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**Community News in Your Hands** November 17, 2011 www.valcomnews.com

# 18th annual 'Run to Feed the Hungry' is Nov. 24

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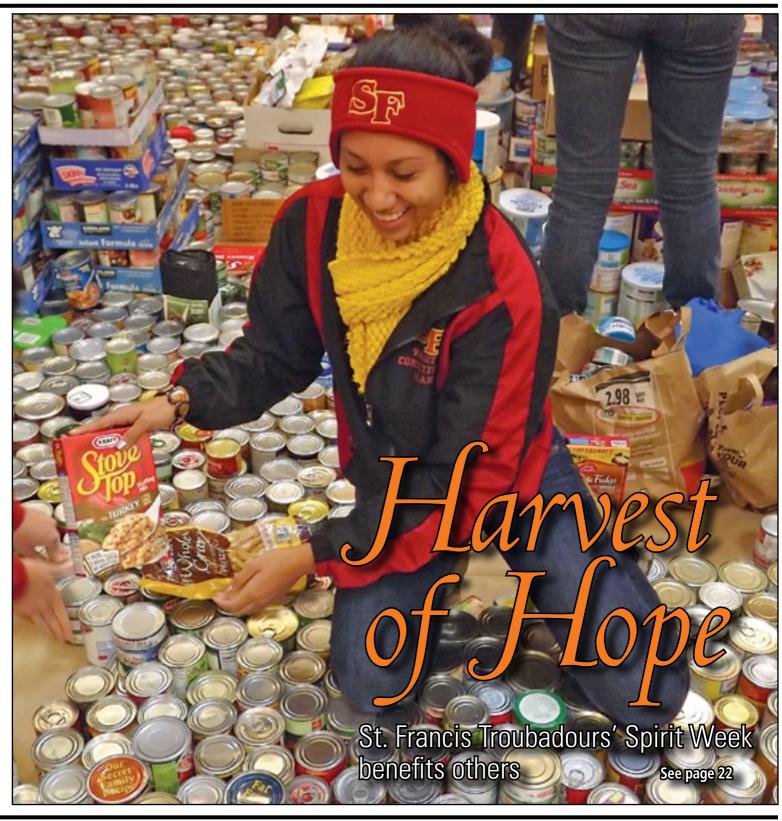
COMMUNITY CALENDAR, PAGE 21 • KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR, PAGE 14 • FACES AND PLACES, PAGE 23



celebrating 25 years See page 4



icon for 65 years

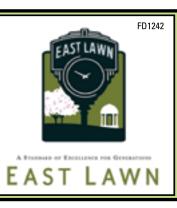


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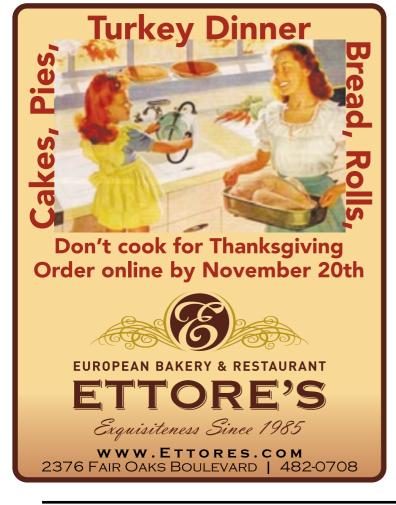
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# Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services gearing up for Thanksgiving

Special to East Sacramento News

The Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS) is preparing for the busiest Thanksgiving season in the organization's history. From donating turkeys to jogging through town, Sacramento residents can help families in need this holiday season. The food bank serves residents throughout Sacramento county, including local neighborhoods such as East Sacramento.

# **Turkey Drive**

The annual Turkey Drive for families will be on Nov. 18, from 4:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The goal this year is 8,000 frozen turkeys.

Members of the community are encouraged to drop off a frozen turkey or packaged side dishes to help the food bank meet this year's goal. In 2010, local residents donated 7,053 turkeys to this worthy cause. This year, the need in our community is even greater.

This effort will help the food bank to provide the ingredients for a holiday meal for thousands of local families. Representatives from Papa Murphy's, Wells Fargo and SaveMart will be on hand to thank donors and unload turkeys. This event is all day.

Bring turkeys and packaged side dishes to the SFFBS Oak Park facility at 333 Third Ave. (near 34th St. and Broadway), Friday, Nov. 18 from 4:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Photo courtesy, Sacramento Food Bank & Family Service: OVER 30,000 friends, family members, neighbors and visitors will get up early Thanksgiving morning to get a little exercise, help others and share the joy of community at the 18th annual Run to Feed the Hungry. It's one of the biggest "happenings" in East Sacramento – and the region. Even "Elvis" shows up on Elvas Avenue.

# Turkey Distribution - one day only

Holiday ingredients including a turkey and all of the wonderful Thanksgiving trimmings will be distributed to families in need on Monday, Nov. 21 starting at 8 a.m. and going until the turkeys run out (likely in the late afternoon).

For Thanksgiving, SFBFS would like to see every family celebrate the holiday together

See Run, page 3

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# Run

Continued from page 2

with a meal. Several thousand families are expected to arrive for this one-day distribution. Volunteers from PG&E will be on hand to help distribute items.

SFBFS does not provide a hot meal on Thanksgiving Day.

Please note, for the first time in several years, SFBFS will distribute turkeys in **one day** instead of two. Help spread the word to families in need that instead of two days of morning-only distribution, SFBFS will offer longer distribution hours for working families on Monday.

SFBFS will not offer a turkey distribution on Tuesday.

Turkeys will be distributed at the SFFBS Oak Park facility at 333 Third Ave. (near 34th St. and Broadway).

# Run to Feed the Hungry

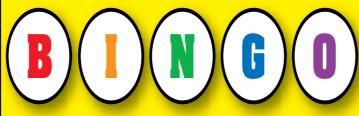
Celebrate one of Sacramento's greatest traditions by participating in the 18th annual Run to Feed the Hungry on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24.

A 5K and 10K course are available for participants of all ages and abilities. A turnout of 30,000 people is expected on Thanksgiving morning, so get there early. Individuals can sign up to participate, volunteer or join a team at www. runtofeedthehungry.com.

The fun begins at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at approximately 11 a.m. Meet at Sacramento State's J Street entrance for the start of the run/walk.

For more information about SFBFS, www.sacramento-foodbank.org.



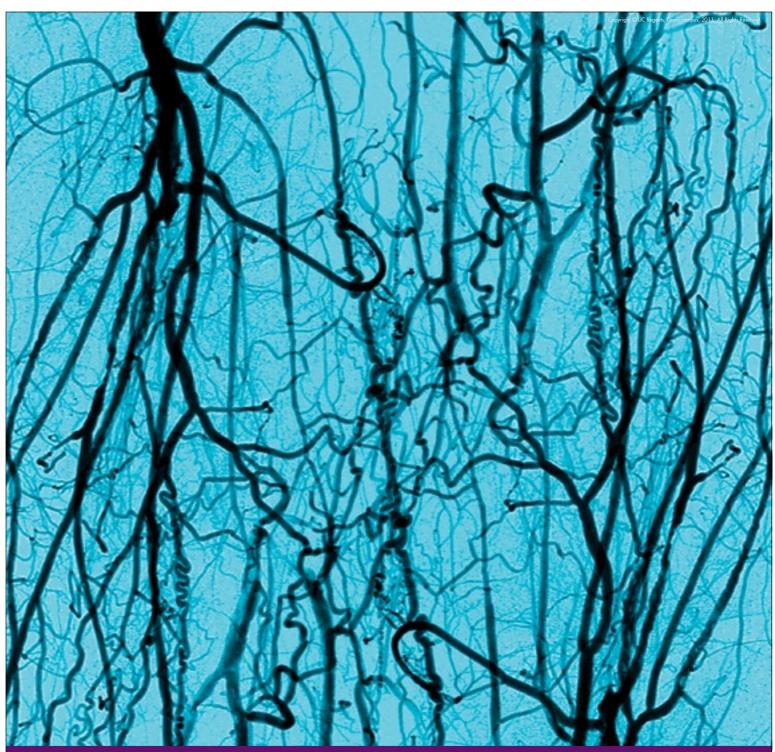


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# **Wellspring Women's Center celebrates 25** years of 'Hospitality with Dignity and Love'

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

It's about 7:30 in the morning on a chilly Friday in November.

A handful of women and children are waiting outside Wellspring Women's Center in Oak Park for the doors to open.

Precisely at 7:30 the door is unlocked and the smiling face of 91-year-old volunteer Pat Trippet welcomes each guest with a warm "Good morning," and a hug for any that would like one.

Women of all ages and ethnicities make their way to their usual tables to meet and greet their friends, while children scamper about as they wait for the Children's Corner to open. Later that morning, a volunteer chiropractor will make his services available, social workers will offer counseling, and the Craft Club will meet.

Back in the kitchen, the usual Friday morning Wellspring volunteers are busy preparing breakfast burritos, while volunteers from Jesuit High School in Carmichael serve every guest with a smile. Volunteers and staff work in the back room (aka. "The Hub") working on sorting donations of hygiene items and diapers.



East Sacramento News photo, Corrie

WELLSPRING WOMEN'S CENTER Executive Director Sister Judy Illig, left, and Children's Corner Coordinator Yi Yang, right, spend some time with their youngest guests in Wellspring's Children's Corner.

And Executive Director Sister Judy Illig, IBVM makes her rounds, greeting every single guest at Wellspring by name.

Welcome to a typical morning at Wellspring Women's Center – a nonprofit whose mission, according to Sister Illig, is "to nurture the innate goodness and personal self-esteem of women and their children" under the theme of "providing hospitality with dignity and love."

# All are welcome

It was that sense of hospitality that first attracted Sister Illig to become involved with Wellspring, first as a Board member and now for six years as executive director. "Anyone is welcome (at Wellspring) - there are no restrictions on what women and what children can come, there are no criteria that have to be met in order to be a guest," she said."I love the fact that we refer to everyone as our guest."

# Then...

That ideal of guests and hospitality has been the corner-

See Wellspring, page 5

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# Wellspring: Women and children of every background, every social level served

stone of Wellspring from the very beginning when the concept was first created by cofounders Sisters Catherine Connell and Claire Graham, both members of the Sisters of Social Service, around 1983. Sister Connell said the concept for Wellspring came during one of their evening walks after work when both she and Sister Graham were approached in downtown Sacramento by a woman in need.

"A woman came up and nudged me on my arm and said, 'Got any money for food?'" Sister Connell recalled. "It was real clear, I could smell the alcohol on her and I thought, 'Oh dear, here this poor soul wants money for more alcohol."

The Sisters took the woman to a fast food restaurant in the area where they treated her to a meal.

'When we left and we were walking down the street, I turned to Sister Claire and said, 'Wouldn't it be wonderful if someday we could offer something more than just food and good-bye in the night?" Sister Connell said.

Four years later, after leaving her current employment, Sister Connell called up Sister Graham and said it was time to make their dream a reality. With help from a friends and the local parish community, Wellspring Women's Center was born. The Center spent its first two years as a program of the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, then became a separate agency.

After two locations on Broadway, Wellspring found its current home in 1995 in the old Oak Park Firehouse.

## Now...

At the Oak Park Firehouse, Wellspring is concentrating on its main programs, the first of which is a Nutritious Meal Program. From 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., any woman and/ or child can come in for a free hot breakfast. Wellspring averages about 200 women and children a day coming through its doors.

However, the unique thing about Wellspring is the support the guests receive in addition to their meal.

"I always think about what would happen if Wellspring wasn't there - where would those people go to get a nutritious meal and sometimes more importantly the support that they're given - the emotional support if they're going through a hard time," said Andy Thielen, an East Sacramento resident and Wellspring Board member for the past five years. "They're in a safe place for that morning from 7:30 to 11:30. They get a warm meal and are able to have a conversation with someone and discuss their problems with other people that may have similar problems. (It's) an escape for them."

Women like Elly (not her real name) and Beth (not her real name), call the Wellspring table they share each morning "sacred." Elly has been a guest of Wellspring every morning for 11 years, and she refers to Wellspring as a place of spiritual healing and love.

"It's for women who are in pain, women that are hungry your soul is healed here," Elly said. "You are welcome here all the staff welcomes you like you are a family. I don't know what I would do without it."

For Beth, Wellspring gave her a sense of belonging after her children grew up and left.

"For the first time I was very lonely and I wanted to find some place to come," Beth said. "(I am) so thankful to the volunteers. Everyone is wonderful and they really care for us."

Beth was also able to receive counseling she needed, as well as assistance in finding employment.

The women that come to Wellspring come from all different ethnicities and all different situations in life. Some are unemployed. Some are homeless.

Some have mental health issues. Some are in or have escaped abusive relationships. Some are battling substance abuse.

To help the women through their problems, Wellspring offers a Women's Wellness Program that offers counseling, case management, resource referrals, wellness activities and workshops – all free of charge.

Wellspring currently has one social worker on staff and three social work interns, so there are two-to-three social workers for guests to speak with each day. And workshops and activities run the gamut from parenting classes to poetry writing to exercise classes, which are all related to helping the women that come to Wellspring build their sense of selfesteem and dignity, according to Sister Illig.

Many of the women that come to Wellspring find support from their peers as well.

"A lot of times you'll walk around the tables and you'll hear someone say 'This is what's happening with me right now and I know you went through this last year, how did you do it, what did you do?" Sister Illig said. They really are very good about helping each other. There's a real sense of trust there and the guests feel safe. It's wonderful to be in that kind of family environment."

While the women receive the support they need, their children can have fun in another Wellspring program, the Children's Corner, full of books, games and toys.

The real emphasis (in the Children's Corner) now is on socialization skills, just fun-

See Wellspring, page 7





VOLUNTEERS. Left to right, Jesuit High School volunteers English teacher Richard Carrigan and sophomores Austin Gates and Greg Kay help feed hungry guests at





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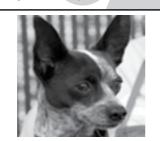


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Cardigan Breed: Chihuahua

Color: Liver & White Gender: Male Hair: Short

#168467

Age: 4 years

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Autumn

Color: White & Brown

Breed: DSH Gender: Female Hair: Short

Age: 1 year

Autumn is a very calm, timid and sweet cat. She loves attention and also enjoys following you around and getting pet and brushed. She is so cute and looks like she has a heart pattern on her left side!

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# Drake

#168938

Breed: DMH Gender: Male Age: 9 months Color: Brown Tige Hair: Medium

Drake is a very friendly, playful, and sweet cat. He has very soft fur. He enjoys chasing and playing with strings toys and scratching his scratching post. Sponsored by:



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Breed: DSH Gender: Male Age: 1 year

Color: Black Hair: Short

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Color: White & Black

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### Mufasa

#168977

Breed: Main Coon Cat Gender: Male

Color: Orange Tiger & White Hair: Medium

Age: 3 years

Mufasa is a very nice, friendly, and relaxed cat. He has very thick and soft fur. He enjoys attention and being pet and brushed but also likes his solitude by cuddling in his bed and sleeping. Very sweet and chill guy!

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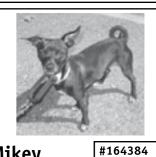
# Kokomo

#168443

Breed: Chihuahua Color: Tan Gender: Male Hair: Short Age: 4 years

Kokomo is a happy go lucky fellow. He is confident and independent who llikes to both play and give kisses. He has a few extra pounds but with a little exercise (which he loves) these will "melt" away.





# Mikey

Breed: Italian Greyhound Gender: Male Age: 1 year 6 months

Color: Black & White Hair: Short

Mikey is a sweet, happy, and energetic Italian Greyhound and Chihuahua mix. He loves going for walks, getting pet, and cuddling. He walks very well on a leash.

For additional information on adoptions, call the SPCA at 383-7387. Adoptions occur daily and it is not guaranteed the above featured animals are still available. If they are not, the SPCA has many other loving pets available to suit you and your family. The SPCA is located at 6201 Florin-Perkins Road.

# Wellspring: Capital campaign to pay off mortgage to women's center 'in the works'

damental learning skills," Sister Illig said. "They do a lot with just the kids working together, sharing."

During October, 106 different children came to the Center, with an average of 17 a day between the ages of 18 months and 8 years.

The Children's Corner has its own special activities. For example, Land Park resident and Wellspring Board member Patti Martinez told a children's author she knew about Wellspring. The author wanted to come to speak to the children.

"She brought some of the books that she wrote for Chinese New Year," Martinez said. "She did a reading to all the kids and brought some tastes of Chinese food that they would all share if it was Chinese New Year."

To further help support both the women and children that come to Wellspring, the Center offers its Safety Net Services, which includes occasional assistance with transportation, education and health services. Through this program, Wellspring accepts and distributes donations of diapers and hygiene items.

"One of the Wellspring employees said it best I think -Wellspring is the safety net below the safety net for the people that fall through the cracks," Thielen said. "There are various programs out there to help people that fall on hard times, but sometimes that's not enough. So we're there to provide a welcoming environment and offer the food and support that these women and children that are going through tough times (need), especially for those that don't have anywhere else to go. They may get assistance from other government agencies, but some-

# Volunteering at Wellspring

For the past 13 years, Wilton resident Sheri Stuckey has been coming to Wellspring Women's Center every Thursday for one hour before heading to work as a paralegal on Capitol Mall. Stuckey says she'll do anything to help out while there, either working in the kitchen or helping to serve breakfast, working in the back room or in the administrative offices upstairs. Additionally, for the past six years Stuckey has chaired Wellspring's annual dinner and auction fund raising event.

For the past eight years, now 91-year-old Pat Trippet has been volunteering at Wellspring. Known as Thursday's "official hugger," Pat greets each Wellspring guest with a cheery "good morning" and a hug.

And volunteer Board members Patti Martinez and Andy Thielen have a combined eight years on the Board of Wellspring. A real estate agent with Lyon Real Estate in downtown Sacramento, Andy sought a position on Wellspring's Board after hearing about the nonprofit through his volunteer work on the Sacramento Association of Realtors' Masters Club. He later brought on Martinez - a Lyon Real Estate colleague from the Land Park location.

These are just a few of the many volunteers at Wellspring Women's Center.

So what is it about Wellspring that keeps volunteers coming back? Trippet believes it's all about the people.

I love the people, their warmth," she said. "The volunteers get as much out of it as the people do. I look forward to Thursdays."

Stuckey also found volunteering helps her keep prospective in life.

"When we get busy in our own lives, it really helps to volunteer and to see how other people are handling stress in their lives or problems in their life," she said. "And I think everybody has a little bit inside of them that they can always help someone else with. They just have to get out there and make themselves available to those people.

For information on volunteering at Wellspring Women's Center call (916) 454-9688 or visit www.wellspringwomen.org.

times that's not enough to really fulfill what they need, especially emotionally. İ think that's a lot of it – women and children may be able to get food in other places, but a lot of Wellspring's benefits go to the women emotionally that they get the support they need and a place to relax during their tough time."

Volunteers help to stretch dollars at Wellspring Women's Center, in addition to the many tasks they perform.

"We would not exist if it weren't for the volunteers," Sister Illig said."Their energy and commitment is just unbelievable."

# Volunteering is easy.

"Anybody can volunteer, anybody can help, anybody can contribute, and it's amazing what a difference it makes in these ladies' lives," Martinez said.

# The Future...

Now in its 25th year, Wellspring is looking towards the

"Our goal right now is to make Wellspring a household name so that when people hear something about Wellspring it would be like hearing about the Red Cross or United Way, where most people have recognition of that name," Thielen said. "I think in the next couple of years things will really take off for Wellspring – it has gotten better each year and despite the economy, Wellspring does continue to raise the funds needed to support our pro-

Another future goal for Wellspring is to pay off the current mortgage for the Firehouse, Martinez said.

'We're going to try to have a pay off the mortgage major fundraiser this year to see if we can get the building paid off," Marti-nez said. "If we didn't have the mortgage on the building, that would be a considerable help to us."

Wellspring also plans to make sure it can continue to offer the services it offers now.

"Maybe build up just the whole area of the counseling and case management kinds of things, to keep that program going (and maybe expand that part of it," Sister Illig said. "Keep our meal as nutritious as possible - we really try to focus on that. And really helping women

to believe in themselves – we really want to keep doing that."

For more information on volunteering or making a donation to Wellspring Women's Center call (916) 454-9688 or visit www.wellspringwomen.org.

Editor's note: Some names in this article are changed to protect the privacy of the guests of Wellspring Women's Center.



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# RT overhead wires go live on Green Line extension

Special to East Sacramento News

The Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) activated high voltage wires above the newly laid light rail tracks on 8th Street from H Street to G Street, and on 7th Street from H Street to North B Street on Monday, Nov. 14.

Rufus Francis, RT director of Safety, cautions that the overhead wires are extremely dangerous and that the public should stay clear of the high voltage areas. The lines carry 950 volts of electricity and any contact with the wires could result in serious injury or death.

"Before light rail trains can be tested on the Green Line to the River District, RT must activate the high voltage catenary system (high voltage wires)," Francis said. "The catenary, located above the light rail tracks, provides electricity to the light rail trains and is considered 'hot' once activated."

As with any high voltage electricity, the catenary system is dangerous. The public is advised to stay clear of the light rail tracks and equipment, and more than 10 feet from wires and poles.

The Green Line to the River District project will extend light rail 1.1 miles north to Richards Boulevard and 7th Street at the Township 9 development, connecting downtown Sacramento to the River District. The project includes two light rail stations: 8th & H/County Center Station and 7th & Richards/Township 9 Station. The Green Line is expected to start revenue service in early 2012.

For more information, visit www. sacrt.com or call the Green Line to the River District project information line at (916) 930-1192.



Photo courtesy, Sacramento Regional Transis BE CAREFUL. The wires are now "hot" above the new tracks on 8th Street in Sacramento. Construction continues on the RT Green Line Extension, slated to open in 2012.

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# The T Street Boys roll onto Janey Way

By MARTY RELLES

East Sacramento News columnist marty@valcomnews.com

The T Street Boys rolled on to Janey Way in the early 1960s.

By that time, we had grown into teen age and some of our friends from outside the neighborhood came over to hang out on the block. They didn't come all at once...just sort of one at a time.

The first was George Vargas, a husky fellow, who first played in some of our pick-up football games. Later, he joined in poker games at the Ducray house.

George played poker well and often parted the Janey Way boys from their hardearned cash.

"Read them and weep boys," he'd say, as he swept the change off the top of the table.

Soon after George came into our neighborhood, Don Fancher rolled onto the block riding a Honda motorcycle.

Don usually came by with his surfer girlfriend Claudia, tattooed to the back of his bike. He came often and unexpectedly, checking in to see what the gang was up to. Which was: usually no good.

He looked cool sitting atop his motorcycle – a young Marlon Brando "maybe."

Next came Danny Blakolb. Dan played in a local surf band, so naturally he often came accompanied by a girl.

This did nothing to hurt his stature among the teen aged members of our gang.

I remember seeing him play in the band in the teen area at the California State Fair. He looked cool playing base and singing the songs of the day. We watched and danced and had a good time.

Dan still plays locally in a rock and roll revival band.

Finally, Larry Simpson, cruised into the neighborhood driving a white Ford sedan.

Slung low in what was probably his mom's car, he seemed a little dangerous to us. Word was, he kept a shotgun called the "Peacemaker" in the trunk of his car. Don't know if I ever saw it, but the story sounded good.

I remember climbing into his car and going down to cruise K Street with Larry. He was a good driver and kept his cool in a tough situation.

The fact is that Larry wasn't really very dangerous at all.

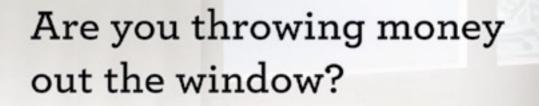
He graduated on time with his class at Hiram Johnson High School and soon after went into the U.S. Army where he served honorably in Vietnam. I am told he earned his sergeant's stripes there and held the position of Squad

He graduated on time with is class at Hiram Johnson vice he returned home, went to work, married and lived a pretty regular life.

Larry lives quietly now in South Sacramento. We see him at our reunions and bimonthly poker games.

The T Street Boys made their mark and soon became an integral part of our gang.

Now they are part of the lore of the Janey Way Gang, another "cool" Janey Way memory.



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# Sac Opera, Sac Philharmonic open 2011–2012 season with 'Pagliacci'

East Sacramento News editor susan@valcomnews.com

"All the world's a stage," said William Shakespeare in "As You Like It." "And all the men and women merely players/They have their exits and their entrances...'

This is certainly true of Sacramento Opera's production of "Pagliacci" by Ruggero Leoncavallo. Audiences witness a "play within a play" where the stage and life collide. It is a tale of tormented love, fear, infidelity and the masks humans must wear in society.

Based on a murder trial over which Leoncavallo's father presided, "Pagliacci" tells the tale of a travelling comedy theater troupe that is presenting a comedy about a man, his wife and her lover...which is mirrored by the "real life" actors themselves with tragic consequences.

Tragedy and comedy in one opera. Leaving the audience to ponder its role as passive viewers.

Musically, this opera's famous aria takes the audience through a range of emotions...ranging from self-abasement...to agony so profound it is exquisite. This is music which transcends itself.

Leoncavallo wanted to be one of the great Italian composers – on a par with Germany's Richard Wagner. His professional rivalry with Giacomo Puccini was well known. (Leoncavallo wanted to write an opera based on Henri Murger's "Scènes de la vie de bohème." He was furious when Puccini announced that he was writing such an opera first).

Today, few of Leoncavallo's works are produced. Yet, one stands out: "Pagliacci." Today, it remains in the Top 20 most popular operas in the world, according to Operabase.

This opera, while brief (only one hour and 15

minutes in length), boasts one of the most famous tenor arias in all of opera – "Vesti la giubba."

This aria, which is performed at the close of the first act, contains some of the most moving music in the arts. Loosely translated, "The clothes of a fool," the lead character, Canio, sings of how "the show must go on," despite his discovery that his love is betrayed.

In the aria's few bars of music, Leoncavallo takes the audience from selfabasement, to numbness,

See Pagliacci, page 11



Photo courtesy, Barrett Vantage Artists/ Diane Watts Copas, photographer AMERICAN TENOR Roy Cornelius Smith will perform the role of Canio at Sacramento Opera's production of "Pagliacci." He is quickly establishing himself among the ranks of the finest tenors of his generation.



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# Pagliacci: Sac Opera's great performances continue with new season

to agony so profound it is exquisite. As an art form, few composers achieve this at so transcendent a level. (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus" achieves similar heights in only 45 bars of music).

Enrico Caruso, the famous tenor of the late 19th and early 20th century, recorded this aria for Thomas Edison. Caruso's 1904 recording of "Vesti la giubba" was the first sound recording to sell a million copies. Despite the poor sound quality of the era, Caruso's performance is considered one of the "definitive" performances of this aria to this day.

The opera premiered at the Teatro Dal Verme in Milan on May 21, 1892 - with none other than Arturo Toscanini conducting.

The November performances of "Pagliacci" by Sacramento Opera will feature Roy Cornelius Smith as Canio. He is quickly establishing himself among the ranks of the finest tenors of his generation through his voice of exceptional color and beauty, his compelling dramatic interpretations and outstanding musicianship.

Rounding out the cast are: Shana Blake Hill as Nedda, Zachary Gordin as Silvio, Igor Vieira as Tonion and Daniel Ebbers

as Beppe. The Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra will open the first half of the program with selections influenced by the lyr-



Photo public domain ENRICO CARUSO, the great tenor of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, recorded one of the most famous arias in all of opera: "Vesti la giubba" from Ruggero Leoncavallo's "Pagliacci." Here he is, portraying the character of Canio - the clown. Sacramento Opera will perform this classic, popular opera on Nov. 19 and 20.

lected by Maestro Michael Morgan, conductor of the orchestra. Look for Wagner's "Siegfried Idyll," which is characterized as "transcendent" and "impossibly gorgeous."

The opera will be sung in Italian with English supertitles.

"Pagliacci" has two performances: Saturday, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. The Sacramento Community Center Theater is located at 1301 L Street in Sacramento. Tickets to both performances may be limited – call for availability. For admission, call (916) 808-5181, visit the box office at

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'Pagliacci' has one of the most famous tenor arias in all of classical music, 'Vesti la giubba.'

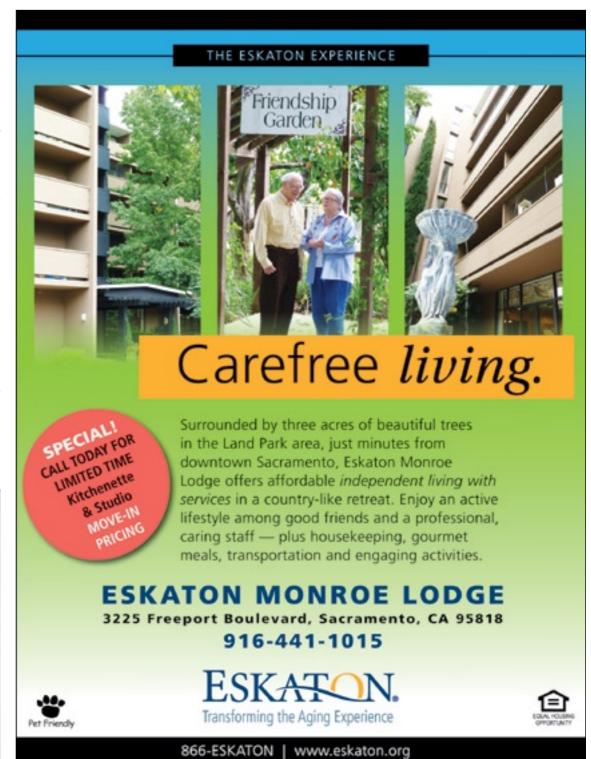


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# Relles Florist celebrates 65 years in business

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

One of midtown Sacramento's oldest businesses, Relles Florist, is presently celebrating a special anniversary, as the longtime popular florist recently reached its 65th year in business.

Jim Relles, who has been a proprietor of the florist since 1972 and has maintained sole ownership of the business since 2008. said that such a celebration was made possible through a commitment to customer satisfaction that began with his father Ross Relles, Sr.'s founding of the business on Oct. 19, 1946.

"It's a pretty distinct celebration - 65 years in business," Jim said. "(Customer service) hasn't changed since my father started the business. It's just listening to the customers' needs and working real hard to get what they want with quality product in a timely manner of their order, and not promising things that we can't do and promising things that we can do. Customer satisfaction is following through

on promises you made to the consumer. You need to follow through and do it and be honest with the consumer. If you can't do something, then you need to tell them up front or offer alter-

Jim added that like many businesses, Relles Florist, which has been voted "Best Florist" by Sacramento Magazine for the past 11 consecutive years, has survived through its willingness to adapt to changes.

One of the major changes, Jim explained, has been the growing importance of the

Ten years ago, we didn't have a Web site and we didn't sell over the Internet and now probably 30 or 40 percent of our business is over the Internet, where 10 years ago it was zero (percent)," Jim said. "We now have a Web site, a Facebook page and a Twitter account. Most of the younger generation is doing all their business from their smartphones, so we're in the process of getting a floral app (application). If you want to stay in business, you just have to keep adapting."



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong

ALL IN THE FAMILY. Jim Relles and his sister, JoAnn (Relles) Bradley, stand in front of midtown Sacramento's Relles Florist. The business is celebrating its 65th year in business.

# Roots of the Relles family's

During his meeting with the East Sacramento News last week, Jim, who is a cousin of Marty Relles, who authors the series, "Janey Way Memories," in this publication, shared information about his father's beginnings as a florist.

"My dad, growing up, worked for (G. Rossi and Co. florist at 1026 8th St.)," Jim said. "He also worked for Hires (Bottling Co.). They were down on 21st and R (streets). It was the prelude to Norcal (Distributing Co. at

424 17th St.). He (later) went to Arizona State (Teachers College, as Arizona State University was then known) and got his teaching degree, but he came back to Sacramento and he just looked at the business side (of teaching) and decided he didn't want to become a teacher. Then World War II broke out. After he got out of the war, he worked for Senator Florists (at 1014 11th St.) and I guess about a year later - I think he wanted a raise (from Senator Florists) and they said, 'No,' - he decided to go out on his own and open up his own flower shop.

# Five locations of Relles **Florist**

Although Relles Florist operates at two locations – 2400 J St. and 801 Howe Ave., north of Fair Oaks Boulevard these current business sites are not the only places where a Relles Florist shop has been

Ross Relles, Sr., who gathered additional early experience in his field when he worked as a delivery person for McElhaney's Florist in Phoenix during his time at Arizona State, established

See Icon, page 15





# **Icon:** 'Count on Relles Florist...' a familiar radio jingle

Continued from page 14

his first florist shop at 2220 J St., within the Meril Studio shops, about 15 blocks from the main downtown business district.

The site suited the business well, since it was located on what was then one of the two main streets connecting East Sacramento, Carmichael and Fair Oaks with downtown Sacramento.

Jim said that the site was also ideal due to the fact that it was located within a short distance from several funeral homes, including the N.G. Culjis Funeral Home at 2231 J St., Citizens Mortuary at 2301 J St., Miller and Skelton at 1015 20th St., W.F. Gormley and Sons at 2015 Capitol Ave., James R. Garlick Mortuary at 2001 P St., Cippa and Nicoletti at 1501 28th St. and Harry A. Nauman and Son at 2021 28th St.

On July 11, 1953, Ross Relles, Sr. opened his second shop at 2210 J St. in a two-story house, with a raised basement, that he had purchased and remodeled to accommodate as both his business and his home.

Although this relocation proved to be a worthwhile endeavor for the business, Relles Florist eventually outgrew its original space at this site, as it expanded to the structure's top two floors and basement.

As was the case with its second location, Relles Florist did not have to concern itself with costly moving expenses, as it relocated a very short distance away to its third site at 2320 J St. It was at this site where the first Relles Florist shop to be built from the ground up was constructed.

This shop, which opened on July 26, 1971, proved to be the last Relles Florist site operated by Ross Relles, Sr., as he passed away on Jan. 15, 1972.

Relles Florist, which opened its Howe Avenue shop in February 1978 and its present midtown site on Sept. 26, 1981, has built a reputation as a strong, family-owned business.

Jim said that altogether about 25 Relles family members, including his brothers, Ross, Jr., Tom and Ronald, and his mother, Margaret, have worked at Relles Florist at various times.

In addition to Jim, his sister, JoAnn (Relles) Bradley, works at the midtown shop, where she has continuously assisted with its success since June 1975.

Also quite notable in the business's history is former Relles Florist employee Al Balshor, who opened Balshor Florist at its original location at 730 O St. in 1950.

Twenty-one years later, another former Relles Florist employee, George L. Procida, opened Procida Florist at its now former location of 1315 J St.

# Relles family history

The Relles family's history in America began with Jim's grand-father, an Italian immigrant, named Saverio Relles, who arrived at Ellis Island in New York Harbor on Feb. 4, 1907.

Jim said that like many immigrants arriving in the United States during this era, Saverio had his surname changed at Ellis Island, since the person who wrote down his last name at this famous inspection station wrote "Relles," instead of the correct spelling of "Reres."

Saverio married Helen Sclafani – born Elena Sclafani – in Chicago Heights, Ill. on June 12, 1910.

Although Saverio died on April 16, 1918, he had three sons – George, Ross, Sr. and Martin – with Helen prior to his passing.

Eighteen months later, while residing in Santa Clara, Calif., Helen was remarried, as she was joined in matrimony with Rosario "Ross" Petta, who was a laborer in the construction industry.

Helen and Rosario, who together had four children, Vito, Alice, Katie and Margaret, were living in the capital city at 523 ½ 14th St. by at least 1922.

And as a result of Helen and Rosario's move to Sacramento during this time, when Relles Florist celebrates its 75th anniversary in a decade, the Relles family will possibly also be celebrating another anniversary – their 100th year in Sacramento.

For additional information regarding Relles Florist, call (916) 441-1478 (J Street shop) or (916) 920-4911 (Howe Avenue shop) or visit www.rellesflorist.com.



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong

WELL ESTABLISHED. Relies Florist has been located in midtown Sacramento for 65 years. The business currently operates a shop at 801 Howe Ave. and another shop at the site shown above at 2400 J St.

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# 'Baseball gang' fondly remembers the days of old

East Sacramento News writer lance@valcomnews.com

Editor's note: This is part two of a two-part series highlighting local baseball players who live in the publishing area of Valley Community Newspapers. Read the first part of this story at www.valcomnews.com.

The Noah's Bagels Baseball Gang, as described in part one of this series, meets weekly at Noah's Bagels in Town and Country Village and features a variety of local baseball players of the past.

Below are the names and memories of some of these former players.

Walt Fitzpatrick: "I grew up in Napa and I went to California Concordia College (in Oakland), which is really a combination of high school and college. I played baseball there from 1949 to 1953. My mom (Elsie Fitzpatrick) moved (to Sacramento) in 1949 and I played here in the summers of 1949, 1950 and 1951 in the 100pound league. That's when I met most of these guys (in the group). I wanted to play for Southside Legion, but I didn't go to Christian Brothers (High School). I played on the Bill Irwin team down in Oakland and the Sacramento Solons Rookies in

1952 through 1954. I played in the County League, Rural League and the Tri-County (League). I played a total of 10 years of semi-pro ball, and also in the Army."

Joe Sheehan: "When I was a kid, I was born and raised down by McKinley Park and (the notable local baseball family) the McNamaras lived right around the corner from me, and we played on all the youth teams at McKinley Park. I played third base. I played (baseball) for Christian Brothers High School, Southside Legion, Sacramento (Junior) College, and after college, I played in the Army in 1955 and 1956. The best team I ever played on was the Sacramento (Junior) College team. We were state champions in 1952. I played on the team with some of these guys (in the group), including Cuno Barragan.

Mike Lateano: "I was an Oak Park boy and I graduated from Sac High in June 1950 and I played football, basketball and baseball at Sac High. I was allcity in football, but baseball was actually my first choice as far as what I really liked. And when I went to Sacramento Junior College, I played football, basketball and baseball there. I was drafted during the Korean War and went overseas and played service ball. When I came out to Sacramen-

JIM BARUDONI was a member of the national champion University of Southern California team of 1958.

to State, we won a championship there in about 1957 or 1958. I also played bush baseball, the county league and the Rural League, and played for the Solons Rookies and such."

Gary Mason: "From 7 or 8 years old, most of us started playing the sand lot ball. If there was a vacant lot on the corner, we made a baseball diamond out of it. We used to play in Oak Park at McClatchy Field, Land Park, 21st and C (streets), McKinley. We played at all the places. I played until about 14 or 15 and then I got out of it and went into other things. Growing up, I really liked (Joe) Dimaggio and later on, (Mickey) Mantle. A good friend of mine was Harry Bright, who played for the (New York) Yankees, then came out here and managed the Solons."

Tony Latino: "I grew up in Oak Park. I played on a lot of teams and I could play anywhere. I caught, played short-stop, I pitched. Whatev-er they needed, I did. I had an uncle who played for the Brooklyn Dodgers. After I played sports, I got into fastpitch softball and coached for years. In the old times, things were tough, we were all together, we all knew each other. It was a lot of fun. I really like being a part of the (Noah's Bagels) group. There are a lot of good stories, a lot of good memories."

Jim Barudoni said that he briefly played baseball for the

See Baseball Gang, page 17









Photo courtesy, Walt Fitzpatrick

Photo courtesy, Bill Werry

SUSPENDED DRAMA...Catcher Bill Werry of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union-sponsored team prepares to tag a sliding Nino Spatafore out at home plate, while batter Jim Knight looks on

MEMBERS of the 1953 Sacramento club of the county league are shown on the grounds of Folsom Prison. Among the team's members were now-current members of the Noah's Bagels Gang, Walt Fitzpatrick (front row, fifth to right) and Mike Bakarich (middle row, fourth to right).

# Baseball Gang: 60 years of Sacramento baseball a common denominator

Sacramento Solons and enjoyed his greatest success in baseball as a member of the national champion University of Southern California team of 1958 and the following year's team, both of which were led by the legendary coach, Rod Dedeaux.

Jim Westlake: "I grew up at 2331 P St. Probably my favorite player growing up was my cousin, Wally (Westake). He was in the majors (from 1947 to 1956). He spent most of his years with Pittsburgh and then he played in the 1954 World Series with the Cleveland Indians against the New York Giants. I played high school baseball (at Christian Brothers High School) and then I played on the ju-

nior college team in 1952 and 1953 and in 1953, we won the state championship and Nick Capachi (another member of the "baseball gang") was on that team. And the year before that, I played with Cuno (Barragan of the "baseball gang") for Sacramento Junior College. I played a lot of bush (league) baseball around town in all the leagues. I met a lot of great guys. I think that's the real joy, the real benefit at any level in baseball is the guys who you meet. You form lifelong relationships."

Rick Costello: "I pitched at Chico State in 1953 and I played softball in the service and we got in this tournament (in Alaska) and then I came out (of the Army) and played one more year at Chico State and after graduation, I went down to Southern California and played for the El Monte Índians. It was kind of like semi-pro. I had a tryout with the L.A. Angels of the Pacific Coast League. It was a three-day tryout and I made it all the way to the third day. In 1965, I came to Sacramento and I played in the Mexican league. We (were sponsored by) the C and C Club (at 326 15th St.)."

Bill Werry: "I grew up in Oak Park playing in the youth leagues and city league and I played (American) Legion ball for Post 61 for three years and I played high

school ball at McClatchy High for three years. (While with Post 61), we played the state championship finals at Edmonds Field (at Riverside Boulevard and Broadway) against a team from Los Angeles called Crenshaw Post and they had some pretty good players, who went up to (play) Major League ball. Over the course of two seasons (at McClatchy High), we won 41 or 43 straight ball games. I made all-city as a catcher for three years and when I got out of high school, I signed with the Dodgers organization, which at that time was the Brooklyn Dodgers. It was a minor league contract and I played three years of minor league ball. My first year was in

1955 with Bakersfield in the California state League."

### Good times as a group

Fitzpatrick said that reliving baseball memories is an enjoyable experience for members of the group, which also includes Bob Alejo, Pete Campos and Ron Pyle.

"The common denominator is baseball and this goes back 60 years and we all kind of grew up together," Fitzpatrick said. "It's always a good time (meeting with the group)."

Agreeing with Fitzpatrick, Lateano added,"We have a lot in common - not just baseball - because we grew up in this town. We like to reminisce. Hopefully we can continue this (group) for several more years.

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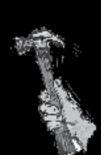
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Warm hearts, helping hands:

# **38th annual Sacred Heart Holiday** Home Tour showcases 'Fab '40s' homes

Special to East Sacramento News

One of Northern California's most loved walking holiday home tours returns this December with five elegantly decorated homes in East Sacramento's historic Fabulous Forties neighborhood open for viewing, Dec. 2 through Dec.

For 38 years, this popular tour has grown to include nearly 5,000 patrons from throughout northern and central California. The homes showcase elaborate renovation while preserving historic design, custom interior decoration and creative holiday décor that is sure to ignite the spirit of the season.

This year, one of the homeowners is one the original two founders of the Home Tour in 1973," said Leslie Wilson-Lopez, co-chair of the home tour and school parent. "Caroline Reid was one of two founders of the home tour, she was a Sacred Heart parent. Now her children are grown, but the tradition continues. Last year her daughter's home was on the home tour. This year, Caroline has a grandchild at Sacred Heart, so this year's tour has tremendous meaning."

One special remodeled home on the tour features an area that was once a foundry (a factory that produced metal casings). Built prior to 1915, this structure boasts some East Sacramento his-

"The homes are all lovely," said Wilson-Lopez. "One home on the tour is owned by one of the designers: Jill Dudensing. She has a real minimalist, mid-century style that marries traditional Christmas with contemporary style. It's a kind of 'Andy Warhol meets Norman Rockwell kind of vibe."

This year's list of talented interior and floral designers also includes: Haus Home Décor and Specialty Gifts, Beyond the Garden Gate, East Sac Florist

and Gary John's.

The Holiday Home Tour is one of Sacred Heart Parish School's biggest fundraisers. Proceeds from the tour go directly to the school to offset tuition and provide financial support to families who might not otherwise be able to afford a Catholic education.

The tour includes a holiday Boutique and Café located at Sacred Heart Parish School at 39th and H streets in East Sacramento.

Organizers predict another sellout this year and suggest advance purchases when possible.

Tour dates are Friday, Dec. 2 through Sunday, Dec. 4. Visit www.sacredhearthometour.com for dates and times. Tour tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 after Dec. 1. Tickets may be purchased online at the website or call the Holiday Home Tour Information Line at (916) 556-5050. Check the website for ticket retailer locations also.



FIVE HOMES in East Sacramento will be a part of the 38th annual Sacred Heart Holiday Home Tour. This event is a great place to get holiday decorating ideas, do a little shopping and enjoy the spirit of the season.

# EVENT LISTING SECTION

Advertise your craft fairs, holiday bazaars, school fundraises, church events, etc. in your Community Newspapers. Call (916) 429-9901 for rates.

Sacramento Children's Chorus

"The Spirit of the Season"

**Holiday Concerts** December 3, 7:30 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church 1300 N Street December 4, 4 p.m. Carmichael 7th Day Adventist 4600 Winding Way Info & Tickets 916 646-1141 sacramentochildrenschorus.org

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City of Sacramento SAFARI TOURS TRAVEL FAIR Featuring Collette Tours 2012 Trips

Thurs. Nov. 17 ~10 a.m. to Noon

**Coloma Community Center** 4623 T Street, Sac 95819 Call, 808-8687 for more info. Nutcracker Ballet

Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. & Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. **Crockett-Deane Ballet Company** & Deane Dance Center Dancers "Christmas Angels" and the "Nutcracker"

The Center at 2300 Sierra Blvd. \$15 adults: \$12 seniors/students. \$10 children. Tickets at the door & at Deane Dance Center 3385 Lanatt St. (916) 453-0226

OYAKO & the Buddhist Church of Florin will hold an event to benefit the

Florin Buddhist Women's Association Saturday, Nov. 19, 9 to 3

Featuring women's clothing, casual to special occasions, jewelry, bags, purses, wallets, cards, home decor, food & many gift items.

7235 Pritchard Road, Sacto For info, call Lois (916) 422-1265 or Peggy (916) 686-5621

33rd Annual "Holiday Show of Hands" **CRAFT FAIR** 

Friday, Dec 2, 5 to 9 p.m (\$3) Saturday, Dec 3, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Unique, hand-crafted gifts, decorator items, collectibles, Hot lunch - Shuttle from Elks Club

St. John the Evangelist School 5701 Locust Avenue, Carmichael **Capitol Ballet Company Creates Holiday Magic** 

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> capitolballet.com (916) 484-1188

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# CALENDAR

www.valcomnews.com

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

### ONGOING

# 'Bingo: the Musical'

Through Jan. 8, 2012: Everybody gets to join in the fun at this musical. Call for times, prices. The Cosmopolitan Cabaret, 10th and K streets., Sac.. (916) 557-1999 www. CosmopolitanCabaret.com

#### **Clayton Bailey's World of Wonders**

Through Jan. 15, 2012: 180 works and complementary ephemera span 50 years of Bailey's prodigious production of genuine marvels. A ceramist, sculptor, and self-proclaimed "mad scientist," Bailey aims to surprise and delight with his art. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org.org

#### Florence and the Baroque

Through Feb. 12, 2012: Drawn from the largest private collection of Florentine Baroque painting in the United States, this exhibition reveals the intense emotion, saturated color, and refined brushwork that characterized painting in 17th-century Florence. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum. org.org

# The Art of Disegno: Italian Prints & Drawings

Through Feb. 12, 2012: This exhibition, from the collections of the Georgia Museum of Art and Giuliano Ceseri, explores the variety and beauty of Italian draftsmanship through drawings and prints from the 16th through 18th centuries. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www. crockerartmuseum.org.org

### November

Friday, Dec. 2

Saturday, Dec. 3

Silent auction

· Hot lunch

Sunday, Dec. 4

# **Bilingual Toastmasters**

Nov. 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 Thurs-

"Holiday Show of Hands"

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Crafters

5 - 9pm (\$3 at door)

9am - 7pm (Free)

9am - 3pm (Free)

day/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. 17, 24: Enjoy a great local charity game of bingo every Thurs. night at 6:30p.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. 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. 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. 17, 24: Meet-up group for people living with chronic disease who honor 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. Danea Horn (503) 319-4247

### Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

Nov. 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. 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

#### Safari Tours Travel Fair

Nov. 17: The City of Sacramento, Safari Tours Travel Fair will feature Collette Tours 2012 Trips. 10 a.m.-noon. Coloma Community Center, 4623 T St., Sac. (916) 808-8687

## **Sutterville Heights Optimist Club**

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

#### **Ballroom Dances**

Nov. 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., Carmi-

### Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown

Nov. 18, 25: Come listen to an interesting guest speaker weekly; community service, serving the children of the world. Visitors 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. 18, 25: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7 a.m., every Fri. Double Tree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way., Sac. www. pointwestrotary.com

#### Soroptimists of Sacramento

Nov. 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

# 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.crockerartmuseum.org.org

# **GIVE THANKS** WITH FLOWERS THIS THANKSGIVING, NOVEMBER 24 IN STORE SPECIALS:30%-40% OFF-CASH&CARRY ONLY Relles Florist & Gifts 65 years in Sacramento with Service & Quality 2400 J Street 801 Howe Avenue (916) 441-1478 (916) 920-4911 FREE PARKING • RELLESFLORIST.COM

### **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

# **Country Club Plaza Farmer's**

Nov. 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

# **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

### **Food Addicts Anonymous**

Nov. 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.

# 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

# **Carmichael Farmer's Market**

Nov. 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.bemoneysmartusa.org

# **Co-Dependents Anonymous**

Nov. 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. 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

### State Parking Lot Farmer's Market

Nov. 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

### **Sunday Support for the Widowed**

Nov. 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. 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. 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. 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.

# Tai Chi & Chi Keung

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



# Harvest of Hope at Troubie **Homecoming**

Story by SUSAN LAIRD East Sacramento News editor Photos by GENNY CARIDI-MCNULTY

The students of St. Francis High School kicked off their annual Spirit Week (Nov. 14 - 18) with two traditional Troubadour competitions: the Canned Food Drive and the Penny War.

Each class competes against the other in this annual warm-up to one of the most unique - and loud - spirit weeks in the region. (Troubies are often asked, "How can you have Homecoming when you have no football team?" "It's complicated...").

## Canned Food Drive results

The Canned Food Drive benefits area food banks in the Sacramento region on a rotating basis. This year, the Troubadours chose to help the Elk Grove Food Bank.

Some 100,300 items were donated by the young women to the food bank, including: + 47,000 boxes of macaroni and cheese,

- + 25,000 jars of baby food,
- + 11,780 cans of fruit,
- + 11,520 cans of soup, and
- + 1.200 cans of tuna.

Results for the Canned Food Drive were as follows: First place, the Senior Class; Second place, the Juniors; Third place, the Sophomores; and Fourth place, the Freshman class.

Students also held bake sales and a fundraiser evening at Chipotle, raising some \$6,600 in cash for the food bank, also.

### Penny War

Each class competes to see which one can raise the most money for charity. Students "vote" points for their class with pennies. In an interesting twist, "silver" coins (nickels, dimes, etc.) can subtract points. This can make the competition interesting when one class donates a roll of quarters to another one.

This year's Penny War beneficiary is Cristo Rey High School, which provides a private high school education for students who otherwise could not afford one.

In this competition, the Senior class placed first; the Sophomore class placed second; the Junior class placed third - narrowly defeating the Freshman class, which placed fourth.

Some \$9,000 was raised by the Troubadours for the students of Cristo Rey High.















Faces and places

# Veterans' Day Parade 2011

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

The Sacramento community honored American heroes past and present at the Sacramento Veterans' Day Parade on Friday, Nov. 11.

Families lined the parade route that took vintage vehicles, dignitaries, scouts and service organizations right up Capital Mall.

General Chuck Yeager, the first person to break the sound barrier, served as Grand Marshal.















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# Realtors



#### **GORGEOUS FAB 40'S**

Single Story home in East Sacramento's Fabulous Forties. 3 Bedroom 2 Bath with open floor plan featuring random oak flooring, Pella windows, custom cabinetry & woodwork. Large family room/den with 10-ft. ceilings & built-in bookcases. Murphy bed, crystal chandeliers, custom leaded-pane windows Beautiful yard with raised patio area. See: www.1415-44thst.com \$819,000

#### LINDA WOOD 802-8042



# CHARMING EAST SAC

Fantastic 3 bedroom on great East Sacrmaneot street! Pristine hardwood floors, vintage fireplace, remodeled bathroom, dual pane windows, central heat & air, and a very spacious floor plan. The backyard is perfect for entertaining. An easy enjoyable walk to Bertha Henschel Park. See: 100colomaway.ihousenet.com \$347,000

# **TIM COLLOM 247-8048**



# AMAZING EAST SAC

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. See: www.484palaway.epropertysites.com \$320.000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048 • LIBBY NEIL 539-5881



#### **G STREET HOME**

Stunning 24' entry, open floor plan. Great craftsmanship. Wide plank cherry floors, huge kitchen /great room combo w/ huge fireplace, home theater & surround sound. Built-in refr, comml grade appliances & granite counters. Separate laundry room with Corian and laundry chute. See www. GStreetHome.com \$1,129,000

#### **COLLEEN WIFVAT 719-2324**



# 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 \$574,950

# **DAVID KIRRENE 531-7495**



# EAST SAC BRICK TUDOR

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 \$724,900

**COLLEEN WIFVAT 719-2324** 



# MCKINLEY PARK COLONIAL

This is it! Ideal 4 bedroom 2 bath Colonial located in Mckinley park!!! Fantastic floorplan, a completely remodeled kitchen with a newer Subzero fridge and a Wolf Range. Vintage hardwood floors, very spacious family, dining and living rooms, newer windows, dual zone central heat and air, and a newer garage. 3710 McKinley Blvd. \$625,000

# **TIM COLLOM 247-8048**



# RIVER PARK

3 bedrooms and 2 full baths with functional layout and large backyard complete with dog run. Kitchen has maple cabinets, Corian countertops, walk-in pantry. Hardwood floors throughout with cherry inlay in dining room; new recessed lighting in living and dining rooms. See: 4301breunerave.ihousenet.com \$299,000

# STEPHANIE GALLAGHER 342-2288



# SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN

Amazing 4 bedroom 3 bath in East Sacramento! Completely remodeled within the last few years. Four very large bedrooms, a gourmet kitchen, top of the line fixtures, laundry upstairs & downstairs and a phenomenal master suite are all included. See www.172141ststreet.epropertysites.com \$615.000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048 • LIBBY NEIL 539-5881

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