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Historic home tour showcase set for Sept. 11

See page 4



- Lance Armstrong feature.....4
- Arts & Activities8
- Matías Bombal's Hollywood11
- Home Improvement Guide.....12
- What's Happening.....15

McKinley Village homes grand opening set for Sept. 10–11

■ See page 3



World Peace Garden founders, East Sac residents, welcomed special house guest

■ See page 6

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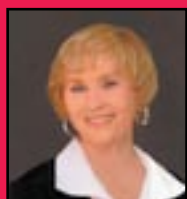
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Elmhurst neighbors respond to tree ordinance passage

(Editor's note: After the Sacramento City Council voted in favor of the new tree ordinance on Aug. 4, members of the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association were asked some questions regarding their thoughts of the ordinance and opinions regarding due process at council meetings. All responses are by ENA Vice President Bonnie Hansen, unless otherwise noted.)

Valley Community Newspapers: What did you hope would come out of that meeting? What are your main concerns regarding the adopted tree ordinance?
Bonnie Hansen: We hoped that Council would not vote to approve the new tree ordinance. Although it does make some positive changes, it is deeply flawed in that it places too much discretion in the hands of the city's director of urban forestry, and leaves too little to due process and public input. In our view the incumbent director too often favors tree removal over preservation, siding with developers and allowing them to bring down old trees too easily. Even if the incumbent were more favorably disposed toward preservation, it would be unwise to invest so much discretion in the hands of one person. It's worth noting that developers gave testimony in favor of the new ordinance, and tree advocates gave testimony against it. Remember the old saying: Follow the money.

VCN: Do you feel like your voices were heard at all during the meeting and beforehand? Do you feel like there was "compromise" among the stakeholders as councilman Jeff Harris stated?
BH: We most definitely did not feel like our voices had been heard – exactly the opposite. Tree advocates who had worked with Council for two years were excluded from testifying on the night of the final vote. Councilmember Harris altered the agenda at the last minute, pulling the tree discussion from item No. 14 to the beginning of the agenda. As a result, tree advocates arrived too late and were excluded from presenting their testimony. It's hard not to see this as a deliberate act that was calculated to squelch public input. Nor was it just that the public was silenced on the night of the Council's vote. In the previous ordinance, the public comment period for removal of trees was 30 days. It has now been shortened to 15, which is simply not enough time for neighborhoods to mobilize.

VCN: Can you describe for readers how bad the canopy has become in such a short amount of time?
BH: In the last five years since I've been in Elmhurst, I've witnessed an alarming number of grand old elms die, altering the magnificent T Street Parkway from a shady, pedestrian- and bike-friendly oasis to a spotty canopy which has grown more and more sun-drenched, and continues to lose trees a weekly basis. Though this is not an official number,

my sense is that the T Street Parkway has literally been decimated – that is, it has lost at least 10 percent of its canopy – in the past five years.

VCN: How often does the water come on? Do you ever see maintenance workers?
BH: Since water is scheduled to come on in the wee hours, it's hard to monitor. The proof is in a brief visual inspection of the trees and surrounding lawn. They are dry and brown, and after five years of extreme drought-related stress, the trees are dying. Some recent work has been done to improve this, but for some trees it is "too little too late." Last year I found a maintenance worker checking the sprinkler control box. (Kim Hove, Construction Inspector I, City of Sacramento, Department of Public Works, 916-808-2261.) She told me that the box had been turned off or tampered with for an indeterminate time. Fast forward to this week, when I saw a contractor from Parker Landscape Development Inc., a subcontractor with the city, looking at dry spots, checking the system for broken heads, etc. Responsibility has evidently been atomized among several different city departments (Urban Forestry, Public Works) plus private subcontractors, which makes us wonder if the left hand knows what the right hand is doing. It is pretty clear from the condition of the trees that something has been slipping through the cracks. Many of the trees are dying.

VCN: Do you know of the extent of the spread the Dutch Elm Disease has had in your neighborhood and what could have been done to prevent it?
BH: Elmhurst Neighborhood Association, in conjunction with the Sac4Trees advocacy group, has been consulting with a certified arborist. He tells us that many of our beloved elms could have been saved. There is a product called Arbotech that other cities have been using successfully. It is a preventative treatment against the Dutch elm disease fungus. At a recent emergency tree meeting in our neighborhood, a Sacramento Urban Forestry representative said he didn't think Arbotech would work. We requested a pilot program to give it a try, but Urban Forestry denied us.

VCN: Is there any treatment for Elm disease or do the trees have to be cut down? What causes it?
BH: Arbotech is a preventative. Beetles carry a fungus that effects the trees internally. It can then spread from tree to tree via root graft unions or via the beetles themselves. Diseased trees do need to be cut down. The wood needs to be destroyed so as not to harbor the beetles, and it is very important to also sever the root area around the diseased tree to keep it the fungus from spreading from tree to tree via root graft unions.

See Tree response, page 9



McKinley Village homes grand opening set for Sept. 10-11

Shortly after the grand opening of 14 model homes on Saturday, Sept. 10 and Sunday, Sept. 11, folks will be able to purchase a home, designed by the New Home Building Company. The project consists of 336 single-family residences with a 4,000-square-foot recreation center. Residences will be pre-wired for solar and to use the best environmental building practices. Well over 1,000 people placed their name on the interested in purchasing list. Stay tuned for the next issue of the East Sacramento News for more of an insider's view of the development. What's shown here is a rendering of the project, which will soon be unveiled.

Also, as you may recall from a previous article in this publication, East Sac artist, Marc Foster will be unveiling his sculpture, La Feuille, which was chosen for the entrance of McKinley Village. This approximately 20-foot-tall abstract leaf and branches will be constructed in mirror-polished steel and stretch across roughly 80 feet of greenway.
-Monica Stark

Around the Hood



By CORKY OAKES

As we approach the dog days of summer, there is still much to look forward to in the hood!

Edible Garden Tour - Saturday, Sept. 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Tour of Six gardens in East Sacramento which have incorporated Edibles into the landscaping. Each garden will have live music provided by the Sacramento Symphonic Winds, and will have a Master Gardener available to answer gardening questions." Admission is \$20 with children under 12 admitted free. Tickets are available at local East Sac retailers (like Talini's Nursery and East Sacramento Hardware) or on line at <http://www.soroptimistsacramento.com/>. Proceeds benefit Doorway Program of the Tubman House & Food Literacy Center.

41st Historic Home Tour in Sacramento's Elmhurst neighborhood - Sunday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., 3731 T St. Tickets available online at www.PreservationSacramento.org/hometour/. The website's instructions read: "To begin the tour, stop by the PS ticket booth on the T Street median (between 40th and 42nd streets) to receive a program and a wristband—needed for entry into buildings on the tour."

For a more international flavor, attend the **Holi Festival of Colors** - Saturday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Southside Park, 2115 6th St., <http://www.festivalofcolorsusa.com>.

For an international AND musically spiritual experience, attend the **Carnatic Vocal Concert**, Sunday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m., Capistrano Concert Hall. South Indian vocalists Sri. Dushyanth Sridhar and Sangeeta Upanyasam will be performing. \$15 general, \$12 senior, \$8 student. For more information visit: <http://calendar.csus.edu/MasterCalendar/EventDetails.aspx?EventDetailId=334751>.

Hungry? Now open: **"The Mimosa House"** by Early Toast is the newest addition to the Early Toast family and we specialize in mimosas, craft cocktails and delicious food." 5641 J. St., 549-0375. <http://www.themimosahouse.com/>

Still hungry? Well... standby...**Sac Food Co-op** ETA at new digs is mid-September!!! An expanded deli is to be a main feature. YUM!

Dogs hungry? **WOOF! Healthy Hounds Kitchen**, 3608 McKinley Blvd. opened Aug. 21. Fresh dog food made daily. Operating hours are: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

Get a jump on holiday weight gain and join **Let's Rock 5K Walk/Run for Ovarian Cancer**. Sunday Sept. 18 at 8 a.m., 45th and X Streets. Pancake breakfast will follow!!!

Have "stuff" you would like out of your home? Looking for a new nicknack? **First Christian Church Rummage Sale** will be held Saturday, Sept. 10. The church seeks volunteers to help setup, price items and staff the sale. They are also looking for items to sell (*no clothing or large furniture please*). Bring items Saturday Sept 3-Thursday Sept 8 to 3901 Folsom Blvd.

Kudos to **Safe and Save Cleaners**, 4751 J St. I inquired about the possibility of an alteration to a "dry fit" shirt...they were honest enough to say it simply wouldn't look right due to the fabric!!! My next dry cleaning is going to be with them.

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Historic home tour to showcase Elmhurst neighborhood homes Sept. 11

Tour offers rare opportunity to visit Julia Morgan House

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

The Julia Morgan House and several other historic structures will highlight the 41st annual Historic Home Tour on Sunday, Sept. 11.

The event, which will be presented by Preservation Sacramento (formerly the Sacramento Old City Association), will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All of the buildings featured at this year's tour are located in the Elmhurst neighbor-

hood, which is bounded by Highway 50, Stockton Boulevard, V Street, 2nd Avenue and 59th Street.

Homes of this area include structures with Craftsman, Victorian, Mediterranean and Tudor Revival-style architecture.

This year marks the first time that the tour will be held in the Elmhurst neighborhood, which is also known for its canopy of large elm, ash and oak trees.

Bonnie Hansen, vice president of the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association and a member of the tour's subcommittee, described that neighborhood as an "undiscovered little corner of Sacramento."

"A lot of people know about Land Park and Curtis Park and McKinley Park, but Elmhurst is tucked away between the UC Davis Med Center and the highway," she said. "And it's a pocket of about 1,000 houses full of vintage charm and walkability."

"It's a vibrant neighborhood that has kind of an old-fashioned feel where people look out for one another, and (it has) a lot of fun involvement with neighbors interacting and a thriving neighborhood association that has picnics and pancake breakfasts. And now we're having a home tour."

"It's nice to see Elmhurst getting its moment in the spotlight, because it's a very special neighborhood and it's time for the rest of Sacramento to discover it."

Assembly Member Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) also praised the decision to bring the tour to Elmhurst.

"I think it's time to give other neighborhoods outside the grid a little bit of credit here and there, too, as far as their historic nature and their charm," he said. "I think Elmhurst is certainly one of those (neighborhoods). I'm proud to be an Elmhurst resident, and I think this is a great opportunity to showcase the history and the charm, and really the great qualities of Elmhurst."

The structures featured on this year's tour are presented as follows:

Julia Morgan House
Located at 3731 T St., the Julia Morgan House is one of the architectural jewels of the Sacramento area.

The structure, which was completed in 1924, was built for Charles Matthias Goethe (1875-1966) and his wife, Mary (Glide) Goethe (1876-1946), in what was then a rural area outside of city limits.

Certainly, the importance of this landmark generally needs very little introduction outside of a quick reference to its designer, Julia Morgan.

The house presents elements of the passion and talent of this genius architect, who was the first woman licensed to practice architecture in the state of California.

Morgan received a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and was the first female graduate of the prestigious École des Beaux-Arts School of Fine Arts in Paris.

The most famous structure designed by Morgan is the Mediterranean-style, architectural masterpiece, Hearst Castle, in San Simeon, Calif.

Hansen said that the tour's inclusion of the Julia Morgan House presents a rare opportunity for the public to visit this historic structure.

"(The building) is owned by (Sacramento State) University and it is rented for events," she said. "So, (nor-

mally) the only way to get into this house is if you are fortunate enough to get invited to an event or wedding or something like that. Otherwise, it's not open to the public, ever."

Hack House

In being an event with connections to a variety of Sacramento stories, the tour also includes a residence that was home to notable athletes, Stan Hack (1909-1979) and his wife, Dorothy Hack (1910-1963), during the 1940s. Located at 3809 T St., this couple's former home is known as the Hack House.

One of the most talented Sacramento area baseball players to have played in the major leagues was third baseman Stan Hack, who had a .301 career batting average while playing with the Chicago Cubs for 16 years. He was also once the biggest star player on the old Sacramento Solons team of the Pacific Coast League.

Dorothy Hack made her mark as a standout amateur tennis player, who was once ranked third in the nation. She was also the Oregon state singles champion in 1929.

Hansen referred to the Hack House as a "beautifully restored home."

"It has been modernized and updated, lending old and new elements in a more contemporary feel," she added.

See Tour, page 5

Tour:

Continued from page 4

Coloma Community Center

Designed by architects Dean & Dean, the Coloma Community Center at 4623 T St. is the only non-residential place on the home tour.

The building originally served as the new site of Elmhurst School, which was previously located at 1840 47th St. The first principal of the school at the new location was Lillie Laugenour, who resided at 1515 H St.

The building was constructed in 1921 at a cost of about \$98,000 by Mathews Construction Co., which had its offices in the Forum Building at 9th and K streets.

An article about the then-soon-to-be-built structure in the Jan. 24, 1921 edition of The Sacramento Union notes: "In dimensions (the building) will be 35 (feet) by 193 feet and two stories high. It will contain seven classrooms, besides administration offices and other rooms. With variegated brick of local manufacture for the exterior walls and red tile for the roof, the building will be attractive. Interior walls will be of tile cemented over. In the hallways a finer grade of tile will be exposed. All floors will be of concrete covered with linoleum."

Supervising the project was Sacramento architect Jens C. Petersen.

Through a request by the Elmhurst PTA and by the authority of the Sacramento City Board of Education, Elmhurst School was re-

named Coloma School on June 19, 1921.

The building continued to serve the area as an elementary school until 1978 and has served as the Coloma Community Center since about 1983.

Hansen described various details regarding the center.

"The Coloma Community Center is a little Elmhurst jewel," she said. "It has architectural significance itself. It has some beautiful tile details on the inside with different, little historical vignettes depicted in tile, and a beautiful auditorium. And it's very original inside. There are also glass cabinets that display art that changes on a seasonal basis."

The building is also home to the studios of Access Sacramento, "a nonprofit public access station providing 100 percent local television and radio programming to the greater Sacramento region."

Nast House

Built in 1913, the Nast House at 4725 T St. is one of the oldest structures featured on the tour.

Among the house's residents have been the Nast family, city architect Mary Palmer, a mechanic named Charles Olson, and Harry W. Yeagain, who served as chief clerk, sales manager and timekeeper at Libby, McNeil and Libby at 1724 Stockton Blvd.

Hansen described the home as a "very special" place. "The Nast House is very special," she said. "It's a perfect example of how you can do an expansion project on your home, and do it in keep-



Ilisa Hess stands inside Daisy, her vintage trailer.

Photo by Stephen Crowley

ing with the architectural style and integrity of the original structure. So, the Nast family put a second floor on this house and I think it's so naturally looking like it's part of the original, most people don't re-

alize that it had originally been a one-story house."

The Enchanted Cottage/ Japanese Garden and Koi Pond

Also included in the tour will be stops at The Enchant-

ed Cottage – a minimal, traditional house at 4850 T St. – and its next door Japanese garden with a koi pond at 4840 T St.

See Elmhurst, page 7

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

World Peace Garden founders, East Sac residents, welcomed special house guest

*I wish I were wind,
Blowing away the haze of hatred,
I wish I were a flare,
Lighting up humanity by playing fair
I wish I were spring showers
Sprouting eternal peace on flowers*

Shuangchen Yu, Grade 10, Jinan Foreign Language School, Jinan City, Shandong Province, China

By **MONICA STARK**
editor@valcomnews.com

World Peace Garden founders and East Sac residents -- Sylvia Villalobos and husband TJ David, "The Rose Man" -- welcomed Sarah Shuangchen Yu, a very special house guest. Hailing from Jinan, China, one of Sacramento's sister cities, Sarah has become the newlywed's honorary grandchild.

Their unique relationship began in 2012, as Sarah was part of a Chinese delegation of student winners of the Inspirational Messages of Peace Contest who attended a ceremony in Atlanta. The competition was in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary celebration of the World Peace Rose Garden at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site. Their first-time visit was made possible through the efforts of the Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation, a valued partner of International World Peace Rose Gardens. They organized the delegation's trip to Sacramento and Atlanta and provided additional chaperones to Atlanta.

Sarah was one of the two top winners from China who read the poem (see above) at the ceremony in the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church and unveiled her engraved plaque in the World Peace Rose Garden. After the celebration, the delegations from China and Mexico were treated to a special tour of the CNN news studio.

"Casual conversations flowed at the table during a meal in the CNN food court area and Sarah's dream of studying in America when she was older caught my attention and imagination. I told her that she was always wel-

come to visit me and I spontaneously told her to think of me as her grandma. Thus, she affectionately started calling me her American Grandma and I reciprocated the honor by calling her my Chinese Granddaughter," said Sylvia.

When Sarah returned to China, the honorary grandmother sent her an email asking for her impression of her visit to Atlanta and how she felt about being one of the winners of our poetry contest. Here is an excerpt from her response:

"When I was writing the poem I was alone and far away, but when I was in the church where the ceremony was held, listening to the other students reading their own poems of peace, I was deeply moved and affected by the passion of everyone around me -- none of us were alone any more. Peace is not just a word or a slogan; it is a shining beacon of light and hope, the dream that thousands of people have been struggling for... In every way, this journey to Atlanta was so educational that it has had a profound influence on my life."

Sarah said since she was a founder and chair of her high school Model United Nations Association and participated in National MUN Conference for high school students of China several times, she had been concerned about international issues, social problems, human development and serving for others. Promoting peace and pursuing human equality had definitely become her commitment. "So, when I attended the activities in Sacramento and Atlanta, I was deeply attracted by Sylvia's endeavor of advancing world peace and understanding through creation of rose gardens and her mission of spreading the thoughts and spirit of Martin Luther King. She is a real doer. And I was also affected by her determination and firm belief. Additionally, her care and help during the whole activity pulled us closer and I was very glad to have such a kind and caring grandma in a foreign country."

The trio has had many wonderful communications over the years and along the way and Sylvia has acquired



Sarah Shuang Chen and Sylvia Villalobos.

a loving Chinese daughter -- her mom. "We have such a sincere love and appreciation for one another that cannot be explained in words. It just is" said Sylvia.

It is that sincerity that has brought them together in Sacramento. Through the effort of Grace Liu, president of the JSSCC, Sarah applied and was accepted as an intern in the offices of California State Senator, Dr. Richard Pan and Assemblymember, Kevin McCarty. Since Sylvia has often invited Sarah to visit, it was natural that she would stay with her American grandparents. And, of course, they've been delighted.

TJ and Sylvia began cultivating their dream for peace by planting the first World Peace Rose Garden at the Gandhi Peace Memorial in California in 1984. The visionary team combined TJ's love and expertise of roses and his business background with Sylvia's passion for learning, cultural and interfaith appreciation, love of children and her organizational skills. About 30 years later, they have raised over \$1.4 million (including in-kind donations) for their peace garden projects, donated over \$340,000 and have volunteered over 20,000 hours.

Sarah will only be here another week because of her ambitious schedule. She is currently a student at Tsinghua University, one of the top uni-

versities in China, and must return in time to complete her obligations before embarking on her next adventure -- studying abroad in Germany. Before coming to Sacramento, she was completing two classes at Yale University. She took courses at Harvard University last summer.

Her willingness and discipline to study is admirable but it is her tremendous heart that makes it all work so well. Last year, she donated and delivered 80 solar energy cookers to poverty-stricken villages in a province in southern China, which is about 1600 miles from her university. She says that her Atlanta experience has influenced her profoundly and she feels she needs to make a difference in the world in a positive way.

"She will be joined by my American granddaughter, Ziah, next week and I feel the experience will be good for all of us. Bringing two excellent, young people together from different parts of the world is a wonderful example of creating peace in the world. They will experience first-hand that peace is a choice of the heart -- beyond politics or culture or other extenuating factors. How thankful I am for this unique opportunity!"

Valley Community Newspapers exchanged a few words recently with Sarah to get her impressions of Sac-

See Garden, page 7

Garden:

Continued from page 6

ramento and discuss what her days have been like.

Now that she's been staying in Sylvia's house, she said she's experienced the same meticulous care as that from her Chinese grandpa and grandma when she stays with them every vacation in China. "What's more, I am so delighted to be surrounded by various and glamorous roses every day."

Asked if she missed home, she said her international travel began at the age of 10 when she visited Singapore. In 2011, she visited France and stayed with a French family for a while as a representative of sister school exchange program. In 2012, she came to America due to the Inspirational Messages of Peace Contest and as a youth ambassador. In the summer of 2014, she studied at Harvard for seven weeks for eight credits. This summer, she finished studying at Yale after earning two credits. Soon, she will go to Germany for a 6-month study as an exchange student between Tsinghua University and Göttingen University. "Every time when I am far away from home, I will deeply miss my family. However, the desire of exploring exotic cultures and history, especially the warmth and encouragement I get from the nice peo-

ple have greatly lessened my missing of home," she said.

Sarah is an incoming junior at Tsinghua University, one of the top and most prestigious universities in China, with only 3,500 top students admitted out of 9.6 million high school graduates each year, majoring in dual subjects which are Finance and Economics and Foreign Languages.

Sarah hopes to become an economist, dedicated to a just society and expanding opportunities for developing countries.

"Exploring American culture, history, politics and economics is my learning objectives. As an old saying goes, seeing is believing. The internship in Sacramento has been of great value to me, helping me to not only better understand the American spirit but also to acquire knowledge of advanced administration," she said.

Rededication and blessing of Cesar Chavez's bench in the Peace Garden

The World Peace Garden at the State Capitol will be having a blessing on Sept. 22 from noon to 1:30 p.m. It will be a rededication of a bench. Previously just in memory of Cesar Chavez, the ceremony will add his wife Helen to the plaque.

Elmhurst:

Continued from page 5

The cottage was built in 1947 for Guy S. Adams, whose employment included working as a custodian for public schools and serving as a special officer at C.K. McClatchy High School. He also resided in the home with his wife, Marguerita.

Hansen praised the cottage as "one of the things that makes Elmhurst great."

And she added, "As you walk by The Enchanted Cottage, there are little whistling gnomes. You'll also see a charming 1940s era house, surrounded by lattice-work and vines, and including embellishments like statuary and a chicken coop."

Daisy the vintage travel trailer

Certainly, one of the unique homes featured on the tour will be the 1962, 15-foot Oasis trailer of Ilsa Hess, an Elmhurst resident and owner of Love & Joy Foods, makers of Nacheez dairy-free nacho sauce.

As for Daisy's qualification as a home, Hess said that her trailer was once home to a woman, who cooked

meals out of a microwave and watched television via a satellite dish that was mounted to the side of the trailer.

Hess said that she believes her trailer, which she purchased through Craigslist in January 2014, will make history during the tour.

"I'm really excited, because I'm not mistaken, she's the first vintage travel trailer to be in one of these home tours," she said. "They're mainly big homes (on the tour), and so I'm excited that we were chosen. I think it really reflects how much the people of Elmhurst love Daisy."

Other attractions

In conjunction with the home tour, the event will also include a street fair with local businesses, arts and crafts, history organizations and live music by Junior, Johnny and Jimbo, Tara and Elizabeth Dalkey, and Art Lessing & the Flower Vato.

An invite from the association's president

Amreet Sandhu, president of the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association and a Preservation Sacramento member, invited the community to visit Elmhurst through the tour

in the name of historic appreciation and preservation.

"We have a local event that allows people to dress in their period attire and be a community of people who appreciate historic preservation and continuity to what's good about the past and what's to be celebrated about the past," she said. "And, you know, dress up and be with one another and enjoy what's good about our neighborhood and our city."

Tour tickets for sale

To purchase tickets for the tour online, visit www.PreservationSacramento.org/hometour/ and click on the "Buy Tickets" button. The tour costs \$30/advance or \$35/day of the event. A ticket booth will be located at 42nd and T streets.

About the cover:

Daisy is shown pulling up to the Julia Morgan house by Elmhurst neighbors: Bonnie Hansen, Amreet Sandhu and Ilsa Hess. Daisy and the Julia Morgan house are both on the tour.

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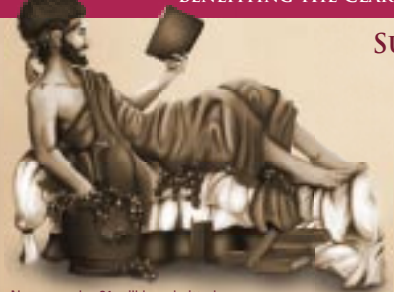
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Tree response:

Continued from page 2

VCN: Can you describe the vitality of the T Street Parkway?
BH: The T Street Parkway is one of Sacramento's greatest treasures. Indeed, our city's elms are believed to be among the best remaining stands of American elms left in the U.S. When cared for properly, elm trees create an enchanting, lush canopy of shade – and at maturity, a tunnel effect, cooling the air and making the neighborhood exceedingly walkable. This contributes to better quality of life, lower fossil-fuel use, and enhanced property value. These trees are at the height of their mature beauty, taking more than a 100 years to reach this level.

VCN: What next? Is there anything that can be done to assure that the trees are protected? (The council requires ongoing progress reports of the ordinance; are you comfortable with that?)

President of the ENA Amreet Sandhu: There are several things that can be done to ensure the protection of our tree canopy, historic elm, and heritage trees. First, the city must address its role in creating a process that silenced Sacramentans. A letter was sent to the Mayor on August 23, 2016 by those who wished to testify, but were denied the opportunity. As

a result, we ask that Council immediately schedule a hearing at Council to allow members of the public to explain their concerns about what is happening to the City's urban forest and what they would like to see happen to remedy these problems. The effect of this should be to immediately pause any tree removals until Sacramentans are able to testify on this issue and address concerns with the revisions on the record. Without public testimony, we view Council's unanimous vote to adopt as premature and incomplete.

Second, Council should immediately calendar an item to amend the City's council rules to allow speaker slips to be submitted until the close of public comment. This would have an impact not only on the tree issue, but all issues that impact Sacramentans by allowing increased public participation.

Third, after a public hearing at Council is scheduled, Council should make sure that an oversight group made up of neighborhood associations, not business interests, is involved in the tree removal process. This step needs to be taken immediately, because waiting until the annual report is due may be too late—the damage may already be done. The heritage trees may have already been cut down. The new trees will take several decades to provide that same amount of shade.

Involving the associations in a meaningful way would require giving each neighborhood association notice of tree removal, and having a representative of each association on the oversight committee. Upon adoption of an annual report, the oversight committee's recommendations must be incorporated in their entirety. With regards to replacement trees, we'd like the annual report to include information on where trees were replanted or if money was given to the tree replanting fund, how much, and by whom. We'd like the report to be itemized by neighborhood so that we can easily track which areas are seeing the most significant reductions in their canopy.

The bottom line is that neighborhoods need to have local control over tree removal and its impacts on their particular area. To remove a historic Elm tree from Elmhurst, only to plant a less favorable tree in an alternative neighborhood, in no way benefits Elmhurst. Furthermore, an ordinance that removes protection against Dutch elm disease and heritage trees and now makes ownership of a diseased tree on private property a misdemeanor focuses on the wrong goals: removal and punishment, rather than prevention. That is the wrong outcome, and those are the wrong goals.

Our request is that the City focuses on prevention of disease and regular maintenance, which it has not been doing. More needs to be done to en-

sure livability for our residents and keep our canopy healthy and vibrant.

VCN: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

BH: It is important to note that Elmhurst is not the only place in Sacramento to have elms. In fact, some of Midtown's best neighborhoods are populated with mature elms. McKinley Park and other public green spaces also boasted impressive elms. We are seeing more and more of them disappear each year due to drought and disease. It is worth noting that our city fathers wanted to encourage an urban forest here. That's one of the reasons why Sacramento had no water meters in earlier times. The Central Valley is naturally a grassland, and it took a great investment of planting and nurturing, for more than a century, to get where we are today. It would be such a shame to let all that investment go to waste now. It takes comparatively little water to keep mature trees healthy; if we had to start over again, we'd never have enough water to do it.

What can we do? Water our trees! Mulch thickly and generously at the base, being sure to not mound mulch against the trunk. Vote for officials who value trees and who will allocate a funding source for treatments like Arbotect and for arborists who can monitor and treat the elms, and other highly valued mature trees with the latest and best preservation practices.

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East Sac resident teaches martial arts to people with vision challenges

Shari Roeseler of East Sacramento just finished teaching one of her semi-annual martial arts class for people who have low or no vision – not long after celebrating the birthday of Helen Keller, the woman who transformed the way the world sees blindness. “Cane-fu,” as Roeseler calls it, is her opportunity to take off her hat as executive director of Society for the Blind in Sacramento, pick up a cane and give people who are blind or have low vision the chance to do something they never thought they could do.



“Often criminals think people who are blind are easy targets,” Roeseler said. “They never expect something as simple as a cane could foil their attack. It’s one more way to empower people with vision loss so they can pursue the activities they want to do without fear.”

Society for the Blind in Sacramento works to empow-

er people living with low vision or blindness to discover, develop and achieve their full potential – a mission Roeseler credits to Keller and her passion for supporting people with vision challenges.

“Many people don’t know our local connection to Helen Keller here in Sacramento,” Roeseler said. “But she is the reason we now work with 6,000 youth, adults and se-

niors who are living with vision challenges.”

At the Lions Clubs International Convention in 1925, Keller challenged the Lions Clubs to be “knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness.” Lions Clubs across the country began forming groups to support people with low vision, and one of them grew into Society for the Blind, now an independent nonprofit serving 26 counties across Northern California.

Roeseler is a member of the Embarcadero and Senator Lions Clubs in Sacramento, which, together with other area Lions Clubs, have made generous financial contributions to Society for the Blind as well as volunteered their time for events and special projects.

“Each year we remember Helen Keller on her birthday, June 27, because in one speech she transformed the way this

country treats people who are blind, thanks to the Lions Clubs who accepted her challenge,” Roeseler said. “When she was born 136 years ago, no one could have imagined that people who are blind could be successful, much less living life to the fullest and even learning martial arts.”

Prior to working for Society for the Blind, Roeseler had not worked with people with low vision. But she was no stranger to a career of community service. Before coming to Sacramento, she was executive director of St. Anthony Foundation, one of the largest nonprofit social service agencies in San Francisco. She also served as vice president of resource development for the West Region of Mercy Housing, a national nonprofit affordable housing organization. In 2006, she was selected to participate in a two-week international pro-

gram at the United Nations in New York, focusing on women’s economic development and HIV/AIDS education and services in developing countries.

But Society for the Blind is the first job where she has had the chance to put on her belt and teach martial arts. With a second-degree black belt in Kenpo Karate, Roeseler is trained to use quick hand strikes and joint locks for self-defense. So it was only natural that she would pick up a cane and teach people who are blind or have low vision how to use this everyday tool to quickly defend themselves.

Keller was famously quoted as saying, “Life is either a great adventure or nothing.” Roeseler hopes her work at Society for the Blind – both as executive director and martial arts instructor – will encourage people with vision loss to choose adventure.



Matias Bombal's Hollywood

Hands of Stone

The MPAA has rated this R

The boy Duran is played by David Arosemena.

The Weinstein Company offers “Hands of Stone,” the story of real life boxer Roberto Duran, known in his native Panama as “Manos De Piedra” or in English, “Hands of Stone”. Duran is regarded by many as one of the greatest boxers of all time. Writer/director Jonathan Jakubowicz has crafted a tale of his rise to fame and the now legendary bouts with Sugar Ray Leonard.

Right away, we’re in for a treat with engaging camerawork as we see the Panama of Duran’s youth as the little squirt who would become legend runs around sparring with anyone he encounters.

The familiar voice of Robert De Niro tells you the story of Duran, not only as narrator, but as the key figure that helped him to achieve greatness, his trainer in the USA, Ray Arcel.

Wild and like the little kid from the earliest moments in the story that never grows up, the adult Roberto Duran is played by actor Edgar Ramirez. You’ll see Duran’s courtship with his stunningly beautiful future wife, Felicidad Iglesias (Ana de Armas), as he rises in the ring, undefeated, to all challengers.

There are nice touches throughout this production with remarkable color design and the cinematography of Miguel Ioann Littin Menz.



Edgar Ramirez takes on the role of Roberto Duran, pugilist, whilst De Niro coaches. Photo: Rico Torres/The Weinstein Company.

Ethan Maniquis’ editing is spectacular. The cast includes talented Ruben Blades, John Turturro, Ellen Barkin and in a small and brilliant almost cameo-like role the Spanish actor Oscar Jaenada, who played the great Cantiflas in a film of that name in 2014, which we reviewed enthusiastically at that time. Nice to see him on screen again. In this movie he plays Chaffan, a Panamanian pied-piper to street urchins.

Of all the performances from actors seasoned or new, this picture belongs to Usher Raymond IV, the pop star

turned actor who brings Sugar Ray Leonard to life with dignity, respect and poise. Actress Janelle Davidson plays his wife, Sharon Leonard.

This movie was so much better than I expected it to be. You’ll likely see more of Ms. Ana de Armas, she plays Duran’s wife in the picture. She is in the new “Blade Runner” movie currently in production. I was beguiled by the use of color and clever cutting, the layer of perfection only De Niro can bring and a combination of great talents in roles that adroitly fit the parts of the puzzle of this man’s life as

he socked his way to the top with his Manos de Piedra.

To support the ongoing production costs of Matias Bombal’s Hollywood, donate here: paypal.me/MABHollywood. The clips from The Weinstein Company “Hands of Stone” entitled “Training Montage - Growing Up To Be A Boxer”, “Robert De Niro - “Ray Arcel”, and “Sugar Ray Calls For A Rematch” seen in this review are used with permission of the copyright holder by license granted in agreement with EPK.TV, supplier of clips to media for the purpose of review, promotion and publicity.

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Your guide to this year's Chalk It Up

Chalk-It-Up! to Sacramento is a nonprofit organization created to benefit children's arts education and art activities. Funds are raised through an annual chalk art and music festival That has been held each Labor Day Weekend since 1991. The festival this year goes from Sept. 3-5, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., everyday at Fremont Park, 16th and Q streets.

the drawings during the three days of Chalk It Up to Sacramento, as the artwork is ethereal. The elements take their toll beginning with the Fremont Park Farmers Market on the Tuesday morning following Labor Day.

The squares are divided into the following categories:

Sponsored Squares

The numbered squares on the perimeter of the park are sponsored by local businesses, organizations and individuals. Artists volunteer their talents to create chalk drawings on behalf of their sponsors. Artists may design their own artwork but must include the sponsors name in lettering at least 6 inches high within the design. Sponsors may also assign their own artists or teams to create their

squares. The basic sponsorship fee is \$150 for a single sidewalk square, \$250 for a double square. (a special "Early Bird" rate of \$100 for a single square and \$200 for a double is available through Aug 12, 2016.) Higher levels of sponsorship with great promotional benefits are available. Go to the Sponsor Page for more information.

Community Squares

The community square area is free and open for the public to create their own sidewalk artwork. Chalk is supplied by the festival. Artists must keep the community chalk as well as their artwork within the confines of the community squares. We request that children be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Children's Activities

Since the aim of Chalk-It-Up! is to encourage children's art programs, all children's activities at the festival are free. These include chalk drawing and a variety of other art activities.

Parking

Parking is available one block from Chalk It Up provided by WinPark at 1515 R St. (R street between 15 and 16). A portion of all parking fees collected there during the festival is being donated to Chalk It Up!

Entertainment

Each day during the festival local bands, musicians, and other performers entertain the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. These performers donate their time for this festival. A list of performance times is posted in advance of the festival under the "performers" tab on our website and also near the stage during the festival.

Lineup for Saturday, Sept. 3

10 a.m.: Urd-Um, Alternative Punk Rock Grunge Metal, www.URDOMroxm

10:45: Dino The Girl, 10:45 a.m., Dino the Girl has spent the last few years playing bass and singing in the Little Medusas and touring with Kepi Ghoulie. Now she is also doing her own thing!

11:30 a.m.: Animals In The Attic, a chill wave rock band with a psychedelic feel

12:15 p.m.: Phantom Jets, a style of beat music borrowing from the wildest groups of the 1960s, but also incorporating the hi-energy styles of today, reverberating with the sounds of minor-key garage pop, fuzzed-out punkers, and a bit of reverb-drenched spooky surf thrown into the mix.

1 p.m.: San Kazakgasar, Quasi-Middle Eastern/Indian psychedelia, fake country for old men.

1:45 p.m.: Salt Wizard of West Sacramento, listen for an infusion of jazz behind Lomax's sultry voice on "Subtle Beast," but be prepared to hear surf rock on the dark side featuring the band's signature thought-provoking lyrics.

2:30 p.m.: Polyorchids, mix of indie punk & folk music.

3:15 p.m.: Skyler's Pool, original alternative/indie rock

3:55 p.m.: Stefan Sorgea, a little bit of rock and a little bit of roll.

4:20 p.m.: Lauren Wakefield, acoustic/alternative/rock/blues/punk

5:15 p.m.: Rich Corporation, Money Rock

Sunday, Sept. 4

10 a.m.: Caliscope, indie hip-hop

10:45 a.m.: Wayne Jetski, casinoflights.bandcamp.com/

11:30 a.m.: Jayson Angove, acoustic

12:15 p.m., Tom Goyan

1 p.m., Xochitli, singer-songwriter

1:45 p.m., Andrew Castro, singer/songwriter

2:30 p.m., Blue Oaks, Folk/Rock/Blues

3:15 p.m., Punch-Out!, rock 'n' roll

4 p.m.: Vasas

4:45 p.m.: The Brodys, rock

Monday, Sept. 5

10 a.m.: Floral Caves, psychedelic indie rock

10:45 a.m.: Mallard, https://mallard916.bandcamp.com

11:25 a.m., Lee Milhous & Friends,

Singer-Songwriter / Folk Rock / Americana

12:10 a.m., Lee Bob, rock 'n' roll

12:50 p.m., SayIAM,

www.facebook.com/SayIAm-616323865198079/

1:30 p.m., Spacewalker, alternative

2:15 p.m., Hans Eberbach,

www.facebook.com/HANSandtheHOTMESS

3 p.m.: Kepi Ghoulie & cat,

www.facebook.com/Kepi-Ghoulie-184078495012

3:45 p.m.: K.O. & ELI: K.O. & Eli are a pair of best friends who happen to make great music together.

4:30 p.m.: 2016 Chalk It Up "People's Choice" Awards

5 p.m.: IdeaTeam, www.facebook.com/ideateamband

WHAT'S HAPPENING EAST SACRAMENTO?

EAST SACRAMENTO FARMERS' MARKET: East Sacramento Farmers Market and Farm to For Capital present a neighborhood certified farmers' market under the trees in McKinley Park. The market showcases organic produce, farmstand products, artisan and fair trade crafts. Now in its second season, the market is held on Saturday mornings through October. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 35th St. and McKinley Blvd.

THE LILY TOMLIN EXPERIENCE: FE GALLERY'S UNAUTHORIZED/UNOFFICIAL LILY TOMLIN ART SHOW: FE Gallery, 1100 65th St. presents original art interpretations of comedian, writer and singer "Lily Tomlin". Artists include: Gail Miller, Jim Marxen, Stephen Ward, Camilo Valencia, Paula Re, Skye Becker-Yamakawa, Madelyne Templeton, Sarah Hedlund, Julie Crowder, Carrie Reynolds, Robert Pirosh, Carol Duarte, Priya Drews, Denise Irwin, Eileen Searcy, Jill Layton, Susan Berry, Chuck Drumm, Cuauhquemec Kish, Dwora Fried, Paula Lewis, Rhonda Thomas-Urdang, Sharol Nau, Mike Purdy, Emma Liff, Kenneth DeAlcazar, Susan Silvester. The show goes until Sept. 23. Gallery hours are 2nd Saturday Hours Front Gallery & Metal Shop 6 to 9 p.m., Monthly Daytime Hours Gallery Monday Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Closed for lunch some days 11 a.m. to noon)

NEW CLASSES AT CLAYARTSTUDIO814 starting this week and Marsha Schindler still has openings! Vessels, Vases & Urns All levels of experience welcome.
Section 1: Tuesdays, September 6th to September 27th 6pm to 9pm
Section 2: Thursdays, September 1st to September 22nd 10am to 1pm
Section 3: Thursdays, September 1st to September 22nd 6pm to 9pm
For more info visit clayARTstudio814.com or call 838-2676. The studio is located at 814 Alhambra Blvd.

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 3 2016 PASTELS ON HIGH: The 11th International exhibition presented by the Sierra Pastel Society is currently on exhibit at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, Sacramento Fine Arts Center, Inc. 5330B Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608. 971-3713; hours open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday and Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

TODAY, SEPT. 1 PRESERVING THE HARVEST WITH YISRAEL FAMILY FARMS @ COLONIAL HEIGHTS LIBRARY (FAMILY/ALL AGES): September 1, Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Have you ever wondered what to do with your excess garden bounty? Learn preserving methods from urban farming experts, Chanowk & Judith Yisrael. This class is free but requires registration. Funding for this program is provided by the Building Healthy Communities Initiative. Class starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Colonial Heights Library, 4799 Stockton Blvd.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND FRIDAY, SEPT. 2, SATURDAY, SEPT. 3, SUNDAY, SEPT. 4
GREEK FESTIVAL: The Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation will hold its 53rd annual Greek Festival at the Sacramento Convention Center during Labor Day weekend. The three-day event will begin on Friday, Sept. 2 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., and

continue on Saturday from noon to 11 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. Guests of the event will be presented with a variety of Greek food, entertainment and other attractions. On Friday, there will be free admission from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. General admission \$5; seniors \$4; children under 12 free. Parking available on 13th and J Street

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3, SUNDAY, SEPT. 4, MONDAY, SEPT. 5
CHALK IT UP: Chalk-It-Up! Sacramento is a nonprofit organization created to benefit children's arts education and art activities. Funds are raised through an annual chalk art and music festival That has been held each Labor Day Weekend since 1991. The festival this year goes from Sept. 3-5, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., everyday at Fremont Park, 16th and Q streets.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8 DR. HORRIBLE'S SING-ALONG BLOG SING-ALONG AT CROCKERCON: Come help the Empire Arts Collective take over the world on they bring Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog to ArtMix CrockerCon! at the Crocker Art Museum. 7 to 8 p.m., Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St. ArtMix CrockerCon! starts at 5 p.m. and the sing-along sign-in will begin at 6:30 p.m. outside the auditorium with the sing-along starting at 7 p.m. This event is open to the public and admission is free with your \$10 admission to ArtMix CrockerCon! As always, there are multiple opportunities to rock the mic as song-leader for your favorite part from Dr. Horrible! Sign up for the role you want to sing lead for at www.empireartscollective.com/events/EmpireArtsCollective is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing a co-working space where performing artists can incubate their ideas and have an access to valuable resources and networks. Learn more at: www.empireartscollective.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 9 LIFE-SIZED CANDY LAND FAMILY/ALL AGES) AT MCKINLEY LIBRARY: Do you love board games? Would you like to be a part of the game itself? Then come for an afternoon of Life-Sized Candy Land starting at 3:30 p.m. They will have a giant Candy Land board where each player gets to be their own game piece and you can win actual candy! McKinley Library is located at 601 Alhambra Blvd.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10 WORM COMPOSTING CLASS @ COLONIAL HEIGHTS (ADULT): This worm composting class will cover topics such as the value of worm compost, setting up a worm bin, what to feed your worms and harvesting techniques. Presented by the Master Gardener Compost Education Team. Colonial Heights Library, 4799 Stockton Blvd. Starts at 1 p.m.

100,000 "GENTLY USED" BOOKS AVAILABLE AT SEPT 10 FRIENDS OF LIBRARY BOOK WAREHOUSE SALE: In ever-changing inventory of more than 100,000 "gently used" books, videos, and audio books will be offered for prices from fifty cents to \$2 at the Saturday Sept. 10 sale at the warehouse of the Friends of the Sacramento Public Library. The warehouse is at the rear of the Friends' store at Suite E, 8250 Belvedere Ave., just south of 14th Avenue between Power Inn and Florin-Perkins roads. Plenty of parking is available, but visitors should be careful not to

BEST BETS

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41ST ANNUAL HISTORIC HOME TOUR: The Julia Morgan House and several other historic structures will highlight the 41st annual Historic Home Tour on Sunday, Sept. 11. The event, which will be presented by Preservation Sacramento (formerly the Sacramento Old City Association), will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All of the buildings featured at this year's tour are located in the Elmhurst neighborhood, which is bounded by Highway 50, Stockton Boulevard, V Street, 2nd Avenue and 59th Street. To purchase tickets for the tour online, visit www.PreservationSacramento.org/hometour/ and click on the "Buy Tickets" button. The tour costs \$30/advance or \$35/day of the event. A ticket booth will be located at 42nd and T streets.

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park between the "No Parking" signs on the south side of Belvedere. Sale hours on Saturday will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a preview and sale on Friday Sept 9 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for Friends members only (You can join at the door for \$20). Income from the sale helps pay for programs, equipment, and materials local libraries need but can't afford. With more books constantly needed, the Friends will be glad to have yours. See a staff member on how to donate. The book store is open weekly on Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. as well as during the sale. Items there are priced from \$1 up. For more information, call (916) 731-8493 or go to bookden@saclibfriends.org.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21 DEER AND FAWN STORYTIME: A NATURE-FOCUSED PROGRAM FOR PRESCHOOLERS AND THEIR PARENTS AT EFFIE YEAW- 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.: Mini-naturalists only! We invite you and your preschooler to join us for a whimsical journey into nature through stories, songs and crafts. And if time allows, you'll meet and learn about one of our friendly, resident animals! The program ends before lunchtime, so feel free to bring a picnic lunch or enjoy a short walk in the nature preserve before you head home. Deer and Fawn Storytime introduces preschoolers and their parents to the wonders of the nat-

ural world and helps reinforce a lifetime love of learning in children. We hope to see you here! Cost is \$5 per child. (Adult accompanying child is free.) Appropriate for ages 3 and 4. NOTE: NOT a drop-off program - at least one adult must accompany each child. Please no siblings. Pre-registration is required. Program is limited to the first 15 registered children. Program funded by Sacramento County Regional Parks. Effie Yeaw Nature Center, Inside Ancil Hoffman Park, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael, CA 95608. Register at <http://www.sacnaturecenter.net/storytime.html>

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22 MAMA TALKS @ COLONIAL HEIGHTS (EARLY CHILDHOOD 0-5): The Colonial Heights Library is proud to partner with the Capital City Doula Collective to present Mama Talks. A free public event for mothers to connect with one another and access local resources related to pregnancy, childbirth and motherhood. This program is geared toward pregnant and new mothers with babies and children under 5, however all parents/caregivers of small children are welcome to attend. Starts at 10:30 a.m., Colonial Heights Library, 4799 Stockton Blvd.

Featuring a farm-to-fork dinner, cocktails, live entertainment, and a fabulous auction of art and unique experiences.

Individual Tickets: \$75 -VIP Table Sponsorships available.
To purchase tickets or for more information call 916.442.6802 or visit calautomuseum.org/artofthecar

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- EVENT LISTING SECTION -

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McClatchyreunion66@yahoo.com
Facebook: McClatchy High school class of 1966

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67th Sacramento High School Reunion Class of 1949
Saturday, September 10, 2016
11 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Contacts: Joyce Cowan at cowan_j@sbcglobal.net and Vera Malkovich at borka@comcast.net

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