

April 2015

California Kids!

Free!

Valley Community Newspapers, Inc. • 2709 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95818 • www.valcomnews.com
Publishers of the Arden-Carmichael News, the East Sacramento News, The Land Park News, The Pocket News, and The Valley Shopper.



916-985-7055



Explore the Unknown

Adventure is out there!

SUMMER 2015

LITTLEFOLKSU.COM



FOLSOM, CA

ACT • SING • DANCE • MAKE FILMS • PLAY MUSIC • AND MUCH MORE



Make this the **BEST SUMMER EVER!**

Programs for ages 7-19

Register at
uCamps.org

or call

415.240.6852

\$300^{.00} OFF

any summer program.
Use promo code **CAKIDS**
@ uCamps.org

California's Premiere Leadership & Performing Arts Camp



Scholarships & payment plans available

Follow, Like & Subscribe

#SHAREu #uCamps



SACRAMENTO
WALDORF SCHOOL
Located in Fair Oaks



Open House & May Day

Sunday May 3rd, 11:00am

- Tour the classrooms
- 1st-8th grade

Now Enrolling for September!

www.sacwaldorf.org or 916-860-2518
3750 Bannister Road, Fair Oaks, CA 95628



Photo by Dani Roth

RECYCLE

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER ♻️



SPRING SATURDAYS

9 AM TO 4 PM **sacramentoZOO**

APRIL 4 EARTH FEST: Party for the Planet!

Discover conservation through crafts, games & activities. Score bargains & support conservation at the RECYCLE RUMMAGE SALE.

MAY 2 WHERE THE WILD KIDS ARE

Celebrate culture through art, music & dance. Enjoy activities & live performances throughout the day.

Plan your visit:

saczoo.org
916.808.5888



Table of contents

Wordsearch: April is a busy month!
.....page 6

Fun Gift Ideas!..... page 10

Who Wrote That? Denise Vega
by Bitsy Kemperpage 9

The Book Report: Learning the ABCs
by Connie Goldsmith page 13

Travel: RV season is here
by Carmel L. Mooney page 17

Calendar of Events pages 18-19

Parties! Parties!..... pages 22-23

www.valcomnews.com

California Kids!

www.valcomnews.com

Publisher: George Macko

General Manager: Kathleen Egan

Contributing Writers:

Connie Goldsmith, Bitsy Kemper, Carmel L. Mooney

Art Director: John Ochoa

Graphic Designer: Annin Greenhalgh

Advertising: Steve Crowley 916-429-9901

Cover photo courtesy Kate Pohl

California Kids! is published monthly and distributed to more than 1,000 locations in the Sacramento Valley, including all of Sacramento County, and portions of Yolo (Davis and Woodland), Placer (Rocklin and Roseville), El Dorado (Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, Placerville) counties.

Subscriptions are available for \$30/year. Mail prepaid check or money order to California Kids!, 2709 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95818. Make sure to specify the person and address to which you wish issues to be mailed.

Deadlines for advertising and calendar listings are the 25th of the month prior to publication. Calendar listings should be mailed to 2709 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95818, faxed to (916) 429-9906, or e-mailed to kathleen@valcomnews.com.

Copyright 2015 by Valley Community Newspapers Inc., 2709 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95818. Phone: (916) 429-9901. Fax: (916) 429-9906. E-mail: kathleen@valcomnews.com. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

"Tales of Br'er Rabbit" at Fairytale Town

On April 4 and 5, 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., Magical Moonshine Theatre will present "Tales of Br'er Rabbit," the traditional African American stories featuring Br'er Rabbit, Br'er Fox and Br'er Bear, with large table-top puppets, a live banjo and singing. Br'er Rabbit may be small, but he has his wits. That doesn't keep him out of trouble, but does tend to get him out of it, once he gets into it. When he comes

up against the likes of Br'er Fox and Br'er Bear, it turns out they are no match for the clever rabbit.

Based in Vallejo, Magical Moonshine Theatre has been recognized for fine quality programming with an emphasis on puppetry, masks and music since 1979.

The performance takes place in Fairytale Town's indoor Children's Theater. 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.

Fairytale Town is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from March through October and Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from November through February, weather permitting and unless otherwise noted. For more information, visit fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.



Photo courtesy Fairytale Town

Call Steve for ad rates
916-429-9901

C HORSE RANCH

Home of Healing Pastures

Courage Confidence and Caring

- English and Western Riding Lessons
- Year round riding Camps
- Vendors for Home School
- Cancer Survivor's Support Groups
- Organic Garden
- Birthday Parties
- Riding lessons for all ages
- 4 H and Girl Scouts
- Field trips
- Charter / Home school

Success in the Saddle and in Life
We welcome beginners and experienced riders of all ages.

530-888-7766
www.chorseranchauburn.com
11685 Lorenson Road
Auburn, CA 95602

Like us on Facebook @ C Horse Ranch

healing balm

PRIVATE IN HOME CARE AT ITS FINEST

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING:

- Household Chores:**
Meal planning, cooking, light house maintenance, pet and plant care.
- Companionship and Social:**
Protective supervision, transportation, community outings, errands and travel assistant.
- Medical Services:**
Assistance with medical/Medicaid, medication reminder, diabetes management and private skilled nurse.
- Personal Care:**
Mobility and transfer assistance, eating associate, bathing and personal care.

12 Shady River Circle Sacramento, CA 95831 | 916.798.1450 direct | 916.520.0900 fax
info@healingbalmhc.com | www.healingbalmhc.com

The Maidu Museum and Historic Site Events

• **Campfires: Every 3rd Friday, April through October from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Museum doors open at 7 p.m. Native Storytelling and roasting marshmallows around the campfire. \$5 per person, \$16 family of four, under 2 are FREE.

• **National Library Week at Maidu Museum: April 13-April 18.** Show your Roseville Public Library Card to enjoy free admission all week long in celebration of National Library Week, including the Campfire event.

• **Campfire: Friday, April 17, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Sit under the stars at the outdoor amphitheater to enjoy native stories around the campfire. The Museum will provide roasting sticks and marshmallows for a sweet program's end. Museum doors open at 7 p.m. Free admission if you show your Roseville Public Library card. \$5 per person, \$16 family of four, under 2 are FREE.

• **Night Out at the Museum, Saturday, April 18, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Enjoy a Night Out at the Museum and

the opening reception for the Annual Native Youth Art Show. Featuring art by the Sierra Native Alliance and United Auburn Indian Community youth groups. Museum doors open at 6:30 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m. Light refreshments will be available. FREE Event.

• **April 25, Yomen: A Spring Celebration, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** FREE Event. Tribal dance groups, traditional art and craft demonstrations, guided trail tours, native storytelling, children's activities and craft fair. Indian tacos and other foods available for sale.

The Maidu Museum is open: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3rd Saturdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Guided Tours Saturdays at 10 a.m. Self-guided tours on weekdays. Admission Fees: \$4.50 Adults, \$4 Senior/Child, \$16/Family of Four, \$2 after 2 p.m. The Museum is located at 1970 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville. For more information, call (916) 774-5934 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum.

Pinocchio at Storytime Theatre

Storytime Theatre of Sacramento City College proudly presents Pinocchio adapted and directed by Doug Lawson. Pinocchio opens April 18 and plays Saturdays and Sundays, at noon, through May 10. Admission is \$5 for all ages, cash or checks only at the door. Tickets may also be purchased online at citytheatre.net (children two years old and under are admitted free.) Group rate for parties of 15 or more receive 20% off. Call (916) 558-2174 to make arrangements. Half-price opening day special, April 18th only.

Performance will be located in the newly renovated Little Theatre, Room 106, of the Performing Arts Center located in the corner by 12th Avenue and Freeport Boulevard, the northwest corner of the Sacramento City College campus. Parking is free on campus Saturdays and Sundays only. The Sunday performance on May 3, will be interpreted in American sign language. For more information visit citytheatre.net or call Doug Lawson, Children's Theatre Coordinator, at (916) 558-2174.

Please **RECYCLE** this paper

KOHL'S BUCKLE UP TO GROW UP



"I learned from the best"

Kids learn safety habits from their role models. Be sure everyone in your family wears a helmet when they ride.

Call us to schedule an appointment for a free helmet check. **916-734-9798**

KOHL'S Cares

UC DAVIS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

buckleup.ucdavis.edu • www.facebook.com/buckleup2growup



REAL TRAINS. TOY TRAINS. ALL ABOARD!

Enjoy our Small Train Holiday on November 28 and 29.

VISIT the California State Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento, open daily 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

EXPERIENCE *All Aboard for Story Time!*, the first and third Monday of each month at 11 and 11:30 a.m.

RIDE Tuesday Trains through November 4, departures at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and the Veteran's Day Train on November 11, departures at 1, 2, and 3 p.m.

SHOP at our fabulous Museum Store, a *Thomas & Friends*™ Official Specialty Station — one of 20 exclusive Logan retailers.



CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM
125 "I" Street in Old Sacramento | (916) 323-9280 | www.csrmf.org



Effie Yeaw Nature Center Activities

Spring Plein Air Watercolor Painting with David Peterson Seminar: Thursday, April 9, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Field Study: Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. to noon

This workshop, led by well-known local artist David Peterson, will demonstrate how to capture the world around you in your own unique way. On Thursday, David will present a lecture and a demonstration of his unique using black line, bold shapes and contrasting values. He will focus on how to interpret nature and not copy it. On Saturday, the participants will head outdoors to make a plan and then paint a watercolor using materials supplied. The purpose of this workshop is for participants to learn how to create an impression of nature from life. This program (seminar and field study) has a participant limit of 14 people. Art materials will be supplied on Saturday. Fee includes both events: \$35 (General Admission) \$30 (ARNHA members) Pre-registration required.

Free Weekend Activities

April 4, Saturday, Spring Egg-stravaganza! 10:30 a.m.

Join the staff for a program that celebrates animals that hatch from eggs. Examine nest and egg collections, then hit the trails in search of nests.

April 5, Sunday, Wildflower Walk, 1:30 p.m.

Poppies, lupine, and grass pinks! Come explore the Nature Area in search of what's in bloom.

April 11, Saturday, Wonderful Watershed, 10:30 a.m.

In celebration of Creek Week, come explore the American River into which many of our local creeks flow. Take a hike to the river and learn all about it's journey, see what kinds of animals are living in and along its edge, and find out how you can keep our local waterways healthy and happy. Information about other Creek Week activities at www.creekweek.net. All ages welcomed.

April 12, Sunday, Living in Water, 1:30 p.m.

Discover the hidden world of water insects and polliwogs. Using catch and release activities, get a close-up look at amazing little animals that live in our pond and can be found in our local waterways. Information about other Creek Week activities at www.creekweek.net. All ages welcomed.

April 18, Saturday, Birding for Families, 10:30 a.m.

Bring the family out for a birding and nature walk led by a Naturalist and our special guest guides from the Sacramento Audubon Society. Birdwatchers of all levels welcome. Make sure to bring your binoculars, or borrow one from the staff.

April 19, Sunday, Kestrel Connection, 1:30 p.m.

Meet Rocky, the Nature Center's resident kestrel, hear his story and what makes him North America's smallest falcon. After a good look at this handsome bird, make a kestrel bracelet to remember your new friend. All ages welcome.

April 25, Saturday, Critter Close-up, 10:30 a.m.

Get eye to eye with one of the scaly, furry, or feathered resident animals.

The Effie Yeaw Nature Center is located 2850 San Lorenzo Way, at California Avenue and Tarshes Drive, Carmichael. Donations are gratefully accepted. There is a \$5 per car entrance fee into Ancil Hoffman County Park (Free to members). For more information, call (916) 489-4918 or visit www.sacnaturecenter.net.

Send us your Photos!

California Kids! is looking for themed photos to use for our monthly publication.

This is your BIG chance to land a cover shot!

For more info please contact kathleen@valcomnews.com

April is a busy month!

Hey kids! Can you find words related to environmental activities, egg hunts, Pass-over and the importance of trees! Here's a puzzle that will test your skill at finding hidden words related to April holidays. Those on the list below can be spelled forward, backward, vertically, horizontally and even diagonally.

S O P S T F G N I T N A L P E E R T
 G N I L C Y C E R A R S R K A X G R
 G E C C R E F B O T N R E I G Y N Y
 E F N H R X H P D O W D Y E E G G S
 E A I U U L B H I Y O D N S I A N D
 T M C R P U C T G A R B O R D A Y B
 A I S C L R A H O D R Y E Y Z S R W
 L L W H A R L S O S E Z F S U E O O
 O I W S B A U T D L V D E S B R E O
 C E D E N B C N F O O E S K S I A M
 O S L R D B G U R O S R T H U X S S
 H E N V B I F H I F S B I O T N T S
 C U U I I T W G D L A P V E A E E N
 Y T O C T S N G A I P K A E K L R R
 R B O E R A L E Y R R E L S C A N X
 E A R T H D A Y N P D L A A V E S L
 S T E N N O B O S A O B S E B X C S

April Fools Day
 Arbor Day
 Baskets
 Bonnets
 celebrations
 chocolate Eggs
 church Service

Dye eggs
 Earth Day
 Easter
 Egg Hunts
 Families
 Festival

Good Friday
 Passover
 Picnics
 Rabbits
 Recycling
 Tree planting
 worship



Photos courtesy Discovery Museum Science & Space Center

Discovery Museum Science & Space Center Activities

• **April 3, Friday, Challenger Learning Center Community Mission: Rendezvous with Comet Halley, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

Experience the wonder of space exploration! The Challenger Learning Center Simulated Space Mission launches you on an exciting voyage of discovery. See what it is like to work for NASA while you perform hands-on science experiments, operate robotic arms, build a probe and support the astronauts from Mission Control. A fun educational experience for families, friends, co-workers, club members and scouts. Ages appropriate for: 9 and older.

• **April 4, Saturday, NanoDays, 12:30 to 4 p.m.** NanoDays is a nationwide festival of educational programs featuring nanoscale science and engineering and the potential impact on the future. The Discovery Museum is a member of the Nanoscale

Informal Science Education Network and is offering a nano-celebration. The classroom is full of hands-on activities to help your family understand the nano-world and its importance to our society. Remember, your admission includes visiting the Space Quest! and Nature Discovery Room exhibits, a Family Feature highlighting one of the museum's live animals at noon and 2 p.m. (all ages), and a planetarium show at 1 and 3 p.m. For ages 4 and older only.

• **April 11 and 12, Saturday and Sunday, Yuri's Weekend, noon to 4 p.m.** The Museum is participating in the international celebration of Yuri Gagarin, the first human in space. Enjoy the Space Quest! exhibit, highlighting the past, present and future of humans in space. Allow your children to imagine becoming an astronaut in the space rocket play area. Children craft a Yuri finger

puppet to take home as a souvenir. At noon and 2 p.m. the staff will be highlighting Yuri and the great strides he took becoming the first human in space. Remember, your admission also includes the Nature Discovery Room exhibit and planetarium show at 1 and 3 p.m. Ages appropriate for: 4-12 years old

• **April 18 and 19, Saturday and Sunday, Wacky Waterfowl Weekend, noon to 4 p.m.** California Waterfowl Association invites you to explore the wondrous wings of waterfowl, learning how to identify birds using their wing size and patterns. Take home a pocket book guide to waterfowl ID. After exploring, try drawing a waterfowl. Leave with materials and knowledge to do your own waterfowl artwork to submit to the Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest where every art piece generates \$1 toward conservation. Remember, your admis-

sion also includes visiting the Space Quest! exhibit, Nature Discovery Room exhibit, and a planetarium show at 1 and 3 p.m. For ages 4 and older only.

• **April 25 and 26, Saturday and Sunday, Happy 25th Anniversary Hubble, 12:30 to 4 p.m.** The Hubble Space Telescope has been sending back images of space for 25 years. Information gained from these pictures has changed our knowledge of space and has solved some of the mysteries it holds. View Hubble images during our noon and 2 p.m. Family Feature (all ages). Children 12 and

younger craft a Hubble image viewer. Remember, your admission also includes visiting the Space Quest! exhibit, Nature Discovery Room exhibit, and a planetarium show at 1 and 3 p.m. Ages appropriate for: 4-12 years old.

The Discovery Museum Science and Space Center is located at 3615 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento. Admission is: \$8 adults (18+), \$7 seniors (60+), \$7 teens (13-17), \$6 children (4-12), \$0 children (3 and younger). The exhibits are age appropriate for 4 to 12 years old. For more information, call (916) 808-3942 or visit www.thediscovery.org.



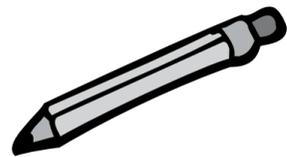
"my best friend!"
 Publish a photo of your family pet and tell us why they are so special to you.
\$45 FULL COLOR PHOTO OF YOUR BEST FRIEND!

CONTACT STEVE FOR DETAILS • 429-9901 • STEVE@VALCOMNEWS.COM



Photos by CROWLEY
 Capturing Memories for a Lifetime
Steve Crowley
 916-730-6184
photosbycrowley@yahoo.com
www.photosbycrowley.com

MAKE IT YOURSELF!



Felt Easter Egg

This felt Easter egg is a simple Easter craft activity which gives children plenty of opportunity for practicing cutting, decorating and sewing skills.

You will need:

Felt, thread, fabric paint, toy stuffing

You will need to:

Cut out 2 egg shapes from felt. Sew the eggs together until you have just a small gap left through which to stuff the egg. Sew the gap closed. Decorate with fabric paint.



Recycled carton Plant Pot

Here is a simple way to reuse juice cartons. Younger children will need the preparation work done for them.

You will need:

Juice or milk carton, scissors, white paint, felt tip pens, acrylic varnish (optional)

You will need to:

Make a hole in one of the two big sides of the carton and cut away the side. Make a few holes in the remaining big side. These will form drainage holes in the base of your pot. Paint the pot with white paint and leave to dry. Decorate with felt pens. Draw on stars and moons, flowers, or anything else you fancy. An optional coat of varnish will make the pot more hardwearing, particularly if you plan to use it outdoors.



Owl-Bird Scarer

Imagine this lovely, colorful owl-bird scarer reflecting the light and scaring the birds away from your seed beds! Of course it would look fabulous hanging in the home or classroom too, and kids can really go to town on decorating it.

You will need:

Old cd/dvd, old plastic carrier bags, strong waterproof glue, string/yarn to hang, assorted bottle tops, glass pens, permanent marker

You will need to:

Decorate the silver side of the cd with glass pens. Cut a length of string to hang. Thread it through the middle of the cd and then knot at the edge of the cd. Glue on bottle tops for eyes. Use a permanent marker to draw on pupils. Cut a beak and wings from plastic carrier bags and glue on. Hang your owl up where it will catch the breeze!



Tissue Paper Stained Glass Egg

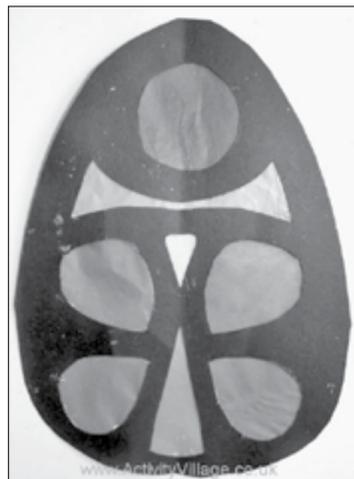
Rummage through the craft cupboard for supplies for this pretty tissue paper stained glass egg for Easter.

You will need:

Black card, glue, tissue paper

You will need to:

Fold the black card in half and cut out an egg from the center of the card. Carefully cut out sections from the middle of the egg to make a pattern. Glue on pieces of tissue paper to cover each of the holes. Stick your egg up onto the window and let the sun shine through.



Crafts courtesy of: www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

Who wrote that?

The Creators of Your Child's Favorite Books

With author Denise Vega

By Bitsy Kemper

Authors have different perspectives on how long it takes to get a book to print. Denise Vega may have the most slanted.

In the year 2000, Denise had an idea for a counting book. At a writer's conference in late 2001, she had the fortunate chance to talk to the Vice President and Editorial Director of Cartwheel Books at Scholastic.

Denise asked the editor how she felt about writers when they didn't really experience much of the culture growing up. (Denise is third generation part-Mexican, and not bilingual). After a short discussion, the director asked her to send it in. In no time, Denise was offered a contract and she was on her way!

Or so it seemed. The director ended up leaving. Changes at the large house meant the project was passed around to several editors, causing printing delays. Each new editor had to be brought up to speed. That took more time. Years, in fact.

Caldecott winner David Diaz was chosen to illustrate it. Denise was thrilled; she loved his award-winning work. But he had other art commitments that took priority. They all agreed it would be worth it to wait for his time to free up. Which, of course, meant more waiting.



Denise Vega

A year or two later, his time freed up and he got to work. Finally progress was being made. Sort of.

To make the book stand out, the publishing house looked at different ideas. They decided to make it bilingual, and have the pages shaped like the ingredients. Great, unique ideas! Everyone was pleased.

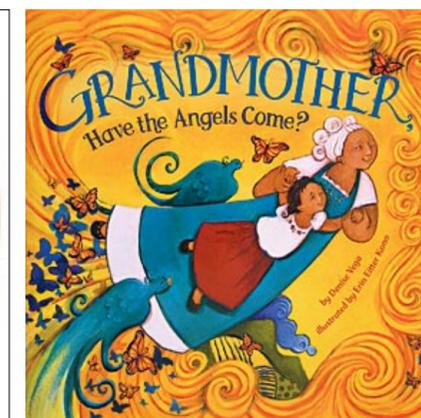
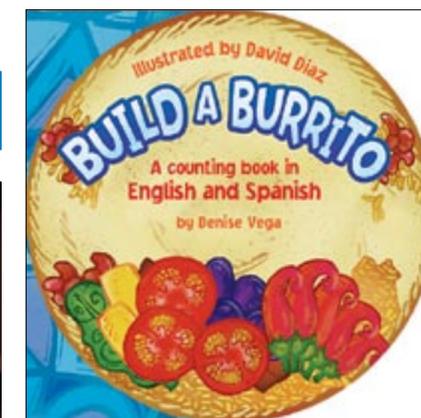
But that meant but meant David had to redo his illustrations.

In the meantime, Denise was busy writing a few middle grade novels. Turns out, she was pretty good. CLICK HERE was published in 2005. FACT OF LIFE #31 came out in early 2008. Denise started working on two picture books and two other middle grade novels that would eventually come to print. And just when it seemed BURRITO was a faded memory, the circle was complete.

In late 2008, BUILD A BURRITO was published. It was seven years after the book was accepted.

"BURRITO was a fun book to take into schools," Denise said. "I had oversized ingredients on sticks and a fun math problem we did at the end to see how many ingredients were there."

Since Denise doesn't like cheese, one of the



burrito ingredients, kids were always astounded that this meant she didn't eat pizza or cheeseburgers. "I'd say, 'Raise your hand if you don't like cheese?' Uh huh. Now, how many of you with your hands up eat pizza and cheeseburgers? Right. Put your hands down. People who don't like cheese AND don't eat pizza or cheeseburgers can be in my Cheesehaters Club. Everyone else is a poser."

Laughter no doubt ensued.

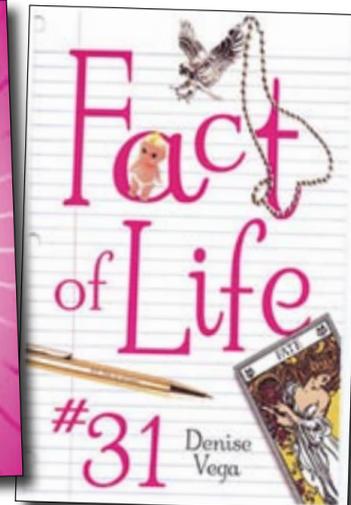
It's common for books to stay on the shelf for two to three years before going out of print. BURRITO lasted a lot longer. "It had decent sales. It's a shame the book is no longer available," Denise continued, "those school visits were really fun."

Her newest picture book IF YOUR MONSTER WON'T GO TO BED was written in early 2013. In May of that year, she met her current agent and signed with her. They worked on revisions together, submitted the manuscript in August, and got an offer on Halloween. The release date was set for Fall of this year. That's fast by many standards.

No stranger to publishing delays, though, Denise took it with a grain of salt when the release date was pushed to Spring 2017 to accommodate the new illustrator's schedule.

Let's hope that's the only schedule delay this time.

Bitsy Kemper has 14 books in print; six picture books, seven chapter books, and one YA. She



has appeared in CNN, CBS Radio, and hundreds of newspapers, TVs and radios across the U.S. Mom of three kids (four if you count her husband), she's happiest when laughing or writing (and, ideally both). Find out more at www.BitsyKemper.com or follow her on Twitter @BitsyKemper.

BOOKS BY DENISE VEGA

CLICK HERE (to find out how I survived seventh grade), Little, Brown (April, 2005)
 FACT OF LIFE #31, Knopf (February 2008)
 BUILD A BURRITO, illustrated by David Diaz, Cartwheel/Scholastic, (October, 2008)
 GRANDMOTHER HAVE THE ANGELS COME?, illustrated by Erin Eitter Kono, Little, Brown (February, 2009)
 ACCESS DENIED (and other eighth grade error messages), Little, Brown (July, 2009)
 ROCK ON A story of guitars, gigs, girls, and a brother (not necessarily in that order), Little, Brown (March 2012)
 IF YOUR MONSTER WON'T GO TO BED (Knopf, due Spring 2017)

MORE ABOUT DENISE VEGA

In Colorado, Denise says she lives "in a four-season paradise--true fall, winter, spring and summer." She's close enough to civilization to easily snag French fries and chocolate (never cheese!), but also close to hiking and biking trails, mountains, and nature. She's a real tree hugger. She actually hugs trees, "because they deserve it." Find out more at www.denisevega.com

Fun Gift Ideas!

Let your imagination take flight!

UHCCF.org

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF) is excited to introduce the third book in the award-winning Oliver & Hope™ series, "Oliver & Hope's Superhero Saturday." The book is geared toward children ages 3-8.

Imagination takes flight when Oliver the bear, Hope the butterfly and Millie the barn owl join their friend Charlotte the fox on a superhero adventure. When these lovable characters put on their hero capes, they have fun pretending to save a pirate ship and rescue a hot air balloon. But when they discover their friend Chewie the English bulldog really needs their help, the friends must work together to become real heroes.

Every purchase of "Oliver & Hope's Superhero Saturday" and the other books and toys from the series – fund grants offered by UHCCF to help children gain access to medically-related services that are not covered, or not fully covered, by their parents' commercial health insurance plan. You can learn more about the impact this book makes and discover fun activities and downloads, including a FREE audio recording of this book, when you visit Oliver & Hope's Clubhouse at UHCCF.org.



Jungle Shuffle is fun for the whole family!

It's a jungle out there... Manu and Sacha are two young raccoons living in the Mexican rainforest. They are deeply in love with each other! The only problem is that Sacha is the daughter of the raccoon tribe's king and Manu is a bit of a troublemaker. When Manu's escapades leave the tribe's most worshipped statue destroyed, the King exiles Manu to live on his own in the jungle. A year later the fumbling youngster has turned into a strapping young male, but one thing hasn't changed: Manu is still in love with Sacha. When human poachers capture Sacha, Manu sets out on a thrilling adventure to save the raccoon princess and redeem himself with the tribe. On Manu's journey he teams up with Chuy, a lively and courageous spider monkey, and the chaotic duo face the many dangers of the tropical rainforest. Except to free Sacha out of the clutches of the

mysterious Dr. Loco, Manu has to accept that even the bravest hero needs a helping hand... paw, claw or talon.

Jungle Shuffle is available on Blu-ray Combo Pack, DVD and Digital HD from VIVA Pictures and Cinedigm (NASDAQ: CIDM). VIVA Pictures LLC is an independent film and television distribution company with special focus on star driven films and family entertainment. Cinedigm is a leading independent content distributor in the United States, with direct relationships with over 60,000 physical retail storefronts and digital platforms.



Who knew getting clean could be so fun!

SoapSox® is a collection of unique, soft, and colorful characters that make bathing fun for kids, and easier for parents. What makes SoapSox® so amazing, and why do kids love them? It could be the characters' vibrant colors, textures, or the uniquely designed entry point for liquid or bar soap for each character. Built-in finger pockets allow for secure scrubbing, while a clever opening for liquid or bar soap makes sudsing up all the easier. Soap is placed into the mouth of most SoapSox and rests in the characters belly. Antimicro-

bial and machine washable, Soap Sox are available in nine cute characters that include: Emma the Duck, Harper the Hippo, Taylor the Turtle, Hunter the Gator, Tank the Shark, Jackson the Whale, Ray the Stingray, Ava the Dolphin and Scorch the Dragon. \$19.95 each. Visit www.soapsoxkids.com for more information and to purchase.



What are YOU doing this Summer?



ROLLINGWOOD ATHLETIC CLUB

Tennis & Summer Camps!



- Tennis
- DAILY SWIMMING
- Outdoor Games
- Science Experiments
- Fun Arts & Crafts
- Sports & Activities
- Treasure Hunts
- Music & MORE!

9373 Winding Oaks Dr. Fair Oaks, CA 95628 | To Register Call (916) 988-1727 or Email Camp@RollingwoodClub.com

www.rollingwoodclub.com

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Week 1: June 8 - 12th | Having a Ball |
| Week 2: June 15 - 19th | International Week |
| Week 3: June 23 - 26th | Pixar Week |
| Week 4: July 6-10th | Born to be Wild |
| Week 5: July 13 - 17th | Superhero Week |
| Week 6: July 20 - 24th | Wacky Science |
| Week 7: July 27 - 31st | Fun in the Sun |
| Week 8: Aug 3 - 7th | Journey to Outer Space |

HOURS: 9:00AM-4:00PM (Early Check-In available at 8:30AM for \$10/week) Half day options available
COST: Members - Weekly: \$175 (Full day), \$125 (Half day). Non-Members - \$195 (Full day), \$140 (Half day)

AGES: 5-12 years (Register before May 31st & receive \$10 OFF!)

MENTION CALIFORNIA KIDS & GET \$10 OFF!

The Phoenix Schools

Infants through 8th Grade • Summer Camp

We know how difficult it is to decide who is going to educate and care for your child.
We are here to make your decision easier.

Peace of Mind, from blankies to backpacks.

Visit Us At

Festival for Kids at Cal Expo • April 11th & 12th

Learn more about you child's year-round educational journey.

11 campuses in the **Sacramento** area.
phoenixschools.com



ESQUIRE IMAX THEATRE

Plan your next birthday at the Esquire IMAX Theatre in downtown Sacramento!

Birthday Package includes:
 Party room for one and a half hours before or after your film
 VIP entrance into the theatre
 Admission for 10 people*
 Kid's combo tray (small popcorn, candy & beverage) for each child
 Movie poster for birthday star
*extra seat for additional people

2015 Film Slate
 Avengers: Age of Ultron in IMAX® 3D May 1
 Tomorrowland in IMAX® May 22
 Jurassic World in IMAX® 3D June 22
 Terminator Genisys in IMAX® 3D July 1
 Ant-Man in IMAX® 3D July 17
 Pan in IMAX® 3D July 24

Contact April Kovac
akovac@imax.com // 916 446 2333 x 201 // imax.com/sacramento



We want YOU to have a FANTASTIC birthday this year! That's why we're offering FREE birthday activities at each of our locations including zipping on our 1500 foot zip lines, rappelling 165 feet down Moaning Cavern's main chamber, climbing tower climbs and guided cave tours. Get more information from our website or call toll free 866.762.2837. Offer only good on your actual birthday with proof of your birth date.



FREE BIRTHDAYS



CaveAndMineAdventures.com

866.762.2837

April Programs at Fairytale Town

April 4 and 5, Spring Eggstravaganza, Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

This fun-filled family weekend features egg hunts, prizes, spring-themed hands-on activities and visits with Peter Cottontail. Daily egg hunts are held promptly at 12, 1 and 2 p.m. Hunt areas are separated by age group: 0 - 3 years, 4 - 6 years, and 7 - 12 years. Magical Moonshine Theatre will perform "Tales of Br'er Rabbit" in the Children's Theater at 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Theater tickets are \$2 for nonmembers and \$1 for members. Spring Eggstravaganza is free with paid park admission. Weekend admission is \$5.50 for adults and children ages 2 and older. Children ages 1 and under are free.

April 4 and 5, Theater Performance: "Tales of Br'er Rabbit", Saturday and Sunday 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Magical Moonshine Theatre brings the traditional African American tales of Br'er Rabbit to life with humor, large table-top puppets, a live banjo and singing. Br'er Rabbit may be small, but he

has his wits. That doesn't keep him out of trouble, but does tend to get him out of it, once he gets into it. When he comes up against the likes of Br'er Fox and Br'er Bear, it turns out they are no match for the clever rabbit. Tickets are \$2 for nonmembers in addition to park admission, and \$1 for members.

April 18, 19, 25 and 26, The Fairytale Town Troupers present: "Once Upon A Time 1959" Saturday and Sunday, show times at 12 and 1:30 p.m.

Fairytale Town's most famous and beloved storybook characters come to life in the Fairytale Town Troupers first production of the season. The year is 1959 and Robin Hood, Cinderella, Jack and Jill and more colorful characters are lost in a fantastical fog after being swept away from their storybook homes. Working together, they overcome their erratic eccentricities to uncover the mysterious force that united them and find a way home. This show features original songs set to a 1950s beat. Tickets are \$2 for nonmembers in addition to park admission, and \$1 for members.

April 23, Mad Hatter Meets The Great Gatsby Fundraiser, Thursday, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Fairytale Town mixes the zaniness of the Mad Hatter with the glamor of "The Great Gatsby" in its third annual fundraising event. Held at the elegant Masonic Temple in Downtown Sacramento, the Mad Hatter Party features desserts and chocolate delicacies, wine and food tastings, live music, mad hats, live and silent auctions and a raffle with exciting prizes. Proceeds benefit nonprofit Fairytale Town's programs and park improvements. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$90 per couple and go on sale March 1 at fairytaletown.org. Cocktail or business attire. For more information, visit fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.

About Fairytale Town Fairytale Town is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit children's park and educational center in Land Park whose mission is to promote the imagination, creativity and education of children. Established in 1959, Fairytale Town is home to more than 25 three-dimensional play sets based on favorite fairytales and nursery rhymes, a family of 22 rare and miniature breed animals, three interactive learning gardens and two perform-



Photo courtesy Fairytale Town

ing arts stages. Fairytale Town is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from March through October and Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from November through February, weather permitting and unless otherwise noted. For more information, visit fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.

THE BOOK REPORT

Learning the ABC's

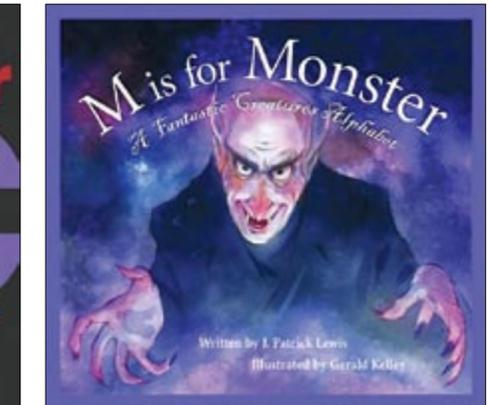
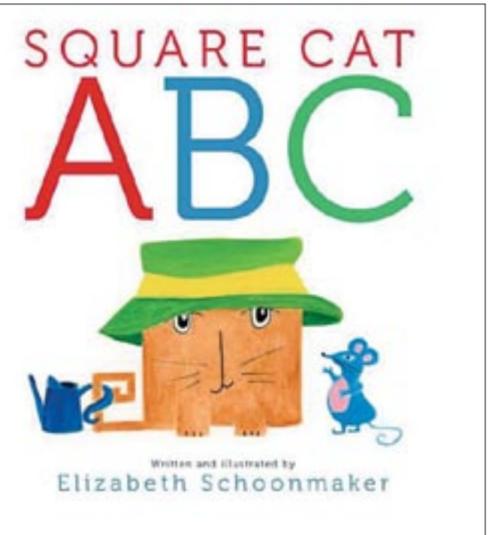
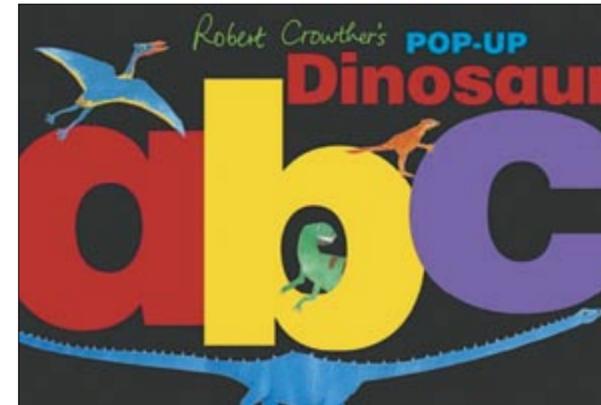
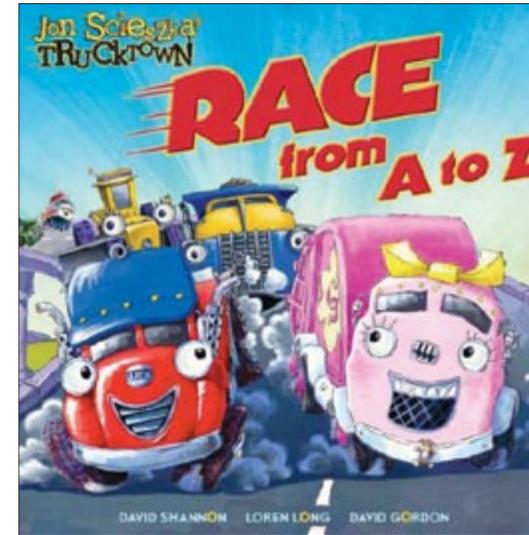
By Connie Goldsmith

Every child learns the alphabet, and most learn long before first grade. Alphabet books can turn that simple task into a good time when parent and child read together. Play alphabet games during tedious car rides. Call out a letter, such as B, and see how fast your child can spot a bike, a ball, or a blue balloon. Slightly older children might enjoy finding and calling out passing objects in alphabetical order. Letters form the foundation for all learning; making it fun for children now may ensure that it remains fun in the future.

"Trucktown Race from A to Z," by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Dani Jones. (Simon & Schuster). Kids love trucks, and this is a very special ABC truck book. Rowdy. Raucous. Rollicking. These trucks vroom, smash, crash, honk, rumble, and zoom their way through town in a riotous race. "Calling all trucks - A, B, C! Let's go, trucks—race from A to Z." Dan dump truck dumps his dirt then dashes. Fast fire truck races. There are garbage trucks, ice cream trucks, mixers, and tow trucks. Filled with energy and sound, read this one to your little ones in a big voice complete with sound effects to garner a gaggle of giggles. For a special treat, go to <http://www.trucktownbooks.com> for extra fun with everyone's favorite truck characters.

"Robert Crowther's Pop-Up Dinosaur ABC," by Robert Crowther. (Candlewick Press). Who knew there were enough dinosaurs to make an ABC book? This surprising book begins with Allosaurus and ends with Zuniceratops. Interactive features include brightly colored flaps to lift and unfold, and tabs to pull, each showing a pop-up dino ranging from the well-known T. Rex to the lesser-known Xiaotingia. Some creatures all but jump off the page at you, while others glare down their noses. A few pertinent facts accompany each dinosaur. For example, the Zuniceratops was discovered by an eight-year-old boy in New Mexico. The Quetzalcoatlus stood as tall as a giraffe with the wingspan of a small plane. End matter compares dino sizes, defines words such as carnivore, and explains dinosaur eras. Dino lovers won't want to put this ABC book down!

"Square Cat ABC," by Elizabeth Schoonmaker. (Aladdin/Simon and

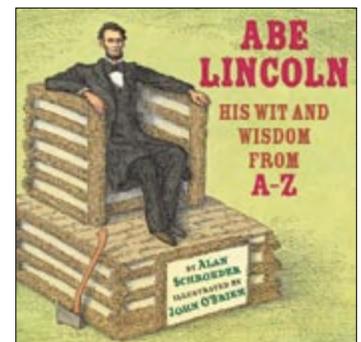


Schuster). A heart of gold beats inside the square body of grumpy-faced Square Cat Eula. Curious Mouse befriends Eula, asking questions about gardening. "Amazing! A Big square Cat is Digging in the dirt." Rather than giving objects for each letter, this charming story includes the letters in conversation. As Eula plants her vegetables, friends Mouse and Porcupine discuss tasty spinach. "Ick! I grow all vegetables, but I DON'T like Spinach," Eula says. The simple, brightly colored illustrations virtually scamper across the pages with Mouse. The very youngest readers will love this unusual alphabet book, and may even be willing to try their spinach. This is Square Cat's second book, and likely won't be the last.

"M is for Monster: a Fantastic Creatures Alphabet," by J. Patrick Lewis, illustrated by Gerald Kelley. (Sleeping Bear Press). This former Children's Poet Laureate offers up creatures for every letter: some are well-known, others not so much. For example, the Amarok for A, is an enormous wolf that stalks Inuit hunters after dark. D is for Dragon and E is for Elf. The Gargoyle and Hippogriff may be new to readers. And the majestic Phoenix swoops across two yellow-

orange pages. Like other books in this fascinating series, a brief poem accompanies each illustration: "K is for Kraken. Of all the legends of the sea, sailors and fishermen agree (if they lived to tell my tale!), I could wrestle shark or whale." A more detailed description of the creature appears in smaller print for older readers to savor. Those who crave all things creepy will enjoy this unusual ABC book.

"Abe Lincoln: His Wit and Wisdom from A-Z," by Alan Schroeder, illustrated by John O'Brien. (Holiday House). This brilliant book is both enjoyable and educational. Alphabet entries, such as those for A (amendment, autobiography, and ax), offer a wealth of little-known details about this important president. For example, he signed the Pacific Railway Act that led to a coast-to-coast railroad. Interspersed with facts are snippets of Lincoln's witticisms, such as, "Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm." Take note of the details, such as the box of Lincoln logs and the Lincoln stamp on a post office. Learn more about this most admirable of presidents who guided the nation through the Civil War and ended slavery with this ac-



complished ABC/history book. ** Reviewer's pick of the month**

Connie Goldsmith (www.connie-goldsmith.com) lives in Carmichael where she writes for adults and children. Her newest nonfiction juvenile books, "Bombs over Bikini," and "Traumatic Brain Injury: from concussion to coma," are now available. Other books include: "Battling Malaria: on the Front Lines Against a Global Killer," and "Influenza," one of the USA Today Health Reports series. Her books can be found in school and public libraries, and at online booksellers.



Come Over & Play!



April 4 & 5

Spring Eggstravaganza • Multiple egg hunts & theater shows!



May 2 & 3

Theater Performance: *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*

May 16

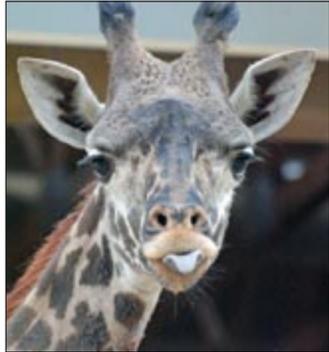
Farms, Friends & Fairytales • Live sheep shearing!

Weekdays \$4.50/Weekends & Holidays \$5.50
FREE ADMISSION for Children 1 and Under

3901 Land Park Drive, Sacramento
(916) 808-7462

For more programs and events, visit www.fairytaletown.org

Earth Fest - It's a Party for the Planet!



It's a party for the planet, Saturday, April 4, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Sacramento Zoo. Learn how to protect and preserve the earth with environmental, wildlife and conservation organizations. During the day explore animal bio-artifacts; participate in storytelling and activities in the Discovery Room; come face-to-face with the outreach animals; or listen as keepers present enrichment talks in the afternoon. Don't forget to stop

by the Recycle Rummage Sale inside the Kampala center for a great bargain.

All Day Activities:

Recycle Rummage Sale in the Kampala Center Interactive Education Stations Hands-on artifacts in the Discovery Room Face painting, zoo crafts

Timed Activities:

Zoo P.I.'s Wildlife Show - 11 a.m. on the amphitheater stage Wildlife Stage Show - 1:30 p.m. on the amphitheater stage Keeper Chats -- all talks at the exhibit 10 - Reptile House, on the lawn 10:30 - Flamingos 2:15 - Wolf's Guenons 2:30 - African Lions 2:45 - Giraffes

The Sacramento Zoo is located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park. For more information, call (916) 808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.

Not WHAT, But WHO...

Many of you already know about Effie Yeaw. She was the passionate school teacher who began leading natural history walks with her students in Deterding Woods along the American River in 1955. An early conservationist, she recognized the value of the natural and cultural resources here, and taught her students about the importance of respecting nature and the delicate ecosystem. Her passion inspired not only students, but community members, who worked with her to raise interest in preserving the lands along the river.



Effie Yeaw helped put into motion a community campaign to protect this area - an effort that would take years to finalize, including overcoming many political hurdles, and would culminate in the purchase of lands for protection and construction of a Nature Center in 1976. This center was named in memory of the teacher whose dedication to nature and children still guide and inspire our efforts today.

together made an amazing difference and left a legacy that continues.

The Power of one, to Inspire Many

The Nature Center educates thousands of visitors each year about the American River Parkway and its resident plants and animals. We strive to provide awareness and understanding of human interdependence within this ecosystem and the need to both conserve its resources and protect its quality. This place, and all of the valuable things we do, would not exist without the efforts of Effie Yeaw and those like her.

Their efforts are reminiscent of some of the incredibly effective social campaigns we see today. They were all individuals, who

A Day to Celebrate

You may remember the BIG Day of Giving last year in May, when hundreds of non-profit organizations in the Sacramento region worked together to raise over 3 million dollars. We're doing it again! This year it falls on Tuesday, May 5th, which happens to be the 115th anniversary of Effie Yeaw's birth. We find this extraordinarily exciting! So we are choosing this day to celebrate Effie's legacy - the power of the individual.

There will be lots more information to come about the BIG Day of Giving, including how YOU can participate and leave YOUR mark. Stay tuned and stay passionate!

***Article and photos courtesy of Effie Yeaw Nature Center

The Rhythm Symphony

- Ages 3½ thru adult
- Private piano instruction
- Over 30 years of teaching experience
- Email: piano-cat@myway.com

(916) 238-8072

GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC

2015 Children's Summer Art Classes

FOR ALL LOCAL YOUNG ARTISTS!
JUNE 22ND THROUGH JULY 31ST, 2015

Learn basic techniques in Fine Arts & Sculpting:
Drawing, painting, collage, pastels, printmaking and sculpting

Group "A"
Grades 1-3

Week 1 June 22-26
Week 2 June 29-July 3
Week 3 July 6-10
Week 4 July 13-17
Week 5 July 20-24
Week 6 July 27-31

Group "B"
Grades 4-6

Week 1 June 22-26
Week 2 June 29-July 3
Week 3 July 6-10
Week 4 July 13-17
Week 5 July 20-24
Week 6 July 27-31

Mid-morning juice & snack break

Grades 1-6

Fine Arts Classes: Weekdays 9:30 - 11:30am
Two groups: Grades 1-3 & 4-6
Tuition: \$65.00 per week

A different class each week - no repeats!

Limited space - Register early! By mail or at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center. Registration includes all art supplies and snacks.

Come Visit our Center: We have ongoing gallery exhibits free to the public; art classes, workshops, art clubs to join that offer free day and evening demonstrations. We have many brochures and information you can pick up at the center!

If interested:

Call the SACRAMENTO FINE ARTS CENTER **916-971-3713**
5330-B Gibbons Drive - Carmichael, CA 95608
www.sacfinearts.org

5330B Gibbons Drive,
Carmichael, CA
95608
www.sacfinearts.org

INTERNATIONAL GYMNASTICS CENTRE, USA
The Art of Gymnastics

Marge Reid
916-485-5124
www.reidprice.com
CalBRE# 00658682

Woodbridge Ranch, one of Sacramento's hidden gems.

Large gated country home on almost one acre. This gorgeous home has Linda Creek running right thru the backyard in a park-like setting with pool and diving board. Huge master suite addition and approximately 400 sq ft man cave featuring a pool table and bar. The yard also features a small vineyard of 6 year old vines. Four bedrooms, 3.5 baths with 3120 sq ft.
8000 Indian Creek Dr | \$795,000

Gorgeous Winchester Country Club Estate

Your dream home awaits nestled on 1.3 acres in the Sierra Foothills. This contemporary custom home is open and bright with windows everywhere to take in the serene view. Quality workmanship is seen throughout this 3600 sq ft home with 3 bedrooms and 4 baths. Located in Winchester featuring champion golf course, country club, swimming and tennis.
16771 Winchester Club Drive | \$1,385,000.

CARING CONNECTION CHILDREN'S CENTER

Preschool & Day Care

Elk Grove Campus:
916-686-5029

Midtown Campus:
916-261-0796

West Sac Campus:
916-371-3301

Elk Grove Campus Special
\$50.00 OFF Enrollment Fee!

caringconnectionchildrenscenter.com

Walk On The Wildside
Saturday May 16, 2015, 10:00am-4:00pm
Beach Lake Park, Freeport CA
(916) 875-WILD

Live Music
Wetland Tours
Conservation Exhibitors
Live Animal Presentations
Children's Hands-on Activities

Directions
Take I-5 south of downtown Sacramento. Exit I-5 at Pocket Rd and drive east. At Freeport Blvd turn south. Continue two miles through the town of Freeport, past the golf course. Turn left at the signs opposite Cliff's Marina. Continue until you reach Beach Lake Park.

No Pets or Alcohol Free Event and Parking WWW.WOWSACRAMENTO.COM

Exciting birthday party packages!
Fun for children, easy for parents!

Spring Camps April 6-10

Each party includes a fun-filled hour with one of our experienced coaches. The coach leads children through a variety of activities; rings, bars, trampolines, tumble track, climbing rope, an enormous foam pit - everything is made available for the party! Birthday parties aren't just for children, adults can celebrate too!

• CLASSES • GYMNASTICS CAMPS
• PARTIES & EVENTS • COMPETITIVE TEAMS

916-372-4496 • 1260 Triangle Ct.
www.SacramentoGymnasticsCentre.com

RESERVE YOUR SPACE
IN THE UPCOMING
California Kids!
CALL (916) 429-9901 TODAY!




Photo courtesy CCAF

california classic Alpaca & Fiber Show

The Tenth Annual California Classic Alpaca & Fiber Show will be held at the Dixon Fairgrounds, April 11 and 12. Several Solano County Alpaca Ranches and a multitude of ranches from all over California, Nevada, Oregon and Arizona will be represented. Admission is FREE! Fiber enthusiast and artisans will showcase alpaca fiber and examples of felting, fiber arts and more. There will be vendors and

farm displays selling the latest alpaca fashions and hand-crafted items. Show hours are Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show and vendors will be in the Livestock section in the rear of the Fairgrounds. Both days the alpacas will be featured in a Show Ring Competition, where they will be judged on the quality of their fleece plus their conformation. For more information, visit www.calpaca.org

California State Pageants

Preliminary Pageants:
• 6/13 - Sacramento, CA
• 8/29 - Sacramento, CA

Nationals:
• 9/17-9/20 - Sacramento, CA



(916) 524-7702
For more information, visit californiastatepageants.com

Like us on Facebook @ California State Pageants

Storytime Theatre of Sacramento City College Proudly Presents



PINOCCHIO



Adapted & Directed by Doug Lawson

Opens April 18th through May 10th Saturdays & Sundays at 12 p.m.

\$5 Admission for all ages. Children 2 and under FREE!
-20% OFF group rate for parties of 15 or more! Call (916)558-2174 for Info
-Half-price opening day special! April 18th only!

Only Cash or Check at the door. Tickets available online at citytheatre.net

FREE PARKING

Sunday May 3rd will be interpreted in American Sign Language

Little Theatre
room 106 of the Performing Arts Center
3835 Freeport Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95822



RV Season is Here, So Let's Get Hitched

by Carmel L. Mooney

With Spring and Summer weather approaching its time to make some travel plans and maybe an RV roadtrip would be just what your family would love.

Whether your family decides on a cross country RV trip that encompasses the entire summer, or just an extended weekend jaunt, RV-ing is an excellent way to get the family to come together for some quality time, fun, and adventure.

You don't have to own an RV to take the plunge, as many companies rent them, and sometimes friends are even willing to loan a travel trailer or camper for a getaway, perhaps even for a barter of some kind. But surprisingly, many families can pick up a very functional, clean, and serviceable camper or travel trailer for just a few thousand dollars. So in the greater scope of things, it doesn't have to break the bank to get out on the road and try it.

In fact, when you count in the cost of meals prepared in the RV, rather than dining out, as well as the relatively low cost of most campgrounds and RV parks, it's a fairly affordable way to make lasting family travel memories.

Our family especially appreciates the fact that taking the RV on a getaway makes weather a non-issue for the most part. It can be raining, snowing, windy, or most any type of weather, and we can sit in the RV playing cards, reading books, or doing whatever we enjoy, while the weather does whatever it does outside. Some of our best trips were actually in the snow or when heavy rains kept us inside cozy-uped with games and books and puzzles.

It's also nice to enjoy a day at the beach but have a non-sandy, clean home base to return to, for a shower, and then to relax while enjoying the ocean and its spectacular sunsets and the sound of the waves crashing, from the view of a perfectly climate controlled RV.

Gas consumption can be a factor for some families on a tight travel budget so it may make sense to pick a spot to recreate that is just a one tank getaway from home. Here are a few of our family favorites and some reasons why.

Durango RV Resort in Red Bluff, California is a favorite and is situated on the Sacramento River between Sacramento and Mount Shasta. This place is top notch with impeccable cleanliness, meticulously maintained grounds, lots of fun activities on property like bocce, basketball, swimming, relaxing in the spa, doggy wash, pet exercise areas, and convenient gas fire pits for smores and story time. There are even plenty of fun excursions and festivals nearby like Cowboy Poetry, winery tours, olive and wine tasting, museums, galleries, birding, and river boat rides.

Another favorite is Carmel Valley By the River RV Park. With its ping pong, pool, and



air hockey lounge, general store, and proximity to the entire Monterey Peninsula, this place is a great family getaway. You can hike at nearby Garland Park in Carmel Valley, or visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium, or do them all in one day, with everything just a few minutes away. It's also pet friendly if the family dog is going to come along for a fun romp on Carmel Beach. If nature, world class fishing, or just plain peaceful relaxing are your thing, then consider River Reflections RV Park and Campground on the Feather River in Oroville. This utterly tranquil spot is a fishing family's heaven. It also backs up to an 11,000 acre nature preserve. The nation's tallest earth filled dam is just minutes away, along with the historic town of Oroville, and wild flower vistas, mountains and buttes. Hiking, rock climbing, and water sports are all within minutes.

You will be pleasantly surprised how affordable, small and peaceful the little historic Belden Town Resort is, situated deep in a canyon yet overlooking the serene Feather River.

You may hike, fish, swim, or even play ping pong and pool in the funky little lodge. Or perhaps you will venture into the nearby town of Quincy one afternoon for some provisions and sightseeing. Very peaceful, you can finally disconnect from progress and reconnect as a family.

There isn't a lot to do, but lots of families like it that way. It slows the pace a bit, something we all need to do whether we admit it or not, once in a great while.

A little general store, deck, and bar are on site and even some meals are served on a super small scale at this little historic resort in the Sierra.

So consider a Spring or Summer RV trek this year. It's a great way to get out and enjoy the great outdoors and explore new places and activities.

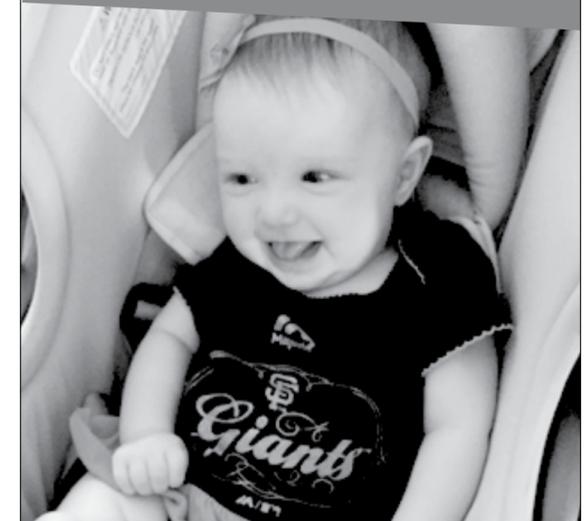
Carmel L. Mooney is a travel columnist and radio talk show host for over two decades. She focuses primarily on RV, cruise, and resort travel for families and couples.

ADVERTISE!
CALL (916) 429-9901
ASAP to reserve your space in
California Kids!

- Published for 20+ years
- FREE ad design
- We work in your budget
- Well read
- Large distribution!

It is distributed to:

Broderick • Cameron Park
Carmichael • Citrus Heights • Davis
Diamond Springs • Dixon
El Dorado Hills • Elk Grove
Fair Oaks • Folsom • Granite Bay
North Highlands • Orangevale
Rio Linda • Rocklin • Roseville
Sacramento • West Sacramento



Calendar of Events

Arts & Crafts

April 3, Friday, Spring Flowers with Art for All, 3:30 p.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Bring the family to the Belle Coolege Library. For their April Art for All about flowers. Join the art beast to create a colorful collage featuring 3D flowers using techniques such as paper mâché, collage and painting. Three different skill levels will be offered depending on your age and/or art experience. This program is designed for artists of all ages. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

Critter Events

April 4, Animals that Hatch From Eggs, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Join the staff at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for a program that celebrates animals that hatch from eggs. Examine nest and egg collections, then hit the trails in search of nests. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

April 12, Living in Water, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Discover the hidden world of water insects and polliwogs. Using catch and release activities, get a close-up look at amazing little animals that live in our pond and can be found in our local waterways. All ages welcome.

April 18, Birding for Families, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Bring the family to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for a birding and nature walk led by a naturalist and guides from the Sacramento Audubon Society. Birdwatchers of all levels welcome. Bring binoculars or borrow one from the staff. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

April 19, Kestrel Connection, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Meet Rocky, the Effie Yeaw Nature Center's resident kestrel, hear his story and what makes him North America's smallest falcon. After looking at this handsome bird, make a kestrel bracelet to remember our new friend. All ages welcome. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

April 25, Critter Close-up, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Come to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and get eye to eye with one of the scaly, furry or feathered resident animals. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

April 26, Frog Program, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Celebrate Mother Earth by learning about some of her most precious creatures, the frogs. Meet resident amphibians up close, learn how important they are in the web of life, and how they let us know about the health of our local waterways. Make a beautiful art celebrating your favorites. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

Nature Events

April 5, Wildflower Walk, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Come explore the Effie Yeaw Nature Area in search of what's in bloom; poppies, lupine and grass pinks. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

April 11, Wonderful Watershed, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. In celebration of Creek Week, come to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and explore the American River into which many of our local creeks flow. Take a hike to the river and learn all about it's journey. See what kinds of animals are living in and along its edge, and find out how you can keep our local waterways healthy. Information about other Creek Week activities at www.creekweek.net. All ages welcome. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

Special Events

April 5 and 19, Kids and Company Tour, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 216 O Street, Sacramento. Amusing and educational, this tour is the perfect way to introduce art to children ages 5 and older in a fun and playful manner. Tour will be held at the Crocker Art Museum. Free for members and free with general admission for nonmembers. This program takes place every first and third Sunday of the month. For more information, call (916) 808-7000.

April 7, Tuesday, LEGO Block Party, 6 p.m., 828 I Street, Sacramento. First Tuesday of every month it's a Lego Block Party at Central Library. The staff will supply loads of Lego and Duplo blocks - you supply your imagination. Come build with the stff in Kids Place at Central Library. Street parking will be free after 6 p.m.

April 11, Mega Family Expo, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., 6446 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento. Don't miss out on the largest free Mega Family event of the year. Bounce house, face painting, games, vendors, free prizes, talent show, shopping, resources, entertainment and food. Special Disney and super hero appearances. For more information, call (916) 271-2351 or visit www.megafamily-expo.com.

April 11, Plant Clinic, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 8470 Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove. Learn about good and bad bugs on your plants. Learn to garden with limited water. Bring samples of your problem plants. UC Master Gardeners will be on hand at the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop Yard. This is a free event. For more information, call (916) 875-6319.

April 15, Open Garden, 9 a.m. to noon, 11549 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Talk with Master Gardeners at the Horticulture Center as they thin grape shoots and orchard fruit. Learn how to prepare raised vegetable beds for summer planting and how herbs enhance a water efficient landscape. This is a free program. For more information, call (916) 875-6913.

April 29, Growing Vegetables, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., 8900 Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove. Want to grow summer vegetables at home? Join the UC Master Gardeners and learn. This free program will be held in the Elk Grove Library. For more information, call (916) 875-6913 or visit ucanr.edu/sacmg.

May 16, Walk on the Wildside, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Beach Lake Park, Freeport. Bring the family to this fun event in Beach Lake Park. Live music, wetland tours, conservation exhibitors, live animal presentations and children's hands-on activities will be featured. This is a free event and free parking. Take I-5 south of downtown Sacramento. Take I-5 Pocket Road and drive east. At Freeport Boulevard turn south. Continue two miles through the town of Freeport, past the golf course. Turn left at the signs opposite Cliff's Marina. Continue until you reach Beach Lake Park. For more information, call (916) 875-WILD or visit www.wowsacramento.com

May 23, First Festival, Noon to 10 p.m., 651 2nd Street, West Sacramento. First Festival is a free event held in Riverwalk Park on Memorial Day weekend. The event features local bands on three stages, face painting, festival fashion and accessories, food trucks, artists and crafters and more. No coolers or picnics allowed. You can walk or ride your bike. Parking on site for \$7. For more information visit firstfestivalsacramento.com

May 23, Ballet Performance, 7 p.m., May 24, 2 p.m., 2300 Sierra Boulevard, Sacramento. The Crockett-Deane Ballet Company and Deane Dance Center present "The Unicorn Fountain", an original ballet by Don Schwennesen. The performance will be held at The Center. Tickets are \$15-\$10. Tickets at door or contact www.deanedancecenter.com or call (916) 453-0226.

Storytime & Puppet Events

April 2, 9, 16, Thursday, Preschool Storytime, 10:15 a.m., 891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento. Listen, sing, play, create, and have fun at the Arden-Dimick Library Preschool storytime program. Each week features either a craft activity or "stay and play" time featuring developmentally appropriate toys and sensory materials.

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Thursday, Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m., 828 I Street, Sacramento. Join Miss Caitlin for stories, songs, and fun at the Central Library. Have a good time while building pre-literacy skills. Wigglers are welcome; no need to sit still.

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Toddler/Pre-School Storytime, Thursday, 10:30 a.m., 601 Alhambra Boulevard, Sacramento. Songs, fingerplays, and stories especially for ages 18 months to 5 years, followed by playtime at the McKinley Library. Make new friends and play with toys.

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Thursday, Toddler Storytime, 9:30 a.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Toddlers and their caregivers will enjoy fun songs, stories, and fingerplays, at the Belle Coolege

Library. After the storytime stay and play or make a simple craft. To ensure that storytime is a positive experience for all, attendance is limited to 40 children (they can bring as many adults as they want). For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 2, 9, 16, 23, Preschool Storytime, 10:15 a.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Join Miss Kathy at the Carmichael Library for stories, songs, and a craft. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 2, 9, 16, Thursday, Toddler Storytime, 11:15 a.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Join Miss Kathy for stories, songs, and just fun at the Carmichael Library.

April 2, 9, 16, Thursday, 11:45 a.m., Stay and Play, 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Parents and caregivers are invited to the Carmichael Library and their babies, toddlers, and other children to "stay and play". The staff will put out toys for the children to play with while their parents socialize. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 2, 9, 16, 30, Thursday, Baby/Toddler Stay and Play, 10:15 a.m., 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento. "Stay and Play" is an unstructured social time for babies and toddlers (ages 0 and up at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library. Older siblings are welcome as long as everyone can play nicely together) and their caretakers. Developmental toys and board books will be available

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Thursday, Preschool Storytime, 11 a.m., Preschool Storytime, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Preschoolers ages three and older and their caregivers are invited to the Belle Coolege Library to join the staff for fun songs, stories, fingerplays, and a craft, or play activity all designed to build early

literacy skills. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

Calendar of Events

Sacramento Zoo events

Sunday, April 19, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. 35th Annual ZooZoom Walk. Run.Fun. Join the pride as thousands of runners raise funds to benefit the Sacramento Zoo on Sunday, April 19 at the 35th annual ZooZoom from 7 a.m. to noon. The course winds through scenic William Land Park along flat, tree-lined streets. This 5K, 10K and children's fun run is a fundraiser for the Sacramento Zoological Society. News this year, participate in an animal themed runner costume contest. Race fees include admission to the Zoo. For race fees and information, contact Fleet Feet Sports at (916) 441-1751 or visit sacramentozoozoom.com.

Saturday, April 25: 7:05 pm Sacramento River Cats Zoo Night Watch the River Cats take on the Tacoma Rainiers AND support the Zoo by purchasing tickets through the Sacramento River Cats using promo code Sac Zoo. Players will wear special Snow Leopard jerseys to be auctioned to the highest bidder.

The Sacramento Zoo is located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with last admission at 4 p.m. General admission is \$11.75; children ages 2-11 are \$7.75 and one and under are admitted free. Parking is free throughout the park or ride Regional Transit bus #6. For more information, call (916) 808.5888 or visit saczoo.org.

literacy skills. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 5, 12, 19, 26, Sunday, Baby Storytime, 12:10 p.m., 828 I Street, Sacramento. Bond with your baby and make new friends at the Central Library. Baby Lapsit Storytime is designed to encourage early literacy development through shared reading, songs, games and movement. Recommended for birth through 24 months, but older kids are welcome. Held in Kids' Place on the lower level. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 7, 14, 21, Tuesday, Baby Stay and Play, Noon, 8900 Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove. Bring your baby

(ages 0-18 months) to the Elk Grove Library for a fun playtime.

April 7, 14, 28, Tuesday, Baby Storytime, 12:30 p.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Join us for nursery rhymes, fingerplays, simple stories and songs designed to encourage a range of early literacy skills. This program is for children up to about 18 months old or until they are ready for toddler storytime. Each child must be accompanied by a participating adult. Following the program, babies and their caregivers are invited to stay and play with activity learning toys. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 7, 14, 21, 28, Tuesday, Baby Lapsit Storytime, 9:30 a.m., 11601 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Please join the staff at the Fair Oaks Library, for a special storytime for babies 0-18 months and their caregivers. Stick around for baby stay and play at the end of storytime. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

April 7, 14, 21, 28, Tuesday, Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m., 11601 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Come join the staff at the Fair Oaks Library for books, singing, and stories every Tuesday morning at 10:30. This program is appropriate for children who are 18 months to 3 years old.

CASH PAID FOR DIABETIC TEST STRIPS

Do you have extra diabetic test strips left over that you do not need? **Sell them to us for CASH!** We will get them to someone who can use them! *One Touch Ultra Blue, Freestyle Lite, Bayer Contour, Accu Chek and most other brands bought.*

WE PAY UP TO \$25 PER BOX CASH ON THE SPOT
(prices vary depending on brand, quantity and expiration date)

We offer FAST PICKUP at a location that is conveniently located near you.
Boxes must be unopened and unexpired

For Prompt Attention Please Call Rachel at: **(916) 505-4673**

FOR THE FINEST IN MODEL TRAINS AT DISCOUNT PRICES

RAILROAD HOBBIES

• LGB • MARKLIN
• LIONEL • KATO
• ATLAS • ATHEARN
• MICRO-TRAINS • WALTHERS

119 VERNON ST., ROSEVILLE • 782-6067

OPEN 7 DAYS!



Suzie Smits
Realtor
(916) 837-5302
SSmits@GoLyon.com
www.SuzieSmits.com
Lyon Real Estate
CalBRE# 01848670

Fabulous Wellington Estates



1073 Harrington Way - \$589,000

Kitchen extensively remodeled with custom cabinets, granite counters, Sub Zero refrigerator, stainless Viking (gas) appliances. The custom master suite includes Jacuzzi tub, a gas fireplace and flatscreen TV. The master and living area open to a private landscaped yard with covered patio. Living room offers a cathedral ceiling, and wet bar. A brief walk to the American River bike trail and William Pond. Amazing!

First 5 Sacramento Offers Tips for Healthy Family Eating
Cooking with children, visiting local farmers' markets
and planting a summer garden among the ways to
develop healthy eating habits that last a lifetime



A message brought to you by First 5 Sacramento

Proper nutrition in children ages zero to five can reinforce lifelong eating habits that contribute to a child's overall well-being and help them to grow up to their full potential with a healthy life. Most experts advise that you can often get children to eat more veggies if you start early by offering your older infant and toddler a large variety of vegetables, set a good example by eating vegetables yourself, offer a lot of choices, and mix vegetables into a food that your child already likes. First 5 Sacramento has compiled a list of tips to promote healthy family eating.

Cook with Your Children

Cooking together can be a delicious learning experience for children and their parents. Children can explore new foods and learn about nutrition, not to mention develop math and reading skills as they measure and read directions. By following a few simple guidelines, you can make cooking safe and fun, and entice your children into trying something new:

Invite your child to help plan a meal or pick a recipe (and keep a list of child-friendly recipes).

Create a safe place where children can cook.

Give preschoolers their own safe utensils.

Eat your creation together and enjoy!

Visit Your Local Farmers' Market

Most fruits and vegetables have a special peak time of year when they taste their best and are most abundant, and the more recently they've been picked, the better they taste. Farmers' markets are great places for children ages zero to five to try new fruits, vegetables, and other foods. Visit your local farmers' market and you and your children may discover an exciting taste or flavor. Find a Farmers' Market near you at www.california-grown.com.

Plant a Summer Garden

Children learn a great deal from growing their own fruits and vegetables. To get started, designate a section of your yard as a place where your child can plant his or her own vegetables. Then let your child harvest the veggies and help decide how to eat them. Community gardens are also a great way to get involved in growing fruits and vegetables.

In addition to these tips, try to keep children on an eating and snacking schedule: breakfast, lunch, dinner, and two snacks. This helps them feel signs of hunger and stops mindless munching between meals. Make the kitchen off-limits unless it's time for a meal or a planned snack. Limit calorie-rich juices, sodas, and other liquids. To keep children hydrated in the heat, give them plenty of water.

For more information about nutrition resources and programs for children ages zero to five, as please visit the Dairy Council of California at www.healthyeating.org or call and (916) 263-3560.



About First 5 Sacramento - Research shows that a child's brain develops most dramatically in the first five years and what parents and caregivers do during these years to support their child's growth will have a meaningful impact throughout life. Based on this research, California voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998, adding a 50 cents-per-pack tax on tobacco products to support programs for expectant parents and children ages zero to five. In the last year, First 5 Sacramento distributed approximately \$14 million a year in Prop 10 revenues to programs and services that meet local needs. Each county has a First 5 Children and Families Commission providing unique local services for that county. Surrounding First 5's include: First 5 Yolo: 530-669-2475; First 5 Placer: 530-745-1304; and First 5 El Dorado: 530-672-8298. More information at www.first5sacramento.net or #first5sac.

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park

Located Off Hwy 9 in Felton (831) 335-7077

accompanied by an adult. Program is free, parking fee \$10.

April 10, Friday, Basket Making Workshop, 2 to 4 p.m. and April 25, Saturday, 10 a.m to Noon

Learn how to make a basket with local pine needles. Meet at the Visitor Center via the Parks main entrance off Hwy 9 in Felton. Join Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park docent Cheryl VanDeVeer for a fun family workshop learning how to make a basket from local pine needles. No experience necessary and all materials are supplied. Children should be

Every Saturday in April at 1 p.m. Old-Growth Redwood Walks

Meet at the Visitor Center via the Park's main entrance off Hwy 9 in Felton. Experience a guided forest adventure on a docent-led walk through the magnificent old-growth coast redwood grove. This 0.8 mile long stroll begins at 1 p.m. and lasts about 1.5 hours. The trail is wheelchair and stroller accessible. Program is free, parking fee is \$10. More information at (831) 335-7077.

Whale Watching

Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park is located on Highway One, 20 miles south of Half Moon Bay and 30 miles north of Santa Cruz (650)879-2120

April is Whale Watch Month at Pigeon Point, Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

From the boardwalk behind the fog signal building, watch for gray whales on their annual migration. Docents are stationed on site to help you know what to look for and share information about the migration of gray whales. While you're there, you can learn about the other marine life that frequent the area, the history of the lighthouse and more. Pigeon Point Light Station is located off Highway One near Pescadero, California, approximately fifty miles south of San Francisco. For more information, call the Pigeon Point information line at (650) 879-2120 Thursday through Monday or visit online at www.parks.ca.gov/PigeonPoint

Butano State Park

1500 Cloverdale Rd., Pescadero, CA 94060, (650) 879-2040

www.friendsofbutano.blogspot.com or facebook.com/ButanoStatePark

April 5, Sunday, Wildflower Walk, 11 a.m.

Walk along the trails of Butano State Park with Volunteer Naturalist Scott Peden. This is a slowly paced walk with time to discover and identify plants, flowers and animals in the park, and allow for photography if you choose. Bring water, lunch or snacks, and plenty of questions. Meet Scott at the park's Visitor Center near the entrance station. Allow 3 to 4 hours for this walk.

YMCA Overnight Camps
Ages 7-15
 With more than 75 years of experience, Camps Ravencliff and Loma Mar make summer camp an amazing experience for all ages. Our goal is to have each child leave camp more confident, with new friends, and adventures they typically might not experience.
Sessions run from June 28 until August 9!
Youth Camps ages 7 - 13
Teen Camps ages 13 - 15
 Call 925-455-7975 or visit Ycamprock.org
 5535 Arroyo Road, Livermore, CA, 94550

Actor's Theatre of Sacramento Presents

2 Week Acting Camp for Children (Aged: 7-12)
 Monday - Friday 9am to 2pm June 29th to July 10th

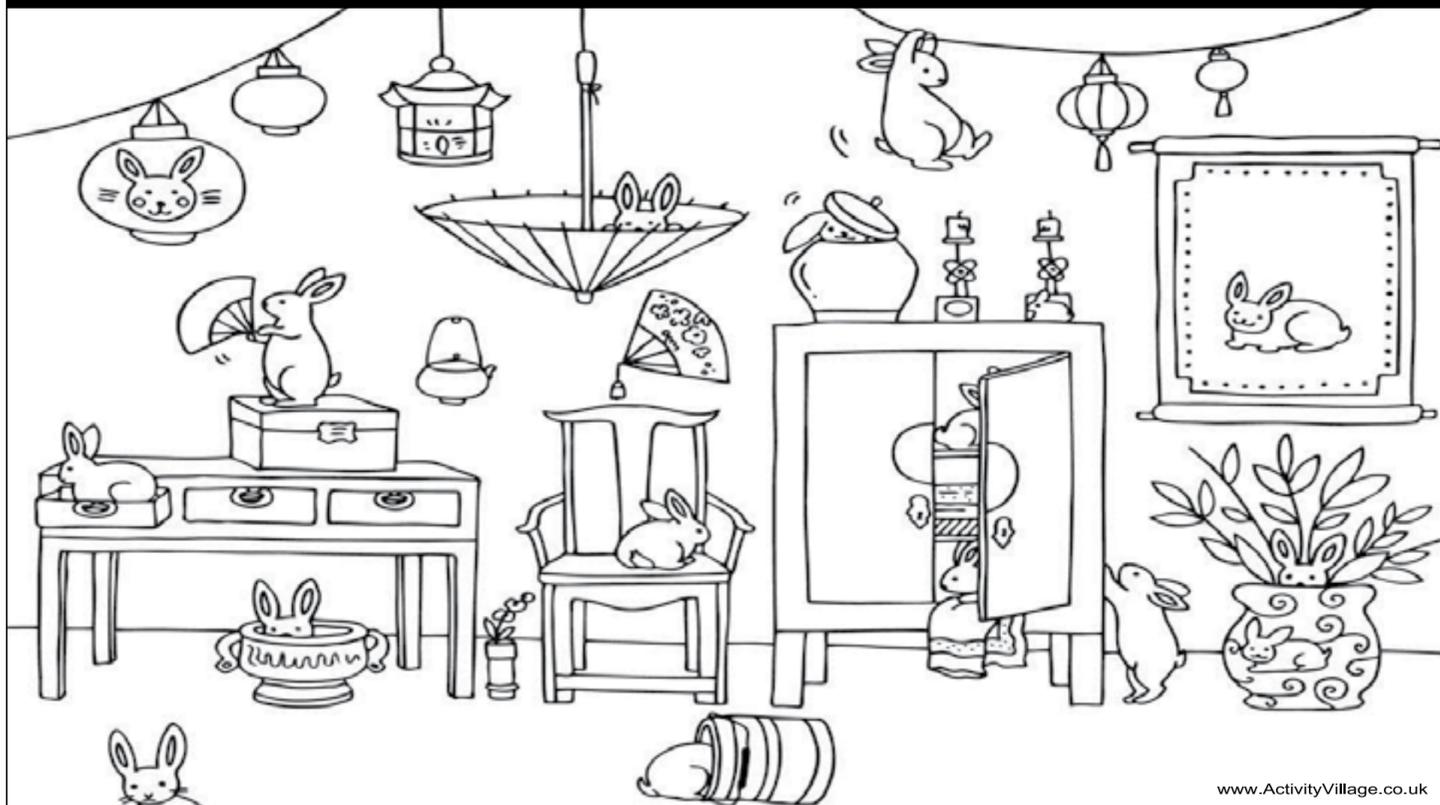
2 Week Acting Camp for Teens (Aged 13-18)
 Monday - Friday 9am to 2pm July 13th to July 24th

2 Week Acting Camp for Children (Aged 7-12)
 Monday - Friday 9am to 2pm July 27th to August 7th

Each Camp concludes with a show on the final Friday of each.
Cost per child &/or teen \$350

For more information call 916-501-6104
 Visit our website @ www.actinsac.com

HAVE FUN COLORING! HOW MANY BUNNIES CAN YOU COUNT?



www.ActivityVillage.co.uk

Call Steve for ad rates
916-429-9901

World Wonders Science Museum
 Family fun, birthday parties and field study trips
 Open Wednesday through Monday 10am-6pm (Closed Tuesday)
 2 North Sacramento Street, Ltd.
 209.366.0969 • www.ScienceMuseum.org

SACRAMENTO STATE
 SACRAMENTO STATE TENNIS CAMPS

JUNE 2015

6/15 - 6/19: Monday to Friday
 Sacramento State Tennis Camp (Session I)

6/22 - 6/26: Monday to Friday
 Sacramento State Tennis Camp (Session II)

JULY 2015

7/06 - 7/10: Monday to Friday
 Sacramento State Tennis Camp (Session III)

7/13 - 7/17: Monday to Friday
 Sacramento State Tennis Camp (Session IV)

7/20 - 7/24: Monday to Friday
 Sacramento State Tennis Camp (Session V)

All sessions 9am - 12 noon | Ages 5 to 18⁰⁰

To register visit
abcsportscamps.com/sacwtennis
CAMP SESSIONS: \$120 EACH

All Sacramento State camps are open to any and all entrants per NCAA rules, but are limited as noted on the following camp flyers by number, age, grade level and/or gender.

Hey You! Yes You!

Get your solid chocolate, deliciously creamy bunnies at Capital Confections. Vegan, sugar-free options available on request.



Capital Confections at Town & Country Village
2605 El Paseo Lane, Town & Country Village
Sacramento, CA 95821
(916) 973-0249 www.sacchocolate.com

Have Fun in the Mud

Kids Ceramic Classes • Birthday Parties • Summer Clay Camps

Ages 5-99

Register Online at:
www.ACAIstudios.com
or call 916-966-2453

Sacramento's Super Party Center!

The BOUNCE Spot

COME JOIN THE PARTY!

All ages and themes

OPEN PLAY

Tuesday-Friday 9-11 am,
& Friday 6-9pm

Visit www.TheBounceSpot.com
FOR SUMMER CAMP DETAILS!

916-371-2388
2939 Promenade St.,
West Sacramento

\$25 OFF

PLAYTASTIC TODDLER PARTY
OR INTERACTIVE BOUNCE PARTY

Can Only be used before booking party. Expires 05/31/2015

Mickey Mouse Party

www.birthdaypartyideas4kids.com

Mickey Mouse Invitation

Mickey Mouse Ears Invitation - Cut out the Mickey Mouse ears from black cardstock or heavy construction paper. Cut out a circle insert (You can transfer to a word processing program and type up the invitation information on the insert before cutting out) in white, red or yellow paper. Glue the insert to the large black circle.

Glue a piece of red scrapbook paper to cover 1/2 of blank black note cards. In the center of the red paper glue on two small white buttons (or make buttons out of white paper) and place a yellow ribbon across the top of the red paper.

Party Decorations

Along the walkway to the party entrance have Mickey Mouse ears or mouse footprints made from black construction paper taped to the ground.

Decorate the party table with a solid red tablecloth and black plates - use three plates at each setting 1 large black plate and 2 small plates for the ears. Yellow napkins with red flatware

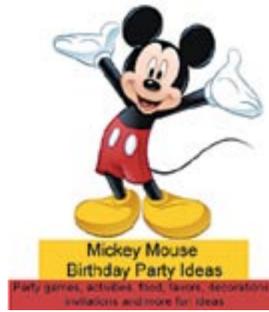
are a great accent to the black plates.

Mickey Mouse Ears - Use black baseball caps (you can cut the brim off to look more like the hats at Disney World) or black headbands to make fun Mickey Mouse ears for the party guests. Cut out 3" circles out of stiff felt and glue onto the hat or headband.

Mickey Mouse Coloring Sheets - Print out Mickey Mouse coloring sheets and have them laid out on a table with lots of crayons. Let the children choose a sheet to color while the other guests are arriving.

Party Games

Mouse Ear Treasure Hunt - Object of the game is to find the hidden mouse ears - the special red ears can be turned in for a prize. Cut Mickey Mouse shaped ears out of poster board about 3 - 4" wide. Cut most of the ears out of black poster board or cardstock, but also cut 3 or 4 (more depending on how many special prizes you want to give out) from red poster board or cardstock. Buy several small prizes and number them. On the back of the red mouse ears place a number that corresponds with one of the prizes you bought. Hide the mouse ears all over the



backyard, park or party room. Send the children off to look for the hidden mouse ears. If they find a red one they get the prize that corresponds. Hide black Mickey Mouse ears and have a number on most of them so everyone can turn it in for a prize. If you are having a piñata you can enclose the red ears inside the piñata with the party candy.

Mouse Ear Ball Toss - You will need three large black containers... 2 that are a little smaller than the other container. Trash cans or plastic tubs will work. Set out the black containers to look like Mickey Mouse's ears - the larger one in the center with the two smaller containers at the top of the larger one to look like the ears. About 4-5 feet from the Mickey Mouse ears place a piece of tape on the ground that will be where the kids line up for the game. Give the first player in line three small balls (ping pong balls are fun to play with because

See Birthday Party, page 19

2015 SUMMER CAMPS

TEICHERT BRANCH
5212 Lemon Hill Ave.
Sac., CA 95824
Tel: 916-392-2582
Fax: 916-392-1835

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ALL YOUTH AGES 6-12
8 WEEKS OF SUMMER FUN.**

Summer Themes:

Week 1 (6/22 - 6/26): School's out! It's summer time!	Week 5 (7/20 - 7/24): Wild water week
Week 2 (6/29 - 7/3): Creative campers	Week 6 (7/27 - 7/31): Challenge week
Week 3 (7/6 - 7/10): Around the world in 5 days	Week 7 (8/3 - 8/5): Wacky, weird & wonderful
Week 4 (7/13 - 7/17): Construction campers	Week 8 (8/10 - 8/14): Campers get fit!

Registration Information

Summer Camp opens at 7:30am until 6:00pm (Monday - Friday)

Early registration (before 5/31/15) receives discounted rate of \$500 for ALL 8 weeks

Regular fee: \$90/child/week (except week 7: \$40/week)

Current member discount fee: \$70/child/week. Siblings discount available. All members must be registered 1 week in advance of the start week. We accept payments in CASH, VISA & MONEY ORDER. No personal checks please.

For more information, please do not hesitate to call 916-798-6386

Birthday Party:

Continued from page 18

they bounce and can bounce in and out of the containers) and have them try and get one ball in each container. When the kids have all played the game move the piece of tape back a few feet to make it more challenging.

Pin the Tail on the Mouse

Buy a large poster or draw a picture of Mickey Mouse on a large poster board. Trace Mickey's tail from the poster and make several tails out of poster board or construction paper... or use long pieces of black ribbon for the tail. Make one for each party guest. Write their names on the back of their tail and attach a piece of double stick tape. Hang the poster on a wall and line the children up opposite it. Blindfold them one at a time and see who can place their tail closest to the tail on the poster. The closest to the original tail wins.

Party Food Ideas

Cut out Mickey Mouse ears from cheese, cookies, brownies, fruit or almost any food item and place them on plates on the party table.

For fun fruit and cheese kabobs cut out mouse ear shapes from cheese and fruit. Skewer onto wooden skewers and place standing up in sturdy cups. Pizza - using Mouse Ears cookie cutter cut out ears from slices of mozzarella cheese and place on the pizza.

Oreos (mouse ears!) bake cupcakes in red paper holders, ice with white frosting and insert two Oreo cookies in the frosting for mouse ears.

Party Favor Ideas:

Mickey Mouse ears, character themed notepads, pens or pencils, Mickey and Minnie

mouse Fruit Snacks, cheese crackers, small packages of Oreo cookies, stickers

Goody Bag Ideas

Red paper sacks - fold over top about 3 inches to close bag and paper punch two holes through the part that is folded about 3 inches apart. Thread yellow or black ribbon or a black pipecleaner through the holes (from back to the front) and tie the ends in front. Glue on two white buttons in the middle of the red sack for Mickey's buttons. Another idea is mouse ears to hold the party favors, white cups or sports drink containers painted with black mouse ears.

HUGE Kids' Sales!

North America's Leading Children's and Maternity Consignment Sales Event™

Coming March, April & May
Sacramento, Vacaville
Folsom, Roseville & Elk Grove

You can sell your items too!

shop.sell.save.smart!™

find an event near you!
jbfsale.com

Join Our Mailing List for a GET IN FREE pass!
We accept MasterCard, Visa, Discover & Cash

AL THE GREEN RAIN TRAIN

Parents and grandparents, introduce your child or grandchildren to an environmental learning experience to be remembered and appreciated... "Al the Green Rain Train" a children's picture book.



Purchase a copy from www.amazon.com
www.althegreenraintrain.com

Sacramento Balloon Co.

916-331-0131

www.sacramentoballoonco.com
Come visit our showroom @
5165 Auburn Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95841

Hey Kids Color A Tag!

For a chance to win a **FREE Tag**

Parents... Take a photo of your child's design & send to elephant@eaward.com

1. Have kids color tag.
2. Take a photo with phone.
3. Email photo to elephant@eaward.com

CREATE your own Custom Tag!

For more Fun ideas go to Photofuntags.com

Contact Larry Osborne @ (916) 997-1808 | Rocklin, CA

(Actual Tag Size: 1 1/8" x 2 1/8")

Nature's Critters (916) 77-FROGS
www.naturescritters.com

Let the animals touch you!

Live Animal Education Programs!

Reptiles • Amphibians • Birds • Mammals • Invertebrates

NEW! Jungle Party Room located in Fair Oaks. Party Packages available! See our website for more information.

Ideal For:
Parties, Schools, Daycares & Special Events

She has never been with anyone
but me, and I don't know you.



**Child Action can help
you find nurturing child care.**

Call Child Action, Inc. at (916) 369-0191 • www.childaction.org

brought to you by:

