

EAST SACRAMENTO NEWS

October 18, 2012

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f: (916) 429-9906

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Editor..... Monica Stark
Art Director..... John Ochoa
Graphic Designer..... Serene Lusano
Sales Manager..... Patty Colmer
Advertising Executives:
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Adopt-a-Child now underway at Sunburst Projects

Special to Valley Community News

The holiday season is just around the corner and Sunburst Projects is busy preparing for their annual "Adopt-a-Child Project" for the holidays, which serves hundreds of children living with AIDS/HIV each holiday season.

In this time of reduced budgets and services, Sunburst Projects is working on trying to provide the families they serve with basic needs for the holidays (toilet paper, diapers, food, laundry, soap, etc.) in addition to providing the children a holiday gift.

It's simple to participate. When you adopt a child or children, you will receive the first names, ages and knowledge of any special wishes. There will be a gift list with age appropriate suggestions available upon request. Wrap gifts into a large plastic trash bag labeled with the child's name and number. Arrange to drop off gifts no later than Dec. 13.

Gift certificates to a local grocery store for the family are always welcome. If you prefer, a cash donation can be made to Sunburst Projects and one of the elves will do the shopping for you. This is especially helpful in filling in basic needs and making sure unadopted kids get gifts for the holidays. Donations do not need to be large; every dollar counts.

If you have any questions, or would like to participate, call Jennifer at 440-0889 or email Jennifer@sunburstprojects.org.

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Photo by Adam Stark

Cecily Hastings and Lisa Schmidt, cofounders of the Friends of East Sacramento, want to make weddings the primary source of income for the Clunie Center.

New developments underway in McKinley Park neighborhood

By **JOHN COOPER**
 East Sacramento News writer
john@valcomnews.com

From renovating the Clunie Center, to rebuilding the playground, beautifying the rose garden and expanding the Greek Orthodox Church, McKinley will be a neighborhood "designed by the community" and presented by the community," in the words of Councilman Steve Cohn at a recent McKinley East Sacramento Neighborhood Association meeting.

Councilman Cohn made the above statement in regards to the efforts to rebuild McKinley Playground, in which he stated that more than \$600,000 has been approved for reconstruction, and assured the community that all funds were gathered either from insurance claims or excess city money.

Cohn said the new playground will look like the old one, however, several changes will be made. There is intent to use a synthetic wood material as opposed to the real thing, and foam floors will likely replace the woodchips currently in use.

Across the park, the rose garden and Clunie Center will also see vast improvements.

Cecily Hastings and Lisa Schmidt, cofounders of the Friends of East Sacramento, are spearheading efforts to gather volunteers for maintenance of the gardens, namely general upkeep or the removal of dead flowers. So far, funds have been raised for the first year of upkeep, but \$30,000 is still needed to complete the project.

Hastings and Schmidt want to make weddings the primary source of income for the Center, so they are working on a marketing package for local restaurants before advertising to the community. Their plan is to have East Sac restaurants cater weddings.

McKinley Park itself will not be the only part of the McKinley neighborhood to be renovated. The Greek Orthodox Church and Sutter Memorial have remodel plans in the works.

Architect Dan Eriksson and building chairman George Koufasimis explained plans for the renovation and expansion of the Greek Orthodox Church, located at the corner of Alhambra and F Street. The expansions will include a large hall, an education center, and a new courtyard.

The project will include demolishing most of the structures on the block (but not the existing church) and merging the entire block except for the physical therapists' office on the corner of Alhambra Boulevard and G Street. According to the church's master plan, the current church building would ultimately be demolished and replaced with a new one. But that's a long ways off, maybe a decade or so. The new hall will house a variety of events, as well as adapting and building on existing architecture.

Representatives of StoneBridge Properties LLC were also at the meeting to announce upcoming renovations to Sutter Memorial Hospital, which will help the building blend in with the surrounding neighborhood.

Preparing for the 2012-2013 Flu Season

By **MICHAEL SIEGEL, M.D.**
 Special to Valley Community News

Though summer vacation and barbecues aren't far behind us, as a physician for Molina Healthcare, I remind my patients that it is never too early to get vaccinated for the upcoming flu season. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that the public gets vaccinated as soon as the new vaccine is offered since the antibodies take about two weeks to provide the full measure of protection. Even if you were vaccinated in years past you should still get vaccinated because every year the vaccine is not only different, but also modified to protect against the flu strains most likely to be seen the coming season.

When does flu season start? Flu season can begin as early as October, and typically lasts through May, peaking in January and February. Although the flu usually doesn't hit until the fall, the CDC and the World Health Organization (WHO) – two organizations that determine the contents of the influenza vaccine to be developed each year – have been looking toward the next flu season for a while. This is because the vaccine manufacturing process begins six to nine months ahead of time to insure enough supply on hand.

Who should get vaccinated? The CDC recommends that anyone over six months of age gets vaccinated, especially those at high risk for complications. This includes people with chronic medical conditions like asthma, diabetes and chronic lung disease, pregnant women, children between six and 23 months of age, anyone 65 or older and those who live with or care for those listed as high risk.

Who shouldn't get the vaccine? People with severe allergies, especially those with an allergy to eggs, should check with their doctors. Anyone who has had a severe

See Flu, page 7

Are higher federal and California state taxes a concern?



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Indigents to be remembered

at East Lawn Memorial Park, Oct. 20

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

In recognition of the indigents who died in Sacramento County during the past 160-plus years, an event sponsored by the Sacramento County Cemetery Advisory Commission, in conjunction with East Lawn Memorial Park, will be held at 4300 Folsom Blvd. this Saturday, Oct. 20 at 10 a.m.

According to the Webster's New World Dictionary of American English, the word, "indigent," is defined as "in poverty; poor, needy; destitute; (or) lacking; destitute (of)."

This dedication is the first of three annual events during October, which was designated as Cemetery Appreciation Month through the Sacramento

County Board of Supervisors on the request of the county cemetery commission.

All three events will focus on remembering these aforementioned indigents, who at times have been referred to as "county burials."

In speaking about this Saturday's event, Dr. Bob LaPerriere, co-chair of the commission, said, "We should not stereotype an indigent. A common perception is that they are a homeless or street person. However, they could be someone affected by the Great Depression and were not able to afford the cost of a burial, or some may be 'lost souls' who left home and were separated from their families and had no one to attend to their final disposition. This situation was probably common during the Gold Rush."

LaPerriere, who will give a speech at the Oct. 20 event, related an example of a wealthy person who was buried as an indigent. "One of the 'indigents' buried in the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery discovered one of the richest silver mines in Nevada, but was buried as an indigent when his family was not available to pay for his interment," LaPerriere said.



Gravediggers are shown at the old Sacramento County Hospital in this c. 1900 photograph. Among the burials in the county's history have been those that were classified as "county burials" or indigent burials. Photo courtesy of the Harris Slide Collection

These October events are a continuation of the commission's efforts, which began in 2003 with the creation and dedication of five memorials to honor more than 15,000 indigents who have no individual grave markers.

The Oct. 20 event will focus on an area at East Lawn Memorial Park that was provided to the county at minimal cost for interment of indigents from 1932 during the Depression to 1955. The total number of interments in that section is 703.

Alan Fisher, president of East Lawn Memorial Parks and Mortuaries, said, "We're of the opinion that every individual deserves a respectable, permanent memorial, a resting place that is protected, that is cared for, and we think that regardless of circumstances in one's life, we want to honor those who have gone before us and we've kind of established East Lawn as a place where that can occur."

And in sharing his feelings about the indigents burial area at East Lawn, Craig Peterson, manager of East

Lawn Memorial Park, said, "East Lawn wants to provide a respectable setting, so we've placed sod in that (indigents) area, we've cleaned the area and now we're just happy to have the public come and see where these folks who are not forgotten, where their resting place is being cared for and respected, as well."

Among the people who have a direct connection to an indigent burial in the capital city is Sacramento resident Nola Williams.

In an exclusive interview for this article, Nola shared a personal story regarding one of her deceased family members.

"About 16 years ago, I started work on a family tree," Nola said. "I knew nothing about my grandfather (who was known as Ray Williams, although that was not his given birth name), my father's father, when I started this project, as I was born in the later part of 1964 and my grandfather (who was born in 1888) died in the early part of 1964 and no one discussed my grandfather."

"When I learned that my grandfather was buried as an indigent and that he had no headstone, I started a quest to find out where, specifically, he was buried. I was determined to purchase a headstone for my grandfather to honor him as someone who was loved and who was important, and this was the only way that I knew to honor him."

Nola said that her work to discover the exact loca-

tion of her grandfather was not a simple task.

Although she knew that her grandfather had been buried in the old Bellview Cemetery on Elder Creek Road, she said that she had a difficult time discovering his plot number, as the cemetery was in poor condition and she could not initially find records for the cemetery.

"I took a week off work at the time in order to visit various county offices in my search to find my grandfather's plot number in the cemetery, as well as a corresponding plot map," Nola said. "At the time, no one could help me with this information. I was told that the cemetery had been bought and sold a few times and that the current owners had filed bankruptcy and apparently took all of the cemetery records."

"Earlier this year, when visiting (the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery) to locate the burial location of my great-grandfather, my aunt and I visited the information office for information regarding my great-grandfather. During this visit, I inquired about any possible Bellview Cemetery records, since this is where my grandfather is buried."

"To my utter amazement, one of the ladies in the cemetery office was able to produce a listing, which gave my grandfather's plot number."

Unfortunately, Nola still did not have a map of the

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East Lawn: Honoring 'lost souls' of Sacramento county

Continued from page 6

burial locations of the Bellview Cemetery. Consequently, she was still unable to locate the precise burial site of her grandfather.

Nola said that her mission to find her grandfather's burial plot was eventually aided by LaPerriere, who provided her with a map of the cemetery's plots.

"Using (the map and) existing headstones in this area, and with the assistance of Bob (LaPerriere), my father and my brother, we pieced together the 'grids,' if you will, of the layout of the indigent area of the cemetery, and we were able to determine where my grandfather is buried," Nola said. "The next critical piece was the headstone. Once that was ordered and arrived, it was time to, in my opinion, put my grandfather to rest properly. Permission was obtained from the owners of the cemetery to have a headstone placed, a local tombstone company laid the headstone I had made, and Matt Smith, a pastor with (The Table at Central) United Methodist Church (in Sacramento), provided a blessing of my grandfather's grave with myself and several family members in attendance (on Aug. 8, 2012). While I can't change (the) fact that

my grandfather was buried (with remains of a person below him and remains of another person on top of him) or that he was buried without proper recognition, I finally feel that my grandfather is at peace and laid to rest properly."

Nola expressed much gratitude for the volunteer at the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery, LaPerriere and Matt Smith of the United Methodist Church for their assistance in her efforts.

When asked about any other plans that the commission might have in regard to deceased indigents, LaPerriere said, "We are hoping to eventually have listings on the commission's Web site of locations where indigents have been buried and also a listing of their names when available."

LaPerriere added that it is very gratifying for himself and the commission to honor the indigents or "lost souls" of Sacramento County.

"I've been involved with several families, helping them to locate the final resting place of a relative who was buried as an indigent," LaPerriere said. "I was always impressed by the impact and meaning the discovery of the location of



Photo courtesy of East Lawn Memorial Park

East Lawn Memorial Park will be the site of this Saturday's Cemetery Appreciation Month event.

their relative meant to them. Many (local indigents) were fathers or mothers, brothers or sisters and may still have relatives looking for them. These lost souls often were alone at death — a time when we all hope for the support of our loved ones. Please join us on Oct. 20 in paying respect to Sacramentans who have been forgotten for decades."

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Sacramento museums fall for Halloween and harvest fun

Special to Valley Community News

In addition to its fascinating Gold Rush past, the Sacramento area is rich with an amazing array of state-of-the-art museums and historic sites that offer visitors the chance to explore California's fine art, history, science, and wildlife treasures all year long. In October, many of the 30 members of Sacramento Association of Museums are offering fun Halloween and harvest-related events and activities sure to get guests in a festive spirit, including:

Spookomotive Train Rides at the Railroad Museum

Oct. 20, 21, 27 and 28: All aboard for some Halloween fun Old Sacramento style! The California State Railroad Museum is

proud to offer diesel-powered "Spookomotive" train rides aboard a whimsically decorated train crawling with spiders, cobwebs and cornstalks while staffed with an entertaining "skeleton crew." For more, visit www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org.

Wee Halloween at the Crocker Art Museum

Oct. 31: Celebrate the "wee" in Halloween with this fright-free alternative to trick-or-treating. Families will start by decorating treat bags before being guided in small groups through the galleries. Along the way, they will encounter gentle surprises in the form of music, poetry, and dance, and receive a non-candy treat at the end of each performance. The delightful Halloween stroll will

end with a delicious celebration. For more, go to www.crockerartmuseum.org.

Safe and Super Halloween: A Grimm Halloween at Fairytale Town

Oct. 26, 27 and 28: Trick-or-treat at 17 candy stations as you wander through the Grimm Brothers' classic fairytales! Visit Sleeping Beauty's castle, venture through Little Red Riding Hood's forest, and sneak a peek at the Evil Queen's Lair. Enjoy three nights of family fun with hands-on activities, a costume parade and performances of "Goldilocks and the Three Sharks" by Puppet Art Theater Company (additional cost). For more, go to www.fairytaletown.org.

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East Sac schools test scores see surge in points

Special to the East Sacramento News

Overall, Sacramento City Unified Schools moved up eight points on the state's Academic Performance Index to 768. API numbers reflect student scores on various standardized tests taken in the spring of 2012. The API is a numeric index that ranges from a low to a high of 1,000. The state API target for all districts and schools is 800.

"I'm proud of all of our hard working students, teachers, principals, staff, parents and community partners and gratified that reforms aimed at turning around struggling schools are successful," said Superintendent Jonathan Raymond. "Despite state budget cuts, we are moving forward

and improving teaching and learning in our schools."

SCUSD's eight middle schools had a collective increase of 199 API points. The biggest increases were in English Language Arts scores, a rise credited to the district's push to implement Common Core Standards in that subject. More than half - 55.3 percent - of SCUSD middle school students scored in the "proficient" and "advanced" ranges, an increase of 5.6 percent over 2011.

East Sacramento area schools

David Lubin - 874, up 24 points
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 Kit Carson - 660, up 19 points
 Sutter - 865, down 19 points



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St. Francis High School holds record breaking food drive

Special to East Sacramento News

Sacramento Emergency Foodlink and the Elk Grove Food Bank got a big boost from the St. Francis High School student body, which collected 131,216 cans and packages of non-perishable food items, breaking last year's food drive record by 30,000 items.

Each fall St. Francis High School's Homecoming festivities involve numerous activities designed to build class spirit and unity, from pseudo-sports competitions to creating elaborate, theme-based decorations, skits, dances, songs and cheers. The annual Food Drive is part of the competition among the classes and serves as an amazing display of the power of young women to optimize their resources and serve their community.

Family connections in the food industry, grocery store requests and going door to door in their neighborhoods helped St. Francis students gather the extraordinary quantity of food, which included 1,008 ounces of baby formula, 17,328 cans of food from Raley's, 9,952 cans of fruits and vegetables, and 77,000 boxes of Mac and Cheese.

The main beneficiary of the food drive, Sacramento Emergency Foodlink, serves over 150 local agencies and food closets throughout the Sacramento community. Thirty percent of the food collected will be donated directly to the Elk Grove Food Bank.

St. Francis High School students also raised money through recycling, bake sales and a portion of sales from Leatherby's Family Creamery to raise \$2,441 for Catholic Charities of Sacramento, Inc., an agency that provides a wide variety of social services to people and families in need throughout the 20 counties of the Diocese of Sacramento.

JANEY WAY MEMORIES

The Pit had a Life Cycle of its Own



By MARTIN RELLES
East Sacramento News writer
martinrelles@yahoo.com

When I first moved to Janey Way in 1952, the pit, the vacated sand and gravel site behind our house on the west side of Janey Way, seemed like just a big hole in the ground. We all went down into that hole to play regularly.

Eventually though, two prominent geographical features evolved in the pit:



1. Mt. Everest, a big mound on the western side of the site.
 2. A ravine running from south to north behind Mt. Everest.
- I remember standing atop Mt. Everest to look out over the entire area like some great general commanding a battle. It dominated the skyline of the whole area. We dug out a stairway from the top of Mt. Everest to the bottom of the pit.

While we used Mt. Everest as a lookout for Old Man Charlie, the watchman of the pit, we played most often down in the ravine behind the great mound. Trucks came into the pit routinely to off-load dirt, broken pieces of concrete and scrap lumber. We used those materials to build forts and construct ramps for off-rode bicycle races. Amazingly, none of us suffered any serious injuries there.

Over time, the pit took on a life cycle of its own. In the winter, pools formed in the ravine and after time, we saw small black critters swimming around in those pools. We thought they were fish at first, but a closer glance revealed they were pollywogs. We trapped them in mayonnaise jars, but they died quickly in captivity, so we decided to leave them alone.

Eventually, they turned into frogs, which hopped out of the pit and into the back yards on the west and south of the pit. My father appreciated the fact that those frogs feasted on the bugs, which infested his garden. I remember sleeping out on hot summer nights and hearing the cacophony of sound from the frogs croaking and the crickets chirping.

I don't know which made more noise, the sounds of those critters or the sounds we made chattering late into the night.

Sadly, by 1965, the pit had all but disappeared. The trucks had finally filled the big hole, and the Diocese of Sacramento constructed St. Francis High School on the east side of the site, while East Sacramento Little League built a baseball field on the west side near our house. I remember watching the younger Janey Way kids -- Tom Hart, Denis Tommasetti and John Ducray -- play senior league baseball games on that field.

These days, the pit exists only in our imaginations. St. Francis High School recently expanded to fill the area where the Little League diamond once stood. A girls' softball field now stands on the south side of the site where the pit was.

When I drive down M Street on the south side of the school, I try to remember what the pit must have looked like back then, but now it's just a fleeting image in the Janey Way memories of my mind.



Open house at fire station No. 8

Photos by Michelle Basurto, program specialist for the Sacramento Fire Department

The Sacramento Fire Department hosted a fire station open house promoting the "Have Two Ways Out!" program on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Fire Station 8, located at 5990 H Street. Copies of home escape planning grids were available for those who attended. A limited number of complimentary smoke and carbon monoxide detectors were raffled off as door prizes.

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BOO! It's Halloween Time!

By **CORRIE PELC**
Valley Community News writer
corrie@valcomnews.com

Wondering where to pick a great pumpkin or what's going on for Halloween? We've got you covered with some great ideas!

Get Pickin'!

Whether you're looking for the perfect pumpkin for jack-o-lantern carving, or hoping to catch a glimpse of Charlie Brown's Great Pumpkin, the good news is there's lots of options close to home to take

the family and get in the Halloween spirit!

For instance, little ones can get out and pick their own pumpkin at the pumpkin patch at Fair Oaks Boulevard Nursery on the weekends until October 28 from 11am-3pm. According to Owner Debbie Woodruff there's also face painting, a straw bale maze, haunted house, and photo opportunities. They've also invited local food trucks to add to the experience.

"It's just us having fun in the neighborhood," Woodruff says. "We're just bringing the urban feel for a pumpkin fall gathering here."

Over in West Sacramento, Dave's Pumpkin Patch offers five acres of pick-your-own pumpkins, as well as the Cornival, which features a number of attractions from farm animals to the Pumpkin Princess Castle to the huge Jumping Pillow, says Manager Andee Solis. The "We've been here for over 25 years and each year we just get bigger and better, so we're pretty excited - this year is going to be one of our biggest yet," Solis adds.

And in South Sacramento, visitors to Roemer Pumpkin Patch get to take a hayride to its eight acre pick-your-own pumpkin patch. Owner Dan Roemer says the patch features a variety of pumpkin sizes, with the largest weighing in 100 pounds. The patch also features photo opportunities, a picnic area, and a five acre corn maze.

"It's a clean, safe, wholesome environment when they come out here," Roemer adds. "Just come out, enjoy yourself, pick a pumpkin and spend a couple of hours in a stress-free environment."

Here's a look at just a few of the pumpkin patches in the Sacramento region. *Editor's note: As hours and details may have changed after press time, please make sure to call and confirm the following information before visiting. Please note most pumpkin patches close for the season on or before October 31.*

Bastiano Farms Goblin Gardens Pumpkin Patch
3845 El Centro Road, Sacramento
916-925-2496
bastiaofarmsgoblingardens.com
Monday-Sunday, 10am-7pm

Dave's Pumpkin Patch
3010 Burrows Ave., West Sacramento
916-849-9450
www.vierrafarms.com
Sunday-Thursday, 10am-dusk; Friday-Saturday, 10am-9pm (Haunted Maze open until midnight)

Fair Oaks Boulevard Nursery
4681 Fair Oaks Blvd., Sacramento
916-483-1830
fairoaksblvdnursery.com
Weekends in October from 11am-3pm

Keema's Pumpkin Farm
6532 Point Pleasant Road, Elk Grove
916-684-2334
Tuesday-Sunday, 11am-sundown

Roemer Pumpkin Patch
6851 Hedge Ave., Sacramento
916-381-4331
www.roemerpumpkinpatch.com
Tuesday-Friday, 2-5pm; Saturday-Sunday, 9am-5pm

Uncle Ray's Pumpkin Patch
19376 Old River Road, West Sacramento
916-997-8573
www.uncle-rays-pumpkin-patch.com
Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm; Saturday-Sunday, 10am-6pm

Dia De Los Muertos/ "Souls of the City"
In honor of "Day of the Dead" activities celebrated each year in Mexico and in major cities around the world, Sol Collective and the Historic Old Sacramento Foundation have teamed up to present a series of Dia De Los Muertos/"Souls of the City" events and activities in Old Sacramento that take place throughout October and culminate on November 2-3. A schedule of the special workshops-free with Muse-

See Halloween, page 15

Halloween: Local pumpkin patches and events

Continued from page 14

um admission--and activities is as follows:

- Papel Picado & Paper Flowers Workshop - 10/6 at Sacramento History Museum (11am-2pm)
- Calavera Masks & Pinatas Workshop - 10/13 at Sacramento History Museum (11am-2pm)
- Decorate Frames & Candles Workshop - 10/20 at Sacramento History Museum (11am-2pm)
- Honoring Our Past Event* - 10/25 at Sacramento History Museum (6-8pm)
- "Souls of the City" Pop Up at Panteon De Sacramento to Event - 10/27 at La Raza Galeria Posada (11am-11pm)

Then on Friday, November 2, from 8pm to midnight, the community is invited to a free Traditional Altar & Velacion Ceremony and large-scale Altar Installation at Waterfront Park in Old Sacramento. And on Saturday, November 3, a final evening of free Dia De Los Muertos or "Souls of the City" celebratory activities will take place throughout the Old Sacramento beginning at 4pm that include family-friendly fun such as face painting, a pop-up photo booth and traditional music, with festivities concluding at 6pm with a traditional Proces-

sion and not-to-be-missed Azteca Dance performances.

For more information visit www.historicoldsac.org or www.solcollective.org.

Scarecrow Festival & Parade
Denio's Farmers Market and Swap Meet in Roseville is inviting the entire community to join in the first "Denio's Scarecrow Festival & Parade" on Saturday, October 20 from 10am-3pm. The day will feature a variety of activities for the entire family including pumpkin and treat bag decorating, kids carnival area, handmade treats, craft vendors, costume parade, live scarecrow auction and Trick or Treating within the scarecrow area.

Participants are invited to enter the scarecrow contest to help neighborhood schools and win fantastic prizes. All scarecrows will be available for viewing in the Denio's Scarecrow Arena throughout the event and will be judged by popular vote from festival visitors. Cash awards will be handed out to the top two scarecrows and a third will receive a special Denio's Choice Award. The costume parade will also have winners for the most creative and fun costumes.

An entry form and additional information about the Scarecrow Festival & Parade can be found at DeniosMarket.com.



Photos by Bill Condray

Children participate in pumpkin painting at the Carmichael Farmers' Market.

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Faces and Places:
Sacred Heart
Fall Festival

Photos by Stephen Crowley
 Stephen@valcomnews.com

On Saturday Oct. 6 from 11 a.m. to dusk, Sacred Heart held its 71st annual fall festival, complete with live music, bingo, a craft fair, farmers market booth, and more. They had Dinger from the River Cats Baseball team visit them. There was a lip sync and kick off by the SHPS cheerleaders, a hula hoop contest, and a night full of dancing with music by cover band "Zaragoza".



Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church has plan to expand

Special to the East Sacramento News

A project in phases

Big plans are underway for The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, located at the corner of Alhambra and F Street. New facilities, such as a courtyard, education and administration buildings, will replace their aging counterparts. New parking areas will increase parking capacity and a new access drive will improve circulation, on and off site.

The project will be phased. Phasing depends upon the success of fundraising. It is envisioned that the Kendron can be initially developed, along with the Kardia and a portion of the parking lot. Under this scenario, the Parish will continue to operate out of the existing Kendron until the new Kendron completed and ready for occupancy. The next phase of the Master Plan would include adding the Education/Administration Building, its adjacent outside play area, the remaining parking lot, the access drive and balance of the Kardia enhancements.

After more than 20 years of considering various options to build new facilities at other locations, the parish has committed to renew and invest for the future at its present campus.

A Proud Foundation

To the church community, this renewal represents a like for like replacement of facilities centered on a new campus heart – the Kardia.

For more than 90 years, Greek Orthodox Christians have been served culturally and spiritually at facilities located at 600 Alhambra, just across from McKinley Park in East Sacramento. Initially the existing Church was constructed in 1952 by a proud group of energetic and patriotic Greek Americans eager to lay the foundation their children's future and the generations that would follow. As time went on, the community grew to become an integral part of the Sacramento Metropolitan region and subsequent generations acquired much of the block bounded by F and G streets (to the north and south) and Alhambra Boulevard and 30th Street (to the east and west).

Here's a bit of an overview

-The existing church will remain. It has a seating capacity of up to 450 people and is 7,380 square feet.

-The Kendron, or multipurpose center (social, cultural, recreational), provides meeting and recreational space as well as a small religious bookstore. Banquet seating capacity is 450. It's a total of 22,500 square feet, with 17,000 square feet at the ground level and a 5,500-square-foot mezzanine.

-The education and administrative building provides administrative and education space necessary for operations and ministry functions. The administration wing includes offices for the secretary, priests, and parochial assistants (youth, visiting clergy), a library and meeting rooms. The education wing will support the parish's daycare/preschool as well as its Sunday schools, youth programs and other various ministries that serve the community at large. This building will have two floors, totaling 16,800 square feet.

Additional facilities such as the education/administration building and Kendron (Social Hall) were constructed over the years and have come to comprise the Annunciation's parish campus, which continues to serve Orthodox Christians of many backgrounds and ethnicities.

Changing needs and growth

Over the years the community's needs have changed significantly from those of a few immigrant families from Greece. The Annunciation Parish has become



Rendering courtesy of Comstock Johnson Architects

a thriving community of over five hundred supporting families with sister parishes in Elk Grove and Roseville. To better meet present and future needs, the Annunciation Parish has developed a Campus Master Plan that will replace its aging facilities and create a new parish identity. In the same manner that earlier generations laid the foundation that enabled the community to grow, the new Campus Master Plan represents the Annunciation's commitment to future generations, and reflects the Parish's role as an integral and dynamic community of Sacramento.

A new parish campus vision and master plan

Over the past 20 years the parish has entertained other options to relocate its campus away from the current site, but none came to fruition due to conditions that were beyond the Annunciation's control. In June 2010 the parish decided that there was no better place than its present campus upon which to rebuild and renew the spiritual, cultural, and civic connections make up the very fabric of the Annunciation Community. From this commitment a new Campus Master Plan – to be initiated in phases as resources allow –

will enrich and enhance these very connections over the coming years.

The proposed Campus Master Plan is centered and organized around the Kardia (Greek for heart), a multi-function outdoor courtyard where the Annunciation will gather for cultural, religious, social, and community events.

It will front along Alhambra Boulevard and is situated between the existing Church and a new Kendron, which will replace the existing Kendron. The Kardia will be paved and landscaped with shrubs, lawns and trees which will provide the shade, atmosphere and ambience to transform the Kardia into a space that enhances the community and serves as the "Heart of the Campus".

Further, the Kardia is envisioned to act as a complementary visual extension of McKinley Park (across Alhambra Boulevard) through cool and restful shade found in its arcades and cloisters. As noted above, the Parish's existing Church – which fronts on Alhambra across from McKinley Park – will remain, on the north side of the Kardia.

Disclosure: Editor Monica Stark's husband works for the architecture firm, Comstock Johnson, which is heading up the plans.

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'Celebrate Francie' aims to help beloved children's entertainer

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

For 22 years, Francie Dillon has entertained children and families with her mix of music and storytelling, everywhere from Fairytale Town to area schools to hospital bedsides.

Now battling an undiagnosed neurological disorder, the community is rallying to support Francie in her time of need with "Celebrate Francie" – a fundraising event on Friday, Nov. 2 at Fairytale Town.

"Francie touches people's hearts and particularly the hearts of children," explains Terry Foley, organizer of Celebrate Francie. "It was a no-brainer that people would want to come together for her. If you had to choose a person for which you were going to do something, you might as well choose someone that everybody loves, and everybody loves Francie."

The "Voice of Fairytale Town"

Dillon – who was just named Arts Educator of the Year by the Arts &

Business Council of Sacramento, according to an article in the *Modesto Bee* – says she first started her business, then named Jazz Babies, in 1991 by teaching music appreciation in preschools.

During this time, a parent asked her if she performed at birthday parties. "I remember looking at her and thinking you've got to be kidding, right?" Dillon says with a laugh. "I didn't even know people could do this for birthday parties!"

Dillon decided to take a shot at performing at a private engagement, which eventually lead her to perform at the former Thursday Night Market on K Street and eventually Fairytale Town. Dillon says her first performance at Fairytale Town was the "most unique feeling in the world" and she walked away from it thoroughly enjoying the experience. "That was the kind of thing that started me on the avenue of being an entertainer," she adds.

For at least 15 years Dillon has been a special guest performer and program MC at Fairytale Town, according to the park's Executive Director Kathy Fleming.

However, Dillon is mainly known for the 25 storybook boxes that are stationed at each of Fairytale Town's sets throughout the park. The stories and songs she recorded for them, earned her the name the "Voice of Fairytale Town," Fleming says.

"She brings a love of literature, a love of play and fun to Fairytale Town," Fleming says when asked what Dillon brought to the park as a performer. "She brings her essence and it just represents what we do here so well, so it worked out well to have her as much as she's been here."

Overcoming Obstacles

From there, Dillon continued to perform and went on to record and publish her own album, "The Toy Box," which won the National Parents Choice Approval Award. She also began to cross over to teach adults how to bring music into the school setting through presenting at childhood education conferences, and currently teaching children's literature at California State University Sacramento.



Courtesy photo

Now battling an undiagnosed neurological disorder, the community is rallying to support the new East Sacramento resident, Francie Dillon, in her time of need with "Celebrate Francie" – a fundraising event on Friday, Nov. 2 at Fairytale Town.

Dillon says teaching other adults is crucial to her now with the physical limitations she is now experiencing. "It's very important that adults see the po-

See Francie, page 21

Francie: Nov. 2 event to benefit entertainer

Continued from page 20

tential for creativity and joy that comes from music and storytelling, and for them to present it in such a way that we release the excitement about it," she adds.

In July 2011, Dillon sought medical attention for the symptoms of her condition, left her nearly bedridden. Although she has some mobility, her lack of balance affects her walk and leaves her unable to walk very far without needing to sit, and her speech alternates between normal and slurred. And her energy declined to where her Monday night lectures at Sacramento State left her incapacitated for the rest of the week.

Currently Dillon's condition has been undiagnosed by doctors, though they recognize it as a neurological disorder. Dillon says she is determined to find an answer.

"I've never felt like a victim," Dillon says. "I've never felt like why me? It has been more of a what can I do to understand this, overcome this, to get through this."

Celebrate Francie

Now unable to perform as she once did, Dillon is facing some financial hardships. To

help her get through this period in her life, some of Dillon's friends asked her if they could put on a benefit to help raise money for her. Although Dillon says she was reluctant at first, they talked her into it and she finally agreed. "That is the hardest thing to be on the receiving end of such generosity," Dillon adds with emotion in her voice.

The benefit, Celebrate Francie, is being run by Foley, who was first introduced by Dillon when he hired her to perform at children's programs for Borders Books & Music in the Sacramento area. After hearing about Dillon's medical issues, Foley decided to step forward to take on the fundraiser.

The event will be held on Friday, Nov. 2, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Fairytale Town, which Fleming says is the logical place for it to happen. "Francie played a major role in the re-invigoration of Fairytale Town, so it just made sense," she says.

Foley says the fundraiser will feature a performance by Northern California band

Mumbo Gumbo, as well as family programming. He says further information can be found at CelebrateFrancie.com, where community members can also purchase tickets for the fundraiser and make donations. Additionally a trust fund for Dillon has been established at the Chase Bank on Florin Road in Sacramento.

"This is not a sad event – it's a happy event and it's a way for people to come together and celebrate Francie and the contribution she has made," Foley says. "And really that is what makes up the fabric of our community or any community is people coming together to honor and support one another."

Dillon says the money raised will allow her to take the steps she needs to adapt her past career as a children's entertainer to a new one that works within her current situation, as she knows she still has more to give.

"I can't believe that the universe is willing to let me just dissolve without making further contributions, I cannot believe that is the plan," Dillon says. "I believe I've got something to give that will bene-

fit and be of service, and now it's my job to discover that. This benefit will give me the breathing room to make that happen, and to me the greatest gift of all is the room to discover that."

Celebrate Francie will take place Friday, Nov. 2, from 5:30-8:30pm at Fairytale Town. To purchase tickets and for further information, visit CelebrateFrancie.com.

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CALENDAR

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

OCTOBER

SPCA Mobile Adoption

Oct. 18: Adoption trailer will be at Intel, 1900 Prairie City Road, Folsom from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Duct Tape Masterpieces (for teens) at Arden-Dimick Library

Oct. 18: At 3 p.m., create your next artistic masterpiece using duct tape -- the most durable medium available. Use a variety of solid colors and patterns and get instructions for making wallets, roses, flip-flops and more. Arden-Dimick Library, 891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento.

'Financially Savvy Seniors'

Oct. 18: The Pocket Area Churches Together, the Asian Community Center and the St. Anthony Senior Club are sponsoring this seminar to discuss identity theft, contractor and phone scams and family abuse of seniors. The seminar goes from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 660 Florin Rd., Sacramento.

'Dance Sites 2012: Faculty Dance Concert'

Oct. 17-21: CSUS faculty and guest choreographers come together to guide students through their first performance of the year in 'This always-anticipated annual evening of dance on the University Theatre main stage presents a wide range of music and dance styles. 6000 J St., Sacramento 95819.

'Boo at the Zoo'

Oct. 30-31: Kids can safely trick-or-treat around the lake at 25 different candy stations and other activities include magic shows, costume dance party, ghoulish games, and more. Advanced ticket prices: General are \$10; Zoo members are \$8; children 1 and under are free. Day of prices are \$12; children 1 and under are free. 3930 West Land Park Dr., Sacramento, 95822



40th annual Japan night dinner

Oct. 19: Sacramento Senator Lions Club is having its 40th Annual Japan Night Dinner at 6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 6446 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento. The menu includes teriyaki chicken, sashimi, sushi, sunomono salad and miso soup. Ticket donation is \$35. All profits from this event are given back to the community through projects such as the Sacramento Zoo Sensory Garden, Sacramento Zoo's Mobile Zoo Project, My Sister's House, and Christmas Food Baskets for low-income families. Call Teri Pansick at (530) 676-0829, for more information.

CORE Dance Collective presents 'The Doorway'

Oct. 18-27: Now entering its third season, The Doorway is the contemporary dance event of the year. Inspired by the unique personalities of rooms in a Victorian mansion, The Doorway follows dark and quirky characters entangled in the house. Tickets: \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance. Thursdays through Saturdays 7:30 p.m. Benvenuti Performing Arts Center, 4600 Blackrock Dr. Sacramento, 95835.

Free flu shots

Oct. 20: From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Molina Medical is holding a free flu shot event at its 55th St. location: 7215 55th St. After the first 100, vaccines will be \$15 per vaccine. 564-0521.

'Camellia City Porcelain Artist 21st Annual Tea and Porcelain Art Show'

Oct. 20-21: A display of American style porcelain/china over-glaze painting, as part of the Arts and Crafts movement, in the late 1800 and 1900s will be on display on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 pm at the Sacramento Garden & Arts Center McKinley Park, located at 3330 McKinley Blvd. Tickets are available for a Christmas Tree drawing to benefit St. John's Shelter for Women and Children. See http://www.eset.com for more information.

SPCA Mobile Adoption

Oct. 21: Adoption trailer will be at Trend-n-Treats, 8929 Madison Ave. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Shrinky Dinks at Central Library

Oct. 21: At 3 p.m., families can create a freehand design or trace an image from a book on amazing plastic. Bake it for a few minutes and the creation shrinks. , 828 I Street, Sacramento

American Cancer Society's 'Making Strides Against Breast Cancer'

Oct. 21: Starts at 7 a.m. on the west steps of the State Capitol. For more information, see http://makingstrides.acevs.org/site/TR?fr_id=47299&pg=entry

Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

Oct. 17, 24, 31: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Wednesday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

'Drumming with ArtBeast' at Arcade Library

Oct. 18: At 4 p.m., for children, ages 5 to 12, kids can gather around a circle of drums and percussion instruments to create a community of rhythm. They will learn beats and enjoy playing various instruments. Arcade Library, 2443 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento.

CSUS classical piano performance

Oct. 20: Ying Song performs as part of Sac State's Piano Series at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall on campus, 6000 J St. Song is on the faculty of the New School for Music at Mannes College. Her awards include Pro Piano Artist of the Year and the Sudler Prize for outstanding achievement from Stanford. Tickets are \$20 general and \$15 for students and seniors and available at the University Ticket Office, 278-4323 or http://bit.ly/xRmEZ8. Contact: 278-5191.

Fall Fellowships and Food Festival

Oct. 20: The Chinese Community Church will have Chinese food and games from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission. www.cccsac.net

Manga Café: Sticker Making at Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

Oct. 24: At 4 p.m., Youngsters, ages 5 to 18, can watch anime, read manga and make stickers from old magazines or from their own art. 7340 24th Street Bypass, Sacramento.

Sac State's Jazz Ensembles performance

Oct. 25: Starting at 8 p.m., selections include "Meren Swing," by Benny Moren, and "Waltze for Dave" by Chick Corea in the Music Recital Hall on campus, 6000 J St. Tickets are \$10 general, \$7 seniors and \$5 students and available at the University Ticket Office, 278-4323 or http://bit.ly/xRmEZ8. Contact: 278-5191.

'Crocker Talkers' to be featured at River's Edge Senior Community

Oct. 25: Starting at 2 p.m., these well-informed and enthusiastic speakers will share with you the fascinating history of the Crocker Family, the Crocker Art Museum and the museum's stunning display of art. RSVP by calling 921-5131 by Monday, Oct. 22. Refreshments will be served. 601 Feature Dr.

Stage Fright Haunted House

Oct. 25-27: The Performing and Fine Arts Academy's Drama Club presents costumed dancers, face-painting, concession stand, storytelling and more. Thursday and Friday from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday from 5-9 p.m. \$2 per person. Natomas Charter School, 4600 Blackrock Dr., Sacramento. 803-5863

Christian Brothers Family Pasta Feed Dinner

Oct. 26: \$12 for adults and students. Every dinner receives one raffle ticket. \$6 for kids, ages 6-11, free for 5 and under.

Second annual 'One Book' Sacramento dinner

Oct. 26: Friends of the Sacramento Public Library will hold a "Constitution dinner" from 7 to 9 p.m. Menu includes: Ratification roast beef, convention chicken, legislative vegetarian lasagna, patriotic pizza. Dress as a founding father, society matron, or wear Old Glory's colors of red, white and blue. To be held at the Elks Lodge, No. 6, located at 6446 Riverside Blvd., Adults: \$30, children: \$10. Information, call Kathi Windheim at 392-0101 or email zaw2000@msn.com

Haunted Stacks: Zombies and Ghosts to Roam Central Library

Oct. 26: From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., the program is Sacramento's creepiest and most educational haunted library tour. There will be a screening of a classic scary movie in the adjacent Tsakopoulos Library Galleria and escorted haunted tours of the Sacramento Room during the film showing. Age 10 and up. No advance registration is required; however arrive by 7 p.m. to sign up. 828 I St., Sacramento.

Beer, Ribs and Chicken benefiting Elks Lodge's new Sports Lounge

Oct. 26: Join Ron Domingos and gang as he cooks up his world-renowned chicken and ribs from 5 to 10 p.m. \$15 per person. No host bar: keg and draft beer for \$1.50. Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6, located at 6446 Riverside Blvd. 422-6666.

26th Annual Safe & Super Halloween: A Grimm Halloween

Oct. 26, 27, 28: From 5-9 p.m., the fairytales of Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm will come to life for three nights of family fun. Cost: Ad-

vance tickets are \$7 members and \$10 nonmembers. Beginning October 26, tickets are \$9 members and \$12 nonmembers. Children ages 1 and under are free. Fairytales Town, 3901 Land Park Drive, Sacramento CA 95822, 808-7462, mail@fairytaletown.org, www.fairytaletown.org

Gala at the Garden and Casa Boutique

Oct. 26-27: Support programs of the Sacramento Children's Home by attending the "Gala at the Garden" on Friday, Oct. 26, featuring fine wines and hors d'oeuvres AND the first opportunity to shop "Casa Boutique". Tickets are available at www.casagardenrestaurant.org OR visit the "Casa Boutique" on Saturday, Oct. 27, no entry fee and see live demonstrations by Open Studio at Lakeside. Both events are at the Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd. Enjoy a unique shopping experience with one-of-a-kind gifts created by talented artisans. Shop today for tomorrow.

Halloween crafts at Arcade Library

Oct. 27: At 2 p.m., for children, ages 5 to 12, children will get in the Halloween spirit with fun crafts, including paper bag ghosts, trick or treat bags, and more. They are encouraged to wear a Halloween costume. Arcade Library, 2443 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento.

Zombie Scavenger Hunt II at Central Library:

Oct. 27: Combining the spirit of Halloween with the coming zombie apocalypse, the entire Central Library will be used for an adventure to survive, find useful items and save the world from 6 to 10 p.m. For ages 14 to 24. Registration required, 264-2920 or at www.saclibrary.org.

Run for a Safe Haven fundraiser for My Sister's House

Oct. 27: 9th annual 5k run/walk is the largest fundraiser for My Sister's House, a non-profit dedicated to ending domestic violence. Adults (ages 19 and up): \$30, Teens (ages 13-18): \$25, Kids half mile (ages 12 and younger): \$10. Register at www.runforasafehaven.com

Make Sugar Skulls at Ella K. McClatchy Library

Oct. 27: At 2 p.m., Families can make Dia de los Muertos / Day of the Dead sugar skulls. 2112 22nd Street, Sacramento.



21st & J Streets
OCT 28

Third annual Panteon de Sacramento Oct. 27-28: Two day event with 50 large, colorful Day of the Dead altars. To be held in the large parking lot west of 2020 J St.

7th annual craft and boutique fair at River's Edge Senior Community

Oct. 27: Shop in a festive atmosphere from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jewelry, artwork, candles, food, purses, clothing, soaps, music and more will be available. 601 Feature Drive near the intersection of Howe Avenue and Fair Oaks Boulevard in Sacramento. 916-921-5131.

Concert featuring flutist Mat Krejci

Oct. 27-28: The Chamber Music Society of Sacramento invites the public to a concert that features our flutist, Mat Krejci, and pianist Dmitriy Cogen, and will include Mozart's Flute Concerto in D Major; Mendelssohn's Piano Trio; and Faure's Piano Quartet. Performances are on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Bet Haverim, 1715 Anderson Rd., Davis; and Sunday at 7:30 p.m., at Sac State Capistrano Hall's music recital auditorium, off State University Drive West in Sacramento. Season and individual tickets are available by subscription or at the door: \$22-28, 12 for students. http://www.cmsacto.org/.

Tree tour set for River Park

Oct. 27: Sacramento Tree Foundation will sponsor a tour of the trees in River Park from 10 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn to identify trees by leaf, bark and growth habits. Insect and disease issues will be discussed as well as watering needs for Sacramento soils and weather. The tour is free and will begin at the River Park Shopping Center on Carlson Ave. near the corner of Lovella Way. sactree.com; 974-4304.

SactoMoFo event to benefit Rebuild McKinley

Oct. 28: From noon to 4 p.m. at Sutter's Landing Park, portions of the proceeds will go to help build McKinley Park.

Front Street Shelter Haunted Open House

Oct. 28: From noon to 4 p.m. at 2127 Front St. Free refreshments and entertainment while deciding which animal to adopt. Humans only.



\$20/now \$25/door
2:00PM

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Beaujolais Plus
Wine Tasting and Silent Art Auction
Sponsored by The Kiwanis Club of Sacramento Suburban

Festivities include a raffle and a delicious pasta dinner with caesar salad and rolls

Sunday, Nov. 4, 4:00-7:00pm
the Dante Club, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.

\$30.00 a ticket | An order of 10 tickets may reserve a table
For information call Kristi (916) 505-7598/(916) 972-7337
Proceeds benefit: The Kiwanis Family House and other Kiwanis Projects.

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NATHAN SHERMAN 969-7379



FANTASTIC EAST SACRAMENTO

3 bedroom 2 bath located on a street that is one of East Sacramento's best kept secrets. Spacious home includes refinished hardwoods, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and top of the line cabinets, open floor plan that is perfect for entertaining, dual pane windows, central heat and air, and remodeled bathrooms. \$379,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



MIDTOWN CRAFTSMAN

Beautifully maintained 1910 Craftsman bungalow, 2 or 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus a 3/4 basement. Tons of charm and detail. Yard is gardener's delight with raised beds and established grapevine, and fruit trees; plus brick patio and a pergola. Deep lot with newer large 2-car garage. \$339,900

LIBBY NEIL 539-5881



TALLAC VILLAGE COTTAGE

Cute and well cared for 2 bedroom home. The current owners added dual paned windows throughout, replaced the pitched comp roof, relined the sewer to the main, replaced the HVAC, landscaped, created a small office off of the family room and painted with decorator colors inside and out. Enjoy !!! \$159,900

DAVID KIRRENE 531-7495 • LIBBY NEIL 539-5881



RIVER PARK

This fantastic River Park 3 bedroom 2 bath home has been completely remodeled for your enjoyment. The seller has spared no expense with a newer roof, remodeled kitchen, completely landscaped front and back, insulation, dual pane windows and a very large laundry room. Freshly painted and a turnkey property for the buyer that wants to move right in! \$383,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



MED CENTER CLOSE

Cute 2 bedroom home near the U.C. Davis Medical Center. Lots of natural light pours through the house. It features partial dual pane windows, a whole house fan, plenty of storage, converted garage, and a low maintenance yard and a cozy fireplace. The roof is approximately 5 years old. Convenient inside laundry is off the kitchen. Plus a classic O'Keefe and Merritt vintage range. \$110,000

LEIGH RUTLEDGE 612-6911



EAST SACRAMENTO

This 3 bedroom 2 bath home is near Bertha Henschel Park and McKinley Park. Lovely hardwood floors, and a large living room - with a cozy fireplace - flows into the dining room. Granite counters in kitchen, patterned tile floor and lots of cabinet storage. The third bedroom could also be used for an exercise room, office or playroom. Two covered patio areas. \$288,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048

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