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# ARDEN-CARMICHAEL NEWS

May 23, 2013

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• CLASS OF MMXIII •

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## The Duck Dash set for June 15 at Raging Waters

Do you know what they call a group of ducks on water? A paddling...and you can adopt your very own!

Whether your paddling has two ducks or a dozen, they are excited to be adopted and are ready to dash against thousands of others to benefit the Child Life Program at Sutter Children's Center, Sacramento.

Thousands of rubber ducks race in the Callypo Cooler, an 800-foot-long lazy river, at Raging Waters Sacramento at Cal Expo on Saturday June 15 at 5 p.m. There are GREAT prizes for the top five finishers.

Funds raised by The Duck Dash will be used to start music therapy services in the Child Life Program at Sutter Children's Center, Sacramento. Music Therapists use a variety of techniques that have been proven to be effective in helping children and adolescents reach a wide range of goals through music. Activities and techniques include listening to live music, songwriting, singing, live music making and improvisation, song lyric analysis, and/or guided relaxation.



The Duck Dash is owned and operated by Donut Dash, a registered 501(c)3. Tax ID 27-1671648

Website: <http://www.TheDuckDash.com/>

Editor's note: See the next issue for a profile on the music therapists who will be working at Sutter with the funds raised from this event.

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## Rain not a deterrent on National Walk and Bike to School Day

Even though it started to sprinkle early Wednesday, May 8 in Sacramento, many students and teachers still put their helmets on, hopped on their bikes and rode to school as part of National Walk and Bike to School Day. The event is held throughout schools across the country and promotes healthy habits, a clean environment, safety and the enjoyment of riding a bicycle!

Students and staff at Arden Middle School spread the word throughout the week to encourage friends and other staff members to put their walking shoes on and pedal to school.

"It reduces traffic and congestion in the parking lot, it's fun and it promotes safety," Arden Middle School Vice Principal

Jeff Banks said. "Last year we had more than 150 students and about 15 adults participate. The staff really likes to set good examples for the kids, plus this gives students a chance to explore all of the safe routes to school."

Eighth grade pals Noah Wallace, Jessop Tiedeken and Erik Jensen all met up at the bike rack twenty minutes before school started Wednesday morning.

"I rode my bike to school today because it's National Ride to School day today," student Jessop Tiedeken said. "He (Erik) is really trying to get me to ride my bike. I've been lazy lately."

"It's definitely better to ride your bike because your bike doesn't run on gas," student Noah Wallace said. "The

more you walk or bike to school the less carbon emissions you're emitting into the earth's atmosphere."

"It's fun," student Erik Jensen said. "It keeps up the cardiovascular workout, it's better than taking a car and this way I'm not too lazy."

School librarian Joan Tully lives about a mile away

from Arden Middle School. She walks to work at least four times a week. Today she said she saw an increase of students pedaling by on her early morning route.

"I saw about five kids pass me on my way in this morning," Tully said. "Normally I see one, so I'm glad they are participating."

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Will Peters



Victor Amador

**Commencement to be held Saturday, May 25**

Jesuit High School will be celebrating their 47th Commencement on Saturday, May 25, 2013 at the Memorial Auditorium beginning at 10:00 a.m. A live broadcast of the ceremony will be available on their website at [www.jesuihighschool.org](http://www.jesuihighschool.org) <<http://www.jesuihighschool.org>> . There are 250 members in this year's Senior Class.

For the first time in the school's history, the same individual was selected for both the Valedictorian and Ignatian Awards, the two highest awards given at Graduation.

Accolades for Will Peters.  
In 2011 he was part of the Drama Team that wrote Imago Dei: Journeys of Courage, Hope & Home. The play, commissioned by the Jesuit Refugee Service USA, has since been performed in Ohio, Alabama, Chicago and New York City.

Peters has been part of eight drama productions while at Jesuit. He has served as a peer mentor and tutor and has performed Christian Service at St. John's Shelter Program for Women and Children, Challenge Soccer and served on an immersion trip to Nicaragua and El Salvador last summer. Peters was a member of the Jesuit Campus Ministry Core Team, a member of the Senior Retreat Team, performed in the Liturgical Choir and also serves as a Youth Group Leader at his parish. He will be attending the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts this fall.

Victor Amador was awarded the honor of Salutatorian. An Eagle Scout, Amador will be attending the University of Portland this fall. He received the National Hispanic Scholar Honorable Mention Award earlier this year and has served as the Religious Coordinator for Jesuit. In addition to Advanced Placement and Honors Courses, Amador served this past year as a Big Brother, a Kairos (Senior Retreat) Leader, performed as a member of the Liturgical Choir and was a member of the Peace & Justice Club. Amador was also cast in the production Move 2 and served on an immersion trip to Nicaragua and El Salvador last summer.



# ✦ RIO AMERICANO'S GRADUATING CLASS ✦

- |                       |                        |                       |                         |                         |                         |                     |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Bethany Abad          | Olivia Carreon         | John Ferrannini       | Ramsey Karim            | Blaire Murray           | Alex Rizzo              | Igor Timofeyev      |
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| Juliza Aguilar        | Emmanuel Castaneda     | Haley Fogarty         | Christopher Khan        | Alejandro Najera        | Panagiotis Roditis      | Tamara Traud        |
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| Victor Ariza Sims     | Taylor Coggeshall      | Shayan Gheisar        | Kevin Nguyen            | Kevin Nguyen            | Amir Sahit              | Jules Vargas        |
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# SPORTS

## Sac State wrestling club reaches great success

By BENN HODAPP  
benn@valcomnews.com

After dropping its wrestling team in 1983, Sac State took a 28-year hiatus before returning as a club sports team in 2011. Just two years later, the team is making noise on a national level.

The 2012-13 version of the team competed in more than 20 competitions between August 2012 and March 2013, a grueling task for athletes already balancing classes, work, practices and social lives. It's one thing to compete, it's another to excel.

After finishing third in the 10-team West Coast Conference at the 2013 conference finals, excelling is just what the team is doing. Many of those other nine schools have established wrestling teams that were competing long before Sac State wrestling made its comeback. In the past two years the team has qualified six wrestlers for the national championships.

Coach August Wesley outlined just how the team has achieved that success in such a short period of time.

"There aren't many other places around here where student athletes can wrestle," said Wesley. "You can go to San Francisco State, but can you afford to live in San Francisco? You can go to Stanford, but can you get into Stanford? Sac State is a great place for local wrestlers to go and compete because they can stay close to home if they choose to and still wrestle in a competitive environment."

Last year's team fielded a total of 38 wrestlers at different points in the year, according to Wesley. Only 10 wrestlers compete at a given meet, but injuries, eligibility issues, graduations, and other roadblocks made it difficult to field the same 10 at all times, but the team made due.

"Life sometimes gets in the way of sports and I understand that," said Wesley. "Everybody contributes in dif-



Photo by Chris Hunkeler

On the mat at semi finals, shown here is Conner Murray versus USC.

ferent ways when they are available."

The wrestling team is funded by club sports at Sac State, and costs are very minimal (\$20-25). There are two tiers of the team and no one who wishes to join is turned away. The first tier is for students who want to come in and have some fun and learn wrestling recreationally. The competitive tier is for the more serious wrestlers who want to travel and compete.

Since its inception in 2011, the team has gotten the word out about the wrestling team largely from word of mouth. Wesley also sets up a booth during Club Rush in the Student Union with information about the team.

"Not many people know that we have a wrestling team," Wesley said. "We want people to know that we're here and we're good."

Good may be an understatement, as in 2012 the team was awarded with the

Most Successful Team award as well as the Sac State Coach of the Year award for

See Wrestling, page 11

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# CRPD administrator to retire May 31

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
Lance@valcomnews.com

Carmichael Recreation and Park District Administrator Jack Harrison will be retiring – again – on the last day of this month.

Harrison, 70, who retired from the state in 2000, continued to work for another 13 years, during which time he became the district's administrator.

But for Harrison, he intends his upcoming retirement to be his last, as he leaves his leadership post content with a job well done and much anticipation for his future.

While sitting in his office last week, Harrison discussed details about his life, with his focus being his many years of employment.

Harrison, who was born and raised in Los Angeles by his parents, Jack, Sr. and Dorothy, was one of four children.

In 1961, the year after he graduated from Norwalk High School in Los Angeles County, Harrison obtained part-time employment with the Southeast Recreation and Park District in the Norwalk area.

Four years later, he graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a bachelor's degree in parks and recreation management.

And shortly after leaving that university, Harrison began working full time at the same Southern California park district.

He left that job in 1969 to become the director of parks and recreation for the Orange County city of Tustin, which then had a population of about 40,000.

In commenting about that position, Harrison said, "To become a director of a department at only 25 years of age was pretty special for me. Most directors have

quite a bit more experience. So, I was very delighted to become a director at that young age. And that community was in need of building some parks, because they had grown rapidly and they didn't have as many parks as they should have for the size of population. So, we were successful in working with the community to get a park bond act passed by the voters for, as I recall, about \$2 million, which was used to buy land and build four new parks. Three of the four (parks) were developed during the four years that I was (a director in Tustin)."

Following his time in Tustin, Harrison began performing private consulting work in park planning with a major firm in Southern California.

And a year later, in 1974, he moved to the Sacramento area to assist in park plan-



During his retirement years, Jack Harrison plans to spend more time with his family and participating in recreational activities. Photo by Lance Armstrong

See Retires, page 9

# Retires: Harrison retired from the state in 2000

Continued from page 8

ning in Northern California for the same firm.

Harrison received a master's degree in public administration at Golden Gate University in San Francisco in 1976.

During the same year, he was hired by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

In describing that position, Harrison said, "My job there was to manage the park acquisition, planning and development program, in other words to buy properties for new state parks, be responsible for planning what's going to happen with those sites and then to see the construction through."

In 1982, Harrison returned to the consulting field to perform park planning, design and consulting work. But this time, he worked for himself, as he established his own firm.

About a year later, he became the executive director of the California Parks and Recreation Society, which is the professional membership organization for people who work in public parks and recreation in California.

With the society, Harrison performed such duties as promoting parks and recreation at the state Capitol, working to provide training for members and conducting an annual conference.

Harrison said that he was once again working for the

California Department of Parks and Recreation in 1987.

"I got appointed by Gov. (George) Deukmejian as chief deputy director of California State Parks," Harrison said. "I was very excited about doing that (position), because I had worked for the department five years before. I (had) specifically only worked in the area of land acquisition and park development, and this position was to be responsible for all the field operations for the 285 state parks in California. So, it was a much bigger responsibility. It was a statewide responsibility, the rangers, the public safety program, the historians, the archaeologists, all the various specialties. I was responsible for everything that happened in the state parks."

Five years after taking that position, Harrison became the director of the state Department of Social Services.

And as previously mentioned, Harrison retired from his employment with the state in 2000.

Despite his retirement, Harrison returned to performing consulting work, which then mostly consisted of serving as interim director in various agencies that were seeking a permanent, long-term director.

During that time, Harrison worked as an interim director

for Marin County and the cities of Lodi and Merced.

An interim director position was made available in Carmichael in February 2006, and Harrison filled that vacancy.

The Carmichael district hired Harrison as its full-time administrator about

nine months later, at which time he discontinued his consulting work.

In reminiscing about his time as the district's administrator, Harrison said, "I've lived in the community since 1974, so I've been a part of this community. And to work in the community in which

I've lived for a long time has been special. I have a lot of friends and I enjoy the staff that I work with here at the district and the board. They're all very dedicated and we're all on the same page. We've accomplished some good things

See Harrison, page 15

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Semi finals pound Caleb Mack versus USC.



At NCWA Nationals in Dallas, from the left August Wesley, Casey Rubinoff, Caleb Mack, Jeremy Santos

### Wrestling: 2013 season begins August

Continued from page 7

Wesley at the Sac State All Sports Banquet last May. Not to mention the National Collegiate Wrestling Association (NCWA) University State Championship that the team currently holds.

The most recent team won several awards at this year's banquet, which was held May 4. Wesley

won "Coach of the Year", Caleb Mack won "Male Athlete of the Year" and Stacy Gizzo won "Team Officer of the Year."

"We were all very shocked and honored," wrote Wesley via email. "Sacramento State University's teams and sport clubs are all very active being competitive on campus

and at regional and national competitions.

"It's very humbling to be selected as award recipients in these areas because I feel we work just as hard as every other team. In two competitive seasons we received five awards. Wow, we set high expectations for our team and continuously work towards individual goals along the way."

Things are looking pretty good for the future of the team as well. Wesley

has recruited two high school state champions to grapple for his squad in 2013. Practices are held in the wellness center (called The Well) at Sac State on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8-10 p.m. Practices are open for anyone with a OneCard.

The 2013 season begins in August. For more information on how to join the 2013 squad, students are urged to visit The Well on the Sac State campus.

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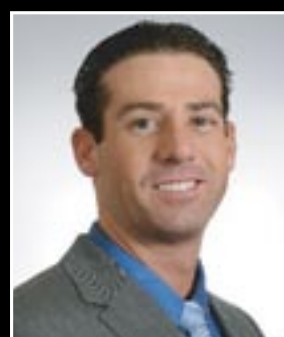
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Man with dog—Clipart © Microsoft Media

## Harrison: 'It's time to let someone else take the reigns'

*Continued from page 9*

in the community. So, it's been very rewarding. I've enjoyed being part of progress and seeing good things happen in the community. It's sad to walk away from that, but I'm still involved in the community. I'm currently vice president of the Kiwanis Club (of Carmichael). I'm a volunteer for Mercy Hospice and I have a lot of outdoor interests I'd like to pursue like tennis, biking (and) fishing. I also have a lot of projects that I'd like to do at home, and most importantly, I have two granddaughters in the area who I look forward to spending more time with. I also want to volunteer more in the community."

He added that he may also play golf on a regular basis with a group of retired park professionals, and assist the district with some projects, if he is presented with such opportunities.

Harrison, who is also a member of the Carmichael-Old Foothill Farms community Planning Advisory Council, referred to some of the district's greatest accomplishments under his direction.

One of these accomplishments was the development of Jan Park at 4310 Jan Avenue, O'Donnell Heritage Park at 6618 Rappahan-

nock Way and Patriots Park at 6827 Palm Ave.

Other accomplishments included the establishment of a new master plan for the district, the acquisition of a grant to demolish the Carmichael Park pool and the placement of the reader board along Fair Oaks Boulevard at Carmichael Park.

Harrison, who will celebrate his 50th wedding anniversary next June with his wife, Nancy, emphasized that he is very appreciative of the support that District 3 Supervisor Susan Peters has provided to the district during his term.

"(Peters) has been actively involved to support us in every turn on everything that we've tried to do here that's positive," Harrison said. "So, Supervisor Peters deserves credit for a lot of progress that the park district has made during the seven years that I've been here."

Although he said that he will miss serving as the district's administrator, Harrison added that he felt that after dedicating so many years to that position, it was time for him to take a different direction in his life and allow someone else to replace him at the district office.

"It's time to let someone else take the reigns," Harrison said.

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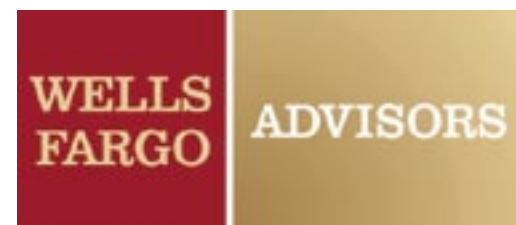
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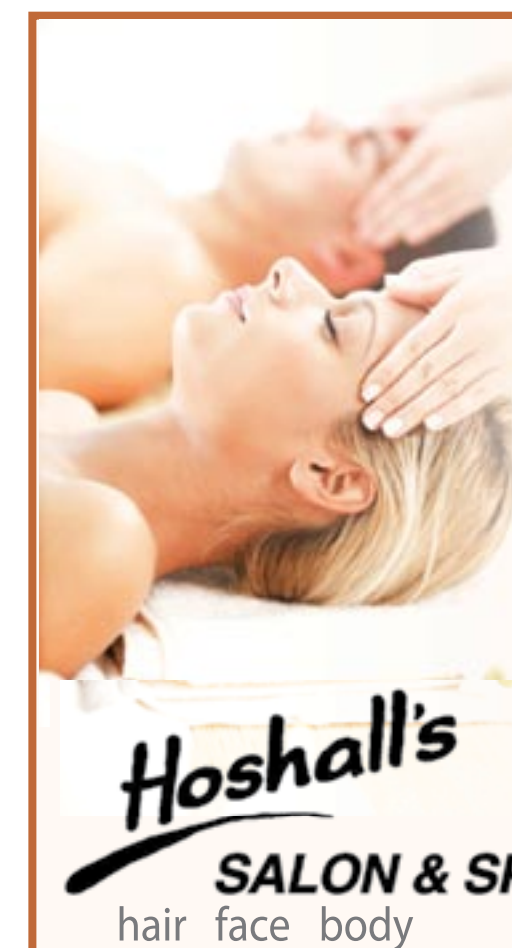
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# ARTS

## Chautauqua Playhouse presents Jerry Herman's 'Showtune'

Chautauqua Playhouse, in association with Sutter Street Theatre in Folsom, is now showing "Showtune", a musical revue conceived by Paul Gilger and featuring the songs of Broadway composer Jerry Herman at the Playhouse. The show will run on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through June 16. The performances will be held at the Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Rd. in the La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael. Admission is \$21 general and \$19 students, seniors, children and SARTA members.

After the initial six week run at Chautauqua Playhouse, the show will move to the Sutter Street Theatre in Folsom for an additional four week run.

Visit the wonderful, musical world of Jerry Herman, composer of the scores of *Hello, Dolly!*, *Mame*, *Mack and Mabel*, *La Cage aux Folles*, and many other popular shows. This fast paced revue takes you on a tuneful journey featuring forty of Herman's greatest songs. Sure to bring an enjoyable end to the season.

The production is directed and staged by Warren Harrison, with additional choreography by Connie



Photo courtesy  
Pictured is the cast of "Showtune." From the left: Dian Hoel, Dan Barrett, Chris Cay Stewart, Warren Harrison, Leah Sharer, Brady Tait.

Mockenhaupt. Lighting design is by Don Myers. The cast includes Dian Hoel, Chris Cay Stewart, Leah Sharer, Brady Tait, Dan Barrett and Warren Harrison.

Information and tickets are available through the Chautauqua Playhouse website: [www.cplayhouse.org](http://www.cplayhouse.org) or call the box office at 489-7529, during business hours.

## Artistic Edge Gallery features the female form theme show

By Alicia O'Hara

Locally owned and family operated, Artistic Edge Gallery is featuring a unique theme show of The Female Form. The show opened May 1 and will be showing until June 30.

### About The Female Form Theme Show

The beauty of the female body has been a popular subject for artists for centuries and Artistic Edge Gallery has brought together several of Sacramento's established local artists to offer Sacramento residents unique perspectives of the female form.

The featured artists will present a wide variety of mediums in modern and classical styles that include contemporary paintings, sculptures and traditional wood carvings. Local participating artists include; Claudia Hiles, Lakan Ilaw (ilaw), Renne Lohofener, Joan Marie, Jim Marxen, Linda Nunes, Kim Page, Michael Bookout and Robin Tomlinson.

Featured artist Joan Marie will move you with her expressions of beauty and healing energies in soft flows of color drawing their audience into a sacred feminine silence.

Featured artist Linda Nunes returns to Artistic Edge Gallery to inspire her audience once again. Linda connects a traditional past with a modern present as she combines the classic encaustic medium with contemporary vintage elegance.

Featured artist Jim Marxen's contemporary style created a perfect balance of masculine and feminine with his use of bold lines and strong color that soften into the natural positions and movements of the female body.

Join Artistic Edge Gallery for their Second Saturday Reception for the unique opportunity to meet the local featured artists.

To learn more about the Artistic Edge Gallery, Second Saturday Reception, contact Kathy Caitano at 482-2787 or [artistic.edge@hotmail.com](mailto:artistic.edge@hotmail.com)

Artistic Edge is located at 1880 Fulton Ave., Sacramento, [www.artisticedgeframing.com](http://www.artisticedgeframing.com)



Photos courtesy of Artistic Edge (top left) Vintage Lady by Linda Nunes (Encaustic on Wood)

(top right) At the Beach by Jim Marxen (Acrylic on Canvas)

(left) Emerald Queen by Robin Tomlinson (Mixed Media on Canvas)

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# CALENDAR

Send your event announcement for consideration to: editor@valcomnews.com at least two weeks prior to publication.

**MAY**

**California Youth Basketball League now registering for summer**  
CYBL is currently registering for the summer 2013 season. Games begin June 24-July 19. Boys and girls ages 4-18, 391-3900, www.cybhoops.com

**Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven**  
May 23: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freepoint Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

**Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown meeting**  
May 23: Visitors welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7 a.m. and dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. Topical weekly speakers and first meal for visitors on us. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/ 50th St & Broadway) 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA

95817. www.eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com, 761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

**Taking Care of the Caregiver at Belle Cooledge**  
May 24: Open discussion deals with strategies to open communication, learn about advocacy and ways to deal with the stress of caregiving from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Belle Cooledge Library, 264-2920 5600 S Land Park Dr, Sacramento.

**Esquire Imax Theatre Blood Drive**  
May 24: From noon to 5 p.m., donate blood, get a free movie pass to any film at the Esquire Imax Theatre. Located on Bloodmobiles in front of the Esquire Imax Theatre at 1211 K. St. For more information, contact Kathy at 453-3044 or kathy.ullerich@bloodsource.org. Please eat and drink plenty of fluids and bring photo ID.

**Bi-Polar Anonymous**  
May 24: Free 12-step program/support group, for people who have Bi-Polar and those who love them. Meets every Friday, 7-8:30 p.m. 4300 Auburn Blvd., Room 106, (916) 889-5786.

**Centennial Methodist Church yard sale**  
May 25: Yard sale and car wash from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 5401 Freepoint Blvd. 452-4477.

**Wine, Tunes and Classic**  
May 25: Lake County Winegrape Commission to Host Wine Tasting in Sacramento Wines, Tunes, & Classics from 3 to 7 p.m. at the California Automobile Museum, a Lake County wine, music, and classic car event. \$40. For information about the California Automobile Museum and its upcoming events, visit www.calautomuseum.org.

**Free golf lessons offered at Bing Maloney Golf Center**  
May 26: Are you interested in starting to play golf, but not sure where to begin? Bing Maloney is offering Free Family Clinics for 2013. These clinics are family oriented for any level of golfer. Each clinic will be held on Sundays from 1 to 2:15 p.m. at the Bing Maloney Golf Course: 6801 Freepoint Blvd. in Sacramento. Call 808-2283 for more information.

**Rotary Clubs of Arden-Arcade, Carmichael**  
May 28: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome, every Tuesday. Arden-Arcade meets at noon, Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave. (916) 925-2787. Carmichael meets at 6 p.m., Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd. www.rotary.org.

**Capital Decades: 1940s motion pictures**  
May 28: Local film historian Matias Bombal will share film clips and discuss the movie-going experience of the 1940s, starting at 6 p.m. Central Library, 828 I St., Sacramento. 264-2920, www.saclibrary.org.

**East Sac Rotary**  
May 29: Meets at 6 p.m., Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St. Sacramento. www.eastsacrotyary.com.

**Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven**  
May 30: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freepoint Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

**Bi-Polar Anonymous**  
May 31: Free 12-step program/support group, for people who have Bi-Polar and those who love them. Meets every Friday, 7-8:30 p.m. 4300 Auburn Blvd., Room 106, (916) 889-5786.

**Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown meeting**  
May 31: Visitors welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7 a.m. and dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. Topical weekly speakers and first meal for visitors on us. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/ 50th St & Broadway)

2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817. www.eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com, 761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

**WW2 aircraft on display at McClellan**  
May 31-June 2: The Collings Foundation will be bringing their authentic WWII era B-17 and B-24 aircraft for display, tours, and flights at McClellan Airforce Base. See http://www.collingsfoundation.org/menu.htm for more information.

**Used Book Sale at Belle Cooledge**  
May 29-June 1: Used book sale will be held at Belle Cooledge Library. 264-2920. Check website for daily hours - www.saclibrary.org 5600 S Land Park Dr, Sacramento.

**Ice cream and Vic's**  
May 31: From 6-8 p.m., come enjoy ice cream from Vic's, be entertained and sign up for summer reading. Belle Cooledge Library and Park. 264-2920. 5600 S Land Park Dr, Sacramento.

**JUNE**

**Pops in the Park presents Tom Rigney & Flambeau at East Portal Park**  
June 1: Free music event, starting at 6 p.m.

# Your Home Improvement Guide

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# CALENDAR

## SMUD presents free workshop, Home Energy Efficiency Expo

**June 1:** The event will show you how to operate your home efficiently and comfortably, and give you the chance to talk to SMUD experts on rebates, incentives, and other ways to reduce your bills. Product vendors, contractors, retailers, and energy experts will be on hand to provide answers to any questions about how to reduce energy use in homes while improving quality and comfort. Workshop goes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 1-888-742-SMUD (7683), 6301 S Street, Sacramento

## Huge Annual Flea Market/Rummage Sale

**June 1:** From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., find unique items, books, household, collectibles, plants, food and more. Plus vendors with flea market and boutique items at the Parkside Church Annual Flea Market and Rummage Sale. Parkside Community Church is located at 5700 S. Land Park Drive (corner of 35th Ave and S. Land Park Dr).

## Sacramento's "foodscape" celebrated at Sacramento's Central Library

**June 1:** Enjoy a day of tasting food and learning how and where it is locally grown and prepared at the Grow, Cook, Savor event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria at the Central Library, 828 I St. Tickets are \$25 each with proceeds benefiting the library. For more information and to buy tickets, contact Maryellen Burns or Elaine Corn at wearewhereat@me.com, 768-6077, or www.we-are-where-we-eat.com.

## Eskaton Monroe Lodge to celebrate 40 years

**June 1:** Forty-year celebration to include a classic car show, barbecue, live band, art show and more 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 3225 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento.

## Kiwanis Art Fiesta at Pavilions

**June 1-2:** Sacramento Suburban Kiwanis is excited to announce its new location for the Town & Country Art Fiesta held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. In June 2013 you're invited to celebrate with us in the beautiful Pavilions shopping center at 563 Pavilions Lane off of Fair Oaks Boulevard near Howe Avenue in Sacramento. This family friendly event attracts thousands of art lovers from across our region and serves as the main fundraising

event for our Kiwanis club. Admission and parking are free. Come find your favorite artists, peruse beautiful works of glass, pottery, jewelry, paintings, photography, metalwork and more. www.KiwanisArtFiesta.org

## Rotary Clubs of Arden-Arcade, Carmichael

**June 4:** Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome, every Tuesday. Arden-Arcade meets at noon, Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave. (916) 925-2787. Carmichael meets at 6 p.m., Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd. www.rotary.org.

## Soroptimist International of Sacramento North meeting

**June 4:** An organization for the betterment of women and children meets at the atria El Camino Gardens at 2426 Garfield, Carmichael. Call Sheila at 624-4643.

## East Sac Rotary

**June 5:** Meets at noon, Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St. Sacramento. www.eastsacrotrary.com.

## Art for All - Paper Food Collage at Belle Cooleedge Library

**June 5:** Starting at 3:30 p.m., projects for young children, tweens, teens and adults. For more information visit <http://www.saclibrary.org> or call 264-2920. Belle Cooleedge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr.

## Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

**June 6:** Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

## Twilight Thursday at the Zoo

**June 6:** Zoo open until 8 p.m. Enjoy warm summer nights at the Sacramento Zoo with extended hours. The Zoo is open from 9am to 8pm for your whole family to enjoy. Dinner specials, live music and activities start at 5 pm. Regular daily admission rates apply. General admission is \$11.25. Children ages 2-11 are \$7.25. Children under one are free. For more information call 808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.

## The California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch meeting

**June 7:** The California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch's Writers Network presents Harry Leman whose topic at the break-

fast is "Marketing with a Facebook Business Page." He will present a Business Facebook Page (Timeline); show how easy it is to get started; point out some areas that may be overlooked; demonstrate posting events and pictures; and give pointers for getting noticed by Google and other search engines, no matter what your product or service is. The CWC Writers Network is held the first Friday of the month at the International House of Pancakes (IHOP), 2216 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova, 9 a.m. Meetings are free. Attendees pay for their own breakfast.

## Bi-Polar Anonymous

**June 7:** Free 12-step program/support group, for people who have Bi-Polar and those who love them. Meets every Friday, 7-8:30 p.m. 4300 Auburn Blvd., Room 106. (916) 889-5786.

## Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown meeting

**June 7:** Visitors welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7 a.m. and dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. Topical weekly speakers and 'first meal for visitors on us'. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/50th St & Broadway) 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817. www.eastacmidtownkiwanis.com, 761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

## Pops in the Park presents Mercy Me at Glenn Hall Park

**June 8:** Free music event starting at 6 p.m.

## Old Sugar Mill debuts Second Saturday reception

**June 8:** Old Sugar Mill is partnering with the downtowngrid association to bring Second Saturday to the Old Sugar Mill from noon to 5 p.m. There will be many artists featuring multiple medias of art. They are looking forward to hosting Installation Receptions, Hands on Demonstrations, and Artist in the Round Curation. The Old Sugar Mill is located at 35265 Willow Ave., Clarksburg, 95612.

## Reducing Gun Violence: What Can We Do?

**June 8:** Nick and Amanda Wilcox, Legislative and Policy Chairs for the California Chapters of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, will lead a discussion on this topic on Saturday June 8th from 10 a.m. to noon in Curtis Hall at the corner of 24th Street and 4th Avenue in Curtis Park, at the Sierra 2 Center. The presentation is free. A question/answer discussion will follow. Questions: RGVSAC@gmail.com or 916-304-6180.

## 2013 Doggy Dash to benefit Sacramento SPCA

**June 8:** Mark your calendar and join us for the Doggy Dash and Bark at the Park Festival and help make a difference in the lives of homeless animals. Walk, stay, play, Walk for the animals and party with the pets. It's the 20th anniversary for the Doggy Dash at William Land Park. The 2- and 5k Doggy Dash walk will be followed by festivities where you can enter your pup in the Pup Show, high-flying disc contest, or the ever-popular pug races! Or you can visit with pet friendly businesses, learn about Sacramento-area animal rescue organizations, or just have lunch while watching all the action. And enter for your chance to win an iPad mini, or one of dozens of raffle prizes. Register at SSPCA.org.

## Japanese food bazaar (chicken teriyaki, noodles, sushi, more)

**June 8-9:** The Nichiren Buddhist Church Bazaar will again be having their annual food bazaar from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bazaar will be held at the church, located at 5191 24th St. (2 blocks north of Fruitridge Road). For more information, contact Gail at 422-6449.

## Kline Music 50th Anniversary Party

**June 9:** From noon to 6 p.m., there will be live music, food and drawings for musical prizes to celebrate Kline's 50 years in business at Sierra II, Curtis Hall.

## Rotary Clubs of Arden-Arcade, Carmichael

**June 11:** Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome, every Tuesday. Arden-Arcade meets at noon, Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave. (916) 925-2787. Carmichael meets at 6 p.m., Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd. www.rotary.org.

## Soroptimist International of Sacramento North meeting

**June 11:** An organization for the betterment of women and children meets at the atria El Camino Gardens at 2426 Garfield, Carmichael. Call Sheila at 624-4643.

## East Sac Rotary

**June 12:** Meets at noon, Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St. Sacramento. www.eastsacrotrary.com.

## Twilight Thursday at the Zoo

**June 13:** Zoo open until 8pm. Enjoy warm summer nights at the Sacramento Zoo with extended hours on Twilight Thursdays, June 6th through July 25th. The Zoo is open from 9am to 8pm for your whole family to enjoy. Dinner specials, live music and activities start at 5 pm. Regular daily admission rates apply. General admission is \$11.25. Children ages 2-11 are \$7.25. Children un-

der one are free. For more information call 808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.

## Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

**June 13:** Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

## Mission Oaks Computer Club meeting

**June 13:** The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet from 1 to 3 p.m. at Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. The meeting topic will be "Navigating the Sacramento Public Library's New Website", presented by Ann Owens. A problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call 366-1687 or visit www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

## Teen/Tween Gaming and Kendama at Belle Cooleedge Library

**June 13:** Starting at 2:30 p.m., come challenge your friends with a Wii, show off your Kendama skills or just hang out. For more information visit <http://www.saclibrary.org> or call 264-2920. Belle Cooleedge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr.

## Bi-Polar Anonymous

**June 14:** Free 12-step program/support group, for people who have Bi-Polar and those who love them. Meets every Friday, 7-8:30 p.m. 4300 Auburn Blvd., Room 106. (916) 889-5786.

## Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown meeting

**June 14:** Visitors welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7 a.m. and dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. Topical weekly speakers and 'first meal for visitors on us'. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/50th St & Broadway) 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817. www.eastacmidtownkiwanis.com, 761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

## Pops in the Park presents John Skinner Band at Bertha Henschel Park

**June 15:** Free music event at 6 p.m.

## Annual Puppet Festival at Fairytale Town

Thursdays - Sundays through June 16 Weekdays at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Weekends at 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Fairytale Town brings you another season of playful puppetry! Children and adults can enjoy live puppet show performances inside Fairytale Town's Children's Theater. This

year's festival features six original productions based on new and traditional fairytales. Puppet show performances through June 2 will be performed by Puppet Art Theater Company. The festival will end with the premiere of Fairytale Town's original puppet production of "Rumpelstiltskin" from June 6 through 16. Tickets are \$2 for nonmembers in addition to park admission, and \$1 for members. Tickets can be purchased at the Fairytale Town main gate or at the entrance to the Children's Theater 15 minutes prior to show time. For more information and a show schedule, visit www.fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462. Sponsored in part by ScholarShare College Savings Plan.

## Whip up a Cookbook workshop at Belle Cooleedge

**June 15:** Starting at 11 a.m., collect, organize and put it all together during this 6-part series. Workshop #1 will focus on recipes and remembrances. Bring recipes in any format or condition. For more information visit <http://www.saclibrary.org> or call 264-2920. Belle Cooleedge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr.

## The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Camellia Chapter, meeting

**June 17:** 7 p.m. at SMUD, 6301 S St., Sacramento. The program will be a beaded amulet bag. Guests welcome. Free. 223-2751.

## Rotary Clubs of Arden-Arcade, Carmichael

**June 18:** Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome, every Tuesday. Arden-Arcade meets at noon, Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave. (916) 925-2787. Carmichael meets at 6 p.m., Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd. www.rotary.org.

## Soroptimist International of Sacramento North meeting

**June 18:** An organization for the betterment of women and children meets at the atria El Camino Gardens at 2426 Garfield, Carmichael. Call Sheila at 624-4643.

## East Sac Rotary

**June 19:** Meets at noon, Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St. Sacramento. www.eastsacrotrary.com.

## Delicious Reading Recipe with the California Puppets

**June 19:** Starting at 4 p.m., join Jungle Joe and his silly group of characters. For more information visit <http://www.saclibrary.org> or call 264-2920. Belle Cooleedge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr.

## Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

**June 20:** Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Avia-

tors Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

## Twilight Thursday at the Zoo

**June 20:** Zoo open until 8pm. Enjoy warm summer nights at the Sacramento Zoo with extended hours on Twilight Thursdays, June 6th through July 25th. The Zoo is open from 9am to 8pm for your whole family to enjoy. Dinner specials, live music and activities start at 5 pm. Regular daily admission rates apply. General admission is \$11.25. Children ages 2-11 are \$7.25. Children under one are free. For more information call 808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.

# Take Me Home!

Thanks to the following sponsors! A pet can be a wonderful addition to a family. Won't you adopt one of these animals at the SPCA?

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<p><i>Sponsored by:</i></p> <div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">   <b>The Lifestyle You Deserve</b>              • Three Chef Prepared Meals • Elegant Dining              • Many Apartment Styles/Sizes to Choose From              • Fun, Friendly Atmosphere • Exciting Activities &amp; Events              • Now also offering - Assisted Living &amp; Memory Care  <small>INDEPENDENT LIVING SINCE 1976</small>  <b>8350 Fair Oaks Blvd. - Carmichael, CA 95608</b>  <b>(916) 944-2323</b>  <small>lx: #347003885</small> </div> <p><b>Maisy</b> #19697998              Breed: DSH/Mix              Gender: Female              Age: 11 months</p>	<p><i>Sponsored by:</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>CARMICHAEL WATER DISTRICT</b>  <b>(916) 483-2452</b>  <b>www.carmichaelwd.org</b> </div> <p><b>Fat Boy</b> #19809106              Breed: Chihuahua Mix              Gender: Male              Age: 1 year 1 month</p>
<p><i>Sponsored by:</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>Give your landscape a Makeover with Custom Plantings</b>  <small>Lic. # 905985</small>  <b>www.customplantings.com</b>  <b>916 743 3427 for a free consultation!</b> </div> <p><b>Turbo</b> #19461003              Breed: Terrier Mix              Gender: Male              Age: 5 years 1 month              Turbo is a distinctive looking little guy because the hair on the back half of his back stands up giving him a type of "Mohawk" look. He is a very friendly, "talkative" dog.</p>	<p><i>Sponsored by:</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>A Senior Living Community</b>  <b>For complimentary Tours (916) 486-3533</b>  <b>theatriumofcarmichael.com</b>  <b>5757 Cypress Avenue Carmichael, CA 95608</b> </div> <p><b>Tia</b> #19404308              Breed: DSH/Mix              Gender: Female              Age: 2 years 2 months              If you're looking for great conversation, Tia is your gal; she's never going to be the cat you have to call to the room or search for. And if you have other cats at home, she'll fit right in.</p>

\* For additional information on adoptions, call the SPCA at 383-7387. Adoptions occur daily and it is not guaranteed the above featured animals are still available. If they are not, the SPCA has many other loving pets available to suit you and your family. The SPCA is located at 6201 Florin-Perkins Road.

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# El Camino alum launches new career, publishes first novel

Annie Laurie Cechini was a sullen seventh-grader when she swore she would never write again after sharing a creation that caused her classmates to laugh. She wasn't trying to be funny.

It was a senior year English teacher at El Camino High School, however, that pushed her to nurture her natural gift for words and regain her confidence.

Today, the 1998 El Camino graduate is kicking off a new career as a full-time writer, al-

ready holding book signings for her debut novel, *Liberty*, a young adult work about a space captain navigating life after losing her ship and crew.

In an interview earlier this year with San Juan Unified School District's marketing department, Cechini discussed what motivates her work, how she is a relentless self-editor and how young writers have more resources than ever to pursue their passion. Here are excerpts from the conversation:

## Explain your book for us.

*Liberty* is about a teenage girl who has lost her family. And she's a space captain. She's trying really hard to be tough and run everything and find a little piece of the world that she feels safe in. And everything just keeps backfiring. She's got bad guys chasing her for something that she shouldn't, and her friends get threatened, and it's just a big fun mess.

## Were you a sci-fi fan growing up? What inspired you to tell this story?

I'm kind of a very big geek. I had very, very long hair when I was five years old, and Return of the Jedi came out that year, so I kind of grew up thinking that I was Princess Leia. ... There's something about science and the fact that we don't have all the answers yet that lends itself to more imaginative writing. Because there's still just a little bit of magic in science and space – because there are so many things we still don't understand – there's a lot more wiggle room to do

some really interesting things in science fiction.

The central character is trying to find her place and is overcoming obstacles. Did you draw on any personal experiences for inspiration?

When I wrote *Liberty*, I was trying to remove myself as far away from the character as I could. Some writers feel like they need to have a direct life experience that correlates, and for me, that's just therapy that I don't want to deal with. I would love to just leave that at the door and write interesting characters.

But inevitably what happens is little parts of you sneak in, and I think authors try really hard not to let that go completely crazy. But I know one of the things that was really hard is there's this theme of loss in *Liberty*, and I know everyone has had experiences with loss, but the year that I wrote *Liberty* there were some pretty big losses in my life, and that kind of found its way in. I didn't even notice it until I was talking to a writer.

## This is your first novel. Had you had any other writing published before this?

When I was at El Camino, I actually tried to



Annie Laurie Cechini

publish a poem I wrote, and I think it was soundly rejected for being kind of terrible.

## That's good experience, too, right?

It absolutely is a good experience, because rejection is a permanent aspect of being an author. The sooner you can learn to tolerate rejection, the better.

## Was this book difficult to get published?

Yes and no. I actually tried to start writing full time in 2009, and the first novel I tried to write was a total train wreck. It was huge and cumbersome and just a disaster. *Liberty* I actually wrote for fun on kind of a lark. I finished writing in March and I signed a contract in January

See Author, page 23

# Author: Writer dedicates book to her grandfather

Continued from page 22

of the next year. That's pretty quick.

## Can you talk about submitting your work to publishers and what that process is like?

Just in the time that I've been writing, there have been incredible changes. And really good ones, too. The first manuscript, or query letter, that I ever sent out to an agent, I had to send him a big manila envelope ... and now, everything is digital. And because everything is digital a lot of publishers, small presses, agents, anyone connected to the industry – they're online, they're on social media, they have blogs, they tell you exactly what they want. So once upon a time, you had to ... try and figure out who was accepting your type of book and then figure out if they were querying or not. And sometimes they wanted manuscripts, and you would have no clue what they wanted, so you were just throwing stuff out there hoping something sticks. And it's not very effective.

Now, you can go online and visit a site like Query Shark – it's a blog that I love – and it will tell you what not to do in a query letter to an agent, and ... you can

look at agents individually and see what they're looking for and what they represent. ... There are so many great resources out there for the aspiring writer to get their career going.

## Can you talk about why you dedicated *Liberty* to your grandfather (a former English teacher at Rio Americano)?

When I was a kid, I lost a sibling to cancer, a younger brother, and when I was 7 or 8 years old I was just an angry, angry nightmare child. My parents were going back to school, so we lived with my grandparents for a time, and my grandpa would give me grammar sheets ... for me to play with. And I did, and I learned stuff.

Then I started hounding him to let me help him grade papers, and of course that was never going to fly. But he did let me help him correct text, and I just developed this fierce love of the red pen.

## Do you use the red pen a lot on your own work?

Yes. I think that's one of the best things that you can possibly develop as a writer: the ability to see your stuff, and see where it sucks, and learn how to

fix it. If you're not able to take that step back and say, "This really isn't working," then it's really hard to progress as a writer. You have to be really critical of your own stuff.

This story is courtesy of the San Juan Unified School District.

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