

EAST SACRAMENTO NEWS

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Vol. XXV • No. 6

East Sacramento News is published on the first and third Thursday of the month in the area bounded by Business 80 on the west, the American River on the north and east and Highway 50 on the south.

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Sacramento,
CA 95818
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Cover photos:
Courtesy

James Peyton
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Janey Way Memories:

When Sacramento was a boxing town



By **MARTY RELLES**
marty@valcomnews.com

Last Thursday, when I picked up my granddaughter Gabrielle for dance, I got into a conversation with my son-in-law Ryan. I asked him about his plans for the weekend, and he told me he was attending a closed circuit television showing of the UFC (ultimate fighting champion) world championship fight in Las Vegas.

I must say that UFC (cage fighting) has no interest for me. However, during my youth, I was quite a boxing fan. Back then, Sacramento was known as a boxing town.

During the 1950s, I remember watching the "Friday Night Fights" every week with my dad. Then, Dad, Terry and I huddled around a black and white television set watching great fighters

like Sugar Ray Robinson, Kid Gavilan, Carmon Basilio and Archie Moore fight in Madison Square Garden.

When we weren't watching boxing matches on TV, we often attended fights live at the Memorial Auditorium. At that time, some really good boxers called Sacramento home, guys with names like Joey Lopes, Trino Savala, Fred Roots and others who fought regularly at the auditorium.

I liked boxing because it wasn't just about pummeling your opponent until they could no longer fight. Boxing was a skill, honed by many years of practice and disciplined training. Back then, the best trainers like Angelo Dundee and Cus D'Amato had several good boxers under their wings. When you watched these guys fight, they did so artfully with great skill and finesse.

I admired Joey Lopes more than any of the Sacramento fighters then. He fought in the light weight division. His boxing skills were unparalleled. He could stick and fade, throw combinations and simply outwit other boxers in the ring. His one shortcoming was that he cut easily. If not for that, he probably would have won the world championship. He fought world lightweight

champion Joe Brown for the title in 1958. He survived 13 hard fought rounds, but ultimately suffered a technical knockout when the referee stopped the fight because of a cut over his eye.

That was Joey's only championship fight, but afterward he often appeared as a guest at the Memorial Auditorium fights. He always dressed sharply and looked good walking into the ring. I loved Joey Lopes.

In the late 1980s, boxing reached its high point in Sacramento when, Tony the Tiger Lopez defeated Rocky Lockeridge for the IBF super featherweight championship. Tony was a toe-to-toe, in your face kind of fighter who never gave up. He went on to win two more world championship titles before retiring in the 1990s.

Since that time, the great sport of boxing has faded away in Sacramento. Every once in a while, someone promotes a fight here, but the young people seem un-interested in the "Sport of Kings." Instead, they prefer to watch the brutal and less stylish UFC fights. For my money, I will take boxing any day.

Now, the time when Sacramento was a boxing town is just another leather-popping Janey Way Memory.

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Sacramento Heron & Egret Rescue fundraiser to be held at the Grange

There will be a fun-filled afternoon event to help raise money and awareness to support our emergency bird rescue response team called the Sacramento Heron & Egret Rescue (SHER) on April 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Sacramento Grange Hall, 3830 U St. in Elmhurst.

This event will include raffle prizes, silent auction, educational and informational displays, guest appearances by several rescued non-releasable feathered friends, and a yummy selection of vegan appetizers including:

- A selection of gourmet vegan cheeses
- Nacheez nachos and taco salad
- Conscious Creamery gelato
- Sassy Oh Baking Co. desserts and more!

Tickets are \$30 online/\$35 at the door. Purchase your tickets online here:

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2520482>

Space is limited, so be sure to buy your tickets right away!

All money raised will help SHER be able to purchase the necessary supplies needed to help aid in rescues, temporary care, transportation to the rehab center and all things related to the rescue, recovery and wellbeing of these beautiful migratory birds that call Sacramento their summer home.

A short history on who the organization is and why they do what they do....

SHER - Sacramento Heron & Egret Rescue came about in May 2015 after a baby black-crowned Night Heron came into rescue after being stabbed

in the back and left for dead below the trees from which he fell.

Not only was this a serious matter, but volunteers were also struggling to be able to rescue the hundreds of babies that had fallen from their nests at the Sacramento Rookery. Many of them sat below the trees with broken legs and wings for days without rescue.

It was then that two of Sacramentans decided to create a Facebook page that would get the word out about the issues taking place right here in our very own backyard.

Aside from the normal and natural occurrence of falling out of nests, the birds were in jeopardy from becoming victims of animal abuse. The stabbing was not the only issue; sadly there were several other occasions where these helpless baby birds were abused. Volunteers just couldn't let this keep happening.

Thus SHER was launched via Facebook and within a day there was a team of people who then dedicated the next three months (the remainder of the baby bird season) to going out on twice-daily rescue and recovery, handling the very unhappy task of proper disposal of all the babies that didn't make it from the falls or were killed by free-roaming cats, hit by cars, or died from being too young to survive the night alone, and the very big and taxing task of all the transporting of the bids to the rehabilitation facility in to Cordelia, California called The International Bird Rescue & Research Center, which is about an hour outside of Sacramento.

Now volunteers are gearing up for the season as the spring and summer soon approach. The Her-



Photo courtesy

ons and Egrets will be migrating back to Sacramento very soon, could be any day now, to take up residence at their nesting site here in town. And soon to follow will be all the baby Herons & Egrets.

It's going to be hot, messy, and raining baby birds come May 2016 and help is needed! These birds nest in colonies in the hundreds, which means there will soon be hundreds of baby and young helpless birds who will need help. And that is why volunteers do what they do. Because no animal should ever have to suffer, and with your help and support, they will be able to help make sure to minimize this.

This fundraiser will help SHER raise money for necessary supplies, help to recruit volunteers for our rescue response team, and spread awareness to the community.



IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS IN THIS RECENT FULL REMODEL!

Open floor plan creating an open and airy feeling. The onyx counters in the kitchen have LED lighting and tiled backsplash. Onyx counters in the bathroom are accented with tiled floors and details of copper edging. Master suite boasts a unique glass shower enclosure and granite counter while the master bedroom has french doors that open to a balcony overlooking the backyard fountain with Koi pond. **\$739,950**



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Faces and Places:
**Making
 leprechaun
 catchers at
 McKinley Library**

Photos by MONICA STARK
 editor@valcomnews.com

On Friday, March 4, we ones started preparing for St. Patrick's Day by making their very own leprechaun catchers at the McKinley Library! With various sized boxes, construction paper, markers, popsicle sticks and other craft supplies, they used creativity and engineering skills to design their own structures that will capture leprechauns on St. Patrick's Day!

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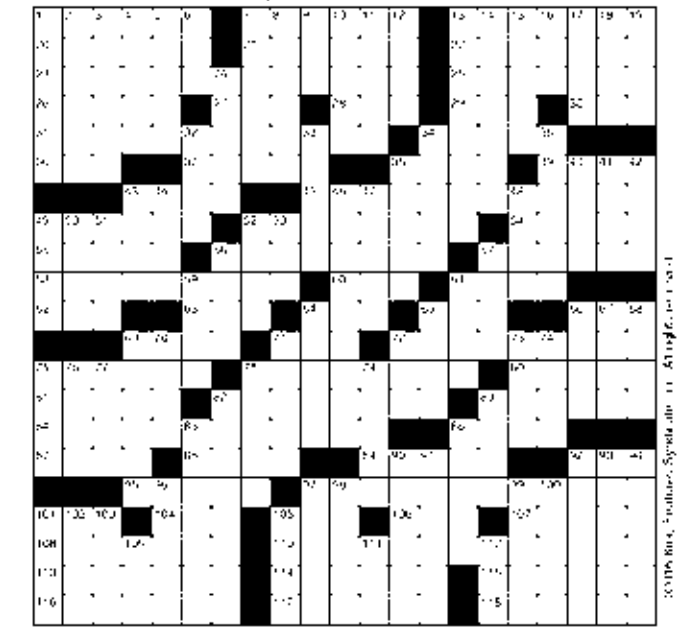
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Meeting Morrie

By JAMES PEYTON

It was 1985 at Nicholas Elementary in Sacramento. Or was it '84? The principal was one mustached Ron Nishimura. We had an assembly that day, and this time it was a special treat. It was a cartoonist whose strip was in the newspaper. Up on the stage, the stage that looks nearly the same even today, talking to us kids about what he did, was a man named Morrie Turner. He wrote and drew a newspaper strip called Wee Pals. My best friend, Julian Newman, was into the same things I was...drawing, comic strips, comic books, and cartoons. We watched Voltron and Transformers, and TV shows like Manimal and Automan. We loved breakdancing and Michael Jackson like most of the other kids. But this man was an actual artist. That is what we wanted to be. This was quite interesting to us; it made it seem like we could do the same thing. We had our own drawing company, "11 Comics", consisting of nothing more than our combined drawings and some photocopies that we tried to assemble into our own comic books. We would draw all the time at school, in class, together after school if I remember right, and so on. I read the newspaper funnies at home sometimes, and remember comic strips like Peanuts, Garfield, and Orbit. So, I had read Wee Pals in the newspaper and was familiar with the strip. There were also the Wee Pals paperbacks, with reprints of the strips. I don't think we had the cartoon here. It was really cool, fascinating even, to have a real artist show up at our school. As a child, I still understood the message of the strip, what he was trying to do, and how it was about people of all races and nationalities living together and getting along together.

It was inspiring to see him and hear his presentation, not only about equality, but because we wanted to be artists like him, to be employed doing the cre-



A tribute to Morrie by James Peyton.

ative stuff we wanted to do for fun. He brought some drawings and pictures of at least a few of his various characters. A few of the main ones stood out by their look, such as Nipper with the hat always slouching down over his eyes and Oliver, the one with the glasses. The drawing of the character holding the sign accompanying this article is a shout out to Morrie, made by myself, taken from a drawing I made for my Dad's birthday.

Morrie Turner talked about his strip and what it was all about, a message of equality, about how he made the strip and the drawings, and I think he took some questions. Honestly, though I can't remember what they were, or even a lot that was said. I remember I wrote to Charles Shulz later on, and was surprised when a letter came in the mail. I was more surprised when there was no writing on it, just a xeroxed copy of some Peanuts figures on an orange paper, and that was it. Even as a child, I knew he probably didn't get my letter, felt sad about it, and figured a secretary must have opened my letter and sent me that. But actually seeing Morrie Turner in person, was something I never forgot. And over 25 years lat-



James Peyton with cartoonist Morrie Turner.

er, I saw him again at the Sacramento Comic-Con, before it moved out of the Scottish Rite Temple to McClellan Air Force Base. Actually, it was at least 28 years ago when I saw him. It was Sunday, March 3, 2013. Walking around, looking around at all the people dressed as Star Wars characters, I noticed an old man at a booth with a younger lady. I recognized him right away and then I saw some Wee Pals stuff and a sketch he was probably doing for a fan. I softly approached and said spoke to him. I told him the story that more than 20 years ago, an artist came to our school and I saw him, and he seemed to enjoy that. I took two

pictures with him, and was very glad to see him again. I researched about him on the net after the show, and discovered that there was a Wee Pals cartoon. Wow! I never got to see that. I sure wish I would have spoken to him more or seen more of him, as he died less than a year later. He seemed like a very nice man, and I am glad even to have just met him.

According to "WP" or "Wax Poetics Magazine", Issue 61, Spring 2015, pg. 23, Jeff Chang writes: "He was still working on new strips almost all the way up until his passing on January 25, 2014, at the age of ninety." Rainbow Power!!



Shown here are members of the kids freedom club. In the back row, from left to right: Kaydence, Maya, Lottie, Jasmine, Aliya, Paul; middle row: Jade, Sage, Alec; and front row: Evelyn, Aliya, Bella

Church Kids Serve Pancakes to Fight Modern Slavery Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Kids from a local church have been leading their congregation in learning about modern slavery and working to end it in their lifetime. At present there are 27 million people held against their will through debt bondage, human trafficking and other forms of enslavement. Though enslavement is illegal in every nation, it exists on every continent, including North America.

At the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento, the Kids Freedom Club started raising awareness of this problem and raising funds to stop it.

On Sunday, March 6, the Kids Freedom Club held its second pancake breakfast to support the cause, making 300 pancakes in three varieties: regular, chocolate and gluten free as well as scrambled eggs and sausages.

So far they estimate they have helped to liberate 63 people from bondage and fund the legal and social services needed to keep them from getting enslaved again. The average cost to do this is \$100 per person, and the club sends money to the international organization Free the Slaves (freetheslaves.net).

Last November, four church members traveled to India to meet with former slaves and other activists working to educate people, make them free, and keep them safe. In January they visited the of-

fice of Rep. Ami Bera to advocate for legislation to stop the sale of slavery-involved products. They have presented a Sunday service about ending slavery once per year at the church.

Wearing their self-decorated uniform of orange tee shirts, members of the Kids Freedom Club meets monthly after a Sunday service to plan educational and fundraising activities and to learn more about the issue. Attendance has tripled in the past two years.

One of the shirts, worn by 11-year-old Linnea Stanton had the message: "If you care, If you love, If (you're) kind, then join us to bring freedom."

In an interview with this publication, she described the meaning behind the message and her experience traveling to India with Free the Slaves. "Most people do care but they don't know how to help out. Little things can make a difference. We're trying to free slaves, trying to end slavery. It would be amazing if we could."

She said when she, her mom Petra, and two other church members went to India, she learned about how long a process it is to make a difference. "We tried to teach that slavery is illegal. We helped for a week, all the people there ... It makes me feel good I'm helping out. It's really fun."

The Unitarian Universalist Society is at 2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. Information about the church and the kids' club is at www.uuss.org.

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Mining your gold: Write your family story

Calling all writers and aspiring writers! The Ninth Annual "Our Life Stories" Writers' Conference will be held Saturday, April 23, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Cosumnes River College. Sponsored by the Hart Senior Center and CRC, the all-day conference will focus on memoir writing (particularly family stories) through genealogy. Topics of workshops and presentations at the one-day conference include doing basic genealogical research, writing creative non-fiction, using poetry to recreate memories, telling your family story through a blog, and using interviewing techniques to unlock the stories of someone's life.

Ginger Rutland, journalist, commentator, and playwright, will serve as the keynote speaker.

The conference also includes presentations and workshops by celebrat-



Journalist, commentator, and playwright, Ginger Rutland.

ed authors, including Jacqueline Doyle, Dale Flynn, Jeff Knorr, and Ginny McReynolds and a genealogy presentation by the Sacramento Public Library's Beth Daugherty.

The conference fee of \$35 (\$40 after April 8th registration deadline) covers the morning refreshments, workshops, materials, and lunch. Space is limited! For registration information and additional details about the conference, call the Hart Senior Center at (916) 808-5462, e-mail hartcrcwritersconference@yahoo.com, or visit the conference website <http://hart-crcwritersconference.org/>.

Ginger Rutland began her journalism career in television, first as a general assignment reporter for a Sacramento station and later as the state capitol reporter for the NBC affiliate in San Francisco. After seventeen years in television, she switched to print, joining the editorial board of The Sacramento Bee. While at The Bee, she also recorded regular commentaries for Capitol Public Radio. Amidst the torrent of headline issues she tackled, from immigration to homelessness, nuclear power to global warming, political races to pesticide poisoning, Ginger also writes about her mother, father, sisters and brother, intimate stories about her family, and her life beyond the newsroom. It's this softer side of her career she will share with you.

Workshops: 2016 "Our Life Stories" Writers' Conference

Discover your Ancestors: Beginning Genealogy and Library Resources with Beth Daugherty—In order to start writing about your ancestor, you might first

need to gather more information about that person's life. This workshop will introduce you to the basics of genealogical research and give you the tools you need to get started. Also highlighted in this presentation will be the wide variety of free resources the Sacramento Public Library makes available to the family history researcher. From lectures to databases and more, the library is ready to help!

The Art of "Perhaps" in Flash Nonfiction with Jacqueline Doyle—You may be working from a photograph, or a family anecdote, or a handful of letters. How do you fill in the gaps of what you don't know? In this workshop we will work on "perhaps" or imaginative speculation in short form creative nonfiction. **Please bring a photograph** of a relative or relatives from a previous generation (your grandparents' wedding picture, for example, or a snapshot of your parents when they were younger than you are now, or a portrait of an ancestor, or a picture of a relative you don't know).

Turning Your Research into Compelling Stories with Dale Flynn—Creative nonfiction is very popular now. We will talk about what creative nonfiction is (how we tell fact from fiction) and how to write it. In particular, we will look at strategies for turning the dry facts we uncover when we do research into compelling stories that others will want to read.

Memories, Memoirs, and Building the Past with Gerald Haslam— "Everything we write filters through our own lives whether we want that or not, so it's important to learn to use it to our advantage." Whether writing for personal use or for publication, you want to start from a base of truth and rigorous observation. Moreover, reflecting on and writing about your life can lead to insight and cull illusion. You might, for example, relate the adventures of your family's life into larger historical patterns. Become

an observer: watch, listen, sniff and exaggerate a little if you must. Give readers life through your personal prism.

Writing Poems from Memory: Our Stories as a Matter of Craft with Jeff Knorr—In our memories, we all have very rich histories, yet each of us remembers and reconstructs these histories differently. The process of recalling the events and shaping them into language is one that is both inherently creative and intellectual. While we may work from our own sense of memory, we may also find ourselves researching personal and family events for the "truth" of the moments we use in our work. This workshop will offer exercises for accessing memory and offer tools for re-creating them on the page as poetry.

Blogging and Genealogy: Telling Your Family's Story 500 Words at a Time with Ginny McReynolds—Blogs are a perfect way to share your story with a broad audience, whether it's a general group or specific people you choose. This workshop will introduce you to the tool of online blogging as a perfect way to tell your family's story. In addition to tips for writing compelling blog posts, we will discuss what to include, how to find your audience, and creative ways to add visual elements to your story. We will also look at the basics of blogging, including finding a domain name and a blog host, increasing your readership, and becoming a guest blogger on other sites.

Every Family, Every Person Has a Story with Ginger Rutland—Using key questions as an interviewer, you will have the opportunity to explore some of the most significant events, people, places, and things of someone's life. Life stories are not always made of earth shattering, headline events, but quiet, personal moments that touched us or made us laugh or cry. What were yours? You will learn the key to unlocking the stories of someone's life.

Johnson, Sac High class of 1891, was in Stanford's first graduating class

Ernest Houston Johnson was the first black student admitted to Stanford University and a member of the prestigious college's first graduating class in 1895. But his story was unknown for more than 100 years, until a student uncovered the photo of Stanford's first football team.

Johnson was born in 1871 just outside Roseville and grew up in a home near Seventh and M streets in Midtown. His father, Beverly, a local caterer, was an intellectual who enjoyed the plays of William Shakespeare, which he discovered while working as a valet for Union soldiers during the Civil War.

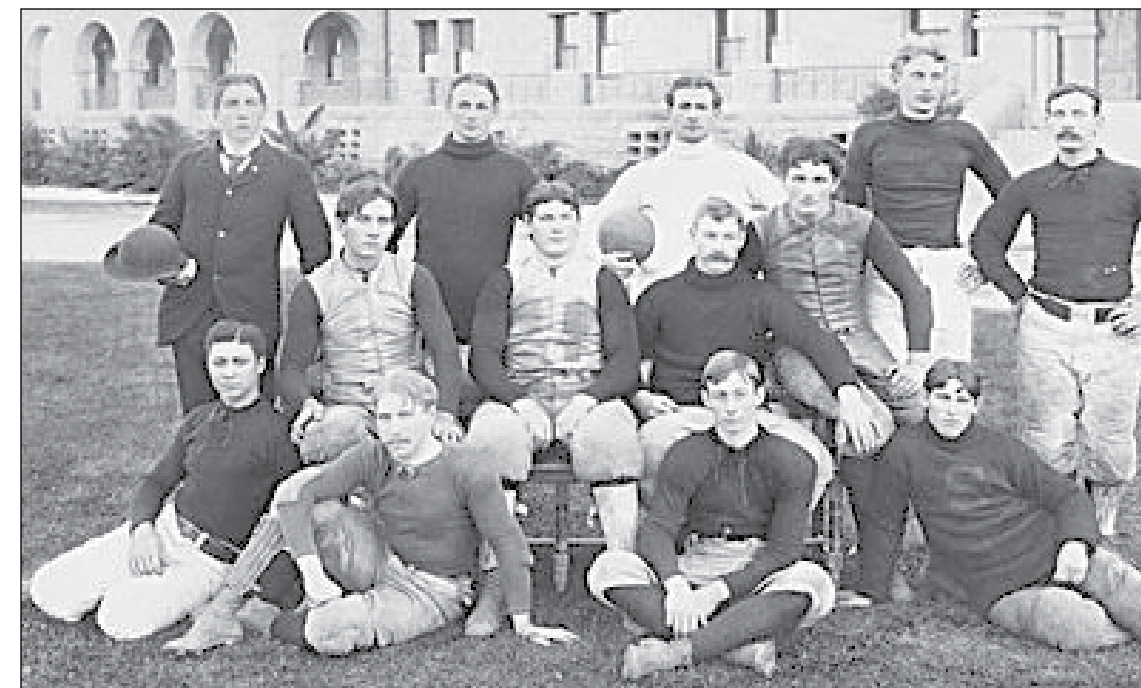
Although Beverly Johnson had only a third-grade education, he fought for his children to be taught at the all-white elementary school rather than the segregated school that most African-

American children attended at the time. Ernest's sister was turned away from admittance; Ernest was accepted.

Ernest Johnson went on to graduate from Sacramento High School in 1891. He applied to UC Berkeley (where he was accepted) and Stanford. He didn't hear back from Stanford.

Beverly Johnson knew Jane Stanford (who co-founded the university with her husband, Leland) through his catering business. Eventually, Jane Stanford contacted the university's president about Ernest. Soon after, Ernest received his acceptance.

After graduating in 1895 with a bachelor's in economics, Ernest Johnson attended Stanford Law School. A few years later, he contracted tuberculosis and died. He is buried in Sacramento with his Stanford diploma.



Ernest Houston Johnson, seated on far left, was in Stanford's pioneer graduating class and a Sacramento High School graduate, class of 1891. (Photo courtesy Stanford Magazine via the Sacramento City Unified School District)

But at the school he was largely forgotten until a student was asked to research Stanford's first African

American graduate. The student found the football team photo and began unraveling the mystery.

Subsequently, the Ernest Houston Johnson Scholars Program was founded at Stanford to honor his legacy.

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Camellia Society of Sacramento presented 92nd annual camellia show

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Even though attendance was down at this year's 92nd annual Sacramento Camellia show, about 3,000 blooms graced Memorial Auditorium on the first weekend of March, making the event reportedly still the largest camellia show in the world.

Dedicated to society members Bob and Joanne Logan, the "Best of Show" winner was Junior Prom won by the Lesmeister family of Carmichael. Giving a nod of approval to the winning flower, Joanne said she voted for Junior Prom, explaining its perfect symmetry and its beautiful white color.

Since moving here from Fremont in 2000, the Logans both have served in several society positions. Most recently, Joanne has been treasurer and Bob has been chairman of judges at the society camellia shows. Both have been American Camellia Society accredited judges for many years and judge at all the camellia shows during the show season. Describing their dedication in the show's program was the following: "Whenever something needs to be accompanied, we can always rely upon them. They have set the standard for everyone to follow! Congratulations to both of you!"

By 2 p.m. on Saturday, Joanne had finished counting the votes and took some time over lunch to discuss her honor. At that time, she had only heard about the show being dedicated to her and her husband. After quickly reading the inscription that had been printed in the program, she reacted by saying, "Isn't that nice? That's very flattering, but not quite true. They have set the standard for everyone to follow! I don't think so."

Joanne had her first camellia in Hayward in 1958, bought at Toichi Domoto's Japanese nursery. "He always had signs for somebody's show and he'd say, 'You ought to go to these. And we'd go. We'd make a list of all the flowers we wanted... We wanted all these flowers.'"

Now they make a list of which camellias to enter in the show, and their participation cannot be undermined.

"They're very, very hard workers and have held offices," said Camellia Society President Carol Schanz.

Their son, Alan Logan, a Sacramento resident said this year he joined the society, primarily because of his involvement attending his parents' shows. Showing for the first time, Alan won "best yellow."

"I'm keeping the Logan tradition alive," Alan said. "There are some amazing personalities here. I joined mainly to support my parents."

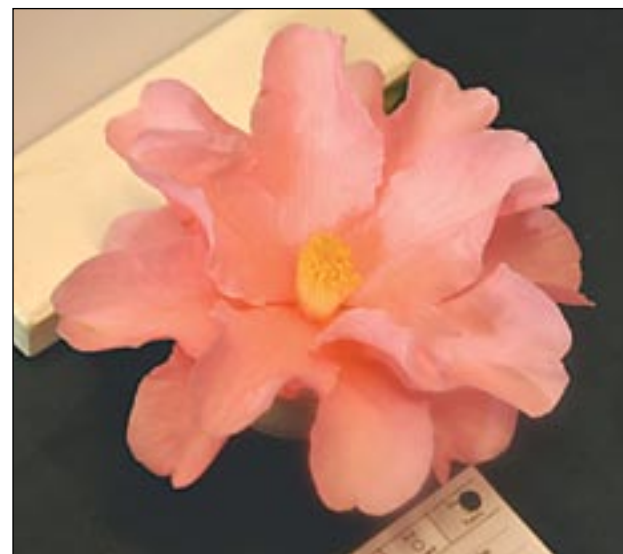
Carol Schanz who sat down with Valley Community Newspapers to discuss the state of the society and her background and love for the flower.

"I grew up with them. Mom and Dad built a small house in Oak Park during the war and a couple gave (camellias) as housewarming gifts."

That sentimental tie to the camellia continued as Carol's father became president of the society and brought young Carol to meetings at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center in McKinley Park. "A hundred people would come, and my parents would say, 'Go, sit and be quiet.' We were introduced to camellias. Then, I went to college and got married. My husband got the bug. As much as I love the flowers, I love the people." Spending three hours a day watering their flowers, Gary, Carol joked, "It's a time-consuming hobby. It keeps him off the street."

Today, Carol and her husband Gary Schanz, also members of the Northern California Camellia Society, have been to shows in Fresno, Napa, Santa Rosa and Walnut Creek.

She said a goal for next year is to get more people in the community involved, including those who "don't



know what it is but it's growing in their yards. I hope people will enter flowers and get them tagged."

For the last five years students from Will C. Wood Middle School's gardening club have helped with the setup of the camellia show. "I give a lesson on the care and culture of the camellia plant. Many of them come from low-income households and have never seen a camellia before." Special thanks also go to the Assembly of Rainbow Girls for their help in judging the show.

After being the president of the Camellia Society of Sacramento for nine years, Carol will be handing the position over to Don Lesmeister. "The job as president is demanding but you have so much fun. Everyone's willing to participate, so it's not all on my plate." Carol's next role will be as corresponding secretary for the society.

On Sunday, March 6, watercolor artists came to the show, in what Carol sees as one example of the society's effort of being more inclusive with the community, outside the camellia enthusiasts. "There are a lot of different ways to enjoy camellias." Other examples, include waxing camellias and Ikebana.

Chairperson of the photography contest, Jackie Randall, hopes next year the society acquires more entries, and she explained if contests are open to the public and if there's more publicity surround-

ing the annual show, they might be successful toward that end.

About the Camellia Society of Sacramento

The society, founded in 1943, meets once a month to study camellia culture, care and growth and share in the enjoyment of raising these beautiful flowers. The meetings are held at the Lutheran Church of the Master, 1900 Potero Way, 95822. There is always an authority on camellias to ask questions. Members bring camellia blooms for display at every meeting. A hospitality break after business and the program is a fun time to meet others who enjoy the art of growing camellias. The dues are \$10 per year, which entitles you to all the privileges the society offers, or go online (www.camelliasocietyofsacramento.org) to get the detailed breakdown of dues. Make checks to Camellia Society of Sacramento and mail to Patty or come by meetings and give the check to Patty in person. Patty Bonnstetter, 441 34th St., Sacramento, 95816. The last meeting of the year will be held on Monday, March 28 at 7 p.m. at the Luther Church of the Master. Then, on April 2, there will be a pruning clinic in William Land Park at the camellia grove, time TBD, which is located near the pony rides. Carol said at this pruning event the city of Sacramento will be sending volunteers to help out at the clinic.

Introducing David Lubin's music teacher: Julie Meyers

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

David Lubin Elementary School recently welcomed a new music instructor, Julie Meyers, who has been helping implement a pilot music program.

As part of Lubin's STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) curriculum, the music program will help bridge the sciences and the arts.

Music has always been a prominent fixture in Julie's life. She began writing songs at age 14 and was fronting her first rock band at 15. After graduating summa cum laude from Berklee College of Music with a degree in songwriting, Meyers moved to Sacramento in 2001 to further pursue her musical endeavors.

She began teaching voice lessons in 2003, and a new passion for teaching was ignited. Alongside voice lessons, Julie also teaches acoustic and electric guitar, piano and electric bass. She teaches students of all ages and levels, and tries to help her students not only achieve their personal best on their instrument, but also to have fun.

Learning the elements of music such as tempo, dynamics, and rhythm through song, the kids at David Lubin look forward to having Julie come to class.

Parent Teacher Group president Christina Stevenson said through outreach efforts the association will raise additional funding for music education at every single classroom on campus, as currently Julie teaches Kindergarten, special education, in addition to the third and fourth grades.

Explaining the school community's desire for Julie to teach more classes at the local elementary school, Stevenson said, "We had to invest in our music program out of a small fund of reserves and are working hard this year to raise more money to expand the program. Through our last parent survey music instruction was the highest rated need. We listened to parent feedback and worked hard to find the right fit for our school."

In order to find the perfect teacher, a small committee of parents did outreach to local music stores and the local music scene to find an instructor who was interested in teaching children. Over at the Fifth String, Julie's been teaching voice, guitar, piano and has enjoyed playing with the dogs, but in an interview with this publication, Julie described her initial

trepidation teaching larger numbers of students.

"One day at work at Fifth String, manager Steven said a lady came by and to email her, since they are looking for a teacher at David Lubin. I actually didn't contact her right away. I didn't know if that is what I want to do... Lynette Tautz-Chong, Jennifer Augusta, Libby Augusta - the three ladies in charge of trying to implement music program; we met at Starbucks. They said, 'This is what we're trying to do; this is what we want.' It was pretty overwhelming. I didn't have much classroom experience. I was like, 'I don't know.' But the first day was more pleasant than I expected. I was scared but the kids -- they were so excited. It must have been better than what they were doing before. They were like, 'music, oh my God; music, that is awesome.'"

As their excitement for music class continues, the students' energy is contagious and extends to Julie herself. "It's infectious. No matter how apprehensive I am feeling, I just say, 'Let's do it; let's learn about these things. It's really cute.'"

Hoping to inspire her students, she reflects upon her own past teachers. "I still remember Miss Thorn. She would have her Christmas program we would do."

When Julie was a preteen, she got into rock and roll, attending concerts and getting inspired, and at the time, she remembered having the thought: "I want to study this; I want to do this. I'd watch other performers. I'd go to open mics. I knew I wanted to devote my life to learning this."

Julie's breadth of knowledge extends beyond that of most music teachers as her personal experience being hearing impaired has made her relatable to some of her special needs students. Teacher Anne Wittenborn praises Julie for her ability to connect with her students. "Julie is a wonderful music teacher. She works with my deaf and hard of hearing preschool class as well as a special needs preschool class." Wittenborn said an FM system in the classroom allows Julie's voice and instrument to be amplified for the students. "(Julie) showed our students her own hearing aid, so there was an immediate connection. Julie plays her guitar and sings songs that our students enjoy." Meanwhile, American Sign Language to interpret the lyrics for deaf students is used in the classroom and Wittenborn said Julie introduced her guitar to the



Photo by Andrea Starace

Julie Meyers rocks! And, now she does so at David Lubin Elementary.

class and allowed the students to feel the vibrations by touch. She also uses a keyboard and has allowed the students to try it out as well.

"Deaf and hard of hearing students can enjoy music, especially if it's fun and involves movement (which is exactly what Julie implements in her program). Many of my students are hard of hearing so they can benefit from the FM system which allows them to hear her voice."

"My profoundly deaf students can benefit by feeling the vibrations of the instruments and participating in the ASL translations. Students are actively engaged with the teaching style Julie uses. She is a positive person who encourages students to get involved. Both of our special ed classes look forward to and enjoy music class with Julie."

Back during Julie's childhood, music surrounded the then-budding musician who might just have taken for granted the music in her life. "You had art, PE. I never thought kids would never not have it. I had it in preschool, too. We had a musician come play guitar. Kids don't have that exposure anymore. It seems weird. It seems unhealthy. What do you do all day if you don't have this creative outlet anymore?"

Julie started playing seriously when she was 11 years old, rotating between guitar, piano and voice. Whatever she felt like studying at the time, she pursued. Encouraging that way of learning has made her a very approachable teacher. Her father, Ken Meyers, plays piano, clarinet, flute and sax, creating arrangements for various groups he's a part of. "He's a super active part of the Jazz society. He and I do stuff to-

gether. He's cute. He's a 73-year-old guy that has more gigs than I do sometimes. He loves it. He refused to teach me piano. He said I needed to learn that from someone else. Parents are weird like that. But guitar, he said: 'That's easy. I know three chords. After that, you're on your own.'"

Julie has played in various bands and has toured. "But, I wouldn't call that a paying job. Yeah it's tough. You do it for the love."

Asked what song she is most proud of writing, she said she had a New Years resolution, in which she'd write a song a month. "If I stick with it, I will be proud of all those songs," she said. "It's hard to focus sometimes. You have to carve time to sit and do that. (Musician) Kevin Seconds, in 2015, had the goal of writing 400 songs in the year. That seemed like a lofty goal, but he made it 262, which is pretty good." She titled January's song "Warm Houses," and at the time of this interview, she had begun on February's song about her Cocker Spaniel, Bentley, a sweet pup who likes to jump and bark during private lessons and who runs his paw across guitar strings when he wants attention.

Julie performs regularly in Sacramento with her two bands, The Signifiers and The Polymers and her next all ages show with the former will be on April 9 from 8 to 11 p.m. at Shine Café, 1400 E St.

Also, to further support the Julie and the arts programs at David Lubin, don't forget about the 18th annual East Sacramento Garden Tour, which will really help keep this going. The tour this year will be held on May 7 and 8. For more information on that, visit <davidlubingardentour.com>.



The Hoots will play a free show at Bertha Henschel Park on Saturday, March 26.

Award-winning, Sacramento band for kids, launches contest to bring more music to schools

Winning school gets a free concert by The Hoots!

Far more the Beatles than Barney, The Hoots, an award winning kids music band from Sacramento, are running a nationwide contest to win a free concert for a school or youth organization and a cash prize of \$250 to support the music program for the winning school or organization. **The Hoots will also be playing a free concert for the surrounding Sacramento community at Bertha Henschel Park on March 26th in East Sacramento.** The contest can be found on their Facebook page or website TheHoots.com, the school with the most nominations from parents will win the contest. The winner will be announced Wednesday, April 3. In addition to bringing cool music that kids and parents can enjoy to schools, The Hoots will release an interactive music app later this year that parents know is safe and kids will love. Joel Daniel, member of The Hoots band says, "Music allows a level playing field for young kids, it strengthens their creative muscles and helps them think

outside the box, many schools are doing away with music programs or have limited resources, we want to do a small part in inspiring young people and parents to keep finding creative ways to bring music to their schools."

Joel Daniel kindly answered some questions about the band and the current contest for Valley Community Newspapers.

VCN: Tell me more about the contest and how it came about.

Joel: We thought a school contest would be a great way to give back to the community we are from. We want to see more music in elementary schools. The school that gets the most entries by their community will win \$250 and a live concert by us, The Hoots! Families can enter at our website, TheHoots.com or follow us on Facebook, The Hoots and enter the giveaway there, the contest ends March 26th and we will announce the winner April 3rd, just in time to book us for a spring assembly, Spring festivals, preschool graduations or schools can wait til the fall for some of the great activi-

See The Hoots, page 12

The Hoots:

Continued from page 12

ties that happen at the beginning of the school year.

There is a trend to bring more music into the school day and we want to be part of that movement. Music is an opportunity for different types of students, some who may not shine athletically can shine playing the violin, kids that want to build confidence can try song writing with ukuleles, and finally music brings a community together, school concerts are some of the most cherished memories by parents and builds great confidence in kids.

In addition, we have been working on a few projects the last few years and are nearing their completion that we can share with families. One is a video project starring the band and Oliver t. Owl, the puppet owl you see in some of our social media posts. You can find a bit more information about that here: <http://www.thehoots.com/pages/hoot-quarters-the-show>. We've set the show itself in Sacramento since that is where we are from, and soon we will be looking to reach our Hoots Community so that we can get some feedback on our various projects.

We are also working on an interactive app for kids that works as a music player and safe environment for young viewers, for watching the videos and listening to our music. A bit more about that can be found here: <http://www.thehoots.com/pages/hoot-quarters-the-app>.

Further, as mentioned in response to your question about why we love music, we love sharing it and the experience of a live show with folks. We

thought it would be fun to generate some buzz and share a concert as a thank you for the community's support over the years.

We are excited to wrap up this contest with a concert at Bertha Henschel park on March 26th at 10:30 a.m. for the Greater East Sac community. Come on how and jam with us and your little ones!

VCN: What's your story?

Joel: The Hoots, started by accident (really!) in 2007 when the first of my friends to have children had twin girls (Madison and Ella), and a mutual friend asked him to write a song as a gift to the newborns. I had no previous experience in kids music, and felt a bit of trepidation. At that point I really associated kids music with Barney and I was not into writing that kind of stuff. My friend insisted it didn't have to be that way, and I finally relented. I wrote three songs for the girls and realized it was fun to write them. I really tried to write songs that I would like to listen to, but with themes that kids could relate to. Once we finished the project I kept going. My then-bandmate, Charles (who has now moved to Nashville, TN to work as a Professor of Biomedical Engineering), joined in the project and eventually we had 10 songs. We recorded these over a series of a few years. In 2011, we finished the record, which went on to sell about 1,000 copies via word of mouth and win several awards.

VCN: How did you guys find each other and decide to make kids music?

Joel: The folks in the band have tended to play with each other in other projects and bands over the years. Playing kids

music is definitely not for everyone. I have asked people over the years and been turned down, but the ones that join up for a show almost always have a good time and want to do it more. The main members presently are Samantha Arrasmith, Cozy Gazelle, Kevin Shakur, and myself. Though, other of our friends will substitute in and out depending on the show.

VCN: What do you like most about playing kid music?

Joel: We can be home and in bed by 8 p.m.! Also, the songs are really fun to write and play; they are like puzzles because we really do try to make them work on multiple levels. Finally, the shows are really fun. It is nice to watch the kids get into the songs, and have a good time hanging out with their parents.

VCN: What are some of your songs. Tell me about one in particular, its inspiration, significance and meaning.

Joel: On the first album we have a song called "Harv". It was the first song I wrote. It's about a Hippo that makes some questionable life decisions. On a hot day, he forgets to wear his sunscreen and gets burned. The message being the importance of sunscreen. We have a song called "Oh Oh" about the importance of trying new things. Even if you think you won't like it, you won't know unless you try.

VCN: What schools have you performed at?

Joel: The last few we have played are Rose Elementary in Milpitas, Sunrise Elementary in Rancho Cordova; we've played at a few of the Merrryhill

schools and a few schools in San Marcos. While not schools, we've played a lot of local libraries, festivals (Davis Music Festival, Pow Wow Days, etc...), and places like Fairytale Town, Shriner's Hospital.

VCN: Tell me about yourself, your love of music and why you think music is important for children and relate that to why you make kid music.

Joel: I love music. I think I might be the last human that still buys records on a regular (at least weekly) basis. I think there is something about folks that write songs (and I don't include myself in this category) that somehow are able to touch upon things that all humans experience, but can succinctly define it in a way that people can relate to, and sometimes can really bring people together and make a difference.

Over the years, it's been something that has comforted me in sad times, and brought a smile to my face for no reason at others. I would like to be able to share that with kids. I think there is always the possibility of having a friend in music and someone that is going through whatever they might be going through in that particular moment. Further, while I love recorded music, I think it is important to experience it live as well. It is really the best way to get that communal experience.

VCN: Who's in the band and what do each of them play?

Joel: Kevin Shakur - Drums/Vocals
Cozy Gazelle - Guitar/Vocals
Joel Daniel - Bass/Vocals
Samantha Arrasmith - Keyboards/Vocals



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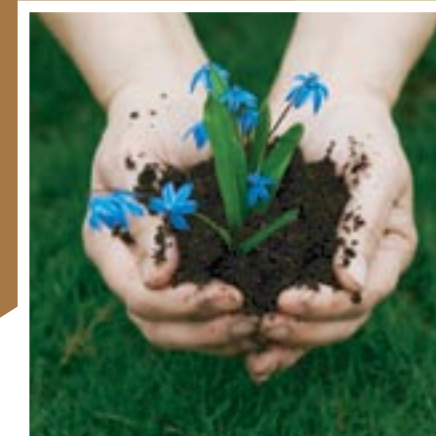
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Matias Bombal's Hollywood

New in theaters: The nation of Columbia's Oscar submission "Embrace of the Serpent"

EMBRACE OF THE SERPENT

This film has not been rated.

Oscilloscope Laboratories has a studio logo not unlike like the classic Toho-Scope logo of the Golden Era. In glorious black and white, it sets the stage for remarkable cinematography to follow that will show you a world that you literally have never seen before: the Amazon River in Colombia. The movie's Spanish language title is "Abrazo de la Serpiente" ("Embrace of the Serpent") You've never seen the Amazon in this way: lyrical, poetic and mysterious in rich black and white tones. In this captivating visual experience, we are told a story of the Amazon in an entirely new way. From the perspective of a native Colombian of the Amazon, Karamakate.

Karamakate is played by two men over different periods in time, yet in both, he leads a white man as a guide in search of flora and fauna of the Amazon, and in particular the rare health restorative plant "Yakruna" a hallucinogen vine, epiphyte of the rubber tree. The sap of trees on which it grows is of higher purity. Karamakate the younger is played by Nilbio Torres, a 30-year-old actor who speaks little Spanish as he mostly speaks Cubeo. This is his first movie. He had previously worked in agriculture. The elder Karamakate is played by Antonio Bolívar Salvador. Bolívar in real life is one of the last survivors of the Ocaina people. Besides playing one of the main characters, he also served as interpreter for the Tikuna, Cubeo, Huitoto languages and even English, as he became a teacher of the international actors.

The "white men" of the movie visit the famous snake shaped river as have

others in movies past, with in interest in rubber or natural history. The movie cuts between the two tales set apart by many years. This gives you the non-traditional sense of timelessness of the Amazon and how the indigenous folks that live there view time and space; not at all as in western thought. It becomes clear in the narrative that the natives view both white explores as one man, one spirit and not two.

The movie begins to tell of a 1909 illness of Theodor von Martius, (Jan Bijvoet) based on real life German explorer Theodor Koch Grünberg (1878-1924). "Martius" was snagged by this illness while trekking through the Amazon. One native begrudgingly agreed to help him search for a special plant to help him.

The real Koch-Grünberg wrote: "It is impossible to know if the infinite jungle has initiated in me the process that has taken so many others to total and incurable insanity. If that is the case, it only remains for me to excuse myself and ask your comprehension, for the display I witnessed in those enchanted hours was such that I find it impossible to describe in words of its beauty and splendor. All I know is when I came back, I was another man."

This is a movie of three personal journeys against all odds and nature and the wonder that is the Amazon. David Gallego's photography is a character in the movie, just as timeless and complex as the river and its now lost peoples.

After the main title appears on screen, our second "white man" (Brionne Davis), also German and a student of Martius appears with reflex 1950s camera offering a clue to the time period of his part of the story. He is Evan, and based on the real



life person Richard Evans Schultes (1915-2017). He meets the meets older Karamakate, who sees in him the same soul of the man that he had taken through the wilds so many years earlier. They revisit spots seen in the earlier journey with startling differences that have occurred over time. In one such case, the initial visit was to a Catholic mission. The later visit shows it overrun by cannibals in a harrowing and remarkable sequence.

In one scene of profound Karamakate wisdom of the jungle, Martinus's compass is stolen by natives, and he insists on keeping it. He'd not escape with his life if he were to persist, and is advised to just leave as Karamakate says: "You can't forbid them to learn. Knowledge belongs to all men."

The travel diaries of Theodor Koch Grünberg and Richard Evans Schultes are recognized today as the only known records of large portions of Amazon cultures. The movie was nominated for Best Foreign Film at this year's Academy Awards, but lost to "Son of Saul". The film's director, Ciro Guerra, risked life and limb with cast and crew by taking motion picture film cameras on lactation in the real Amazon. He released this statement:

"Whenever I looked at a map of my country,

I was overwhelmed by great uncertainty.

Half of it was an unknown territory, a green sea, of which I knew nothing.

The Amazon, that unfathomable land, which we foolishly reduce to simple concepts. Coke, drugs, Indians, rivers, war.

Is there really nothing more out there?

Is there not a culture, a history? Is there not a soul that transcends?

The explorers taught me otherwise. Those men who left everything, who risked everything, to tell us about a world

we could not imagine. Those who made first contact, During one of the most vicious holocausts man has ever seen.

Can man, through science and art, transcend brutality? Some men did.

The explorers have told their story. The natives haven't.

This is it.

A land the size of a whole continent, yet untold. Unseen by our own cinema.

That Amazon is lost now. In the cinema, it can live again."

This movie is a stunning and remarkable experience into another world and time reality so unlike our own. Bewigling, yet hard to comprehend, I was fascinated and horrified, enchanted and frightened. I'd never had the desire to see the Amazon in person, the snakes alone would make me expire at their mere sight. Yet this was a remarkable look at a life so foreign on our own planet and the famous river that has lured adventure since it beckoned discovery to the first intrepid souls that tried to unravel her mysteries.

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April Mixer
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CALENDAR

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

Matsuyama Elementary School will have a Mobile Clothing Drive Fundraiser

There will be a Mobile Drop Box on campus at 7680 Windbridge Drive, Sacramento from March 8-21. Donations can be dropped off 24/7. This fundraiser promotes recycling, gives back to the local community AND raises money for our school. ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF: Usable clothing (all sizes), shoes, jewelry, belts, purses, backpacks, bedding and linens, toys, DVDs, and other small non-breakable items.

Sutter's Fort looking for volunteers

Do you have an interest in early Sacramento history? Do you get excited at the idea of dressing up in Pioneer clothing, churning butter, or making barrels? If so, volunteering at the birthplace of the city of Sacramento may be just for you! Sutter's Fort will soon begin Docent training classes for those

interested in interpreting pioneer California history to the public. For more information about training dates and requirements, please contact volunteer coordinator Llonel Onsurez at (916) 323-2015 or llonel.onsurez@parks.ca.gov.

Free trees

Sacramento Tree Foundation, in partnership with SMUD, provides free expert tree selection advice and energy saving shade trees to SMUD customers. Call the Sacramento Tree Foundation at (916) 924-8733 or email shadetrees@sactree.com to make your appointment to receive up to 10 free shade trees. Your appointment can be online or in person and an expert Community Forester will work with you to find the best places and tree varieties to plant that will provide the most shade for your home. About two weeks after your appointment, once you agree to the planting plan, your trees, stakes and ties will be delivered to you. This is a free service provided in partnership by SMUD and Sacramento Tree Foundation to help SMUD customers save energy. For more information, call Sacramento

Tree Foundation at (916) 924-8733 or visit www.sactree.com. Properly planted trees can save help you save up to 40 percent on summer cooling costs, increase your property value, clean the air, reduce stormwater flooding, and make your neighborhood a better place to live. Call Sacramento Tree Foundation at (916) 924-8733 or visit www.sactree.com for your free trees.

Sons In Retirement (SIR) Branch #93 Luncheon programs are held on the third Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at Elks Lodge No.6. SIR is a luncheon club with 141 branches and a membership of 18,000 men who are retired from full-time employment. Activities included weekly golf tournaments and bowling league teams. For more information or an application call Chairman Dick West at 919-3858.

Free Yoga Night at Sacramento State

Sacramento State's The University Union UNIQUE Programs is pleased to announce an evening of relaxing yoga with fitness instructions from The WELL at Sacramento State on Thursday, March 17, 2016 starting 7:30 p.m. in The University Union Ballroom. The event is free for Sac State students and the general public. The first half hour will be an introduction to yoga for beginners. Immediately following will be yoga appropriate for all fitness levels. Yoga will develop inner and outer strength, in-

crease stamina and flexibility and help you get centered through a blend of different yoga traditions. This class links body, breath and mind with focus on alignment. Co-sponsored with Group Fitness at The WELL, the campus recreation and fitness facility at Sacramento State. For more information, please visit www.SacStateUNIQUE.com or call the University Union Info Desk at 278-6997.

The Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society (STJS) monthly music event

Every second Sunday of the month, STJS has music at the Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., from noon to 5 p.m. Each month STJS has a different band, there is three different rooms to listen to music. Nominal fee for members is \$8; non-member price is \$10.

Nar-Anon meeting for families and friends

The group meets to learn about drug abuse, share problems, encourage the addict to seek help, replace despair with hope, improve the family attitude, help regain your self-confidence. For more information, call the First

United Methodist Church at 446-5025, ext. 101. Meetings are Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., 2100 J St.

Rotary Club South meeting

The Rotary Club of South Sacramento meets at noon for lunch every Thursday at Aviators Restaurant at Executive Airport, 6151 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95822. Rotary is one of the largest service organizations in the world dedicated to community service both locally, and internationally. Please call JR Springer at 425-9195 for additional information.

Beginning tai chi gong

These exercises use the principle of chi flowing properly throughout the body to maintain the equilibrium of yin and yang. Regular practice of these forms will develop better balance and flexibility, gain strength, promote deep relaxation, and improve health. This beginning class will also learn the 24 Yang Style Tai Chi and Yi Jing, a tra-

See more Calendar, page 18

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CALENDAR

Continued from page 17

ditional Health Qi Gong. Pre-registration and prepayment required or \$7 drop-in fee at the door. Class will be held on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 pm at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.waccsv.org.

Soroptimist International Sacramento South
 Meets the second and fourth Tuesday at Executive Airport, Aviators Restaurant at 12:15 p.m.

Widow persons monthly buffet and social

Widowed Persons Association of California, Newcomers' Buffet and Social is open to any and all widows and widowers, the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. The buffet will be held in the private dining room at the Plaza Hof Brau, corner of El Camino and Watt Avenue, cost varies as the choice is for a no-host buffet menu. There is no charge to attend the social other than the meal chosen. For more information, call 916 972-9722.

Widowed Persons Association of California, Sunday Support, is open to any and all widows or widowers, every Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. in the meeting room of the WPAC office, 2628 El Camino Avenue, Ste. D-18. Enter from the back parking lot. For more information, call 916 972-9722. Saturday, Nov. 7, Widowed Persons Association of California Workshop, "Coping with the Holidays," 2 to 4 p.m., the doors open at 1:30 p.m.. A second session will be held Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 7 to 9 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. The workshops will take place at 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste. D-18. Enter from the back parking lot. For more information or to register, call 972-9722.

MARCH
Giant garter snake topic for Audubon meeting
 March 17: The Giant Gartersnake, one of America's largest snakes, will be the topic at the March 17 meeting of the Sacramento Audubon Society. Once abundant in the Central Valley, the big snake has lost most of

its historical wetland habitat to farming and development and is now found mostly in the rice fields of the Sacramento Valley, according to speaker Eric Hansen, a herpetologist who has studied them for many years. The public is invited to the 7 p.m. meeting at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Ancil Hoffman Park (For directions, see sacnaturecenter.com.) There will be no charge for the program, and no park entry fee.

Fresh, Hot Crab at West Campus Crab Feed!

March 19: Support one of our premier local high schools by attending the West Campus Crab Feed and Silent Auction coming up Saturday, March 19 from 5:30-10 p.m. at Giovanni Hall of St. Mary's Church. Tickets are \$60/person, available at www.west-campus.scusd.edu or in the school office at 3022 58th St. The evening will feature: fresh, hot crab or rib eye steak cooked right on the premises; "Aloha" Hawaiian theme with special tropical cocktail; live music from West Campus' award-winning band; as well as a raffle and silent auction. All proceeds go to support West Campus students programs including the classes of 2016-2019, WCHS marching band and the West Campus Foundation for Excellence. Donations for our raffle and auction are also very much appreciated! West Campus High School is recognized as a California Distinguished School, rated the top high school in Northern California by Newsweek magazine, and has one of the highest CAASPP scores in ELA and math in the state. In addition to high academic expectations and a strong commitment to the arts and athletics, West Campus High School is devoted to developing future leaders and building strong ties within our neighborhood and community. Commitment to diversity and civic responsibility are central to West Campus' educational mission and goals for student development. Your donation to West Campus High School helps support the development of tomorrow's leaders. Many school programs at West Campus are only made possible with the assistance we receive from our family, friends, and community business partners.

Capella Antiqua Baroque Orchestra and Soloists

March 19: Starting at 7:30 p.m., experience a deeply moving concert combining music, word, and contemplation at the Cathedral of The Blessed Sacrament, one of Sacramento's most powerful and evocative spaces, located at 11th and K streets. This somber music will explore the lamentations and gravity of human nature. Discover the soaring melodic lines and intensely personal setting of Francois Couperin's Leçons de ténèbres pour le mercredi saint. Listen to the beautiful counterplay between violins in Jean-Marie LeClair's Sonata for Two Violins. Enjoy the mournful and moving sound of the Baroque bassoon in Darius Castellos Sonata No. 10. Featuring the Capella Antiqua Baroque Orchestra, and soprano soloists Elic Anne Welch and Liisa Davila. Tickets are \$15 general and \$10 for students, seniors, and under-employed.

The Sacramento Guitar Society presents a Young Artists Showcase Concert

March 20: The Sacramento Guitar Society presents a Young Artists Showcase Concert at California State University, Capistrano Hall, Room 151, on March 20 at 3 p.m. We will have Olivia Chiang, a seasoned guitarist at age 15, from Los Angeles and 18-year-old Gianfranco Balazar from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Donations are accepted.

The Shepard Garden and Arts Center Spring Sale

March 19-20: Sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Over 20 clubs that meet at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center and over 18 craft vendors will participate. Plants, pottery, garden decor, jewelry and craft items will be for sale. Food will be available for purchase. Free admission and free parking. Proceeds help support the Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. For more information contact: Therese Ruth, 916-457-0822 or tgrcom@aol.com.

Music at noon

March 23: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy silent movies with Theater Organist Dave Moreno.

Music at noon

March 30: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by a nostalgic swing band.

KVIE Public Television Presents KVIE Uncorked, An Evening with Frankie Moreno

March 31: Las Vegas Headliner of the Year Frankie Moreno, accompanied by his band mates and back-up singers, will perform at KVIE Uncorked, on Thursday, March 31, 2016, from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. at the KVIE Studios in Sacramento. Open to the community, KVIE Uncorked, An Evening with Frankie Moreno, is a special night benefiting KVIE Public Television and celebrating food, wine, beer, and music. Guests can enter a raffle for wonderful prizes, enjoy delicious refreshments, and experience the fun sound of Frankie Moreno - all while supporting local public television. General admission guests will enjoy the studio concert and a dessert reception. Tickets are \$75 for general admission. VIP guests can enjoy a pre-show reception, meet and greet with the band, studio concert, and post-show acoustic set in the courtyard. VIP tickets are \$150. The VIP pre-show reception opens at 7 p.m. To purchase tickets, or for more information, visit kvie.org/uncorked.

POLICE LOG

The news items below are collected from police dispatchers' notes and arrest reports. The information in them has often not been verified beyond the initial reports. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Reporting date: Tuesday, March 1
(Stolen Vehicle): 16th Avenue and Stockton Boulevard at 11:48 p.m.

Officers were patrolling in the above area when they conducted a traffic stop on an RV towing a trailer. Officers contacted the driver and a records check revealed the trailer was stolen. The driver was safely detained and arrested for multiple charges.

Reporting date: Wednesday, March 2
(Vandalism): 5900 block of 14th Avenue at 8:10 a.m.

The victim's vehicle was parked in front of the residence when an unknown suspect keyed the car and broke the windshield. Officers responded

to the scene and canvassed the area for evidence. The investigation remains active to determine if this was the result of a domestic violence.

(DUI): 5800 block of 61st Street at 7:06 p.m.

Officers responded to the call of a vehicle driving recklessly in the above area. The suspect driver struck several parked vehicles and drove away from the scene. One victim who was seated in one of the parked vehicles sustained a non-life threatening injury. The suspect struck a house and fled on foot as officers were arriving on scene. No injuries were reported. The suspect was safely detained and after a series of field sobriety tests, she was arrested for suspicion of driving under the influence and hit and run.

Reporting date: Thursday, March 3
4500 block of 62nd Street at 12:42 a.m.

Officers responded to the call of a vehicle collision. The

suspect driver struck two parked vehicles. When officers contacted the driver, she appeared intoxicated. After further investigation, the driver was arrested for suspicion of driving under the influence and the front passenger was arrested for outstanding warrants.

Reporting date: Friday, March 4
(Shooting): 1400 block of Alhambra Boulevard at 1:54 a.m.

Officers responded to the above area regarding a shooting. When officers arrived on scene, no victims were located. The area was canvassed for evidence. Moments later, one male victim arrived at an area hospital with a non-life threatening injury. The investigation remains active to determine the circumstances surrounding this incident.

Reporting date: Saturday, March 5
(Theft): 2300 block of Stockton Boulevard at 2:20 p.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of theft. Four suspects entered

the business, attempted to cash a forged check, and fled in a vehicle. Officers stopped the car and detained all of the occupants. They were arrested on various charges.

Reporting date: Sunday, March 6
(DUI): Alhambra Boulevard and S Street at 2:27 a.m.

Officers working in the area observed a subject in a vehicle who appeared to be asleep. Upon contact with the man, he was evaluated and arrested for suspicion of DUI.

(Robbery): Folsom Boulevard and Hornet Drive at 10:10 p.m.

The unknown suspect and victim were in a non-injury traffic collision at this location. The unarmed suspect then stole the victim's phone by force and fled the scene in a vehicle. The investigation is on-going.

Reporting date: Tuesday, March 8
(Firearm Possession): 1000 block of Alhambra Boulevard at 8:01 p.m.

Officers were in a business at this location on an unrelated call for service when they were hailed about another individual inside the store who may be armed with a weapon. Officers located the described subject and a search revealed that he was in possession of a firearm. The man was arrested for multiple firearm possession offenses.

Reporting date: Saturday, March 12
(Traffic Stop): 6100 block of 63rd St at 12:47 a.m.

Officers were patrolling in the above area when they conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. Officers contacted the driver and illegal firearms were located inside the vehicle. The suspect was detained and ultimately arrested for multiple charges.

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 Easter Sunday
 March 27th
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Older Adult Choral Group to Sing their Hearts Out during April 10th 'Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert'

The spring concert is a part of the City of Sacramento's Older Adult Services and Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission's Creative Aging Choral Initiative.

The Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC) will be presenting "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert" showcasing the singing talents of *Singers with Hart*, a choral group comprised of forty singers age 50 plus, on Sunday, April 10, 2 to 4 p.m. at the 24th Street Theatre in the Sierra 2 Center for the Arts and Community, 2791 24th Street, in the beautiful Curtis Park neighborhood of Sacramento. The two-hour spring concert, which is free and open to the public, will feature traditional American and world folk music, classical and popular songs, along with contemporary choral favorites. This is a ticketed event. Pick up your free concert ticket by visiting the Hart Senior Center reception desk, 915 27th Street, in downtown Sacramento.

Singers with Hart is led by professional music director, Christiana Quick-Cleveland. Aside from being a fun activity, singing in a group can help older adults maintain an active mind by focusing on the music and



learning new songs. Overall, the sense of belonging, camaraderie, and the thrill of performing contributes to a happier and more joyful outlook in life. According to Christiana, "When we sing together we synchronize our breathing and, in doing so, synchronize our hearts." The "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert" is the culmination of the choral group's 14-week session held at the Hart Senior Center.

For more information about "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert" or upcoming *Singers with Hart* sessions, visit the Hart Senior Center reception desk, call (916) 808-5462, or visit www.cityofsacramento.org/hartcenter.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26
 2 SEATINGS:
 11:15 A.M. & 1:15 P.M.
 2760 SUTTERVILLE ROAD
 ENJOY LUNCH & MUSIC WITH
JERRY LOPES
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 RESERVATIONS 452.2809

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REMODEL ON SANTA YNEZ

Creative 2 bedroom 2 bath loft style home. Light and bright with vaulted ceilings, skylights, open floor plan, hardwood floors, and granite counters in kitchen. Serene backyard and deck area with views from all angles within the home, but wait until you see the fruit trees!

\$409,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



PENDING

SUNNY MEDITERRANEAN

On a fabulous street, this one-of-a-kind home has charming Moorish architectural accents throughout. Quaint front courtyard and pergola on the tiled back patio with surrounding gardens. Remodeled kitchen. 2 bedroom home has been well-cared for by the current long-time owner

\$549,900

DAVID KIRRENE



CLASSIC EAST SACRAMENTO

3 bedroom 2 baths, beautiful hardwood floors and classic fireplace in the living room. The kitchen has a quaint breakfast nook and marble counters. Partial basement would make a great wine storage area. Low maintenance backyard with covered patio and built-in seating. A Great Home!

\$619,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



PENDING

ELMHURST COTTAGE

Charming 2 bedroom. Features include: wood floors, dual pane windows, crown moldings, granite counters in kitchen and plenty of cabinet space. The backyard is great for entertaining with the covered patio and built-in swimming pool. The front porch is a great place to sit and visit with the neighbors

\$359,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



BEAUTIFUL TAHOE PARK

Enjoy this rare 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with over 1500 sq ft and 2-car garage. Features include family room, master bath, hardwood floors, central heat and air, the charm of original tile in kitchen and baths, Simonton dual pane windows, newer roof(2013) and a gardeners dream backyard. Lovingly maintained. \$349,000

PATRICK VOGELI 207-4515



PENDING

4 BEDROOM MCKINLEY PARK

Updated 4 bedroom 2 bath, 2-story home with 1753 sf ... an easy walk to McKinley Park! Remodeled kitchen with Caesar-Stone Quartz countertops, refinished hardwood floors and stairs and nicely updated bathrooms. Traditional style with living room fireplace, formal dining and classic feel!

\$676,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



PENDING

FANTASTIC BUNGALOW

Charming, remodeled 3 bedroom 2 bath home has a wonderful floor plan with vintage aspects to it (built-in cabinetry around fireplace, dining room china cabinet). Lovely kitchen with Silestone counters, sunny sitting area, built-in desk and garden window overlooks the large deck and backyard.

\$510,000

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



PENDING

RIVER PARK

Spacious 4 bedroom 2½ baths with 2006 upstairs addition featuring large master retreat with balcony and separate office. Spacious family room, laundry area and half bath all tucked away at back of house. Casual dining with built-ins, updated kitchen. Covered patio and well-manicured yard.

\$499,000

STEPAHIE GALLAGHER 342-2288



PENDING

ADORABLE EAST SACRAMENTO

Relax on the front porch of this cute 1920's cottage and watch the world go by! 2 bedroom home with unique floors and sunny remodeled kitchen and breakfast nook. Be sure not to miss the large studio or office off the garage (a great "man-cave") with half bath.

\$425,000

DAVID KIRRENE 531-7495

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