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Mayor gives city update at Sac State

By ART GERMAN East Sacramento News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

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An ebullient Mayor Kevin Johnson told a capacity audience of more than 300 at Sacramento State University at the end of last month that he's working full tilt to build "a bigger and better" Sacramento and that his current proposal for a strong mayor government organization is at the heart of his plans for the city's future.

Johnson was the October 23 speaker at the weekly forum sponsored by the Renaissance Society, a learning-in-retirement program based at the university.

Harriette Work, last year's Renaissance Society president, introduced Johnson. She noted that the mayor – who first achieved prominence as an NBA basketball star – had grown up in Sacramento and has devoted his years in the capital city to public service.

In his talk, Johnson listed major issues that he said are currently facing Sacramento, including where to relocate the Kings' current Arco Arena basketball home; restoring the K Street mall as a vibrant downtown hub; increasing the powers of the mayor; how to handle the city's recent approval of more than 30 home building sites in Natomas; and how to provide shelter for Sacramento's homeless.

Johnson said he's been inspired over the years by a number of prominent role models with whom he's come in contact. Among them have been John Wooden, the legendary long-time UCLA basketball coach, who recently turned 99 years of age; the late Sen. Ted Kennedy; and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Johnson noted that he's a Democrat, but found Thomas' support of charter schools to be inspiring, though Thomas is a Republican and a conservative. Before he was elected Sacramento's mayor last year, Johnson founded St. Hope Academy, which has taken over the old Sacramento High public school and has improved student performance as a non-profit charter school.

Among current issues now facing the city, Johnson gave first place to his current proposal, due to go before voters next year, to replace the current council-city manager style of municipal management with a strong mayor system. This would permit Johnson, as mayor, to make many of the day-to-day decisions that are now made by the city manager.

"We currently have a population of 470,000," he said. "In the U.S., cities of that size mostly have a strong mayor system. It enables the mayor to make important decisions quickly, and at the same time be accountable for them."

The long-pending issue of where to build a new Sacramento Kings basketball arena also has profound implications, Johnson said. The site should be within the city, he added, "and I do not believe it should be at Cal Expo." He said that within the next three months he will present a plan to keep the Kings in Sacramento.

"We do not want to lose them," he said.

Johnson said that plans are being finalized to provide shelter for 150 homeless persons and to deal with the city's recent granting of building permits for more than 30 Natomas homes on sites that lack adequate flood protection.

In the Natomas case, the mayor said an audit is needed to see if something illegal occurred. "We can't penalize the residents for mistakes the city makes," he said.

At the meeting's close, dozens of Renaissance members flocked around the mayor, mostly to shake his hand and wish him well. Among those there was Mel Bisgay of East Sacramento, a retired aeronautics executive who has been active during recent years as a legislative advocate for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Bisgay said that Johnson gave a "great" presentation.



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Faces and places **Ghosts and flowers** at Relles Florist

On Saturday, October 31, the Midtown Business Association held their Children's Halloween Trick or Treat activities from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participating midtown businesses handed out candy to local children. There were also children's activities like face painting and magic shows at the Relles Florist parking lot, 2400 J St., and the Loft's Courtyard, 1801 L St. For more details on the Midtown Business Association, visit www.mbasac.com.

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Safety first at special emergency services event

By CELIA GREEN East Sacramento News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Driving on Freeport Boulevard Oct. 11, an observer may have thought a major disaster had occurred, judging by the number of uniformed police and firefighters seen. But, in fact, it was Sacramento's Safety Fair, a free event open to the public.

"I thought it was a good turnout," said Michelle Basurto of the Sacramento Fire Department, the event's organizer. "We had great weather and a couple hundred visitors. This Safety Fair was open to the whole city. We haven't done a fair like this in 3 or 4 years."

[']This year's Safety Fair included members of the Sacramento Police Department, including SWAT Team and K9 units, the Sacramento Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services, and DART (Drowning Accident Rescue Team) and Community Service Officers there to fingerprint children.

"We're here to promote child safety," said Sacramento CSO Holly Kinney, "We're fingerprinting and photographing children, and the parents get a copy of this (the document.) The fingerprints are not kept on file anywhere."

Sacramento Police Department started this program three years ago, and police officers often go to schools, health fairs and churches when asked.

"I'm being fingerprinted so if I ever get lost this will help me get found," said Alex Chenkovich, a sixth grader at Sutterville Elementary School. "We'll keep this on the fridge," said his dad Paul.

In addition to the outdoor booths, 30-minute seminars were held indoors.

Topics included fire safety (in English, Spanish and Hmong) and disaster preparedness. Children were taught to dial 9-1-1, and bike safety was covered.

But outside was the place to be, as the dogs were the stars of the day.

Sparky the Fire Dog circulated throughout the crowd, reminding children to "Stop, drop, and roll" in the event of a fire.



East Sacramento News Photo/Celia Green Sparky the Fire Dog meets and greets with crowds at the Oct. 11 Safety Fair.

And K9 officers Sonic and Hutch showed off their skills in apprehending "bad guys." When the dogs were off-duty, Officers Aaron Thompson and Keith Hoversten, the K9 handlers, encouraged on-lookers to pet the dogs and see how gentle they can be.

"It's cool to see how well the dogs follow their trainers," said Alex Chenkovich.

That sentiment was echoed by Sgt. Norm Leong of SPD.

"This is an event to get to know us in a nonemergency situation," he said. "We're giving safety and crime prevention tips, and it lets kids have fun."



Janey Way Memories



Mike Gilson: A True Janey Way Hero



By MARTY RELLES East Sacramento News Columnist vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Because so many children lived on Janey Way, other kids often came there to play. Mike Gilson was one of those kids. He was one of those larger than life people you meet. He stood a strapping six feet tall at 12 years of age. Mike came often to Janey Way to play football, basketball, ping-pong at the Relles house or to just hang out. He had an outgoing personality and liked to tell jokes and tall stories.

In school, Mike achieved average grades. He and I shared the same teacher at St. Mary's School, Mother Carmela, the Sister Superior of the Catholic grammar school. She was a tough, but excellent teacher. Mike and her had a challenging relationship. She expected quiet and discipline in her class; Mike liked to talk. One day, Mike was talking and she walked down the row to his desk and told him, "Mr. Gilson, you are a tall boy, but if I have to, I will climb up on a desk to smack you." That seemed to quiet Mike down for a while.

When we graduated from St. Mary's, Mike and I transferred to Christian Brothers High School. We were in different homeroom classes there, so I saw him a lot less. After two years at Christian Brothers, we both transferred to Sacramento High School in the 11th grade. We played junior varsity football together at Sac that year. Our team had six wins and two losses. We had a great time. Mike had matured by then and did better in school.

In senior year, Mike began to talk about joining the military after graduation. His older brother had done that and stayed in as a career soldier. I didn't know whether to take Mike seriously about that. Like many young people, he sometimes changed his mind at the drop of a hat. Also, the Viet Nam War began to heat up about that time, and the whole idea sounded a little dangerous to me.

After graduation, Mike, true to his word, went down to the military recruiting office and joined the U.S. Marines. He went off to training in late 1964, and then returned in the summer of 1965 on leave. We had fun when he came home that summer. We went down to the American River to swim, drink beer and chase girls. We sat out on our front lawn on Janey Way, smoking and joking and just having a wonderful time. When his leave ended, Mike returned to his Marine base where he received orders for Viet Nam. I never saw Mike again after that summer.

Mike had served in Viet Nam eleven months and was nearing the end of his tour. His platoon left camp on a routine mission. He walked the point that day at the head of the group. A rifle shot rang out and Mike went down. After a brief fire fight, his squad members ran to his aid. Too late. Mike had been killed instantly. He was only 20 years old. He did his job. He served his country. He died in battle.

We all attended his funeral. He was the first of our gang to die. He received full military honors. I remember the Marine captain handing the flag to his grief-stricken mother.

In 2002, I visited our nation's capitol with my wife. She went on behalf of her company to attend a meeting. I had retired by then and went as a tourist. I saw all the sights, including the Viet Nam War Memorial. It was a somber moment. I found Mike's name on the wall and scratched upon it with paper to make an impression. I have since lost that paper, but I will never lose my memories of Mike.

With Veterans' Day coming soon, I am reminded of how much Mike Gilson gave to our country. Like many young men, he died so others could live. He is a true Janey Way hero.

Sacramentans, others celebrate Woodstock's 40th anniversary at West Fest

By LANCE ARMSTRONG East Sacramento News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

It has been 40 years since the legendary Woodstock festival drew about 400,000 people to a 600-acre farm in Bethel, N.Y. and despite this passage of time, a West Coast anniversary event held Oct. 25 proved that the music and energy of the event has far from faded.

With thousands of people, including many who traveled from Sacramento, flocking to Speedway Meadow in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, the spirit of this celebrated Aug. 15-18, 1969 festival and its era was very much alive.

Certainly helping to add much intrigue and distinction to this free admission, Oct. 25 event were performances by original Woodstock musicians such as Barry "The Fish" Melton of Country Joe and the Fish and members of the Jefferson Airplane, as well as other notable musicians of the era, including John York of The Byrds, Lester Chambers of the Chambers Brothers, David and Linda La Flamme and Mitchell Holman of It's a Beautiful Day, Lydia Pense of Cold Blood and Terry Haggerty of the Sons of Champlin.

Also taking the stage was original Woodstock co-producer Artie Kornfeld, Ray Manzarek of The Doors, the original cast of the rock musical, "Hair," beat poet Michael McClure and David Hilliard of the Black Panther Party.

Also adding to the many attractions, guitarist Leon Hendrix, the brother of the late Woodstock great Jimi Hendrix, was also present to assist in leading an attempt to break the Guinness world record for largest guitar ensemble. Unfortunately for the participating guitarists, who played Jimi's song, "Purple Haze," the effort fell short.

Another original Woodstock performer, guitar virtuoso Harvey "The Snake" Mandel, who performed at the 1969 event with the band, Canned Heat, drew much applause for his performance at West Fest.

The Sacramento connection

Alongside Mandel, playing his trusty harmonica, was a musician who many Sacramento music scene followers know quite well: Mick Martin.

Martin, who is best known locally for his band Mick Martin and the Blues Rockers and his Capital Public Radio program, "Mick Martin's Blues Party," said that he has been fortunate to play music with Mandel in recent years.

Martin, an Antelope resident who spent many years living in East Sacramento, said that during a session, Mandel, who has also performed with Charlie Musselwhite, the Rolling Stones and John Mayall,



East Sacramento Photo/Lance Armstrong

A sea of spectators, some of which traveled from the Sacramento area, attends the 40th anniversary of Woodstock event at Golden Gate Park.

turned to him and said, "We're playing Woodstock (in Golden Gate Park)."

"Harvey is a man of few words," Martin said. "(Responding to Mandel), I said, 'Great, that sounds good to me. I'll be glad to do that.""

Martin, who described playing on the West Fest stage as being a part of living history, said that playing the Woodstock anniversary show was a very big opportunity for him.

"I would say that Woodstock in a rock sense ranks right up there with having played jazz at Carnegie Hall with (blues guitarist) Jimmie Smith and (jazz saxophonist) Grover Washington, Jr. and my tours of Europe playing with members of The Yardbirds, The Kinks and The Rolling Stones, as part of a special Christmas show at the Eel Pie Club (in London)," Martin said.

Being a part of a Woodstock anniversary, Martin explained, was in a way a fulfillment of one of his childhood dreams.

"Even though I wasn't able to go to Woodstock – I wasn't even at (the famous 1967) Monterey Pop (Festival) – I wanted to go, but I was just shy of being old enough of my parents letting me go," Martin said.

But being a part of this Woodstock celebration was something that Martin refused to miss, especially because of his admiration for Mandel's music.

'Harvey Mandel was one of the pioneers in the music busi-ness," Martin said. "He came out from Chicago with Charlie Musselwhite. But once he went out on his own, he was the first artist to use percussion – conga drums – and that's where Santana got the idea. So, Harvey has been an innovator in the music business for a very long time. He invented the finger tapping method of guitar playing that a lot of people credit to Joe Satriani. Harvey is one of the true innovators when it comes to guitar playing and anyone who really knows guitar knows that he was one of the most important artists in the Bay Area."

Martin, who has been performing professionally in Sacramento since the late 1960s, added that playing before the largest audience he has ever performed in front of was also a very memorable experience.

"There were just so many people out there, but I made myself look up at the crowd," Martin said. "It was an incredible experience (performing at West Fest). I think it's the most beautiful thing I've ever experienced in my life. This event is 40 years in the making and we have multiple generations here who understand how to be together, enjoy being together and enjoy the music and try to make a better world."

And with the success of his long career in Sacramento, Martin said that he was not short on local fans who traveled to see him at the event.

"A lot of people came here to see me," Martin. "Even the hippie girls who used to follow my band Joshua in 1969 were right down in front."

Sacto to SF to Woodstock

In addition to Martin, the capital city was also represented on stage by Sacramento native trumpeter Cynthia Robinson of Sly and the Family Stone, who performed a 15minute set with saxophonist Jerry Martini, who was also a member of Sly Stone's renowned band.

Also attending the event was Bill Just, who until about two years ago was a longtime resident of East Sacramento.

Although he admits that he almost exclusively listens to reggae, Just said that he saw his fair share of rock shows during the 1960s in both Sacramento and San Francisco.

"This kind of music is fun to be around, so that's what I'm kind of here for, but I'm

See West Fest, page 7



West Fest: 'This event means peace, love, compassion and understanding'

Continued from pagae 6

a reggae man, a reggae specialist," Just said. "I definitely went to a lot of shows down here (in San Francisco), including ones at the Fillmore (Auditorium) and I went to an acid test (concert) at Muir Beach with Creedence Clearwater Revival before they were really big. And in Sacramento, I went to a memorable show (with Pink Floyd) at the Sound Factory (at 1217 Alhambra Boulevard)."

Explaining the reasoning behind holding a Woodstock anniversary event on the West Coast, Alan Moore of Musicians and Fine Artists for World Peace said that the gathering represented a full circle of events.

When (MFAWP) went to (West Fest promoter) Boots Hughston and asked him to put on a Woodstock anniversary show, he said, 'Woodstock? That's an East Coast thing," Moore said. "We reminded him that Allen Cohen and Michael Bowen – who were both friends of his - were involved with the first (Human) Be-In (free concert on Jan. 14, 1967) and the Summer of Love. So, what happened in San Francisco culminated with the Woodstock gathering in 1969. If it wasn't for what happened out here, who knows if there would have been a Woodstock. In that context, the 40th anniversary was at home here."

Mark Richardson, who lives in the Pocket area of Sacramento and was attending West Fest, said that he was



East Sacramento Photo/Lance Armstrong Pocket area resident Mark Richardson was among those who traveled from the Sacramento area for the event.



Mick Martin (far left) stands alongside his bandmates following his Oct. 25 performance at Golden Gate Park.

one of the many attendees of the Human Be-In.

Pointing at a nearby sports field with birds on it, Richardson said, "That's where it was held. I was a cross country runner and I knew the park well. I just happened to come across the event. I had no clue what was going on. I just remember the big group of people. I think the (Grateful) Dead played there, plus they had some poets and speakers."

Richardson, who said that he has been "tapped into the rock music scene" for many years, added that he was also a part of the Rock Medicine program, which was founded in 1973 to provide medical assistance at rock concerts.

Hughston, who put forth much effort to provide the public with a free, positive and enjoyable experience at West Fest, explained the overall philosophy of the event.

"Nobody got paid to do this (event)," Hughston said."This event means peace, love, compassion and understanding. We're here because we want these principals to come back in our society."

Moore said that with the success of this year's West Fest, he anticipates that a similar Woodstock anniversary will be held on the West Coast in the future.



East Sacramento Photo/Lance Armstrond

Mick Martin, a veteran of the Sacramento music scene who spent many years living in East Sacramento, performs at the West Fest Woodstock anniversary event in San Francisco October 25.



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Popular Sacramento restaurant continuing tradition of 'cowtopped' landmark

By LANCE ARMSTRONG East Sacramento News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Sitting down in his office at the popular Land Park restaurant, the Riverside Clubhouse, last week, the business's General Manager Tim Ramirez chuckled when asked about the large, life-size cow replica that sits atop the restaurant.

"I get all sorts of comments about the cow," said Ramirez, who joined the restaurant's team three years ago. "People come in here for the first time and say, 'What's the purpose of the cow on top of the building?' But then there are the people who know (the history of) the cow and ask me, 'Is that the cow that was on The Hereford House (restaurant)?' I say, yes, it sure is."

With the continuous inquiries about the cow, Ramirez said that his staff is specifically trained to tell the history of why the Riverside Clubhouse at 2633 Riverside Blvd. has a cow on its rooftop.

Ramirez added that during the early 2000s remodeling project of the old restaurant building, which was home to The Hereford House from 1963 until about 2001, Riverside Clubhouse owners and longtime Land Park residents Fred and Matt Haines opted to keep the cow replica in the name of history. "Fred and Matt could have made the Riverside Clubhouse without the cow, but (the cow) was a part of Land Park," Ramirez said. "Having that Hereford cow (on the building's roof) for that many years, people recognized the cow as (a marker) for the restaurant to come to back in the day."

The restaurant on Riverside During its many years of operation, The Hereford House was a popular, upper scale dining and cocktail lounge destination that was well known for its steaks and seafood.

Ramirez, a 27-year resident of Land Park, said that during his youth, while growing up in the south part of Sacramento, he ate at the Hereford House when it was still a fairly new restaurant.

"I remember as a kid walking into the place with my parents," Ramirez said. "We were poor, so I wondered why my dad (Jess Ramirez, who worked at the Southern Pacific rail yard) would take us to the Hereford House. The place looked pretty nice back then and it was exciting, because we didn't go out to restaurants very much. To get to go there and eat steak as a kid was quite the experience."

Originally owned by James J. Brown, Robert F. O'Brien and Rugby H. Ballard, The Hereford House was owned



(above) The Riverside Clubhouse at 2633 Riverside Blvd. is one of seven restaurants owned by Land Park residents and brothers Fred and Matt Haines. Among the other restaurants are East Sacramento's 33rd Street Bistro and Midtown Sacramento's Suzie Burger.

(left) This life-size cow replica is a longtime member of the Land Park community.

by Alfred Alvernaz during about its last 30 years.

The Hereford House, however, was not the first restaurant to be located at this location, as the White House restaurant operated as a popular eatery at this site from the late 1930s to the early 1960s.

For about five years, beginning in about 1933, the address was occupied by a liquor vendor, named Edward B. Pierini.

But fast-forwarding about 75 years, this historic site is experiencing its latest success, as the Riverside Clubhouse is continuously gaining popularity.

Ramirez said that it is very gratifying to witness the reaction of many of the restaurant's first-time guests.

"When people walk in here for the first time, they say, 'It just didn't look like a restaurant' (from the exterior)," Ramirez said. "But when they walk in, that's when you watch their faces. Wow, the three-tier fireplace, the 30-footlong wall of water, the Sun Room, what a cool looking place. It's gorgeous. And then, yet, you think you're going to spend top dollar to eat here and then you look at the menu and we do have a special for \$25, but other than that, everything else is under \$20. And we have a lot of dishes that are \$10. People just have to see the place and come and eat here and they'll see how fresh and affordable we are."

Fast Sacramento News Photo/Lance Armstrong

Platter matters

The restaurant's menu, which also includes weekend breakfasts, features

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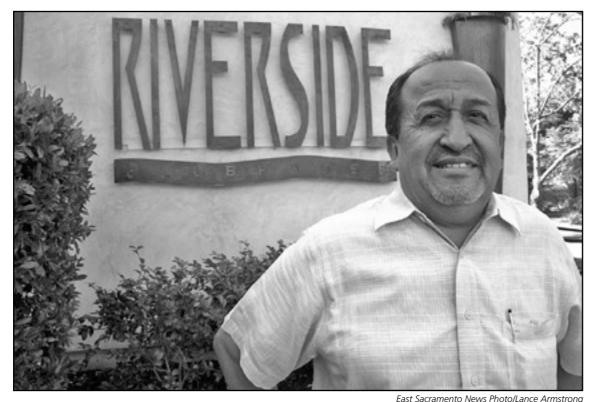
ADOPTION EVENT Sundays, Nov. 8 & Nov. 15 11am - 2pm WAG HOTEL 1759 Enterprise Blvd., West Sacramento For more information, call 316-2729 such entrees as lobster ravioli with seared prawns, roasted salmon with red risotto, paella, grilled skirt steak, slow-roasted baby back ribs, crispy calamari, carnitas tacos and a variety of sandwiches, soups and salads.

Ramirez said that customers should not think that they have to order a full meal when dining at the restaurant, noting, "You don't have to spend much money in here. You can come in for a burger and a nice glass of wine."

Unlike many restaurants, the Riverside Clubhouse, Ramirez said, offers an alternative menu.

"We have our standard menu and then we have our (other menu), so people don't feel like they don't want to go by the Riverside, because it always has the same (food)," Ramirez said. "So, we decided to bring in what we call the Fresh Sheet and it's been working real well. People love it, because they have their regular favorites on the standard menu and then they

See Riverside Clubhouse, page 9



Riverside Clubhouse General Manager Tim Ramirez invites the public to visit the restaurant, have a meal and "see how fresh and affordable we are."

Riverside Clubhouse: Holy cow, friendly place

Continued from page 8

can choose from offerings on the other menu. I tell people, don't get used to it, because the (Fresh Sheet) menu will change the next week. Every Tuesday, I have a meeting with Matt to discuss the new menu and what people like. The whole idea is to keep things fresh here and keep changing things up."

The restaurant, which includes a full bar, also features a variety of specials, including its Mon-day through Thursday Happy Hour with appetizers and drink specials, from 4 to 7 p.m., and its Wednesday Bike Night, in which patrons are invited to ride their bicycles to the restaurant for \$1 tacos and \$2 beers, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Additionally, football fans are invited to watch Monday Night Football games on the restaurant's three 50-inch plasma televisions and enjoy hot dogs, a chili bar and a raffle, along with \$2 Budweiser draft beers.

Keeping regulars happy

Roseville resident Rick Kelly is among the many people who have discovered the Riverside Clubhouse and are impressed by its offerings.

"This is my third time here and I like that it has great food and the prices are good," Kelly said. "It's always crowded, it's got a nice atmosphere and it's not too light, not too dark and not too noisy. It's also very well attended by Land Park people. It's just a nice and friendly neighborhood place."

The Riverside Clubhouse Monis open

days through Wednesdays, from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays, from 11:30 a.m. to midnight, Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to midnight, and Sundays, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For additional information regarding this business, call (916) 448-9988 or visit the Web site www.riversideclubhouse.com.



You and your teen **Dealing with drug use**

By STEVE DEBENEDETTI-EMANUEL Special to the East Sacramento News steve@rivercitycounseling.com

Not long ago I received a frantic phone call from the father of a 16-year-old boy I see. John (not his real name) came home from school and put down his bag. A zipper was open and drugs came tumbling out.

He confronted him about the drugs, and he responded by giving him the age-old excuse that he was "holding them for a friend." His father decided that it would be best not to talk further until his mother came home, and at that time they held a family meeting. As before, John repeated his claim that the drugs weren't his. On top of that, he denied ever using drugs. Although his parents doubted his story, they didn't know what else to do.

I suggested that they bring John in for a family session to discuss the issue. At that point, his parents shared their concerns about him using drugs. Again, John denied that the drugs were his, and he added that his friend had asked him to hold the drugs because nobody would ever suspect him of using.

I presented some options to John's parents. They could choose to believe that he was only holding the drugs and deal with that issue. Or they could chose to doubt his story and take further steps by having him tested for drug usage. They wavered back and forth, and ultimately chose not to have him tested and gave him consequences for holding the drugs.

When parents are first faced with that possibility that their teens are using drugs, it's an overwhelming moment. I advise parents to have a frank discussion with their kids about their concerns. If they aren't satisfied, I encourage them to investigate a bit and decide what to do based on what they learn.

Perhaps you've noticed that alcohol is missing from the liquor cabinet or old prescription painkillers have disappeared. Perhaps you've found drug paraphernalia or empty liquor bottles in his closest. Maybe his eyes are frequently red and his personality seems different. Maybe his eating and sleeping habits have changed drastically. Perhaps his friends have changed, and his grades have fallen dramatically. Or maybe something in your "gut" tells you that something isn't right with your teen, and you feel the need to know for sure by having him drug tested.

Should a parent make this decision, a logical starting place is the Internet. I did a search for "drug tests" and was surprised to come up with over 54 million hits. Without specialized knowledge of tests and their reliability, I wouldn't know which test to choose and if I could trust the results.

I advise a simpler path: setting up an appointment with your teen's pediatrician and talking to him about your concerns. My hope is that after hearing about the situation he would test your teen comprehensively for drug use.

It's important to note that the decision to test comes with risks. Despite all of your evidence, the possibility exists that the test could come up negative, and there could be unintended consequences. I've talked to teens that have felt frustrated that they've worked hard to stay away from drugs and are devastated that their efforts aren't recognized. A number of times I've also seen teens make negative choices to "get back" at their parents. So it's important that a decision to test your teen for drug use be made very carefully.

In the end, teen drug use is one of the biggest fears and challenges parents face, and there is no foolproof way to respond. If you're concerned that your child has recently started using drugs, yet he denies it despite strong evidence, I suggest taking the risk and having your teen tested by a professional. What you learn will help guide your response.

Steve DeBenedetti-Emanuel is a licensed marriage and family therapist based in the Sacramento area. Contact him at steve@rivercitycounseling.com. Steve's columns appear periodically in the Valley Community Newspapers.

From the grassroots on up Local resident group pioneers incredible effort to save 140 felines

By SUSAN LAIRD East Sacramento News Writer slaird@handywriting.com

His yellow eyes following a cluster of moving feathers, the sleek, black cat crouches, patiently. Suddenly, he leaps up, his young paws grasping wildly for the elusive prize. Toby lands on the floor, alert and contemplating his next move, as the "fishing pole" of bird feathers "flies" over to a nearby group of cats. It's playtime with humans on a feline adoption day, and this group of young cats is having a wonderful time.

Toby is one of the lucky ones. He will live to chase another kitty toy, to rub up against a human's legs, to purr his love of life on a human lap.

It almost wasn't so.

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of a dedicated group of local citizens, community groups, regional shelters and an area pet resort, a group of 140 felines will all be adopted out to loving homes, instead of facing the death sentence of "euthanasia" – translated from the Latin: "good death" – at a county animal shelter.

The large cat colony was the result of a pair of well meaning pet owners who failed to spay and neuter their original pets, and who then took on stray cats as well. A few cats became a few dozen cats in short time, and eventually 140 felines in just a couple years. When the economy took a downturn, the family found itself unable to continue to support what had become an overwhelming situation... They appealed to the media for help find homes for the cats, but results were poor.

It looked like the county would have to step in, with a "Final Solution" that no one wanted. That's when Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc. stepped in to try to rescue not a few animals, but the entire colony. It was a bold, courageous move that had never been attempted before on so large a scale.

"These are some of the friendliest, most beautiful cats," said Dia Goode, cofounder of Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc. "When we heard about them, we went over to the house to assess the situation. The cats would come right over to you. To kill them would be so unjust. We couldn't just stand there. We had to do something." "It was overwhelming," said Ellen Nakata-Harper, an East Sacramento resident and Friends volunteer. "Seeing so many eyes looking at you. The majority were so friendly. The others, cautious, but eventually warming up to us. They knew we were there to help. And they were all healthy. The previous owners obviously took good care of them, aside from their failure to spay and neuter."

"It was a truly bizarre situation," said Moira Monahan, a Friend volunteer who lives in Land Park." The smell of the cats at the house was overwhelming. But you got used to it each time you came to rescue a few more cats. I work on the spay/ neuter and foster care projects. The cats range in age from six months to about two or three years of age. There really aren't any old ones or really young ones, which is unusual."

The Friends put out a plea for help to local and regional "no kill" shelters and rescue groups. The Tahoe Truckee Humane Society took four black cats, adopted them out and took four more. Pets Unlimited in San Francisco took six cats. Tri Valley in the Bay Area took 14 cats. San Francisco Animal Control took five felines, the Sacramento ASPCA took seven kitties and Best Friends in Utah took a number of cats as well.

Local rescue groups stepped forward to help, including Happy Tails, Cats About Town and Field Haven in Lincoln. A great many individuals gave freely of their time, making numerous trips to the Meadowview area home to remove cats, transport them to vet appointments, shelters, fostering and more.

"The plan was: we (the Friends) pulled the cats out, took them to the Sacramento SPCA for spaying, neutering, testing for leukemia and feline AIDS, and had them vaccinated and micro chipped," Goode said. "Others devoted time to making sure the cats were socialized. This way, every animal in the colony would be adoptable, and there would be absolutely no need to kill any of them."

The Friends employed two rescue strategies: one group of cats was altered, processed and sent out to other groups, the other was altered, processed and sheltered at the Wag Hotel in West Sacramento.

"If it wasn't for Wag and the SPCA, we couldn't have done this," Goode said. "It wouldn't have worked. The SPCA was phenome-



These cats were rescued by local Sacramento area residents after county officials informed the public that the pets would be euthanized.

nal...they rearranged entire schedules to spay and neuter the cats... Wag is equally amazing. They have housed them in their special 'cat condos' for weeks, hosted adoption events at their facility and supported this effort all the way. It's a beautiful facility and we highly recommend them to anyone who needs to board their pet."

An additional concern – and one of the reasons the Friends moved to take action so quickly – was the large number of black cats.

"There are tabbies, calicoes, seal points, tortoiseshell cats... and a large number of beautiful black cats," Goode said. "What many people are not aware of is that there is a bias in county shelters nationwide against black cats and dogs. They believe that these animals are unadoptable, simply because of the color of their fur. These animals are often killed immediately, and never make it to the public for adoption. We want to show everyone that – not only can a large population of animals be adopted out – it is also unnecessary to kill black cats and dogs. They make wonderful, beautiful pets. Don't write them off."

The amazing effort of this united group of animal lovers and organizations is bearing fruit: of the original 140 kitties, there are just 22 who still need homes.

"These aren't cats that were 'passed over," Goode said. "These are simply the last ones to come out of the house. They are just as sweet and friendly as the first ones to be rescued."

Upcoming adoption days: Nov. 8, 15

There are two more adoption days planned at the Wag Hotel in West Sacramento. Those interested in adopting a cat are encouraged to visit the pet resort on Nov. 8 and Nov. 15 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Each cat has already been altered, had all its vaccinations and has been micro chipped. The price for adoption is a bargain: \$30 for one cat, \$40 for a pair. If, for any reason, an adoption doesn't "work out," the Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc. will accept animals back. The purpose is to find homes where both felines and families can thrive. The Wag Hotel is located at 1759 Enterprise Blvd. in West Sacramento, just off Highway 50.

For more information about the Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc., or to make a donation to support their animal rescue efforts, visit www.saccityshelter.com.

- Susan Laird

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Sacramento in the 'Gilded Age' **'Treasures, Curiosities & Secrets' tells stories of the Crockers**

By SUSAN LAIRD East Sacramento News Writer slaird@handywriting.com

During the post-Civil War years, right up to the turn of the last century, Sacramento was an ambitious player in the so-called "Gilded Age."

This was the American era of common men "making it" large in the fields of coal, oil, railroads, hotels, gold, industry and commerce. Names such as Vanderbilt, Rockefeller and Carnegie were nationally known – as were the California names of Stanford, Hopkins and Crocker, to name a few. The era was dubbed "The Gilded Age" by Mark Twain as a pejorative: to gild something is to put gold over a baser metal. It is less worthy than something that is completely gold – a "Golden Age."

Nonetheless, these were fascinating times. Those families who grew to possess tremendous influence were called "robber barons" by some, admired and envied by others. This group also possessed a sense of "noblesse oblige" – a belief fostered by Andrew Carnegie that the wealthy should develop philanthropies to benefit society at large.

The Crockers in Sacramento were classic leaders of their age. In a new exhibit opening on Nov. 6, visitors to the Crocker Art Museum will have the opportunity to glimpse into the rarified atmosphere in which these people lived.

"Treasures, Curiosities & Secrets: The Crockers and the Gilded Age" will bring the unique Crocker family stories to light.

More than 75 objects will be on display to tell the story of California's premier early art patrons, Edwin Bryant and Margaret Crocker, and the era in which they lived. The exhibit also encompasses the lives and mementos of their children, including the notorious Aimée Crocker, who became an international social success, receiving widespread press for her dramatic costumes, travels to the Far East, extensive tattoos and five controversial marriages, twice to Russian nobility.

Edwin Bryant and Margaret Crocker settled in Sacramento in 1852 and worked as merchants until Edwin was appointed to the California Supreme Court in 1863. Seven months later, Edwin left the bench to serve as legal counsel for the Central Pacific Railroad Company, which ultimately made him a millionaire. With their newfound wealth, the Crockers became deeply concerned with bringing culture to California. A paralytic stoke in June 1869 forced Edwin to retire but allowed him and his family to pursue other interests, including commissioning an art gallery building and embarking on a Grand Tour to Europe. Overseas for the next three years, the Crockers purchased more than 700 paintings and 1,300 drawings that became the core of their museum. Following their return, Edwin and Margaret actively commissioned new works by California artists.

The museum is an appropriate venue to tell the lesser-known stories and showcase the family's breathtaking jewelry, dramatic gowns, china, furniture, personal letters, paintings and photographs. It is a story of philanthropy, eccentricity and high style.

The family's opulent gallery building, completed in 1872, showcased their collection and allowed them to entertain splendidly in a world in which social duty was combined with breathtaking display of the finest jewelry, fashions, personal mementos, furnishings and silver. Today, the gallery building is considered one of the finest examples of Victorian Italianate architecture in the United States.

In May 1885, Margaret Crocker presented the art gallery building, the grounds and the E. B. Crocker Collection "in trust for the public" to the public-private partnership of the City of Sacramento and the California Museum Association, now the Crocker Art Museum Association.

The Crocker Art Museum was founded in 1885 and continues as the leading art institution for the California Capital Region and Central Valley.

"With the expansion nearing completion, the Museum is preparing to enter a new era in its history," said Scott A. Shields, associate director and chief curator. "The Crocker will also celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2010. At this pivotal time, it seemed appropriate to look at our history and the Crocker family's legacy in Sacramento."

"Treasures, Curiosities & Secrets: The Crockers and the Gilded Age" opens Nov. 6 and runs through May 9, 2010. The Crocker Art Museum is located at 216 O Street in downtown Sacramento. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors 65 and better, \$3 for students with a valid ID and free for children ages six and under. Thanks to a generous grant



Photo courtesy of the California History Section, California State Library Aimee Crocker was known for her flamboyant lifestyle and sense of high fashion. Seen here in this photo circa 1901-1902, she shocked the nation with her scandalous Far Eastern travels, tattoos and multiple marriages.

from Bank of America, admission is free on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, with extended hours on first and third Thursdays until 9 p.m.

For more information about the Crocker, call (916) 808-7000 or visit www.crockerartmuseum.org.

Write to Susan Laird, to share your A&E events at slaird@handywriting.com and at Facebook at "Susan Laird et al" or follow her on Twitter at Susan_Laird.





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FEET SAKE

The Real Estate Quarterly

Buying a (first) home? Three steps to success: prioritize, educate yourself, get help

By JOHN WOODALL Lyon Real Estate Special to the East Sacramento News

So, you're thinking it's time to buy a home; now what?

It's normal to have some anxiety over buying a home – it's a big commitment. However, a helpful way to sort out home buying complexities is by first taking time to "prioritize the priorities." It adds an objective framework around an exciting but emotional experience. Then, educate yourself about the market and seek out an experienced advisor.

Monetary Priorities

New home anxiety often centers on money issues: How much can I /we qualify for? What are the payments, the down payment? What kind of payment am I going to be comfortable with? Address these questions early on by either using an on-line mortgage calculator (keeping in mind that this will only provide a rough estimate) or talking to a lender about getting pre-approved. Knowing that you've got a pre-approval in your pocket gives you confidence as you begin looking for your new home.

Family and Individual Priorities

With input from the entire family, make a list of what is important to you. Consider neighborhood, space requirements and features – number of bedrooms, a pool etc. Could you handle a "fixer" instead of a "move in ready" home? Include access to schools, community activities and the work commute on your list. Also pinpoint individual privacy, lifestyle and activity needs of family members. For example, do you like to entertain? And don't forget to consider that the space needs of children will change significantly as they grow and mature.

Rank your "wish list" as to "required," "desirable" and "acceptable" priorities, then pare these down to the top 5" must have" choices. Now you're ready to find your new home.

Look and Learn

Well over 80 percent of Buyers today spend three to six months "win-

dow shopping online" before actually entering the market place. In our current market, Buyers also need to consider which part of the market segment they will be involved in: price, neighborhood, or function (a home with RV storage for example); and educate themselves about current market conditions in the segment that affects them. But keep in mind that what is true today may not be true when you are ready to buy – you will need to get updated. For example, just 6 months ago, buyers were avoiding short sales; but over the past few months short sale transactions are beginning to increase dramatically.

Buyers should also learn the differences between Bank Owned listings (REOs), "Short Sales" and traditional owner sellers and how these types of sellers can affect their plans. Get good advice. Work with a seasoned agent who can explain how the buying process and transaction time frame may differ with each of these types of sales and what is happing in the marketplace today.

Getting Professional Help

Knowledge and experience in your trade or business are important, right? Likewise, since Real Estate transactions are complex and mistakes can be costly, it makes sense to entrust perhaps the largest financial transaction of your life to someone who is well trained and experienced.

Buyers should use their own representative so that their interests are protected. Work with a Realtor who will be willing to educate you and spend time understanding your needs before you ever get in a car and start looking. Plus, the agent you pick should offer you access to a powerful, easy to use search tool to help you educate yourself about terminology and availability.

A seasoned Realtor will match your priorities with what you can afford, guide you around pitfalls, and is responsible for ensuring that your interests are protected. It doesn't cost a Buyer anything to be represented by a Realtor and it might save you a bundle in anxiety and legal exposure.

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East Sacra	mento Res	sidential Re	eal Estate T	ransactions • First	Quarter •	Jan.–Mar. 2	2008
Address	BR /BA		Date	Address		Value	Date
05040				932 50TH ST	2.2	280.000	2000/00/00
95816				102 51ST ST			
				631 51ST ST			
341 32ND ST		\$384,000	2009/06/12	1173 51ST ST			
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2820 C ST			2009/07/10	1122 56TH ST	275		2009/09/29
3188 C ST				1333 56TH ST			
3151 CARLY WAY				1200 57TH ST			
3183 CARLY WAY				5310 AILEEN WAY			
2212 D ST			2009/06/17	4641 B ST			
3257 D ST				1600 BERKELEY WAY			
1009 DOLORES WAY				4232 C ST			
2422 E ST				4232 C S I			
2731 G ST				5328 CALEB AVE			
2404 L ST				5505 CARLSON DR			
2621 N ST							
3159 O ST				158 COLOMA WAY			2009/07/24
3160 O ST				4133 D ST			
2407 Q ST				5521 D ST			
324 SANTA YNEZ WAY.				3551 ELVAS AVE			2009/06/26
440 SANTA YNEZ WAY.				106 FALLON LN			
3141 SERRA WAY				3997 H ST			
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				5330 MONALEE AVE			
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500 42ND ST				5340 S ST			2009/09/18
509 42ND ST 842 42ND ST			2009/06/10	417 SAN MIGUEL WAY.			
842 42ND 51			2009/07/24	66 SANDBURG DR			
852 42ND ST			2009/09/01	370 SANDBURG DR			2009/07/10
1225 42ND ST		1,065,000	2009/08/07	540 SANDBURG DR			
1338 42ND ST		800,000	2009/07/09	5304 SANDBURG DR			2009/06/01
1339 42ND ST	62		2009/06/26	5323 SANDBURG DR			
75 43RD ST			2009/07/24	5611 SEWARD CT			
801 43RD ST				5705 SHEPARD AVE			
1200 43RD ST				5900 SHEPARD AVE			2009/06/17
1414 43RD ST				5915 SHEPARD AVE			2009/06/23
440 45TH ST				5333 STATE AVE			2009/06/10
921 45TH ST		750,000	2009/07/27	5040 T ST			2009/09/25
121 46TH ST			2009/06/03	5349 T ST			2009/09/11
1397 48TH ST				78 TAYLOR WAY			2009/07/16
1401 48TH ST	21		2009/07/08	172 TIVOLI WAY			
1640 49TH ST		240.000	2009/08/28				

Soulful schooling Legacy and tradition live on at historic St. Francis High

By LANCE ARMSTRONG East Sacramento News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Editor's Note: This story is the second part of a two-part story series on St. Francis High School. To read the entire story, visit www.valcomnews.com.

A fixture of Sacramento

With the fear of overcrowding caused by increased enrollment at St. Francis High, the 1956 opening of Bishop Armstrong High School at 4315 Sacramento Blvd. – now Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard – alleviated this problem, as juniors and seniors from St. Francis, St. Joseph and Christian Brothers high schools formed Bishop Armstrong's first student body.

This arrangement, which included each school maintaining its own ninth and tenth grades, continued until 1964, when Christian Brothers High purchased Bishop Armstrong High to create a four-year boys' high school.

It was also in this year that St. Francis High opened with 520 sophomore, junior and senior students at its current location, which originally had the address of 6051 M St., since the school's former administration office faced M Street. The freshman class of 1964 remained at 25th and K streets before transferring to the M Street campus the following year.

The landscape of the current St. Francis campus has evolved throughout the years with its greatest changes coming with the completion of the first phase of its campus expansion in 2004. This particular effort resulted in the school's new performing arts complex, a 500-seat theater, a dance studio, a library resource center, a gymnasium and fitness center and six enhanced science laboratories.

Another later addition to the school was the construction of its Serra Court, which was named after Father Junipero Serra and includes a large outdoor stage and picnic-type tables.

Well aware of her school's focus as a college preparatory school, Kia Shebert, a junior who plans to study forensic psychology in college, said that little time passed during her time at St. Francis before she was asked to provide her goals for college.

"I think it was the second week of my freshman year that I was pulled into my counselor's office and was asked, 'What colleges are you looking at?' I was like, 'I just got here. I'm still trying to find the bathroom.' But they're definitely a college prep school, so the way you line up your courses here reflects what you're going to do in college," she said.

Another St. Francis student, freshman Ashley Rose said that she has high ambitions to be an actress and is receiving quality experience through her current role in the school's upcoming production of "The Taming of the Shrew."

In addition to the school's academic strides, St. Francis also focuses on excellence in athletics.

In discussing the success of St. Francis' athletic program, which includes many league titles, several Northern California titles, three state titles and the 2005-06 Cal-Hi Sports State Girls' School of the Year award, Athletic Director and former St. Francis threesport athlete Kolleen McNamee notes three important variables accounting for the program's prosperity.

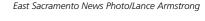
"I think a lot of things contribute to the success of the program," Mc-Namee said. "We have a lot of coaches who know the game, but also know how to coach young women. We have athletes who are really focused, work hard and really want to represent their school. I think those are really important things. We're also emphasizing our Pursuing Victory with Honor program with our coaches, athletes and our parents to make sure that we treat our opponents with respect and that we represent the school the way it should be represented. All these things tie in together to make this a successful program."

Chris Chappelle, whose daughter Katie is a freshman at the school, said that she appreciates the fact that St. Francis is internally considered a community unto itself.

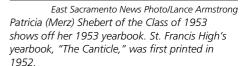
School and spirit

"St. Francis is a very friendly, welcoming community and everybody is there for the same reason," Chris said. "I like that (Katie) is so comfortable there and that academics and faith are number one. Everything else kind of comes as a bonus."

In reviewing the history of St. Francis High, which is currently educating 1,137 students, including about 75 students who transferred from the now-closed Loretto High School, the school's Director of Communications Ingrid Niles said that St. Francis High



THE CANT



is very proud of its quality educational traditions.

"St. Francis High School is very proud of its nearly 70-year history of faith-based education with a strong emphasis on excellence in academics, the arts and athletics and providing a well-rounded education for the young women of the greater Sacramento area," Niles said.



omore, junior and senior students at The current site of St. Francis High School is shown under construction in this c. 1963 photograph.

Good to the last drop Locals mourn sudden closure of Sacramento Brewing Company

By BENN HODAPP East Sacramento News Writer vcnnews@valcomnews.com

Loyal patrons of the Sacramento Brewing Co. were shocked Oct. 20 to find the doors to their local hangout locked for good. Without warning or prior announcement, the well-known business, located at 2713 El Paseo Ln., announced it was shutting down Oct. 19 via a blog posting by brewmaster Peter Hoey.

On his blog (sacbrew.blogspot. com), Hoey thanked customers for their years of patronage.

"Just wanted to thank everyone for all their support over the last 15 years. Some amazing friends have been made and great times have been had at Sacramento Brewing," he wrote. "As of today, we have closed the doors for good."

Shock at the sudden shutdown

People came by around lunchtime Oct. 20, some fully unaware of the closure.

Kirk Curry, a local man who said he had been coming for lunch since the brewery opened 15 years ago, was shocked.

"It's kind of a bummer," he said. "Wanted to come in and have some wings and a beer."

Curry, who said he visited the restaurant maybe once a month, said that he was there a week ago "Some amazing friends have been made and great times have been had..."

and that there were "no notions" that a closure was impending.

Tim Jackson and Raymond Murcell were also surprised to find their lunch spot locked up.

"We came here once a week," Jackson said. "It was always busy."

Murcell added that the news was "terrible" and that he didn't understand why it was closing.

A note taped to the inside of the door read simply, "Closed Due to the Economy – Thank you for your business and support."

Next to that note was a napkin taped to the outside by a long-time customer, thanking the establishment for "the memories and for welcoming me and my family to Sacramento."

As the banner for all-you-can-eat ribs still swayed in the early afternoon breeze, it was clear that the brewery was gone, but certainly not so easily forgotten.

Economic realities

In his blog announcing the shutdown, Hoey asked local residents to



The famed Sacramento Brewing Co., located at 2713 El Paseo Ln., closed down for good Oct. 19. Brewmaster Peter Hoey attributed the action to the current economic environment.

support the few remaining breweries in Sacramento.

"Please think of them the next time you are buying beer at the grocery store or deciding where to have a pint," Hoey wrote.

Although the Arden and Carmichael areas have lost a beer-brewing landmark, a handful of local breweries remain in Sacramento, including Brew It Up (801 14th St.), Rubicon Brewing Co. (2004 Capitol Ave.), Hoppy Brewing Co. (6300 Folsom Blvd.), and River City Brewing Company (Suite 1115, 545 Plaza Ave.).

Responding to the news that the Sacramento Brewing Co. was closing its doors for good, Hoppy Brewing Co. commiserated online Oct. 19 via the social networking Web site Twitter.com. Echoing the sentiments of many brewery patrons, the Twitter post said, "This is a BAD DAY for Sacramento beer lovers."



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Is your club, group, church, school, or organization having an upcoming event? Let us know. Send information about your event-including date, time, location, a brief description, cost (if any), and contact information—to Calendar, c/o Valley Community Newspapers, 2709 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818, or email rvanrose@valcomnews.com. Deadline is one week before publication. Priority is given to events that are in the community and/or of little or no cost. There is no guarantee that events submitted will appear in the calendar. To ensure placement within the newspaper, please call 429.9901 to place an advertisement

November

Trip to Spain

Join Norma Petta, Spanish instructor and tour guide, for a lively discussion on travel to Spain. From the festive squares of Madrid to the Sierra Nevada foothills and the Mediterranean coastline, this journey through Spain showcases a landscape as intricate as its history and people. Immerse yourself in the unique culture and traditions of each region. Nov.18th at 6:30 pm at Oakmont High School, 1710 Cirby Way, Portable 33 in Roseville and on Nov. 19th in Sacramento location TBA. Call Norma

November 19

2791 24th St, Sacramento 95818

\$25 per family

at (916) 457-1220 or go to ask_norma@ spaineasy.com

Hart Ping Pong Players

We are excited to announce yet another new way to have fun and get your heart pumping at the Ethel Hart Center: PING PONG! Also called table tennis, ping pong is FUN, competitive, and strengthens your hand-eye coordination. This Olympic sport features light balls and paddles and is easy to learn. Sessions will be held Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free. Register in advance by phoning 808-5462. Ethel Hart Center 915 27th Street Sacramento 95816.

Looking for candidates

Currently, Todd Migliaccio, a professor at California State University. Sacramento (Sacramento State) is conducting a study about family and longevity in marriage. He is interested in videotaping interviews with couples or individuals who have been married for over 30 years. The topics will cover a range of experiences that are related to relationships, marriage and family over time, including dating, love, marriage, kids, as well as a host of other experiences couples encounter in a marriage. If you are interested in being interviewed at the Ethel Hart Center, located at 915 27th Street Sacramento 95816, please feel free to contact Todd at tmigliac@csus.edu or (916) 278-7573.

November 5

Latino Dance and Culture Group Come dance to the beat of all types of Latin music! Featured DJ music and delicious Mexican food! Held at the Ethel Hart Community Center, 915 27th St., from 6:15-8:45 p.m. Suggested donation: \$3. For more information, call Barbara Alarcon 400-4514.

NOVEMBER 6

Bake Sale

Asian Community Center 2009 Craft and Bake Sale will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 6, at the ACC Greenhaven Terrace, 1180 Corporate Way. Handmade crafts, jewelry, garden plants, white elephant items, fruit, baked goods, chili and bento will be sold. Proceeds support the programs and services at ACC Park City, ACC Nursing Home and ACC Greenhaven Terrace. For more information, contact Khonnie Lattasima at (916) 9026 Ext. 325 or visit http://www.accsv.org/ca/index.php.

November 7

Jensen Garden Workday Volunteers

The Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden hold garden work days one Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The next workday is Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. Bring work gloves, hand pruners and your lunch. Come join with other volunteers to keep the garden beautiful all year. The next workday in 2009 is Dec. 5. The Jensen Garden is located at 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. For more info: Tracy Kerth (916) 485-5322 ex23 or email tracy@carmichaelpark.com.

Old City Cemetery tour

Explore some of the diseases of the Gold Rush and visit the final resting place of the multi-talented physicians who cared for their patients on this Saturday morning tour of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. Led by Dr. Bob LaPerriere, this tour will offer an interesting perspective on Gold Rush history. The tour commences at 10 a.m. from the Cemetery's main gate at Broadway and 10th Street. Visitors may park across the street from the 10th Street Gate and meet at the cemetery entrance. For tour information,

please call (916) 448-0811. Tours are free, though donations for the restoration of the cemetery are greatly needed and appreciated.

Holiday Craft Faire

It's hard to believe, but it's time to start thinking about shopping for those special gifts and holiday decorations. Our vendors offer unique gifts and decorations for all your holiday needs. If you have items to sell, don't forget to reserve your spot at the hottest faire in town! Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 (916) 972-0336 or go to morpd.com. The event will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

November 8

Veterans Day concert

Sacramento Youth Symphony, Premier Orchestra will produce a special event, a salute to Veterans Concert on Sunday, November 8th, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at Hiram Johnson High School, 6879 14th Ave. Tickets: Veterans and active military will be offered a ticket for \$5 with military ID or uniform. Other tickets cost \$10-15 dollars. Students 10 and under free. Call 916-731-5777 for ticket information.

Chili by the River

The St. Joseph's Parish is getting ready to hold its first annual Chili Cook-Off and annual harvest craft fair. The cook-off, promising fiery competition and fun, will be held on November 8th between 9 am and 12:30 pm on the lawn of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 32890 South River Road in Clarksburg. The harvest craft fair will be held simultaneously with the chili cook-off and will feature a wide variety of holiday and every day gift items. The gift fair will continue until 3 p.m. Admission to both events is free. For further information, call 916-421-9615.

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November 12

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November 9

Geranium Society Meeting

Carmichael Geranium Society November Meeting is Friday November 9, 2009 at Carmichael Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael. Program - Lydia Riebel - Holiday Floral Decorations 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visitors welcome – free. All displays will be raffled at end of meeting

November 12

"Hats and Wraps for the Holidays"

Held Nov. 12 at Casa Restaurant (2760 Sutterville Rd.), the "Hats and Wraps for the Holidays" is a special event supporting the Sacramento Children's Home. The event presents Carol Culp and Drin Welker and Casa's Mary Weaver, who have created hats and wraps that are both attractive and functional. Seatings are at 11:15 a.m. or 1:15 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Main entries are a Chicken in Filo with mixed green salad or a chipotle caesar salad with chicken. Dessert is chocolate torte with raspberry coulis. For more information, call 452-2809.

Computer club meeting

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on November 12, from 1-3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA. Microsoft rep Jeffrey Aziz will provide an introduction to Windows 7, Microsoft's next Windows operating system. A problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call (916) 366-1687 or visit our Web site at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

NOVEMBER 13

Jewelry Sale

The Senior Center at Sierra 2 and Cure Arthritis Now host the first annual jewelry sale on Friday, November 13, from 11 to 2 pm at Sierra 2 (2791 24th St). We are asking for community support to make this event a success. Help by donating costume or other jewelry to the sale. (We accept broken bits and beads for sale to crafters.) Apply to participate as a jewelry vendor at this event. Questions? Call the Senior Center at 455 6339 or Cure Arthritis Now at 208 8700. Looking forward to seeing you at the event!

November 14

E-waste recycle day

Bring your old computers, TVs and other ewaste and the Boy Scouts and California Electronic Asset Recovery (CEAR) will recycle it safely. And all for free. The event is happening Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 4745 Pennsylvania Ave., Fair Oaks, (near corner of Sunrise Blvd. and Sunset Ave.). Questions? Want to arrange a pick-up (if you've got big items or you're a business)? Contact ponyexpress@surewest.net.

Fe Galley art reception

Kris A Johnson will be the guest artist for November. She will join Mental Artist Stephen Lyman and Fused Glass Artist Sheena Wolfe for our November 14 Second Saturday reception from 5-9 p.m. There will be an art demonstration at 7:30 p.m. Fe Gallery is located at 1100 65th Street (north of Folsom Blvd., corner of 65th and Elvas), East Sacramento. For more information about the artists and the gallery visit www.FeGallery.com or call, (916) 456-4455. Daytime gallery hours are currently from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to noon. The current show will run throughout November.

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Indian Classical fusion The Sacramento City College Music Department will present the Nada Brahma Music Ensemble in an evening of Indian Classical Fusion improvisation on the following evening in Sacramento: 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 14, Sacramento Yoga Center, Room 6 in the Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St. Admission for each evening is \$5-\$20 (sliding scale). For more information, contact Rob Knable, SCC Music Department Chair at 558-2515.

Holiday Boutique

Parkside's annual Holiday Boutique will be held on Saturday, November 14 from 9-4pm and Sunday, November 15 from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Unique hand-crafted gift items will be available for purchase including ceramics, hand-turned wooden items, soaps, hand-crocheted baby blankets, jewelry, ribbon bows and wreaths and Parkside's very own cookbook. Parkside Community Church is located at 5700 S. Land Park Dr. at the corner of 35th Avenue and S. Land Park Drive in Sacramento. For more information, please call 916-421-0492 or visit www.parksideucc.org.

November 14-15

Sale and fashion show

Sacramento Center for Textile Arts' annual Sale and Fashion Show will be November 14-15 at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Fashion show is Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. Sale is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Vera Latimer at v.latimer@comcast.net.

Alternative Christmas Market

Choose from a selection of Benevolence Gifts from several local and international charities. Handcrafted gifts by native artisans from Third World Countries will be sold. Fremont Presbyterian Church, 5770 Carlson Dr. Sacramento.9:30a.m. to 1:00p. m.Free admission. (916) 452-7132. Visit www.fremontpres.org.

NOVEMBER 17

Memory screenings Primrose Living with Memory Loss to hold free memory screenings as national event stresses importance of proper detection. Individuals concerned about memory problems can take advantage of free screenings as part of National Memory Screening Day, a national initiative of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) to promote proper detection of Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses, and successful aging. Event held Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Primrose, 7707 Rush River Dr. For more information, call 392-3510.

NOVEMBER 18

Genealogical association meeting The regular meeting of the Genealogical Association of Sacramento will be held on November 18 (the third wed of November) at 1 p.m. It will be held in the Belle Cooledge Library at 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Our speaker will be Carol Byers. She will help us break down the "brick walls." Carol is a noted Genealogist and a member of our association. She specializes in German genealogy. She also is helpful in solv-

ESKATON

ing your research computer problems. Please join our association and participate in "Breaking down your brick walls." Questions call Melanie Howard at (916) 383-1221.

At Blue Moon Gallery

The gallery is holding a special event: "Of Travelers, Cats & Kings," works for Harpsichord performed by Alex Ives. The event is Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m. Donations to benefit CSUS Baroque Ensemble, 2353 Albatross Way. For more information, call 920-2444.



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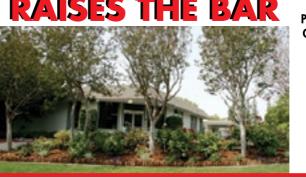
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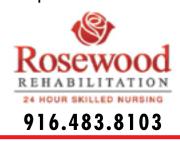
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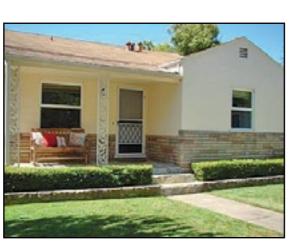
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