE 27

Bow-Wow Beauties

Kay Burton's Bow-Wow Beauties dog fashion show is coming up. The annual event, during which dogs dressed in canine fashions model their fancy duds, is a benefit for the Sacramento SPCA. The event starts at 11:30 a.m. and will be held at Gold River Bel-Air Shopping Center, at the south end of the complex next to the Hallmark store. Admission is \$5.00 (children and dogs are free). For more information: Email: Kayburton1@comcast.net.

2009 Pet Expo

Held 10 a.m.-12 p.m. by the Meadows Senior Living of Elk Grove, 9325 East Stockton Blvd.in Elk Grove, experience SPCA Senior Citizen Services, mobile pet grooming, pet adoptions, organic treats, the latest in pet fashion and Mickaboo companion bird rescue. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call

See more Calendar, page 22

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CALENDAR

Auditions for new season

The Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Rd, in Carmichael will conduct general auditions for local actors on Sunday June 28, from 5-9 p.m. Directors for the 2009/10 productions will be on hand to recruit for their upcoming shows. Auditioning actors are asked to present a monologue (two minutes or less - please no accents or dialects) or prepared reading.

These auditions are for the Adult Theatre productions only and minimum age to audition is 18 years old (auditions for our Children's Theatre will be held at a later date). Callbacks will be arranged by directors for a later date. Auditions will be scheduled on an appointment basis. To schedule a time or for more information, please email your request to auditions@ cplayhouse.org. Please be sure to include your name and return email address.

Small works, miniatures exhibition

Small Works, miniatures and maquettes features a broad array of small works, from turn of the century female sculptor Camille Claudel, shown currently in the Louvre, to young college students Christopher Dubois and Wesley Wright, This free exhibition, which runs from July 8 through August 23, attempts to display the diversity of miniatures as a whole, and will include a number of wellknown national and international phenomena. A juried collection, Small Works provides emerging artists the opportunity to showcase their work among established greats.

Northminster Presbyterian Church is offering a week-long music camp for 2nd - 12th graders from July 6 to 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 3235 Pope Ave. Children will have the opportunity to learn to play musical instruments including guitar, percussion, song flute, and chimes, do drumming, work with props and set decorations as well as participate in singing and movement. They will also be putting a musical together. The musical, Fruit for Thought, will be performed on Sunday, July 12, during the worship service (9:55 a.m.) Children are asked to bring their lunch. Snacks and drinks will be provided. The cost is \$25. For more information, call 487-5192 or visit Northminsteronline.org.

JULY 4

Fun Run/Walk

It's time for the 14th annual 4th of July Fun Run/Walk at Matsuyama Elementary. Everyone is invited to attend this community and family oriented event, which raises funds for the 2009-2010 sixth graders to attend the Sly Park Environmental Science Camp. The Fun Run/Walk is a 5K/8K event that take place on Saturday, July 4th. The race begins at Matsuvama Elementary School, 7680 Windbridge Drive. Check in begins at 7 a.m. and the race start time is 8 a.m. Fees are \$15 includes event T-shirt before May 22; after May 22, the fee is \$20. For more information, please contact Poh-Ling Oon at 424-0873.

Carmichael's Gala Parade and **Fireworks Show**

Begin your 4th of July celebration by attending the pancake breakfast (7am -11am) at Carmichael Park, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael. After, walk over and enjoy the Annual Elk's Club Parade (10:30 am) featuring many wonderful community floats, marching bands, equestrian entries, military units, antique automobiles, and much more! The parade route starts at Marconi/Fair Oaks and continues down Fair Oaks Boulevard to Cypress/ Manzanita. The Grand Stand is located across the street from Carmichael Park, 5750 Grant Avenue. Don't miss out on one of the Largest and Oldest parades in the region! For more information on float registration email Jim Warrick at jdwarrick@lanset.com or call the Elks Lodge at 489-2103.

Carmichael's Fourth of July Fireworks Show

The evening will culminate with the annual Fireworks Show at La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael, CA 95608. Beginning at 4pm the Sacramento Firefighters Association will host free kids' activities, fire trucks, demos and music. Inflatable's and free kids' activities will continue throughout the evening along with a performance by the Sacramento Valley Symphonic Band at 7pm a Touchstone Theater performance at 8 p.m. and the fireworks at approximately 9:15 p.m. The Fireworks display is sponsored by the Carmichael Recreation and Park District and Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District and new this year, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Fighter Association. For more information: call (916) 485-5322 or visit www.carmichaelpark.com

JULY 8

Lower House Payment

Attend this free seminar to get answers on short sales vs. loan modifications. The meeting is 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on 4305 Freeport Blvd. RSVP Deb Luna or Anthony Carrillo at www.cookrealty.net or 834-1947 or 833-6266.

JULY 9

Computer club meeting

Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet at Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Alan Drew with Wireless Toyz, will present: Everything you wanted to know about cell phones whether you have one or not. A question and answer session will follow the meeting. Visitors are welcome. For additional information call 366-1687 or visit our Web site: http://missionoakscomputerclub.org.





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JULY 11

Ice tea tasting program offered

Anne Evans, a certified tea consultant, will present a free ice tea tasting program at 2 p.m., Saturday, July 11, at Arden-Dimick Library, 891 Watt Avenue. As well as sampling tea, participants will learn the history of iced tea, find out what bubble tea is, and play a game of TEAGO. Registration required by calling (916) 264-2920 or online at www. saclibrary.org. The program is sponsored by the Friends of Arden-Dimick Library.

See the Art

Glass and Clay Artist Evan Michael Barton, and Clay Tile Artists Vincent Monrel and Chris Kubi will join Fe Gallery Resident Artists Stephen Lyman (metal art) and Sheena Wolfe (fused glass) for a Second Saturday Reception July 11 from 6-9pm. There will be an art demonstration at 7:30 p.m. Fe Gallery is located at 1100 65th Street (north of Folsom Blvd., corner of 65th and Elvas), East Sacramento. For more information about the artists and the gallery visit www.FeGallery.com or call, (916) 456-4455. Daytime gallery hours are currently from 8:30am to 4pm Monday through Friday and Saturday 10am to noon. The current show will run throughout July.

Free E-Waste Collection

Held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Northeast YMCA, 3127 Eastern Ave. Funds raised will help send children to Jujitsu Summer Camp. Items Accepted Include your old or broken electronic equipment: monitors, TVs, computers, laptops, VCRs, stereos, speakers, keyboards, PDA's, cameras, telephones, cell phones, printers, copiers, scanners and fax machines, etc. For your security, CEAR Inc will shred all hard drives at their secure facility. Visit www.cearinc.com. For information, call the YMCA at: 916-483-6426

July 14

Special senior seminar

Talking to Your Doctor, presented by Lisa Smith-Youngs from Senior Connection. Learn how to get answers to your most important questions, how to keep notes and ways to prepare for effective appointments. Leave your next medical appointment feeling empowered and satisfied! 1:30-3:00 p.m. Ethel Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Sign up in advance by visiting or calling 808-5462.

JULY 18

A night at the movies

Enjoy a night at the movies and see a classic film the third Saturday each month at Didion/Lewis Park Recreational Center at 6490 Harmon Dr. Doors open at 6.30 p.m. Movie begins promptly at 7 p.m. Free admission, free popcorn and free prizes. See the following movies: "Roman Holiday" on July 18; "To Kill a Mockingbird" on August 15; and "Gaslight" on Sept.19.

Art Show in Lyon Village

Cottage Affair in the Lyon Village Shopping Center at Fulton and Fair Oaks will host an artists' exhibit Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. See unique pieces by local artists. Admission is free.

Find your roots

More genealogical information is being made available online all the time. Learn about the web sites that will enable you to start researching your family's history at a free workshop at 10:15 a.m., Saturday, July 18, at the

Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento. Registration is required by telephoning the Sacramento Public Library (916) 264-2920 or visiting www.saclibrary.org.

JULY 20

Medical care tips presented at Arden-Dimick Library

Local practicing family physician and author Davis Liu, M.D. will share valuable tips on receiving the best medical care and getting the most out of one's doctors' visits at 6:30 p.m., Monday, July 20, at Arden-Dimick Library, 891 Watt Avenue. He covers this topic in depth in his book, Stay Healthy, Live

Longer, Spend Wisely: Making Intelligent Choices in America's Healthcare System, with the critical information needed to make intelligent medical and related financial issues. Dr. Lieu's book will be available for purchase and signing at the program's conclusion. For more information, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.

Paratransit Mobility Training

Come learn about navigating the RT Bus system, senior discounts and how to sign up for Paratransit. Do you qualify for a free lifetime RT bus pass? Come and find out Monday at 1:30 p.m. at the Ethel Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Free to public. Info: 916-808-5462.

JULY 23

Senior Legal Hotline Workshop

Reverse Mortgages. Are they as good as the brokers offering them make them sound? How do they work? How can you determine if one may work for you? 1 p.m. Ethel Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Free. 808-5462.

July 24

Movie night at Arden Hills

With summer in full swing, Friday night is "Movie Night" at Arden Hills Resort Club & Spa on July 24. Your family will love watching the kid-favorite animated movie "Toy Story" outdoors under the stars at Arden Hills Resort Club & Spa, 1220 Arden Hills Lane, Sacramento, on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. For more, call 916-482-6111 or visit www.ardenhills.net.

JULY 25

Lunch give-away

KSL Inc. Sack lunch Give-A-Way starting at 11 a.m. The event will provide a nutritious sack lunch to the kids in the Meadowview area on this day. KSL Inc. will visit the various park within the area as well as Coral Gable Apts., Nedrea Ct., Jarden Villa Apts., and Whispering Pines Apts.

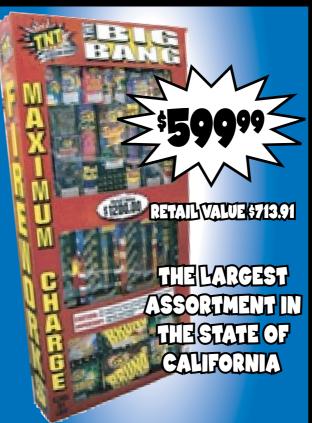




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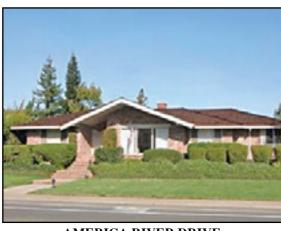
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CUSTOM LOT

This is the last custom lot on a very private cul-de-sac of 11 home sites. Current owner has custom designed home plans available for review. Situated close to river, parks and shopping in Carmichael off Fair Oaks Blvd. Build your dream home! See www.windermere. com \$134.900

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