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# Janey Way Memories: Celebrating past columns



By **MARTY RELLES**  
East Sacramento News columnist  
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This article represents a milestone for my column: the sixtieth in the series. Consequently, I want to take a look back and thank you for your feedback on my Janey Way memories.

Most recently, I wrote a story about hunting with my father. Following that story, former Sacramento Police Department detective Chuck Asbury emailed me to say, "I had the privilege of working with your dad as a detective with the Sacramento Police Department. When I read the article you penned about him...it brought back a host of memories of him, wonderful guy that he was."

Sincere thanks to Chuck for your kind comments about my father.

Following my column about the Alhambra Theatre, Bob Fitzgerald's email noted that "it was a surprise and a treat to read your article about the Alhambra Theatre." Bob grew up in the Midwest, but remembers seeing the old Alhambra when he moved here and thinking what a beautiful theater it was.

The "lipstick librarian" emailed to comment on my Roller Derby column. She, too, remembers the roller derby craze and wanted me to know that amateur roller derby is still alive and well in Sacramento. Her email included some photos of the girls mixing it up on the skating oval.

I look forward to seeing one of these competitions soon.

My article on Big Time Wrestling evoked the biggest response from my readers. No less than eleven of you responded to this column – all favorable. Particular thanks to Josh Edlow, Miles Needham and Constance Wickhammer for their positive feedback. Their



emails reflected the tenor of the feelings about this article: a sense of nostalgia about professional wrestling of the 1960s. Oh, if only Ray Stevens, Pat Patterson, Pepper Gomez and Red Bastien could come back for one last tag-team match. I think we could fill the Memorial Auditorium.

In addition to these emails, you all have also sent comments on many other of my columns including "The Hubcap Trick," "Sandlot Baseball" and "The Generation Bowl."

Special thanks for all your feedback on my columns. Not all of them have been positive, but all are appreciated. It lets me know how I am doing. Here is hoping that I have many more Janey Way memories to share with you in the future.

*Editor's note: Marty's column is posted online at [www.valcomnews.com](http://www.valcomnews.com). Click on "Janey Way Memories" and you can scroll through past columns.*



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# Correction:

The article "A little night music at Ettore's" that ran in the Oct. 20 edition of *East Sacramento News* incorrectly identified the owner of Ettore's European Bakery and Restaurant.

The restaurant is owned by Ettore Ravazzolo. He is a professional Swiss pastry chef who completed his pastry apprenticeship in Zurich, Switzerland in the 1970s. Inspired to "go for" the American Dream, Ettore came to this country where his work ethic, talent and creativity as a pastry chef was quickly recognized – and awarded.

Ettore opened his own business in 1985, when he purchased a small croissant shop in Sacramento at 2376 Fair Oaks Blvd. With his strong work ethic and the delicious items that Ettore's European Bakery offered, it didn't take long for the local community to respond. He expanded his business throughout the 1990s.

Today, Ettore's European Bakery and Restaurant is an established Sacramento tradition. Ettore and his wife, Megan, together with their sons, Harrison, Reilly and Lucas, all work together to make Ettore's a second home for local customers.

Patrick Powers is the owner of Powers Friends & Associates, a private advertising consulting company. He owned the Parapow Palace Saloon in Sacramento with Randy Paragary during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

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# East Sacramento turns out for historic anniversary party

By CORRIE PELC  
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Hundreds of East Sacramento residents, library patrons, and community members descended upon the Clunie Center and its housed McKinley Library on Sunday, Oct. 23 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of their opening to the public.

"At the end of the day, we were trying to figure out how many people showed up - I thought about 700 and other people thought about 1,000 throughout the day," said Claudia Bordin, event chairperson for the McKinley East Sacramento Neighborhood Association (MENA). "We had way more people than we ever expected show up - we thought (we would have) about 300, and we had double or triple that show up."

Classic cars, including a 1929 Pierce Arrow convertible coupe and 1941 Ford half-ton pickup, studied the front lawn leading to the Clunie Center.

It was standing room only during the hour-long talk on East Sacramento and Midtown, McKinley

Park, Clunie Center, and McKinley Library given by historians and authors Bill Mahon and Amanda Graham.

The delightful giggles of children echoed from the McKinley Library, as they took part in arts and crafts and magic tricks courtesy of Penny the Clown.

And the Clunie Center's auditorium was a mass of bodies from start to finish, as attendees browsed works of art created that very morning by plein-air artists, noshed on cupcakes and root beer floats, and then worked the calories off to the big band sounds of the Swingmasters.

"We had something for everybody - I can't imagine someone coming and not having something to enjoy," commented Anita Clevenger, president of Friends of McKinley Library.

Arts and crafts were a big hit for the family of East Sacramento resident Melissa Cooper, who decided to attend the celebration after hearing about it in *East Sacramento News*.

"The kids really liked the Scrabble art where



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER. McKinley Librarian Bridget Bagne, left, shows East Sacramento resident Melissa Cooper, center, and her son, Quinn, right, how to make a necklace or bracelet with Scrabble pieces.

See Clunie, page 16

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# East Sacramento church to celebrate 130th anniversary Nov. 6

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
East Sacramento News writer  
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Faith United Methodist Church at 3600 J Street will celebrate its 130th anniversary with a special worship service and luncheon on Nov. 6. The celebration will begin at 11 a.m.

The history of this East Sacramento church actually began in downtown Sacramento in 1880, when the Rev. F.W. Voegelien, who had been sent to California as a missionary by the Board of Missions of the Evangelical Association of North America four years earlier, visited the capital city with the desire to establish a church for German immigrants.

Assisting in Voegelien's efforts was a local restaurant owner who suggested that he speak with a Swiss man, named Andrew Kaeser, who was a paper carrier for the *Sacramento Journal*, a German semi-weekly publication that was published by K.F. Wiemeyer and Co. and had its headquarters at 305 J St.

This suggestion proved to be a valuable one, as religious meetings were held at Kaeser's home at 2201 10th St. And at various times, Voegelien arrived at this residence to conduct services.

Bishop Rudolph Dubs later came to Sacramento and held a meeting at the United Brethren Church at 14th and K streets for the purpose of furthering the efforts to begin a local church for German immigrants.

Following this meeting and prior to the official establishment of a German evangelical church in Sacramento, the Rev. Carl Welte was assigned as pas-

tor and meetings were held at Pioneer Hall on the east side of 7th Street, between J and K streets, and at Red Men's Hall on the southwest corner of 6th and K streets. Welte also became the superintendent of the Sunday school, which was established in 1880.

Additionally, the Kaeser home was the site of all meetings that were held during the week.

The upcoming Nov. 6 celebration is quite timely, considering that the church, which presently has about 125 members on its roll and is attended weekly by about 40 to 45 members, was incorporated as the Ebenezer Church of the Evangelical Association of North America on Nov. 4, 1881 with the Rev. Herman W. Axthelm as pastor.

Not surprisingly, Kaeser and Axthelm were among the church's first trustees, along with John Bachoffen.

A major milestone in the church's history occurred with the completion of the church's first building to call its own on the west side of 10th Street, between O and P streets, across from today's Roosevelt Park. The wooden church building on this property, which was acquired by the aforementioned trustees on Nov. 3, 1881, was dedicated by Bishop J.J. Escher in March 1882.

Being that the 10th Street church became dilapidated following nearly a half-century of use, a final service was held in the old building on Sunday evening, Aug. 12, 1928 and a demolition of the structure began two days later.

With plans already in place to construct a new building at

the same site, a decision was made during an Aug. 28, 1928 meeting of the congregation to rename the church, the First Evangelical Church, but as a corporation, the church would still function as the Ebenezer Church of the Evangelical Association of North America.

The plans for the new church were drawn by architect Jens C. Peterson and the structure was erected by the Campbell Construction Co. of Sacramento.

During the construction of this \$22,000 brick building, which included a sanctuary, balcony, pastor's study, about five classrooms and an auditorium/social hall, the congregation met at the Temple B'Nai Israel on 15th Street, between N and O streets, and then at the Reformed Evangelical Church at 24th Street and Marshall Way.

In 1946, the name, First Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB), was first used as the result of a merger between the First Evangelical Church and the United Brethren Church.

On May 24, 1957, while the Rev. James Brecheisen was serving as pastor, the congregation celebrated its 75th anniversary with a banquet at the Tuesday Club House, across the street from Sutter's Fort.

In the 1960s, the 10th and P streets church property, which included the church and parsonage, was sold for \$98,200 to the state of California, which had included the property in its master plan.

The church acquired a new permanent site through its \$130,000 purchase of the old Fremont Presbyterian Church building and property, where the congregation continues to meet today. The old Fremont church building was constructed in 1929.

The first EUB Sunday service in this building was held on June 7, 1964 and the church building was dedicated on Nov. 8, 1964.

With the denominational merger of the Methodist church and the EUB, the church's name changed to Faith United Methodist Church in 1968.

Several members of Faith United Methodist Church gathered together last week to share their memories of the



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong

THE REV. BARBARA HORIKOSHI-FIREBAUGH is the present pastor of East Sacramento's Faith United Methodist Church, which will celebrate its 130th anniversary on Nov. 6.



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong

GOOD MEMORIES. While standing with his wife, Mary Dess, Bill Dess shares details about Faith United Methodist Church's upcoming anniversary celebration. The couple has been members of the church for 63 years.

See Faith, page 7



Photo courtesy, Faith United Methodist Church

THE ORIGINAL Ebenezer Church of the Evangelical Association of North America building at 10th and P streets is shown in this 1901 photograph. Standing in the foreground are church members Fritz Breithaupt, left, and Fritz Walter.



Photo courtesy, Faith United Methodist Church

A 50TH ANNIVERSARY of the church was held in the basement of the second 10th and P streets church in 1931.

# Faith: Congregation had several moves, mergers and name changes

Continued from page 6

church and discuss the upcoming celebration.

Among these members were Mary and Bill Dess, who joined the church in 1948.

"The church is a second home for us," Mary said. "Just like my own family of five kids, (the church members) are an extension of that (family). They're part of us. You can't belong to a church with members and bond with them for 63 years and not feel like they are a part of you and they are. We celebrate with them, we cry with them and we go through life with them."

Bill, 88, said that as long as he has been going to the church, the membership has always included someone with the names of Rath, Schmidt and Miller.

Sandra Miller, for example, serves as the church's historian.

In explaining the longevity of the Rath family in the church, one of the church's members, Judi Rath, said that her grandparents, Gottlieb and Sophia Rath, were among the early members of the church.

"(Gottlieb and Sophia) were members of the church at the beginning or very close to the beginning," Judi said. "Gottlieb and Sophia had 12 children and several of them were part of the next generation in the church."

Today, the longest term member of the church is 90-year-old Laurel (Minasian) Rath, who joined the church 75 years ago.

Laurel, who married Howard Rath in the second 10th and P streets church on July 6, 1940,

spent 36 years as the church's organist. Today, the church's organist is Naomi Schmidt.

As the church looks to the future, it is following its "Vision for 2015," which calls for the following: 1) An average of 200 people in Sunday morning traditional worship; 2) Celebrating communion twice per month; 3) Sharing testimonies during worship; 4) Developing an ethnically diverse congregation; 5) Having persons growing spiritually in Christ through faith developing opportunities; and 5) Having persons engaged in mission opportunities.

The Rev. Barbara Horikoshi-Firebaugh said that in addition to the members of the church, she extends an invitation to the general communi-

ty to attend the Nov. 6 celebration.

"It's going to be a great celebration of the 130 years of being in service for God," Horiko-

shi-Firebaugh said. "It will be a fun day, so come and see what we're all about. Come and see why we've been around for 130 years."

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# Volunteer Center of Sacramento gears up for 'Adopt-A-Family 2011'

Special to East Sacramento News

Sponsors and volunteers are needed for The Volunteer Center of Sacramento's 2011 Adopt-A-Family program, which provides food and gifts for local, low-income families during the holiday season. Without this program, these families may go without holiday dinner and gifts for their children.

Last year, more than 800 needy families in the Sacramento area signed up to be adopted through the program. Through the generosity of sponsors, 222 families

were adopted, including 567 children.

This year, The Volunteer Center's goal is to find adopters for at least 300 families.

"In these tough economic times, more and more local families need our support," said Frank Kennedy, executive director of The Volunteer Center of Sacramento. "A small family can be adopted for as little as \$125 and we encourage groups to team up and adopt larger families together. So grab your family, friends, coworkers, club members – whoever you know – and help us make sure all local

families in our area have happy holidays."

In addition to adopters, the Adopt-A-Family Program also needs donations of extra gifts (new items only) and wrapping supplies. And if you have time to give, volunteers are needed to help run the program, everything from data entry to wrapping presents to managing the distribution center.

The list of adoptable families for the 2011 Adopt-A-Family Program will be available in early November. To request a list of Adoptable Families, email info@

volunteersac.org or call (916) 567-3100. For more information on the Adopt-A-Family program, visit [www.volunteersac.org/adopt-a-family](http://www.volunteersac.org/adopt-a-family).

Founded in 1962, The Volunteer Center of Sacramento works to strengthen the Sacramento community by connecting volunteers with opportunities to serve. The Center acts as a central location for all volunteers to learn about new volunteer opportunities. For a full list of volunteer opportunities in the Sacramento area, visit [www.volunteersac.org](http://www.volunteersac.org).

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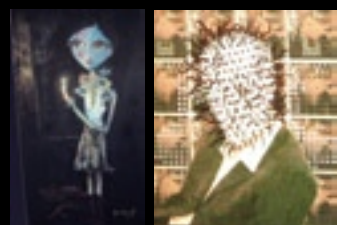
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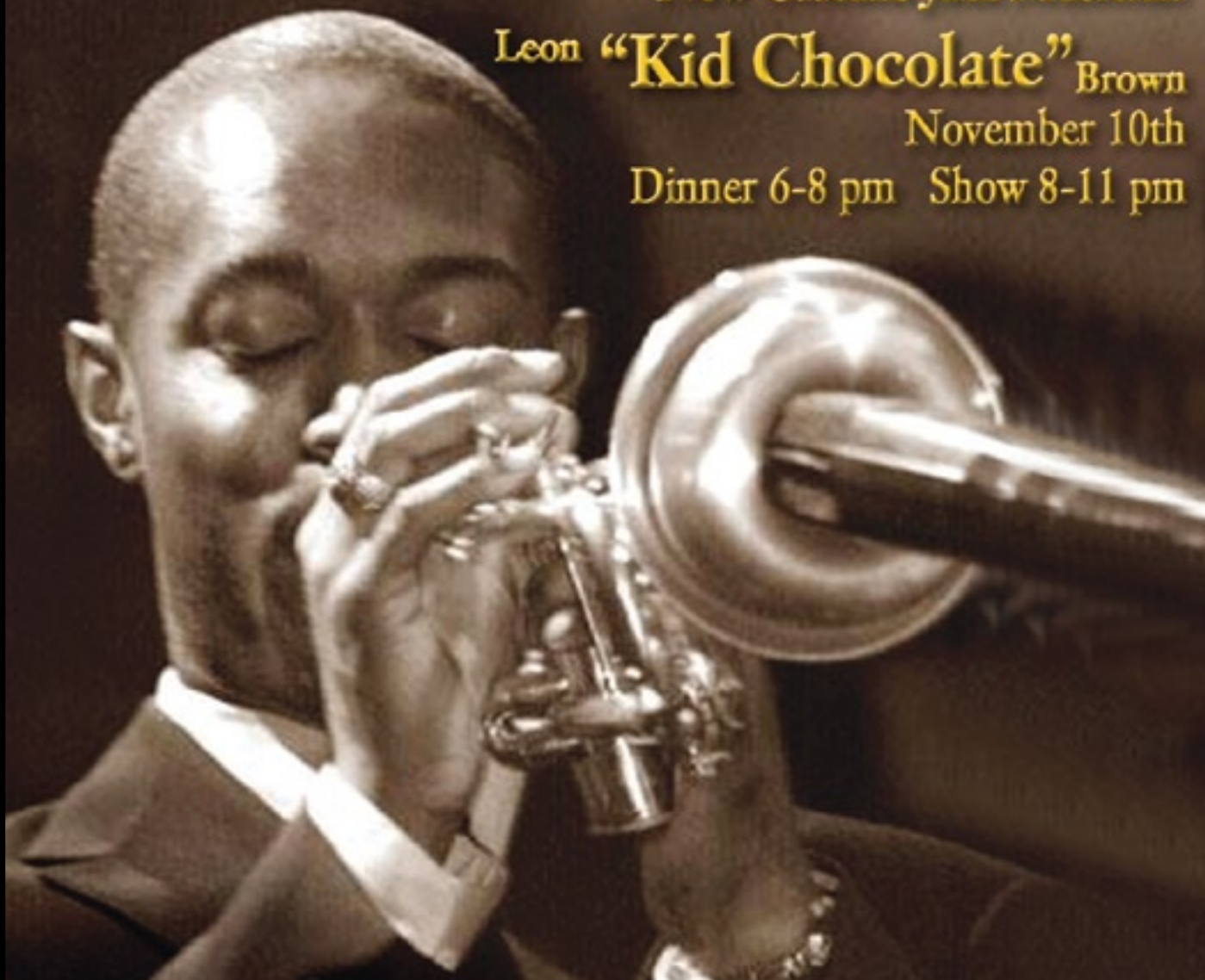
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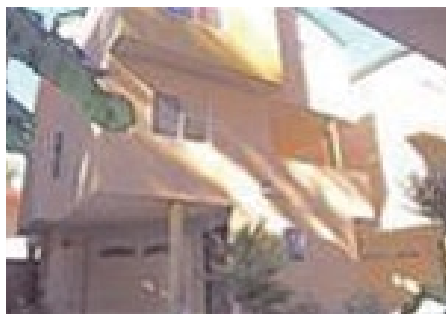
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## Friends of the Library gather for 'One Book' dinner

Photos by TOM PANIAGUA  
 East Sacramento News photographer  
 tom@valcomnews.com

The Sacramento Public Library held its First annual All Friends' One Book Sacramento Dinner at Elks Lodge No. 6 on Oct. 14.

The event was for members of each library branch's chapter of "Friends of the Library." The "One Book" featured this year was "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" by Mark Twain. Friends of the Libraries dressed in festive Halloween costumes and enjoyed a delicious evening of food, fellowship and love of literature.



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# Sacramento Zoo saddened by animal deaths

Special to East Sacramento News

Two deaths at the Sacramento Zoo – that of a long-lived and much-beloved orangutan, and of a recently-hatched, rare bird – have saddened the zoo community within two days this month.

One died from old age, the other from as yet unknown causes.

Ginger, the zoo's female Sumatran orangutan died first. Ginger, born in Sumatra in 1955, died the morning of Oct. 18. She came to the Sacramento Zoo in 1984 where she surpassed all expectations, becoming the oldest Sumatran orangutan in the U.S. at the age of 56.

Leslie Field, supervisor of mammals, noted, "Ginger has always been a strong personality... even with keepers, she could be strong-willed. As the matriarch of the orangutan group, Ginger was a spectacular ambassador for wildlife; she inspired and motivated Zoo visitors to take an active role in conservation."

Ginger was being treated for age-related illnesses, including arthritis, for some time. More recently, Sacramento Zoo veterinary and animal care staff attempted to treat neurological issues which had affected both her eyesight and coordination. Ginger was not physically able to move inside from her habitat last night. Discussion during her last days focused on Ginger's quality of life and potential for improvement. After

careful consideration among zoo administrators, animal care and veterinary staff, the decision was made to euthanize her to avoid any suffering.

Sumatran orangutans are native to the island of Sumatra in Indonesia. They are listed as endangered and are especially vulnerable to loss of habitat because they are only found on one small island. Current estimates indicate that there are only 20,000 to 30,000 orangutans left in the wild. Orangutans can live up to 30 years in the wild and 50 years in captivity.

The other zoo death occurred the next day, when a male Abyssinian ground hornbill chick, hatched on June 15, died early in the morning on Oct. 19.

"We do not have a specific cause of death at this time, but will share necropsy results as they become available," said Tonya Swank, spokesperson for the zoo.

Like all 54 different hornbill species, the Abyssinian ground hornbill wild population is vulnerable. Ground hornbills from Sub-Saharan Africa are the largest of the hornbills. They have a bony horn on top of their bill called a casque, which makes their calls louder and easier to hear over great distances. Abyssinian ground hornbills fly only when disturbed or when crossing areas of dense brush, preferring to walk or run from danger. The greatest threats to the hornbill are human-related and include habitat loss and illegal hunting.



Photo iStockphoto

**CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN.** Residential wood burning will be restricted or prohibited in Sacramento on some days this winter when the air is unhealthy. The "Check Before You Burn" season runs through Feb. 29. Visit [www.AirQuality.org](http://www.AirQuality.org) to learn more.

## 'Check Before You Burn' starts in November in Sacramento County and its cities

Special to East Sacramento News

The fifth season of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's "Check Before You Burn" program started Nov. 1 and runs through Feb. 29. Residential wood burning will be restricted or prohibited on days when fine particle pollution is forecast to be high. The law is in effect in Sacramento County and its cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento. Residents are required to "Check Before You Burn."

The District will restrict or prohibit the use of indoor and outdoor fireplaces and wood stoves, and fire pits and chimineas that burn wood, pellets, manufactured logs or any other solid fuel to keep fine particle pollution down. A voluntary request to discourage burning will be issued when air pollution levels are on the rise.

### Check Before You Burn categories:

#### Stage 2 – All Burning Prohibited

- All burning is prohibited in any device when fine particle pollution is forecast to exceed 35 micrograms per cubic meter. It is illegal to burn any solid fuel, including wood, manufactured logs and pellets.

#### Stage 1 – No Burn – Unless Exempt

- It is illegal to burn when fine particle pollution is forecast to be 32-35 micrograms per cubic meter *unless* EPA certified fireplace inserts or stoves, or pellet stoves are used.

#### Burning Discouraged – Voluntary

- Burning is discouraged when fine particle pollution is forecast to be 26-31 micrograms per cubic meter. The AQMD asks you to voluntarily choose not to burn.

### Legal to Burn

- When the forecast is 25 micrograms per cubic meter or lower then it is legal to burn and the use of manufactured fire logs is acceptable at this level. If you choose to burn please follow clean burning techniques in order to burn as cleanly as possible.

### Exemptions:

The following exemptions apply to both Stage 1 and Stage 2 categories:

- Homes where wood burning is the sole source of heat;
- Financial hardship waiver approved by the Air Pollution Control Officer. *The waiver must be renewed each burn season;*
- Devices that operate exclusively with natural gas or propane;
- Cooking devices;
- Ceremonial fires related to specific religious activities.

### Enforcement:

Enforcement will be through complaints (800) 880-9025 and sightings of visible smoke by Air District enforcement staff. First time violations will result in a \$50 fine or a requirement to complete and pass a wood smoke awareness course. Fines for subsequent violations are higher.

### Check Before You Burn:

1. 1-877-NO-BURN-5 (1-877-662-8765)
  2. Visit [www.AirQuality.org](http://www.AirQuality.org)
  3. Subscribe to Air Alert at [www.SpareTheAir.com](http://www.SpareTheAir.com) and check the Daily Air Quality Forecast box to receive a daily email
  4. Check the *Sacramento Bee's* weather page located on the back of the "Our Region" section
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# Clunie: Celebration marked 'bittersweet' as possible Clunie Center closure looms

Continued from page 5

they got to make a necklace or bracelet out of the Scrabble squares," she said. "They liked 'bedazzling' it."

The event also drew attendees from all over Sacramento. Midtown Sacramento resident James Booker and his daughter came to support the event as frequent McKinley Library patrons.

"We use the library a lot - my daughter goes to Sutter (Middle School), so she comes here almost every day," Booker said. "I like the atmosphere of the library - it seems to always have what we need

and if they don't have it, they always help us get what we need."

Sadly, there may be a day coming when Booker and his daughter will not be able to visit their favorite library branch.

According to Bordin, due to city financial cutbacks the Clunie is slated to close and is currently open in a limited capacity. "I think this is the first time in its history that (the Clunie) is being faced with closure, so it was a very bittersweet celebration that we have such a neat vintage building built in 1936, and now in 2011 we're looking at closing

it due to a lack of funding."

Clevenger feels there is a lot of denial by the East Sacramento community about the potential Clunie closure.

"It just seems impossible that a facility like that would be shuttered, but we're in tough economic times and I believe if there is not some sort of non-profit community-based effort to keep the Clunie going, it will be closed."

To help keep the Clunie from shuttering its doors, Clevenger said the non-profit Friends of East Sacramento have submitted a proposal with endorsement from a variety of



East Sacramento News photo, Corrie Pelc

SPEAKING TO A FULL HOUSE. Friends of McKinley Library President Anita Clevenger, left, introduces historians and authors Amanda Graham, center, and Bill Mahon, right, to attendees.

community groups to take over management of the Clunie Center.

"The Friends of McKinley Library have endorsed their proposal because, honestly, there is not anything else going on that would allow the clubhouse to continue as the City has said there would be no more funding at the end of the fiscal year," Clevenger said. "They are already cut back to three days a week. So the only thing we see happening that would allow the clubhouse to stay open is this proposal. And because our primary concern is the library continuing to operate, we feel that we need to be behind that and we are."

Bordin said that saving the Clunie Center is also a top priority for MENA. In fact, part of the proceeds from the sale of art during the plein-air art portion of the event benefited MENA and its programs, such as their efforts to keep the Clunie open. Bordin hopes events like the anniversary celebration will help community members get to know the building more and see its possibilities.

"I think for a lot of people (at the anniversary event) they don't come (to the Clunie) on an ongoing basis and they don't know that it's even there or what it looks like inside - they just drive by it," Bordin said. "So it was

a good eye-opening event as far as getting in front of the public."

Bordin also feels the Clunie is currently underutilized. She believes the facility has great potential to host a variety of events, including everything from dances to weddings.

"We need to create a nice marketing campaign and get it out in front of the public that we have this great venue that you can rent for your event," she added.

When asked about the potential closure of the Clunie, East Sacramento resident Cooper was sad at the prospect of losing some of her family's favorite annual activities like the Easter pancake breakfast and other activity options.

"It's unfortunate that the City can't find the general funds to keep the community center open," Cooper said. "Hopefully, they'll be able to work something out in the budget process to keep it open. It would be very sad for the community if we didn't have it any longer."

However, Cooper was happy to hear the East Sacramento community was stepping forward to try to take over management of the Clunie.

"That would be a very 2000 thing to do for a community partnership to partner up with a non-profit organization to protect the building," she said. "That would be nice."

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# Verge Center artist wins three honors in last two months

By **CORRIE PELC**  
East Sacramento News writer  
corrie@valcomnews.com

The last two months have been rather busy for the Verge Center's Liv Moe. Since September, Moe – who is also the executive director of the nonprofit Verge Center for the Arts in downtown Sacramento – has been named "Best Gateway Drug for Sacramento's Art Scene" by *Sacramento News & Review*, listed as one of "Sacramento's 12 Women to Watch" by *Sacramento Magazine*, and just two weeks ago was named Arts Executive of the Year by the Sacramento Arts and Business Council.

What does Moe have to say about these recent honors? She's excited, surprised, honored and flattered.

"I went to school to be an artist, but I didn't go to school to be an arts administrator or curator. I never thought I would have been the executive director of any organization," she said. "To find myself in this position and then have it going as well as it is ... wow."

It's Moe's road to becoming an artist that put her where she is today. Moe has been creating art for over 10 years and holds a bachelors degree in art from the University of California at Davis and a masters in art from Sacramento State. After being introduced to a love of art at an early age by her mother, Moe originally decided to study traditional painting at UC Davis. That all changed when, after the prodding of friends, she signed up for a sculpture class with instructor Lucy Puls.

"Everybody told me that she was really hard and it was going to be really stressful," Moe

recalled. "And she is really hard. She's really demanding and she makes you think a lot about what it is you're trying to do and if it's successful or not. Through taking her class, I started hearing these names like Eva Hesse and Paul McCarthy – these artists that were doing really unique, interesting uses of different types of media. It also introduced me to installation work."

Moe became so fascinated with what she learned in the class that she later talked Puls into allowing her to take an advanced class despite not having the prerequisites for it. Moe spent that time listening to everything her classmates were saying, writing down names and soaking up every last bit that she could.

"It was like in young adult fantasy books where the kid knocks three times on his closet wall and some weird other world opens up," Moe explains. "It was seriously like a parallel dimension of art that I didn't realize existed."

This new dimension set Moe on her own artistic path and ended up dictating every college class she took after that, every trip and everything she researched. Most important, she learned how to understand this new form of contemporary art by learning the vocabulary she needed to help decipher these works she was so enamored with.

"I love going and thinking about experimental forms of media, even if they are not necessarily things that I like," she said. "I just love thinking about how they function and if they're successful and how they operate. It's something I

could spend the rest of my life doing."

Moe's own form of art is what she calls "domestic or mundane," discovering alchemic relationships through the re-contextualization of materials such as vacuum cleaners, brick-a-brack, furniture and hair. Her recent explorations have focused on hair as a sculptural medium, incorporating it into three-dimensional works that includes found linens and other domestic items.

After graduation from Sacramento State in 2008, Moe was hired as a gallery sitter at the Verge Center for the Arts while she was pondering what her next career move would be.

Sacramento does not have many resources available for working artists. The Verge Center is a nonprofit that works to expose the Sacramento art region to internationally recognized contemporary art, while providing vital resources to local career and emerging artists.

Verge's combination of working artist studio space and exhibit space is what gave Moe the resources she needed, as it has done for other artists in the Sacramento area.

"If you go to San Francisco, you've got the Headlands (Center for the Arts in Sausalito), in the East Bay you've got the Richmond Art Center. In Sacramento, you don't have any of that," Moe said. "We've picked up a lot of artists out of grad school in the region because they get out, they look around Sacramento, and it's like what am I going to do here. There's not a lot of resources or



Photo courtesy  
ARTIST LIV MOE during the Verge Success Party.

community here for working contemporary artists. I think by giving them resources that encourage them to make a home in Sacramento and career here, that will do a lot for the overall arts scene."

As the executive director of Verge, Moe sees a bright future ahead as the Center's relocation last year to a new 22,000 square-foot facility is enabling the organization to expand its programming to include educational offerings as well, including a classroom and print-making lab.

"Giving (the studio artists) the opportunity to teach in the classroom and have the public come in and learn from them and continue this dialogue about art and ideas – that interconnection – is what I think will lead to really enhancing and supporting the Sacramento arts community," Moe said.

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Send your event announcement for consideration to: susan@valcomnews.com at least two weeks prior to publication.

## NOVEMBER

### Bilingual Toastmasters

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Una oportunidad unica para mejorar sus habilidades bilingues y superar el temor de hablar delante de gente con nuestro club Los Oradores Toastmasters. Improve your language skills and lose fear of speaking in front of people in Spanish and English with Los Oradores. Every Thursday/Cada Jueves 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Sutter Cancer Center 2800 L Street, Sac. Teri Bullington (916) 723-6232 teri.bullington@gmail.com, www.sacramentotoastmasters.com

### Bingo!

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Enjoy a great local charity game of bingo every Thurs. night at 6:30 p.m. Benefits projects in the community. Early bird for \$5, Regular game buy-in of \$20. Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., Sac. (916) 422-6666

### Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, year round. 8 a.m.-noon. Florin Rd. & 65th St., Sac. www.california-grown.com

### Food Addicts Anonymous

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: 12-Step group for those who struggle with obesity, food obsession or eating disorders. Meets Thursdays. 9 a.m. St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 6201 Spruce Ave., Sac. (800) 600-6028.

### Living Positive with Chronic Disease group

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Meet-up group for people living with chronic disease who hon-

or how important a positive mindset is. If you want to complain - this isn't the group for you. The group will discuss and support: best practices for managing your condition, communication strategies, ways to laugh, have fun, engage with life and more. Free. Meets Thursdays. 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Starbucks, 1401 Alhambra Blvd., Sac. Danae Horn (503) 319-4247

### Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thurs. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd., Sac. Kelly Byam (916) 684-6854.

### Sacramento Downtown Plaza Farmer's Market

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Sacramento Downtown Plaza Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, May-Sept. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 4th & K streets, Sac. www.california-grown.com

### Sutterville Heights Optimist Club

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24: Come enjoy community speakers and community projects for youth. 12 noon., every Thurs. Golden Corral, 7700 W. Stockton Blvd., Sac. Charlie (916) 427-7136 or Mary-Jo at (916) 691-3059

### Ballroom Dances

Nov. 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29: Enjoy dancing to a live band every Tuesday and Friday. 1:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m. \$5/person. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael

### 'Garden Fertilization Facts and Fiction'

Nov. 4: Meeting of the Organic Gardening Club of Sacramento County. 10 a.m. Carmichael Park Admin. Bldg., Room 1. 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael. (916) 635-6724

### Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown

Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25: Come listen to an interesting guest speaker weekly; community service, serving the children of the world. Vis-

itors welcome, first breakfast "on us." 7 a.m. - 8 a.m. Fridays. 2875 50th St., UC Davis Med. Ctr., Sac. (916) 761-2124 www.eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com

### Rotary Club of Point West

Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7 a.m., every Fri. DoubleTree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way., Sac. www.pointwestrotary.com

### Soroptimists of Sacramento

Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25: Soroptimist International of Sacramento South, a service club for business and professional women, meets Fridays. 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sac. Barbara McDonald, (916) 363-6927

### Chateau Holiday Craft Fair & Boutique

Nov. 5: Chaetau at River's Edge Sixth annual Holiday Craft Fair and Boutique. Featuring knitted items, jewelry, artwork, handmade paper goods, glass items and more, the fair provides an opportunity to do some early holiday shopping. The craft fair will also offer informational booths, free mini massage sessions, a raffle and several seminars through the day. Coffee, hot apple cider and other goodies will be served. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. River's Edge, 601 Feature Dr., Sac. Kim Adams (916) 921-1970

### Country Club Plaza Farmer's Market

Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26: Country Club Plaza Farmer's Market. Every Saturday, year round. 8 a.m.-noon. Watt & El Camino, Butano Dr. parking lot, Sac. www.california-grown.com

### Florence and the Baroque

Nov. 5-Feb. 12: In the 17th century, Florentine artists created a newly reformed Baroque style characterized by the portrayal of intense emotion, saturated color, and refined brushwork, which brought drama to mythologies, biblical subjects, and devotion-

al works. Works by key artists such as Cesare Dandini, Jacopo da Empoli, and Francesco Furini. From the brooding drama of Furini's "Poetry" to the colorful exuberance of Giovanni Domenico Ferretti's "Harlequin and his Lady," this exhibition reveals the many facets of Baroque Florence. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

### Food Addicts Anonymous

Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26: 12-Step group for those who struggle with obesity, food obsession or eating disorders. Meets Saturdays. 8 a.m. Mercy General Hospital North Auditorium, 4001 J St., Sac. (800) 600-6028.

### Jensen Garden workday

Nov. 5: Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden workday. Bring work gloves, hand pruners and your lunch. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Come join with other volunteers to keep the garden beautiful all year. 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael. Tracy Kerth (916) 485-5322 tracy@carmichaelpark.com

### Land Park Volunteer Corps

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### Mission Oaks Holiday Craft Faire

Nov. 5: Come check out the unique items offered by local crafters at the annual Mission Oaks Holiday Craft Faire! 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free admission. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael

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\$15 adults; \$12 seniors/students, \$10 children. Tickets at the door & at Deane Dance Center 3385 Lanatt St. (916) 453-0226

son! 8:30 a.m.–10 a.m. Every First Saturday of the Month. Benefits the Wednesday Club. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael

### PurpleStride 2011

**Nov. 5:** The Sacramento Affiliate of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is hosting its first annual PurpleStride Walk at 10:30 a.m. The walk begins and ends at Elk Grove Park. Register at [www.purplestride.org](http://www.purplestride.org). Pancreatic cancer survivors, families, friends and supporters are invited to attend the walk to help raise awareness and much-needed funds for pancreatic cancer research. The walk is followed by a silent auction, music entertainment and other family-friendly festivities in the park. Kathy (916) 392-5006

### Society of Military Widows

**Nov. 5:** The Society of Military Widows, Sacramento Chapter #5. Guest speaker: Dee Denny. 11:30 a.m. Lions Gate, McClellan Park. (916) 635-6724

### Carmichael Farmer's Market

**Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27:** Carmichael Farmer's Market. 8 a.m.–1 p.m., every Sun. Year round, rain or shine. Carmichael Park, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael. [www.bemon-eysmartusa.org](http://www.bemon-eysmartusa.org)

### Co-Dependents Anonymous

**Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27:** 12-Step group for those who struggle to maintain healthy relationships. Meets Sundays. 2 p.m. Heritage Oaks Hospital, 4300 Auburn Blvd., Rm.101, Sac (866) 794-9993.

### Community Sunday breakfast

**Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast of eggs Benedict, corned beef hash, Joe's scramble, pancakes and more. 8:30 a.m.–11 a.m., every Sun. \$9. Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. (at Florin Rd.), Sac. Proceeds benefit student scholarships. [www.elks6.com](http://www.elks6.com)

### State Parking Lot Farmer's Market

**Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27:** State Parking Lot Farmer's Market. Every Sunday, year round. 8 a.m.–noon. 8th & W streets, under Highway 50, Sac. [www.california-grown.com](http://www.california-grown.com)

### Sunday Support for the Widowed

**Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27:** The Widowed Persons Assn. sponsors Sunday Support sessions which are held every Sunday, rain or shine – holidays included. 3 p.m.–5 p.m. 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste. D-18 (east of Fulton). Widows and widowers welcome. Barbara Stewart (916) 363-3482

### Hatha yoga

**Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28:** Align the body through breathing techniques, postures and deep relaxation. 3 p.m.–4 p.m. Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St., Sac. (916)808-5462. Meets every Mon. Repeats Wed., Fri.

### Nicotine Anonymous

**Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28:** Nicotine Anonymous meeting. Meets every Monday, 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 N St., Sac. Brandi Bowman (916) 984-3501

### Rotary Club of South Sacramento

**Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 11:30 a.m., every Mon. Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sac. [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

### Tai Chi & Chi Keung

**Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28:** Chinese exercise combines specific movements and relaxation. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St., Sac. Meets every Mon. (916) 808-5462

### Toastmasters

**Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28:** Have fun while improving speaking & leadership skills. Klassy Talkers Toastmasters. 7 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Mondays. Executive Airport, 6151 Freepoint Blvd., Sac. Ann Owens (916) 601-4652 [www.klassytalkers.freetoasthost.org](http://www.klassytalkers.freetoasthost.org)

### Rotary Club of Arden-Arcade

**Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 12 noon, every Tues. Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave., Sac. (916) 925-2787, [www.ardenarcaderotary.org](http://www.ardenarcaderotary.org)

### Rotary Club of Carmichael

**Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 6 p.m., every Tues Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael. [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

### Upholstery class

**Nov. 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29,30:** Learn how to upholster! All types: furniture, auto, boat. Adult ed class taught by an upholstery professional. Tuesdays, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., Wednesdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. \$45 for four weeks. McClaskey Adult Center, 5241 J St., Sac. Jerry Prettyman (916) 806-2172

### Chavez Plaza Farmer's Market

**Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30:** Chavez Plaza Farmer's Market. Every Wednesday, May–Oct. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 10th & J streets, Sac. [www.california-grown.com](http://www.california-grown.com)

### Co-Dependents Anonymous

**Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30:** 12-Step group for those who struggle to maintain healthy relationships. Meets Wednesdays. 7 p.m. Friends Community Church Fireside Room, 4001 E St., Sac. (866) 794-9993.

### Crochet Guild

**Nov. 9, Dec. 14:** Crocheters of all levels of ability and all ages are invited to join the Sacramento Crochet Guild. Learn new crochet techniques, exhibit at State Fair, do charity work. Mentoring program. Show and tell. Mini classes. Library and newsletter available. Club member of the Crochet Guild of America. Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Seniors: \$6/yr. Enter from parking lot. Church of the Cross, 45th & H sts., Sac. Carolyn (916) 457-4044

### Rotary Club of East Sacramento

**Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30:** Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 12 noon–1:15 p.m., every Wed. Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St., Sac. (in the 57th St. Antique Mall) [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

### Senior Wednesday Club

**Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30:** The Senior Wednesday Club meets to chat, play bridge, pinochle or bingo. Free. Bring a brown-bag lunch. Free coffee, tea and dessert. Meets Wednesdays. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Mission Oaks Community Building, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. Judi (916) 247-6020

### Toastmasters

**Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30:** All area business people invited to hone their speaking skills. Noon–1:15 p.m., every Wed. River City Speakers Toastmasters Club, Coco's Restaurant, 1830 Arden Way, Sac. (916) 747-8282

### Referrals Plus

**Nov. 9, Dec. 14:** Referrals Plus, a women's networking group, helps women in business with connections, resources, promotions and ideas. We meet the 2nd Wed. of every month. 12:15 p.m. for meeting/luncheon in Greenhaven area. RSVP required. [www.referralsplus.org](http://www.referralsplus.org)

### Art Golf

**Nov. 10:** Community members are invited to play a round of miniature golf in an indoor course created by artists inside Verge's warehouse event space. 6 p.m.–10 p.m. The event will also include a live DJ, indoor selection of food trucks and free open house. Cost to play golf is \$15 per person or \$40 for four players and all proceeds will benefit Verge Center for the Arts. [www.vergeart.com](http://www.vergeart.com).

### 'Staying Healthy: the Real

### Healthcare Reform'

**Nov. 10:** California Citizens for Health Freedom present a free lecture by Kirk Hamilton, PA-C. 7-9 p.m. SMUD Auditorium, 6201 S St., Sac. (916) 635-6724

### Volkssport walking

**Nov. 10:** Come join the Sacramento Walking Sticks Volkssport Club! Monthly meetings held every second Thursday at 7 p.m. SMUD Headquarters Bldg., Conference Center, 6201 S St., Sac. Those who wish to walk before the meeting, meet at Starbucks, 1420 65th St., Sac. At 5 p.m. to walk a 3-mile walk to CSUS campus & back. Barbara Nuss (916) 283-4650 or (916) 691-7618 or [nussb@surewest.net](mailto:nussb@surewest.net). Also [www.SacramentoWalkingSticks.org](http://www.SacramentoWalkingSticks.org)

### Carmichael Geranium Society

**Nov. 11:** Come to the monthly meeting of the Carmichael Geranium Society. Guests welcome. Meets every Second Friday of the month, 10 a.m.–12 noon. No mtg. in Aug. Carmichael Park Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael. Jean (916) 481-2076

### Veteran's Day Parade

**Nov. 11:** Honor our heroes past and present. Parade begins at 10 a.m. Program to follow on Capitol Mall 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Veteran's resources, entertainment and children's activities. To enter your organization's float or walking group or for more info call (916) 808-2344 or email [sacvetparade@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:sacvetparade@cityofsacramento.org)

### The Pressure's On!

**Nov. 12:** Basic introduction to safe pressure canning techniques and food preservation public demonstration. Free. 10 a.m.–noon. Sacramento Cooperative Extension Office, 4145 Branch Center Rd., Sac. (916) 875-6913

### Chinese Performing Arts

**Nov. 13:** The Sacramento Chinese Culture Foundation will present a performing arts program to celebrate its 25th anniversary. Martial arts demonstration by Shaolin monks, music with classical and contemporary Chinese instruments, fashion show, and special appearance by members of China College of Theatrical Arts from Beijing. Tickets \$15–\$40. 3 p.m.–5 p.m. At the Crest Theater in downtown Sacramento. Tickets may be purchased from Cathy Bank at SF Shopping Center at 65th & Stockton Blvd in Sacramento or [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com). Helen Yee (916)392-1001.

### Holiday Boutique

**Nov. 13:** Holiday shopping fun, door prizes and more. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Free admission. The Chateau on Capitol Avenue, 2701 Capitol Ave., Sac. (916) 447-4444

### Christian Women's Connection

**Nov. 15:** Monthly luncheon. \$17. Feature: Need something sweet for your next party? Stacy from Cupcake Craving will tell us about the large variety of cupcakes that are available to make your special occasion a huge hit with everyone. Guest speaker: Vicki Mascara. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Socializing at 11:15 a.m. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. Reservations required by Nov. 9. Sacramento Christian Women's Connection, affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries. Carmichael Elks Lodge, 5631 Cypress, Carmichael. Fran (916) 332-1461, Sharon (916) 361-1642 or [SacCWC@aol.com](mailto:SacCWC@aol.com)

### Fall Fruits & Winter Squash

**Nov. 16:** Food preservation public demonstration on Fall Fruits & Winter Squash by the Sac. County Master Food Preservers. \$3. 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Sacramento Cooperative Extension Office, 4145 Branch Center Rd., Sac. (916) 875-6913

### The Art of Disegno: Italian Prints and Drawings

**Nov. 19–Feb. 12:** "Disegno," or the ideal expression of form through line, was central to Italian art for more than three centuries. In Italian art especially, drawing formed the basis for every form of visual expression in the 16th through 18th centuries, from printmaking to painting to sculpture. This exhibition, drawn from the collections of the Georgia Museum of Art and Giuliano Ceseri, explores the variety and beauty of Italian draughtsmanship through drawings and prints by artists such as Stefano della Bella, Giambattista Piranesi, Domenico Campagnola, and Ciro Ferri. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, [www.crocker-artmuseum.org](http://www.crocker-artmuseum.org).

### Consumer Fraud Workshop

**Nov. 19:** Debra Braver from the CA Dept. of Corporations Consumer Fraud will speak on how consumers can be informed and avoid becoming victims of fraud. All welcome. 10 a.m. Free. Faith United Methodist Church, 3600 J St., Sac. (916) 452-7637 [faith36andj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:faith36andj@sbcglobal.net)

### Couture Fashion Boutique

**Nov. 19:** Couture fashions by Okayo, Vicki Yamagami Ragasa, former Kanojo USA Clothing designer. Women's clothing, casual to special occasions specializing in mother of the bride ensembles, handmade jewelry, bags, purses, wallets, handmade greeting cards, home decor and many gift items. Food concession. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Benefits Florin Buddhist Women's Association. 7235 Pritchard Rd., Sac. Lois (916) 422-1265; Peggy (916) 686-5621

### Kennedy Craft & Vendor Fair

**Nov. 19:** Crafters and vendors with lots of items for your holiday shopping needs. Benefits JFK Sober Grad Nite. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. JFK High School Cafeteria and Gym, 6715 Gloria Dr. Sac. Azizi Penn (916) 267-4752

### Free admission at Fairytale Town

**Nov. 25:** Fairytale Town is offering free admission to families who bring a canned or packaged good for donation the day after Thanksgiving. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Fairytale Town, 3901 Land Park Dr., Sac. (916) 808-7462

## DECEMBER

### Annual holiday jewelry sale

**Dec. 2:** Treasures for crafters and vintage/costume jewelry lovers. 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Benefits the Senior Center. Senior Center at Sierra 2, 2791 24th St., Sac. Mae (916) 455-6339

### 'A Holiday Show of Hands'

**Dec. 3:** St. John the Evangelist School will host its 33rd annual arts and crafts sale, featuring custom work by over 150 craftsmen and artists. Special features include a Fashion Pavilion and antiques & collectibles in the Antique Cottage. Sat. 9 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Admission free. 5701 Locust Ave., Carmichael. (916) 966-2179

### Holiday Boutique

**Dec. 3, 4:** Beautifully hand-crafted gifts, one-stop Christmas shopping from many vendors and church crafters. Soup, bread and baked goods, lunch available for purchase. Free admission. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Parkside Community Church, 5700 South Land Park Dr., Sac. (916) 421-0492

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# Noah's Bagels Baseball Gang a hit with local ball players

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

*Editor's note: This is part one of a two-part series highlighting local baseball players who live in the publishing area of Valley Community Newspapers.*

For a group of mostly Sacramento natives who grew up playing baseball in this very rich baseball city and a few other places, a tradition was born about five years ago.

It was around this time that a group of seniors calling themselves the Noah's Bagels Baseball Gang began meeting once a week at Noah's Bagels in Town and Country Village.

Continuing their weekly gatherings since this time, this social group has grown to include 18 members.

The very first members of the group were Jim Westlake, Dick Alejo and the late Danny Mooradian, who are considered the founders of the group.

In speaking about the formation of the group, Dick said, "We just felt like every time we would go out and see

some guy, we would say, 'Hey, we meet here for coffee. Why don't you join us.' Pretty soon, here we are (as a large group)."

Joe Duarte, one of the earliest members to join the group, said that there are various ways that one can be eligible to become a member of the group.

"(To join the group, one should) know somebody, played ball with somebody (or) went to school with them and played ball with them," Duarte said. "Some of these guys played minor league baseball. Only one – Cuno Barragan – played in the big leagues. He caught for the (Chicago) Cubs for (three) years. Almost all of them, except for two or three, played high school baseball. I never played high school baseball, because I went in the merchant Marines in 1944, when I was 15 years old."

Duarte said that he eventually became a baker, but chuckled when asked about bagels, saying (back then, in the 1940s), "I'd never heard of them."

During one of the group's recent gatherings, the following members of the group in



BAGEL BOYS. Members of the "bagel boys," as the group is sometimes called, enjoy a moment during a recent gathering at Noah's Bagels.

attendance shared information about their connections to baseball.

**Barragan:** "I was born (on June 20, 1932) and raised in Sacramento. I graduated from Sacramento High School in January 1950, and I played football and baseball at Sacramento Junior College. I signed a contract with the Sacramento Solons in 1952, and I played my first year of professional baseball in 1953 for Idaho Falls and then came back and went in the service in 1954 and 1955. I did two years of active duty in the Navy. I went to spring training with the Solons in 1956, was optioned to Amarillo, Texas, Western League, and had a reasonably good year there, and played with the Sacramento Solons in 1957."

Barragan added that after a brief retirement in 1958, he eventually was drafted from the Solons by the Chicago Cubs in 1961.

"My first at bat was (at Wrigley Field on) Sept. 1 against the San Francisco Giants and I hit a home run off of Dick LeMay on the first pitch. It was pretty exciting."

**Dick Alejo:** "I was born in 1936. My professional career was not that big. I just went down to Mexico and played for a team, called Puebla, with Cuno Barragan and Sparky Anderson (who later played and managed in Major League Baseball). Besides that, I played for the Amer-

ican Legion Post 61, McClatchy High School and in the Winter League and at Sacramento Junior College. I did well, but I'm not going to (the National Baseball Hall of Fame in) Cooperstown!"

**Nick Capachi:** "I played on all the city leagues growing up – the 125-pound, 75-pound leagues – then I played for (American) Legion, high school, county leagues, the Placer-Nevada League and the KFBK all-star team," said Capachi, who turned 77 last April. "I also played on the (Sacramento Junior) College team. We won the state championship in 1953. We beat Long Beach for the state championship right here at (William) Land Park. I also played in the Army, while I was stationed in the Presidio (in San Francisco)."

**Augie Amorena:** "I went to Sacramento High School and graduated in 1948. My parents (Amelia and Augustine Amorena) were immigrants from Spain. I started playing baseball when I was about 14. I played Summer League in the different weight divisions. I played (American) Legion, Sac JC and local Winter League, Spring League. We had a team in the Winter League, Julius Style Shop, and Joe Freitas was the manager. We were all young kids, just out of high school. The enthusiasm, the fun, we could hardly wait until Sunday to play ball. We did okay. We won a championship one

year. And I played minor league baseball four years (including his time in the International League with the Edmonton Eskimos). I also played in the service for the Army team (in Hawaii)."

**Mike Bakarich:** "I was born on Mother's Day, 1944, at Sacramento County Hospital. When we were younger, there was no Little League. You played in the 100-pound league, got weighed. I grew up in West Sacramento and I had to take the Gibson bus and the streetcar to go to McClatchy Park to play baseball. They couldn't remember my name, so they called me 'the kid from across the river.' I played with these guys since I was in the 7th grade, probably. I went to Grant Tech (College, which was located across the street from Grant High School) and I played all three sports there. Then I played baseball in the Winter League, in the National Division, played in the County League and the Rural League and I quit playing hard ball in 1960 or 1961, because I like to play fast-pitch softball. We were playing maybe 75 or 80 ball games a summer, and trying to play baseball and softball was kind of tough. With the fast-pitch softball, I've been to two world tournaments and two national tournaments. I played all over the United States. I'm in the fast-pitch hall of fame and the baseball hall of fame in Sacramento."

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Faces and places  
**ITALIAN TRADITION LIVES  
 IN EAST PORTAL PARK**

Photos by **STEPHEN CROWLEY**  
 East Sacramento News photographer  
 stephen@valcomnews.com

With origins dating back into Roman antiquity, the proud Italian sport of bocce ball is alive and well in East Sacramento's East Portal Park. East Sacramento was home to the community's Italian population, who brought their love of sports, gardening and food to the Sacramento area.

The East Portal Bocce Club is a member of the United State Bocce Federation. Today, members come from every ethnic community. Women are also welcome to participate in this sport, which was originally only for men. The club is recognized as a premier club throughout the United States. Those desiring to learn more about bocce ball or the East Portal Bocce Club, contact Bob Martinez at (916) 717-1947 or [rpmartinez\\_47@yahoo.com](mailto:rpmartinez_47@yahoo.com). Also visit [www.eastportalbocceclub.com](http://www.eastportalbocceclub.com).



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Amazing 2 bedroom home on one of East Sacramento's best streets, Pala Way. This spacious floorplan has great hardwood floors, central heat and air, a quarter basement a vintage fireplace, and good sized bedrooms. All and all.... a great buy. See: [www.484palaway.epropertysites.com](http://www.484palaway.epropertysites.com) Way \$320,000

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Remodeled red brick Tudor. New kitchen added in 2006 with granite counters, stainless appliances & hardwood floors. Large master with sitting room, large closet, dual sinks and jetted tub. Original charm with coved ceilings, mahogany inlay in hardwood floors. See: [www.354-34thStreet.com](http://www.354-34thStreet.com) \$724,900

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### MCKINLEY PARK BUNGALOW

Fantastic 2 bedroom home located close to Mckinley Park. This bungalow also includes a large bonus room which is perfect for an office or a children's playroom. Just down the street from The Park and virtually minutes to Midtown/downtown. Simply a must see. See: [www.21632ndstreet.ihousenet.com](http://www.21632ndstreet.ihousenet.com) \$325,000

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### HIGHWATER BUNGALOW

Large high-water bungalow extensively remodeling; upstairs was redesigned with 2 large, sunny bedrooms and an impressive master suite with office, walk-in closet, changing area, master bath with jetted tub, large shower, and a deck overlooking the newly-sodded backyard. See [www.1545SantaYnezWay.com](http://www.1545SantaYnezWay.com) \$574,950

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### REMODELED BUNGALOW

2 bedroom bungalow is minutes away from Mckinley Park and coffee shops in the heart of East Sacramento. Over \$80,000 spent in the kitchen remodel with top of the line appliances, cabinets, and flooring. This open floorplan also includes two extra spaces for an office/hobby room. See: [60837thst.ihousenet.com](http://60837thst.ihousenet.com) \$349,000

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### RIVER PARK

Treat yourself to a wonderfully decorated ranch style home on large lot in popular River Park! Entertain friends' w/BBQs on the backyard deck w/built-in spa. Spacious master suite has a walk-in closet & French doors opening to yard. Sun porch is currently used as an artist studio & office. See [www.380SandburgDrive.com](http://www.380SandburgDrive.com) \$475,000

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