

EAST SACRAMENTO NEWS

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From 4th of July to family karaoke; make your plans

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E-mail stories & photos to: editor@valcomnews.com

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Around the Hood

By CORKY OAKES

Is the thrill truly gone? **Timeless Thrills** at 3714 J St. doesn't think so. The website says, "Timeless Thrills® is an independent brand based out of Sacramento, California" that "aims to produce quality goods made in the USA, manufactured in limited quantities and never reproduced." Very interesting SF Giants tees there...or are they really Giants tees??

Gelato is truly divine especially when in our backyard. **Devine Gelateria** is coming to East Sacramento late June 2016. The location is next to the old Queen of Tarts on McKinley Blvd...3610 to be exact. Devine has been dishing out delicacies from their location on 19th Street for several years. I'm told offerings will include baked goods, pastries and Temple Coffee and Tea. The website says the gelato selection will be more "limited" than the mid-town location...say what???

MUST SEE!!! DaDaS Art Gallery and Boutique (3655 J Street) is hosting a "microARTCollection" exhibit until the end of 2016. Most pieces are no larger than a matchbook. Truly amazing work. The collection's curator is Robert-Jean Ray. He is actively seeking more artists to add to this collection. (robertray.collage@yahoo.com)

Join the **Tahoe Park Biker Group** at their second bicycle and brewery tour, June 18th. The group will start at Tahoe Park on the corner of 11th & 61st. Lift-off at 6 p.m unless the temperature is too hot ...in which case, lift-off at 7 p.m. Cruise on bikes to one or more various breweries as your schedule allows! The



group usually visits three. For more information contact Ruth at ruthymay@gmail.com.

Have lemons gathering on your lawn? Veggies drooping on the vine? Donate to the **East Sac Farm** stand. This is a non-profit that donates its own organically grown fruit (and soon veggies) to the community. Donate your excess fruit and vegetables to this wonderful cause while reducing waste. East Sac Farm stand will be open every other Tuesday. The stand is located on 56th Street between J and M in East Sacramento. Tentative summer hours will be 5-7 p.m. Check Nextdoor or Instagram @urbanfarmstead the day of to be sure they will be open AND for more information about donating.

The **Sacramento Tree Foundation** has restarted Save The Elms Program (STEP), which uses volunteer citizen scientists to monitor local elm trees for symptoms of Dutch elm disease. Attend training and commit to visually monitoring a group of elms three times between May and September.

Shattering the glass ceiling:

School board member discusses a pivotal mother/daughter experience

By JESSIE RYAN
Special to the East Sacramento News

In 1984, pledging to break the glass ceiling, Walter Mondale selected the first woman to run for Vice President on a major party ticket. I was 6 years-old and my struggling single Mother braved the sweltering 100 degree heat of Sacramento to take me to see Vice Presidential Candidate Geraldine Ferraro speak at the State Capitol.

I'll never forget my Mother pushing me to the front of the stage, hoisting me upon her shoulders, pointing-up at Geraldine and saying, "If she can run for Vice President, Jessie, you can be anything you want to be."

And yet, more than three decades later, no woman has become Vice President let alone President of the United States. There is a certain kind of sadness in the realization that change has not come sooner. Women across the country, like myself, begin to wonder if they can really aspire to be anything or if they will see a woman President in their lifetime.

On Sunday, 5, I had the opportunity to take my 6-year-old daughter to hear Hillary Rodham Clinton speak at Sacramento City College. It was a blistering hot day and my daughter endured five hours of waiting in lines (without so much as a bathroom break). Not once did she ask to go home. In fact, she told me quite simply that she was, "angry that there hasn't been a woman President."

When Hillary took the stage, once again speaking of breaking glass ceilings, ending income inequality, championing paid family leave, and supporting female representation at every level of American society, I held my daughter closely and whispered in her ear, "Brooklyn, if she can become President, you can be anything you want to be."

I never imagined that moment would be caught on camera and folded into a Hillary Clinton campaign video to commemorate her historic achievement as the first woman from a major party to become a Presidential nominee.



Daughter Brooklyn is being held by her mother, Jessie Ryan, at the recent Hillary Clinton event at Sacramento City College.

On June 7, prior to taking the stage to acknowledge her primary victories, the Clinton campaign unveiled the beautiful and poignant video featuring highlights of the women's rights movement (complete with powerful images of the suffragettes, Shirley Chisholm, Gloria Steinem and Dolores Huerta) and then flashing to my daughter and me embracing at the Sacramento City College rally, eyes filled with hope. The screen read, "No limit to how big she can dream."

No matter your party preference or personal opinion of Hillary Clinton, Tuesday marked an historic moment for women and girls every-

where. Finally bearing witness to a woman becoming the presumptive Democratic Party Presidential nominee represents a mind shift in this country. It inspires women and girls everywhere to reach for the stars; to embrace their courage and harness their tenacity, to challenge stereotypes and dare to compete.

That night my Mother, now 71 and battling cancer, took my hand and together we wept as Clinton recounted her own Mother's journey to overcome adversity and impart words of wisdom to her daughter. It felt as if we had come full circle. It felt as if, after decades of disappointment, the invisible glass ceiling had shattered.

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	SOLD CHARMING COTTAGE Charming cottage nestled on tree-lined San Miguel in the heart of East Sacramento. This 2 bedroom 1 bath home offers a living room with fireplace, a bright kitchen with a sun porch off the back, hardwood floors throughout, CH&A, and spacious backyard. \$429,950		SOLD GORGEOUS 3 BED/ 1 BATH BRICK TUDOR Gorgeous 3 Bed/1 Bath, 1356 sq/ft brick Tudor in East Sacramento! Living room is bright and open with unique textured, plaster walls and fireplace. Features include hardwood floors, crown moulding, and a spacious backyard with a slate patio. Within walking distance to park, coffee house, restaurants and shopping! \$529,950

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Zpizza announces East Sacramento location for taproom, looking for investors

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Chris Bright, CEO of zpizza, announced that the pizza company will open at 6601 Folsom Blvd. come October 2016. Chris put a call out on social media looking for investors, as the pizza company has partnered with Equity Eats, a restaurant start-up that allows the local community to buy into their favorite restaurants.

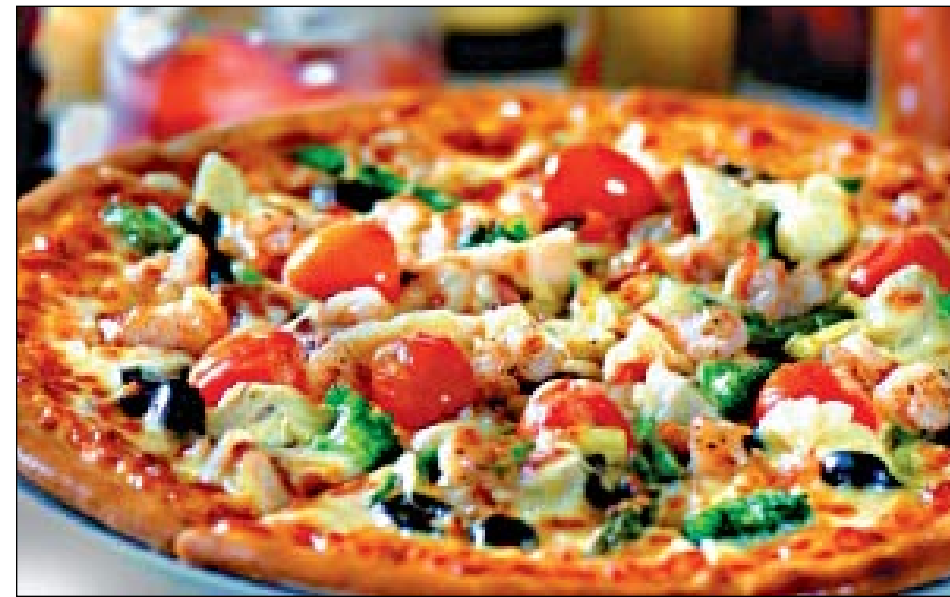
Instead of going to a bank to finance expansion or renovation, EquityEats converts restaurant customers into investors that contribute relatively small amounts in exchange for food and beverage credit. "Instead of paying back principal and interest to a bank, restaurants pay their customers back in the food they love, making fundraising with EquityEats the least expensive form of financing available," Bright said.

Bright said zpizza has its initial funding for the Folsom Boulevard location and that the funding from EquityEats will add to the business's marketing budget and to their working capital reserve. In addition to the

investment, zpizza looks forward to extending "VIP" benefits to investors and to generating word-of-mouth marketing from the investment community, Bright said.

In 2014, zpizza opened up a taproom in the Pocket area at 7600 Greenhaven Drive. Year-to-date sales are up versus last year, as are check averages, Bright said. "We have learned quite a bit since opening the first zpizza tap room in the Pocket. We have since opened locations in Tucson and Los Angeles. Our new Folsom (Boulevard) location will be slightly larger; the kitchen will open up to the tap room dining room (there will only be one dining room versus the two dining rooms in the Pocket) and our beer wall will be more than 50 percent larger. Folsom (Boulevard) will have 30 taps versus the 18 taps in the Pocket. We will also have a dedicated patio for the tap room. We are excited about Folsom (Boulevard) and Sacramento overall. In fact, we initiated the search for new locations in Sacramento in April."

From zpizza's beginnings in Southern California, the chain has been



known for takeout and delivery, and Bright told the Pocket News two years ago they know that getting the community into the dining room requires more than tables and chairs. "We focused on designing a space that appeals to multiple dining occasions, all while tapping into a local craft beer culture and we love the idea of guests enjoy-

ing their favorite brews with their favorite zpizza dishes. With a keg room for beer fans and a restaurant for families, the Tap Room offers a unique dining experience for all," he said then.

Zpizza has expanded to more than 100 locations both nationally and internationally since its first store opened its doors in 1986.

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MONTHLY CAREGIVER EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
Tuesday, June 21st at 2pm
"Are You Feeling Stuck In a Conflict?"
Presented by: Lora Barrett, Elder Care Mediator
When the time comes to oversee your loved one's care needs it does not always mean smooth sailing ahead. Issues commonly arise that lead to disagreements.
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• Roles of siblings, step-family and roles of out of state family
• Driving and transportation
Refreshments & snacks will be served
Space Limited, Please RSVP by June 17th

MONTHLY FINANCIAL EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
Thursday, June 30th At 5:30pm
"Legal & Financial Planning for those with a Memory Impairment"
Presented by: Dustin MacFarlane, Elder Law Attorney
This is an interactive program where you will learn about important legal and financial issues to consider, how to put plans in place, and how to access legal and financial resources near you. This program will cover information for families and individuals dealing with Dementia.
Topics covered will include:
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• Legal documents you will need and what they mean for all of you
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Neighborhood events round-up

Fourth of July celebration in Glenn Hall Park

Summer is here. School is out and the River Park Neighborhood Association is hosting the Fourth of July Parade and Festival at Glenn Hall Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, July 4. The community event features a classic car parade, the firecracker kids' parade, food, live music, carnival games, arts and crafts, and two bounce houses and ice cream, courtesy of the River Park Mother's Club. Tickets will be sold for the games, arts and crafts, face painters and balloon twister. Food vendors take cash only.

Kids: Decorate your bikes, scooters, skateboards and wagons in patriotic colors and line up in front of

Caleb Greenwood School (Camellia and Carlson) and be ready to go at 9:30 a.m. At 10 a.m., the kids' parade will follow the fire engine from Camellia down Carlson to Glenn Hall Park. The classic cars will line up down at Ciaverella Field at 9 a.m. and the car parade will make its way toward Glenn Hall Park. This annual event would not be possible without the support of community partners: Councilmember Jeff Harris, Compton's Market, Ideas by Design, Fire Station No. 8 and Arts in River Park. This fun event also happens because of volunteers who help with the games. If you have pre-teen or teenage children who are interested in helping out their community by volunteering for three hours at this event, contact Kim Teague at kimpossible916@hotmail.com or text her at 606-9154. We hope to see you on the fourth! -- Kim Teague

Fire Station 8 open house

On Saturday, June 18 from 2 to 4 p.m., bring your families and come on out to your local fire station. Meet the firefighters and medics who protect your neighborhood; tour the station; pick up some safety brochures; and take an up-close look at the trucks, engines, ambulances, equipment, and gear that your first responders use every day. City of Sacramento Fire Station 8 is located at 5990 H St., 95819 near the Scottish Rite Temple.

Family karaoke had big success in Tahoe Park and will return to the Public House Theater twice a month

The first Family Karaoke Night at the Public House Theater in Tahoe Park was a great success and will be a returning event the first and third Sundays in the evening. The next one will be on Father's Day, June 19. There just might be a small karaoke incentive for the first five dads to show up with their kids and sing. Public House Theater is located at 5440 14th Ave.

East Sacramento Farmers Market

The East Sacramento Farmer's Market is a neighborhood certified farmer's market under the trees in McKinley Park. The Market showcases organic produce, farmstand products, artisan and fair trade crafts. The market is held on Saturday mornings April through October.

Engage in Taiko drumming for the first time

Japanese Taiko drumming is an exciting musical activity that combines rhythm, movement, and culture into a dynamic art form that engages both body and mind. Head to the Hart Senior Center for a series of classes on this great practice.



File photo by Monica Stark

Each session will cover basic technique and rhythms as well as a little history and Japanese language and feature a new Taiko song for students to learn, so you can take the class again and again.

Note: No experience is necessary, new students of all physical and musical abilities are welcomed. All equipment is provided. Classes are open to adults age 50-plus. Please wear comfortable clothing and footwear. Wednesdays June 22 and 29 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Ethel Hart Senior Center is located at 915 27th St. Register at the Hart Senior Center front desk.

on and song sheets for you to keep) and it's all complete with a pancake breakfast in the morning. It's \$50 for adults and kids 16 and under are free. It's a benefit event for Sacramento's local Land Trust organization. SVC will be giving away a ton of REI camping gear, chairs, cooler, camp table, insulated picnic basket, tickets to Fairy Tale Town, ARNHA books, and more. Every paid adult gets a ticket for a chance to win the door prizes.

Make Music Day Sacramento presented by Tim's Music

On Tuesday, June 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tim's Music hosts a small music festival in celebration of Make Music Day, a global event taking place in over 700 cities around the world. Make Music Day Sacramento will feature outdoor performances, carnival games, a make your own percussion instrument booth, homemade carrot clarinets and bucket basses, a bucket

See Events, page 7

Events:

Continued from page 6

drum circle, an instrument petting zoo, and more. The public is encouraged to bring their instrument to participate in a large string ensemble or a large saxophone choir. Make Music Day Sacramento joins other events worldwide as communities come together in celebration of music and the countless benefits that making music brings. Tim's Music, 2812 Marconi Ave., 95821. Free admission: Public String Ensemble at 11 a.m. and public saxophone choir at noon. 925-9160.

Fishing Day at Howe Park Pond

The Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District and Fishing in the City are excited about the catfish season. At the Howe Park Pond, Fishing in the City is providing loans of rods, bait, and tackle for up to 50 people and instructional clinics on July 2 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Note: Sponsored by California Dept. Fish & Game. Howe Park is located at 2201 Cottage Way, 95825. For more information, call 927-3802x125.

Pops in the Park final shows

Pops in the Park is an opportunity to raise money for our under-funded neighborhood parks while bringing free, quality entertainment to the community. Sponsorship and advertising dollars, as well as proceeds from the sale of food and beverages at the events, have been

used since 1995 to fund this event, enhance our neighborhood parks, bring improvements to the neighborhood and provide youth athletic scholarships.

Joy & Madness: Saturday, June 18 at McKinley Park at 6 p.m.

A nine piece soul and funk explosion out of Sacramento that could be described as Jamiroquai meets J. Geils, Joy & Madness has been rocking stages all over the West Coast since inception. They have shared the stage with the likes of Tower of Power, Collective Soul, The Monophonic, the Moter, and the Pimps of Joytime, Dumpstaphunk, and Trombone Shorty and bring a live performance which leaves everybody inspired, sweaty, and full of joy.

Joy & Madness began with five core members who met in a previous local project. They added long-time Sacramento funkateer, Miss Nyxi on bass, and the prolific funk guitarist, Bobby G. Bobby G, who had played with and produced the likes of Earth, Wind, and Fire, Sheila E, Lionel Richie among others, had a chance encounter with Miss

Nyxi after sitting in with Tower of Power's Roger Smith. After Miss Nyxi introduced him to Joy & Madness, he added his impeccable funk chops, production skills and musical ingenuity to the band. The addition of world percussionist Ryan Sacco cemented the layer of groove. With a raucous mix of raw stoniness energy, pulsing groove, and juicy horn lines coloring tightly crafted songs, Joy & Madness brings a modern classic pop sensibility to a new age of joyous funk and soul. Joy & Madness reaches audiences in a way that few live performers can. Front man and vocalist Hans Eberbach brings so much freewheeling energy to the stage, he has literally broken right through the floorboards. His raw, open connection with the audience breaks down barriers and pulls everyone together into the excitement of the experience.

The band's new EP, Little Bright World was released in November of 2015 at a Sacramento's Crest Theater. Ozomatli shared the bill for a rousing and memorable performance. Since then Little Bright World has begun spinning on terrestrial and internet radio stations around the world. The band's two EPs have

won both Independent Music Awards and Akademia Music Awards and begun to garner glowing reviews. Joy and Madness will be performing at festivals and clubs along the west coast throughout 2016.

Walking Spanish, awarded The Sacramento Sammie's Award for most outstanding rock band three times in 2010, 2012 and 2013 and inducted into Sammie's Hall Of Fame in 2015, will also be performing at McKinley Park.

AKA Live: Saturday, June 25 at Glenn Hall Park, 5415 Sandburg Drive, at 6 p.m.

Lifelong Sacramento natives AKA live have been rocking area stages and they're bringing their magic to River Park for the first time in more than a decade. AKA live will be lay-

ing down a contagious high energy danceable set of cover songs for the Glenn Hall Park Pops in the Park party. Classic rock, funk, soul, country, ballads, AKA live has something for every musical interest. Who do you like? Bruno Mars? U2? Green Day, The Beatles, The Stones, Tom Petty, Jimi Hendrix, The Black Keys, Neil Diamond, Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Luke Bryan, Ed Sheeran, Daft Punk, John Mellencamp, AC/DC, Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, The Doors, James Brown, The B-52s. If any of these are on your playlist, you will love the show. Come join the party with AKA live lead singer Carl London, Joe Snook on guitar and vocals, Spencer Grimenstein on drums, Greg Clark on bass and Steve Carrillo handling the keys and singing.

Source: www.eastsacpopsinthepark.com/

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Principal's personal journey sparks school recovery

by PAT LYNCH

Before literature and history, there were stories, and in some cultures, even now, stories are the literature and history. Dr. Kal Phan, principal of Hiram Johnson High School, comes from such a culture and has his own story—a tale of war, privation and dauntless endurance. Ultimately, it's a story of triumph. For Phan his story informs his mission at Hiram Johnson. "I am committed to stay at Hiram Johnson to continue to build on the dramatic positive changes that we have made in the past six years. I want the community to know about our excellent teachers and programs and the changes we've made."

The Hiram Johnson story most Sacramento parents hear is that it's a poorly administered, neglected high school with low test scores, an underserved student population, discipline problems, demoralized faculty and staff and crumbling infrastructure. School Board Trustee Ellen Cochrane says, "Johnson is the designated High School for the 95819 and 95816 zip codes but parents don't want to send their kids there because of its reputation and the stories they've heard. But the true story is that the discipline, programs and student life have changed 180 degrees. HJ is not the fabled lowest-of-the-low school in Sacramento. It's undergoing a renaissance. People don't know that it teaches Mandarin, French, Spanish and ASL, runs a student led community tax return program out of its Corporate Business Academy or has tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships awarded to its students every year. Dr. Phan and the staff of HJ are creating these changes and many, many others."

Phan, 51, is no stranger to challenge. He was born in a Mien village in a remote mountain of Laos during the middle of the U.S. supported Secret War in Laos in 1965. He grew up in a preliterate subsistence-farming world where school did not exist. When communists invaded his village in 1967, he and his family escaped to another village in Northern Laos. They walked through the jungle for almost a month. They had to escape again when the communists took over all of Laos in 1975. They had to escape at night walking for four hours from their mountain village to the Mekong River to cross to Thailand. They walked silently through the jungle with only one flashlight to avoid being seen or heard by the enemy soldiers. As they crossed the Mekong River, they could see flashlights from the communist soldiers trying to locate their boat to shoot. After they reached

Thailand, they were housed in a refugee camp for four years. He worked in the tobacco field watering the tobacco plants with a bucket to earn 50 cents a day.

The tough and uncertain beginnings did not end when the family came to the USA. When Phan, who could neither read nor write, arrived in Montgomery, Alabama in 1975, the baffled principal placed him in the third grade at 15 years old. Over the summer Phan completed fourth and fifth grade and was bumped up to the sixth grade the next year. While making huge academic strides, the immigrants faced the uglier side of the United States. Some Alabamans didn't welcome the Mien. One family woke one night to a ring of burning crosses.

But one Alabamian, a school administrator named Ms. Bumpers, told him: "You're a good boy. You have to go to college." He did not at the time know what college was, but he would remember her words forever.

Next, his family moved to the Richmond, California ghetto. The communist soldiers and the KKK were dangerous, but so was the hood of Richmond. Thirteen people lived in the house there; three of his three sisters and grandparents slept in the garage. Racist people threw eggs and tomatoes at their door. Thieves broke into their house and car to steal things. The family couldn't afford to turn on the hot water, so Phan didn't have a hot shower for the first four years of his life in America.

His education in Alabama had given him meager skills in English and in Richmond he continued to absorb the language along with the multiple, unending culture shocks. At Richmond High School a Vietnamese girl read aloud the daily bulletin. This struck him: if she could be such an integral part of the school community, maybe he could as well. He told his counselor what Ms. Bumpers had said about college, and the counselor enrolled him in the student help program, Upward Bound.

The eldest son in his family, he was determined to apply himself. He focused on his English, his studies, and modeled achievement for his four younger sisters and brother. He did well in high school, and was accepted as pre-med and engineering program in many colleges. He chose U.C. Berkeley solely because the campus was close to his family.

In college he focused on Ethnic Studies and Asian American Studies. He became a leader as member of the chancellor appointed Asian Task Force and helped form the first Laotian student organization on campus. He became the first Mien person to



graduate from a major U.S. university in 1985. Miss Bumpers was right.

Phan met his destiny and greatest challenges through education. He became the first Mien teacher in the U.S. in 1990. This meant more schooling. In 1998 he received his Masters in Educational Leadership from CSU East Bay and finished his Doctorate of Education at Mills College in 2015. Education had uplifted and liberated him, and he put himself in a position to help others rise. He became an assistant principal in 1998 and principal in 2004 in Richmond. He helped lead two high schools and a middle school to dramatic improvements.

Recruited to come to Sacramento in 2007, he served as an Assistant Principal at Kennedy High School, then as an Assistant Principal at Hiram Johnson High School from 2010-2015. Now as the Principal at Hiram Johnson, he becomes the first Laotian high school principal in the U.S. He represents a beacon of hope for Mien, Hmong Lao and other Laotians in America. He confronts a challenge that will define his leadership and possibly restore the reputation of the school.

Phan's efforts to transform Hiram Johnson have already begun. Under his purview student suspensions have plummeted from 724 in 2009 to 274 last year, and falling. There is no gang presence allowed on campus and fights, once a daily occurrence, are rare. These changes occurred while Phan was an assistant principal and continue today.

Phan's path to the job has not been problem free. Some teachers and community members were not pleased with the lack of full community involvement in his hiring. Phan was chosen using the interim appointment process with minimal community input. District administration vetted Phan using his success as interim principal at HJ, assistant principal and principal at prior schools and district administrator as the litmus test. Ten-hour days, personal commitment, unwavering determination and a willingness to learn are in Phan's favor. He is eager to move towards reconciliation with a staff that has suffered many setbacks from a string of problematic administrators.

But there is no denying the winds of change. Michael Washington the Law Academy Lead Instructor marvels at the metamorphosis of Hiram Johnson, "People tell me I didn't know you have a Law Academy or Corporate Business Academy. They were told negative stories about the campus but when they come and see they're excited about what we're doing and our programs. This is a completely different campus from 10 years ago."

A pillar of Phan's work centers on parent and the community involvement with the school. He has developed a Parent Center and sponsors parent involvement workshops. These steps are vital. The school should not be an alien

See Phan, page 9

Phan:

Continued from page 8

institution, but part of a student's expanding family. Hence Phan has recruited staff members who are fluent in Spanish, Hmong, Mien, Chinese and Vietnamese and presided over an increase of teachers and staff contacting parents. He personally attends local Hmong, Mien and Lao community and private family functions. He's also built relationships with businesses near the school. In all these efforts we can see the merging of family and school, a lowering of barriers and a positive uptick in communication. With outreach like this the community itself begins to advocate for the school.

The next step for HJ is to catch the attention of the Midtown, Elmhurst, Tahoe Park and East Sac Parents who believe the old stories, says Board Member Cochrane. "I've had parents announce 'my child will never go there.' They haven't seen the academic transformation. They don't know what's going on. For me, I have one important job to do—help Dr. Phan build a community coalition to support Hiram Johnson's transformation. The work has started. I wouldn't be surprised to see HJ be a blue ribbon school in the near future."

Cochrane states, "Dr. Phan is working to make Hiram Johnson a great Sacramento school. He's raised academic standards and wants them to climb even higher. His phenomenal personal story embodies an ideal for education that we all share: it should be available, for free, to everyone, and our public schools should care for our kids, should lift them up and move them ahead. He's tackling every problem from the campus facility repairs to high quality programs, equity and student culture. His dream is to give children a better future."

At Hiram Johnson, Kal Phan works to realize his dream. At every step on his journey, he says, "there was somebody who recognized something in me, and supported me. Our kids need that."

Ay Chihuahua

Sacramento Taco Festival featured the mascot of the cute babies that are native to Mexico

Photos and story by MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

On that muggy and hot Saturday of late, authentically delicious tacos filled hungry tummies, as the toughest Lucha Libre fighters and the cutest Chihuahuas around converged on Del Paso Boulevard for the third annual Sacramento Taco Festival.

"They're not dogs, they're not pets. They're babies," announced Adrian Perez at the start of the Chihuahua Beauty Contest. Knowing Sacramento is a unique city, the Sacramento Taco Festival, the event features a mascot that is native to Mexico, the chihuahua.

Assisted by Miss City Sacramento Teen Violet Joy Hansen, Perez, helped introduce 14 pups. Winning by popular vote, the one who generated the loudest applause got the crown. There was P Diddy from Sacramento; Davis resident Lily who was dressed as a taco; a 5-year-old two pound baby named Chavalita; a cute little diva girl Gracie; donning a pearl necklace was the absolutely special Lily; Candy, a kiss loving baby with a crooked tail; the super cool Teddy who likes to wear his bow-tie; Kylie, a North Highlands therapy dog; Diego, a sweet little cry baby; Navia, 10, a returning competitor who's on a casting list for a dog model; Sandy; Chance, whose owner likes to say: "This is my Chance;" another baby named Chance whose mother while birthing punctured a sibling's stomach. But the little girl made it and got her chance to live, hence her name. Lastly there was the cat loving Chase who wants to play with all the cats even if they don't like him too much. He came with the name Chance but responded better to Chase.

Pearl-wearing Lilly won second runner-up; first runner up is Lily the taco and the winner is Chavalita.

The event, held on Del Paso Boulevard between El Camino and Arden Way, sold thousands of tacos made by different taco makers. Vegetarian, chicken, carnitas, adobada, and asada tacos were available, as were more exotic tacos, for those with iron stomachs, made from stomach, intestines, and heads.

The wrestlers are professional and can be seen on a variety of levels from World Wrestling Entertainment to local wrestling events. As for the taco eating contest, the winner stated to prepare for the big day he just "eats like crazy all day long." Beating the average of eating three tacos in a minute, he ate five and earned a trophy and a cash prize. Another contestant said to prepare for the contest, he's had 28 years of his abuelita (little grandmother) feeding him tacos.



Upcoming events at the McKinley Library

The hours for McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd. are as follows: Sunday and Monday: Closed; Tuesday: noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday: 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.

Toddler/Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Thursday, June 16 at 10:30 a.m.: Songs, finger-plays and stories especially for ages 18 months to 5 years, followed by playtime! Make new friends and play with toys.

Lego Mania! (School Age (6-12))

Friday, June 17 at 3:30 p.m.: Like building with Legos? Join us for our monthly Lego free play afternoon.

Legos and Lego building books will be provided.

One-on-One Technology Help

Saturday, June 18 at 10 a.m.: Are you curious about ebooks but not sure how to get started? Is your tablet or ereader a mystery? Do you need basic computer help such as creating e-mail accounts and using the internet? Come by the McKinley Library and meet with a Technology Assistant! Sessions are first-come, first-served and last 30 minutes.

Knitting Circle (Adult)

Wednesday, June 22 at 10 a.m.: Anyone interested in knitting—even an absolute beginner—is invited to join the McKinley Library Knitting Circle. Participants can learn to knit, get help on current projects or general advice from ex-

pert knitters. There might even be some great conversations too. Don't forget to bring your knitting needles and yarn!

Baby Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Wednesday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m.: Babies from birth to 18 months old and their parents/caregivers can enjoy great books, lively songs and rhymes and meet other babies in the neighborhood.

One-on-One Technology Help (Adult)

Wednesday, June 22 at 3 p.m.: Are you curious about E-books but not sure how to get started? Is your tablet or E-reader a mystery? Do you need basic computer help such as creating e-mail accounts and using the internet? Come by McKinley Library and meet with a Technology Assistant! Sessions are

first-come, first-served and last around 30 minutes.

Toddler/Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Thursday, June 23 at 10:30 a.m.: Songs, finger-plays and stories especially for ages 18 months to 5 years, followed by playtime! Make new friends and play with toys.

Book a Genealogist (Adult)

Thursday, June 23 at noon: Do you need help with researching your family's history? McKinley Library's volunteer genealogist, Bernard Marks, is available to assist you with a free, 45-minute session. Mr. Marks is available on 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 12:00, 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 pm. Please make an appointment at the branch. Walk up patrons are also welcome if time allows.

Minecraft Gaming (Teen)

Friday, June 24 at 3:30 p.m.: Like building and creating new worlds in Minecraft? Come join us for an afternoon of Minecraft gaming! Each player will be given their own computer to build new creations and in creative, survival or hardcore mode. Players of any level of experience are welcome to join.

One-on-One Technology Help

Saturday, June 25 at 10 a.m.: Are you curious about ebooks but not sure how to get started? Is your tablet or ereader a mystery? Do you need basic computer help such as creating e-mail accounts and using the internet? Come by McKinley Library and meet with a Technology Assistant! Sessions are first-come, first-served and last around 30 minutes.

Toddler/Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Thursday, June 30 at 10:30 a.m.: Songs, finger-plays and stories especially for ages 18 months to 5 years, followed by playtime! Make new friends and play with toys.

Backyard Composting (Adult)

Saturday, June 25 at 2 p.m.: Come to this free class

and learn about the value of compost, types of compost bins, building a compost pile using hot and cold techniques and ways to use compost. Presented by the Compost Education Team, part of UC Master Gardeners.

Knitting Circle (Adult)

Wednesday, June 29 at 10 a.m.: Anyone interested in knitting—even an absolute beginner—is invited to join the McKinley Library Knitting Circle. Participants can learn to knit, get help on current projects or general advice from expert knitters. There might even be some great conversations too. Don't forget to bring your knitting needles and yarn!

Baby Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

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Toddler/Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Thursday, June 30 at 10:30 a.m.: Songs, finger-plays and stories especially for ages 18 months to 5 years, followed by playtime! Make new friends and play with toys.

Local swimming pool schedules

Southside Pool

Southside Pool is located at 2107 6th St. in Southside Park. 264-5357

Recreational swim hours from June 13-17 are as follows:

Monday through Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m.; Thursday: Closed; Friday from 3 to 7 p.m.

June 18 to Aug. 28 as follows:

Friday through Monday from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday from 3 to 7 p.m. Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday Closed

Programs include: Recreational swim, swim lessons, access swim lesson, swim team, lap swim. Private pool rentals are available. Amenities include: Zero entry play pool with fountain feature, low spring diving board into a diving well up to 12 feet deep, large open swim areas for tons of recreational fun, pool house with changing rooms and restrooms, shaded deck area, picnic tables and benches, park with additional amenities outside, parking lot

Clunie

Clunie pool is located at 601 Alhambra Boulevard in McKinley Park. Contact this facility by calling 264-5301. The pool is now open.

May 31 to June 19 as follows: Mondays Closed; Tuesday through Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

June 20 to Sept. 4 as follows: Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m. Mondays: Closed

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

Sept. 5 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Programs include: recreational swim, swim lessons, swim team, lap swim, water aerobics, junior lifeguard academy, private pool rental available. Amenities include: Shallow depth play pool, low spring diving board into a diving well up to 12 feet deep, two enclosed flume slides that drop off into a twelve foot catch pool, large open swim areas for tons of recreational fun, pool house with changing rooms and restrooms, shaded deck area, picnic tables and benches, park with additional amenities outside, limited street parking available.

Glenn Hall Pool

Glenn Hall Pool is located at 5415 Sandburg Drive in Glenn Hall Park (entrance to Paradise Beach). Contact this facility by calling 277-6071.

Hours of operation

June 13 to June 17 as follows: Monday from 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday Closed Wednesday through Friday from 3 to 7 p.m.

June 18 to Aug. 28 as follows:

Friday through Monday from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday Closed Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Programs include: recreational swim, swim lessons, private swim lessons, swim team, junior lifeguard academy, private

pool rental available. Amenities: Enclosed flume slide that drops off into a twelve foot catch pool, low spring diving board into a diving well up to 12 feet deep, large open swim areas for tons of recreational fun, shaded deck areas, picnic tables and benches, parking lot, park with additional amenities outside.

Bertha Henschel Play pool

Bertha Henschel Play Pool is located at 160 45th Street in Bertha Henschel park in East Sacramento.

Bertha Henschel play pool will be open from June 18 through August 28 for the summer 2016 season! Monday, Wednesday, and Friday noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Family night: Thursdays 3 to 7 p.m. Closed Tuesdays

Amenities: Shallow depth wading pool, mushroom fountain feature, shaded area, benches located on pool deck, adjacent to park with additional amenities outside, limited street parking available.

Mangan Pool

Mangan Pool is located at 2140 34th Avenue in Mangan Park. Contact this facility by calling 433-6272.

Recreation swim hours:

June 14 to June 17 as follows: Tuesday through Friday from 3 to 7 p.m.

June 18 to August 28 as follows: Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday Closed Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Friday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Programs offered are as follows: recreational swim, swim lessons, swim team, junior lifeguard academy, private pool rental available

Amenities: Low spring diving board into a diving well up to 12 feet deep, large open swim areas for tons of recreational fun, pool house with changing area and restrooms, shaded deck areas, picnic tables and benches, parking lot, park with additional amenities outside.

William Land Park play pool

William Land Park play pool will be open from June 18 through August 28 for the summer 2016 season!

William Land Park Play Pool is located near the Land Park Playground (adjacent to the Tiny Tot building) at 13th Street and 13th Avenue.

Recreational swim hours:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Family Night: Tuesdays 3 to 7 p.m. Closed Thursdays

Amenities: Shallow depth wading pool, mushroom fountain feature, shaded deck and grass area, adjacent to park with additional amenities outside, limited street parking available

Tahoe Park Pool

Tahoe Park Pool is located at 3501 59th Street. Contact this facility by calling 452-9622

Summer aquatics programs

Recreational swim: Beat the heat this summer by playing in the pool at Tahoe Park. Bring your family and friends and enjoy an

afternoon of splashing and relaxing poolside. Recreational swim is open swim time for all!

Dates: June 18 - Sept. 4, 2016

Tuesday - Friday 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Lap swim, enjoy the sun and beautiful weather this summer by taking your workout outside. Lap swimming is a great way to stay fit and keep cool. Our facility provides complimentary kick boards and buoys.

Dates: June 20 - Sept. 3

Monday - Thursday: 11 a.m. to 1, 5, 6:30 p.m. Water exercise, change your fitness routine this summer and join the Y for water exercise! Water Exercise incorporates fun into a full body workout. Classes are taught in the shallow water by an instructor that will help you improve your agility, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance.

Dates: June 20 - Sept. 3

Monday - Thursday: Noon to 1 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday: Noon to 1 p.m. SWIM TEAM: An introduction to competitive swimming for youth ages 7 and up. Swimmer must be able to swim safely in deep water and swim one lap continuously.

Dates: June 20 - Aug. 5

Monday - Thursday: 6 to 7 p.m. Meets: Saturdays - time vary Ages: 7 - 17 Price: \$99

See more at: <http://ymcasuperior-cal.org/tahoe-park-cc/tahoe-park-pool/#sthashfK1n1VPE.dpuf>



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Drive. For more details and/or RSVP, contact Assembly member Cooper's office at 670-7888.

Invest in real estate

June 21: Learn how to set criteria and strategies: 1) buy to live, 2) buy to sell and 3) buy to hold. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Music at noon

June 22: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by jazz pianist Jim Martinez and Friends.

The ABCs of LTCI: An overview of long-term care insurance

June 22: In this workshop, you will learn the difference between Medicare coverage and Long Term Care Insurance. Explore who will provide care and where it is offered. The workshop will help you learn the features, pros and cons of LTCI as well as understanding the role of LTCI and the HICAP counselor. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

ents, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Rolled flank steak

June 23: Learn how to make a delicious rolled flank steak stuffed with a savory filling. The flank steak will be served with vegetables, a salad, an apple dip appetizer with flour tortilla chip and an apple pie cookie made with pie crust and apples. Pre-registration and pre-payment of \$12 required by **June 16.** Limit 9 students. Class will be held from noon to 1 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Planning ahead for the inevitable

June 24: A 25-minute presentation on why everyone should pre-plan funeral arrangements. Eliminate stress and relieve your family of the burden, know all available choices, get what you want, ensure every detail is covered, and save money! Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held from 11 to noon at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Pollination Sensation

June 26: The Sacramento Valley chapter of the California Native Plant Society pres-

ents a tour of California's pollinator superstars starting at 10 a.m. at the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery, 1000 Broadway. Summertime is peak pollinator season as hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, and other beneficial insects are out in full force gathering pollen and nectar for their nests. California native plants in particular provide an excellent, high-nutrient source of food for not just the European honeybees but for our native birds and pollinators. Join our tour in the California Native Plant Demonstration Garden and learn how to garden for pollinators with our resilient, drought-tolerant summer blooming natives that continue to bring beauty into the garden even during the hottest months of the year. The cemetery is located at 1000 Broadway, Sacramento. There is free street parking on surrounding streets, with limited parking within the cemetery. There is construction going on across the street from the cemetery, so add a few minutes to your travel time to find parking. The group will meet at the information kiosk at the front entry and take a short walk to the garden. For the heat, wear a good sun hat. Ice water provided. Tours are free; however, your tax-deductible donations are appreciated and benefit operations of the native garden.

Matías Bombal's Hollywood

Now You See Me 2

The MPAA has rated this PG-13

Lions Gate offers "Now You See Me 2", sequel to the 2013 movie with the same principal cast, which includes Mark Ruffalo, Woody Harrelson, Dave Franco, Jesse Eisenberg, Morgan Freeman and Michael Caine. John M. Chu directs this sequel; he had made the first one three years ago.

The magicians that fight world crime with the daring-do of James Bond had bonded together as "The Horsemen" in their last movie outing, and here they come out of hiding once more, prompted by that silver tongued devil Thaddeus Bradley, played by the molasses voiced Morgan Freeman. He warns at the picture's start that they will come out once more in ways they would never expect.

Oh, they certainly will, in that hocus-pocus world of misdirection; as in the type employed by magicians.

This is a non-stop ride of magic and mayhem. Ms. Sharon Seymour's production design is brilliant thought the movie. When the horsemen fall down a tube that takes them quite literally to the other side of the world, they "land" in China at the bottom of a restaurant linen chute. Seymour has designed a magic shop interior that has the whimsy and clutter of Balls' costume shop seen in the "Pink Panther" movies.

The new character of Lula is played by Lizzy Caplan, the newest Horseman, or should I say horsewoman? Handsome Dave Franco recreates his role as Jack Wilder, and they have a budding romance. Ms. Caplan's screen presence has the same effect on the audience as it does for Franco's character. She's great fun.

Once The Horsemen have found themselves in China, they encounter a man who wants something very badly, Walter Mabry. He's played by Daniel Radcliff. He places the horsemen in the position of working for him to steal a vital computer chip that could be used to gain access and control of the entire world's computer systems. The chip almost matches the thickness and size of the average play-

ing card which, for the magicians, makes for one of the movies best choreographed moments. This is not a great movie, but a fun caper that never rests... taking you along for the illusion.

I am not fond of Jesse Eisenberg. In this movie he delivers his typical performance that you seen in each picture; the unchanging, driven, annoying and not very agreeable prickly type. With all the remakes going on, they should remake "The Trouble with Harry" with Mr. Eisenberg in the title role. I might like him in that.

The other players are enjoyable, including the introduction of a daffy twin brother for Woody Harrelson. Yes, he plays both parts. Michael Caine returns, working for the first time with Radcliff. You can watch either of those actors for hours and never tire. Overall this movie is Presto-Funo, and makes for a good time at the movies.

Warcraft

The MPAA has rated this PG-13

Universal Pictures offers "Warcraft" directed by Duncan Jones. There are times in this profession of movie going for critical analysis that you dread. For me, it is seeing anything based on a video game. This was just such a movie. I go undaunted, forcing myself at times, as you do never really know when something might surprise you. I find many of my colleague film reviewers get caught up in the business side, throwing out numbers of grosses or trying to rate pictures with a numbering system. My approach is more direct; I simply to give you an outline without revealing plot elements to spoil the experience for one who might see the picture, point out a new face or two of promise, perhaps comment on a neat element in the story or highlight the talent of a behind the scenes artist that has added a nice touch with their artistry in their given craft.

Faced with "Warcraft", which has an animated style that looks like the video game one sees on a television screen, I was struck by the simple fact that video games over the past years have become so cinematic and "real" looking, they

approximate watching real actors on a screen. In fact, many actors today survive by adding voice to these video games for big money. I knuckled down in my seat at the press preview ready to perhaps try and enjoy the story based on its visual artistry alone. The first surprise came when real actors appeared in scenes with the video game look. The integration of real people and that part which was whipped-up electrically was flawless.

Perhaps movies are starting to look more like video games rather than video games looking more like movies.

Real actors appearing in the picture include Travis Fimmel, Ben Foster, Ben Schnetzer, Dominic Cooper, Clancy Brown and Paula Patton. That new comer I like to point out: Burkely Duffield. He plays the king of Azeroth's son. He's got a good pan for the movies, you'll likely see him again. Here's wishing him every success. Fimmel is the closest among these that approach world-wide fame as a film star, but folks have to start somewhere. There is an almost cameo appearance, which is uncredited, of one of the greatest actresses of this era, but if I reveal it here, you'd be angry at not being surprised by it if you see the picture.

Sadly, the story is a convoluted mess, that of the pretty land of Azeroth on the brink of war against the gigantic ogre like Orc creatures which look like professional wrestlers with oversized hands in Atrila the Hun costumes. Further, wizardry is afoot, with the number one wizard Medivh, played by Ben Foster. There is even a young wizard in training, played by Ben Schnetzer who played the outspoken gay activist in the 2014 U.K. movie "Pride". The wizard is infected by a dark and evil entity and forces the two factions against each other, causing the Orcs to build a magic-infused portal for the worlds to fight each other.

It seems there are many missing chunks in this story, making it hard to follow. Likely cut for time. Near the end of the movie the King rushes into battle in order to save his captive people imprisoned by the Orcs, yet aside from see-



ing a few prisoners in cages in one previous shot, it is never established earlier in the story that there were any prisoners taken at all, which would have provided the motivation for the King to engage in the first place. There is also a scene near the end where a green Orc baby is set adrift in a little raft down a river to a new fate. We've seen that before in the movies!

This movie is far from great. Visually interesting, but hard to follow. The art direction of the interior of the wizard's library was marvelous, but sad-

ly these are too few elements to make this good overall. Not a stinkeroo, but forgettable. Might be a good way to babysit children for a while, but in this modern and jaded world, even they might turn to their mobile devices after a few moments.

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Super Crossword
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ALMA	HOPFD	ITSM	GMAC
MEAN	ABOVE	FOLEY	LULL
TFYOU	WERE	TO	FORCEFULLY
SITARCHY	NARY	CLOTTED	
ALLA	ANTH	EMATE	LINE
YANK	AWAY	ONE	OF
INDIAS			
USED	MCW	TRIA	ORCAS
MOM	SCH	WISEMAN	AREA
FORMER	PR	ME	INT
STERS			
REPL	OR	GASP	ARC
ETIS			
REPL	OT	AISHE	WAS
WANN	Y		
ORE	TRIA	DODO	ARE
WATCH	ING	GOVERN	IN
INFANT			
ASEA	CYAN	IDE	AA
OWL			
NESTS	BOA	PAM	BRIE
WHAT	WOULD	YOU	BE
DOING			
ELLI	TAIN	TASK	DEO
NECK	ING	AS	WE
BACK	LOG		
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