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May 3, 2012

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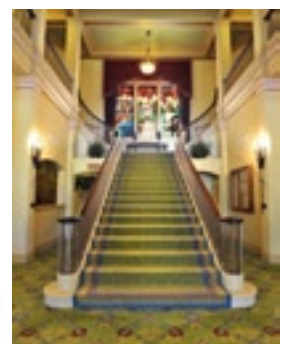


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Chautauqua Playhouse celebrates 35 years

By **CORRIE PELC**
East Sacramento News writer
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Sacramento may be more than 3,000 miles away from the lights of Broadway, but for the past 35 years, the nonprofit Chautauqua Playhouse has been bringing quality live theater to the Sacramento community.

"It's of the utmost importance that we keep the arts alive...we feel like we are providing a service to the community," said Warren Harrison, co-producer for the Chautauqua Playhouse.

Great performances

Originally formed in 1975, the 95-seat Chautauqua Playhouse is currently housed inside the La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael. Harrison said the Playhouse specializes in "putting on quality shows that are reasonable in price for the average patron." Each season includes five shows, which are a mix of comedies, dramas and an occasional musical. Additionally, each year the Playhouse produces "Scrooge" during the holiday season, as well as a summer show.

Harrison said they try to get a mix of different types of shows each season to meet all tastes.

"Our general audience is mostly an older audience, but they also bring their families so we like to do shows that are family-oriented, that you can basically bring the kids to if you wanted to," he explained. He added that, periodically, the Playhouse will do an original show, giving the local playwrights a chance to have their works produced.

The 2011-2012 season will conclude with "The Importance of Being Earnest," which will run from May 4 to June 10. That will be followed by their summer show, "Arsenic and Old Lace," from June 22 to July 22.

For the kids

In addition to its regular season, the Chautauqua Playhouse also features a Children's Theatre program with productions on Saturday afternoons. The 2011-2012 Children's Theatre series will end with a production of "The Prince and the Pauper" from May 12 to May 26.

Harrison said the Children's Theatre gives young theater-goers an introduction to live theater, such as interaction with the actors on stage.

"It also gives the children an opportunity to learn how to behave and react in a theatrical setting as far as what's acceptable, what's not

See Chautauqua, page 4



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CB appoints new co-athletic director

Special to East Sacramento News

This summer, Dan Carmazzi will join the faculty at Christian Brothers High School as co-athletic director, faculty member and assistant football coach.

He has extensive experience in the coaching arena. For more than three decades, Carmazzi was a member of the Social Studies and Physical Education departments at Jesuit High School, as well as that high school's head football coach.

"Dan has dedicated most of his professional life to Jesuit, and we are grateful for his service to our Jesuit High School community and his efforts with our student-athletes," said Jesuit High School principal Brianna Latko.

A 1971 graduate of Christian Brothers High School, Carmazzi started his coaching career at his alma mater before coming to Jesuit as an assistant football coach in 1977. He assumed the duties of head football coach in 1981, and went on to earn an overall record of 230-102-3.

Carmazzi was selected as the CIF State Model Coach of the Year in 2004 and helped develop three NFL quarterbacks: Ken O'Brien, Gio Carmazzi and J.T. O'Sullivan. During his tenure, the Marauders reached the City Championship five times and won two CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Championships and nine league titles. Carmazzi also excelled as a teacher in the classroom.

"We are pleased to have Dan join the CB community. He brings a wealth of coaching knowledge and teaching experience with him," said Christian Brothers President Lorcan Barnes. "We look forward to continuing to build our athletic program in the years ahead. Bringing Dan on board is an investment in excellence that will serve our students well for years to come."

Carmazzi will join Jill Bennett, CB's athletic director for the past nine years.

"I am really looking forward to returning to CB blue and working with Jill Bennett to lead the athletic program," says Carmazzi. "I'm excited and optimistic about the future direction of Falcon athletics."

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Chautauqua: Playhouse provides live theater for all age groups

Continued from page 2

acceptable, how to sit and give your attention to a show, how to show your appreciation to the actors with laughter and applause," he added.

Harrison said children also get an opportunity after the shows to meet the actors and have autographs signed and have pictures taken with them,

"so they take away an extra little memento of their day."

Learning the craft

For kids that foster an early love for the theater and want to try their hand on the stage themselves, Chautauqua Playhouse offers the Chautauqua School of the

Performing Arts with classes in voice, acting and dance for ages six to 13.

The Performing Arts school is gearing up for its summer workshops, which Harrison said this year will include five weeks of morning sessions from 9 a.m. to about noon four days a week, beginning in late June. For the first time this year, the summer session will conclude with a production by attendees of "Alice in Wonderland."

Harrison said theater education can give a number of benefits to kids.

"Theater is a very disciplined and very focused art, so they learn how to discipline themselves and they learn about memorization," he explained. "It very much socializes them because the children work on-stage as an ensemble, so it teaches them to help each other out while they're performing. I think it helps them achieve poise in front of other people and in front of an audience. But if really helps them focus on a single activity."

V is for volunteering

As a nonprofit organization, Chautauqua Playhouse is always looking for volunteers both on and off the stage.

On the stage, each year in late May or early June, a general audition is held for those interested in trying out for acting parts in the upcoming season. The general audition allows the directors to see the actors available and make call backs as they get closer to production dates.

The Playhouse brings in volunteer actors from all over Sacramento and even beyond.

"Last year we did a show and we had three cast members from Nevada City/Grass Valley area, which was quite a drive for them but they felt it was worth it to do that," Harrison said. "Sometimes we get people from closer to the Bay Area. We get people from Davis quite often, people from Vacaville even. Actors will go where the parts are, basically."

Or if you'd prefer to volunteer off-stage, the Playhouse is always in need of volunteers to do "just about every-

thing" from ushering to working the technical side of their shows, such as lighting, sound and costumes. Additionally, the Playhouse is always looking for donations of items they can use on stage, such as costume pieces, vintage jewelry, furniture, and paint.

Giving support

Overall, Harrison asks the community for their continued support by coming to their productions and spreading the word to others.

"We are so thankful and grateful to still be able to serve Sacramento and Carmichael in particular with our theater," he said. "So many theaters are going under – we have seen several good theater groups go under because of financial difficulties because of the economy. We consider ourselves very fortunate that we have such support in the community."

For more information on the Chautauqua Playhouse and to purchase tickets for upcoming shows, visit www.cplayhouse.org.

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Know your neighbor

Mickey Abbey recalls "hippie days" in San Francisco, Sacramento

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
East Sacramento writer
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A unique event will be held on May 12 as Mickey Abbey, a local artist with East Sacramento ties, will present what he believes will be the first stained glass show ever held in the capital city.

The show, which will be part of this month's Second Saturday Art Walk event, will be presented at Java City at 1800 Capitol Ave. from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., and will also include beach vendor photography by Dr. Janet Hecsh.

While relaxing inside his midtown art studio at 2118 19th St. last week, Abbey, whose stained glass work is proudly displayed inside various East Sacramento homes and in other residences, businesses and churches in the city and beyond, spoke about his long road to his upcoming show.

Abbey graduated from Hiram W. Johnson High School in 1961 and spent about five additional years studying at Sacramento City College.

San Francisco Hippie culture

He noted that, although he had never seen himself as an artist, a random decision to head to San Francisco in the

wake of the hippie counterculture of the '60s changed his personal connection to art.

"(In the spring of 1966), I chased a girlfriend down to the Bay Area and we ended up living together in a big Victorian with some other young people," Abbey recalled. "At the time, my girlfriend was going to San Francisco State (University) studying art, so like all young people do when they have no direction, they just follow the crowd. So, I just followed the crowd to San Francisco State and started taking an art class there. Unbeknownst to me, it turned out that I had a talent for art, noted by an instructor who took an interest in my art."

Through the assistance of his instructor, Abbey soon obtained an art-related job in the "City by the Bay."

After only a semester at San Francisco State, Abbey left the school during the Christmas season of 1966 and began working in the display department at Macy's in downtown San Francisco.

Abbey married his girlfriend and with his new wife and a few other artists, he moved into a storefront at Church and Army (presently Cesar Chavez Street) streets that had living quarters attached to its back side.

The storefront was soon transformed into an art studio, where various artists created in such media as oil on canvas, tapestry work and clay sculptures.

Abbey's art began to flourish, as he dedicated himself to improving his artistic skills, while working in the studio and maintaining his full-time position at Macy's display department.

Meanwhile, he enjoyed being a part of the Haight-Ashbury scene, as he sold and traded his artwork in the area and was a very good friend of a hippie couple named Terry and Mary, who lived at "ground zero" in a flat at the corner of Haight and Ashbury streets.

Sparkle and flash

One of the activities that Abbey enjoyed at the time was purchasing large quantities of what he referred to as "Grand-

ma's old costume jewelry" at the flea market in Alameda.

"Everybody liked gaudiness there in (Haight-Ashbury)," Abbey recalled. "Everybody liked bright colors. Everything was flash, flash. There were no rules about dress or anything and it was all about sparkle and flash. And so, 'Hey, let's go buy grandma's old jewelry (at the flea market) and we'll bring it back and we'll make these big, old gaudy rings.' It was a way for us to make a few bucks on Haight Street and to have our little piece of the action. There were about six of us who were part of this little adventure, which we called 'wiggy rings.' A couple of them, they could set up a suitcase on the corner and sell some stuff, but mainly (the rings) were sold in the hippie stores along Haight and Ashbury (streets)."

Another one of Abbey's interests at the time was playing his guitar in The Panhandle with other musicians and musical-minded people.

And on occasions, he attended various San Francisco concerts by such artists as Big Brother and the Holding Company and Jefferson Airplane.

Back to Sac

With the deterioration of the Haight-Ashbury scene, Abbey returned to Sacramento in 1969.

And utilizing his employment experience in San Francisco, Abbey was soon hired to work in the display department at the Weinstock-Hale department store at 3500 El Camino Ave.

Abbey's job with Weinstock-Hale was short lived,

See Abbey, page 21

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Photo courtesy, St. Francis High School

FAITH, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND FUN. Capital campaigns and fundraisers are hard work, but St. Francis President Marion Bishop always led the way with a faithful and encouraging heart.



Photo courtesy of St. Francis High School

TWO BISHOPS. St. Francis High School President Marion Bishop, left, with Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto on the campus of St. Francis High School. She will retire from the diocesan high school at the end of the month.

Leaving a legacy:

St. Francis' first president to retire after 11 years of service

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

After 11 years of service, St. Francis High School's first-ever president, Marion Bishop, will retire on May 31, leaving behind a legacy that includes a capital campaign, technology, campus ministry, and a growth spurt in student population.

The 'President-Principal Model'

In 2001 Bishop, who at the time was working in

the Catholic Schools Department for the Diocese of Sacramento, was appointed president of St. Francis High School to bring the president-principal model to St. Francis that other Catholic schools in the area were already using. This model calls for a principal to handle the academics of the school and a president to handle the business side of the school, including fund raising.

"Research had indicated that when a high school reaches an enrollment of 600 or more students that it really becomes impossible for a single administrator to take care of all the academic concerns of the campus, as well as all the business," Bishop recalled. "St. Francis was at the threshold of that 600 students and it was time to move in to this new model. I just happened to be first in line to be hired to implement the new model."

St. Francis' current principal, Patrick O'Neill (who has been

principal for three years and was assistant principal for two years before that), said the president-principal model that Bishop initiated was instrumental in the growth of St. Francis' student body from 600 to now 1,100 students. Having this model allows him to effectively concentrate on the academics of the school, while having a compatriot handling the business side.

"Marion and I have clicked from Day One," O'Neill said. "We see things the same way and she's been outstanding to work for."

Making improvements

As part of her role as president, Bishop played an integral role in the improvements made to the St. Francis campus over the years. For instance, when she first arrived in 2001, the school was beginning the first phase of a capital campaign to expand the campus.

"I was really privileged not only to be part of that capital campaign to raise monies to improve the campus and expand it, but also I oriented the expansion itself," Bishop said. For example, she played a pivotal role in the development of the school's current Performing Arts Center and gymnasium.

Throughout her 11 years Bishop continued to make improvements to St. Francis.

"She listened to the student body and what was going on in the education world, and then would be strategic in trying to weave that into the direction of the school, whether it be technology, safety or the green movement," explained Shannon Terwedo, past St.



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See Legacy, page 7

Legacy: Marion Bishop led St. Francis High through significant years of growth

Continued from page 6

Francis High School Board member whose daughter graduated from the school in 2007.

Past Board member Helen Pierson – whose two daughters graduated from St. Francis in 2000 and she herself graduated from the school in 1974 – said Bishop always had St. Francis' best interest in mind in all the decisions she made and that she was someone who could see what was important for the school.

"It's a challenge to have an all-girl high school and keep it running – a lot of different schools have had to go different ways and unfortunately some even had to close," Pierson explained. "St. Francis has been very fortunate because of the leadership that has enabled it to stay above the water and keep itself as a place where young ladies want to go. It's a great school and she's been at the helm for many years and I think it's because of that."

Having faith

One area Bishop focused on building upon during her tenure at St. Francis was in the school's Campus Ministry Department. "Under Marion's leadership, she's put a lot of work, emphasis and resources into building up our program so we have more of a holistic approach to ministry, to where it's not just prayers and retreats, but also service and faith community life," explained Director of Campus Ministry Linda Norman.

As part of the Campus Ministry Department, Bishop said one of her proudest accomplishments is the establishment of an integrated retreat program where each year's class has their own retreat, culminating with a senior retreat (called Kairos) their final year.

"This for many of our girls is a life-changing four-day student-lead retreat experience," Bishop explained. "It has been the single-most item that

our graduating seniors comment on as their most significant moment at St. Francis, and so I'm very proud of that because I think it speaks to the whole person, the whole student, and what she's taking with her when she leaves here. That's one program I'm very, very proud of."

Additionally, Bishop began a mother-daughter retreat program in 2003, which Terwedo attended with her daughter. Terwedo recalled Bishop attending this retreat and talking to the mothers and daughters about her own experiences.

"She shared her personal journey with her daughter and as a daughter herself – the good, the bad, the challenges of dealing with a daughter in the teenage years," she recalled. "She just took off the mantle of being president and put on the mantle of being a woman that was both a daughter and a mother."

'A huge heart'

Now on the eve of her retirement, Bishop is excited for the Disney cruise she, her husband of 42 years, and family will be taking, and then occupying her time with gardening, playing and praying.

"I do feel like I have another life in me somewhere," she said. "I still feel very young although I'm at retirement age. I feel like there's something else there and I've been



HONORED BOARD MEMBER. As President of St. Francis High School, Marion Bishop worked closely with Sacramento Bishop Jamie Soto and the Board of St. Francis High School. Board members acknowledge her pivotal role in the expansion of the school campus.

praying a lot about what that is and how it's going to express itself."

Although she is looking forward to her retirement, Bishop said she will greatly miss the students and staff at St. Francis and that she hopes the school continues to grow and prepare the young women that attend to serve the greater community.

"When I came here, I hoped that I would really bring the school 'heart' and I think that I have done that and I'm very proud of that," Bishop said. "I think the school has a huge heart and it shows itself in many, many ways."

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Janey Way Memories:

Remembering my father's garden



By **MARTY RELLES**
East Sacramento News columnist
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Last week, I planted my summer garden.

I started by digging up the soil in my raised bed. Then, I hoed the dirt, raked it, poured manure on it and then raked it again.

After watering the plot, I planted tomatoes, squash, green beans, green peppers and lettuce.

Doing this brought back memories of father's vegetable garden.

One day, back in the late 1950s, my dad came home from a rough day at work and said, "This year I will plant a summer vegetable garden, like my father did."

Sure enough, that weekend, Dad began to dig in the back yard.

Soon, he had dug up almost one third of the yard.

After digging, he hoed the soil until it had a nice even texture, then he amended it with fertilizer. Finally, he raked the soil into neat rows with watering channels in between, and planted different vegetables in each row: tomatoes, green beans, squash, cucumbers, radishes and lettuce.

We were skeptical.

After all, don't they sell all these things in the store.

But, within a few weeks, the little plants began rising from the soil. It seemed like a miracle.

By summertime, a full-fledged vegetable garden filled the back part of our yard.

Dad had done it: grown a garden just like his step father, Rosario Petta did in his big side yard.

During the great depression, Rosario had fed his big family with the vegetables he grew in his yard. Now Dad would feed us with the bounty harvested from his plot.

We grew to love the produce harvested from Dad's garden: the fresh green lettuce, the sautéed squash, the tender green beans and crisp cucumbers. Vegetables grown in our own garden did, indeed, taste much better than those from the store.

Dad even cooked up fresh tomato sauce for spaghetti, just like Grandma Petta made.

Growing his own summer garden did more for Dad than just provide food for the table. It relieved the stress from his job, and gave him a connection to the earth. He worked in that garden right up until the day he died.



Now, as I plant my summer vegetables, I think of Dad and the wonderful things he grew. I hope that someday my daughter will grow vegetables in her own garden. She is already a wonderful cook.

Now the thought of my Dad's summer harvest is just another bountiful Janey Way memory.

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wear. I was scared with the thought that I would never get better. I was also concerned of losing my scholarship to the University of Tennessee. After considering injections and surgery (that was the only option according to the surgeon) I decided against it. But, there is more...



A coach of mine convinced me to give his doctor a try. This new doctor took a history, did an exam, and took X-rays of my spine. He then pointed out where my nerve was pinched by my spine and he "adjusted" the vertebrae. The adjustment didn't hurt, it actually felt good. I got instant relief, and shortly thereafter, I could sit, stand, bend, and even play baseball again! Oh, did I mention that this doctor was a chiropractor? This experience made such a remarkable difference in my life that I went to chiropractic school. And that's how it happened!

I adjusted my three children within hours of their birth. They obviously didn't complain of neck or back pain; I adjusted them to keep their spines in alignment so there were no pinched nerves to cause problems or pains... as with all the children I care for in my office.

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"When my daughter (Molly) was born we discovered she had some neck issues (head stuck in rotation). She went from painful cries to big smiles and giggles.... and began straightening her head and enjoying adjustments. There is no other person I would trust more with me or my family's health than Dr. Espinosa. **K. Groves- Sac.**

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My assistants are Kari and Pam. They are really great people. Our office is both friendly and warm and we try our best to make you feel at home. We have a wonderful service, at an exceptional fee. Our office is called **ESPINOSA FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC** located at 3330 Folsom Blvd. in East Sacramento (we are across the street from the 33rd Street Bistro). Our phone number is **(916) 457-8825**. Call Kari or Pam today for an appointment. We can help you. Thank you and God Bless.

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Sacramento Police officers receive MADD awards

Special to East Sacramento News

On April 25, 2012 Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recognized 18 Sacramento police officers and one sergeant for their dedication in education and enforcement to combat impaired driving.

MADD awarded the following officers for their superior effort: Luis Canela, Stephen Chipp, Christopher Clatterbuck, William Conner, Tim Davis, Deo Farrales, Curtis Gates, Ethan Hanson, Amber Hawley, Ken Leonard, Marcel Loriaux, Tim Monelo, Daniel Morlan, Nvard Msryan, Christina O'Shea, Christopher Swift, Andrew Stewart, Keri Wilson and Sergeant Chris Prince.



Photo courtesy, Sacramento Police Department

COMMENDABLE WORK. Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recognized individuals in local law enforcement for their actions to combat impaired driving.

Officers Stephen Chipp and Chris Clatterbuck were additionally recognized for their outstanding performance in "Avoid the 17" campaign.

The "Avoid the 17" campaign is a partnership of 17 law enforcement agencies in

the county combined to fight impaired driving and enforce traffic related laws.

Officer Stephen Chipp received the State regional award for the highest number of impaired driving arrests in 2011.

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Book tour, Kennedy speaking schedule keep active senior busy

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

It should not be difficult to imagine that anyone who has reached the age of 93 years would have plenty of stories to share with others. And for one 93-year-old Arden area resident, his stories draw rooms full of people, often on a weekly basis.

While sitting on a comfortable chair inside his cozy Arden area home last week, Ted Robinson met with the *East Sacramento News* to tell just a few of these stories.

And after three hours of continuous, eventful story telling had passed, he asked, "So, what else would you like to know?"

Ted has fine tuned his story telling, as his monthly calendar is never far from his reach, so that he might arrange for another public speaking engagement or check for any kind of a scheduling conflict.

He said that he averages giving more than 100 speeches per year.

JFK speeches popular

Although Ted has prepared a variety of speeches on different topics from his life experiences, it is almost always the details about his personal World War II adventures with John F. "Jack" Kennedy that people are most eager to hear.

"When I go out to speak, who wants to hear about my grandpa?" asked Ted, who resides with his wife of 66 years, the former Caroline "Lynne" Bryer. "They want to hear about Kennedy, Kennedy, Kennedy. Everything's Kennedy. So, I give the Kennedy talks."

Present at ramming of PT-109

Certainly many people are familiar with the story of Kennedy's heroics while serving in the U. S. Navy in the waters of the Solomon Islands during World War II.

In August 1943, the PT-109, which was under the command of Kennedy, was rammed by a Japanese destroyer and was consequently sliced in two.

As a result of this attack, Navy seamen Andrew Jackson Kirksey and Harold W. Marney were killed.

In reminiscing about his connection to Kennedy, Ted said, "I was the radar officer on the lead boat (PT-159) in the entire attack, the night he was rammed. I was standing next to the commanding officer (Henry "Hank" Brantingham) listening to his orders. There was a chance that they never heard (the orders) because of problems with Army walkie-talkies. We couldn't use our regular radios, because the Japanese were tuned into our frequency."

In continuing his story, Ted explained that it was not until a week later that he found out that there were any survivors of the PT-109.

'Roommate' with JFK

Ted, who was involved in the dangerous mission that rescued Kennedy and 10 other PT-109 survivors, said that he eventually shared a tent with Kennedy in the island of Tulagi.



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong
ADVENTUROUS AND ENGAGING. World War II hero Ted Robinson stands in his Arden area backyard, which resembles a well maintained city park. Among his activities is serving as a Sacramento County parks commissioner.

"I was in the same tent with Jack for about two and a half months and that's when I got to know him very well," Ted said. "I was with him when he got his orders to go home. He had malaria, he could hardly walk. He was in awful shape, but he ripped (the order) up right in front of me."

With the exception of about a week, when another officer was assigned to

the tent, Ted and Kennedy were the only ones to room together in the tent during the two and a half months.

Ted described Kennedy as "very intellectual" and said that his conversations with him mostly revolved around college.

He also noted that Kennedy believed that not everyone should attend college, since people are

See Robinson, page 15

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Robinson: World War II hero discusses his long, eventful life

Continued from page 14

needed for many jobs that do not require a college education.

Furthermore, he said that Kennedy was very interested in learning about the Solomon Islands natives and their customs.

On one of their days together, Kennedy and Ted took individual photographs of each other leaning on Ted's cane.

Although the cane and photographs were donated to the Smithsonian Institution last year, Ted has professional quality copies of all of these items.

Ted said that his firsthand testimonies about the truths of Kennedy's wartime experiences are very important in today's world, since "there is no-

body around (except for himself) who was actually there who is sticking up for (Kennedy)."

From fortune to poverty

Prior to his service in the war, Ted experienced the highs and lows of living in a family who underwent an extreme lifestyle change.

After being born in Seattle, Ted became a resident of Flushing, Queens, New York when he was only a month old.

His father, Wendell, died about seven months later in that era's great influenza pandemic.

During World War I, Wendell was the manager of W. R. Grace & Co.'s steamship lines, which was

the world's second largest steamship line.

Wendell, who Ted referred to as a genius, was later called back to New York at the age of 32 to become the lines' vice president.

Ted said that his family's financial status drastically changed during the Depression.

"We went into total poverty," Ted recalled. "My mother (Lillian) had a Packard car, a chauffeur, a governess, a maid. She had everything going for her. My mother was the hostess at Carnegie Hall and she was entertaining (Enrico) Caruso, Madame (Ernestine) Schumann-Heink (and other famous entertainers). She went from that to walk-

See Robinson, page 22



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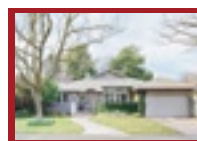


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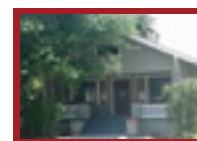
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Susan Gilmore finds future alarming for adult ed in Sacramento

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

Sacramento resident Dr. Susan "Sue" Lytle Gilmore has had a long, successful career, including two decades as the director of adult education for the Sacramento City Unified School District. She is also very concerned about the future of adult education in the Sacramento area, due to her years of experience in this area.

She has a deep background as a Sacramento resident.

A Sacramento childhood

Although Gilmore was born in Philadelphia, it was not long before she became a resident of Sacramento.

With her parents, Ford and Astrid Lytle, she moved to the capital city when she was three years old in 1945. Ford was a legal investigator and Astrid was a homemaker.

Gilmore's favorite activities as a child were swimming, playing tennis and reading.

Attended local schools

Her schooling in Sacramento included attending kindergarten at Tahoe School at 3110 60th Street, first through sixth grades at Sierra School at 2791 24th Street, and seventh through ninth grades at California Junior High School at 2991 Land Park Drive.

Gilmore also attended high school in Land Park, as she

graduated from McClatchy High School in 1960.

During her time at McClatchy, she served as the chair of the service committee and belonged to various clubs, including the Latin and science clubs.

Soon after receiving her high school diploma, Gilmore began attending the College of the Pacific, which had its name changed to the University of the Pacific in 1961.

Despite having initially desired to become a pediatrician, Gilmore changed her career goal following her freshman year at Pacific.

Speech pathology majors

After interviewing all of the school's department chairs,

Gilmore decided to study speech pathology.

Although she earned a bachelor's degree in speech pathology at UOP in 1964, Gilmore had not yet completed her educational studies, as she earned her master's degree in speech pathology at the same university a year later.

Gilmore then attended graduate school at Ohio University, where she earned her doctorate's degree in speech pathology in 1968.

Using her education, Gilmore began teaching speech pathology at Louisiana State University.

Family ties

Although she had settled into her role as a professor at LSU, Gilmore left the security of this position in 1978 to care for her father in Sacramento.

"My mother had passed away (in 1977) and I felt that my father needed some support, and I had separated from my husband, so my son and I moved to Sacramento to take care of my dad," Gilmore said.

Gilmore initially lived with her father in Land Park until moving with him and her son, who was also named Ford, to the home that she had acquired in the Pocket area.

She continued to care for her father in her Pocket area home until he passed away in 1982.

SCUSD beginnings

In regard to her employment years in the capital city, Gilmore explained how she came to be a SCUSD employee.

"I moved back here (to Sacramento) and I didn't have a job, and a former student from LSU was working for (the district) in special ed," Gilmore re-

called. "I got a phone call one day from somebody (in the district's special education department) I didn't know and (that person) said, 'I heard you were in town. Do you do independent evaluations?' (The district soon) hired me to do an independent evaluation on a student and they liked the job I did. So, then I did it on a few more students and the next thing I knew, they said, 'Why don't you apply for this job?'"

After taking advantage of this suggestion, Gilmore was hired by the district to serve as the supervisor of designated instruction and services. The position basically called for the supervision of all of the district's special education speech therapists.

Gilmore, whose first day as a full-time district employee was Aug. 15, 1979, worked in a variety of positions within the district's special education department until 1992.

Adult education

Following her time in the special education department, Gilmore continued working for SCUSD, as this year marks the 20th year that she has served as the director of adult education for the district.

Gilmore said that she is very proud of the progress that has been made during her time as the district's director of adult education.

"I was assigned here because of problems," Gilmore said. "Many parents in the Sac City schools weren't pleased with the program here. And in the time I've been here, we've made major advances. We've been awarded Program of Excellence by

See Gilmore, page 17

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Gilmore: Twenty year career as director of adult ed at SCUSD

Continued from page 16

the California Department of Education, which in adult ed is similar to (the California) Distinguished School (award) for the K-12 system. We received the award in 1998, 2002 and 2005. They have since abandoned the award, but we get to keep the designation. I also supervise parent ed and we've gotten that designation for parent education."

Leader in education

Gilmore has been very active in professional organizations during her time as the district's adult education director.

She has served as the president of both the California Council for Adult Education and the Association of California School Administrators' Adult Education Council, and she spearheaded the sesquicentennial celebration of adult education in California in 2006.

Fond memories

Gilmore said that she has fond memories of an "older adult program" that the district formerly offered.

"Older adults would come in and learn how to use computers, so we had Mac lab and PC lab," Gilmore said. "Two different (Mac lab) students, who went through the internment camp experience, actually wrote books that were published."

One of these authors, Kiyo Sato, was awarded the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing in nonfic-

tion for her book, "Dandelion through the Crack."

Mission to save adult ed

Although Gilmore has accomplished many things during her time working in adult education, she is presently involved in her greatest challenge as the district's adult education director.

"Right now I'm just trying to save adult ed," Gilmore said. "The Legislature, in trying to balance a budget in 2007-08, moved all the adult ed funds into the flexibility, along with all the other categoricals, so that the district can do what they want. Unfortunately, in order for our district to balance the budget for next year, they've had to use the \$12.5 million for K-12. So, the only things that we will have going next year (in adult education) are things that are self-sufficient, self-sustaining."

Schools scheduled to close

As a result of this financial cutback, both the Fremont School for Adults at 2420 N St. and the A. Warren McClaskey Adult Center at 5241 J St. are scheduled for closure.

The Fremont adult school alone would need \$2.5 million to remain open.

These closures would also cause uncertain futures for two historic school buildings, as the Fremont building originally housed the Fremont Primary School and the McClaskey center was home to El Dorado School.

Loss of opportunity for parents

Gilmore explained an important need for having adult education opportunities available in Sacramento.

"I guess where I am most concerned is we're an intercity school district and we have huge achievement gaps at most of our schools," Gilmore said. "A lot of the explanation for that is because of the educational level of the parents, and their inability to be their children's teachers. So, if we take away the parents' opportunities to improve their skills and get job skills, so that they can provide better for their family, the kids are never going to get out of poverty. (Adult education) is a system that's been in existence for 140 years in this school district, where we have been helping the parents of the children. No, it hasn't solved the achievement gap. We still have it, because not all parents take advantage of the service. But the opportunity would be taken away, and I guess that's what hurts the most."

Looking for solutions

Gilmore is also working with the Alta California Regional Center in hopes that it will be able to fund the adults with disabilities program, so that the program can continue to operate.

Various corporations have also been contacted in the search for financial support for the district's adult education.

Furthermore, Gilmore, who has been a Sacramen-



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong
THREATENED SCHOOL. Dr. Susan "Sue" Lytle Gilmore stands in front of the A. Warren McClaskey Adult Center at 5241 J St. Due to cuts in education funding, the school is one of two Sacramento adult education schools that are scheduled for closure.

to Kings season ticket holder since 1988, said that she contacted the National Basketball Association in hopes that the city's adult education programs could be included in the NBA's community assistance program.

Although Gilmore said that she is worried about the future of other adult education programs, she said that the parent education program is scheduled to continue next year. However, that program's fees have nearly doubled.

Fundraisers play an important part of earning funds for adult education in Sacramento.

One of these fundraisers will be an e-waste collection day, which will be held at the McClaskey center on Saturday, June 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Funding decreases

Unfortunately for Gilmore, the current state of adult education in Sacramento leaves her much less time to celebrate her personal achievements as an adult education director.

"(The Legislature says it is) funding education, but in the past few years, they've cut it by \$18 billion in real money," Gilmore said. "Districts can't survive. I guess we need this high speed rail between the north and south. That would be great, but maybe this isn't the time to be doing it. Maybe the money that's going into that should be going into education. Maybe we shouldn't be the 47th ranked state for the funding of public education. When I was a student here, we were number one."

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Capitol Mall Farmer's Market

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Capitol Mall Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, May-Sept. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 6th St. & Capitol Mall, Sac. www.california-grown.com

Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 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

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 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

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 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. Danae Horn (503) 319-4247

Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thurs. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freepoint Blvd., Sac. Kelly Byam (916) 684-6854.

Sacramento Downtown Plaza

Farmer's Market
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 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

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 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

May 4, 11, 18, 25: 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

Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown

May 4, 11, 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

May 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

May 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

Fire Station 30 open house

May 5: Come visit Fire Station 30 at 1901 Club Center Dr., Sac. Free. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Presentations at 3 p.m. (916) 808-1347

Food Addicts Anonymous

May 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.

Land Park Volunteer Corps

May 5: Got work gloves and a "let's get down to business" attitude? Then the Land Park Volunteer Corps is for you! Come join members of the community as we maintain, improve and beautify lovely William Land Park. First Saturday of every month, March - Nov. Free. 8 a.m. meet behind Fairytale Town, 8:25 a.m.-11 a.m., work on projects as assigned. Light breakfast, lunch provided by local businesses. (916) 718-3030 ckpins-act@aol.com

Pancake Breakfast

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POWERtalk International

May 5: Want to improve your public speaking and presentation skills? POWERtalk International, a nonprofit public speaking organization, provides coaching in leadership skills, sales presentation, interviewing, confidence building and more. Meets First Tuesdays of the month 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and First Saturdays of the month 12 noon-3 p.m. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freepoint Blvd., Sac. Liz Richardson (916) 208-9163, erichardson1202@yahoo.com www.powertalkinternational.com

Carmichael Farmer's Market

May 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.bemoneysmartusa.org

Co-Dependents Anonymous

May 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

May 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

Families Anonymous

May 6, 13, 20, 27: Meet with other parents who are dealing with a daughter or son who is experiencing mental, emotional or addition problems. Meets every Sunday without fail. 3 p.m. Del Norte Swimming and Tennis Club, 3040 Beccera Way, Sac. Jane (916) 402-2465

State Parking Lot Farmer's Market

May 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

Sunday Support for the Widowed

May 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

May 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

May 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

May 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

Tai Chi & Chi Keung

May 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

May 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

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Abbey: Local resident to present stained glass art show May 12

Continued from page 5

as he reverted back to his San Francisco days of making art with his hands, first at his East Sacramento residence at 1745 42nd St.

He later noticed a handwritten "for rent" sign at the former site of a Chinese laundry business at 1726 L St., next to Earl's Barber Shop.

With his dream of partially re-creating his years in San Francisco, with two friends, Bob Lipelt and Rick Ball, Abbey began renting the space in 1970 for \$100 per month from Al Nielsen of the Al Nielsen (tire) Co. at 1615 L St.

The Beginning

The trio transformed the old laundry spot into The Beginning, a business, which featured such items as handmade sand candles, small wood bric-à-brac, brass sculptures and jewelry.

It was at The Beginning where Abbey began making artistic stained glass pieces.

In remembering the business with fondness, Abbey said, "There was this energy about the shop that was overwhelming and appealing to everyone who came in. And so, it didn't take long for the 'straight' (non-hippie) people to get brave enough to come in the door and start buying."

Abbey noted that adding to the uniqueness of the times was his bed.

"My one claim to fame that I had at the shop was that I slept in a coffin in the back of the shop," Abbey said.

As the well-known saying goes, "nothing lasts forever," and The Beginning came to an end in about 1992.

Custom Glassworks

But this end to The Beginning has led Abbey to his current business, Custom Glassworks by Mickey Abbey.

When asked to describe his business, Abbey said, "I do site specific custom glasswork. I do strictly signed consignment, one-of-a-kind stained glass designs and fabrications."

Glass show

Although Abbey has never presented a stained glass show in Sacramento, he was inspired to do so during one of his recent trips to Java City.

Abbey was able to interest Java City's management in having about 17 of his stained glass art pieces on display on Saturday, May 12.

In describing the show, Abbey said, "If (people) come out to see the show, they're going to see a whole show of original stained glass windows. There won't be a humming bird or butterfly or a rising sunset in the whole bunch. And they're going to hear some good (live) music (by the post-modern swing band, The Undulations) and enjoy the company of some great friends, most of them very seasoned Sacramento people who were around, and thank goodness are still around, since The Beginning."

And while smiling and motioning toward a tall, stained glass image featuring the fictional comic super-heroine Wonder Woman, Abbey said, "Everything will be for sale, except for the gal who I am married to! Everything else will have a price on it."

For additional information regarding Abbey's custom stained glassworks and his upcoming show, call (916) 955-7026 or visit www.stainedglassbymickey.com.



East Sacramento News photo, Lance Armstrong
LOCAL ARTIST Mickey Abbey will hold a stained glass art show at Java City at 1800 Capitol Ave. on Saturday, May 12 from 4 to 9 p.m.



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Robinson: Best known for rescuing the crew of PT-109

Continued from page 15

ing in the snow door to door, trying to sell cheap greeting cards."

Family sacrificed

Ted said that his life started to change for the better when he began attending Duke University in 1936.

"Back then, it was under \$1,000 (per year) for everything (to attend Duke)," Ted recalled. "I went there because it was cheap and we

were poor. My family had to auction off their furniture to send me to Duke. My grandpa said to me, 'Son, look at my hands.' His hands were beat to a pulp. He said, 'All my life I worked with my hands for people who worked with their brains. You came out number two in Flushing High School with 4,500 students. You're going to college.' I said, 'Grandpa, how am I going to go to college? We have no mon-

ey.' And he said, 'You watch.' And that's how I got to college."

Ted eventually served as president of the Northern California Duke Alumni Association in the early 1950s.

Public speaker

Ted graduated from Duke in 1940 and after the war he began his long career with the Pacific Bell telephone company.

It was during that time that he gained much experience as a speaker, as he was the phone company's head speaker for the entire West Coast.

Ted's present speaking engagements promote his book, "Water in My Veins: The Pauper Who Helped Save a President."

The book's title is quite appropriate considering Ted's lifelong connection to water, which includes his father's work with the steamship lines, his time in the Navy and his position as a Sacramento County parks commissioner in charge of the American River Parkway.

His water roots in America date back to his relative, James Tobey, who landed



Photo courtesy, Ted Robinson

PT-109 RESCUER. Ted Robinson is best known for helping rescue survivors of the PT-109 in August 1943.

in the New World in about 1640.

Active speaking schedule

Ted tours with his book throughout the nation, speaking at such places as the Smithsonian, the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis and Duke University.

Adventurous as ever

Toward the end of his interview with this publication, Ted explained that despite his age, he is far from slowing down.

"I was always an adventurous kid and I still am," Ted

said. "People think I'm crazy the way I live at 93. I'm still playing tournament singles tennis. I gave up skiing when my ski partner had to give it up, because he was getting old, and he's 11 years younger than I am."

And while motioning to a ladder in his back yard, which could be seen through his living room window, Ted said, "See that ladder? Well, I'm about to climb up it and saw off that top limb up there. And at 93, you're not supposed to be doing stuff like that. But that's nothing to me."

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Faces and places

Annual 'Egg Drop' at St. Francis of Assisi Elementary

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

Students in grades three through eight at St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School participated in the school's much-anticipated "Great St. Francis Egg Drop" on April 27.

Students placed raw eggs into special containers they designed themselves. Then, these contraptions were hurled from the school's third floor library window to a target below. All with adult supervision, of course.

The goal was to learn which designs did the best job to keep the eggs from breaking. Some objects fell straight down. Others wafted gently through space.

Students whose eggs did not break earned a double "free dress" pass from wearing their school uniforms.



THE VALLEY HEALTH AND MEDICAL



The Valley Health & Medical is an insert in FOUR Valley Community Newspapers:
 Arden-Carmichael News, East Sacramento News,
 The Land Park News, and The Pocket News.

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NATHAN SHERMAN 969-7379



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AN OASIS IN THE CITY

Cute well cared for bungalow has an updated kitchen with a large nook overlooking the botanical garden. 2 spacious bedrooms with wood floors and 2 extra upstairs rooms with attic storage make this a great value. Best of all - newly built 2 story remote office featuring vaulted ceilings, skylights, full bath and mini kitchen area. See: visualtour.com/shownp.asp?t=2762669 \$349,900

DAVID KIRRENE 531-7495



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WHAT A CHARMER!

Fantastic 2 bedroom Mckinley Park home with a ton of charm. This turn-key home is ready for you, includes hardwood floors, vintage living room fireplace, newer window, central heat and air conditioning; and a remodeled kitchen and bathroom. Great East Sacramento location See: 3272cstreet.ePropTour.com \$307,500

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PENDING

FABULOUS EAST SAC

Fun urban living in this fabulous home! 2 bedroom 2 bath featuring modern conveniences and charm; and a "wow factor" remodeled kitchen. A fun open design with formal living or dining room with cozy fireplace; and a bonus family room or convert to a 3rd bedroom. Enjoy barbecuing in the tropical landscaped backyard. See: 151255thstreet.ePropTour.com \$315,000

DAVID KIRRENE 531-7495



FANTASTIC EAST SACRAMENTO

2 bedroom 1 bath East Sacramento home that includes a 1 bedroom guest quarters. Completely remodeled home with virtually two separate living spaces on one lot. Gourmet kitchens and remodeled bathrooms are just part of this very unique property. The main home has all the old world charm with the modern amenities of today. See: 3325nstreet.ePropTour.com \$399,000

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PENDING

CUTE EAST SACRAMENTO

Doll House Alert! This is the One!! 2 bedroom home, cute as a button with deep backyard. Gleaming hardwood, central heat and air conditioning plus a cozy fireplace. Convenient location is close to shops, restaurants and downtown. A walkable location and a regular sale too! \$293,500

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



RIVER PARK VALUE

Fantastic 2 bedroom 1 bath River Park remodel with a very large lot. This spacious floor plan includes hardwood floors, remodeled gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets and a completely remodeled bathroom, central heat & air - Large patio that is great for entertaining. Simply a must see! See: 632DittmarWay.IsNowForSale.com \$250,000

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PENDING

CLASSIC BRICK

3Bd 2Bd Mediterranean brick beauty on one of East Sacramento's most wonderful streets. Large formal rooms with beautiful arched leaded windows. Large updated kitchen with spacious eating and family room. Fabulous master suite with a cozy balcony, sitting room and remodeled bathrooms! See: 84242ndstreet.ePropTour.com \$625,000

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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. A very wide stair case leads to three bedrooms upstairs. See www.172141ststreet.ePropTour.com \$609,000

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