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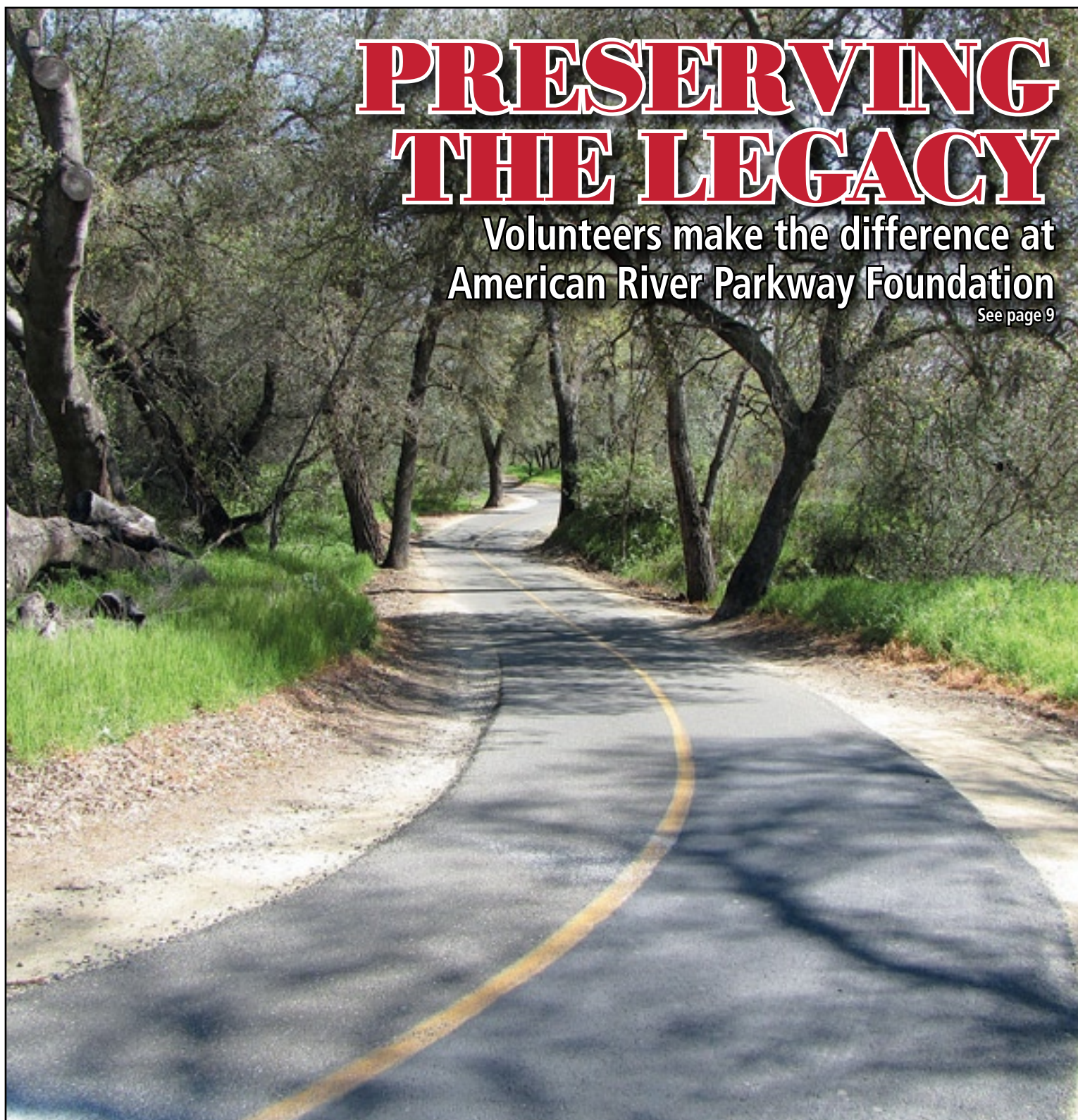
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# Cook Realty to host community 'Shred Party' April 28

By **SALLY KING**  
Arden-Carmichael News writer  
[sally@valcomnews.com](mailto:sally@valcomnews.com)

Spring is here, tax time will soon be over and it is time to clean house!

On Saturday, April 28, Cook Realty is offering to shred your confidential documents at no charge. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at located at Cook's headquarters, at 4305 Freeport Boulevard in Sacramento.

This is Cook Realty's fifth year of providing free paper shredding to the community. No appointment is necessary and there will be volunteers to assist in carrying heavy boxes.

Meena Chan, a member of Cook Realty for over 20 years, organizes this event. She says members of the community are encouraged to bring as many boxes of old documents as they want to dispose of.

"You don't want to be a victim of identity theft," Chan said. "Papers with personal information should always be shredded, not left stacked up in a garage or attic."

The realty sponsors this event twice a year. Once right before the holiday season begins in the fall and again right after tax season in the spring.

Cook Realty uses Rapid Information Destruction Services (RIDS) of Sacramento for shredding. RIDS brings a huge truck to the Cook Realty office and there is a large screen where folks can watch their papers being shredded.

"This shredder can actually shred a bowling ball," Chan said. "Don't worry about removing staples or removing the papers from binders. It shreds everything."

Computer disks, drives and old floppy disks can be shredded too. If folks don't want to take their papers out of the boxes they are stored in, it's not a problem — the whole box of papers gets dumped into the shredder.

According to RIDS, their "state of the art" high tech, high capacity mobile shredding unit has a shred rate in excess of 6,000 pounds per hour, which is equivalent to 200 standard boxes.

Chan remembers, with some humor, a man showing up last year with only a small cassette. He said "There is very important information on here." Then threw the cassette into the shredder, watched it get shredded and walked off.

Chan said people have a tendency to let their papers pile up. That is not good for several reasons. The most important reason is keeping personal information away from identity thieves. Also, too much paper piled up attracts bugs. And the paper can become a fire hazard.

Chan emphasized this is a free event to benefit the community. If anyone would like to make a freewill offering for the shredding service, however, there will be a donations box out front. Donations will go to the Cook Realty Charitable Foundation. The money received is given to various organizations such as local schools, WEAVE and the Sacramento Children's Home.

So, clean off those shelves. Gather up those piles of dusty papers and binders...and get ready to shred!



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# Carmichael's Chautauqua Playhouse celebrates 35 years

By CORRIE PELC  
Arden-Carmichael News writer  
corrie@valcomnews.com

While Carmichael may be more than 3,000 miles away from the lights of Broadway, for the past 35 years the nonprofit Chautauqua Playhouse has been bringing quality live theater to the Carmichael community.

"We are the only community theater in the Carmichael area, so it's of the utmost importance that we keep the arts alive, especially in Carmichael – we feel like we are providing a service to the community," said Warren Harrison, co-producer for the Chautauqua Playhouse.

## Great performances

Originally formed in 1975, the 95-seat Chautauqua Playhouse is currently housed inside the La Sierra Community Center. Harrison said the Playhouse specializes in "putting on quality shows that are reasonable in price for the average patron." Each season includes five shows, which are a mix of comedies, dramas and an occasional musical. Additionally, each year the Playhouse produces "Scrooge" during the holiday season, as well as a summer show.

Harrison said they try to get a mix of different types of shows each season to meet all tastes.

"Our general audience is mostly an older audience, but they also bring their families so we like to do shows that are family-oriented, that you can basically bring the kids to if you wanted to," he explained. He added that, periodically, the Playhouse will do an original show, giving the local playwrights a chance to have their works produced.

The 2011-2012 season will conclude with "The Importance of Being Earnest," which will run from May 4 to June 10. That will be followed by their summer show, "Arsenic and Old Lace," from June 22 to July 22.

## For the kids

In addition to its regular season, the Chautauqua Playhouse also features a Children's Theatre program with productions on Saturday afternoons. The 2011-2012 Children's Theatre series will end with a production of "The Prince and the Pauper" from May 12 to May 26.

Harrison said the Children's Theatre gives young theater-goers an introduction to live theater, such as in-



Photo courtesy, Chautauqua Playhouse  
QUALITY LOCAL THEATER. The Chautauqua Playhouse provides quality local theater at affordable prices. This scene is from the playhouse's recent production of "Don't Cry For Me, Margaret Mitchell."

See Chautauqua, page 5

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# Programs celebrating the 1930s in Sacramento slated at Central Library

Special to Arden-Carmichael News

The Sacramento Public Library will present its second series of Capital Decades programs in May that highlight Sacramento's culture, music, arts, and fashions of the 1930s.

All events will take place in the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria at the Central Library, which is located at 828 I Street in downtown Sacramento.

Attendees are encouraged to dress in period attire. Registration is re-

quired for each event by telephoning the library at (916) 264-2920 or visiting [www.saclibrary.org](http://www.saclibrary.org).

In addition to the series of events, there will be special 1930s displays in the Central Library lobby, featuring items from the collections of the Sacramento Room and the Sacramento Art Deco Society through May.

**City Life** (Tuesday, May 8, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.) Introduction to life in 1930s

Sacramento including industry and labor, Hoovervilles, recreation and amusements, and schools; presented by Bill Burg, James Scott, Tom Tolley and Amanda Graham.

**Fashions and Styles** (Tuesday, May 15, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.) A fashion show featuring eveningwear of the 1930s presented by Sacramento Art Deco Society president Doreen Sinclair.

**Motion Pictures** (Tuesday, May 22, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.) Movie

expert Matias Bombal will present clips from 1930s films and discuss the development of the Broadway entertainment district in Sacramento.

**Jitterbug!** (Tuesday, May 29, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.) Dance instruction from Midtown Stomp from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and a dance to follow with period music and a silent showing of a classic 1930s dance flick.

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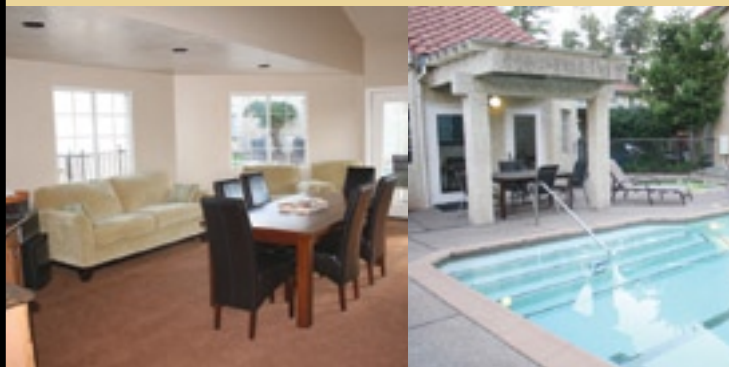
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# Chautauqua: Local playhouse provides live theater for all age groups

Continued from page 3

teraction with the actors on stage.

"It also gives the children an opportunity to learn how to behave and react in a theatrical setting as far as what's acceptable, what's not acceptable, how to sit and give your attention to a show, how to show your appreciation to the actors with laughter and applause," he added.

Harrison said children also get an opportunity after the shows to meet the actors and have autographs signed and have pictures taken with them, "so they take away an extra little memento of their day."

## Learning the craft

For kids that foster an early love for the theater and want to try their hand on the stage themselves, Chautauqua Playhouse offers the Chautauqua School of the Performing Arts with classes in voice, acting and dance for ages six to 13.

The Performing Arts school is gearing up for its summer workshops, which Harrison said this year will include five weeks of morning sessions from 9 a.m. to about noon four days a week, beginning in late June. For the first time this year, the summer session will conclude with a production by attendees of "Alice in Wonderland."

Harrison said theater education can give a number of benefits to kids.

"Theater is a very disciplined and very focused art, so they learn how to discipline themselves and they learn about memorization," he explained. "It very much socializes them because the children work on-stage as an ensemble, so it teaches them to help each other out while they're performing. I think it helps them achieve poise in front of other people and in front of an audience. But it really helps them focus on a single activity."

## V is for volunteering

As a nonprofit organization, Chautauqua Playhouse is always looking for volunteers both on and off the stage.

On the stage, each year in late May or early June, a general audition is held for those interested in trying out for acting parts in the upcoming season. The general audition allows the directors to see the actors available and make call backs as they get closer to production dates.

The Playhouse brings in volunteer actors from all over Sacramento and even beyond.

"Last year we did a show and we had three cast members from Nevada City/Grass Valley area, which was quite a drive for them but they felt it was worth it to do that," Harrison said. "Sometimes we get people from closer to the Bay Area. We get people

from Davis quite often, people from Vacaville even. Actors will go where the parts are, basically."

Or if you'd prefer to volunteer off-stage, the Playhouse is always in need of volunteers to do "just about everything" from ushering to working the technical side of their shows, such as lighting, sound and costumes. Additionally, the Playhouse is always looking for donations of items they can use on stage, such as costume pieces, vintage jewelry, furniture, and paint.

## Giving support

Overall, Harrison asks the community for their continued support by coming to their productions and spreading the word to others.

"We are so thankful and grateful to still be able to serve Sacramento and Carmichael in particular with our theater," he said. "So many theaters are going under - we have seen several good theater groups go under because of financial difficulties because of the economy. We consider ourselves very fortunate that we have such support in the community."

For more information on the Chautauqua Playhouse and to purchase tickets for upcoming shows, visit [www.cplayhouse.org](http://www.cplayhouse.org).



Photo courtesy, Chautauqua Playhouse

A CHRISTMAS TRADITION, "Scrooge" is produced by the Chautauqua Playhouse every holiday season, much to the delight of audiences.



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# Arden area World War II hero discusses his long, eventful life

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

It should not be difficult to imagine that anyone who has reached the age of 93 years would have plenty of stories to share with others. And for one 93-year-old Arden area resident, his stories draw rooms full of people, often on a weekly basis.

While sitting on a comfortable chair inside his cozy Arden area home last week, Ted Robinson met with the *Arden-Carmichael News* to tell just a few of these stories.

And after three hours of continuous, eventful story telling had passed, he asked, "So, what else would you like to know?"

Ted has fine tuned his story telling, as his monthly calendar is never far from his reach, so that he might

arrange for another public speaking engagement or check for any kind of a scheduling conflict.

He said that he averages giving more than 100 speeches per year.

JFK speeches popular  
Although Ted has prepared a variety of speeches on different topics from his life experiences, it is almost always the details about his personal World War II adventures with John F. "Jack" Kennedy that people are most eager to hear.

"When I go out to speak, who wants to hear about my grandpa?" asked Ted, who resides with his wife of 66 years, the former Caroline "Lynne" Bryer. "They want to hear about Kennedy, Kennedy, Kennedy. Everything's Kennedy. So, I give the Kennedy talks."

## Present at ramming of PT-109

Certainly many people are familiar with the story of Kennedy's heroics while serving in the U. S. Navy in the waters of the Solomon Islands during World War II.

In August 1943, the PT-109, which was under the command of Kennedy, was rammed by a Japanese destroyer and was consequently sliced in two.

As a result of this attack, Navy seamen Andrew Jackson Kirksey and Harold W. Marney were killed.

In reminiscing about his connection to Kennedy, Ted said, "I was the radar officer on the lead boat (PT-159) in the entire attack, the night he was rammed. I was standing next to the

commanding officer (Henry "Hank" Brantingham) listening to his orders. There was a chance that they never heard (the orders) because of problems with Army walkie-talkies. We couldn't use our regular radios, because the Japanese were tuned into our frequency."

In continuing his story, Ted explained that it was not until a week later that he found out that there were any survivors of the PT-109.

## 'Roommate' with JFK

Ted, who was involved in the dangerous mission that rescued Kennedy and 10 other PT-109 survivors, said that he eventually shared a tent with Kennedy in the island of Tulagi.

"I was in the same tent with Jack for about two and a half months and that's when I got to know him very well," Ted said. "I was with him when he got his orders to go home. He had malaria, he could hardly walk. He was in awful shape, but he ripped (the order) up right in front of me."

With the exception of about a week, when another officer was assigned to the tent, Ted and Kennedy were the only ones to room together in the tent during the two and a half months.

Ted described Kennedy as "very intellectual" and said that his conversations with him mostly revolved around college.

He also noted that Kennedy believed that not everyone should attend college, since people are needed for many jobs that do not require a college education.

Furthermore, he said that Kennedy was very interested in learning about the Solomon Islands natives and their customs.

On one of their days together, Kennedy and Ted took individual photographs of each other leaning on Ted's cane.

Although the cane and photographs were donated to the Smithsonian Institution last year, Ted has professional quality copies of all of these items.

Ted said that his firsthand testimonies about the truths of Kennedy's wartime experiences are very important in today's world, since "there is nobody around (except for himself) who was actually there who is sticking up for (Kennedy)."

## From fortune to poverty

Prior to his service in the war, Ted experienced the highs and lows of living in a family who underwent an extreme lifestyle change.

After being born in Seattle, Ted became a resident of Flushing, Queens, New York when he was only a month old.

His father, Wendell, died about seven months later in

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See Robinson, page 7



# Robinson: Book tour, Kennedy speaking schedule keep active senior busy

Continued from page 6

that era's great influenza pandemic.

During World War I, Wendell was the manager of W. R. Grace & Co.'s steamship lines, which was the world's second largest steamship line.

Wendell, who Ted referred to as a genius, was later called back to New York at the age of 32 to become the lines' vice president.

Ted said that his family's financial status drastically changed during the Depression.

"We went into total poverty," Ted recalled. "My mother (Lillian) had a Packard car, a chauffeur, a governess, a maid. She had everything going for her. My mother was the hostess at Carnegie Hall and she was entertaining (Enrico) Caruso, Madame (Ernestine) Schumann-Heink (and other famous entertainers). She went from that to walking in the snow door to door, trying to sell cheap greeting cards."

## Family sacrificed

Ted said that his life started to change for the better when he began attending Duke University in 1936.

"Back then, it was under \$1,000 (per year) for ev-

erything (to attend Duke)," Ted recalled. "I went there because it was cheap and we were poor. My family had to auction off their furniture to send me to Duke. My grandpa said to me, 'Son, look at my hands.' His hands were beat to a pulp. He said, 'All my life I worked with my hands for people who worked with their brains. You came out number two in Flushing High School with 4,500 students. You're going to college.' I said, 'Grandpa, how am I going to go to college? We have no money.' And he said, 'You watch.' And that's how I got to college."

Ted eventually served as president of the Northern California Duke Alumni Association in the early 1950s.

## Public speaker

Ted graduated from Duke in 1940 and after the war he began his long career with the Pacific Bell telephone company.

It was during that time that he gained much experience as a speaker, as he was the phone company's head speaker for the entire West Coast.

Ted's present speaking engagements promote his

book, "Water in My Veins: The Pauper Who Helped Save a President."

The book's title is quite appropriate considering Ted's lifelong connection to water, which includes his father's work with the steamship lines, his time in the Navy and his position as a Sacramento County parks commissioner in charge of the American River Parkway.

His water roots in America date back to his relative, James Tobey, who landed in the New World in about 1640.

## Active speaking schedule

Ted tours with his book throughout the nation, speaking at such places as the Smithsonian, the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis and Duke University.

## Adventurous as ever

Toward the end of his interview with this publication, Ted explained that despite his age, he is far from slowing down.

"I was always an adventurous kid and I still am," Ted said. "People think I'm crazy the way I live at 93. I'm still playing tournament singles tennis. I gave up skiing when my ski



Photo courtesy, Ted Robinson

WITH JFK DURING WWII. In October 1943, John F. Kennedy and Ted Robinson took individual photographs of each other leaning on Ted's cane.

partner had to give it up, because he was getting old, and he's 11 years younger than I am."

And while motioning to a ladder in his back yard, which could be seen through his liv-

ing room window, Ted said, "See that ladder? Well, I'm about to climb up it and saw off that top limb up there. And at 93, you're not supposed to be doing stuff like that. But that's nothing to me."

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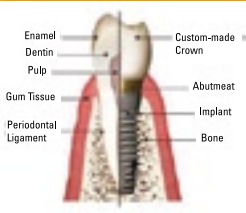


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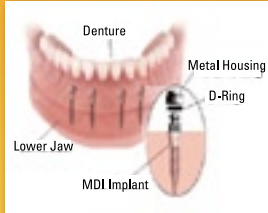
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# Kops-N-Kids summer camp fun for kids

Special to Arden-Carmichael News

Online registration is now open for the Kops-N-Kids summer camp program that teams Sacramento youth with local law enforcement.

The 2012 Kops-N-Kids summer camp runs June 18-22 at Rosemont High School at 9594 Kiefer Blvd. in Sacramento. The hours of camp are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday. The cost of the camp is only \$32 for the entire week. Bussing is available from select local school districts.

Kops-N-Kids is a non-profit organization that hosts a week-long summer sports camp for children ages 9-13 in the Sacramento area. Kops-N-Kids has provided this meaningful and enriching camp for 26 consecutive years. The focus of the camp is to educate children about gang resistance, violence prevention, gun avoidance, and to promote positive choices. Youth are given the opportunity for positive interaction with law enforcement and fire department role models.

The kids experience sports clinics, learn about life skills and anger management. Kops-N-Kids have added a new educational element addressing internet safety.

The Sacramento Police Department, in partnership with local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, businesses, civic and community organizations, takes extreme pride in this program that promotes confidence, courage and teamwork in our community's youth.

There are a limited number of spaces available. Visit the website or register online at [www.kopsnkids.com](http://www.kopsnkids.com).

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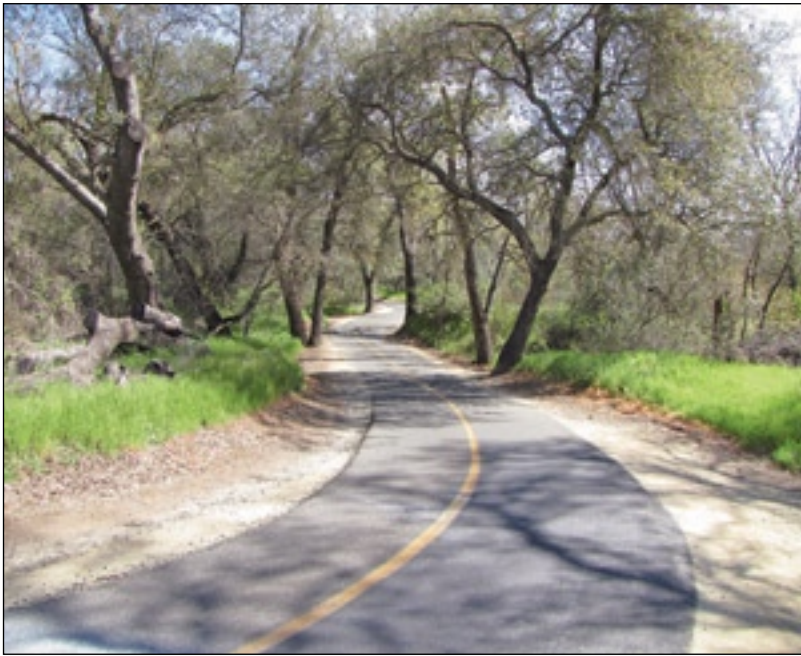
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MILES OF BIKE TRAILS are maintained and preserved by the volunteers of the American River Parkway Foundation. The foundation is dedicated to preserving the legacy of this beautiful setting through community stewardship.



OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS can enjoy native plants and the indigenous wildlife that are to be found along the American River, thanks to the volunteers at the American River Parkway Foundation. Photos courtesy, American River Parkway Foundation

## American River Parkway Foundation volunteers preserving 23 miles of land

By **BENN HODAPP**  
Arden-Carmichael News writer  
benn@valcomnews.com

With budget cuts dramatically affecting nearly every aspect of the local economy, one organization is working hard to keep a hub of outdoor activity in the Sacramento area clean and accessible for all.

The American River Parkway Foundation (ARPF) is responsible for a 23-mile stretch of the American River Parkway from Discovery Park to Hazel Ave. The organization used to be gov-

ernment funded by way of grants, but budget cuts have forced changes.

The ARPF's stretch of jurisdiction includes the William B. Pond Recreation Area in Carmichael. The ARPF's office is located just inside the park at 5700 Arden Way.

The new mission statement for the ARPF is "to support the preservation, protection, enhancement, and appreciation of the American River Parkway by fostering environmental stewardship, facilitating volunteer opportunities, and funding and implement-

ing Parkway projects and programs."

In order to make that a reality, the foundation relies heavily on volunteer involvement and individual donors. Those in charge of the ARPF are quick to credit the efforts of those volunteers.

Carla Holder, marketing and fundraising coordinator of the ARPF, discussed what it is the

foundation does and just how much community involvement has helped in keeping the parkway enjoyable for everyone.

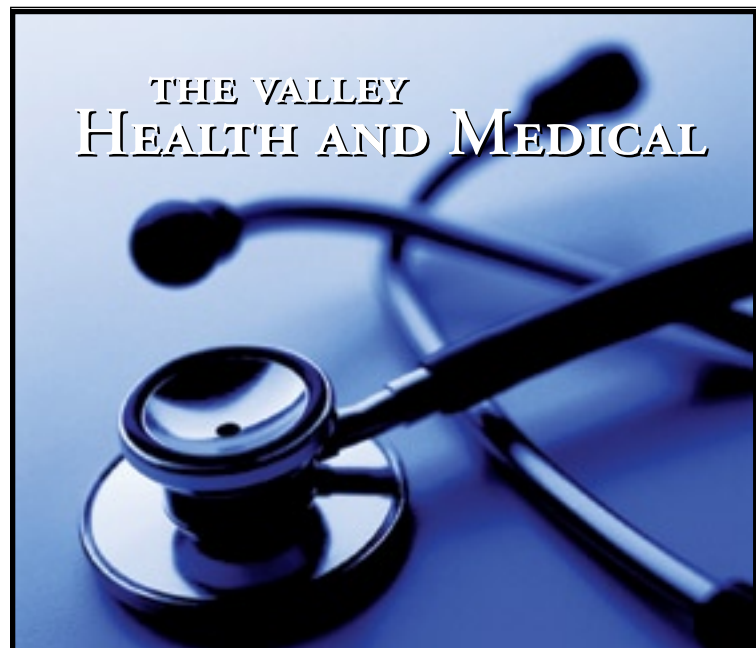
"We want to make sure that the parkway remains the crown jewel of Sacramento," Holder said. "Volunteer stewardship is huge for us."

Some of the projects that the volunteers work on include the

removal of invasive and dangerous plants, oak restoration, understory restoration, providing bags for people to pick up after their dogs, and picking up trash along the expanse.

One of the big things going on right now is the Invasive Plant Patrol program to

See Parkway, page 12



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# Parkway: Volunteers help to remove non-native plants, preserve habitat

Continued from page 9

remove dangerous plants. According to the foundation website ([www.arpf.org](http://www.arpf.org)), the plants in question use "enormous amounts of water and are actually harmful to the wildlife."

The list of harmful plants is available on the site and includes Red Sesbania, Spanish Broom, French Broom, Scotch Broom, Pampas grass, Oleander, Chinese

Tallow, Giant Reed, Pyracantha and Tamarisk. Work groups get together every other Saturday to try to lessen the grasp the plants have on the parkway.

A canoe was recently donated to the ARPF, which has allowed qualified volunteers to row out to the various islands in the river to remove the unhealthy plant life.

These work groups, which typically include 15-25 people according to Holder, put in a total of 16,349 volunteer hours in 2011. The total number of volunteers was 3,177. According to a pamphlet from the ARPF, those volunteer hours would have cost \$382,893 if they were done by paid staff.

Leigh Rutledge, a Carmichael resident for over 20 years, is one of the many people that provide their work free of charge for the foundation. She and her husband Bill have been volunteers for four years.

"My husband and I bought our home so we could be close to the parkway," Rutledge said. "We are avid runners and we

saw ads to become stewards of the parkway."

The William B. Pond Recreation Area is in Mile 13 of the 23-mile stretch, so Leigh and Bill became stewards of Mile 13.

"We are so lucky to have this parkway; it's such a gem," she added. "And it would look like a disaster without the foundation. They organize so many different things. They are such a blessing."

Rutledge encourages those not involved to do so because it is more than just walking around picking up garbage. It also has social aspects that lead to new friendships. Gatherings throughout the year allow volunteers to meet other members that they wouldn't ordinarily meet. Added Rutledge, "It's such a dedicated group of people."

The foundation encourages the whole family to come out and help on work days, though they require anyone under the age of 14 to come with a parent or guardian.

The organization, while no longer funded by government grants, does need money to do what it does. Holder, who is in charge of fundraising as part of her job, said that the ARPF has received corporate donations from REI, EcoMedia and Nestle Waters as well as donations from individuals within the Sacramento community.

As for fundraisers, one of the ARPF's biggest is coming up on April 28 in the form of the 6th Annual Parkway Half Marathon which begins in Carmichael's Williams B. Pond Recreation Area. Information about registration can be found at [www.parkwayhalf.com](http://www.parkwayhalf.com). On June 10 is the 9th Annual Rex Ride sponsored by Rex Cycles. Info for this event can be found on the foundation website [www.arpf.org](http://www.arpf.org).

Holder said that the best way to become involved with the foundation is to call the office at (916) 486-2773 and provide an e-mail address in order to receive mailers about upcoming events and work days. E-mails can also be sent to [info@arpf.org](mailto:info@arpf.org).

The foundation also sells parking passes for \$50 a year. Those who frequent the park benefit, as a one-day pass costs \$5. Membership with the ARPF begins at \$35 per year and up, depending on the level of involvement you wish to have. Information about membership is also on the website.



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Janey Way Memories:

## Wednesday Night Bingo at St. Mary's Church



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

In the mid-1950s, the good priests at St. Mary's Church decided to build a Catholic primary school (grades one through eight) adjacent to the church on 58th and M Street.

In 1956, a brand new school began operation at that location.

Unfortunately, the church had to take on debt to build the new school. So, to help pay off the loan for the school, the priests pondered alternative sources of revenue. Subsequently, they decided to host parish dinners staffed by parishioners and to have weekly cash bingo games.

Soon after, Wednesday Night Bingo started up in St. Mary's Hall.

My dad and our neighbor, Louis Viani Sr., volunteered to work at this weekly event. Louis called the numbers and Dad and others sold the bingo cards.

It took a while, but eventually Wednesday Night Bingo became quite popular. That caused a problem, not expected when the idea first surfaced.

How do you safely park all the attendees?

Consequently, the church decided to hire an enterprising young man to act as a parking attendant for the games.

That's where I came into the picture. Sensing a financial opportunity, I volunteered to take on the job.

So, on the following Wednesday, I showed up for work at 6:30 p.m. on the dot. Soon, the cars came streaming into the school yard to park. To tell you the truth, at first I was overwhelmed; but by 7:30 p.m., the bulk of the players had entered the lot and safely parked.

Phew, that was a little more than I expected. By 9:30 that evening, I happily headed home, my evening's work done, and \$10 richer.

On the next Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., I stood at my post and resumed parking the enthusiastic bingo players. It soon became my weekly routine. The bulk of the cars came early and I made sure they parked in neat rows and always left wide lanes in between the rows so cars could exit the lot safely. In case of an emergency, public safety vehicles could enter the lot unobstructed.

Typically, most of the cars entered the lot between 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. After that, I sat on my folded chair at the entrance to the lot and took it easy.

Around 8 p.m., Tiny Hansen, the off-duty police officer responsible for security, usually toured the parking lot.

When he did that, Tiny always brought me a soda pop and spent some time talking with me.

Tiny worked with my dad on the Sacramento Police Department's Detective Bureau and had great stories to tell about solving crimes and dealing with criminal offenders. Like all policemen, he started as a beat cop working the lower end of the city. In this capacity, he often had to break up fights, arrest drunken men and pursue thieves on the dark streets of lower end Sacramento where Old Sacramento now stands.

It all made for some very exiting stories to tell and I always enjoyed hearing them. Soon Tiny returned to the hall, and I resumed my parking duties.

I retained my job as a bingo parking attendant well in to the 1960s. It gave me cash for movies, swimming at Glenn Hall Pool and attending Catholic Youth Organization dances. A little extra money always came in handy.

The days of Wednesday Night Bingo at St. Mary's church have long since passed. The church eventually paid off the debt for the new school. Indian gaming rose to popularity, and the little church bingo operations all went out of business.

Now, my days of parking cars at Wednesday Night Bingo are just another financially rewarding Janey Way memory.

# Let us know

Send information about your event—including date, time, location, a brief description, cost (if any), and contact information.

E-mail Susan Laird at [susan@valcomnews.com](mailto:susan@valcomnews.com)



## Three Generations of Big Fish Stories

When I was a kid, dad and I spent weekends at the lake with Granddad. Nothing made me happier than being with these men who I idolized.

We'd fish all day and eat all night. And in between, the two of them would be "storying" non-stop. I couldn't tell if their tales (accompanied by their guffaws) were true or just sort of true. Sometimes my eyes would get big as I heard about "the big black bear that nearly stole the car," or the "snake that slept with Grandma." Sure, they taught me to hunt and fish; but they also gave me the gift of gab – the pure joy of connecting with people.

Now dad lives alone in that cabin - neighbors stop in to check on him, they say he seems lonely. He needs help with daily tasks; food prep, housework, and transportation. He's not willing to admit he needs more help than the neighbors can give.

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# Classical Masters Music Festival seeks young talent

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

The artistic and musical talent of the youth in the Sacramento region never fails to amaze adults in the audience. Young people are emerging from theater troupes such as El Dorado Musical Theatre – and making their way to Broadway in New York. Musicians like young Chase Onadera of Sacramento are playing classical guitar at Carnegie Hall at the tender age of 11.

This isn't the talent seen on school stages even as recently as 20 years ago. The bar is much, much higher today.

This rising tide of talent is due to a number of factors: excellent teachers who choose to live in the Sacramento region because they like the area, parents who personally invest in their children's extracurricular education, and members of the community

– both individuals and businesses – who provide opportunities for emerging talent to shine and be recognized.

One such venue for young people is the Classical Masters Music Festival. It was founded by Austin Lee, a 16-year old resident of Granite Bay. Lee's vision was to provide "an annual performing arts festival for young musicians in a remarkable venue within our wonderful Sacramento region." The event is held at the Three Stages Arts Center in Folsom, a part of the Los Rios Community College system.

The festival is a classical music competition for musicians ranging from ages four to 18. It includes both competitive and non-competitive categories for piano and string ensembles. Exceptional local young musicians and an international competitor will perform during the festival. Music lovers are invited

to enjoy an impressive two-day event filled with concerts, competitions and master lectures.

This year's event will be held June 9 and 10. Young people from throughout the Sacramento region and Northern California will be competing for musical prizes and recognition. There will also be master classes for music teachers, aspiring novice pianists, chamber music ensembles and advance young pianists.

The opening concert will feature two of last year's competition winners, both young and talented pianists: Dominic Pang, Category A (ages 4 – 7) winner and Christopher Son Richardson, Category B2 (ages 11 – 12) winner.

The featured guest pianist will be Yeol Eum Son, the Silver Medalist of the 13th Van Cliburn 2009 International Piano Competition and the Steven De Groote



Photo courtesy, Emmet Welch

YOUNG MUSICIANS from throughout the Sacramento region and Northern California will compete in the Classical Masters Music Festival on June 9 – 10. Applications for the completion are still being accepted. The deadline is May 1.

Memorial Award for the Best Performance of Chamber Music. A native of South Korea's Kangwon Province, she is on the list of young international artists to watch in the world of classical music.

Local youth musicians are encouraged to apply now for festival competition. There are many different categories for musicians. The application deadline is May 1.

Information on how to sign up to perform at the event is available online at [www.classicalmastersmusicfestival.org](http://www.classicalmastersmusicfestival.org).

Ticket information for those who wish to attend the festival is available at [www.threestages.net](http://www.threestages.net) or call (916) 608-6888.

Lee's vision for this event is receiving a groundswell of support from local businesses and education leaders who believe in the importance and value in the lives of young people. Having a competitor from the internationally respected Van Cliburn competition headline the event brings credibility to this event, as well.

Today's arts have come a long way. Take a moment to experience these moments in musical history. You may well find yourself saying, "I saw him/her perform years ago, back in 2012..."

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# CALENDAR

For more Calendar entries visit  
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Send your event announcement for consideration to: susan@valcomnews.com at least two weeks prior to publication.

## APRIL

### Bilingual Toastmasters

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Una oportunidad única para mejorar sus habilidades bilingües y superar el temor de hablar delante de gente con nuestro club Los Oradores Toastmasters. Improve your language skills and lose fear of speaking in front of people in Spanish and English with Los Oradores. Every Thursday/Cada Jueves 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Sutter Cancer Center 2800 L Street, Sac. Teri Bullington (916) 723-6232 teri.bullington@gmail.com, www.sacramentotoastmasters.com

### Bingo!

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Enjoy a great local charity game of bingo every Thurs. night at 6:30 p.m. Benefits projects in the community. Early bird for \$5, Regular game buy-in of \$20. Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., Sac. (916) 422-6666

### Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, year round. 8 a.m.-noon. Florin Rd. & 65th St., Sac. www.california-grown.com

### Food Addicts Anonymous

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 12-Step group for those who struggle with obesity, food obsession or eating disorders. Meets Thursdays. 9 a.m. St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 6201 Spruce Ave., Sac. (800) 600-6028.

### Living Positive with Chronic Disease group

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Meet-up group for people living with chronic disease who honor how important a positive mindset is. If you want to complain - this isn't the group for you. The group will discuss

and support: best practices for managing your condition, communication strategies, ways to laugh, have fun, engage with life and more. Free. Meets Thursdays. 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Starbucks, 1401 Alhambra Blvd., Sac. Danae Horn (503) 319-4247

### Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thurs. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freepoint Blvd., Sac. Kelly Byam (916) 684-6854.

### Sacramento Downtown Plaza

**Farmer's Market**  
April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Sacramento Downtown Plaza Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, May-Sept. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 4th & K streets, Sac. www.california-grown.com

### Sutterville Heights Optimist Club

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Come enjoy community speakers and community projects for youth. 12 noon., every Thurs. Golden Corral, 7700 W. Stockton Blvd., Sac. Charlie (916) 427-7136 or Mary-Jo at (916) 691-3059

### Ballroom Dances

April 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25: Enjoy dancing to a live band every Tuesday and Friday. 1:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m. \$5/person. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael

### Best Friend Fridays

April 27: Enjoy a fun, no-pressure, no-risk networking environment that benefits the local community non-profits. Hors d'oeuvres, wine & beer, games, raffle drawings, door prizes. Bring your best friend and make new ones. \$5 admission. Each Friday is hosted by a different non-profit group with all proceeds from the raffle donated. Garden Room and Courtyard, Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St., Sac. (916) 452-3005 www.sierra2.org

### Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown

April 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25: Come listen to an interesting guest speaker weekly; community service, serving the children of the world. Visitors welcome, first breakfast "on us." 7 a.m.-8 a.m. Fridays. 2875 50th St., UC Davis Med. Ctr., Sac. (916) 761-2124 www.eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com

### Rotary Club of Point West

April 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7 a.m., every Fri. DoubleTree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way., Sac. www.pointwestrotary.com

### Soroptimists of Sacramento

April 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25: Soroptimist International of Sacramento South, a service club for business and professional women, meets Fridays. 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sac. Barbara McDonald, (916) 363-6927

### Composting Tips, Tricks

April 28: Composting for the home gardener workshop. Learn a great way to recycle yard and some kitchen waste, improve the soil and nourish the garden. The workshop covers the basics of composting, troubleshooting compost pile problems and more. Free. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Dr., Sac. (916) 875-6913 www.ucanr.org/sacmg

### Food Addicts Anonymous

April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26: 12-Step group for those who struggle with obesity, food obsession or eating disorders. Meets Saturdays. 8 a.m. Mercy General Hospital North Auditorium, 4001 J St., Sac. (800) 600-6028.

### Health and Wellness Awareness Day

April 28: Ask a Doctor Forums: Medical professionals in the fields of internal medicine, general practice, pediatrics, rheumatology, oncology, pharmacology, physical therapy, nutrition, and more will be present. Screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, and BMI; Chi Gung (Chinese exercise); Kid's Zone with free books. Door Prizes, snacks; music. Free to the public. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Chinese Grace Bible Church, 6656 Park Riviera Way, Sac. www.chinesegracebiblechurch.org



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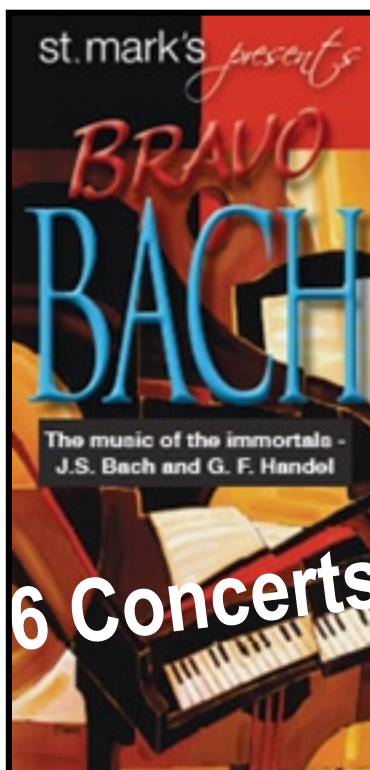
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See more Calendar, page 18

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(Info/Directions on the website)



# CALENDAR

For more Calendar entries visit  
[www.valcomnews.com](http://www.valcomnews.com)

### Sac Dreamin' Battle of the Bands

**April 28:** The Upper Eastside Lofts, a student-housing complex associated with Sac State, is hosting a benefit concert to raise money for the Sweet Dreams Foundation – which supports children diagnosed with a life-threatening disease. Donations gratefully accepted. Live music, interactive games, raffles, more. 1 p.m.–6 p.m. Angel Nazir (916) 505-7068 [Angel.Nazir@gmail.com](mailto:Angel.Nazir@gmail.com)

### Carmichael Farmer's Market

**April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27:** Carmichael Farmer's Market. 8 a.m.–1 p.m., every Sun. Year round, rain or shine. Carmichael Park, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael. [www.bemoncysmartusa.org](http://www.bemoncysmartusa.org)

### Co-Dependents Anonymous

**April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27:** 12-Step group for those who struggle to maintain healthy relationships. Meets Sundays. 2 p.m. Heritage Oaks Hospital, 4300 Auburn Blvd., Rm.101, Sac (866) 794-9993.

### Community Sunday breakfast

**April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast of eggs Benedict, corned beef hash, Joe's scramble, pancakes and more. 8:30 a.m.–11 a.m., every Sun. \$9. Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. (at Florin Rd.), Sac. Proceeds benefit student scholarships. [www.elks6.com](http://www.elks6.com)

### Families Anonymous

**April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27:** Meet with other parents who are dealing with a daughter or son who is experiencing mental, emotional or addition problems. Meets every Sunday without fail. 3 p.m. Del Norte Swimming and Tennis Club, 3040 Beccera Way, Sac. Jane (916) 402-2465

### State Parking Lot Farmer's Market

**April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27:** State Parking Lot Farmer's Market. Every Sunday, year round. 8 a.m.–noon. 8th & W streets, under Highway 50, Sac. [www.california-grown.com](http://www.california-grown.com)

### Sunday Support for the Widowed

**April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27:** The Widowed Persons Assn. sponsors Sunday Support sessions which are held every Sunday, rain or shine – holidays included. 3 p.m.–5 p.m. 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste. D-18 (east of Fulton). Widows and widowers welcome. Barbara Stewart (916) 363-3482

### Hatha yoga

**April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28:** Align the body through breathing techniques, postures and deep relaxation. 3 p.m.–4 p.m. Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St., Sac. (916)808-5462. Meets every Mon. Repeats Wed., Fri.

### Nicotine Anonymous

**April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28:** Nicotine Anonymous meeting. Meets every Monday, 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 N St., Sac. Brandi Bowman (916) 984-3501

### Rotary Club of South Sacramento

**April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 11:30 a.m., every Mon. Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sac. [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

### Tai Chi & Chi Keung

**April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28:** Chinese exercise combines specific movements and relaxation. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St., Sac. Meets every Mon. (916) 808-5462

### Toastmasters

**April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28:** Have fun while improving speaking & leadership skills. Klassy Talkers Toastmasters. 7 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Mondays. Executive Airport, 6151 Freeport Blvd., Sac. Ann Owens (916) 601-4652 [www.klassytalkers.freetoasthost.org](http://www.klassytalkers.freetoasthost.org)

### MAY

### Fremont Park Farmer's Market

**May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29:** Fremont Park Farmer's Market. Every Tuesday, May–Sept. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 16th & P streets, Sac. [www.california-grown.com](http://www.california-grown.com)

### POWERtalk International

**May 1, 5:** Want to improve your public speaking and presentation skills? POWERtalk International, a nonprofit public speaking organization, provides coaching in leadership skills, sales presentation, interviewing, confidence building and more. Meets First Tuesdays of the month 10 a.m.–1 p.m. and First Saturdays of the Month 12 noon–3 p.m. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd., Sac. Liz Richardson (916) 208-9163, [erichardson1202@yahoo.com](mailto:erichardson1202@yahoo.com) [www.powertalkinternational.com](http://www.powertalkinternational.com)

### Roosevelt Park Farmer's Market

**May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29:** Roosevelt Park Farmer's Market. Every Tuesday, May–Sept. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 9th & P streets, Sac. [www.california-grown.com](http://www.california-grown.com)

### Rotary Club of Arden-Arcade

**May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 12 noon, every Tues. Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave., Sac. (916) 925-2787, [www.ardenarcaderotary.org](http://www.ardenarcaderotary.org)

### Rotary Club of Carmichael

**May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 6 p.m., every Tues. Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael. [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

# – EVENT LISTING SECTION –

Advertise your craft fairs, holiday bazaars, school fundraises, church events, etc. in your Community Newspapers.  
 Call (916) 429-9901 for rates.

### Health and Wellness Fair

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- Screenings: Blood Pressure, Hearing, BMI
- Bone Marrow Drive
- Tai Chi / Chi Gung (Chinese Exercise)
- Kid Zone, Prizes, Refreshments

[www.chinesegracebiblechurch.org](http://www.chinesegracebiblechurch.org)



### FREE LUNCHEON SEMINAR

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Tuesday, May 22 – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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Faces and places

# Creek Week 2012 Work Party and Celebration April 14

Story and Photos by **BILL CONDRAY**  
Arden-Carmichael News photographer  
bill@valcomnews.com

The annual Creek Week Clean Up started off in multiple locations in Sacramento County on April 14.

The annual cleanup of a section of Arcade Creek was led by Andy Borovansky. That morning, some 25 volunteers gathered at the Staples Parking Lot on Sunrise Blvd., north of Greenback Lane.

Armed with rakes, shovels, grabbers, gloves – and careful to avoid the abundant poison oak – the volunteers were amazed by the items they removed from the creek: bottle caps, plastic bottles, grocery carts, a sofa and more. A truckload of “Gunk and Junk” was pulled out in two hours.

After the cleanup, the volunteers went to Carmichael Park, where a huge celebration was tak-

ing place for all the volunteers. Many Creek Week sponsors also had displays set up for everyone to browse, gain information and take part in. The Disney Channel AM 1430 kept the crowd entertained with songs, dances and games for the younger set tailored toward being “Green” and preserving nature. The volunteers consumed hot dogs, water or soft drinks, chips and cookies

which were served by the Lions Club, in addition to getting their “T” shirts for their volunteering efforts.

Some of the volunteer teams brought in their “Gunk and Junk” and were awarded prizes for their imaginative efforts in making something out of what they pulled out of the creek in their cleaning section.

A good time was had by all.

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