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Teen golfer enjoys special experience at Del Paso Country Club

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Meet the parade's grand marshal

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Teen golfer enjoys special experience at Del Paso Country Club

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
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Thirteen-year-old Caitlyn Harris loves the game of golf. And because of her passion for the sport, she experienced one of the greatest moments of her life as a volunteer at the recent U.S. Senior Open at Del Paso Country Club.

During Katelyn's time at the event, which was held June 22 through 28, she contributed nearly 40 hours of volunteer work. That work included assisting the open as a standard bearer for players, selling programs and helping in the back room.

Katelyn, who spent more than an hour with this paper last week speaking about her volunteer work at the event, her love of the game and her own success as a golfer, was quick to recognize her appreciation for the area's top golf youth development program, The First Tee of Greater Sacramento.

"First Tee is the best thing that ever happened to me," said Katelyn, who has played the majority of her golf at the Haggin Oaks Golf Complex. "It has impacted me so much learning to be a better person. They're teaching kids how to be successful in golf and successful in life. I think it's the best thing ever."

A special opportunity

Katelyn, who is presently excelling in First Tee's year-



Photo courtesy of Harris family
Katelyn Harris stands alongside golf legend Tom Watson at the U.S. Senior Open at Del Paso Country Club.

round competitive junior tour, explained how she became a volunteer for the recent senior tour.

"I'm pretty close to the (First Tee) head director and he told me there's this huge opportunity and he wants the First Tee Sacramento kids to go out there and pretty much be a standard bearer, which is the people holding the signs.

(There would also be) great opportunities to meet all these amazing people. And I was like, 'Okay, I want to be out there every day, because some of my favorite players (would be) out there.' I really wanted to be involved, because I could get autographs and all that. And so, I found

See Volunteer, page 3

Volunteer:

Continued from page 2

out that I was going to be working almost every day, and I was just so thrilled that I was able to have this kind of opportunity."

Although Katelyn's original schedule had her working on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, she took a job as a "floater" or replacement person, and she ended up acquiring work on the remaining days of the event.

Katelyn said that as a standard bearer, she averaged walking about nine miles per day while carrying a 10-pound bag.

The following are highlights of Katelyn's seven days at the open, in her own words:

Day 1 - Monday

"On day one, I was in all the First Tee booths, and I was selling championship programs. I worked there from 12 to 4 (p.m.). I worked in the First Tee information booth before and after that."

Additionally, Katelyn had the opportunity to speak about First Tee at a special event held at the club on that day.

Day 2 - Tuesday

"Tuesday, I was out at 1:35 (p.m.). I got there a little bit early. That's the day I had Tom Watson, Mike Finster, Bryan Norton, Roger Hoit and John McClure

"It was pretty much the best day ever. At first I was told I was going to be with the local (golfer) Kevin Sutherland and one of my favorite players, Duffy Waldorf. But I found out that I was going to be with Tom Watson, and I said, 'That's good, too. I'll take that.' I was just jumping up and down. I was so excited.

"Tom Watson has always been one of my role models when I first started the game.

"Pretty much, (Watson) just turned around and started talking to me, and I think Tom Watson was the easiest golfer ever that I met to talk to. He was so nice and he was making jokes with everyone, and I think that's just an experience that I'm never going to forget."

Day 3 - Wednesday

"Wednesday, I was also standard bearing and I had the group of Patrick Tallent, Loren Roberts, David Frost

and Dave Bunker, and those guys were honestly amazing.

"They were so funny, they were so nice. I mean, you could talk to them and they asked me to call them by their first names.

"They asked me about everything that I've done. They wanted to know more about the program, since they weren't really from around Sacramento. So, for me to give them more information on The First Tee, they really got to know more about me and the program.

"It's nice just knowing that the players aren't so focused. When you're actually inside the ropes and you have a chance to talk to them, they're really fun (and) personable."

Day 4 - Thursday

"I was a floater on Thursday. I was there for like four hours just waiting. Instead of just going out and watching golf, I wanted to go help the people that were in charge of the standard bearers and help with their signs.

Kelli Corlett, one of the First Tee directors came out and said, 'The 2:30 (p.m.) person isn't showing up. We need you to go.' It was like 2:25 (p.m.).

"I grabbed my board and I literally just booked it."

Day 5 - Friday

"(As a standard bearer), I had Vincent Buzzini, Gerard Courville and (Don) Bell on Friday.

"It was kind of nice to talk to (Buzzini) and see how he got all the qualifiers he had to go to. Talking to him was kind of a big motivator for me."

Day 6 - Saturday

"Saturday was more of a relaxation day. I was still working my butt off, but I still went out and got the opportunity to watch some of the players that I didn't standard bear for. I watched them for about two or three hours and then I went straight back to work. I went back to Angie Dixon, (executive director of The First Tee of Greater Sacramento), in the standard bearer checking room, and I'm just like, 'Put me to work. This is going to be my only day without work.' She found me a job to do to help set up

See U.S. Senior Open, page 4

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U.S Senior Open:

Continued from page 3

all the signs for Sunday. I worked there for about two to three hours."

Day 7 – Sunday

"I found out Saturday night my mom got an email. The next thing I know my mom texted me (to) come downstairs. She said, 'I know (what golfers) you're going to be with tomorrow.' And it turned out I was going to be with Jay Haas and Rocco Mediate. I was just so excited the whole day getting to watch them play. They were some of the best players on the green. I was so thrilled and I learned so much from them. Those two were amazing to be with."

"They wouldn't stress how they were playing, so it was really nice to see how if they had a couple of bad holes, they were still nice enough to be hanging out with the fans and making everyone laugh."

Props to Del Paso's maintenance team

Like so many people who had a close-up view of the Del Paso course, Katelyn was impressed by its condition.

After being asked about the course, Katelyn said, "I give huge props to the maintenance team. This course is in such great shape. It is amazing how well they did it. And they had some amazing volunteer lunches. I mean to the very last detail, (Del Paso Country Club) nailed it."

Katelyn as a golfer

As for her own experiences as a golfer, Katelyn said that she first played the game when she was 9 years old and began golfing competitively when she was 11.

Despite becoming a golfer at such a young age, Katelyn said that she is participating in the sport on her own terms.

"My parents (Pat and Lazette Harris) were never been really forced parents," Katelyn said. "Some of the other parents have been. My parents don't want to push me into something that I don't want to do."

Katelyn, who has three older brothers, Matt, Patrick and Anthony, added that her parents are very supportive of her golfing endeavors, and that they also attended every day of the senior open.

With enthusiasm, Katelyn explained that her abilities as a golfer have increased to a level that she has made it her goal to become a professional golfer on the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour.

"When I started (playing in golf tournaments), I would always be the one to come in almost last, and I think that was one of the things that motivated me," Katelyn said. "I used to think, 'Oh, you're in the tournament, I'm not going to win now.' Now it's like, if you want to win, you have to beat me. I'm up there now."

Angie Dickson commented about Katelyn, saying, "First of all, she is just a wonderful girl, very special," Dixon said. "She is hard working and definitely sets goals. She has learned goal setting through the First Tee program. She has a real good outlook and a good disposition. I think she's going to go far."

Recently, Katelyn won her division and was awarded a sponsorship from various Sacramento Optimist clubs to cover her \$700 entry fee to participate in The Optimist International Junior Golf Championships in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. on July 21 through 26.

Katelyn's future plans

In an attempt to enhance her opportunities to become a professional golfer, Katelyn plans to eventually attend the University of Southern California, which has one of the nation's elite collegiate golf teams.

And in regard to her future university studies, Katelyn said that she plans to obtain a major in business and a minor in journalism at USC.



Photo courtesy of Harris family
Katelyn Harris enjoys a moment at the U.S. Senior Open. She referred to her time as a volunteer at the event as "the best week of my life."

Although joining the LPGA tour is her ultimate dream, Katelyn said that she also has interest in one day operating her own business.

"Best week of my life"

While still riding on the high of her recent experience at the Senior U.S. Open, Katelyn, with an exuberant tone to her voice, said, "This was literally, hands down, the best week of my life. I don't know how else I could top it."

Neighbors gear up for the state fair

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Excitement surrounding the inaugural 2015 U.S. National Drone Racing Championship at the California State Fair on Bonney Field on July 16 and 17 is heating up for this first-of-its-kind competition officially sanctioned by the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the Congressionally mandated agency that oversees radio controlled and unmanned model aviation activities. With a rich heritage in agriculture, education, technology and entertainment, the California State Fair is set to become the perfect venue to host this competition, which is organized by Flying Grounds Inc.

For more than 160 years, the California State Fair has showcased the best of the Golden State and organizers hope the drone racing will showcase not only the best in the state, but the best in the country for the specialized sport. During the 2014 state fair more than 750,000 people attended, making memories that will last a lifetime. Cal Expo was dedicated as a place to celebrate California's achievements, industries, agriculture, diversity of its people, traditions and trends that shape the Golden State's future. This year's California State Fair will take place July 10-26 at Cal Expo, located at 1600 Exposition Blvd.

Valley Community Newspapers sought out local participants in various areas of fair entertainment and is featuring them as follows:

Former Pocket News writer, Jeff Dominguez was appointed outreach and special projects coordinator of the California Exposition and State Fair. He spoke to this publication about many different topics to explore, including the drone racing, which he has been instrumental in recommending the venue, Bonney Field.

"One of the things (the state fair) highlighted was the assembly line when it was developed. Over the course of past couple of years, it's been revealed to us by our contacts in Ag that drone technology will pretty much revolutionize the way people farm, and mainly with regard to their role in agriculture, we decided we wanted to have some sort of competition. So as far as the research surrounding drone competitions, we found a circuit of drone racing. We

got connected with a guy who does drone racing," Dominguez said.

"(Scot Ressler from Flying Grounds Inc.) is from Berkeley and has a PhD in virtual reality. We brought him in, talked to him and about him staging a drone race. We thought we'd do (the drone races) in the rodeo, but it was too dusty, then we thought about having it in a race track. Then, on a whim, we drove him to Bonney Field and it's the field of dreams for drones. That became the focus of our goal and we came up with a course. It's gaining momentum. (Ressler) started developing a lovely proposal of what he wanted to do," he said.

While some readers might think that this drone racing is basically radio controlled airplane racing, Dominguez begs to differ. "The thing on

drones is when you think of piloting or see kids with remote control airplanes, this is different. This kind of piloting is FPV – first person view. How these guys fly these drones – they don't sit in a chair; they are equipped on board with cameras that shoot out of the drones and the pilots wear goggles that are covered with TV monitors. When you look at these guys, they look like a bunch of Stevie Wonders."

That's not to say that every drone pilot wears said goggles; in fact, Dominguez explained that covering one's eyes can be a divisive topic in the subculture of drone racing. "Some don't wear goggles. They look at the TV monitors instead. The TV monitor guys think the goggle guys are stupid and the goggle guys think the TV monitor guys are stupid. I've been with them on test days,

and they're talking (expletive) about each other. It's really funny; the braggadocio in mind games is a huge part of this," he said.

The drone competition will feature California style high speed racing with 250 class multirotor air frames, typically with four or six motors. California style racing is a slightly smaller course, but a much more challenging design as pilots must possess both speed and fast-twitch agility skills. The average size of these drones is approximately the size of two shoe boxes, weigh no more than 600 grams, and their racing altitude is no more than 50 feet in a safe self-contained area. The competition will attract 200 of the best pilots in the U.S. to compete for a total cash prize of \$25,000 pro-

See Drone racing, page 12

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COPS 'N KIDS – local library program illustrates the value of reading

By LEIGH STEPHENS

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”
–Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

Why would police officers read to kids? Develops Trust, Instills Values, Cuts Crime...Sacramento Police Department (SPD) has partnered with local libraries to make this summer a reading success.

The first Cops 'N Kids program for the Robbie Waters Pocket Library began June 18, 2015, with Sgt. Pam Zamarrida reading to a handful of children and parents in the Reading Tower. The readings will continue throughout the summer with a different po-

lice officer reading on Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.

SPD Lt. Pam Seyffert says cop-kid reading programs are happening all over the country. “We know there is a direct connection between crime and lack of literacy, so it is a good fit to include our police officers in programs such as this. We are building trust in a positive way. I am passionate about reading. As a kid my family did not have a lot, but one thing my mom guaranteed on the weekend was a trip to the library or bookstore.”

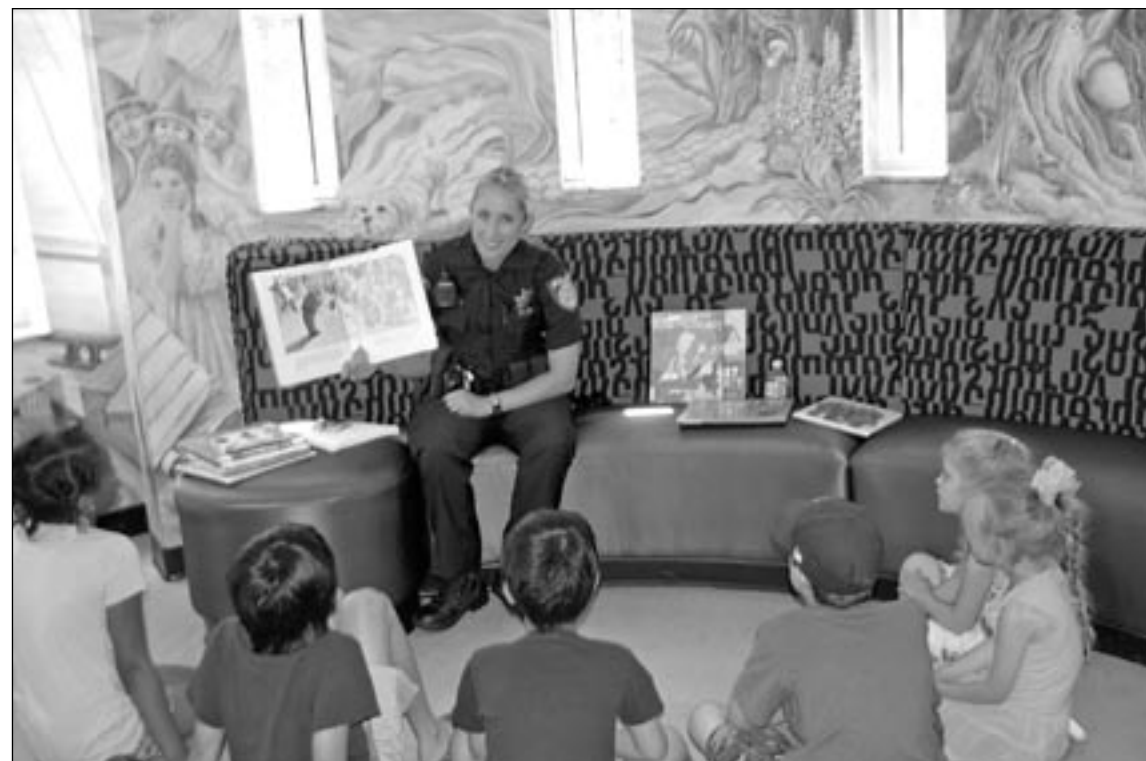
On the website *DoSomething.org*, *11 Facts About Literacy in America* contains some shocking statistics: “2/3 of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare. More than 70 percent of America’s inmates cannot read above 4th grade level.”

At the Pocket Library Officer Pam Zamarrida read pre-selected books about police officers and kids like *Traffic Cop*, *Bug Patrol*, and the children brought other books to read such as *That is not a Good Idea*. All told the officer read about a dozen books to the enthralled youngsters.

The kids attending the reading turned eager faces to the officer and stayed quiet longer than any parent could have expected.

Dressed in rainbow colors of summer dresses, shorts and tee shirts, the scene reminds you of hot weather, ice cream cones and swimming pools.

After reading a couple of books, the officer asked the children if they had ques-



Sacramento Police Officer Pam Zamarrida reading to kids at a local library.

Photo by Leigh Stephens

tions. For the children ages three through 10 years the questions showed a high level of understanding. Zamarrida handed out silver badge Junior Officer decals and a coloring book to each child.

The educational coloring/activity book emphasized warnings such as “Don’t Talk to Strangers,” “Don’t Play with Guns,” “Don’t Play with Matches,” “Don’t Pet Stray Dogs & Cats,”

“Learn Your Address and Phone Number,” “Best Always to Walk with a Friend,” and “Report Crimes at 911.”

The Pocket Library Reading Tower walls are filled with colorful murals from fairy tales and books such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Jack and the Bean Stalk*, and *Snow White*. The round Tower has com-

fortable seating for parents and children and two baskets sit nearby filled with children’s books.

Officer Zamarrida said about her own reading experiences,

“When I grew up in Elk Grove my mom took me to the library often. Our library was close to my home so I loved going there.”

She says when she attended CSUS she started out in nursing but went on a police ride-along and was hooked. She has been on the SPD force for about eight years. The favorite part of her job she says is getting to know the people in our community. She wants kids to come to the police without fear, and she says parents should never threaten their children with the police.

Parent Jamie Fanner brought 8-year-old daughter Ji’Nya who raptly followed each story. Fanner said, “Reading sets the foundation for a child to develop excellent studying habits and obtain academic success. I take my daughter to the library often during the summer.”

She says her mother fostered her love of books and always encouraged her siblings and her to read books and participate in cultural enrichment activities.

The Cops 'N Kids Reading program is active throughout the country. The goal

is promoting youth development and creating trust among police officers and boys and girls.

Scranton, New Jersey Police Chief Carl Graziano says, “If we’re in front of them and they get comfortable with us by reading books and by talking with them on a regular basis, they’re more likely to come to us when they need us.”

Indeed good books change lives and enrich living. Books can show you that others have the same emotions as you do and also the same problems and offer solutions. Reading books can help you travel to places you’ve never been and open your eyes to the world around you.

Leigh Stephens is a retired CSUS professor of Journalism and Communications Studies. She has written more than 500 articles and several books.

If you go:

What: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTEDi) Class, featuring Sacramento Police Department Lt. Oliveira
Where: Robbie Waters Pocket/Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, 95831
When: July 29 from 7-8 p.m.

Fair Oaks ecohousing purchases property

Fair Oaks EcoHousing closed on the purchase of 3.7 acres (at 4025 New York Ave. and 9620 Fair Oaks Blvd.) on June 23, with the assistance of a loan from Sierra Vista Bank.

The property will be the site of Fair Oaks EcoHousing, a new cohousing community of 30 homes, the first in suburban Sacramento. This infill project is sponsored by a group of 12 local households, who are investors as well as future residents. Construction is slated to begin in the spring of 2016. The group has been working with architect and international cohousing expert, Charles Durrett, on the design of the community.

The homes will range in size from two-bedroom flats to four-bedroom townhomes, along with extensive community facilities and garden areas. The new community is unique in that it is being designed, funded, and built by future residents who seek to live in a more socially connected and sustainable neighborhood than traditional suburban developments.

The project has received unanimous approval and praise from the Sacramento County Planning Commission, the Fair Oaks Community Planning Council, and the Sacramento County Design Review Advisory Committee.

Fair Oaks EcoHousing invites prospective residents to attend a free site tour. Visit www.FairOaksEcoHousing.org for more information. The next tours are scheduled for July 11 and July 25 at 10:30 am.

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Retired U.S. Air Force colonel named Carmichael 4th of July parade grand marshal

By BARRY WISDOM

As Jim Grey's ride – a vintage blue Cadillac convertible – carefully made its way along the Carmichael Fourth of July parade route, the 93-year-old retired U.S. Air Force colonel might well have flash-backed on less-friendly missions as a World War II and Cold War-era bomber navigator, and pilot.

But on Saturday, he was greeted by waving and smiling children and adults, and not Nazi flak and ominous squadrons of Soviet MiGs.

Grey, an Elks Lodge life member who moved to Carmichael in 1962, seemed like a natural choice to serve as the Carmichael Elks Lodge's grand marshal.

"We look for someone who personifies why we're a country," said Jim Warrick,

secretary of the Carmichael Elks Lodge. "Not just the military, but the spirit of our country – a patriot who believes in the good of America. Besides his work in military, he went on to be an outstanding member of the community."

When invited to lead the two-mile procession, Grey – in typical "Greatest Generation" fashion – was taken aback at the honor.

"It's hard to believe something like this would happen to me," he said in a post-parade chat alongside wife Charlene at the Cypress Avenue lodge.

A longtime banker, Grey was enamored by flying since he was a boy growing up in Wisconsin. He recalls sweeping up the local airport for an occasional free ride in an open biplane.

With his eye on a pair of wings, Grey participated in



The Carmichael Fourth of July parade's grand marshal, Jim Grey, a 93-year-old retired U.S. Air Force colonel, made his way down Fair Oaks Boulevard waving at crowds from this vintage blue Cadillac convertible. Photo by Barry Wisdom

the "Aviation Cadet" program in his teens, joining the Army when he turned 18, taking his basic training in San Antonio.

"I wanted to be a pilot," said Grey, whose memoir – "Vanishing Contrails" – was published in 2011.

After initial testing, Grey was called into his commanding officer's office where he recalls being told he passed "with flying colors," but that the Army Air Corps needed navigators.

"So, guess what – you're going to be a navigator."

Grey admits being disappointed, but the good soldier honored his commitment and performed above and beyond the call of duty. Stationed in England during World War II, he and his fellow bomber crewmates made countless successful bombing raids in

the skies above Germany in such aircraft as his beloved B-25.

When the war ended, Grey would stay in the Army Air Corps which finally saw fit to transition Grey from navigator to pilot.

As a pilot, in the post-War, Cold War era, Grey was charged with missions designed to keep the fragile peace threatened by the increasingly hostile Soviet Union.

Grey remembers encountering squadrons of Soviet aircraft consistently skirting the borders of Alaska airspace.

"It was a very tense situation," he said.

It was during this time that Grey experienced his "closest call" as an aviator.

Headed to an Alaskan USAF base to deliver an

atomic bomb, he and his crew encountered a mechanical problem that necessitated an immediate landing and a dump of fuel. But the nuke they carried was strapped near the adjacent forward tank and they couldn't bleed off that tank's fuel.

The aircraft landed safely, but Grey said it was an extremely anxious mission.

Grey retired in 1965, but continued to fly recreationally as recently as 2009.

But the cost and upkeep of flying made it prohibitive and he was forced to give it up.

A far-from-easy decision, learning to live without the opportunity to soar through the sky controls in hand has been challenging.

"I love to fly," he said. "I love to fly."

30th annual Festa Italiana set for Aug. 1-2

The Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento is proud to present the valley's original, 30th Annual, Festa Italiana, which is set for Saturday Aug. 1 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Croatian Cultural Center, 3730 Auburn Blvd.

Festa Italiana has been a Sacramento destination on the first weekend of August for 30 years strong – ours is the original Italian festival, boasting the best of all things Italian and Italian-American!

Our venue at the Croatian Cultural Center is a lovely, open-air park-like setting that only enhances the feeling of being in Italy, enjoying a celebration of Italian culture, food, music and dance! If you've ever wondered what it was like to attend a two-day Italian Wedding Feast, Festa Italiana is about as close as it gets, with live music and entertainment all day and night, lots of food, gelato, vendors, and much more!

Each year thousands attend from all over the region to reconnect with their heritage.

Festa Italiana is sponsored by the Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento, a local non-profit organization, bringing the very best of all things Italian to Sacramento. Unlike other Italian celebrations in the area, Festa Italiana uniquely offers two full days of live music and entertainment by Italian bands, singers and musicians, plus traditional, colorful Italian Folk Dance performances by our adult and children's dance troupes. We also have a large indoor and outdoor Marketplace with dozens of unique vendors you won't find at other Italian festivals. The grilled sausage and pepper sandwiches are as good as they smell, and so is the lasagna, cannoli, calamari, pizza and meatballs! Don't forget to enjoy Italian wines and beer!

joy the Italian car show featuring cars from Maserati, Fiat, Pantera, Ferrari, Alpha Romeo and more! There's free crafts and face-painting for children in the Outdoor Piazza where you'll also find games of Bocce Ball, a bounce house, mini golf and even toss a salami! Shop the indoor and outdoor marketplace, even take a selfie at the Trevi Fountain! Sit under our shady tents at tables and chairs to rest, eat, and enjoy the ongoing Italian entertainment – be sure to stay on Saturday for the Festa Queen Pageant at 5 p.m., followed by our special "Saturday night dancing under the summer moon" with live music to 11 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento. Admission is \$12; kids age 15 and younger are free of charge. Parking is free. For more information and for the vendor and Festa Queen Pageant Applica-

tion, visit www.festaitalianasacramento.com.

There are more than 100,000 Italians and Italian-Americans in the Sacramento region alone. The Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento, founded in 1986 by William Cerruti, is a non-profit organization promoting the culture and heritage of Italians and Italian-Americans through cultural programs, travel Italy tours and Italian language school.



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Faces and Places:
**CARMICHAEL
 FOURTH OF JULY
 PARADE**

Photos by **BARRY WISDOM**
 Barry@valcomnews.com

Classic cars, community floats, marching bands, military units and dignitaries made their way down Fair Oaks Boulevard to Cypress and toward the Elks at the 57th annual Fourth of July Parade.

The parade ended with a big party – free swimming, barbecue, games and bocce ball for everybody! Carmichael resident Lt. Col. Jim Grey was the grand marshal.



Drone racing:

Continued from page 5

vided by Flying Grounds Inc. along with trophies, ribbons, and bragging rights for the participating pilots.

Pre-qualifying rounds and time trials will take place on the first day of the event followed by the high-speed agility style racing on Friday. All races will take place on a professionally designed course with features including under/over obstacles, slalom, hairpin turns and challenging gates. An invitational free-style acrobatic competition will also be included to showcase the best first person view (FPV) pilots. Friday evening will showcase the championship rounds, awards and closing ceremonies.

Free public events (with paid fair admission) include "Drone Planet" pavilion that showcases companies and organizations in the drone agriculture and racing industries, and the "Drone Hangar" featuring inventors, air frame makers, with the latest drone racing inventions. VIP Pit passes can be purchased for an additional fee of \$15 and includes field-level viewing and access to the flyers prep area.

FPV drone racing has become a wildly popular hobby in the past 12 months, yet the use of drones remains an issue for public debate with respect to commercial use. In addition to the racing excitement at the National Championships, industry experts from organizations such as

the AMA, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) plan to attend and share the latest information about drone technology, policies and regulations.

Aside from Jeff's involvement with the fair, there are many other Sacramento neighborhood highlights, which include (but are in no way limited to the following):

The announcement of Sacramentan **Keith Breedlove** as the official chef for the state fair. This is the first time the California State Fair has had an official chef to represent and share the fair's mission and goals for sustainable and healthy ways of cultivating and preparing California specialties from the farm to the plate. The knowledge and passion "Culinerdy" Breedlove has for food will amaze California cuisine lovers with #TheBest culinary delights, picked fresh from the Save Mart 3-acre farm, which is run most entirely by **Sacramento State University graduate Alicia Kot**.

Breedlove gained an interest for food at an early age, learning cooking techniques and how to barbecue from his greatest mentor, his grandfather, Papa Dale Breedlove. In 1987, he entered the culinary profession and his dream of becoming a chef became reali-

ty with a farm-to-fork style of cuisine.

Breedlove, will be available each day of the fair to give live, educational cooking demonstrations. Breedlove will also represent the state fair at various events leading up to and during the fair.

"My passion lies in bringing you flavorful international inspired California cuisine reinterpreted using a combination of modern and traditional techniques, assuring every meal is prepared with an ingenious, nerdy and slightly crazy approach," says Breedlove.

Out in the world of beer winners, **Arden resident Matt Johnson and Amador Brewing Company** were the winners for their "British Dark Mild" beer, beating out more than 1,000 entries, stated Dominguez.

In the world of arts and entertainment, much can be said about the vast amount of talent hailing from Sacramento. It appears the final results for the Youth Arts competition are in, and there are a number of first place winners from **St. Francis High School**.

Over on the Groupon Stage, there is a mix of music and entertainment but this stage tends to have more in the way of music. This year, **The Cheeseballs and Wonderbread 5**, which are well known bands, will entertain crowds.

On the PG&E Center Stage, **local Jazzercise classes** will be performing on Sunday, July 12; **gymnasts from Land Park's Planet Gymnastics** will take the stage on Tuesday, July 14, **East Sacramento dancers from Fancy Feet** will be performing on July 24 and 26. East Sacramento mom, Melissa Jef-

fers Russell, said her daughter Emma is "very excited to perform at the fair. She will be doing ballet to Part of Your World with other girls from her class (at Fancy Feet)."

Land Park children's author Kate David will be in the California Author Exhibit on the ground floor in Building A/B on Tuesday, July 14, Saturday, July 18 and Tuesday, July 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Kate is the author of "Murphy and the Magical Hat" (2012) and "McKay and the Magical Hat" (2014).

Pocket artist Christopher Williams will be showing his art July 18-21 in Building 7 of the Expo Center. Christopher has produced roughly 200 paintings, including commissioned pieces. At a recent Friends of the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library after hours celebration, he showed a wide assortment of pieces, including two from his Mama Fonju jazz series, a master copy of John singer sergeants Madam X, and Soul of a Woman. Additionally, he had 11x17-inch prints of his past paintings. On the spot, at the event, Christopher drew a pencil sketch of Otterby Reading, the Sacramento Public Library's mascot.

Upcoming shows include the Sacramento Comic Con in August and Sac Anime in September. He also paints live every Second Saturday at Comics & Collectibles, located at the corner of Freeport Boulevard and Fruitridge Road.

After he graduated from Plaza Robles High School in his hometown, his family moved to Sacramento. And now a Pocket resident for the past 10 years and employee

See Art exhibit, page 13

Art exhibit:

Continued from page 12

at Apple Inc. in Elk Grove, The Black da Vinci, as he calls himself, is now making a try at art as a full time career.

You see, his father, Donald, one of Christopher's main sources of inspiration and encouragement, passed away earlier this year with the last words said to his son as "I'm very proud of you, son" on Jan. 5. Those words, spoken to Christopher over the phone after the artist was interviewed by FOX 40 at Sac Anime, resonated in the budding artist whose work varies tremendously in style from piece to piece.

Pocket resident David Chin won first place in the toy category for his display of a 2-foot-tall wooden Ferris wheel, which will be shown in Building 8 during the course of the entire fair. Made of pine, the Ferris wheel's materials came from Home Depot, which means the wood is "bottom end. I hate to say that," jokes David.

About him entering his work into the fair, David recalled, "I said put it in a category where you think it be-

long; (on the display), there are 31 little people and one dog." Last fall, David won first place in a wood show contest at Woodcraft on Folsom Boulevard for a wood train he carved. David belongs to the Capital Woodcarvers Association, which meets at the Arden Park Recreation Center, 1000 La Sierra Drive from 7 to 9 p.m. every second Tuesday for business, guest speaker and show and tell. The group also meets at that time on the fourth Tuesday for informal carving and class project carving.

Former Land Park resident Ashley Fajardo, 31, an award-winning equestrian vaulter, will be performing every night at the state fair at 8 p.m.

Equestrian vaulting, which can be explained as gymnastics and dancing on horses, has been a part of Ashley's life since she was 9 years old. After the death of her parents, she was taken in by her father's friend, Michelle Solorzano, the owner of Crown Capall, a spawn of Nu Balance Vaulters. According to the business's website, entertainment has always had a special place within the club,



Shown here is a photograph from last year's California State Fair. This year's state fair will take place July 10-26 and is located at 1600 Exposition Blvd.

then in 2001 Crown Capall split away from the competitive Nu Balance team to focus specifically on entertaining. With endless tricks that can be choreographed, Ashley's favorite trick consists of "ground jumps," which she explains as sliding down the side of a horse, landing on the ground and then jumping

back onto it, all whilst the animal is in movement. "I used to compete all over. I was on a traveling team, and competing in Europe a lot. That was when I was younger. In junior high, I spent a lot of time traveling. When I stopped that team, I still competed here in the U.S., then I started doing performance stuff, big shows

that were not so much on the competitive side. I still coach and help out with the horses."

A local gal, Ashley attended C.K. McClatchy High School, California Middle School, Crocker-Riverside Elementary, and for nine years, she worked at the Riverside Club-

See Horse dancing, page 14

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Horse dancing:

Continued from page 13

house. Having lived in the city and being a "horse person," she had friends ask, "Who is this crazy girl who likes horses?" No one liked horses in Land Park," she said.

Ashley recently moved to Newcastle where she has 2 and a half acres of land and just bought the first horse of her own, which she named Ben and is of a gaited horse variety called a Tennessee Walking Horse. "(Ben) is not going to be for vaulting, but will be for riding purposes," she says.

While a student at California Middle School, Ashley was on an international traveling team, whose owner was part of the Hearst family. "It was a very highly competitive team," Ashley said. "Everything was given to us, the best of everything. We even had horses that were stationed in Europe to vault on. One coach has a team in Holland." Ashley said she was going to apply for McClatchy's competitive Humanities and International Studies Program program, but decided against it due to her demanding schedule, though most of her teachers were understanding of her extracurricular activities. She recalls taking school work home on Thursday and traveling to Woodside (Bay Area) to practice. "I did homework on planes there

and back. We practiced with the club here and we'd go there on the weekends."

With regard to the fair, Ashley said it has always been a part of her life. And, as a long-time fair entertainer, she has experienced much change at the fairgrounds. "Things were different when I was younger. It was family there; we got to camp out. They don't let people camp anymore. We used to share food and things (with other campers). It was a different generation that was super cool. We still get to see people you don't get to see (through out the rest of the year). It's always nice because the fair is not our biggest show, but it is easier for people to come see you."

Amongst her most memorable fair experiences, was one that occurred 10 years ago when her then-boyfriend, Fernando proposed to her on horseback at the end of one of her shows. This year will be their 9-year wedding anniversary! "He was going to take me to Disneyland, but he knew that wasn't going to happen because we were getting ready for the fair. It was a Sunday night. We were performing 'Chicago' on horseback. Afterward, we (the performers) were saying thank you (to the audience) and to have a nice night. Then, all of a sudden, music from the (Adam Sandler movie) 'Wedding Singer' started playing. It

was 'Grow Old With You.' I was totally shocked and (him) being on a horse threw me off." Asked if she was completely taken aback by the unique proposal, Ashley laughed saying she thought Fernando was breaking up with her "because he wasn't around. He disappeared, but he just couldn't keep a secret."

Ashley said equestrian vaulting has brought so much joy and opportunity in her life. "I got to pair up with super cool acts like with Clay Meirs who does big black horses. He invited us to do show with him. We got to do the Friesian Extravaganza. Friesians are the big black horses. We've done a show with The Riata Ranch Cowboy Girls (a group that performs at various events across the country and globe). They've been around a long time. We go to real big shows. I've definitely been blessed by that and do so many things."

Sacramento City College art professor Robyn Waxman wrote this publication describing her students' achievements and their participation in the state fair.

All of her students are student-designers of Flagship Design Studio, the Graphic Communication Studio class (GCOM 490).

Flagship Design Studio typically takes two to three awards each year in the California State Fair for the professional quality work they design. The process includes client meetings, heavy art direction, and many revisions so the work is molded into something students include in their professional portfolios and clients are able to use for a long time afterward. The students this year have never won an award like this before, so they

are thrilled to receive an honor for the studio that they can include on their resumes and talk about at future job interviews, said Waxman.

Flagship Design Studio Designers **Cyrus Maglente, Carlos Vasquez, Johnnesper Pimentel and Ethan Powell** won Outstanding Group Project and the California Graphic Arts Association Education Award. "This project included the materials to promote our Year End Show in Graphic Communication, a student-showcase exhibit featuring the best work this school year in the Graphic Communication Department. This year's show used the theme of 'Board Games' and work included four posters, a large interactive board game, post cards, and 'Best of Class' awards," said Waxman.

Additionally, Flagship Design Studio Designers **Cyrus Maglente, Andreana Schudy, Carlos Vasquez and Johnnesper Pimentel** won honorable mention for their 5-minute video that introduces the EOPS program at Sacramento State College, interviewing counselors, students, and alumni whose successes were linked to the EOPS program. The video can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRpOpjRVfDQ>.

"Our students in the Flagship Design Studio are trained to be design professionals. They are introduced to "real world" experiences and scenarios working in our studio. Each semester we accept between 5-9 clients from the Sacramento Community and SCC campus departments. Primarily we design work for nonprofits, start ups, and financially strapped entities at low costs. The money we raise supports student portfolios,

buys supplies and professional equipment that students do not normally have access to, and pays for the Flagship Design Studio swag that design students wear with pride. The students gain experience writing proposals and invoices, working in design teams, communicating with a client, integrating client and art director feedback, and presenting their work," Waxman said.

"To have our work shown at the fair and to be honored with first place, where our work is compared, presumably, against many other groups is quite an achievement. To me, it means the work our team at Flagship Studio did was really good and our designs were strong."

Asked if he was surprised by the award, Cyrus said, "yes, and at the same time, 'no.' When I say 'no,' I'm not saying that I expected to win, but I knew that our group had done good work. Our team at Flagship Studio worked really well together and we generally enjoyed working on the project. So, when I say 'yes,' it's to say that I had no idea how well our project would do against the many potential candidates we may have had to compete against."

Cyrus' long term goal is to be a video game designer, creating 3D art and UI assets. "At least, that's how I began when I first started taking classes from the GCOM department at SCC," he said. "However, as my studies have expanded, I have also become interested in information architecture and web design."

Finally, in the world of politics, **Sacramento Darrow Sprague**, will be coordinating the scheduling of volunteers for the Sacramento Democratic Party booth this year.

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CALENDAR

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ONGOING
Monthly tours of Sacramento Children's Home
 Find out about the Sacramento Children's Home mission, programs, and how you can

get involved on the fourth Thursday of each month, starting at 10:30 a.m., 2750 Sutterville Road. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.kidshome.org/tour-sch.

Free Young Adult Bereavement Counseling:
 The UC Davis Hospice Program and UC Davis Children's Hospital Bereavement Program

will offer an eight-week Young Adult Bereavement Art Group for individuals 17 to 24 who are coping with the recent loss of a loved one. The sessions will be held on eight consecutive Monday evenings from Sept. 29 through Nov. 17. Each session will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the UC Davis Home Care Services Building, 3630 Business Dr., Suite F.

Support group for alienated grandparents
 Meeting is the last Friday of each month at 2717 Cottage Way, suite 4. Meeting is at noon. 761-9121.

The Community Housing and Services Coalition monthly meetings
 Originally created by the Sacramento Community Services Planning Council, the Community Housing Coalition (CHC) was created as a vehicle to provide information and educate community leaders and decision makers regarding housing for low income, disabled and older adults. CHSC monthly meetings are free and open to the public; they are held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Sacramento Sheriff's South Area Office Community Room at 7000 65th Street, Sacramento (the Sacramento County Voters Registrar Building). At each meeting a guest speaker is invited to attend and give a 30-minute presentation with 10 minutes for Q&A. Speakers are selected for their expertise and knowledge in their respective fields, and agencies/organizations. The speakers are encouraged to provide handouts, fliers, and other informational materials to the 15 to 30 attendees. If you have any questions, please contact either: Alex Eng at 424-1374; email xeng916@sbglobal.net; or Cindy Gabriel at 916/732-6189; email cynthia.gabriel@smud.org.

The Sacramento Capitolaire meeting
 A men's Barbershop Harmony group, meets every Tuesday night at Christ Community Church, 5025 Manzanita Ave., Carmichael. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.capitolaire.org or call (888) 877-9806. Men who love to sing are welcome! Men come from Elk Grove, Davis, El Dorado Hills, Roseville or the greater Sacramento area. The group is 40 men who love to sing and wants to encourage more men to join along.

July
Mission Oaks Computer Club meeting
 July 9: The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet from 1 to 3 p.m. at Mission Oaks

Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive. The meeting will include a problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information visit our website at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org or send an email to mocc@missionoakscomputerclub.org.

Better choices, better health workshop
July 10 (start date): Better Choices is a series of two and a half hour held once a week for six weeks. Learn strategies to take control of your chronic conditions, lower your stress levels, and communicate better with your doctor. The workshop, developed by the Stanford University Patient Education Research Center, is for people with chronic conditions like diabetes, high blood pressures, etc. Free of charge. Pre-registration is required. Class will be held from 9:30 - noon beginning July 10 at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Fire Station 11 Open House
July 11: Fire Station 11, located 785 Florin Road, will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

American-Portuguese Veteran's Memorial Poker Tournament
July 11: There will be a poker tournament on July 11 at SPHSS Portuguese Hall, 6676 Pocket Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; the tournament starts at 6:30 p.m. While this tournament will help fund the placement of a monument at the State Capitol to honor American-Portuguese that served the United States, it is also a template for other ethnic groups to have a similar monument. If the time comes for Chinese-American, Greek-American, Irish-American, Italian-American, Mexican-American or any other ethnic groups to place a monument, they will already have a blueprint for placement, which is required. For those who wish to buy tickets or sponsor the event can contact Eddia Maria at 314-757-0474. In regard to sponsorship, for \$250 you will receive two entries into the tournament (\$100 value) along with your business name and logo shown on a big screen in front of the room on a continuous loop for the duration of the event.

Medicare fraud workshop
 July 15: This workshop will discuss forms of Medicare fraud, how to protect your-

self from becoming a victim, and how to report suspected fraud. The instructor will also explain the services available through the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy program. Free of charge. Pre-registration is required. Class will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

MLK Spelling Bee
July 15-16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Friends announce the 13th Annual MLK Spelling Bee to be held on Wednesday, July 15 and Thursday, July 16 from 1-5 p.m. The bee is open for first through 8th graders. There will be contests for grades 1, 2, 4, and 5 on Wednesday; contests for grades 3, 6, 7, 8 will be held on Thursday. Pick up spelling lists at Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 7340 24th St. Bypass, Sacramento 95822.

Fire Station 13 Open House
July 18: Fire Station 13, located at 1100 43rd Ave., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Fire Station 15 Open House
July 25: Fire Station 15, located at 1591 Newborough Dr., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

AUGUST

Fire Station 18 Open House
Aug. 1: Fire Station 18, located at 746 North Market Blvd., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Free! Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock
Aug. 6: Come Relax at Camp Pollock! Concert will feature a relaxing musical experience on Sacramento's American River Parkway. Concerts start at 6 and continue until 8 p.m. Bring your own picnic basket and blanket. Bring your leashed dog. Enjoy S'mores compliments of Sierra Service Project! The events are hosted by the Sacramento Valley Conservancy. For more information, contact sacramentovalleyconservancy.org or call 731-8798. Camp Pollock is located at 1501 Northgate Blvd.

Matías Bombal's Hollywood

INSIDE OUT

The MPAA has rated this PG

You'll love meeting the windmills in your mind in "Inside Out". Walt Disney/Pixar Animation Studios.

Disney's Pixar Animation Studios are a world unto themselves, and in a way so NOT like the modern Disney of today, that they make for interesting bedfellows. "Inside Out" is a sheer delight from start to finish. It is witty, fresh, and even cerebral. Writers Pete Docter (who also directs), Ronaldo Del Carmen, Meg LeFauve and Josh Cooley have an introspective gem that gets inside your mind, literally, or at least inside each of the wonderful characters that you'll meet in this smart kids movie that will have plenty of great moments for adults, too.

Just what may be found in everyone's mind?

In this picture, there are animated characters that represent emotions that reside in the brain area of our cartoon heroine, a girl named Riley. Each of them is voiced by some contemporary voices that you may know: Joy (Amy Poehler), Fear (Bill Hader), Anger (Lewis Black), Disgust (Mindy Kaling), and Sadness (Phyllis Smith).

Riley is a young girl who has traveled with her parents from Minnesota to San Francisco, where her father (Kyle MacLachlan) has moved for work. Mom (Diane Lane) is concerned that their moving van has not appeared and the fami-

ly has no clothes or furnishings. Compound this with Riley's first day at school, and we see how all of her emotions come to play within her head, where we spend much of the picture. Our group of emotions chronicle core memories and other impulses and react to events as they unfold outside Riley's head. Taking the lead is the super positive and almost manic emotion of Joy, and as things become more glum for Riley, Joy embarks on an adventure through the deep recesses of Riley's mind to save her from total depressive shut down.

I could imagine a pitch meeting of this storyline in Hollywood: "Fantastic Voyage" meets "The Phantom Tollbooth" for kids. Like the great Chuck Jones animated "Tollbooth" of 1970, this movie is clever, imaginative and fun. You don't have to be a kid to enjoy it. The voices are so perfectly melded to the characters that it is sheer delight and I laughed out loud numerous times.

I am somewhat old fashioned in a modern world, and the only element that bothered me in the movie was the nonstop pace of Joy as voiced by Amy Poehler. It was at times much too fast, manic and breathless, and that irritated me. When she does eventually slow down later in the movie for just a few moments, it is only temporary, for she returns to non-stop positivity-plus in short order. This is a great and entertaining way to spend 94 minutes at the movies, and might be the kind of picture you'd not mind watching twice.



You'll love meeting the windmills in your mind in "Inside Out". Walt Disney/Pixar Animation Studios

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