

## Election 2010: Get to know your City Council candidates

Meet the candidates vying to represent Midtown, East Sacramento on the City Council

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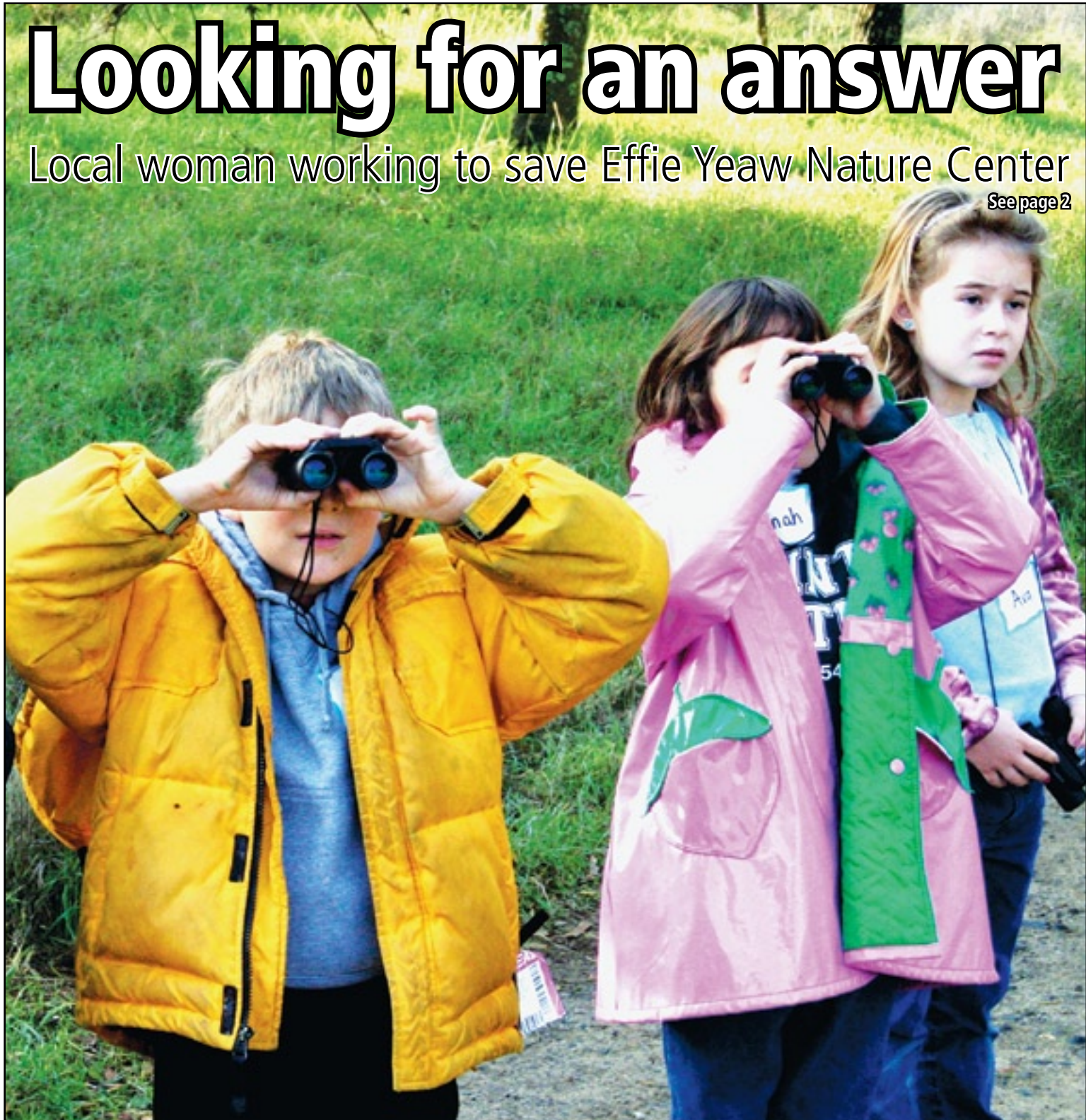
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# Looking for an answer

## Local woman working to save Effie Yeaw Nature Center

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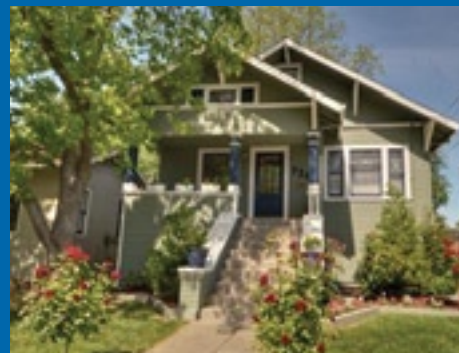
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# Local mom creates group to keep Effie Yeaw Nature Center open

## East Sacramento News Staff Report

After reading the Sacramento County budget proposal last week that included cutting all funding to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, Carmichael mom, Heidi Kuehner, started a Web site to inform the public and organize to keep the Nature Center open.

"While I sympathize with the outrageous \$166.5 million plus deficit the county is dealing with, there are some resources that are too precious to abandon. There has to be a



Photo courtesy

A local mother, worried that the Effie Yeaw Nature Center will close due to budget cuts, has created a Web site to support the center's continued operation.

solution out there to keeping the Center open," said Kuehner, resident of Carmichael for seven years. "The Nature Center and trails bring more than 100,000 people a year to the area and generations of schoolchildren have been introduced to the web of life there. So many people have put so much work for so long to keep this jewel around for us, we just cannot afford to lose it."

According to Effie Yeaw Nature Center Park Interpretive Supervisor, Marilee Flannery, the reality for the popular center is grim.

"All funding from Sacramento County Regional Parks Department ends July

1, 2010 in the current proposed budget," she said.

One possibility that Sacramento County seems to be betting on is the transition of the Center to the American River Natural History Association, a non-profit, all volunteer organization that has been critical to the Nature Center's existence for almost three decades.

Flannery stated, "We need \$300,000 to retain a minimum of the trained program staff and to maintain and manage the buildings and preserve. We also need to retain the grants we currently receive that assist with pro-

See Effie Yeaw, page 14



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Neighborhood party  
**Compton's Market Festival**

East Sacramento's Compton's Market, 4065 McKinley Blvd., held a Neighborhood BBQ and Wine Tasting event on Saturday, April 24, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition to community interaction, the event offered food, wine, live music, raffles and a laptop giveaway. Five percent of the store sales also went to Theodore Judah Music and Arts Program. For more information about Compton's Market, call (916) 731-4304.

*Pictures by East Sacramento News photographer Noah Winn.*



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Local schools win top award

# David Lubin and Matsuyama Elementary Schools named 2010 California Distinguished Schools

Special to the East Sacramento News

Late last month, the California Department of Education named two Sacramento City Unified School District elementary schools – Pocket’s Matsuyama and East Sacramento’s David Lubin – 2010 California Distinguished Schools.

The award recognizes academic excellence and efforts to narrow achievement gaps. Schools are identified for eligibility on the basis of state and federal accountability program test scores.

Applicants are then required to describe two “signature practices” that have led to an increase in student achievement and a reduction in test score disparity between ethnic, racial and socio-economic groups.

At David Lubin, Principal Lynne Soto and her team have raised the test scores of African American and Latino students by implementing a teacher-led, school-wide writing program and by carefully assessing the language arts

needs and skills of students to place them in appropriate classes.

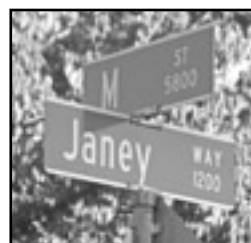
Matsuyama was honored for its focus on differentiated instruction and student intervention.

Principal David Huscher says these programs have aided in raising test scores among African American, Latino and socio-economically disadvantaged students.

“Creating educational success stories for our students – especially those who have struggled in the past – is an extraordinary accomplishment,” said Sacramento City Unified School District Superintendent Jonathan Raymond on learning of the district’s Distinguished Schools honorees. “We are very proud of the hard work put in by students and staffs at David Lubin and Matsuyama.”

The Distinguished School program is in its 24th year. Elementary and secondary schools are recognized on alternate years. The awards will be handed out during a ceremony at Disneyland on June 2.

## Janey Way Memories



# Little League Baseball



By **MARTY RELLES**  
East Sacramento News Columnist  
marty@valcomnews.com

Little League baseball came to Janey Way in 1959, the year I reached 12 years of age. That year, the East Sacramento Little League expanded into our area. In previous years, they played their games at the diamond in East Portal Park on Rodeo Way, but when they expanded into our area, they built a brand new diamond on the east end of the pit (the abandoned sand and gravel pit adjacent to Janey Way). They located the diamond at the intersection of 60th Street and M Street. The new diamond featured a forest green fence completely surrounding the field; perfectly manicured grass in the infield and outfield; built-in, screened dugouts; multi-level stands on each side of the field; an announcer’s box with a built-in public announcing system behind the plate; and a snack bar underneath the announcer’s box.

Prior to trying out for the league, we all practiced in front of the Ducray house. As the lines of boys practiced throwing the baseball, Justin, the Ducray boys’ father, walked through the ranks of boys saying things like, “Hold the ball this way Mart, step into your throw.” The air buzzed with anticipation. Finally the tryouts came, and I ended up playing for the Cardinals. Other teams in the league included the Giants, Dodgers, Pirates, Cubs and Yankees. Mr. Brown, a very nice man, coached my team. Justin Ducray coached the Giants. My team practiced at Kit Carson Junior High School on 53rd Street as we readied for the season, which included twenty games divided into two halves. I played both second base and left field. My team competed well, but did not win the championship. Some other team ended up winning it all. What I recall is how much fun I had. The crowds, our neighbors, exhibited enthusiasm, but showed support and respect for all the players. I remember hitting a double and driving in a run in one game. I could never hit a home run out of the park, which had 200-foot-long outfield lines, but I got my fair share of hits.

At the end of the season, three players from each team participated in an All-Star selection game. My manager, Mr. Brown, picked me and two others to play in that game. In the game, I had a hit and made a fine leaping catch at second base. Sadly, I did not make the All-Star team, settling for selection as the first alternate.

I only played one year of Little League because the next year I turned 13, which exceeded the age limit. I chose not to follow up and play in the Babe Ruth League as it was too far away and none of my friends participated. High school sports at Sacramento High awaited.

I recall to this day the fun I had playing Little League, though I regret that it came so late to our neighborhood. Our motto was play hard, have fun, demonstrate sportsmanship. We shook hands with our competitors after every game. In an era where baseball has become highly competitive and very commercial, they could learn from the values we brought to the game.



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# Election 2010: Meet the candidates running for City Council District 3

By SUSAN LAIRD  
East Sacramento News Writer  
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*Editor's Note: On pages 6-8, the East Sacramento News is offering complete stories on the three candidates running for City Council District 3. The candidates, incumbent Steve Cohn and challengers Shawn Eldredge and Chris Little, are each profiled in the following pages. The interviews are printed in alphabetical order and are also available online at [www.valcomnews.com](http://www.valcomnews.com).*



District 3 incumbent Steve Cohn.

## Steve Cohn: Experienced Leadership Needed in this Economy

This is no time to change horses in mid-stream, according to Sacramento City Councilman Steve Cohn. Given the current economy in the city of Sacramento and throughout the region, the councilman believes that it is important that the City Council have experienced leadership that can bring opportunity to the area. That is why he is running for a fifth term.

"My goal is to make Sacramento the most livable city in America," Cohn said. "When it comes to economic development, you have to think of it as a city and as a region. As a city, we try to make it as attractive as possible."

Cohn believes that the job of a city councilmember is to focus on representing the people in the district. He believes that

city residents share in his vision to make Sacramento a place of "excellent schools and libraries, abundant parks and open spaces, a dynamic Central City and business districts, vibrant arts, sports and culture, and safe, quality tree-lined neighborhoods within walking distance or a transit stop from everything you need."

### Taking care of business

Making Sacramento an attractive place to live and play is also key to making the Capital City a desirable place for business.

"I think it's important that government take care of its business first, and by that I mean: what can we do to attract business to this area," Cohn said. "People who have a choice in business need to feel comfortable with where they are going to invest. We

have to have a business climate that is profitable and sustainable."

Cohn is pleased that public safety is being maintained in this economy.

"We haven't had to cut any police officers, thank goodness," he said. "We were able to negotiate with the union. We got federal grants from Homeland Security. We have got a great resource with Sacramento Police Chief Rick Brazil."

### Going green

Sacramento needs to develop new industries to ensure success in the 21st century, according to Cohn.

"We need to go after 'green' jobs – tech jobs – so we're not so dependent on state worker jobs," he said. "Last year, we actually grew 38 percent in green jobs, such as renewable solar, energy efficiency, clean tech and so on. Clean tech is a field of technology that is dedicated to cleaning the environment. We'd like Sacramento to be known as the green, renewable energy capital of the world."

Cohn admits that there are challenges to this vision, however. Not the least of which are state regulations that have caused many businesses to locate elsewhere.

"Part of what drags us down (in locating businesses to Sacramento) is being a part of California," he said. "That situation needs to change."

Support and encouragement for existing industries and businesses should not be overlooked, according to Cohn.

"For example, agriculture is still important to Sacramento, and can continue to be," he said. "We have an opportunity to grow in that area."

### Creative solutions

In a down economy, it is necessary to look for other sources of income to pay for public facilities, Cohn said.

"For example, last year, we had to cut some city pools, and limit the hours at others," he said. "The 'Pops in the Park' program raised money to keep pools open. It wasn't enough in and of itself, but we were able to use that money to leverage other funds. The faith community and other community groups have also stepped up to help. In fact, the faith community has taken the lead with Mayor Kevin Johnson's initiative to aid the homeless."

### 2022 Winter Olympics?

Thinking outside the box, Cohn said he would like to see the city of Sacramento partner with the city of Reno on a bid to win the 2022 Winter Olympics.

"It's been a while since Squaw Valley hosted the Winter Olympics, and it could be done again," he said. "Reno does not have an adequate

airport for winter travel, but we have Sacramento International Airport. We could benefit from having an all-weather airport. Visitors who come to the Olympics would see the Sacramento area, and likely return. Improved rail connections could be made from Sacramento to Reno, with a Capital Corridor-type of service. This could also attract some federal money to the area."

Closer to home, Cohn has questions about the plan to build a new arena for the Sacramento Kings basketball franchise in the Rail Yards of Old Sacramento.

"I would like to see the plan to build a new arena succeed, but not on the backs of taxpayers," he said. "I am a healthy skeptic. The mayor, myself and two others are on the committee to do our due diligence for the city of Sacramento."

In addition to sitting on the new arena committee, Cohn is the chair of the Council Audit Committee, Regional Transit Board (2009) and the Sac Regional Arts Financing Authority. He is a board member of the Sac Area Council of Governments, Sac Regional Sanitation District, Sac Transportation Authority, Capitol Corridor (Rail) Joint Powers Authority (former Chair), Sac Metro Air Quality Management District,

See Candidates, page 7

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# Candidates: Steve Cohn, Shawn Eldredge, Chris Little

Continued from page 6

and Sac Human Rights/Fair Housing Board. He has also served as chair and/or member of the regional governing boards for Transportation, Solid Waste, Cable Television, Water, World Trade, Welfare-to-Work and Public Libraries.

Cohn and his wife, Catherine Travers, live near McKinley Park in East Sacramento. They have two adult children. He is the Chief Assistant General Counsel for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, where he has worked since 1992.

## Shawn Eldredge: Say No to 'Business as Usual'

If Shawn Eldredge, candidate for City Council in District Three, seems to come across as a rebel with a cause, it is because he firmly believes that Sacramento's public servants need to come from the public – because they can understand the world their constituents must live in.

"Our founding fathers were businessmen and community activists, first and foremost," he states on his Web site.

Eldredge feels a bond with those early patriots who left their farms and businesses to take care of the fledgling nation's business, because he is an entrepreneur and independent contractor who has similarly invested himself in the welfare of the community. Sporting a short haircut and a where the "rubber-meets-the-road" attitude, he is a spokesman for the common man.

"My background is in business," Eldredge said. "I'm a general contractor. I've always been in the trades and self-employed. It's a tough time out there for the trades. It's time for a change."

### Local and active

Eldredge is a graduate of the City of Sacramento's Management and Planning Academy, whose goal is to educate and encourage partnerships between City of Sacramento residents and business owners to help maintain, revitalize, and promote healthy communities.

He is the past president and a current board member of the Midtown Business Association (MBA). He has ad-



District 3 candidate Shawn Eldredge.

vocated for new businesses and for in-fill development projects and helped to enable the passage of the Midtown Property Based Improvement District (PBID), creating almost \$700K in funds to improve the business climate in Midtown. Eldredge continues to work to mitigate the impacts of entertainment areas on neighborhoods and to tackle the issues of graffiti, parking and street lighting with his continued service on the MBA board.

Eldredge volunteers for a number of organizations, including the Rebuilding Together/Christmas in April program. He donated his company's service to support the rehabilitation of the Historic Villa in Sacramento County, headquarters of the Serve Our Seniors organization.

He is engaged to be married, has an adult daughter from a prior marriage, and lives in the Winn Park neighborhood.

Eldredge sees business development as key to starting Sacramento's economic recovery.

"If we want Sacramento to be a healthy city, we need to create an environment where the future entrepreneurs of the region want to be," he said. "They have to want to live here, establish their business here and raise their children here. All those elements are critical. Those entrepreneurs have to be incentivized to be here, instead of Roseville, Folsom or West Sac."

### Government and business

Eldredge points to inefficiencies that cost Sacramento business jobs.

"We have SACTO – the Sacramento Area Commerce & Trade Organization," he said. "SACTO is an economic development tool that should be brought 'in house' for the council. Our city economic department can't give us numbers in a timely manner when businesses ask for information about Sacramento. You have to be able to be competitive with the other cities. We need to have a Small Business Advocate – to be able to get potential business owners through the system with the least amount of pain as possible."

In 1950, over half of the retail sales in a six-county region were done in the city of Sacramento, Eldredge cites. "Today, it's less than five percent. We've gotten our ass kicked by our neighbors. We must become good recruiters of new businesses, enablers of those businesses and retainers of existing businesses."

Lines of communication need to be established between city government, local businesses and residents.

"If an existing business is having issues, we should know about those issues and be able to help," Eldredge said. "This is important, because unless we are looking to create new revenue, we can't begin to fund those quality of life issues that are important to everyone."

Every issue ultimately affects everyone in the community, according to Eldredge. For example, public safety.

"Public safety comes with dollars," he said. "I had a conversation with Sacramento Police Chief Brazil. Multiple things came up. There are some areas we will have to kill some services in order to grow public safety. One area is painting: offices don't need to be painted every year. They can be painted as needed. Firemen don't get four men to a truck. If you are a school teacher and you are not performing, you should go. I support department audits. I'm not going to support a tax or fee increase unless I can see an audit. The basic duty of government is to protect its people."

### Affecting change

Eldredge believes that communication and building trust

is key to effecting change. As a councilmember, he believes he can help in that process.

"Relationships need to be built between residents and business that will facilitate the sponsorship of community facilities, such as pools and parks," he said. "Similar to the signs you see along the freeway, a sign might say 'This park is being sponsored by' and the name of a local business."

Sacramento needs to take action in numerous areas, including public safety, schools, streetlights, historic building preservation and more, according to Eldredge. He believes compassionate solutions can be found to help the area's homeless population and that an arena for the Kings can be built without taxpayer dollars.

"But right now, we need to take care of our humans," he said. "And we aren't doing a good job of it. We need neighborhoods that are safe and clean. This is not a time to be thinking of getting re-elected at the expense of the people who live here."

## Chris Little: Common Sense for Changing Times

During times of economic upheaval, there is a need to keep a clear head, use common sense, look for the opportunities that exist in such times – and take action, according to Chris Little, District Three candidate for City Council.

"It's an exciting time," Little said. "There's a lot of fear, but that's when people really rally for the good of everybody."

### Problem-solving attitude

Born, raised and educated in the district, Little knows the community he continues to live in. He is a third generation Sacramentan who grew up in his family's example of community service. Little is the president of the East Sacramento Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the American River Parkway Advisory Committee and vice chairman of the 65th Redevelopment Advisory Committee. He is a member of Rotary Club of Point West, the Run to Feed the Hungry Race Committee and the Work-Study Program Committee of Cristo Rey High

See District 3, page 8

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# District 3: Candidates talk about the future of the Sacramento region

Continued from page 7

School. Little is a licensed real estate broker who runs his own office in East Sacramento. He is an avid community volunteer, giving of his time to numerous local schools and causes.

"The economy right now is difficult. Revenues will run low," Little said. "We have to think of things differently. We must use common sense when it comes to the budget. We can't just protect the status quo, because that's what got us into this situation to begin with."

Examples of common sense thinking that could be used to make a difference in the community, according to Little, include looking at every item in the city budget to see where there might be an opportunity to engage a different, more affordable, more efficient way of doing things.

"For example, how we deal with parks and greenways," he said. "Some of the tasks that need to be done there could be carried out through alternate means...maybe contracted out where it makes sense."

Consolidation of tasks should be considered, where feasible, Little said.



District 3 candidate Chris Little.

"The city and the county should consider combining services where it makes sense," he said. "We have seen savings with the consolidation of the fire districts, for example."

### Smart spending, planning

Economic common sense begins right in the district with each resident and business, Little said.

"Our local chamber has had an active 'Shop East Sac' campaign," he said. "I think it's been fairly successful. Our membership has gone up, and our

business-to-business promotions as well as our residential promotions are seeing success. I try to do as much shopping as I can right here at home."

City leaders need to realize that area businesses provide the lifeblood of the communities they reside in, Little believes.

"We lose a lot of business to Placer County, to the Galleria," he said. "We've lost a lot of the tax base and it's not coming back. The multiplier effect for those losses is huge for this community. We need to focus on leveraging our resources of the things we do well in Sacramento."

Little points to Sacramento's leadership in the area of healthcare.

"We have a wonderful nursing program at Sac State, we have fantastic hospitals - Mercy, Sutter, UCD, Shriners. We don't have a tiered system, and we have a demonstrated ability to provide good care," he said. "We are a leader in healthcare, but we should be a national leader."

Little said that many of Sacramento's assets are un-

derutilized and should be "more fully promoted for job creation." Local assets include "one of the greatest climates in the world, two amazing rivers, tremendous parks and open spaces" as well as "major universities, a medical school and a teaching hospital, a well educated work force, a vast technology infrastructure, plus outstanding tourism opportunities."

### Developing and expansion

Projects must ultimately benefit the entire community, Little believes. He is concerned about the plan to build the Sacramento Kings a new arena at the Rail Yards.

"The current plan the council is pursuing doesn't serve the community well," he said. "It's a very long term project. You're not creating anything of true value, long term."

To Little, a common sense approach includes a balance of community and government service, and it is this belief that has made him step forward to run for City Council.

"We have to be forward thinking," he said. "It won't be an easy fix, but we need to think. To be smarter with the budget, not slash and burn. I've done community service all my life. I view public service as a natural progression. I don't want this to be a career position. I believe that it's more productive if people come in for a brief period of time, allow others to share their ideas and then move on."

"There is a tremendous opportunity for residents to get involved, given this economy," Little continued. "They can see they have a real stake in the community and can make a difference."

Finding solutions to the challenges in the community will come down to having the courage to face the difficult choices and to look for innovative solutions, according to Little.

"It all comes back to common sense and to doing things differently to get out of this," he said. "We need to create incentives for businesses, we need Smart Planning - thinking outside the box. Revitalize K Street - get housing down there, so people will stay."

Little is optimistic about the future, and knows the road ahead will be uphill.

"It's all about change," he said. "Not for the sake of change, but because we have to change. If we all pitch in, we can get through this and we can make it work."

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# How will you age?

By **DARBY PATTERSON**  
East Sacramento News Columnist  
darby@valcomnews.com

The contrasts surround us. People who reach the ripened age of 80 with energy, vitality and purpose and those who slowly decline throughout their 70s to wait of the infirmities of age to claim their final breath. I was talking about this with a Linda Kelly, co-owner of AmeriTechnology in Sacramento – a woman a tad over 60 and leading the baby boomer edge in a once non-traditional technology role. What's the real difference between people who age successfully and those who do not, we wondered. Is it genetics or habits or attitude? According to research, successful aging is a combination of each of these qualities and heavily influenced by things that are under our control.

Linda bemoaned the fact that older adults have a wealth of experience, talent and wisdom to bring to society. We no longer need (or want) to retire in the same way as our forebears did. She correctly recalled that in her parents' day (when most people survived into their mid-to-late 50s), folks expected to retire by 60, maybe spend some time traveling and enjoying grandkids, and then slowly go into that "good night." People who made it to 65 had "longevity."

With the average life span of Boomers now at 77.4 years, and more centenarians than ever before in history, we can anticipate many more years of productive life. As baby boomers, we don't want to be disengaged, disregarded and put out to pasture. According to Linda, the old paradigm is not only outdated, it's also dangerous. "I see it as a destructive pattern for society as a whole," she said.

Medical and social science support her theory. Today there is ample research to show us how to live well longer. Information from credible studies on aging is no longer limited to massive textbooks and scholarly papers. It's readily available to most of us via the Internet. Many Web sites are devoted to the topic and offer guidelines that are based on work that comes from leading universities and health organizations.

What are these experts on aging saying? There are some common threads across the spectrum of research. The value of exercise is one point of agreement. About 30 minutes five days a week is recommended by many experts – some advise more and others say we can get by with a little less. But, there is no doubt that aerobic exercise such as walking, bicycling, swimming and even dancing produces measurable cardiovascular benefits, feeds muscle health, improves brain function and elevates mood. These aspects of health, in turn, allow us to remain physically active and emotionally engaged in life – in contrast to simply checking out by plopping down in the Lazy Boy Lounger and watching sitcoms – a brain numbing and belly-building practice!

Add to this mild aerobic workout a modicum of weight or resistance training. You'll be able to twist the caps off the peanut butter jar, easily climb stairs and carry groceries. This activity can be done at home with a simple set of light weights. Experts say about 90 minutes (or more) a week will make a noticeable difference. It's about maintenance – not muscle building.

Separate research shows that learning to play a musical instrument is a great way to build the brain – perhaps this is because an instrument requires intellectual engagement along with physicality and coordination – body and brain working in tangent.

Baby boomers have the advantage of hindsight – we pretty much know what doesn't work. We also have the advantage of technology and easy access to resources. With these tools, our Boomer generation can exert influence and continue to contribute richly to the fabric of society.

*Darby Patterson is a member of the Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission and the author of "Meow.org, The Cat-Napping Caper." Visit Darby at [www.storiesand-books.com](http://www.storiesand-books.com). E-mail Darby at [darby@valcomnews.com](mailto:darby@valcomnews.com).*

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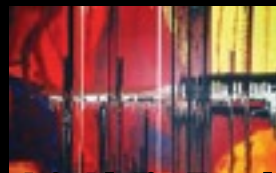
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formation on the Francis House, call (916) 443-2646 or visit [www.franchishouse.info](http://www.franchishouse.info).

*Pictures by East Sacramento News photographer Noah Winn.*

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# Effie Yeaw: Web site is called [www.SaveEffieYeaw.org](http://www.SaveEffieYeaw.org)

Continued from page 2

gram costs. This \$300,000 is needed every year for the next 3-5 years until the new nonprofit is able to bring in enough new funding to become self-sufficient."

While ARNHA works to hurriedly raise funds to keep programs running, Friends of Effie is independent and will focus its efforts on stopping the Sacramento County budget cuts to the Na-

ture Center altogether. Kuehner's belief is that when people find out about the dire situation, they will want to do something.

"(The Web site) [www.saveeffieyeaw.org](http://www.saveeffieyeaw.org) will show you a few different ways to get involved. We're announcing a logo contest for elementary school children, for example, to use on signs and t-shirts at the May 12 Sacramento County Board

of Supervisors meeting, our first show of support for the Nature Center," Kuehner stated.

On May 5 at 6 p.m. at the picnic tables in front of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, the group will hold their first planning meeting and everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Heidi Kuehner at (916) 335-7382.

## Hundreds 'Race for the Cure' May 8

By RYAN ROSE  
East Sacramento News Editor  
[ryanrose@valcomnews.com](mailto:ryanrose@valcomnews.com)

A few years ago, I was in the dumps. Rarely did I exercise; my main physical activity was rubbing my eyes after watching too much television. I needed a goal – some finish line I could run to, something in which I could find inspiration to rouse me from my sofa.

Fortunately, the Sacramento region is home to a bevy of walk-run events, most of them geared to the novice. And I found one that not only helped get me in shape, it taught me a lesson in perseverance, courage and strength.

Held annually on the Saturday before Mother's Day, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, a 5-kilometer (3.1-mile) walk-run event, draws hundreds to Cal Expo every year to raise funds to find a cure for breast cancer. A nasty condition that has affected women in my own family, breast cancer has a deep reach nationwide – 192,370 new cases of invasive breast cancer were estimated to have occurred among women in the United States during 2009, according to Susan G. Komen for the Cure (formerly the Susan G. Komen Foundation).

Since my first Race for the Cure in 2004, I have become an event regular, readily signing up friends and family to join me. Superficially, the race has given me much in the way of healthy living habits: Since my first step in the '04 race, I work out, eat better, and I now run in a number of events across the country; on a deeper level, the race has had a profound effect on me. Running the event with breast cancer survivors and families affected by the condition has provided much in the way of inspiration and made me thankful for being active – not just in body, but in life.

Thus, I relay the challenge to you: Get up and get over your fitness obstacles – and in doing so, fight breast cancer. To register for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure (held this year on Saturday, May 8), go to [komensacramento.org](http://komensacramento.org) and click the "Race for the Cure" tab.

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## MAY

### Art Center Fundraiser

Announcing the 16th Annual "Ars Gratia Artis", benefiting the Sacramento Fine Arts Center. Our artists have donated original artwork to this event. You may acquire one of these paintings, sculptures or other artworks for your home. Purchase a ticket for \$50. Preview the art. Come to the Reception/Drawing Sunday, May 23. When your name is drawn you may select your choice from the remaining artworks and take it home! Ticket Price \$50; Viewing Dates: May 11-23, 2010; Reception: May 23, 1-3 p.m.; Drawing at 3 p.m.; at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, 5330 B Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. Gallery Hours are Tuesdays 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Phone 916-971-3713.

### Pole Walking Clinics

The following are the dates for Cure Arthritis Now Pole Walking clinics. Fridays May 7, 14 and 21st. all at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays May 5 and 9 at 6 p.m. All will be at the Sierra 2 Center, 4th Ave. Parking lot. 2791 24th Street. 95818. Call for more information and to sign up ahead of time at 916-208-8700.

### Benefit plant sale

The AIDS Benefit Plant Sales are May 8-9 and May 22-23. Both sales are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily in the covered parking area behind the Gifted Garden at 18th & J Streets. Both sales will feature a selection of over 200 varieties of hardy perennials for the area, including 2010 introductions (Coreopsis and Echinacea varieties) and many rare and hard to find varieties. For more information: [gardennotes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gardennotes@sbcglobal.net) or call (916) 943-6183.

## MAY 7

### Writer's Club meeting

The California Writers' Club Network meeting on Friday, May 7 at 9 a.m. at IHOP Restaurant, 2216 Sunrise Blvd. in Rancho Cordova just north of Hwy 50 will present columnist and award-winning author Susan Skinner speaking on "Contrasts of a Life in International & Local Photojournalism." Guests welcome. For more information, call (916) 944-3185.

## MAY 8

### Passport to Summer Youth Fair

Join Senator Darrell Steinberg's 9th annual Passport to Summer Youth Fair set for Saturday May 8th from 11am-3 pm at Southside Park. Passport to Summer is a one-stop-shop for many safe and fun summer activities for children and youth. Local Parks and Recreation departments and community organizations will showcase summer programs, youth employment, internship and volunteer opportunities. There will also be fun children's activities, a bounce house, multicultural entertainment, raffles and free snacks for all. For more information, please call 916 338-6577. This is a free event.

### Painting Where the Wild Things Are

"Painting Where the Wild Things Are", an open juried art show at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center benefiting the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. April 27-May 8. Regional artists have submitted paintings of the American River Parkway and the wild things that live there. Juror is Gregory Kondos. There will be a 2nd Saturday Reception on May 8, 2010, 5:30-8:30 p.m. This art show is a preview of the Gala and Art Auction to be held at the Effie Yeaw Nature on May 15. Tickets at (916) 489-4918. Sacramento Fine Arts Center is located at 5330B Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608. Phone is (916) 971-3713 and Web site is [www.sacfinearts.org](http://www.sacfinearts.org).

### Parkside annual rummage sale

Come shop at Parkside Community Church's Annual Flea Market and Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 8 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. This sale is over 20 years strong and draws plenty of neighborhood foot-traffic. You can find a treasure trove of items ranging from plants to electronics to house-wares to furniture to knick-knacks to books. Vendors may rent a 10x12' outdoor space for only \$20. A portion of the proceeds benefit Parkside Community Church. Parkside Community Church is located at 5700 South Land Park Drive at the corner of 35th Ave and S. Land Park Drive in Sacramento. For more information, or a vendor application, please visit [www.parksideucc.org](http://www.parksideucc.org) under the "Upcoming Events" banner or email [lamaiahoffmann@yahoo.com](mailto:lamaiahoffmann@yahoo.com) or call (916)616-8089.

## MAY 9

### "The Crockers—Their Lives & Legacies" History Tour

Margaret Crocker and her daughter, Aimee, brought to early Sacramento drama, elegance, culture and charm. Come hear Margaret (Judy Eitzen) and Aimee (Connie Clark) describe their lives as social maven in those rough and tumble days of 18th Century Sacramento. Appearing at the Historic City Cemetery on May 9, 2010 at 10 a.m., they will talk about their contributions and legacies to the City, as well as saucy bits of Aimee's non-conventional life. For tour information please call (916) 448-0811. Tours are free though donations for the restoration of the cemetery are greatly needed and appreciated.



## MAY 11

### Sharing the Journey Through Grief

This workshop will meet once a month on the second Tuesday from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Each workshop will explore a different aspect of grief and loss. Presenter is Margo Hayes, MSW. Workshops are free of charge. Pre-registration required. Contact Lucy Chao at 916-393-9026 Ext. 322.

### Waldorf Open House

Walk through the Grades of Live Oak Waldorf School Experience the life of a Waldorf student on a two-hour tour of the beautiful 40 acre campus. Visit several classes, 1st-8th grades. Meet faculty and learn about the Waldorf curriculum and explore your educational options. Live Oak Waldorf School, 410 Crother Road in Meadow Vista. 8:30 - 10:30 am. Free. Reservations: 530-878-8720. www.liveoakwaldorf.org

## MAY 12

### Free Indoor Orchestra Concert

Don't miss this 60 member symphonic orchestra from American River College as they perform May 12 at 7 p.m. in the warm intimate atmosphere of Mission Oaks Community Center...where you will feel like you are sitting among the musicians while they perform. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 (916) 972-0336 or go to morpd.com. All ages are welcome for the informal hour of music—come as you are!

## Genealogy Meeting

Root Cellar - Sacramento Genealogical Society general membership meeting Wednesday, May 12, 2010, 7pm - 8:30pm, Citrus Heights Community Clubhouse 6921 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights. Guest speaker Toni Mann will present "Displaying Your Family Heirlooms". Free, guests welcome. Details about the speaker and Root Cellar at www.rootcellar.org or contact Sammie Hudgens (916) 481-4930.

## MAY 13

### Mission Oaks Computer Club

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, May 13, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. The meeting topic will be "Use Your Library at Home", presented by Sacramento Public Library's Ann Owens. A problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call (916) 366-1687 or visit our Web site at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

### Gray Panthers meeting

The Sacramento Gray Panthers May 13 meeting will feature a review of the propositions which will appear on the California June primary election ballot. A representative of the League of Women Voters will conduct the meeting, which will also include input from the audience. The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 1 p.m. at the Hart Senior Center, 915 - 27th St., Sacramento (between I and J Streets). Cost: No charge. For further information contact Margie Metzler, 916-921-5008

## MAY 14

### Senior Health & Safety Fair

The Senior Health and Safety Fair, Friday, May 14, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the ACC Greenhaven Terrace, 1180 Corporate Way. Meet and talk with local providers about services and programs designed for the older adult. Free of Charge. Open to the Public. For general information, contact Susan Sarinas at (916) 395-0210, Ext. 421 or outreachcoord@accsv.org.

### Carmichael Geranium Society Meeting

The Carmichael Geranium Society May Meeting is May 14, 2010 at the Carmichael Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael. Julie West "the Butterfly Lady" will be the speaker; Julie will also bring plants that attract butterflies for sale. Visitors welcome.

## MAY 15

### Walk on the Wildside

If you'd enjoy a fun, free family-oriented day in the country with lively entertainment and up-close and personal views of many wildlife species, mark your calendar and plan to attend Walk on the Wildside on Saturday, May 15th, 2010. Join Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge and its partners in celebrating International Migratory Bird Day and local conservation successes. The free event is held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. near the town of Freeport, California, at the Beach Lake Picnic Area. For more information or to download the event flyer with directions in pdf, visit www.fws.gov/stonelakes, or listen to the prerecorded event information by calling 916-875-WILD.



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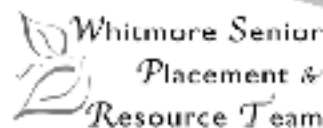
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# Fire Department has unique local connection with Klumpp's Page

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

The Sacramento Fire Department has accomplished many things in its very rich history of serving the community. But few people know of its unique connection to Land Park's George L. Klumpp funeral firm.

While spending the latter part of an afternoon at the department's Emergency Medical Services Building in East Sacramento last week, Dep. Chief Leo Baustian and Cpt. Jim Doucette discussed details surrounding this connection.

"The (Sacramento) Fire Department has what we call 'Klumpp's Page,'" Baustian said. "It's a page listing the 50 most senior (active) employees of the department and it has been a longstanding joke around the department that once you get on it, you don't get off of it until the Klumpp's funeral home picks you up."

Although there is some truth to this statement due to the many dedicated personnel who spent decades serving the department, most who made Klumpp's Page went on to enjoy relatively long retirements.

Baustian, who is currently 4th on the page, said that while most people today find their way off the page by other means than through Klumpp's assistance, unfortunately there are still a few who are not so unfortunate.

The term, Klumpp's Page, which dates back to sometime in the earlier years of the funeral firm, originated during a time when many people in the department did not retire and retirement benefits in the department were different than they are today.

## Starting Klumpp's Page

Klumpp's history began in 1916, when George L. Klumpp, who would later serve as the city's mayor and part owner of the Sacramento Solons baseball team, obtained his funeral embalmer's license.

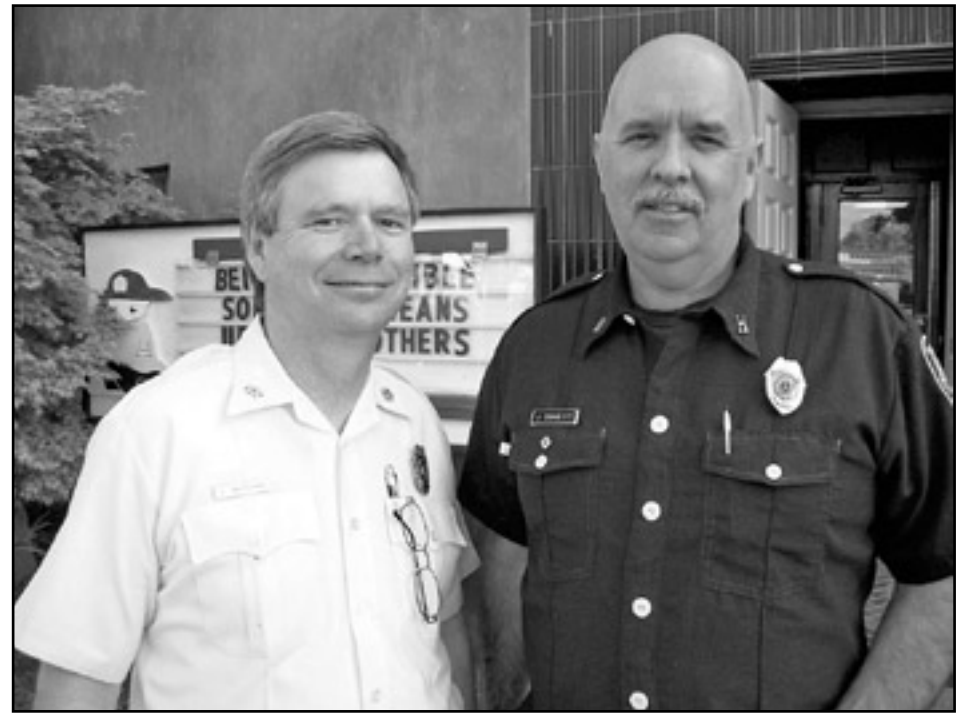
After establishing his own business in 1921 – 71 years after the city's first volunteer fire department was founded and a half-century after the city received its first paid fire department – George opened his Chapel of Flowers at 808 O St.

Klumpp's became a part of the Land Park community in 1972, when it relocated to its present site at 2691 Riverside Blvd., across the street from the historic Masonic Cemetery.

Although Baustian and Doucette said that they were uncertain when Klumpp's was first associated with the page, they confirmed that the page was around long before they joined the department.

Doucette, who also serves as the department's public information officer, said that although he began to hear about the list around the time he left the Pacific Fire Department after 11 years of service to join the Sacramento Fire Department in 1991, he does not believe that many people in the community are familiar with the page.

"(Throughout) my whole career (with the Sacramento department), I've heard about Klumpp's Page and we've always joked about it," said Doucette, who is presently 9th on the page. "I don't think very many people in this city know anything about it all. Many firefighters do, but probably a lot of



East Sacramento News Photo/Lance Armstrong  
Dep. Chief Leo Baustian, left, and Cpt. Jim Doucette are listed 4th and 9th, respectively, on the Sacramento Fire Department's Klumpp's Page, which consists of the 50-most senior, current members of the department. See the Klumpp's Page list at [www.valcomnews.com](http://www.valcomnews.com).

our young guys don't know yet, but they will."

## The reach of the Page

In contemplating the meaning of the page, Baustian and Doucette agreed that it extends far beyond something chronological or numerical.

"The stories that go with the names on the page are endless and are timeless," Baustian said.

When asked to name a few of the people who have spent time on Klumpp's Page throughout the years, both Baustian and Doucette, who are scheduled to retire from the department this year, paused before selecting a few of the most renowned names.

One of the first names that was referred to by both Baustian and Doucette was Cpt. Tom Sherlock, who until last year had been 1st on the page.

As a name that just about anyone, if not everyone, in the department recognized, Sherlock was a symbol of longevity, as he spent nearly 50 years working for the department.

In contemplating the many changes that were made within the department during his career, Sherlock said, "The first engine that I pumped didn't have a roof on it and had windshield wipers on both sides of the windows. We also used to ride the tailboards

See Klumpp's, page 21

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# Klumpp's: 'There's a certain pride to be listed on the Klumpp's Page'

Continued from page 20

and hang on to the sides of the trucks."

Upon Sherlock's retirement, Doucette became the department's number one captain, in terms of time served in this position.

Among the other names referred to during the meeting with Baustian and Doucette were: Cliff Haskell, Les Heffelfinger and Loran Wolcott.

Haskell, who Baustian said is renowned among fire departments across the nation for founding the Firefighters Burn Institute in 1973, was 7th on Klumpp's Page when he retired on Dec. 30, 1989.

Additionally, Haskell was the last fire captain to work at the old Station No. 3, which was built in 1898 and was closed in 1984. The historic station building continues to stand today at 1215 19th St.

## Service in Sacramento

Reminiscing about Heffelfinger's service in the department, Baustian said, "Les Heffelfinger (who retired on Dec. 30, 1994), was my battalion chief and he was on the job for 42 years and he was a battalion chief for 22 years. We all look at him in awe, because (after) he went to what we call a second or third alarm fire, he could remember in his head what companies were coming in, who was

assigned to where, what they were doing. He had it all (in his head). What do we have to do? We have to write it down on a white board."

Baustian added that Heffelfinger's experience with the department included responding to fires in today's Old Sacramento prior to its redevelopment.

"Back then, we'd call them 211s, which was a term for a second alarm (fire) and (Heffelfinger) would say, 'Oh, we had two alarm fires twice in one day and they were burning down the lower end every week,'" Baustian recalled.

Wolcott, who was listed 32nd on Klumpp's Page when he retired from the department in 1990, shared some of his memories as a longtime fireman.

"When I came in here into the city (fire department) in 1963 (from the now defunct Del Paso Robles Fire Department), I started driving aerial trucks and I drove aerial trucks until I retired," said Haskell, who joined the DPRFD in 1959. "Actually, they (later referred to) us as apparatus operators instead of engineers, so that's what I retired as. Like Haskell, he was a captain most of the time on an engine, but I was an apparatus operator and I drove aerial trucks and that's all I did. I

was only a firefighter for a short period of time prior to being an apparatus operator."

Wolcott said that it was an honor to be listed on Klumpp's Page.

"There's a certain pride to be listed on the Klumpp's Page," said Wolcott, who believes that the page started in the 1940s. "Nowadays, guys are (retiring) at 50, where in my days you couldn't go until you were 55."

Wolcott, who had a heart attack in 1990 that led to his retirement at the age of 55, chuckled a bit when commenting that Klumpp's nearly did have to pick him up.

He added, however, that despite a second heart attack in 1997, he is "doing fine" and enjoying his retirement.

Baustian certainly made it no secret that recognizing only a few people from Klumpp's Page was no simple task.

"There are a lot of names that made it to that first page of the (department's) seniority list who paved the way for a lot of us and set a high standard for a lot of us," Baustian said. "But the neat thing is that there are a lot of other ones coming behind us."

Baustian said that his admiration for fire department personnel and his own childhood experience

led to his desire to serve others through the Sacramento Fire Department.

"I haven't done anything else (but work for the department) since I was 19 years old and I'm proud to have been able to serve here," Baustian said. "A lot of the older guys know that while I was growing up in North Highlands, our house burned down in 1971, right before the Farrell's plane crash and before there was special burn care here. My two brothers were sent off to San Francisco to get treatment and they were down there for about four months. I learned from these other people to kind of give back. Jimmy and I do a lot of work for the Firefighters Burn Institute. We've both been on the advisory board. It's a good way to give back."

## Happy for recognition

Emphasizing that Klumpp's Page never received any attention in the media prior to this article, Doucette said that the page is very deserving of such recognition.

"It's a part of Sacramento that not a lot of people know about, but it's a very interesting story for people to hear," Doucette said. "It's something that's a tradition that we should keep up. It goes way back."

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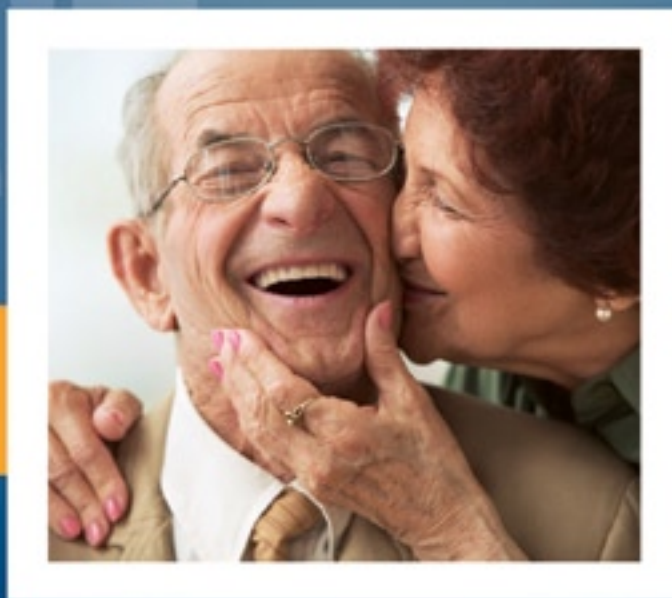
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# Former Sacramento Mayor Anne Rudin eyes City Hall activities

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

Eighteen years after she retired as Sacramento's mayor, Anne Rudin made it clear last month to a capacity audience at California State University, Sacramento that she's totally opposed to current mayor Kevin Johnson's plan to install a strong mayor system for the city.

"What does it (a strong mayor) really mean?" she asked. "Is it good for Sacramento? Will it provide the kind of leadership that Sacramento needs?"

She indicated that her answer to all three questions is a resounding "no."

Rudin, who served 21 years on the Sacramento City Council, including two four-year terms as mayor before retiring in 1992, was introduced during the CSUS Friday forum by a former City Council colleague, Michael Sands. The scene

was the Hinde auditorium in the Student Union, an event sponsored by the Renaissance Society, a learning program at the university for retirees.

Sands, a retired attorney, served on the City Council with Rudin during the 1970s, "and we were good friends," he added. Sands now heads the Renaissance Society's forum committee and introduced Rudin as the weekly speaker.

Johnson's strong mayor plan would give him authority to hire (and fire) such key officers as city manager and city attorney. The strong mayor arrangement would also give Johnson (and all future mayors) wide discretion to make decisions for such current issues as developing the city railyards; restoring the K Street mall as Sacramento's downtown hub; and relocating the current basketball arena site of the Sacramento Kings without necessarily obtaining approval from the City Council.

Although a cornerstone of his 2008 election campaign, Mayor Johnson has had difficulty implementing his vision for a change in city governance policy. Mayor Johnson's plan had originally had been earmarked for the ballot this June but the action was disqualified by the courts. The fate of the strong mayor plan is currently up in the air and it will be up to the City Council to decide on what final action to take.

Rudin said the current council-manager form of government is widely used throughout the U.S. and provides opportunities for the mayor to exercise leadership – "and he doesn't just have to be a figurehead."

But if the relationship is changed to one in which the mayor can veto an action that is supported by a majority of the City Council, "it would make the council and the mayor adversarial," she said.

"Is this democracy?" Rudin asked. "Is there really a need for such a change? I am

sure that Sacramento would be tied up with legal disputes for a long, long time."

Rudin said the change to a strong mayor system might also create problems for Sacramento in its relations with the county, which doesn't have a mayor at all in its overall government structure.

Recalling her own years as mayor, she noted that problems with the other council members were inevitable from time, but they always tried to work them out.

"You just needed to sit down and talk it over with the other people," she said.

Such cooperation, she added, led to joint city-county planning for successful outcomes of the closing McClellan and other military bases during recent years.

At the end, Rudin did sidestep one comment from a Renaissance Society member. As a reply to one questioner who asked if men or women would be more effective mayors, she replied, "I can't answer that" and the forum was ended.

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