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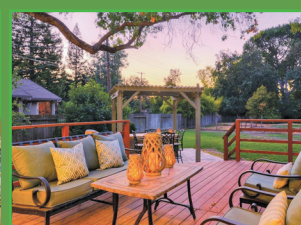
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Sacramento Physician Chosen To Head National Plastic Surgery Association

Sacramento plastic surgeon, Dr. Debra J. Johnson of The Plastic Surgery Center has begun her tenure as President of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Dr. Johnson is only the second female physician to be chosen president of ASPS, which was founded in 1931.

Among her duties, Johnson will serve as leader of the 12-member physician executive committee, which sets policy for ASPS, and will also be the chief spokesperson dealing with media and regulatory agencies.

Her position will require extensive travel, representing ASPS within the United States and at various international plastic surgical meetings.

"It is an honor to serve as president of the largest organization of board-certified plastic surgeons in the world. Plastic surgery is known for its creativity and innovation: from surgery on children for birth defects, to face and hand transplants, to fine cosmetic surgery. ASPS is a trusted resource regarding patient education and surgical safety, and we strive to keep our members up-to-date on the latest procedures."

Dr. Johnson became involved as a member of ASPS in 1991, and soon volunteered to serve on committees within the organization. Her strong volunteerism and performance were rewarded as she served as committee chair, and then member of the Board of Directors. She was elected Vice president 4 years ago, and served as president-elect this year.

Johnson will take over the reins from David Song MD, professor and chief of plastic surgery at the University of Chicago.



Photo courtesy Dr. Debra J. Johnson of The Plastic Surgery Center, President of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Dr. Johnson joined The Plastic Surgery Center in 1989 as the first female plastic surgeon in Sacramento. She received both her M.D. degree and her plastic surgery training at Stanford University. She took additional training at Clinica Planas in Barcelona, and the Institut Francais de la Main in Paris. sacplasticsurgery.com



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Sacramento Women's Chorus Will Be "Rockin' the Boat" on November 12

By KRISTI MATAL

The Sacramento Women's Chorus fall Cabaret concert, "Rockin' the Boat" on Saturday, Nov. 12, will transport the audience to a tropic beach for a fun-filled musical vacation. Known for their fun and lively music, their concert program is full of sea-worthy songs such as: No More Sailor Songs, Kokomo, A Slow Boat to China, Surfin' USA, and the corny but loveable – Ballad of Gilligan's Island. The show will delight with full-chorus numbers and some crowd-pleasing and over-the-top entertaining solo performances as well. It's a show you don't want to miss!

"For many years, just under 30 to be exact, we have built a reputation for rocking the boat with our varied repertoire," said Robin Richie, SWC Artistic Director. "We like performing songs that move our audience emotionally. This concert will have soulful songs about sea voyages and tropical settings, as well as humorous songs about the trials and tribulations of ocean travel."

Who is the SWC? The SWC is a singing sisterhood comprised of women from all walks of life. Their membership boasts 70 members. Their animated performances actively engage the audience through their enthusiasm for singing together. They are celebrating their success performance at the July 2016 GALA Festival in Denver, CO. The international event featured choruses from all over the world and showcased performances by LGBT and LGBT-allied choruses.

What is on the horizon? The SWC is looking forward to next year with excitement! Preparations are already underway for their 30th Anniversary concert in May 2017. Since 1987, the SWC has been an active community chorus and share a commitment to social justice for all people. One example of their regular contribution to the community happens at their December holiday concert. They invite audience members to bring warm clothing for Maryhouse clients, a Loaves and Fishes program that provides hospitality services for homeless women and children. The Anniversary concert will celebrate their contribution to the community and will recollect the meaningful music, fun, laughter, and tears of joy that they have provided their audience for many years.

Concert and Ticket Details:

- Date: Saturday, November 12, 2016
- Time: 7:00 p.m. (lobby opens at 6:00 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
- Location: The Center at 2300, at 2300 Sierra Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95825 (Near Howe Avenue)
- Adults and children are welcome to attend.

Tickets: \$25 each

Tickets are available online or at the door the day of the event.

For more information about the chorus and to buy tickets: www.sacramentowomenschorus.com

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Thousands flock to Golden 1 Center for pre-grand opening events

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

As a preview for its grand opening, the Golden 1 Center on Saturday, Oct. 1 held two separate open house events – one for the general public and the other for members of the Golden 1 Credit Union.

The completed, multi-purpose, indoor facility is the new home of the Sacramento Kings and will host other sporting and entertainment events, as well as conventions.

Large crowds made their way to the new downtown arena at 5th and L streets to view the facility for the first time.

Entrants to the arena were admitted for free with general admission tickets that were obtained in advance through the Ticketmaster website. Each ticket had one of four time allotments: 11 a.m. to noon, noon to 1 p.m., 1 to 2 p.m. or 2 to 3 p.m.

Because the new arena bears the name Golden 1 Center, Golden 1 Credit Union members were admitted into the arena for the three hours prior to the open house for the general public. Tickets for the free, members-only open house were obtained through the credit union's website.

Golden 1 Credit Union President and CEO Donna Bland commented about that pre-grand opening opportunity to visit the arena.

"We have been watching the construction progress since we signed the naming rights agreement over a year ago," she said. "We are excited the day is finally here when we can offer our members the opportunity to experience the world-class facility before it is officially open."

The majority of the thousands of people who visited the arena on Oct. 1 toured the facility during the general public open house, and many of those guests made their way to the arena using the light rail service of Sacramento Regional Transit, which offered free rides on that day.

Entertainment at the public open house included appearances by the Sacramento Kings mascot, Slamson, the Golden 1 mascot, Goldie, the Kings dancers, face painters, caricature artist John Denton of Citrus Heights, and a DJ playing music throughout the day.

Also open to the ticketed guests inside the arena were the food and beverage stands of such eateries as Paraga-



The Golden 1 Center, shown in this western view, is located on part of the former site of the Downtown Plaza shopping center. Photo by Lance Armstrong

ry's wood-fired pizza, Centro street tacos, Mulvaney's B & L and Star Ginger fresh Asian flavors.

East Sacramento native Doug Tarpin, a local real estate agent, who attended his first Kings game during the team's inaugural season in

1985, commented about the new arena.

"It's pretty amazing," he said. "It's like something I've always wished they would have done is move it down here (downtown) and it's incredible."

Tarpin added that the arena appears to be smaller than the Natomas area's Sleep Train Arena, which it replaced.

However, in terms of its seating capacity, the new arena is similar.

For instance, Sleep Train Arena featured a 17,317-seat capacity for basketball games, while the new arena has a basketball game seating capacity of 17,500.

The seating capacity for the Golden 1 Center can be expanded to 19,000 for concerts.

Tarpin also said that the Golden 1 Center is a lot more modern than its Natomas area predecessor, which opened as ARCO Arena in 1988.

"It's not a time capsule," he said. "It's not out in the pasture."

Citrus Heights resident Glen Marshall said that he appreciates the "openness" of the new arena.

"It has this openness from the concessions, where you

can still look down and see the floor," he said. "It's not walled off (inside the arena). There are no doors to get in there. It's wide open."

Another area resident, Marcus Day, spoke about his satisfaction that Sacramento, which was in jeopardy of losing its only major league sports team to another city, maintained the Kings and had a new arena built for the team.

"I'm very impressed with the arena, you know, especially with the thought of them actually leaving town," he said. "Sacramento (came) together to bring this arena that's beautiful and with all the technology that's involved with it. It's just amazing. It's so nice to see that this all came together the way it did."

Day added that with the Kings remaining in Sacramento and a new arena being built, he hopes that the city can draw more professional sports teams.

"With progress like this (arena), it should bring a lot more, especially now with the (Major League) Soccer (possibly) coming and all that. Shoot, if the (Oakland) Raiders move anywhere, they

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Golden 1:

Continued from page 10

need to move to Sacramento. To hell with Las Vegas."

Rocklin resident Denton Anderson mentioned that although he is impressed with the new arena, in general, he is dissatisfied with its concessions.

"They need to improve the concessions a lot," he said. "I'm not impressed at all. I'd rather have the concessions we had over at the old arena than what I'm seeing here. You know, you've got to walk all over the place to find anything. Over there you had four corners that all had the big concessions. It was much easier."

Anderson also expressed his disappointment with the upper level seating.

"I've got tickets for January upstairs and we went up and sat in those seats and man, you are high," he said. "It's way higher than the old (arena). The lowest seats way up at the top are way higher than they were at the other (arena). Well, they had to put in two levels of luxury suites and stuff and that pushed the upper deck way up."

As for his positive reactions to the arena, Anderson recognized the Golden 1 Center as a notable landmark.

"It's beautiful," he said. "It's going to be a centerpiece for the city here. There's no doubt about that. And just looking outside around it is pretty impressive."

On the grounds of the new arena is various artwork, including the world-renowned artist Jeff Koons' \$8 million Piglet-inspired sculpture.

During his visit to the new Golden 1 Center, Fair Oaks resident Ken McCollum offered a different opinion of the seating at the new arena.

"I like the seating," he said. "I looked at the seats and they're very nice and comfortable. And you have a fantastic view of the floor and you're never too far away from it. It really engages you, I think, much more so than the old ARCO Arena, which was like a big, old barn."

"I used to go there sometimes and get cheap tickets up in the nose bleeds and you needed binoculars and also there was definitely nose bleeding up there. This is much, much nicer."

McCollum also commented on the new arena's concessions.

"There are all sorts of different food concessions," he said. "That is really nice. I would like to see a little healthier options, but people come here to eat pizza and tacos and hamburgers and beer. But some of us like a little healthier options. But maybe in time they'll (add such choices)."

McCollum said that he is hopeful that the acoustics will be superior to those at the old ARCO Arena, which earned the nickname, "Echo Arena," due to its poor acoustics.

"I don't know what the acoustics are going to be like," he said. "But I hated going to concerts in ARCO, because the acoustics were so bad. But this looks like it would be a nice place to listen to music."

But if Kings Owner and Chairman Vivek Ranadivé words hold true, the Golden 1 Center's acoustics should not be an issue.

"World-class entertainment will have a new home in downtown Sacramento," he said. "Amazingly passionate fans, next-generation acoustics, and an iconic setting will ensure that Golden 1 Center will become a must-play for artists and entertainers of every genre."

In regard to Ranadivé, McCollum expressed his appreciation for the Kings owner's contributions to revitalizing downtown Sacramento.

"One thing I like about what Vivek Ranadivé has done here is he really sparked a renaissance in the downtown area," he said. "I've been in the Sacramento area a couple times over a period of about 50 years and it's been very painful seeing K Street and J Street and the core of the city deteriorate like it has. But now this is really exciting to see this (area) coming back. And I think it's going to work."

"We already see a lot more interest in building downtown, and more importantly, peo-

ple are starting to move back downtown to live. That's really the key, and I think the Golden 1 Center and the Kings really will spark a renaissance in Sacramento economically. So, I'm very excited about the future of Sacramento, particularly downtown Sacramento."

The Oct. 1 attractions at the Golden 1 Center also included the Sacramento Kings Fan Fest, which presented a limited number of fans with the opportunity to view an open Kings practice and participate in on-court contests with players.

Free tickets to Fan Fest, which began at 6:30 p.m., were quickly secured online by fans who were eager to view the team's first public appearance on the new Golden 1 Center floor.

The legendary English singer-songwriter Paul McCartney officially opened the arena with a concert on Oct. 4. The Kings' first regular season home game will be held at the Golden 1 Center on Oct. 27.

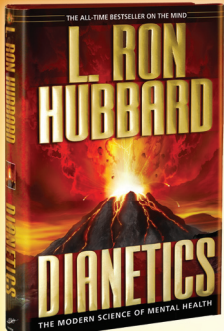


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Hitch up the tiny house:

Sac State students head to SMUD contest

By DIXIE REID

Sacramento State's student-built entry in the SMUD Tiny House Competition is painted a trendy "whale gray" – but the house itself is a minnow.

It's a cozy, light-filled 184 square feet of sustainable living on wheels.

Step through the French doors, and you're in the efficient mini kitchen with a desk/dining space in a bay window. A few steps away is the living "room," and a heartbeat beyond that is the bathroom. Shimmy up the ladder to the sleeping loft, and stretch out on a queen-size mattress.

The design is rustic/contemporary. A bounty of windows provide fresh air and natural light. The wood accents are fashioned from reclaimed pallets. The kitchen sink is recycled. Storage options are minimal but well-thought-out. The innovative vacuum-tube solar system will provide plenty of hot running water.

The net-zero energy tiny house was designed by interior architecture student Michelle Feasby with input from the rest of the Sac State Tiny Team, and was built over the past three months by 24 students and alumni from the Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, and Construction Management departments.

"I've learned a lot from being a part of the construction team," says Feasby. "I've been able to delegate – seeing the vision of what needs to happen next, and answering questions of the other volunteers. It's been a fun exercise, because project management is something I can see myself doing."

SMUD challenged 10 California collegiate teams to design and build affordable, livable, and innovative net-zero energy homes on trailers. The houses are no more than 400 square feet and cost less than \$25,000 in materials.

Student teams will conduct public tours of their tiny houses during SMUD's free



Shown here are Sacramento State student Tiny Team members: Jose Guerrero is the safety manager, and Michelle Feasby is an interior architecture major and lead designer./ Sacramento State

Tiny House Energy Showcase, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Cosumnes River College, 8401 Center Parkway.

In addition to Sac State, the competitors are: Chico State, Fresno State, Cosumnes River College, Laney College, College of the Sequoias, UC Berkeley, Santa Clara University, San Jose City College, and UC Santa Cruz/Cabrillo College.

Teams are vying for \$30,000 in prizes. Winners will be announced at the showcase.

SMUD modeled its inaugural Tiny House Competition on the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon. Teams will be judged on cri-

teria such as architectural design, energy efficiency, home life, and communications.

"Our students learned about practical project management, project design, and the experience of building something tangible that has an intended net-zero use," says Rustin Vogt, a professor of mechanical engineering and advisor to Sac State's Tiny Team. "When we cut the trailer apart, we had students who had never used a cutting torch or a grinding wheel. And now, they're versed in every stage of a sustainable build."

Sac State's tiny house will be returned to campus after the competition and make its home at STORC, the Sus-

tainable Technology Optimization Research Center, where it will be used as sustainable-living demonstration lab, says Lorenzo Smith, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Dixie Reid is a writer for Sacramento State University.

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NatureFest 2016

Promoting science and nature education and outdoor recreation NatureFest, Effie Yeaw's largest family event of the year, held on Sunday, Oct. 9, enabled visitors to learn more about local organizations that support the community. Live animal shows, kids activities, demonstrations, and guided nature hikes were all big hits.

Among animals Lynette from Lyon Zoo showed on the main stage included a fennec fox named Chewy, a porcupine named Sir Lancelot, and a galago named Darwin.

From the Sahara, fennec foxes have large ears and Chewy's were no exception. Chewy's large ears can hear a mouse's heart beat under the sand. He got his name after a sad incident in which his dad attacked him just a few hours after he was born. Missing the tip of his nose, he was called, "the chewed up one" and later, hence, Chewy. Native to the Sahara, fennec foxes, Lynette said, can go their whole lifetimes without drinking water and their average life expectancies are six years old.

Eradication. Restoration. Education. The three-pronged approach frames the groundbreaking Arcade Creek Project, an ongoing study monitoring the Arcade Creek (the largest urban watershed in Northern California) run entirely by the students and science instructors at Mira Loma High School. From laboratory research to hands-on field studies, the Arcade Creek Project allows students to work in real-world situations that prepare them for college and careers beyond. With 346 students, 4,608 hours logged (this semester) and 50,000-plus hours logged (since the founding), for 19 years, the Creek Project has served the community by monitoring the health of the Arcade Creek. The Creek Project has 11 studies, spanning laboratory analysis, field research, community outreach, and habitat restoration. The Creek Project has won numerous awards, and inspired the creation of similar studies world-wide.





Outstanding Alumni:

Mira Loma alumnus thrives as professional rock climber

Today, Alex “No Big Deal” Honnold is a world renowned free-solo rock climber, author and philanthropist. But before finding his passion for adventure and climbing, he was a shy student at Mira Loma High School.

“I enjoyed high school at Mira Loma,” said Honnold via email. “The IB program was important to me at the time and still an important part of who I’ve grown into.”

Honnold was a student in the school’s renowned International Baccalaureate program, which fosters global awareness and aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people. He earned a 4.7 GPA, but said like many students, he did not realize the value of some classes until he began his career.

“There were a lot of classes that didn’t seem particularly relevant as I took them which have turned out to be incredibly helpful in my current life,” he said, citing examples like Spanish and anthropology. “I’ve been spending a month alpine climbing in southern Argentina each of the last three winters — it’s nice to be able to communicate and understand the local culture to some extent.”

Honnold is widely considered the world’s greatest free-solo climber — a form of rock climbing without a rope or any protective equipment. He earned his nickname, “No Big Deal,” by free-soloing the world’s tallest mountains and humbly describing each feat as “no big deal.” During the hardest parts of a climb, his fingers have as much contact with the walls

as people do with their smartphone screens, while his toes are on paper-thin cliffs.

Honnold will be a featured honoree Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. during the tenth anniversary of An Evening with the STARS, an event benefiting the San Juan Education Foundation and showcasing exceptional alumni who got their start in San Juan Unified schools. Honnold will be featured alongside NBA Executive Vice President Amy Brooks and Capitol Advisors Group President Kevin Gordon. Educator Lucinda Luttgren will also be receiving the Shining Star award.

Source: SJ Scene, San Juan Unified School District’s newsletter



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Artist Bill Styler reminisces about his iconic KZAP cat mascot

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

Many longtime Sacramento residents have fond memories about the city's legendary radio station, KZAP 98.5 FM, which entertained its listeners from 1968 to 1992. And many of those people recall the station's iconic cat mascot.

But the majority of those former KZAP listeners are unfamiliar with Bill Styler, the man who created that image in 1974.

Bill, who was born in Sacramento and raised in Davis, said that it was a combination of his availability as an artist and the recommendation of his brother, KZAP DJ Gordon "Gordo" Styler (1947-2012), that led to his selection as the artist to create KZAP's cat mascot.

"(Gordo) had mentioned to (KZAP's sales manager) Don Early that I was a freelance graphic artist, and was out on my own," he said. "So, (Gordo) said, 'Go down (to KZAP) and see Don. So, I went down to the station. The idea was it was to be a cat. And that's basically what I got from Don, and just to use my imagination.'"

Although Bill was only in his mid-20s at that time, he had already gained a substantial amount of experience and confidence as an artist, considering that he began painting and drawing at an early age and earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of California, Davis.

At the age of 16, Bill was already working professionally, earning money painting artistic scenes on trucks, vans and motorcycles, and creating signs for a few businesses in Davis.

Bill said that his inspiration for the KZAP cat came from a cat that happened to be living in his Sacramento residence.

"It was actually styled after my brother's cat, Tubby," he said. "So, my then-future wife (Sue Gallinger, who had earned a bachelor's degree in wildlife biology at UC Davis) and I were living at the house on F Street with my brother and another guy. My wife and I had a downstairs bedroom and my

brother and a friend of his from college had the rooms upstairs. And it was an old Sacramento home. It would have been a duplex back in the day."

In continuing to tell his story about his decision to use Tubby as his model for KZAP's mascot, Bill recalled a specific incident related to that red, tiger-striped tom cat, which he described as having a strong personality.

"My brother was working at KZAP and he was also working for the state of California, so he had some nice dress shoes in his closet," he said. "One time he came home and Tubby had taken a dump in the dress shoes. That sort of was a Hallmark moment."

"Shortly after that I just sat down and I kind of drew this picture of Tubby with this silly, passive-aggressive grin on his face. And that was what started it."

Bill said that his KZAP mascot drawing received positive reactions from the station's air staff and news people and others who saw it.

But he also noted that the artwork resulted in a response that surprised him.

"Everybody who looked at it said, 'My God, he looks stoned,'" he said. "And I said, 'Well, OK.' But that's not what (he intended). It was all about the passive-aggressive personality of Tubby. For whatever reason, it hit everybody really well. So, I just said, 'OK, fine, he's stoned.' Why not? Everybody else was (stoned), so the cat might as well be, too."

The KZAP cat mascot artwork first appeared in the form of an exterior window sticker, Bill recalled.

"The first set of window stickers was an exterior window sticker on the outside surface, and they realized, 'Hmm, that's probably not a good idea,'" he said.

That sticker was followed by a similar interior sticker that was much less weather and element challenged.

Those stickers were followed by smaller KZAP cat mascot window stickers.

Bill also created a series of black and white, KZAP line

drawing advertisements for use in newspapers and magazines, as well as three bus banners, some of which featured the station's mascot.

Bill mentioned that local artist Roger Shepherd eventually created KZAP bumper stickers with versions of his cat mascot image.

Although Tubby was given a good life in his Sacramento home and was memorialized as KZAP's mascot, Bill noted that not every moment was an enjoyable moment for his brother's cat.

"(Herb Wright), one of my brother's roommates in college for a long time was in vet school at UCD," he said. "Herb dropped by the (F Street) house in Sacramento (in 1975) and my wife and Gordo and Herb and I got Tubby, and Herb castrated him on the kitchen table," he said. "His life was never the same."

Bill mentioned that Tubby was undoubtedly Gordo's most well-known cat. But he added that Tubby was certainly not the only animal his brother ever owned.

"(Gordo) was an animal lover and he would rescue animals and Tubby was a rescue," he said. "And at the time, he only had Tubby, one cat. Later on, he got more, but Tubby was an only child for a long time." And in response to the inquiry of how many animals his brother owned, Bill said, "It just varied so much, because it was rescue town," he said. "At one time he had three dogs and I think 17 cats. That was about the peak."

Bill noted that in addition to his work as an artist, he has been interested in music throughout his life, and that his love of music led him to play the guitar as a teenager.

"I started playing guitar when I was 13," he said. "I started tearing guitars apart when I was 14. I was always into guitars and guitar music and rock."

Bill also created several posters for concerts at Freeborn Hall in Davis and the college radio station, KDVS, in the same city.

In 1976, Bill left Sacramento to live in Montana, where he established his own sign company.

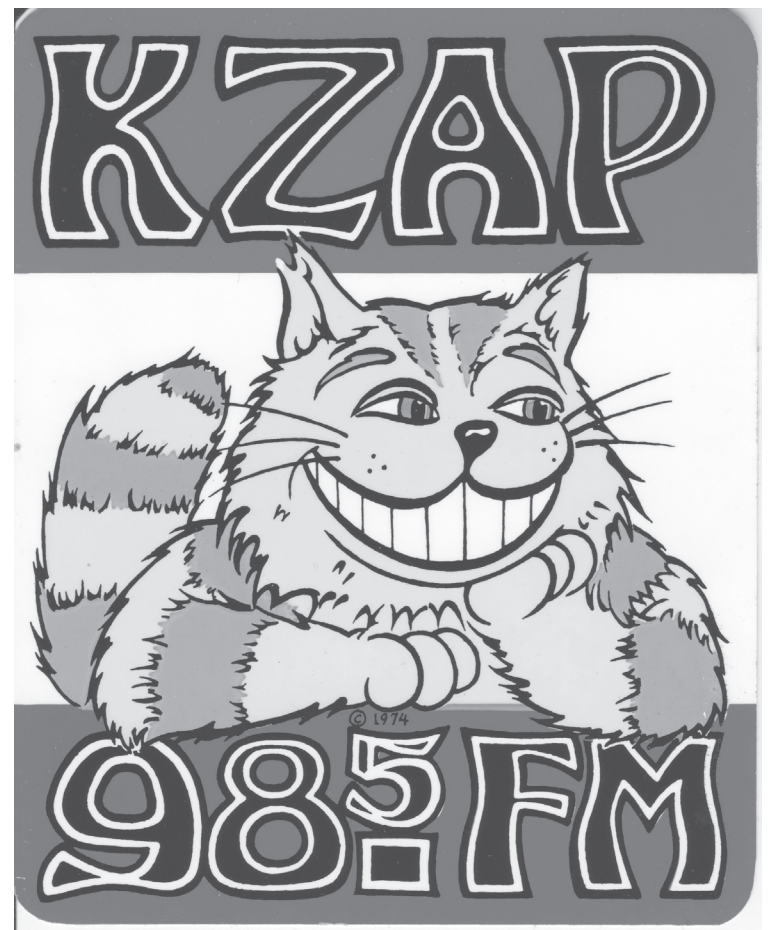


Photo courtesy of Bill Styler

This cat mascot-themed window sticker was created by Bill Styler in 1974.

Seven years later, Bill, Sue and their two sons were living in the state of Washington, where Bill worked for sign companies and occupied some of his spare time as a freelance artist. He bought one of those companies, the Auburn Sign Co.,

which he ran with his wife from 1985 to 1994.

Bill currently resides in Idaho, where he lives with Sue, continues to create art and occasionally reminisces about his memorable times working as an artist for KZAP.

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SATURDAY, OCT. 22

OKTOBERFEST AT RIVER CITY BREWING COMPANY: The Carmichael Chamber, Milagro Centre, Katie Pexa and River City are hosting 1st annual Oktoberfest benefiting the Alzheimer's Association. There will be food, beer, live music, games, raffle prizes and lots more! \$20 admission; 1 to 6 p.m.; River City Brewing Company, 6241 Fair Oaks Blvd. carmichael.chamberofcommerce.me The Carmichael Chamber, Milagro Centre, Katie Pexa and River City are hosting 1st annual Oktoberfest benefiting Alzheimer's association. There will be food, beer, live music, games, raffle prizes and lots more! \$20 admission. Location: Milagro Centre, 6241 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael, CA 95608.

MONSTER BASH AT THE SACRAMENTO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Visit the Sacramento Children's Museum for a night of superhero fun at the annual Monster Bash! Guests are encouraged to gear up for Halloween by wearing their best costume and come play the night away at the Museum. They'll have a DJ, dancing, refreshments, photo opportunities with Spiderman and Captain America, and Museum play, too! Also, guests who wear a costume to the Museum on October 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. will get free admission. For more, visit www.sackids.org; 2701 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26

MOVIE MADNESS: THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE: It's family movie night at the Arden Dimick Library, 891 Watt Ave. Free film, free popcorn from 6 to 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

A SPOOKY AFTERNOON WITH THE DEL PASO HEIGHTS PUPPETEERS: The renowned Del Paso Heights Puppeteers will take their show on the road this October, and bring their scary brand of storytime to the North Sacramento-Hagginwood library from 4 to 5 p.m. 2109 Del Paso Blvd. They will perform the ghostly tale of "The Tailypo" and "The Monster and the Tailor." You won't want to miss this frightfully good time, so be sure to show up early to get a good spot.

SATURDAY, NOV. 5

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: Rain or shine, come check out 60-plus vendors for this fun craft fair, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 16

MEDEA BENJAMIN TO DISCUSS NEW BOOK: Starting at 7 p.m., Medea Benjamin speaks on her new book Kingdom of the Unjust that explores, exposes, and questions the relationship between the U.S. and the human rights violating dictatorship of Saudi Arabia. UU, 2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. FMI: sacpeace@dcn.org

SATURDAY, NOV. 19

GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET: American River Community Church invites you to the first annual German Christmas Market, an opportunity for local businesses and artisans to display their unique talents. There will be food, lights and music. If you would like to be a vendor, please contact the church. There are spots for over 100 vendors. Cost is \$20 for 1 space, \$30 for 2 spaces, or \$40 for 3 spaces. Whatever you sell, you get to keep all the proceeds. Event time: 9:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Location: American River Community Church, 3300 Walnut Ave., Carmichael. Contact Person: Heidi Caden, 415-505-5945.

SUNDAY, NOV. 20

INVITING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS AND VOCALISTS TO PERFORM AT THE SACRAMENTO YOUTH SYMPHONY PRESENTS SYMPHONY OF 2000: The Sacramento Youth Symphony is inviting all instrumentalists and vocalists of the Sac-

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ramento Valley region to come and participate in the Symphony of 2000, a unique orchestral and choral experience. People of all ages and abilities are invited to choose and perform as many as they would like from the selection of classical and well-known compositions that include Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" (from the Messiah), Amazing Grace, and Sousa's Stars and Stripes. This is a grand event for instrumentalists, vocalists, or spectators alike, as the Symphony of 2000 makes Sacramento history

again. Tickets: \$25 participation fee for instrumentalists and vocalists. Participants register online at www.sacramentoyouthsymphony.org/symphony-of-2000. General Admission \$20, Tickets available at Community Center Theater Box Office or at <http://www.sacramentocommunitycentertheater.com/Events>. More details are as follows: Sunday, Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium, 1515 J St. Contact: Sacramento Youth Symphony, Vicki Schaevitz, vicki@sacramentoyouthsymphony.org or at 731-5777.

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Sacramento pianist to play Chopin at only local concert this year

By DELL RICHARDS
Special to
Valley Community Newspapers

Sacramento musician Tanya Vegvary will perform Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 in F Minor with the American River College Symphony Orchestra on Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29 at the college performing arts theater.

Vegvary will not only be performing, but bringing her piano with her—a Steinway concert grand.

"Pianos are made for different uses, for concertos in large halls or chamber music in smaller settings," said Vegvary. "This one has a beautiful tone that people will be able to hear above the orchestra."

In addition to being hauled to the hall and back, the 9 ft.-long instrument "has to be tuned and voiced each way."

The 75-piece orchestra will be conducted by ARC music professor, Steven Thompson.

Recognized for her renditions of composers such as Prokofiev and Liszt, Vegvary also is beginning to make a name for herself globally as a composer.

"Iolanda" from her Geary Street CD has become such a

hit in Europe that her 2017 "True Love Tour" already has a London date.

Vegvary began studying piano when her father—a semi-professional jazz musician—started her playing one-finger tunes at age four.

She began formal lessons a year later.

Even today, Vegvary practices four or five hours a day, seven days a week.

"For me, the piano is almost a spiritual experience—it's a doorway into the oneness of all things," said Vegvary. "I feel connected to the composers I play and the people who hear me."

At 13 years old, she won her first music scholarship—and began thinking about making music a career.

She continued her studies at the California State University, Sacramento, graduating summa cum laude with a B.A. in humanities—and a bachelor's of music in piano performance.

This summer, she taught piano master classes in San Marino, Italy.

The year before she performed in Trikala, Greece.

In the past, Vegvary has given concerts at National Gallery in Washington, D.C., and Music on the Divide in Georgetown.



She also performed an all-Liszt program at the Hungarian National Embassy in Washington, D.C., and at the Hungarian Consulate General in Los Angeles for the 200th anniversary of Liszt's birth.

"I've always felt an affinity for the Russian and Eastern European composers," said Vegvary. "Probably because I'm Hungarian, the music comes very naturally to me."

In 2010, Vegvary founded the Sacramento Piano Conservatory School of Music on Power Inn Road.

The conservatory not only offers music lessons and performance opportunities, but brings in well-known pianists and composers to take advantage of the Steinway in the recital hall.

The ARC theater is at 4700 College Oak Drive, Sacramento.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m.. Doors open at 7 p.m..

Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 students, available at www.brownpapertickets.com or the ARC Theater box office one hour prior to the event.

Proceeds go to the ARC music department program.

For more information, visit <http://tanyavegary.com/events/> or call American River College, 484-8433 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Ravel: Piano Concerto
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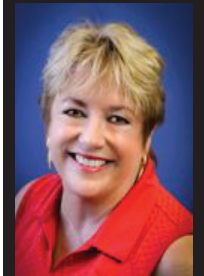
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Fair Oaks Village • 8061 Grand Avenue



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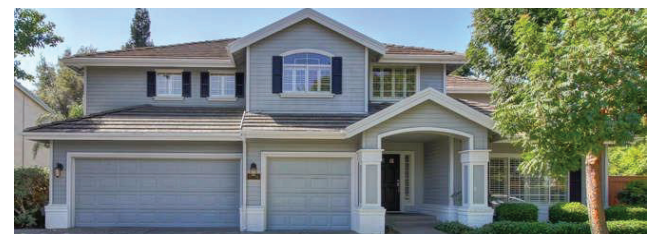
3 Beds • 2 Baths • 1,518 Sq. Ft. • \$305,000

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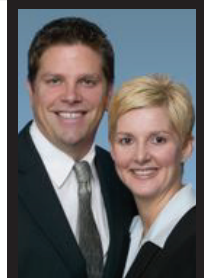
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