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March 11, 2010

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Marty Relles presents 'Janey Way Memories'

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NABA NOW ACCEPTING NEW PLAYERS AND TEAMS UMPIRES ALSO WELCOME • SUNDAY GAMES



Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Susan Lairo

Day of Giving volunteers gave a day of their lives to make a difference at Hubert H. Bancroft Elementary School in Sacramento. Here, Rob Feickert tills the soil in preparation for the restoration of a native habitat.

Faces and places **Prudential Realty 'Day of Giving' benefits Sacramento elementary school project**

By SUSAN LAIRD Arden-Carmichael News Writer susan@valcomnews.com

There is a story told in business circles about a man who walked down to the beach one morning. As he approached the bubbly edge of the surf, he suddenly saw thousands and thousands of sea stars – "starfish" – that had washed on shore overnight. The tide was going out, and the entire colony was going die in the sun.

He started to grab sea stars and throw them back into the ocean.

Another man came up to him and asked, "Why are you doing this? You can't possibly save them all, even if you work all morning. There are too many to make a difference."

"It makes a huge difference to this one," the man replied as he tossed yet another sea star back into the ocean.

Prudential Realty celebrated its first annual Giving Day on March 6. The Giving Day was held in honor of Ed Krafchow, the company's founder. Some 40 offices throughout Northern California and Northern Nevada each selected a "hands on" service project to benefit their local community and to make a difference.

The Sierra Oaks branch of Prudential California Realty selected third grade teacher Kristi Phillips' educational/natural habitat preserve project at Hubert H. Bancroft Elementary School in Sacramento as the beneficiary for this inaugural event.

"This is part of a three-phase restoration of a quarter acre back to its natural habitat," Phillips explained. "The first phase involved building nesting boxes for birds. The Audubon Society came out and gave a talk to the fifth graders, gave a bird walk and then donated the bird boxes and installation. The second phase involves restoring this area where the (Prudential Realty) volunteers are taking out the grass and preparing it for planting with drought-tolerant, California native species. The future third phase will be an 'A through Z' garden

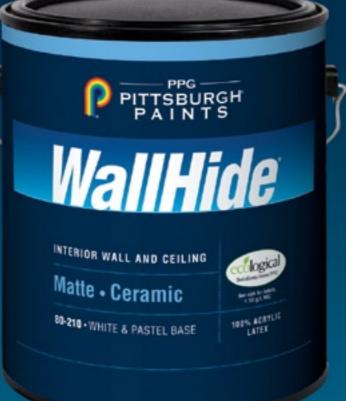
See Face and places, page 14



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Local family adopting baby with Down syndrome from Eastern Europe orphanage

Special to the Arden-Carmichael News

Hector and Jennifer Sanchez in East Sacramento are in the process of adopting Sofia, a one-year-old girl with Down syndrome, from an Eastern European orphanage. They are fundraising the \$25,000 they need to bring Sofia home at the Saving Sofia Crab Feed and Silent Auction on March 19. Additional charitable donations can be made to the Sofia Sanchez Adoption Fund.

When Jennifer first saw Sofia's picture on Reece's Rainbow – an international adoption Web site focused on children with special needs – this past December, she fell in love with the then 10-month-old girl. Jennifer made a small donation to sponsor Sofia in hopes that it would help a family adopt her. But over the holidays, Jennifer could not stop thinking about Sofia.

"I was convinced that there was no way we could actually adopt Sofia," Jennifer said. "How could we? Our house is small. We're crazy busy with three active boys. We have limited resources. But there were other strong whispers telling me...she has nothing...she has no one... she is alone in this world... what we have is a mansion compared to the crib she is confined to...we have so much love to give...we have everything she needs."

Hector and Jennifer talked with their three biological sons – Diego (age 6 1/2), Mateo (age 5) and Joaquin (age 2 who has Down syndrome) – about the idea of adopting Sofia. And as a family, they decided to adopt Sofia to give her a better life and a family who loves her. Hector and Jennifer are finally going to have the daughter they always wanted, and their boys were finally getting the baby sister they hoped for.

Now their family and friends are rallying to help Hector and Jennifer raise the \$25,000 they need to bring Sofia home. They have organized the Saving Sofia Crab Feed and Silent Auction on March 19.

The Sanchez Family partnered with the local nonprofit organization Down Syndrome Information Al-



Family and friends are rallying to help Hector and Jennifer Sanchez in East Sacramento raise the \$25,000 they need to bring Sofia home.

liance (DSIA) for their fundraising efforts. The DSIA is sponsoring the event and created the Sofia Sanchez Adoption Fund.

Anybody wishing to help Hector and Jennifer offset the cost of Sofia's adoption can make a tax-deductible contribution to DSIA by going to http:// www.downsyndromeinfo. org/donatenow and writing "Sofia Sanchez Adoption" in the comment section.

Hector and Jennifer are eager to bring their new baby girl home. Go to http:// savingsofia.blogspot.com to learn more about the Sanchez Family's journey to adopt Sofia.



Janey Way Memories







By MARTY RELLES Arden-Carmichael News Columnist marty@valcomnews.com

In 1960, Gary Costamagna built a tree fort behind our house on Janey Way. He picked this tree because it featured four limbs roughly square with each other. The tree stood in a line of trees separating the pit (the vacated sand and gravel excavation lot where St. Francis High School now stands) from the residential housing on Janey Way.

He began by nailing spikes on each side of the tree up 20 feet to where the base of the fort would be. Then, he sawed off the limbs level

with each other. After that, he nailed four two by four inch pieces of wood connecting the four limbs. On top of that foundation he fastened plywood for a floor. The next step in the process involved building four-foot high walls around the fort. Finally, he attached a roll of canvas to one

"The pit had been our playground during childhood and finally, like all things, it disappeared along with our tree fort."

side of the structure. This could be rolled back over the top in the event of inclement weather. It took him about a month to complete the project.

The fort with its clean new wood looked majestic sitting high above the pine tree behind our backyard. Standing in it, facing west, you looked out over the rooftops above Janey Way. Facing east you gazed at the full expanse of the pit. By this time, the pit had been almost completely leveled. Mt. Everest, the mound in the middle of the pit, remained, but the rest of the pit contained mostly small piles of dirt and debris.

We spent hours in the tree fort, playing cards, eating lunch, drinking cokes and just hiding out. After school, I would climb up there to get away and contemplate the events of the day. We also used the fort as a lookout post to monitor activity in the pit or on the block.

Our tree fort lasted about three years.

Eventually, workers cut down the entire line of trees on that side of the pit in preparation for the construction of St. Francis High School. That marked the end of an era on Janey Way. The pit had been our playground during childhood and finally, like all things, it disappeared along with our tree fort.

Later in life, Gary built his own home in El Dorado Hills. So the tree fort he built was only a prelude to many building projects he would take on in life. Oh, by the way, Gary went on to be the fire chief of the city of Sacramento, one of many Janey Way success stories.

Know your neighbor: Irish heritage lives in Sacramento Shamrock Club puts the spirit in city's St. Patrick's Day Parade

By LANCE ARMSTRONG Arden-Carmichael News Writer lance@valcomnews.com

As Sacramento once again prepares to come alive with a variety of activities to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, one local organization believes in making the celebration of Irish heritage and traditions a yearlong activity.

This organization, The Shamrock Club of Sacramento, is dedicated to its mission of "fostering and preserving the traditions of Ireland for the people of the greater Sacramento region."

The club is also very well connected with the Arden, Carmichael and Land Park areas of Sacramento, explained Chris Brown, a South Land Park resident, who grew up within a lion's roar of the Sacramento Zoo. "We have about 15 members from the Arden and Carmichael areas and about a dozen more from the Land Park area," Brown said. "Our many valued members span from Grass Valley to Lodi and areas throughout Sacramento. We couldn't expand our club into the future without our founding and new members. But we also have plenty of room for more members who have interests in things Irish."

Shamrock Club member Jane Lamborn, a 25-year resident of Carmichael, said that the club is a very enjoyable and educational organization.

"I joined the club three or four years ago and it's just a lot of fun," Lamborn said. "It's a great group of people. They have that quick wit when you're with the group and they're friendly and open and welcoming. They promote Irish culture and Irish history, so you get a chance to learn about it, to enjoy it and they're just a great group of people."

a great group of people." Lamborn added that much of her interest in the club derived from the fact that her mother is half-Irish and her stepfather is 100 percent Irish and that she enjoys learning about Irish music and dance.

"They (her mother and stepfather) traveled extensively in Ireland, they lived there for a short period of time and growing up with her, I really learned about Ireland and that background," Lamborn said. "I discovered the club when I went to the Scottish games in Wood-



Shamrock Club President Chris Brown, right, and Vice President CJ Kennedy are among about 100 members of their club, which was formed as Sacramento's only Irish club in 2005.

land and they were there with some of their members playing music and I stopped to listen to the music and learned about the club. A lot of the enjoyment in learning (through the club) is with music and dance, so you've got bagpipes, fiddles, flutes, drums and they really promote music, which I particularly enjoy and that caught my attention."

vPutting on the parade

As the capital city's only Irish club, the Shamrock Club is presently working with the Old Sacramento Business Association to bring the city's 14th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade to Old Sacramento on Saturday, March 13 at 1 p.m. Other sponsors of the event are the Historic Old Sacramento Foundation, Fanny Ann's Saloon and radio station, Mix 96.

The family-friendly event, which was designed to celebrate the diversity and richness of the community, will feature Irish dancers, costumed marchers, floats, military regiments, school bands, police and fire representatives and various cultural organizations.

Participants in this year's parade will include the White Hackle Pipe Band, the Sacramento Fire Department Pipes and

See Shamrock, page 7



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Shamrock: 'We're gathering more and more kindred spirits'

Continued from page 6

Drums corps, the Ophir Prison Marching Band, Irish dancers in Celtic costumes, tartan-clad Highlanders and Gold Rush reenactors.

The Shamrock Club, which selected Kitty O'Neal of radio station KFBK 1530 AM as the parade's grand marshal, encourages parade participants to "Go Green by Wearing Green."

Lamborn said that the parade is a fun celebration of Irish history and culture.

"It's a chance to experience Irish music and dance, to see the people in the community who participate in those activities and to learn a little bit about it," Lamborn said.

Additional information about the parade can be obtained by calling the Old Sacramento Business Association at (916) 442-7644.

Hearts in Ireland

Emphasizing that Irish heritage is mostly recognized one day per year in the United States, Shamrock Club Vice President CJ Kennedy said, "Everybody wants to turn Irish on St. Patrick's Day, but we're active preserving the heritage of Ireland the whole year round."

Kennedy, who comes from both Irish and Scottish heritage and is very knowledgeable about Irish history, added that although the club takes its position as an Irish heritage preservation group seriously, its members never forget that they belong to a social club.

"We want to be known as a well-known, nonpolitical and nonreligious club in Sacramento and the Northern California region that is serious about Irish heritage, but we also want to just kick up our heals and have a good time, too."

In addition to meeting on the second Wednesday of every month, the group also makes sure to work the attendance of live performances of Irish music and various Irish-related field trips into its schedule.

Âctivities of the club have included social nights at de



The White Hackle Pipe Band will be among the performers in this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade in Old Sacramento.

Vere's, the Fox and Goose and the Streets of London pubs in Sacramento, an annual Christmas party and a trip to the United Irish Cultural Museum in San Francisco.

Upcoming club events will include Celtic Heritage Night at the Sacramento River Cats game on July 1 and a "Halfway to St. Patrick's Day" party in September.

The organization, which has met in Sacramento at SMUD and de Vere's Irish Pub, began in 2005 through the efforts of its founder Chris Brown and about 15 other founding members.

Brown, who is serving in his fifth term as the club's president, said that his idea to establish the club derived from his love for his own Irish heritage and the fact that Sacramento was without an Irish club.

"There was an Irish club in Sacramento that failed and there was a point in time that there was no Irish club (in Sacramento)," said Brown, who is a member of fourth and fifth generation Irish families in Sacramento. "So, we founded the Shamrock Club in late 2005 and built it from the ground up."

Historic and honored

Unlike many Irish clubs, which were established in and around the political difficulties in Ireland, the Sacramento club, Brown explained, took a different route in its formation.

"A lot of the Irish clubs 10 to 15 years ago were sort of formed (in connection) to the troubles in Ireland," Brown said. "We're just not fostering any of that political stuff and in essence, Ireland is at peace right now and it's doing well with peace."

Sacramento's Shamrock Club, which is affiliated with about seven Shamrock Clubs throughout the nation, patterned itself after The Shamrock Club of Columbus, Ohio.

And because of its growth, Sacramento's club, which consists of about 100 members, reached a level and ability to assist a group in New Jersey in its efforts to form a Shamrock Club.

Brown, who graduated from Bishop Armstrong High School in 1965, said that the Sacramento club is on a course to grow exten-

sively during the next two years.

"We have survived the test of time and we're into our sixth year and we have been continually growing," Brown said. "We're gathering more and more kindred spirits, but not just kindred spirits, but people who are willing to take an active part in ensuring the longevity and the expansion of the Shamrock Club."

Brown said that 80 percent of Sacramento's Shamrock Club members are of Irish heritage and the remaining 20 percent of the club members "just enjoy things Celtic and want to be a part of the group."

"It's just a fun group of people," Brown added.

For more information regarding The Shamrock Club of Sacramento, including how to become a member, call Brown at (916) 447-6511 or visit the Web site www.shamrocksac.com.





Eye of the beholder A change of scenery: Man's journey from lawyer to artist

By BENN HODAPP

Arden-Carmichael News Writer benn@valcomnews.com

"I never got to appreciate what I saw before."

That is how Carmichael resident and photographer Richard Turner sums up his life before photography. It's not that he never went anywhere interesting; he detailed a seven-day span in which he traveled to a half dozen European countries for business during his 41 years as a lawyer. It's not that he was unable to see, it's that his job did not allow him to see.

"I didn't want any more calls or faxes or anything else," Turner said of a decision he made in 1998. "I told my wife I'd be back in a month. I drove through Idaho and Montana and took a camera along."

Turner wasn't experienced with photography when he left, nor had he ever had much interest during his years consumed with the legal process.

"I considered myself a pretty creative lawyer," he said slyly."But I didn't know I had any artistic ability at all."

When he came back, he showed his pictures to a professional photographer, but the reception he got was not favorable. He was told that the pictures he had taken were terrible. Instead of letting this news get him down, he took to heart what he was told and dove deep into the art of photography.

At the conclusion of a three-month trial in 2005, Turner retired from practicing law (although he remains licensed to this day). His newfound freedom allowed him to finally see everything that surrounded him. And what caught his eye in the most profound way was nature.

"I can hardly even walk by a flower without stopping to look at it now," he said.

To say that photography and nature changed his life is one thing, but hearing his words on life after being in the law profession truly shows what a different path his life has taken.

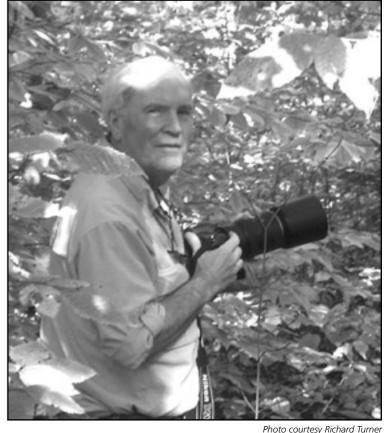
"I learned that I don't want to miss the beauty of the world by being too busy," he said.

He had seen just about everything he could possibly see in law over those 41 years, but the life that he enjoys now never really got to play a part.

Turner said that 90 percent of his photography work is of nature. He specializes in high-impact color on flowers. To date he has sold 35,000 greeting cards that are sold all over Northern California including at the Crocker Art Museum. And while selling pieces is always a welcome event, it is the art itself that captivates him.

"Sharing (my photos) with people makes me happy," he said.

It would seem as though his photos make other people happy as well. Some of Turner's work now hangs in Mercy San Juan Hospital in Sacramento. Thirty-five photographers from all over Northern Califor-



Carmichael resident Richard Turner left his successful career as a lawyer to become a photographer.

nia entered a contest to see whose pieces would be chosen to adorn the walls. Currently there are 12 Turner original works on permanent display in the lobby as well as the connection between wings.

His colorful and vibrant works were considered

See Artist, page 9



Artist: 'Pursue your passion. Good things will happen...'

Continued from page 8

ideal to put in a place for patients and their family members. Included is a five-by-three-foot Peace rose on canvas, which hangs on the wall across from the elevators.

Special exhibit

Turner is also the cochair of the Animal House Exhibit, which is showing now at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center at 5330-B Gibbons Dr. in Sacramento. It is an animalthemed show that is held once a year and covers a number of different types of art from photography to painting to sculpture to mixed media as well as a youth category.

This year, there were 210 entrants vying for the 100 available slots. According to Turner, the event boasts nationally renowned jurors and there is \$3,000 in cash prizes at stake. On Saturday, March 13, the event will hold its reception.

There will be painting demonstrations beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday, the Sacramento SPCA will be in attendance with dogs and cats that will be up for adoption at 3 p.m., and the reception itself starts at 5:30 and runs until 8:30 p.m. The reception concludes the show for this year.

The show is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is open all day Saturday.

Turner is also starting a concert series at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center in which he will collaborate with both visual and performing artists to create what he calls "Art Song" by combining images with music. The series will hopefully be up and running by October of this year.

He will also have his works at the Sacramento Art Festival in October at the Sacramento Convention Center as well as at the Blue Wing Gallery in Woodland in May 2011.

Being an artist can be a tough thing if it is what

Photo courtesy Richard Turn

"I can hardly even walk by a flower without stopping to look at it now," said photographer Richard Turner.

Turner has a message for the struggling art-ist who wonders if it's

worth it. "Pursue your passion. Good things will happen if you do," he said. "Good

you do for a living. But things always happen. It might be money, it might not. But something good will happen."

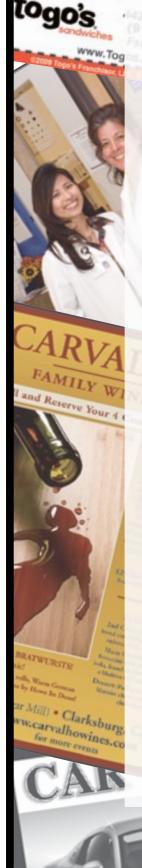
For more about Turner and his work, visit his Web site at www.rturnerphotography.com.

On the cover: Richard Turner's beautiful photos have become renown across the region and throughout the state. Photo courtesy Richard Turner.



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Construction on East Sacramento Target store finally in progress

Arden-Carmichael News Staff Report reporter@valcomnews.com

After five years of planning (and then re-planning), numerous months of designing (and then re-designing), and weeks of anticipation after the building timeline was announced, construction on the Target department store long slated for the vast stretch of property near the corner of 65th Street and 4th Avenue is finally underway.

Starting in the middle of last month, trucks, work crews and demolition teams were seen ripping apart the façade of the former Golden 1 Credit Union administration building that had originally occupied the lot. Now, a little after two weeks of work, crews have carted much of the former structure away.

Target Corporation acquired the property in 2005; construction on the store was to proceed soon after, but was hampered when the economy slumped. Ultimately, Target submitted two revised store designs to the city for approval, each one with less form and more function as the current economic realities hit the corporation's bottom line. Instead of the two-story, highconcept store Target originally announced and planned, the new store will by onestory and more streamlined,

looking similar to their existing facility layouts.

Construction on the building is expected to last through the year; the 135,000-squarefoot store is expected to be completed by the fall.

According to the company, Target will reuse the existing building foundation in a completely remodeled building that will feature leading energy-efficient design. Target will be the third business to use the existing foundation; Before the discount chain and Golden 1, the one-story building was a W.T. Grant retail store.

The Target corporation said in a statement that the 65th Street location makes the proposed 65th Street Target ideally suited to meet the retail needs of the surrounding area. In addition to the numerous trees already lining 65th Street, large canopy shade trees will be added along 4th Avenue, and will be planted in the parking lot to provide shade and reduce heat island effect. Bicycle parking facilities will be provided and for employees who choose to bike to work, showers will be provided on site.

A number of stylistic amenities have been added to the project to lend a pedestrian scale design to the building, its surroundings and the frontage walk. Additionally, the proj-

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ect design features correspond to on-going redevelopment along the 65th Street corridor.

For information on the store and its development, visit target65thstreet.com.



Arden-Carmichael News Photos/Ryan Rose Construction is finally underway on the new Target store at the corner of 65th Street and 2nd Avenue. Inset, the former Golden 1 administration building that once occupied the site.

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St. Francis Troubadour Theater Arts rock on in 'Starmites'

By SUSAN LAIRD Arden-Carmichael News Writer susan@valcomnews.com

St. Francis High School brings an unusual, Tony Award-nominated musical to the Sacramento area this week, with the debut of its production of "Starmites." So much so that the creator of the musical will fly out from New York to teach the students at a special seminar and will attend one of the performances.

"Starmites" is not a musical about cosmic insects...but it certainly is outside of the realm of "average" musical theater.

The plot centers around an introverted, shy teenage girl named Eleanor, who creates a fantasy world from the characters in her science fiction comic book collection. In Eleanor's quest to help good conquer evil are the Starmites – a teenaged band of space youths dedicated to fighting the deadly forces of the Universe.

This is quite a fantasy, with numerous musical genres to match. In fact, it is difficult to describe the genre of "Starmites" – "space opera" might be close, but that really wouldn't be accurate.

"I love how much fun the show is and Starmites has a great score," said Cheryl Watson, arts/performing arts department chair and theater director at St. Francis High. "It's a Sci-Fi musical along the lines of 'Little Shop of Horrors' and 'The Rocky Horror Show' but a lot sweeter in places. We like to mix up what we do with our productions and I can honestly say this is the first show we've done in this genre. It's a rock-based musical with influences of many genres including, Gospel, Tribal, Pop and traditional Broadway ballads. It's got everything."

"Starmites" made its New York debut off Broadway in 1987. Composer Barry Keating wrote the music and lyrics. It received six Tony Award nominations, including one for Best Musical. There is also a "Starmites" book written by Keating and Stuart Ross.

"St. Francis students Katelyn Rothleder, Morgan Henry, Annie Guthrie, and Camille Totah are the leads in 'Starmites," Watson said. "Also, we have a wonderful group of supporting characters with major importance to the script."

The St. Francis Theater Arts program is known for its efforts to connect young artists with the subjects they are portraying. This opportunity is extended to male cast members who attend other high schools, since St. Francis High is an all-girls college prep school. This production's male thespians hail from Jesuit and Oak-

See Starmites, page 13



"Starmites" opens on March 11 with a special \$25 per ticket gala evening at 7:30 p.m. Regular performances are at 7:30 p.m. on March 12, 13, 19 and 20.

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Starmites: 'Theatre is a collaborative art form'

Continued from page 12

mont high schools. For example, students met with survivors of the Nazi Holocaust to gain an understanding of the horrors of World War II while preparing to perform "Playing for Time" a few years ago.

This year, Keating is flying out from New York City to meet the students and to attend a performance of the musical. It will be a unique opportunity for the students to learn from and engage a New York composer and director one-on-one. Thespians and theater technicians ("techies) will participate.

"The techies work as hard as the actors in making the magic happen," Watson said.

In addition to his work with "Starmites," Keating composed the score and co-wrote the book and lyrics to a gospel/hip-hop/rock adaptation of "The Jungle Book" that was staged at the New Victory Theater on 42nd Street in New York City in 1997. The critically acclaimed musical toured nationally and was praised for its "innovate style and charm." He wrote a book, music and lyrics for Jim Henson's "Muppet Babies' Magic Box," and a cabaret, "Hollywood Opera." He directed Penn & Teller's first stage show and Jim Steinman's "Neverland."

Keating is an honors graduate of Amherst College and is the author of four children's books for Jim Henson and the Muppets.

St. Francis High School has a good reputation in the theater community, and often wins regional awards (Ellys). When asked what kind of pressure students feel to perform in any production, Watson said that the focus is never on winning an award.

"Actually there is no pressure," she said. "We never choose, nor do I direct, a show for awards. Our arts council looks for a varied experience for our actors and theatre technicians in selecting each production. Hopefully, our students and staff can stretch themselves. For example, in the past two years, we presented a drama by Arthur Miller, an original musical written by faculty member David Blanchard and Thom Green, a comedy by Shakespeare and now a Sci-Fi space rock musical. Quite a large range of style and content. Of course I am proud of the awards, but I'm most happy about the opportunities and experiences provided to our students. The faculty members involved in the productions are professional artists in their individual disciplines and in choosing our shows we like to challenge ourselves. Theatre is a collaborative art form and it is wonderful to collaborate with our students and each other."

'Starmites" opens on March 11 with a special \$25 per ticket gala evening at 7:30 p.m. Regular performances are at 7:30 p.m. on March 12, 13, 19 and 20. Tickets for performances on March 12, 13, 19 and 20 are \$10 for students under age 19 and \$15 for adults. There will also be a matinee on March 20 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets to performances at St. Francis High School sell out quickly. St. Francis High School is located at 5900 Elvas Ave. in Sacramento. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.ticketguys.com/stfrancis.

Local artists turn to furry friends for 'Animal House' exhibit Special to the Arden-Carmichael News

It's a zoo in there. There are certainly a lot of animals at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center these days. Co-sponsored by the Sacramento SPCA and the Carmichael Recreation and Park District, the Fine Arts Center's annual Animal House show opened February 23. The animal themed art show will run through March 13 featuring paintings, sculpture, photography and mixed media, all about animals and the animal kingdom.

To invite serious artists to participate, there are \$3,000 in cash prizes to be awarded at the gala reception, March 13, which will feature a jazz band, an SPCA animal rescue operation, an Audubon exhibit, painting demonstrations, and, of course, fabulous art.

"We have over 200 entries in this juried show," said Bonnie Otto, president of the fine arts center, "but only space for the 100 to be selected." The judges included Susan Sarback, nationally known artist, author and educator, Ann and Doug Otto, one of Sacramento's premier fine art photographers.

The March 13 reception will open at 5:30 p.m. Painting demonstrations by Rene Reyes and David Peterson will begin at 2 p.m. Dogs and cats to be rescued will be present. Both the demonstrations and the reception are free to the public. Great food and drinks will be available. And, of course, fabulous art.

The Sacramento Fine Arts Center is a non-profit community based organization dedicated to education in the arts, providing exhibit opportunities to both aspiring anad accomplished artists, and sponsoring workshops and classes in a wide variety of art media. The Sacramento Fine Arts Center is located at 5330-B Gibbons Drive in Carmichael.

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Faces and places: 'I could not believe the impact we were able to make'

Continued from page 2

for kindergarten and first grade students."

Realtors and staff members of the Sierra Oaks office raked, cut sod, tilled the soil and planted. They also repainted parking lines on the sidewalk entrance to the school.

'I spent the day removing weeds and grass to allow for the planned construction of a nature area on the site," said Realtor Glenn Fantazia. "It was hard work -I have blisters along with aches and pains to prove it - but very satisfying. I enjoyed working alongside colleagues as well as teachers and other school personnel to give something back to the community. It was a very worthwhile day and I hope the kids and neighbors enjoy the end product we helped jump-start."

"It's incredible how people are willing to help for a good cause even in a tough economical time like this," said Doug Reynolds, who is a part of a Future Leaders of Real Estate group and was assigned to run the Prudential project out of the Sierra Oaks office. "As far as the actual day, our branch manager Mark Paul and I kind of broke up the projects: I was in charge of all of the ground clearing, tilling and mulching. We had some others working the painting and more doing the barbequing for the volunteers."

Reynolds found the project simply by driving by it. He had recently moved into the neighborhood and saw that the school looked like it could use a hand. A call to the school principal started the ball rolling, and coordinating the Prudential volunteers with the on-going project quickly fell into place.

The Bancroft School Project is also receiving some support from a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through the Schoolyard Habitat Program (SYH). The program connects kids with nature by helping teachers and students create native wildlife habitat on their school grounds. Through the Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can provide technical support and guidance to educators, administrators, students, and community members who wish to create an effective. sustainable outdoor classroom and wildlife habitat on their school grounds, according to Karleen Vollherbst, who is with the program.

"SYH projects give every student a chance to observe, learn from, and experience nature and enhance



Sod busters: (left to right) Prudential California realtors Glenn Fantazia and Doug Reynolds and Madeline Feickert, who is a student at Bancroft Elementary, worked hard to remove sod from the project area.

their connection to the outdoors," Vollherbst said. "Teachers use SYH projects to provide learning experiences that align with Federal and state education goals, and as an integrating context for improving skills in core curriculum subjects such as science, math, reading and language arts. Schoolyard habitat projects provide an opportunity to bring all age groups together to work on project implementation and maintenance. They are a beautiful place not only for the school, but also for friends and neighbors."

Despite a few aching muscles, the Prudential volunteers said they received as great a gift as the one they gave to the school.

"I couldn't believe how quickly everyone wanted to get started," Reynolds said. "Each volunteer was so open to helping with wherever it was needed. Just being around everyone working together for such a great cause was an infectious environment. Everybody was looking out for each oth-

er; telling jokes and stories to pass the time. Whenever a hurdle would arise we would all work together to find the best solution. During the day I was mostly focused on getting as much work done as possible but once we finally wrapped up, I took a step back to see what had been done I could not believe the impact we were able to make in such a short amount of time. The natural habitat preserve area is ready for its next phase of the project. The front of the school had a complete transformation by painting the curbs. It felt amazing to realize that you were a small part in such a huge change for a great cause."

"We would never have gotten this far, this fast," Phillips said of the volunteers and their help. "This is phenomenal. We are so excited to get this much done."

"It was a very large project to take on over the past two months," Reynolds said. "But the feeling of giving will be with me for a much longer time."



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Local eatery was originally established in Old Sac East Sacramento's Español Restaurant has century-old roots

By LANCE ARMSTRONG Arden-Carmichael News Writer lance@valcomnews.com

When it comes to Sacramento history, few places in the city have such a rich heritage as the Español Restaurant.

To the average commuter, this East Sacramento eatery's historic building and its accompanying old neon sign have the appearance of a business that has stood the test of time.

Although such an impression is undoubtedly correct, the historic building and sign represent only a part of this restaurant's rich past.

With a few steps inside this old building at 5723 Folsom Blvd., which was built in 1946 as the new home of the Square Deal Café, one can observe a business that is swarming with history.

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graphs of days of old begin to tell the story of a business that began long before it opened at its current site in 1965.

Hanging on the walls of the lobby area, which is an addition to the original structure, are photographs of the business's previous site at 231 I St., as well as other images such as photographs of members of the Luigi family. The business is currently owned by Perry Luigi, Paula (Luigi) Serrano and Karen (Luigi) Zito, whose father Frank "Babe" Luigi and uncle Mario Luigi previously owned the business.

The longtime tradition of the restaurant, however, began long before Babe and Mario purchased the business in 1959.

The restaurant, in fact, was established in an even earlier location than the 2nd and I streets site, near today's historic Southern Pacific train depot.

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Español of yesteryear

During the 19th century, the city was home to many hotels such as the Pacific Hotel at 916-918 11th St., the International Hotel at 320-326 K St. and the Tremont Hotel at 112-114 J St.

At the site of the Tremont Hotel, a new hotel, known as Hotel Español, emerged as early as 1919.

The Hotel Español, which was primarily operated as a Basque boarding house, was initially home to sheepherders who were hired out to local ranchers.

It was at this hotel, which in its early years was owned by Victoriano Urrutia and then Castro Arrate and Mamerto Fernandez, that the Español Restaurant began to evolve.

On the ground floor of the large, brick building, food such as oxtail stew, pig knuckles, lamb fries, lamb chops, tripe, chicken and veal were prepared and cooked for the Basque tenants.

News of these meals eventually made its way to many outsiders of the building, as others were introduced to the boarders' food and the eatery increased in popularity.

During the early 1930s, the well-known Sacramentan Ancil Hoffman, who has a park named in his honor



Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Lance Armstron

Pictured left to right, Paula (Luigi) Serrano, Perry Luigi and Karen (Luigi) Zito are the owners of East Sacramento's historic Español Restaurant at 58th Street and Folsom Boulevard.

in Carmichael, became the owner of the building.

With the 1952 sale of the Hotel Español building, the Español Restaurant was relocated to the Commercial Hotel, which had been constructed about 15 years earlier.

This move was arranged following Arrate's retirement and under the direction of the restaurant's chef Joe Trueba and his close friend, Joe Martinez.

The restaurant, which continued to increase in popularity and serve Basque tenants who relocated to the Commercial Hotel, was operated by Trueba and Martinez until the business's sale to Babe and Mario Luigi, who brought in the eatery's Italian food offerings.

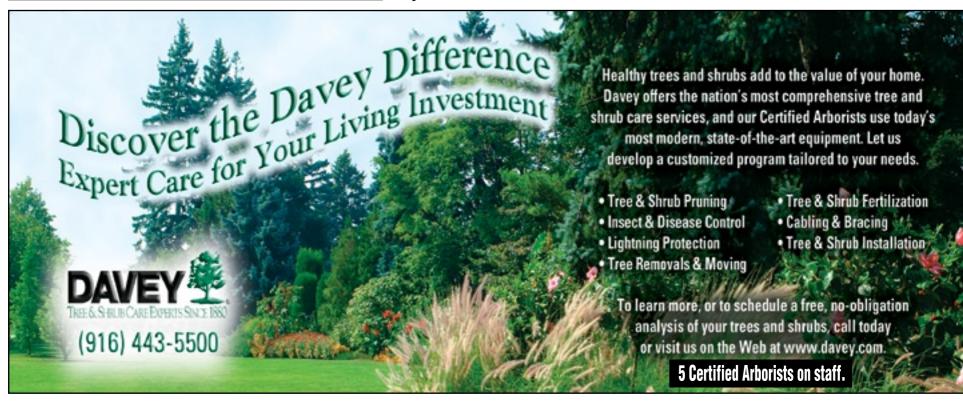
The development of Old Sacramento, which included the nearby extension of Interstate 5, resulted in the second relocation of the restaurant within a 13-year span of time.

Moving to East Sac

Opening at its current site in 1965, the Español Restaurant, despite no longer serving unique food to Basque hotel tenants, carried forth many of its traditions in East Sacramento, near the historic Little Italy neighborhood.

Among these traditions included the presence of the

See Español, page 17



Español: 'People come from miles around to buy our minestrone'

Continued from page 16

popular waitress Mary Trabazo, who worked at all three sites of the restaurant.

Beginning her career with the Español in 1936, Trabazo retired from the restaurant 52 years later.

Waitress Leah Alcanter also dedicated her fair share of time as an Español waitress, as she worked at the restaurant for 35 years.

Many other employees, including 26-year waitress Diane Lara and 25-year dishwasher David Larsen, have spent many years at the restaurant throughout its history.

ry. This history includes various famous diners such as actress Ann Sothern, actor Leo Carrillo, singer Frankie Laine, boxer Max Baer, flamenco dancer Jose Greco, Gov. Earl Warren and Secretary of State Frank Jordan, Sr.

East Sacramento native Willie DaPrato, who was part owner of the restaurant with Babe and Mario from 1978 to 1985, said that he enjoyed working with the Luigi family.

"I had a great time and (Babe and Mario) were two wonderful people," DaPrato said. "I had no problems. I went in on a handshake and I left on a handshake. Every now and again, I still drop into the restaurant. It's one of the finest familyowned restaurants in town with lots of home-style cooked food and it's just very good."

On Jan 1, 1988, Perry, Paula and Karen, who began assisting their father at the restaurant as children, purchased the Español from Babe, who passed away three months later.

Louise Luigi said that she is proud of her children's accomplishments as owners of the restaurant.

"They have done a wonderful job running the place and my husband (Babe) would be very proud to see that it is continuing on today," Louise said.

With a look around the Español on any given day, one can observe people who have been dining at the restaurant for many years, as well



Photo courtesy of Español Restaurant A group consisting of various Mexican organizations gather together at the second location of the restaurant during a visit by Mexican Consulate Dominguez.

Arden-Carmichael News Photo/Lance Armstra Guests dine inside the Español Restaurant on Folsom Boulevard.

as those who are much newer guests of the establishment, which also includes a popular bar.

Rave reviews

Español customer Mary Giacomotto said that she has been enjoying visiting the restaurant since it was located at 231 I St.

"In the old days, it was wonderful just going (to the restaurant) with our parents and (Rosemary and Ted Lehy) and their children," Giacomotto said. "It was very family-oriented and we would sit and have (soup) and wait for our parents to return from the bar. I also remember how my father (John Bateman) would start to sing there (at the restaurant) and then we would all sing and everybody around us would sing. Those were wonderful, wonderful times."

Perry said that the secret of the restaurant's longtime success is its traditional, family-style Italian dishes, as well as its great value and fine service.

The Español offers dishes ranging from veal cutlets and chicken cacciatore with polenta to cheese ravioli pesto and lasagna. Guests can also enjoy traditional spaghetti and raviolis with meat sauce.

Also among the restaurant's many menu items is its famous minestrone soup, Perry explained.

^{*}People come from miles around to buy our minestrone soup-to-go for their dinners and family functions such as Christmas Eve," Perry said. "I think I sell more soup than any restaurant in Sacramento."

Complete lunches and dinners include tureen of minestrone soup, salad, an entrée of one's choice, pasta, vegetables, coffee or iced tea and spumoni.

Prices for these lunches range from \$9 to \$11 and the dinner prices range from \$15 to \$20. And for those who prefer a lighter meal, soups and salads cost about \$5.

The restaurant also includes the following daily specials: roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy on Tuesdays, veal stew on Wednesdays, corned beef and cabbage on Thursdays and meatloaf on Fridays.

Paula said that people are attracted to the restaurant, in general, because it reminds them of the traditional, family-style restaurants of New York, Chicago and San Francisco.

"It reminds them of the Godfather-type restaurants," Perry added with a chuckle.

Español Restaurant, which has a seating capacity of 160, is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Perry said that he takes great pride in carrying forth the tradition of what he refers to as "the Italian restaurant with a Spanish name."

"We're proud of our long history in East Sacramento, as well as the Old Sacramento area, and we invite people to take a step back in time and drive to East Sacramento to enjoy Sacramento's oldest restaurant," Perry said. "Come on in, join us and experience traditional, family-style cooking and be part of the Español family."

For additional information about Español Restaurant, call (916) 457-1936.



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Is your dub, 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. There is no guarantee that events submitted will appear in the calendar. To ensure placement within the newspaper, please call 429.9901 to place an advertisement. ed in fee) on either of the days given and are held at the house, address below. Cost per person, per class is \$40 or both classes for \$70. Reservations should be sent, with payment, to: Robert Hamm, 1689 Vallarta Cicle, Sacramento CA 95834. First come first served, as all classes have limited availability. For more info email me or call. Gardening in Sacramento – A class for people new to Sacramento Gardening – Tuesday, March 16 or Saturday, March 20; second class is Plant Propagation for Home Gardeners on Tuesday, March 30 or Saturday, April 3.

March Benefit Plant Sales

Plant sales at the Gifted Gardener through March 2010: March 13-14, and March 27-28. All of the sales will be in the covered parking area on 18th St, behind the store at 18th and J Streets. Sales rain or shine. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jo Anne Marquardt art show

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento presents an exhibition of the artwork of Land Park resident Jo Anne Marquardt Jan. 22 to Mar. 21, 2010 at the UUSS Auditorium located at 2425 Sierra Blvd, Sacramento. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Jan. 22 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. This event is free. For more information visit www.uuss.org.

Short Story Contest

Open to ages 16 and older. \$5 entry fee. Please make checks payable to Friends of the Elk Grove Library. Deadline for entries is 5 p.m., Saturday, April 3, 2010. Entries may be fiction or non-fiction and not longer than 1.000 words. Manuscript must be typed and double-spaced. Final word count to be written at the top of the title page. Name, address, phone number, email address and story title to be written on a 3x5 card and attached to the entry. Do not put your name on the manuscript. Winners will receive cash awards. First place-\$100 Second place-\$75 Third place-\$50. Awards will be presented at the Elk Grove Library Writer's Workshop, April 17, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Submissions will not

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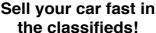
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Sacramento, CA 95818 or send to: ryanrose@valcomnews.com

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March 11

Mission Oaks Computer Club meeting

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, March 11, 2010 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. The meeting topic will be "What's New in Computers and Computing" presented by Steven Walker of Fast Break Tech. A problem solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call (916) 366-1687 or visit our Web site at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

Moms in Motion Information Meeting

Women of all ages and fitness levels are invited to hear more about the Moms in Motion team, connecting women through fun, fitness and philanthropy. 7 p.m. at the REI store in Folsom. RSVP MIM_EDHFolsom@yahoo.com or (530) 903-7765.

California Citizens for Health Freedom

March 11, 2010 - Sponsored by California Citizens for Health Freedom, a free lecture on "Yoga for Your Eyes" will be presented Meir Schneider, Ph.D., L.M.T., from 7 - 9 p.m. at the SMUD Auditorium (the old SMUD Building), 6201 S Street, Sacramento. Call 916-635-6724 for information.

MARCH **12**

Carmichael Geranium Society meeting Carmichael Geranium Society March Meeting, Friday March 12 at 10 a.m. at the Carmichael Community Clubhouse - 5750 Grant Ave. Carmichael. This will be a workshop on soils, watering, fertilizer, pruning & shaping. Bring 1 or 2 plants for this hands on workshop

March 13

Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Group

Families and people with Alzheimer's Disease or a related dementia will benefit by learning how to live with memory loss, meeting with others in similar situations and working with compassionate, professional facilitators. Held Saturday, March 13, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the Asian Community Center, 7375 Park City Dr. Free of charge. For more information contact: Susan Sarinas, 393-9026 Ext. 339, ssarinas@accsv.org.

Fe Gallery Artist Reception

The event is March 15 and runs from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Fe Gallery, 1100 65th St. March's show is going to be fun and exciting with a one of kind creations from tape artist Danny Scheible who carries his art with him, and even if Danny does not say a word you will remember Danny and know he has been in your world. Also featured are the unique metal mask portrayals by Douglas Pryor. A blacksmithing demo at 7:30 p.m., please join us at the corner of Elvas and 65th just north of Folsom Blvd for more information about the gallery or artists visit www.FeGallery.com. Current show runs March 8 through March 31.

Kiwanis event

Saturday, March 13 at 7:30 a.m. Mr. Gerald Clemens will be the guest speaker He will be speaking on: Programs of the Highway Patrol. The location of the Kiwanis Club of Elk Grove is Denny's Restaurant located at 8707 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, CA 95624. The public is invited to attend. For additional information and/or questions, please call President Dan Birks at 869-4711

March 14

International Folk Dance Concert A colorful show of ethnic dance and music for the whole family. March 14, 2010, 1 p.m. CSUS Student Union Ballroom, 6000 J St, Sacramento, Free Parking, \$7 per person, under 18 years free. This is our 54th year presenting a variety of groups performing dances from around the world – originally started as part of the Sacramento Camellia Festival. Folkdancesac.org.

March 17

STORESSON SUD

St. Patrick's Day Concert with The Swingmasters

Event is Wednesday, March 17, 2010 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael. \$5 per person. Plenty of FREE parking! Get your green on and come dance an Irish jig. Festive refreshments for sale.

Genealogical Association meeting

The Genealogical Association of Sacramento will meet March 17 at the Colonial Heights Library on Stockton Blvd and 21st Ave. Our March speaker will be Enoch Haga and his topic will be "Publishing a Genealogy" He most recently published "Some Norse Families" by Henrik Lunde. His talk will be of special interest to people of Scandanavian ancestry and those who are almost ready to publish their family history. The meeting starts at 1 PM Please join us and bring a friend. The group is also planning a bus trip to the Sutro Research Library in San Francisco on Wed March 24th The cost is \$35.00 for GAS members and \$40.00 for non members. If interested please contact Melanie H. 916-383-1221 or melnesia@ comcast.net

March 18

Candidate Night at the Didion Gym Do you know who is running for District

Seven City Council? Join your neighbors and other community members from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thurs. March 18, 2010 at the Didion/Lewis Park Recreational Center to meet the three candidates and hear their views on community and citywide issues. Candidate are: Ryan Chin; Dir. Strategic Communications Sac State; Darrell Fong; Ret. Police Capt. Sac PD; and Robbie Waters; Incumbent. The Didion/Lewis Park Recreational Center is located at 6490 Harmon Dr., Sacramento, CA 95831.

Voetberg Family Band to perform

Enjoy a special evening with the Voetberg Family Band in a free family concert at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 18, in the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria, at the Central Library. 828 I Street, Sacramento, Based in Centralia, Washington, the Voetberg family members will perform their unique music with bluegrass, gospel, country, folk, jazz and Celtic influences. The Voetberg's 10 children, from ages from eight to 25, have garnered many awards including 10 Washington state fiddle championships, eight Washington State Music Teachers Association awards for outstanding keyboard and vocal performance, 20 regional fiddle championships, 10 top-five placements at the National Fiddle Competition, and the title of 2007 National Young Adult Fiddle Champion. For more information, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit saclibrary.org.

March **20**

10th Annual Vendor Sale

10th annual vendor sale is March 20 from Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Shepard Garden and Art Center, located at 3330 McKinley Boulevard in McKinley Park. The Perennial Plant Club is once again sponsoring an extraordinary collection of specialty nurseries, many from just outside the immediate Sacramento area to help you get a jump-start on this year's gardening season. Theywill also offer used books and magazines for sale at bargain prices and this year will have Timber Press Books available at discount prices. Proceeds from this event will help fund our work supporting community gardens and local horticulture projects.

Greenhaven Lutheran Church Annual Crab Feed

The Annual Crab and Pasta Feed (all you can eat) will start at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 20, in the parish hall. The Crab and Pasta Feed is the major fundraiser for the youth gathering in New Orleans. Tickets are \$40 per person. The event includes a silent auction and 50/50 raffle. Tickets are available by contacting the church at (916) 428-8449 or Stephanie Lack at steph_lack01@yahoo.com or by phone at (916) 201-3898. Come hungry!

March 21

Sacramento Symphonic Winds Concert Event is Sunday, March 21, 2010 from 3-4:30 p.m. La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael. \$5 per person, seniors and kids under 12 FREE. Plenty of FREE parking.

City College concert

The Sacramento City College World Music Ensemble, directed by Bob Wren, will present Middle Eastern music and dance, featuring the Ottoman Traders Middle Eastern Dance Troupe accompanied by the World Music Ensemble on Sunday, March 21, 2010 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.at the Davis Art Center, 1919 F Street, Davis 95616. Admission is free.

MARCH **22**

Free grief support

Beginning Monday, March 22 at 7 p.m. Parkside Community Church will convene a 6-week series providing participants the opportunity to work through their grief in a supportive and caring environment. Led by Joe Lumello, a licensed therapist specializing in grief support, attendees will be equipped to heal their grief over the death of a loved one, loss of a job, or dissolution of a relationship. The group will meet in the church Library and is open to the community. For more information, please contact the church office at 421-0492. Parkside Community Church is located at 5700 South Land Park Drive (on the corner of 35th Ave and S. Land Park Drive—across from Vic's Market). Parkside is an open and affirming congregation.

2010 HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE Palm Sunday, March 28th -7:45am, 8:30am, 11:00am

Please join us for Palm Sunday & Easter Worship

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Holy Thursday Services - April 1st -11:00am, 7:00pm Good Friday Services - April 2nd -11:00am, 7:00pm

Easter Breakfast - April 4th -7:30am - 11:00am (Youth Fundraiser) Easter Sunday Services - April 4th -8:30am, 9:45am, 11:00am

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Church originally constructed in Carmichael Sacramento's St. Maria Church is historical Portuguese landmark

By LANCE ARMSTRONG Arden-Carmichael News Writer lance@valcomnews.com

Among the many historic sites of the Pocket area, the St. Maria Church on Pocket Road is a very important part of Portuguese heritage.

Located on the old Riverside Road, which evolved into Park Riviera Way and then Pocket Road, the church had a unique beginning, considering that it was built as a clubhouse about 12 miles northeast of its present site.

Constructing the church

Constructed in the Carmichael area in 1897 for the Associacao Azoreana do Divini Espirito Santo (Azorean Association of Antone Rodrigues Perry), the Divine Holy Spirit) – traveled from the Pock-

AADES, Grant – the organization utilized the building for its meeting hall.

The structure was also used for the storage of religious artifacts such as flags, banners and the crown for the Portuguese Holy Ghost Festa – a religious festival in honor of Portugal's 13th century queen, Isabela, who later became a saint.

The decline of the Portuguese population in the Grant area resulted in the relocation of the Portuguese lodge to the Riverside area, which had developed into a Portuguese settlement.

The move was prompted by Francisco J. Luiz (later Frank J. Lewis, Sr.), who with his neighbor, Antonio Pereira Rodrigues (later et area to the Grant area to attend the AADES lodge meetings.

In order to persuade the AADES, Grant members to relocate, Luiz proposed that two acres of his land be used for a move and expansion in the Riverside area.

Additionally, Luiz offered to move the lodge building to his property.

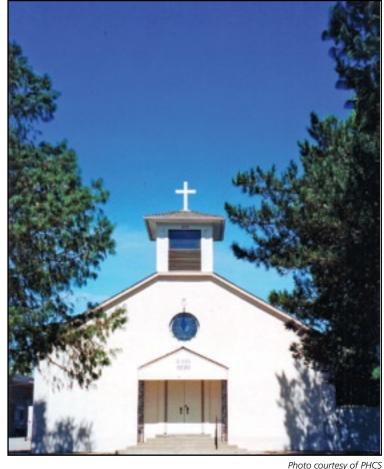
AADES members voted and agreed that Luiz's offer was best for the future of the lodge.

In 1909, the building was cut in half, transported via large wagons and teams of horses and reassembled on the land that Luiz had offered.

The relocation of the structure proved to be a profitable endeavor for the lodge in that it attracted many Portuguese from the Pocket and city areas.

As a result, the AADES treasury increased to an extent that the lodge was able to construct a two-story hall adjacent to the clubhouse.

With the building of the hall, which was completed in 1913, the clubhouse was converted and remodeled into a church, which was necessary for the estab-



The St. Maria Church building on Pocket Road has been a part of the Riverside-Pocket area for more than a century.

lishment of the Holy Ghost Festa

Around this time, the AADES, Grant ceased to exist and instead became AADES, Riverside and the church was established as the Igreja de Santa Maria (later known as St. Maria Church).

In the will of Frank J. Lewis, Sr., who passed

Chroma's

away on Sept. 13, 1918 at the age of 61, the land, which he deeded to AADES, was required to be used specifically for the lodge's hall and church and the holding of the Holy Ghost Festa. If this agreement was not fulfilled, the property, according to the will, would revert back to the Lewis heirs.

Celebrations and ceremonies

With the hall and church in place, the first Riverside Holy Ghost Festa was held in conjunction with the church's dedication on May 31, 1914.

During the first festa, Mary Silva, who was about 15 years old at the time, was selected as the first festa queen.

Through the establishment and dedication of the church, it became a parish of St. Joseph Church in Freeport in the historic postal area of today's Clarksburg in Yolo County. The St. Joseph Church

See Church, page 23



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Sam Casio was selected as Student of the Month for January at New Haven Elementary School. A second grader in Mrs. Hinton's class, Sam hopes to one day become a doctor like his father. Mom and Dad love you so much.



Rachel Avila played a significant role in her Tee Ball team win on Sunday, Jan. 17. Being a good teammate and strong hitter, Rachel hit a homerun in the third inning and scored in two runs. Mom, Dad, Grandpa **Richard and Grandma** Margo are so proud.

Anniversary Celebration Capturing the Light for 12 Years March 12-April11 Hours: Thur-Sun, 12-5 **Second Saturday Reception** March 13, 5-9pm PLUS "Artist in Action" Vicki Foote, demonstrating her techniques in developing an original painting "Water Dance" by Marianne Post CHROMA GALLERY 10030 Fair Oaks Blvd 6.6020 • www.thechromagallery.com

Church: 'So much has changed, but the church and the hall remain'

Continued from page 22

was founded by the Portuguese in 1893.

The Portuguese priests from St. Joseph Church in Freeport would cross the Sacramento River via a platform, cable ferry to Riverside to celebrate Mass at the newly dedicated church.

To carry on the Portuguese customs and traditions in their own language, Portuguese priests from St. Joseph Church, until 1922, continued to baptize and perform communion at the Riverside church and in the homes of people who were unable to attend Mass due to health reasons.

Following this time, Portuguese-speaking priests were mostly unavailable, so the church resorted to priests of other nationalities. But on occasions when a Portuguesespeaking priest was needed to perform baptisms, the Portuguese priest from St. Elizabeth Portuguese National Church on 12th and S streets came to St. Maria Church.

Also during the early years of the Riverside church, young Portuguese men from the Riverside-Pocket area, including Frank J. Lewis, Sr.'s grandson, John Lewis, and the sons of Manuel and Mary (Dutra) Rosa, Martin and Michael Rosa, became alter boys.

Additionally, Portuguese women from the area performed maintenance duties in care of the altar.

Mary Florence, the daughter of Frank J. Lewis, Sr., was the first to perform these duties, which included crocheting altar doilies.

Many marriages were also performed in the church, including the marriages of Manuel and Mary (Dutra) Rosa and King and Beatrice (Mauricio) Silva. King was a member of one of the prominent Silva families of the Pocket area.

Remaking and rebuilding

The church had various remodels throughout the years, including the addition of a bell tower, a widening of the building to accommodate side aisles, additional small sections of pews, the construction of a double-door entry and the revision of the altar, so that the pastor faced the congregation.

Furthermore, the old standard windows were replaced with stained glass windows that were individually donated by members of the church.

The construction of Interstate 80, necessitated the move of the Portuguese association, the Ordem do Divino Espirito Santo, Sacramento, located at 5th and W streets.

In the early 1960s, the Portuguese organization merged with AADES, Riverside and the new name of the organization became Sacramento Portuguese Holy Spirit Society.

Jack Lewis, the grandson and heir in the will of Frank J. Lewis, Sr., instigated the signing of a release, along with the other heirs, for SPHSS to receive clear title to the acreage.

Although the old church still stands, the original hall was demolished and a new hall was built in the exact location. The new hall was dedicated on Oct. 21, 1967.

St. Joseph Church administered to St. Maria Church until 1974 and Father Brenden O'Sullivan, pastor of St. Joseph Church, was the last pastor to celebrate Sunday Mass on a regular basis at St. Maria Church. Since St. Joseph Church no longer administered to St. Maria Church, pastors from St. Elizabeth Portuguese National Church celebrated Mass at St. Maria Church.

Pastors during this time included: Valdemiro Fagundes, Jose Rebeiro and Eduino Silveira.

The church now

Today, the church building, which comfortably seats 300 parishioners and is hardly recognizable as the wooden, rectangular building of the days of old, is owned by SPHSS. The release in ownership was designed to avoid any future challenge of ownership of the land, which included the St. Maria Church.

The festa continues at St. Maria Church each year under the direction of Antonio Luiz Dos Santos Medeiros, one of the Congregation of the Sacred Stigmata with contract to assist St. Elizabeth Portuguese National Church.

It is unknown if Medeiros will continue to perform this service following this year's festa in May, since the contract for this assistance will expire in mid-July 2010.

Pocket native Dolores Greenslate said that as a person of Portuguese heritage, she is proud of the history of St. Maria Church and its accompanying hall.

"It is an important part of Portuguese history in the area," Greenslate said. "So much has changed in the Riverside-Pocket area, but the church and the hall remain and it gives me great happiness to see them."



Supplementing the second half of life

By DARBY PATTERSON Arden-Carmichael News Columnist darby@valcomnews.com

Mini Med School, sponsored by the UC Davis School of Medicine provides ample food for thought for people seeking to make life's second half, the better half. The six-week course features top medical professionals, strictly focused on the topic of healthy aging. And, oh yes, entertaining the assembled class of about 500 people at the same time. For example, in February, we were treated to a dance (ala Michael Jackson) by a respected doctor and lecturer.

We also gobbled up a lively presentation called "Nutrition for Grownups" by Calvin Hirsch, M.D. With ever increasing advertising dollars being spent in major media by both the pharmaceutical and nutricutical companies, it's very easy for consumers to be thoroughly confused.

Anti-aging diets and supplements should be aimed at mitigating diseases that sometimes come with age, according to Dr. Hirsch. The conditions we worry about as we ease around the biological clock to our 60s and well beyond include heart disease, strokes, diabetes, respiratory disease, cognitive decline and, oh, so many other nasty possibilities. The point to knowing what supplements are effective in building defenses against health threats, is that most of these conditions are preventable. Without disease and disability, aging can be a process of continued growth, contentment and stimulation.

It's also true that we are bombarded by unsubstantiated claims for the positive effects of nutricuticals. These are the ads we see in newspapers, magazines, direct mail campaigns and on cable TV. Here are a few warning signs for consumers: Beware of concoctions that make fantastic claims that are based on little science and lots of personal testimonials. The people who offer their endorsement of the product look like you and me, and we can usually identify quickly with their pain and yearn for similar quick relief. Be suspicious of offers of "free" products with a toll-free phone call; ads that boldly declare, "As seen on TV," and any pressure to get you to "act quickly" because "supplies are limited."

Since the FDA does not regulate nutricuticals, vitamins and herbs, consumers have little information about the origin, content and quality of many products. In general, carefully read the labels on vitamins – be wary of those that come from China (heavy metals and lead have been found in some brands) and labels that tell you nothing at all! Like Dr. Hirsch says, "Advertising makes us think we are deficient in almost everything." Not so.A chapter or more could be written on each of the supplements that show scientific promise for healthier longevity (or those that only benefit quick-buck, flimflam companies). To learn more about nutricuticals and supplements here is a credible and robust Web site to get you started: www. consumerlab.com.

Being only a humble columnist and Baby Boomer, I can't responsibly suggest dosages or specific products. I must, however, report that our Mini-Med docs caution us about herbs and supplements because many interact with medications. But, it doesn't hurt to get educated and then ask our own doctors about a regimen of supplements that may bring healthy blessings to the better, second half of life.

Darby Patterson is a member of the Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission and the author of "Meow.org, The Cat-Napping Caper." Visit Darby at www.storiesandbooks.com.





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