

## 'Hatching' a plan: Life, liberty and farm fresh eggs?

Local organization working to overturn current law barring urban chicken raising

See page 12

Book visits history through postcards

See page 10

COMMUNITY CALENDAR, PAGES 26-27 • KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR, PAGE 10 • FACES AND PLACES, PAGE 28

### Inside This Edition



Party days now gone at the Zombie Hut

See page 6



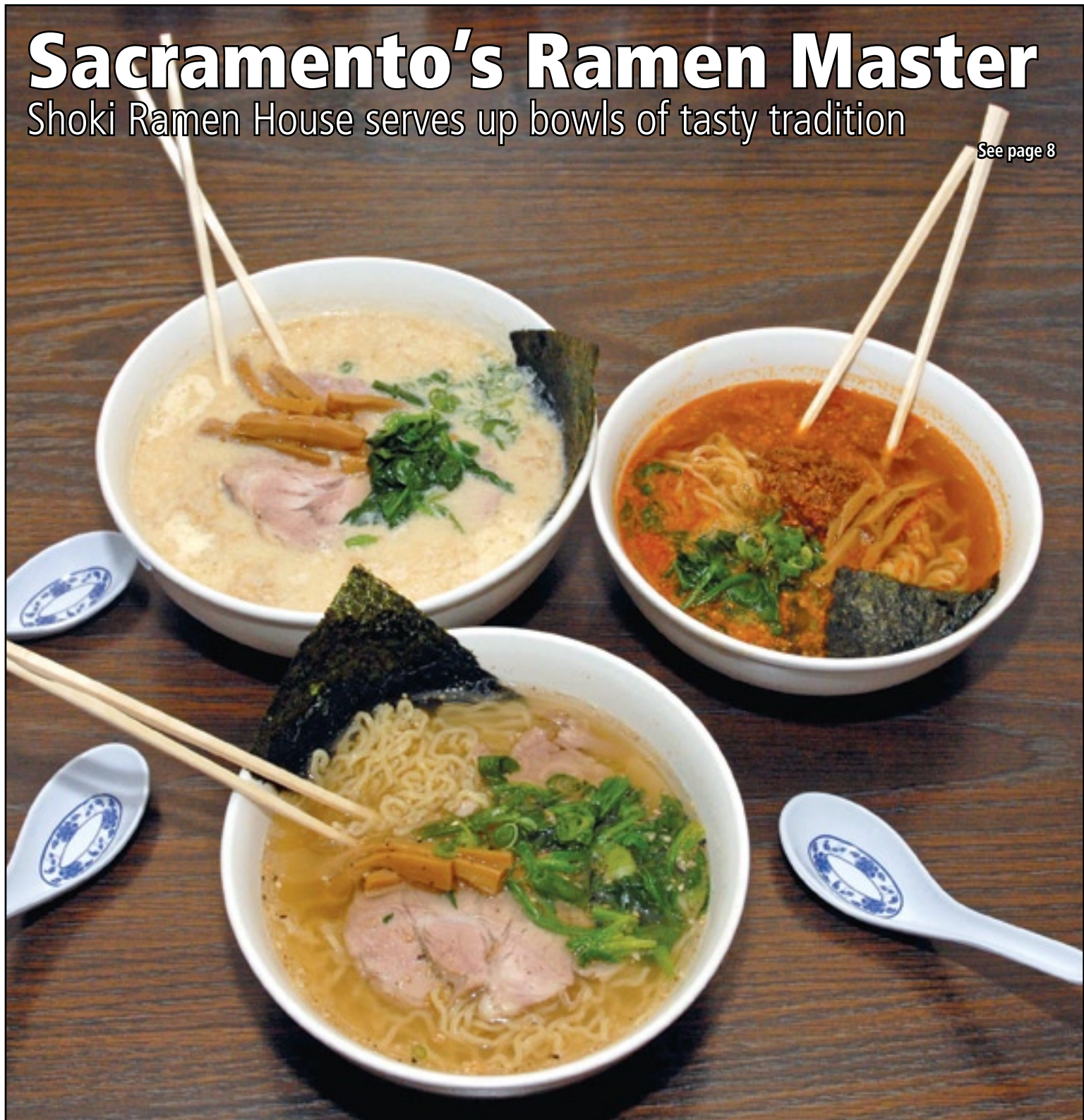
Special Section: Real Estate Quarterly

See pages 14-21

## Sacramento's Ramen Master

Shoki Ramen House serves up bowls of tasty tradition

See page 8



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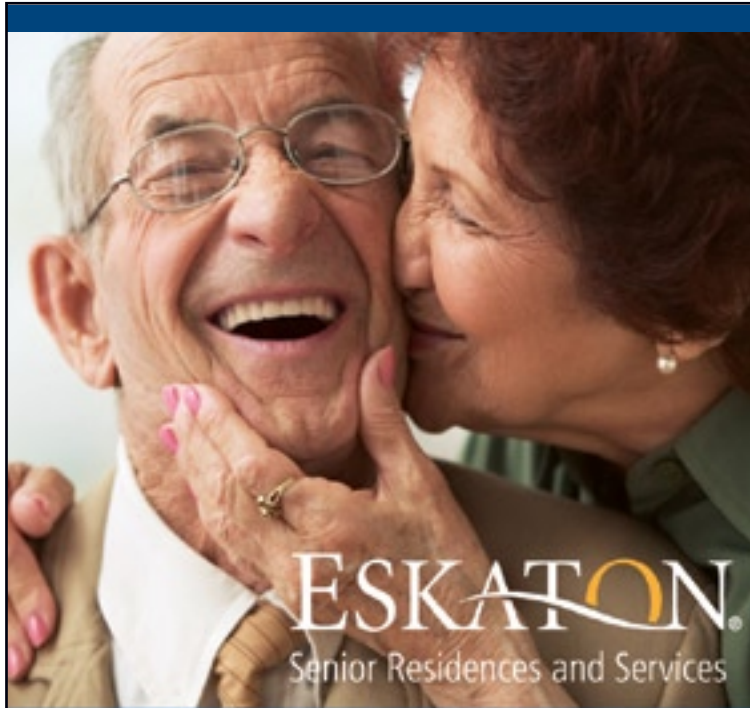
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The Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. Web site, www.valcomnews.com, has received a massive makeover, providing for a new and interactive experience when searching for your local news or downloading your favorite community newspapers: the Arden-Carmichael News, the East Sacramento News, The Land Park News, The Pocket News,

The Valley Shopper quarterly publication and the California Kids! monthly magazine.

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# Taylor's Market raises \$6,000 for Haitian relief efforts

Special to The Land Park News

In an effort to raise funds to assist those affected by the recent earthquake in Haiti, Taylor's Market, located at 2900 Freeport Blvd., held a special Haitian Relief Dinner at their restaurant Taylor's Kitchen on Sunday, Jan. 24. According to representa-

tives of the market, the event raised more than \$6,000. The monies will go to Doctors Without Borders, an international organization of medical professionals that travel throughout the world to administer aid and relief services.

Taylor's Market employees thanked the community

for their generosity and have "[urged] everyone to continue to give to the charity of your choice to help the victims of this tragic event."

According to information provided by the American Red Cross and international news agencies, the situation in Haiti continues to grow more desperate. Devastation

from the Jan. 12 (local time) 7.0-magnitude quake could lead to the death of more than 300,000 people.

For more information on Doctors Without Borders, visit [doctorswithoutborders.org](http://doctorswithoutborders.org); for more on Taylor's Market, call (916) 443-6881 or go to [www.taylorsmarket.com](http://www.taylorsmarket.com).

See a related story on page 30.



**JIM JEFFERS**

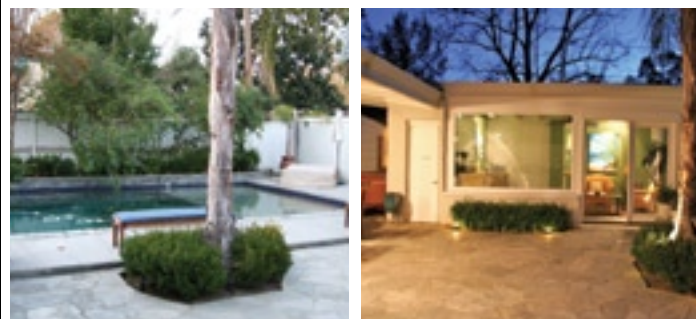
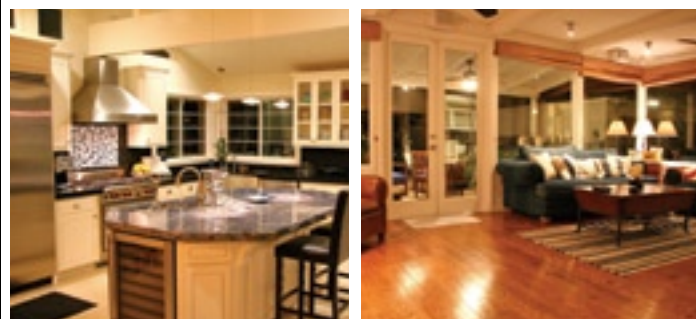
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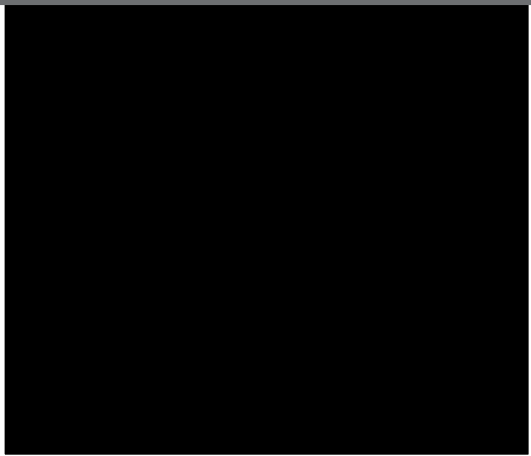
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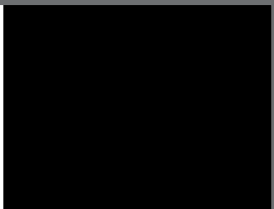


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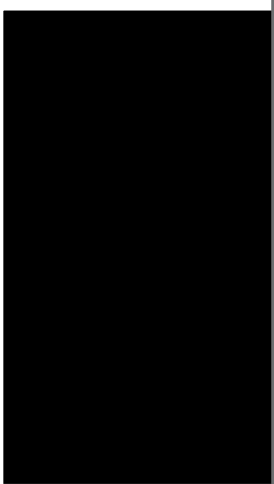
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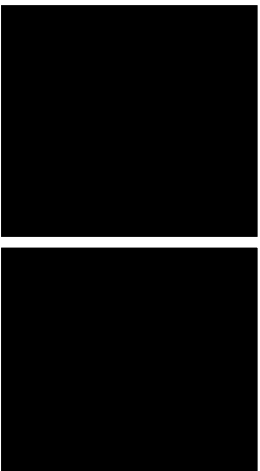
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# Locals reminisce about south area's famous Zombie Hut restaurant

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
Land Park News Writer  
lance@valcomnews.com

Sacramento has been home to a wide variety of restaurants throughout the years and among the most unique of these eateries was undoubtedly the Zombie Hut.

Operating at 5635 Freeport Blvd. from 1945 to 1990, this establishment drew a consistent clientele during its heyday.

Despite the passing of two decades since its closure, the Polynesian-style business continues to be fondly remembered by its many guests and workers.

Among the restaurant's earliest customers were Pocket residents Norman and Dolores Greenslate.

Dolores, the longtime historian and archivist of the Portuguese Historical and Cultural Society, said that the first owner of the business was a Portuguese man, named Johnny Quaresma.

"(Quaresma) was a Portuguese fellow, who was known as Johnny Christmas," Dolores said. "The story goes that somebody was saying 'Quaresma' and they were thinking that they were saying 'Christmas,' so he became known as

Johnny Christmas. He owned the Zombie Hut originally and he may have had a (business) partner, I don't know."

Quaresma sold the business in about 1952 and opened a similar restaurant, the Hawaiian Hut at 2400 West Capitol Ave. in West Sacramento.

Dolores added that the restaurant's Portuguese connection did not stop with Quaresma, noting that another Portuguese man, Eddie Cunha, who was recognized as one of the city's best bartenders, worked at the Zombie Hut for at least 20 years.

Another notable bartender at the restaurant in latter years included Eddie Cisneros.

At the time of its opening, this dimly lit restaurant, which was known for its evening entertainment and its many tropical drinks with miniature umbrellas resting on their tops, was located within a relatively barren area, south of Sutterville Road.

As opposed to today, this area near today's Sacramento City College and William Land Park was much less built up and included few places during this era besides



Photo courtesy of Cheryl Cook  
(Left to right) Debbie Kassis, Turia Giles, Evelyn Meredith and Cheryl Cook were among the many dancers to perform at the Zombie Hut.

Capital Nursery, Raley's grocery store, the Municipal Airport, Bob's Bar-B-Q, The Stables tavern, a pair of liquor stores and the Ceccarelli residence.

But the Zombie Hut, which included much Polynesian décor, was well situated for people in the Pocket area such as Dolores, who is a native of the area.

"The Zombie Hut was the place to go out in that area," Dolores said. "We used to go there after Norman came back (from World War II). I also used to go there for fashion shows later on when (another owner) Ed Hill had the place. The women used to go over there for the (fashion) shows, but then the men did, too, because there was lingerie."

kind of act with fire. For Sacramento, this was quite the thing. Back then you only had the Sacramento Inn, the Hotel Senator and the Zombie Hut was right up there, because of the entertainment."

Albert Sakalata, a Tongan-born musician who began entertaining at the venue in 1963, recalled his first memories of the Zombie Hut.

"I was asking people where I could find a Hawaiian restaurant and they told me to go to the Zombie Hut," Sakalata said. "When I first went there (to the Zombie Hut), I was really shocked to see there were torches lined up with fire outside the restaurant and the place was like the (Polynesian-themed) Trader Vic's restaurants down south in L.A. I was with two Tongan boys (Fono Manu and another with the last name of Tofanaha) and we all decided that we were going to work at this place. They approached us and asked us that night to perform a couple songs on stage (with the Lee sisters from Hawaii and their brother, Fred Lee, the drummer) and we were hired on the spot."

Sakalata, who first came to the United States in 1959 when he studied account-

## Place for Polynesian music

The Zombie Hut's most renowned entertainment and a staple of the venue was its Polynesian music and dancing acts.

Pocket resident Mary Snyder, who was formerly known as Carol Monahan, recalled attending Polynesian entertainment performances at the Zombie Hut as early as 1963.

"While I was attending (Sacramento) City College and living (at 2415 33rd Ave.), Alvin Inaba, whose parents owned the whole block where the Zombie Hut was located, used to take me to the Zombie Hut," Snyder said. "I would see the entertainment there and it was the first place I ever had a prime rib dinner. We would go to the Zombie Hut and then to the Music Circus, because his sister was in the Music Circus. I remember seeing the dancers (at the Zombie Hut) and some

See *Zombie*, page 7

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Valley Community Newspapers



# Zombie: Sakalata said, 'It was like walking into a jungle'

Continued from page 6

ing at the Church College of Hawaii – today's Brigham Young University-Hawaii – and helped build and open the world-famous Polynesian Cultural Center in Laie, Hawaii, said that he worked at the Zombie Hut for two years before going back to Tonga.

Returning to the United States in 1974, Sakalata, 70, began playing music with his brothers on a touring cycle, which included stops in Albuquerque, Tucson, Lake Tahoe, Stockton and Fresno.

## A changing time

As Polynesian-themed restaurants were losing much of their nostalgic popularity in the 1970s and the Zombie Hut was in need of various improvements, Hill contacted Sakalata to provide entertainment and become the restaurant's manager.

Sakalata, who also took the stage with a Samoan musician, named Tasili Ngaleai, entertained at the Zombie Hut on Tuesdays through Sundays, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Accompanying Sakalata's group, the Royal Polynesians, at various times were several dancers, including Trudy Lawrence, who was also a singer, Ngaleai's sister, Losa, Turia (Giles) Davis, Katherine (Giles) Marchand, Evelyn Meredith, Debbie Kassis and Cheryl Cook.

Davis, who was born on the island of Bora Bora in the South Pacific and was a part of the Zombie Hut dance troupe from 1963 to 1969 and from 1985 to 1987, said that her professional dancing career continued until about 2007.

Commenting about one of her favorite dancing memories, Davis said, "My mom and dad (Fred and Tetua Giles) were at the Zombie Hut for years. I loved that and of course my mother was Polynesian (from Tahiti) and my dad always supported our Polynesian heritage. They were always big on supporting any of the Polynesian programs and events. I really enjoyed having them there. But it was not just them (who were regulars). There were a number of people who came there almost every weekend and just became part of the scenery more or less."

Cook, who began dancing at the Zombie Hut when she was 15 years old, said that many former Zombie Hut musicians and dancers continue to perform together at various events.

"The Zombie Hut's Hawaiian floor show still lives on," Cook said. "Albert and his Hula Lovelies, as he called us, still entertain at backyard parties, corporate events and country clubs with the group, Aloha Polynesia."

Although the Zombie Hut was definitely not Sacramento's first or last Polynesian-themed eatery and nightclub, it was widely considered the most popular of these places.

Predating the Zombie Hut was the Tropics nightclub, which opened at 1019 1/2 J St. in 1943.

This business, which advertised itself as the "Pacific Coast's most beautiful nightclub" with "dancing, entertainment and tropical drinks," appears to be where Quaresma may have obtained his idea to establish the Zombie Hut.

The Tropics owners were Yubi Separovich, who lived at 2712 13th St., where Quaresma eventually lived, and Frank Radich, who resided at 2716 13th St.

Another similar business in latter years was Albert's Tiki Village at 3514 Marconi Ave. at Watt Avenue. Owned by Albert Mar, the restaurant boasted its "superb Polynesian cuisine."

## Quality cuisine

The Zombie Hut also had its fair share of quality cuisine, as it served such offerings as steak, prime rib, scampi, lobster, scallops, mahi mahi, salads and roast pig on the weekends for luau and banquets.

And people came from many directions outside of Sacramento to enjoy the food, drinks and entertainment.

Among the Zombie Hut's most famous guests were John Wayne, Eddie Fisher, Joey Bishop, Joan Crawford, George Montgomery, Cliff Robertson and Eddie Murphy.

A lot of the draw of the Zombie Hut was its unique interior, which included a bamboo décor with many round tables that were indi-

vidually illuminated by hanging blowfish lights, artificial coconut trees, a 15-foot-wide tropical storm, waterfall area, blacklights, recorded bird sounds, island-themed artwork, a thatched roof stage near the center of the restaurant, four canoes hanging from the ceiling, masks, spears, tiki idols and a large taxidermy collection that included the heads of moose, elk, goats and other animals brought back from Quaresma and Hill's hunting trips.

Remembering the inside of the Zombie Hut, Sakalata said, "It was like walking into a jungle."

Complimenting the Zombie Hut for a very brief time was Lucille Andrews, Olive Christian and Dixie Lockett's Hawaiian Imports gift store, which opened at 5677 Freeport Blvd. in about 1959.

Although Sakalata brought a much needed boost to the restaurant, by the late 1980s, the restaurant changed drastically under its last owner, Bruce Brooks.

During this time, the venue featured Love Boat theme and disco music shows and eventually discontinued its entertainment offerings.

Additionally, the restaurant replaced its former menu with a fast food-style menu and was only open on the weekends during the evenings.

Sakalata left his position as the Zombie Hut's manager in 1989 to begin his own Polynesian-style restaurant, called the Island Marina, in the Sacramento Delta and by the following year the Zombie Hut closed its doors to the public for the final time.

The building was demolished many years ago and the strip mall that now stands in its place includes a self-serve dog wash and bakery at the Zombie Hut's old address.

## Gone but not forgotten

While Sacramento has been without its once beloved Zombie Hut for the past 20 years, a tribute to the Zombie Hut appeared in 2002, when former Zombie Hut busboy Tod Bullen opened a similar restaurant by the same name in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Sakalata, however, feels that the timing is right to reintro-

duce a Zombie Hut-like eatery and entertainment venue to the Sacramento restaurant scene.

"Right now, I think that there really should be a place like the old Zombie Hut (in Sacramento)," Sakalata said. "People of this generation are going to the Pacific Islands for vacations, like (to) Fiji, Ton-

ga and Samoa and New Zealand, Australia and Hawaii. They are coming back with the nostalgia of the islands. If somebody could come up with a place like the Zombie Hut, I honestly think that it would be very successful."

But in the meantime, the old Zombie Hut has left plenty of memories behind.

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# The art of ramen alive in Sacramento: Shoki Ramen House

By SUSAN LAIRD  
Land Park News Writer  
susan@valcomnews.com

Tucked into a little, unassuming building in a Curtis Park neighborhood is one of the precious gems that make Sacramento a culinary treasure.

The Shoki Ramen House boasts an authentic Japanese chef who is not only talented and well trained – he is innovative as well.

Yasushi Ueyama started his culinary career in Japan. His intended career path was to become a dietician, but he discovered that he loved the food industry more.

“My husband was going to be a nutritionist,” said Kathy Ueyama. “Then he opened a restaurant in Japan and it was a success.”

Kathy grew up in a military family. Her mother was Japanese, her father was Canadian. Her parents were posted all over the world, eventually retiring from Mather Air Force Base. She travelled to Japan to learn more about her heritage. That’s when she met Yasushi and the rest, as they say, is history.

“We came back to the United States and opened up a new place in Folsom,” she said. “It was a hard start. Business is different in the U.S., and it was also at the height of the sushi boom. American customers had only one concept of Japanese food. Yasushi wanted to prepare food that is healthy for people, and not all sushi is as healthy as people think it is. And, he had discovered that his heart is in ramen.”

The Ueyamas decided to focus entirely on ramen, and moved their business to Sacramento.

Ramen in Japan is very salty, and typically only the noodles are consumed. The broth is too salty to be consumed most of the time. Yasushi wanted to use his nutritional and food chemistry education, his restaurant experience and his personal experience to create a new kind of Japanese ramen that is a healthier option. His concept was that everyone, from babies to senior citizens, could enjoy his ramen.

Yasushi’s “magnificent obsession” has taken the craft of ramen making to an art in this one-of-a-kind Sacramento enterprise.

After much experimentation, he created several ramens that are healthy, delicious and nutritious. Yasushi spends hours working with the finest ingredients, custom blending flavors for his specialty broths.

### Recipe like no other

At Shoki Ramen House, the broth for the ramen is made entirely from scratch, from the finest ingredients available. No cans are used. No MSG or preservatives are added to enhance the flavor of the broth.

Yasushi spends six to eight hours each day, carefully crafting broths: one is made from meat and vegetables; another is “ocean” based and is made from fish, kelp and other ingredients harvested from the sea. A third broth is created from blending the two. He has also created something unique



Ramen noodles must be properly prepared and then massaged by hand to achieve their full potential. Here, Yasushi Ueyama works the noodles to perfection.

See Ramen, page 9

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Land Park News Photo/Tom Paniagua

Each bowl of ramen is prepared individually by Yasushi Ueyama from broths that take six to eight hours to prepare.



Land Park News Photo/Tom Paniagua

Japanese ramen delights are created in the kitchen of this tiny Curtis Park restaurant. Shoki Ramen House may well be one of the most unique ramen restaurants in the country.

## Ramen: 'Balance and harmony of all the ingredients is very important'

Continued from page 8

in Japanese cuisine: a vegetarian/vegan broth.

"In Japan, you won't find vegetarians or vegans as a rule," Kathy said. "We've found that people here request it. In Japan, ramen is usually pork or meat based. Don't assume that all ramen is vegetarian or vegan, because it isn't. We recommend that vegetarians and vegans let us know their preference when they order, so we can meet their needs."

When creating the broths, Yasushi carefully removes the unhealthy fats by skimming them off the surface. This leaves only healthy, flavorful oils in the end product.

Noodles are a key component of ramen. What many ramen lovers may not realize is that the thickness of the noodle can change the subtle flavors of the ramen.

"Thin noodles go well with the Shoyu Ramen," Kathy said. "It is a soy sauce based broth. Thicker noodles go best with a spicy ramen, such as the Tan Tan Men Ramen. The balance and harmony of all the ingredients is very important."

Ramen bowls at Shoki Ramen House come in three sizes: small, regular and large. The ramen is to be consumed on site, right at the restaurant. In fact, in Japan, it is considered polite – and culturally appropriate – to slurp your ramen and run. It is the ultimate "fast food" because the fresh noodles must be consumed before they become soggy. This is also why Shoki Ramen House is not able to offer "take out."

"We encourage people to enjoy their ramen quickly," Kathy said. "Because there is often a line at the door, filled with people waiting for their turn."

### On the menu

There are five basic ramen bowls offered at Shoki Ramen House. All can be

customized, so feel free to ask for recommendations. Each bowl is a work of art, crafted for the individual.

The Shoyu Ramen is crafted with a high quality soy sauce imported from Japan. It is topped with one slice of Chashu (pork imported from Denmark), spinach, menma (bamboo shoots), green onions and one wafer of seaweed. (Small \$5.90, Regular \$6.90, Large \$8.90).

Shio Ramen uses a special sea salt imported from Japan. It is also topped with one slice of Chashu, spinach, menma, green onions and one wafer of seaweed. (Small \$5.90, Regular \$6.90, Large \$8.90).

Tan Tan Men Ramen is a spicy soy sauce based broth with Shoki original minced beef with goma (sesame seeds). It is topped with spinach, menma, green onions and one wafer of seaweed. It is available in a variety of spiciness levels, from mild to super spicy. The Ueyamas recommend that beginners start with mild and work their way up. (Small \$6.90, Regular \$7.90, Large \$9.90).

"Remember, we can always make your ramen spicier, but we can't make it milder once it's made," Kathy said. "It isn't possible to 'un-do' a spicy ramen."

Tsuke Men Ramen is chilled ramen noodles served with warm soy sauce based broth on the side. The dipping broth is slightly spicy. As with all Shoki Ramen House dishes, the spiciness can be adjusted, just tell your server. It is also topped with one slice of Chashu, spinach, menma, green onions and one wafer of seaweed.

Shoki Ramen House's specialty Soy Milk Ramen is a hearty, filling and satisfying dish. It features a noodle of Yasushi's own creation: a whole-wheat noodle.

"This is a ramen noodle of Yasushi's own creation," Kathy said. "It goes well with all of our broths. He has it made

to his specifications at a company in San Jose."

The Soy Milk Ramen features a soy sauce based broth that uses soy milk produced locally by the Sacramento Tofu Company. The broth is about 80 percent soy. It is also topped with one slice of Chashu, spinach, menma, green onions and one wafer of seaweed. Sesame oil is served on the side. (Regular size only, \$7.90).

The little Curtis Park restaurant is developing quite a following for its tasty and healthful cuisine. In fact, many of Shoki Ramen House's customers are from the medical field.

"They appreciate the effort he puts into sharing healthy foods," Kathy said.

What's next for this ramen master and noodle innovator?

"Yasushi's next goal is to find a way to create a noodle that can do 'to gos'" Kathy said. "He is also a sake sommelier, so a larger location with more seating would be nice in the future, so he could focus on ramen and sake. This is America, and anything is possible here."

### To get to Shoki Ramen House

Shoki Ramen House is located at 2675 24th Street in the Curtis Park neighborhood of Sacramento. Hours are Monday 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (dinner only); Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (lunch) and 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (dinner); Saturday 12 noon to 3 p.m. (lunch) and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. (dinner); and closed on Sunday. For additional information, call (916) 454-2411.

**On the cover:** Pure, all-natural ramen. Clockwise from upper left, Soy Milk Ramen, Tan Tan Men Ramen and Shio Ramen. Photo by Tom Paniagua.

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K. St. Sacramento, Cal.

Photo courtesy Tom Myers Photography

The ladies pictured on the right of this postcard with their fancy ground-length dresses are grateful that the city, at the time, employed street sweepers to clean-up after horse drawn carriages and wagons. Fashion has never been very practical. The postcard is postmarked April 1909, but the photograph is c. 1900. The electric streetcars appeared in 1895.



Photo courtesy Tom Myers Photography

Tom Myers, a nationally renowned commercial stock photographer and author, has published a book documenting Sacramento's rich history through postcards dated from 1905-1925.

## Know your neighbor

# Land Park photographer leaves a permanent mark in history

By ELIZABETH VALENTE  
Land Park News Writer  
reporter@valcomnews.com

Tom Myers' love for history and photographs is shaping into something fantastic – for him and the Greater Sacramento Area.

Myers, a nationally renowned commercial stock photographer and author, has published a book documenting Sacramento's rich history through postcards dated

from 1905-1925. "Postcard History Series: Sacramento" from Arcadia Publishing, features 213 historical black-and-white postcard/photographs.

This book would be the publisher's 19th title documenting the history of the Sacramento area.

"Tom is an ideal author for a pictorial history in the fact that he's an experienced photographer whose work is already highly respected by lo-

cals," said Teresa Simmons, publicist for Arcadia Publishing.

It took Myers six years to collect the rare, decades-old postcards. He has more than 600 vintage cards bundled in a black binder he keeps in his Land Park office. His new book, brings to life the history of the city's early years showcasing postcards such as symmetrical rows of historic buildings off of K Street, acres of undeveloped land,

Sacramento bathhouses, McKinley Park, early farmers and even the fashion line of the time. Almost all the postcards he features in the book have writings on the back. He describes the writings as a form of "story telling."

"Postcards were cheaper to use than it was to make a phone call back in the early 1900s. The mailman would make four deliveries a day, explains Myers. One

card from 1913 reads, 'I'll be in late tonight on the "L" train. Meet me around 6 p.m.'

"That would be mailed around ten in the morning and the person would get the postcard by the afternoon and show up in the evening."

Myers knew the postcards were special the moment he saw them – a feeling, he jokes, that is often shared by collectors such as himself. He has spent hundreds of dollars amassing his collection, countless hours reviewing old blue prints at the library, walking up and down the busy streets of Sacramento, but nothing compares to the expense he endured learning how to "Google."

"I learned how to Google because of this book," joked Myers. "I hate the computer, but I like to Google."

At 84, Myers continues to work out of his home which he has turned into a photography museum. Along with his wife Sally and son Jeff, all photographers, Myers continues to live and breathe what he loves to do: photography. For more than 45 years his stock photos depicting everything from the California agriculture to the deserts of New Mexico, have appeared in National Geographic, Newsweek, National Wildlife,



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From left: Wes, Ted, and Henry



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See Postcards, page 11



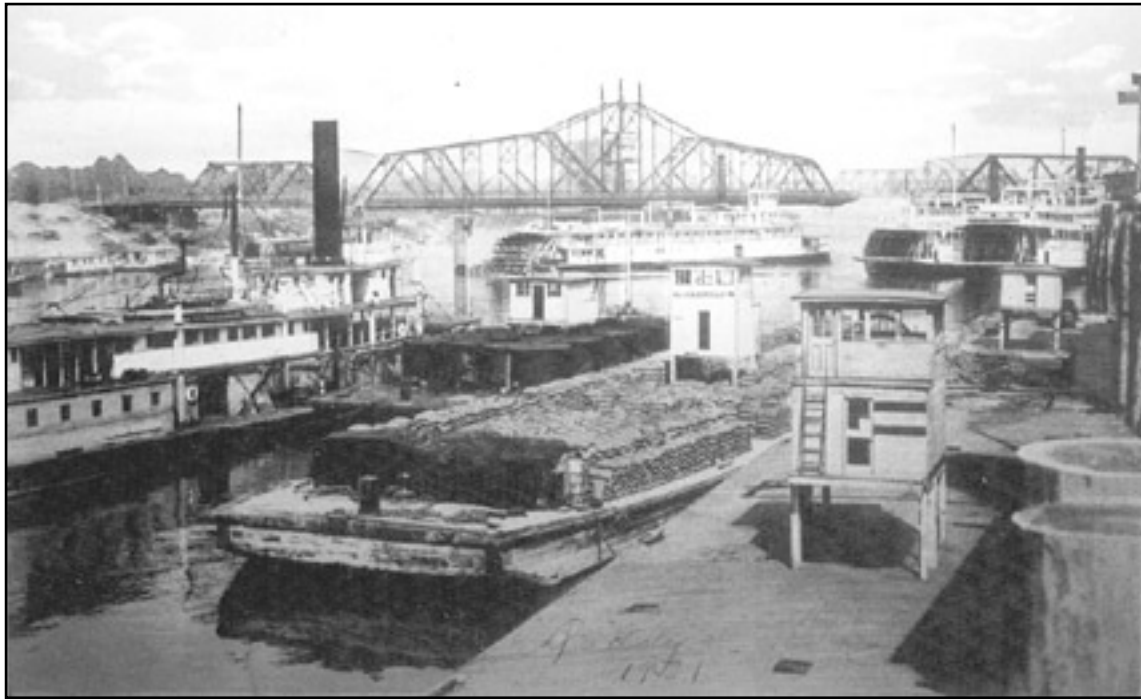


Photo courtesy Tom Myers Photography

This postcard, showing the Sacramento waterfront and barges loaded with wheat, was postmarked Sept. 5, 1921. The following information appears on the reverse: "Shipping Scene Sacramento River. Sacramento is navigable 300 miles of its length and to ocean steamers from its mouth to Sacramento City a distance of 120 miles." This picture shows the M Street Bridge in the background. The Tower Bridge replaced this bridge in 1935.

## Postcards: 'It's important to remember'

Continued from page 10

hundreds of educational books and magazines, and Hallmark cards.

He has more than 600,000 slides all cataloged in banker-made cabinets out of his home in Land Park.

"The slides we have are different from what the photo agencies have. We have more natural appearing scenes," he said. "Some slides start at \$1,500 and go up from there."

Myers first venture of documenting history was when he was shipped to Korea in the 1940's. There he took snapshots of his combat engineer unit, the 45th Infantry Division. "I always had a camera around my neck, not for the Army, just for me. I took photos of tanks hitting mines, mil-

itary personnel in camps, and the unique scenery. It's just so easy to forget what came before us, but it's important to remember. Everything we face today, we have faced before."

Those 600 "permanent" photos of the Korean War he took now sit in an archive at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. Myers

started taking photos with a manual 35mm Canon, 45 years later, he is still using a Canon, but to help keep up with the times, he's using a digital.

Myers will be signing his new book, "Postcard History Series: Sacramento" at The Shack off of Folsom Boulevard on January 30 from 4-7 p.m.

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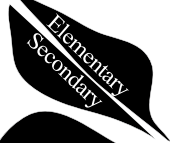
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You and your teen

## Parenting and your past

By STEVE DEBENEDETTI-EMANUEL

Land Park News Family Columnist  
[steve@rivercitycounseling.com](mailto:steve@rivercitycounseling.com)

Growing up, my father talked once in a while about his college days in Milwaukee. He helped pay his way through school by working at a brewery where the happy hours were free, started at break times, and continued after work. Were there times when he drank too much and rolled home in a particularly giddy mood? Probably, but in the end your guess is as good as mine.

I can remember wanting to ask more questions, particularly after I started bending and breaking rules as a teen. But I never did because of some sort of unspoken rule that it wasn't OK to ask him such personal questions. The line was clear: parents were parents and kids were kids.

We all know that times have changed. Teens have 24-hour access to information, including as many juicy details as they can stomach. If they're getting daily updates on Tiger's sexual escapades, then it's not a leap for them to want to know all there is to know about their parents' pasts. In fact, many teens believe that the Freedom of Information Act was written with them in mind.

Keep in mind that your teens are curious and want your guidance, and it's your job to do your best to prepare them for adulthood and making responsible decisions. It's appropriate to share information about your past, but you need to think about what and why you share. As you consider how to respond, there are several thoughts to keep in mind.

Be aware that we all have events from our past that feel uncomfortable or shameful. If you're hesitant or not ready to answer their questions, by all means don't. Tell your teens that they're asking good questions, but you're not going to answer them. Then hold firm and don't give in to their persistent questioning.

It's also important to answer only the question that's asked. Anticipating and answering questions that haven't been asked can have unintended consequences. If your daughter asks you if you ever knew anybody who got pregnant by accident, answer briefly and then wait patiently for her next question. If you get anxious and keep talking, you could blurt out information like, "Yeah, it happened to a friend and she dropped out of high school. I'm worried that this is going to happen to you, too."

By making this assumption, you'd miss a valuable opportunity to help your daughter. Perhaps her concerns are really about her friend, and you've both drawn an incorrect conclusion and missed an opportunity to provide important information. And if she is pregnant, she's going to need ongoing support, not negative predictions for her future.

Finally, be clear on why you're answering questions. If you share personal information as a way of opening up a dialogue and teaching a lesson, do so carefully. However, if you're answering and finding yourself enjoying the memories, rather than focusing on what you hope your teen will learn, stop. Your teens are asking because they're curious and want to learn from your experiences. They're really not interested in your "glory days."

Looking back, I wonder if I might have made different choices had I known more about what my father did and the mistakes he made. I'll never know, but I am aware that today's parents have many opportunities to share valuable information and influence their teen's choices. Just be clear on what and why you're sharing.

Steve DeBenedetti-Emanuel is a licensed marriage and family therapist based in the Sacramento area. Steve's columns appear periodically in the Valley Community Newspapers. Ask Steve your questions - e-mail him at [steve@rivercitycounseling.com](mailto:steve@rivercitycounseling.com).



# 'Hatching' a plan for urban chicken raising in Sacto

By **BENN HODAPP**  
Land Park News Writer  
benn@valcomnews.com

With all the squawking about urban chicken ownership and whether it should be allowed, one local organization has stepped up to try to overturn the current city and county laws barring neighborhood chicken raising.

The Environment and Agriculture Taskforce (EAT) Sacramento, calls itself "a network of residents and organizations dedicated to increasing food access and food security" according to its Web site. The first order of business for the EAT Sacramento team has been to tackle the subject of urban chicken keeping. The organization's position is that government should not be able to tell people where they can and cannot get their eggs.

Borne of this stance was the Campaign to Legalize Urban Chicken Keeping (CLUCK), which was put in charge of the chicken issue by EAT Sacramento.

But why is urban chicken keeping even against the law in the first place?

"I have a suspicion that owning chickens was seen as

unfashionable when the law was passed," said Abi Crouch, coordinator of CLUCK. For a city that might have been trying to kick the "cow town" label, Crouch thinks that getting rid of backyard chickens was seen as a good first step by lawmakers.

It seems chickens have been sitting ducks for local lawmakers for at least 20 years: A 1989 city law added chickens to a ban preventing livestock from being kept as pets, and a Sacramento County law made it illegal for urban homeowners to have chickens on their property unless they had more than 10,000 square feet of property.

"A lot of people who own chickens don't even know that it's against the law," Crouch said. "I think it's pretty ridiculous that people are allowed to have dogs and cats but not chickens. Dogs and cats don't put food on the table."

Opponents of the plan argue that keeping chickens could lead to outbreaks of bird flu and other diseases. Crouch addressed these concerns.

"Bird flu happens in large flocks in factory farms," she said. She added that she is not aware of any cases of bird

flu originating from a small group of chickens kept outdoors.

In order to keep the worries about bird-borne illnesses to a minimum, CLUCK plans to ask for a cap on how many chickens someone can own, likely limiting the number to eight.

Crouch worries that because of the law, some people will bring their chickens indoors to guard against being caught. This could exacerbate the likelihood of bird flu cases. Crouch spoke of cases of bird flu being traced back to families who shared a home with their chickens.

As far as CLUCK is concerned, overturning the various laws preventing chicken ownership would allow people to keep their birds outside to prevent sickness. And while the group advocates chicken ownership on a small scale, they also stand firmly behind mandatory chicken coops for those who own chickens.

Other less serious concerns about keeping the birds include noise complaints.

"There is a stigma about chickens that they make noise all day, every day," Crouch said. "Hens are generally pretty quiet. They tend to make some noise when they lay an egg, but they usually calm down after a few minutes. Roosters crow all day long; they're the real noisy ones."



Photo courtesy

A 1989 city law added chickens to a ban preventing livestock from being kept as pets, and a Sacramento County law made it illegal for urban homeowners to have chickens on their property unless they had more than 10,000 square feet of property.

Roosters are not part of the campaign and CLUCK does not advocate the keeping of roosters. They don't aid in the egg-producing process and are often extremely loud and sometimes aggressive.

The goal of the organization is to reach out to Sacramento City Council members and other political leaders to try to state their case for those who want to own chickens not just for egg production, but also as pets. And while this issue may not seem like a big deal on the surface to most people, Crouch warns that the law affects more people than one might think.

If all goes as planned, Crouch hopes to have the is-

sue resolved by the beginning of the summer.

EAT Sacramento is an organization meant to aid in bringing healthier local food on a government level to those in the area. It has more than 100 members, some of which have been designated to serve as members of CLUCK. CLUCK meets on the third Tuesday of each month at Coffee Garden at 2904 Franklin Blvd. at 6 p.m. The organization welcomes help from anyone interested.

For more information about EAT Sacramento or CLUCK, they can be reached at 916-551-1883 or by e-mail at info@EATSacramento.org.



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#### Heart to Heart

Thursday, February 18 – 5:30 p.m.

\$10 per person – Arden Hills Country Club, Sacramento

Space is limited, so advanced registration is required.

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# The Real Estate Quarterly

## New rules in the real estate market for the New Year

By **JOHN WOODALL**  
Broker Associate with Lyon Real Estate  
Special to The Real Estate Quarterly

*Editor's Note: The following is the first of a two-part series.*

This article summarizes many of the new federal and state laws affecting the real estate industry this year, as well as 2009 emergency legislation that went into effect immediately. This article draws on information prepared by the legal department of the California Association of Realtors.

### Foreclosure (SB 306 effective Jan. 1, 2010)

Notice of Default, Notice of Sale

Previous law stated that upon a breach of the obligation of a mortgage of any residential property, an authorized agent may (immediately) record a notice of default (NOD) in the county recorder's office where the property is situated and mail the NOD to the person responsible for the mortgage. (For loans made between January 1, 2003, and December 31, 2007, the recording of the NOD's had to wait an

additional 30 days past the delinquency date before being filed.) This portion of the law now applies only to owner-occupied residential real property containing no more than 4 dwelling units. (i.e. it no longer applies to rental property.)

Previously the law required a notice of sale to be recorded at least 14 days prior to the date of sale. The new law extends the time to at least 20 days prior to the date of sale.

### Landlord-Tenant (P.L. 111-22 effective May 20, 2009)

### "Title VII -Protecting Tenants in Foreclosed Properties"

This law creates a new 90-day rental termination notice after foreclosure by the lender or the purchase at the foreclosure sale for bona fide tenants on a month-to-month tenancy. If the bona fide tenant is on a lease, then the full lease term must be honored unless the unit is sold to a buyer who intends to occupy the property, then the 90-day termination notice can be given.

Note that local ordinances may impose additional requirements on terminating a tenancy

### SB 290 effective January 1, 2010

#### 60-Day Notice

The sunset date (originally set for January 1, 2010) on this state law requiring a landlord to provide a 60-day notice prior to terminating a residential tenancy if the tenant has resided in the unit for a year or more is deleted. This law is extended indefinitely.

### Tax

(H.R. 3548 effective November 6, 2009)

#### Homebuyer Tax Credit Extension and Expansion

H.R. 3548 provides both for the extension of the first-time homebuyer tax credit and expansion of it to qualified non-first-time buyers as well. A few of the provisions of this new law include the following:

(1) Both the \$8,000 first-time homebuyer tax credit and the \$6,500 tax credit for "move-up" buyers (see 4 below) would sunset on April 30, 2010. However, purchasers who have binding contracts as of April 30, 2010 (before May 1, 2010), would still qualify for the credit as long as they com-

See Woodall, page 19



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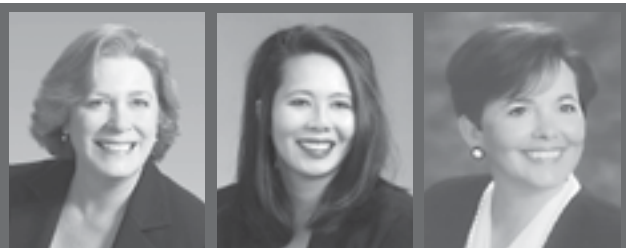
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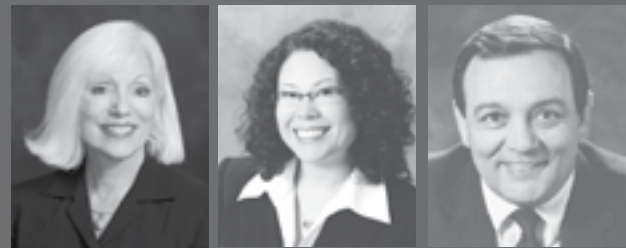
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Fabulous 4 bed 3 bath custom on big lot. Gourmet granite island kit with view of park overlooking family room with cozy fireplace plumb with blower. Brazilian maple wood floors. Curve stairs to rec area & huge master with big walk-in closets. Sitting area, fireplace & spiral lead 3 flr view. Remote downstairs bedroom. 3 car garage with extra 4 car size detach workshop. Glass blocks, slate floors, laundry shute, wired 4 video camera. High ceiling throughout. Buyers decorator finishing touch will make this a gem. Great neighborhood walk to river.

**Got News?**

E-mail: Ryan.Rose at, ryanrose@valcomnews.com

# WELCOME HOME

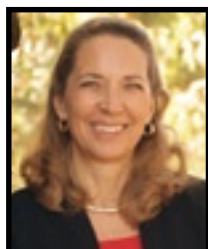
## "MUST KNOWS"

### Land Park real estate in 2010

- In December 2009, housing inventory in 95818 was at its lowest since July 2005
- In December 2009, homes in 95818 sold for 95% of the original list price
- The average sales price of a home in 95818 increased by 13% from January 2009 to December 2009
- Currently, nearly 24% of homes for sale in 95818 are short sales
- April 30th is the first deadline for the Homebuyer Tax Credit
- Proposed changes to FHA financing will likely decrease the number of buyers who can qualify for FHA loans in 2010

Data provided by Metrolist MLS and TrendVision

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## Featured Property



**SOLD by Wendi**

**1129 25TH AVE**  
\$325,000

**SOUTH LAND PARK**  
SOLD

**2808 MARTY WAY**  
\$360,000

**LAND PARK**  
SOLD

**2733 4TH AVE**  
\$380,000

**CURTIS PARK**  
SOLD

**1200 57TH STREET**  
\$450,000

**EAST SACRAMENTO**  
SOLD

**1200 43RD STREET**  
\$1,000,000

**EAST SACRAMENTO**  
SOLD

**5020 DEL RIO RD    SOUTH LAND PARK**  
**\$399,900**

Exceptional home w/ 3 bedrooms & 1.5 baths on a tree lined street. Huge remodeled gourmet kitchen, dual pane windows, wood floors, breakfast nook, formal dining area, fireplace & abundant recessed lighting. Outside there's a covered patio w/ outdoor kitchen, a beautifully landscaped yard and a cute shed w/ power that is built to function as a workshop. Located walking distance to the Sacramento Zoo, Fairytale Town & Funderland, this property is amazing.



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**1121 CAVANAUGH WAY**  
 2 round port hole windows, 1 in front door, 1 in coat closet. Rare booth in kitchen has character, like 50's diner! White tile with burgundy trim & backsplash. Walk 3 houses to Land pk. Wood floors, 2 car gar. Central heat & air. \$372,500  
**VICKIE HULBERT • 444-9973**



**2680 16TH STREET**  
 Classic Brick Tudor **PENDING** over 58 yrs. Retro kitchen tall custom cabinets, tile counters, deep shelves 4 cook books, etc in breakfast nook area. Hardwood floors under carpeted areas. \$369,000  
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**1460 8TH AVENUE**  
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- 6345 Fruitridge Road, 95820, 4 bdrm, \$159,900
- 8445 Felton Crest Way, Elk Grove, 4 Bdrm, \$249,000
- 2283 Oakmont Way, Duplex, 95815, \$103,900

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Prospective tenants will clamor to rent one of these 1 bedroom units in the heart of midtown. Walk to restaurants, galleries and nightlife!



Bank Owned! Fabulous Land Park location! Large living room with fireplace & French doors to the yard. Nice formal dining room. Open kitchen with nook. 3 possibly 4 bedrooms, one downstairs. Wide plank oak floors. Large mature trees. New roof.

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Victorian home located close to Downtown. One of a kind 3 story home w/ a full standing basement, attic converted to 2 bedrooms, full formal dining room, custom kitchen, laundry room & much more! Needs TLC. Located in Curtis Park.

**2529 28th Street ..... \$488,000**

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Location, charm & character in Old Land Park! Fresh, light & upgraded. Close to a wonderful bakery, special grocery market & the best donut shop, the Park, golf course, Zoo & Fairy Tale Town. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home in Land Park.

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Charming cottage, Newer CH&A, hardwood floors and lots more!

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Spacious 4 bed, 3 full bath home boasting bamboo floors & full Anderson dual pane windows. Spacious kitchen w/ granite island updated & ready for your gourmet talents. One bedroom & full bath on ground floor. Party sized living room & dining combo w/ french doors to adjoining patio for summer entertaining. Master retreat w/ balcony. Bath w/ marble soaking tub, separate shower, double sinks. Garage w/ loft, yard shaded by trees.

**2400 10th Ave ..... \$579,000**

*The Real Estate Quarterly*



**Protecting your home from the loss of a job**

(NAPSI) – Job loss is the single greatest cause of mortgage foreclosures. That’s the opinion of many experts, such as researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and other economists. Fortunately, the loss of a job doesn’t always have to mean losing your home. A growing number of smart homebuyers are looking for ways to protect what is probably their most valuable asset. Many are taking advantage of a new feature offered by private mortgage insurers.

Called Job Loss Protection, it’s designed to meet the individual financial needs of people who involuntarily lose their jobs. That’s an all-too-common reality in these challenging economic times, but the good news is that the benefit is available at no extra cost to homebuyers.

To help buyers stay in their homes, mortgage insurers, such as Genworth Financial, purchase the Job Loss Protection benefit when they insure a low down payment mortgage loan made by a participating lender partner.

“It’s good to see a borrower walk away from the closing table with the added peace of mind that comes from having a financial cushion in case of job loss,” said Chris Antonello, a Genworth executive. “The benefit allows affected homeowners to focus on searching for a new job without worrying that the mortgage payment is coming due.”

The program may pay a qualifying borrower’s mortgage payment (principal, interest, taxes and insurance) up to \$2,000 a month for up to six months. Benefits are paid directly to the mortgage company, just as if the borrower had made the payment.

The borrower vesting period is 60 days after closing, and payments begin 30 days from the date of involuntary unemployment. The benefit stays in place for up to three years after the loan closes, while the mortgage insurance remains in force.

Most unemployment events covered by state unemployment benefits are covered under the program. Seasonal, temporary and voluntary jobs or self-employment are not eligible, however. There are other eligibility requirements that a borrower must meet in order to qualify.

“Job loss mortgage protection helps protect borrowers’ credit standing by preventing them from falling behind on their mortgage payments, and it makes their emergency savings go further,” Antonello said. “It helps make for smarter, safer low down payment loans.”

For more information, go to [SmarterML.com/benefits.html](http://SmarterML.com/benefits.html).



# The Real Estate Quarterly

## Woodall: Making sense of new laws

Continued from page 14

plete the transaction within 60 days (or June 30, 2010).

(2) The amendment establishes income limits of \$125,000 for an individual or \$225,000 for a couple for both credits.

(3) The cost of the home being purchased cannot exceed \$800,000 for both categories in order to be eligible for the credit.

(4) "Move up" buyers (an individual or his/her spouse, if married) are qualified if he/she "has owned and used the same residence as such individual's principal residence for any 5-consecutive-year period during the 8-year period ending on the date of the purchase of a subsequent principal residence."

For purchases made in 2010, taxpayers would be able to claim the credit on their 2009 income tax return. Homebuyers would not have to repay the credit, provided the home remains their principal residence for 36 months after the purchase date. However, this recapture provision would not apply in the case of a member of the Armed Forces, military intelligence or Foreign Service who is on qualified official extended duty. In addition, members of the military who have been deployed overseas for 90 days or more in 2008 or 2009 would have until April 30, 2011, to claim the homebuyer tax credit.

The amendment also includes anti-fraud language that gives the IRS the authority to do greater oversight during the process-

ing of the return rather than waiting for an audit situation.

**License number of Real Estate Agents in marketing California Code of Regulations**  
(Paragraph 2773, effective 7/1/2009 - approved but not finalized by the DRE)

Under the new regulation, solicitation materials must contain the license identification number of the licensee on the following items:

- . Business cards
- . Stationery
- . Web sites owned, controlled, and/or maintained by the soliciting licensee, and

. Promotional and advertising flyers, brochures, email and regular mail, leaflets, and any other marketing or promotional materials designed to solicit the creation of a professional relationship between the licensee and a consumer, or intended to induce a consumer to contact the licensee about any licensed services.

The following items are not solicitation materials under the license number requirement:

. Advertisements in electronic media, including radio, cinema, and television ads, and the opening section of streaming video and audio;

. Print advertising in any newspaper or periodical; and

. "For Sale" signs placed on or around a property intended to alert the public the property is available for purchase or lease.

Note: The eight-digit DRE license number must be in a type size no smaller than the smallest type size used in the solicitation material.

*John Woodall, GRI, SRES is a Broker Associate with LYON REAL ESTATE. He has earned a GRI designation (for advanced real estate education) and is a Seniors Real Estate Specialist, (SRES). In addition to traditional residential transactions, John helps clients with Short Sales, Probate sales and handles REOs. He is equally skilled at helping sellers or buyers of homes and investment properties. For more information, please contact John at 916 421 5421 or visit [www.JohnWoodall.com](http://www.JohnWoodall.com).*



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# The Real Estate Quarterly

## Land Park Residential Real Estate Transactions • Fourth Quarter • October–December 2009

### 95818

Address	BR /BA	Date	Value
1570 10TH AVE	3 1	20091002	\$440,000
1861 10TH AVE	3 2	20091020	575,000
2021 11TH ST	3 1	20091009	268,000
2265 11TH AVE	2 1	20091223	292,000
1510 12TH AVE	4 2	20091210	670,000
1521 12TH AVE	4 2	20090904	650,000
1625 12TH AVE	2 1.5	20091118	490,000
2780 13TH ST	2 1	20091204	348,000
2408 14TH ST	0 0	20090911	111,000
2764 14TH ST	2 1	20091104	399,500
2765 14TH ST	3 3.5	20091214	426,000
2729 16TH ST	2 1	20091026	357,048
3174 16TH ST	3 2	20091211	489,000
2620 20TH ST	2 1	20091130	176,080
2720 21ST ST	2 2	20091218	365,000
2724 22ND ST	2 1.5	20091230	480,000
2116 23RD ST	3 1	20091019	329,000
3120 24TH ST	2 1	20091231	186,000
3612 24TH ST	3 2	20091015	275,000
2519 2ND AVE	2 2	20091002	351,500
718 3RD AVE	2 1	20091106	385,000
1932 3RD AVE	3 3	20091113	499,000
2800 3RD AVE	2 1	20091229	494,500
1041 4TH AVE	2 2	20091030	340,000
1917 4TH AVE	3 1	20090916	300,000
1925 4TH AVE	4 2	20091022	365,000
2031 4TH ST	2 1	20091026	47,000
1925 5TH AVE	4 1	20091113	420,000
2204 5TH ST	2 2.5	20091130	340,000
611 6TH AVE	2 1	20090902	340,000
1065 6TH AVE	2 1	20090917	305,000
1308 7TH AVE	2 1	20091230	425,000
1628 7TH AVE	4 2.5	20090901	300,000
1950 7TH AVE	2 1.5	20091210	502,000
2541 7TH AVE	3 2	20091023	611,818
1299 8TH AVE	3 2	20091203	177,500
1560 9TH AVE	2 1	20090930	470,000
1660 9TH AVE	3 2	20091208	575,000
2105 9TH ST	2 1	20090902	285,000
2001 BIDWELL WAY	2 1	20090922	385,000
2132 BIDWELL WAY	2 1	20091023	275,000
3400 BROCKWAY CT	3 2	20091201	594,000
1804 CARAMAY WAY	3 2	20091116	345,000
1815 CARAMAY WAY	2 1	20090909	350,000
1804 CASTRO WAY	3 2	20091204	469,000
2003 CASTRO WAY	2 1	20091125	310,000
2433 CASTRO WAY	4 2	20091222	311,000
2641 CASTRO WAY	2 1	20090908	340,000
2830 CASTRO WAY	3 1.5	20090910	435,000
3215 CUTTER WAY	2 1	20091023	319,000
3667 CUTTER WAY	3 1.5	20091113	486,231
2726 DONNER WAY	4 2	20091228	548,000
2741 DONNER WAY	5 2.5	20091118	399,600
2606 FRANKLIN BLVD	2 1	20090916	192,500
2629 FREEPORT BLVD	2 1	20091120	247,000
2657 FREEPORT BLVD	3 1	20091105	300,000
2721 FREEPORT BLVD	3 2	20091102	260,000
1132 FREMONT WAY	3 1.5	20091218	462,000
2965 GOVAN WAY	2 3	20091116	611,000
2900 HIGHLAND AVE	4 2	20091015	605,000
2547 LAND PARK DR	3 2	20091009	380,000
2776 LAND PARK DR	3 2	20091016	653,000
1813 LARKIN WAY	3 1	20091112	365,000
1414 MARIAN WAY	2 1	20091222	368,000
1141 MARKHAM WAY	2 2	20091116	400,000
2906 MARTY WAY	3 1.5	20091130	439,000
2514 MONTGOMERY WAY	2 1	20090910	310,000
2549 MONTGOMERY WAY	4 2	20091228	570,000
1311 PERKINS WAY	3 2	20091030	558,000
2221 PORTOLA WAY	2 1	20091222	254,900
2784 RIVERSIDE BLVD	3 1	20091125	386,000
2910 RIVERSIDE BLVD	4 3	20091015	607,500
2801 SAN LUIS CT	3 1	20091103	320,000
624 SWANSTON DR	2 1	20091030	299,000
972 SWANSTON DR	3 2	20090901	443,939
1226 SWANSTON DR	3 1.5	20091009	530,000
1426 TENEIGHTH WAY	3 2.5	20090916	674,500
309 U ST	2 1	20091104	319,154
1724 U ST	3 2	20090925	365,000

### 95822

Address	BR /BA	Date	Value
1725 U ST	2 1	20091223	249,000
900 V ST	3 1	20091130	251,452
2522 V ST	2 1.5	20091203	302,598
1370 WELLER WAY	3 1.5	20090917	463,000
1435 WELLER WAY	3 3	20091106	500,000
1012 X ST	3 1	20091027	120,000
1180 13TH AVE	2 2	20091130	\$325,000
2112 15TH AVE	2 1	20091229	150,000
2121 22ND AVE	3 1.5	20091130	250,080
2239 22ND AVE	3 1	20091027	257,500
2356 22ND AVE	3 2	20091102	166,063
2232 23RD AVE	4 2	20090908	325,000
1129 25TH AVE	3 2	20091117	325,000
1164 25TH AVE	3 2	20090923	272,000
2367 25TH AVE	2 1	20090929	214,000
1453 27TH AVE	2 1	20091120	168,000
1111 34TH AVE	3 2	20091002	275,000
1120 34TH AVE	3 2	20091124	205,530
1529 34TH AVE	3 2	20090930	262,000
2416 34TH AVE	3 1	20091009	172,000
1271 35TH AVE	5 2.5	20091029	339,450
1248 41ST AVE	3 2	20091110	410,000
1237 43RD AVE	3 2	20091118	257,000
1254 43RD AVE	6 3	20090904	330,000
1261 43RD AVE	3 2	20091123	329,000
1801 59TH AVE	4 2.5	20091022	350,146
4961 ALTA DR	2 1.5	20091105	372,000
1464 ARVILLA DR	3 2	20091130	71,000
1511 ARVILLA DR	3 1	20091215	275,000
3912 BARTLEY DR	3 2	20091223	500,000
5824 BELLEAU WOOD LN	2 1	20091007	110,000
6106 BELLEAU WOOD LN	3 2	20091207	99,000
6112 BELLEAU WOOD LN	3 1	20091201	70,000
1126 BROWNWYK DR	2 2	20091026	273,000
5625 CAZADERO WAY	3 1	20091215	173,000
1127 CHARGENE WAY	3 1.5	20091105	335,000
1414 CLAREMONT WAY	2 2.5	20090930	407,500
1424 COOLBRITH ST	3 1	20090908	90,000
4701 CRESTWOOD WAY	3 2	20090916	522,500
4750 DA ROSA DR	4 2	20091221	283,500
4790 DEL RIO RD	3 1.5	20091009	280,000
5666 DELCLIFF CIR	4 3	20091223	319,500
1443 DICKSON ST	4 2	20091113	175,000
1512 DICKSON ST	2 1	20091123	78,000
4625 FEGAN WAY	3 1.5	20091104	382,825
1440 FLORIN RD	3 2	20091014	118,000
2141 FRUITRIDGE RD	3 1	20091230	173,000
2237 FRUITRIDGE RD	3 2	20091117	289,000
5779 GLORIA DR	3 1.5	20090923	375,000
5021 KARBET WAY	4 2.5	20090929	456,890
5061 KARBET WAY	3 2.5	20091113	210,000
1460 KITCHNER RD	3 1	20090925	67,000
4640 LAND PARK DR	3 3	20090929	567,000
1567 LONDON ST	2 1	20090928	83,000
1209 LUCIO LN	3 2	20091231	367,000
1437 MCALLISTER AVE	3 1	20091207	63,000
5855 MCLAREN AVE	2 1	20091218	76,000
5924 MCLAREN AVE	2 1	20090916	91,967
5925 MCLAREN AVE	2 1	20091214	64,000
6019 MCLAREN AVE	2 1	20090914	39,000
6148 MCLAREN AVE	3 1	20091009	85,000
5310 MONTEREY WAY	3 1.5	20091020	153,900
4311 MOSS DR	3 2	20091028	385,000
4320 MOSS DR	2 1.5	20091222	398,000
1468 OREGON DR	2 2	20091207	200,000
1025 PIEDMONT DR	4 3	20091026	360,000
1060 PIEDMONT DR	3 1	20090921	359,500
4781 REX CT	3 2	20090925	315,000
1085 SAN MATEO WAY	4 3	20091116	445,000
807 SEAMAS AVE	4 3	20091216	342,000
1800 SHERWOOD AVE	3 1	20090908	170,000
1542 STERLING ST	3 1	20091217	68,000
4629 SUNSET DR	3 2	20091104	310,000
1448 TRADEWINDS AVE	3 2	20091021	269,000
1124 VOLZ DR	3 2.5	20091211	455,000
4240 WARREN AVE	3 2	20091125	310,000
1822 WENTWORTH AVE	2 2	20091217	98,500
1548 ZELDA WAY	3 2	20090921	128,000



# Jesuit High School: A Carmichael/Sacramento tradition since 1963

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
Land Park News Writer  
lance@valcomnews.com

For nearly a half-century, Jesuit High School has been building a strong tradition that began very modestly with 93 freshman students under the direction of the California Province of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and the Rev. Joseph Keane, as superior.

The idea for the creation of this private, Catholic faith-based, all-boys school, which is located on the border of Carmichael and Sacramento at 1200 Jacob Lane, was conceived in about the late 1950s through the leadership of Bishop Robert Armstrong.

And through Armstrong's successor, the Rev. Joseph McGucken, efforts to further this dream continued with various fundraising efforts.

During the early 1960s, Keane was sent by the Rev. John Connolly, provincial of the

California Province, to initiate the preliminary groundwork for the establishment of the school.

## "The miracle of Sacramento"

A major step in the process to create a Jesuit high school in the Sacramento area was taken in January 1961, as 27 acres of the old Horst Hop Ranch were purchased by the California Province for the construction of the school.

The process of building Jesuit High School was referred to by associates of the school at the time as "the miracle of Sacramento" due to the fact that the majority of the school was built in only about four months.

The first issue of Jesuit High's newspaper, *The Plank* (currently known as *Ye Olde Plank*), provided the following commentary on this fast-paced construction, which began in May 1963: "The transformation, wrought by the firm of Harbison and Mahony, definitely borders on the miraculous."

Finally, the long-awaited day arrived on Sept. 17, 1963, as Jesuit High, with its six major buildings, became the first new high school opened by the California Province in 42 years.

Hired as the school's first principal and a history teacher was the Rev. John Geizel, who had previously served as the vice principal of Loyola High School in Los Angeles.

Other instructors at this time included: the student's chaplain, the Rev. John Ferguson, theology; the Rev. Joseph Barry, mathematics; the Rev. Raymond Brannon, Latin and speech; the Rev. Carlton Whitten, English; and the school's only lay teacher,



Jesuit High School has built a nearly half-century-long tradition in the Carmichael/Sacramento area. The school was established on property that was formerly occupied by the Horst Hop Ranch.

er, John Maher, history and physical education.

Keane, who served as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, the dean of men at Loyola University in Los Angeles and athletic director at the University of San Francisco, was appointed first superior of Jesuit High on Sept. 26, 1963.

Another early faculty member was added to Jesuit's staff in February 1964, with the hiring of Brother Edward Johnson, who performed a variety of jobs, including working in the study hall, sorting and filing mail, cleaning the chapel, running errands and watering the lawn.

In October 1964, five priests, one brother and two laymen were added to the faculty.

## No ordinary school

An editorial in *The Plank's* first issue reveals the fact that Jesuit's first students under-

stood that their school was no ordinary school.

The editorial, which was written by student James Mark, included the following words: "When people look at us, they are looking at Jesuit High, for we are Jesuit High. The reputation of the Jesuit fathers rides with each one of us (students), here, at home and away. We are students of Jesuit High 24 hours a day (for) the rest of our lives."

A major event in the school's history occurred on Nov. 6, 1963, when Jesuit's faculty and student body selected the name, *Marauders*, and the colors crimson and gold.

The mascot name was selected due to the classic marauders or seafaring pirates' reputation for having such a great level of intelligence, skill and knowledge of navigation that they were considered almost invincible and the envy of all men.

The colors were chosen because crimson is the color of blood, which symbolizes courage, and gold is the most precious and valuable metal and is so deeply connected to the history of Sacramento.

The beauty of the initial landscaping on the Jesuit campus, which was increased to a total of 42 acres when additional acreage was purchased by the California Province in February 1963, was attributed to the care of Barry and Brannon.

Ferguson was also very active in Jesuit's early landscaping, as he was instrumental in the acquisition and positioning of the campus' first trees and bushes.

In addition to its landscaping and initial structures, the school also included its then-campus-famous asphalt field that was used for physical

See *Jesuit*, page 23

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# Jesuit: 'I think our school... is a tremendous asset to the citizens of Sacramento

Continued from page 22

education classes and intramural sports, including football.

Jesuit's first sports team to compete against another school was its basketball team, which debuted in the fall of 1963.

By the spring of 1964, Jesuit fielded its first baseball team, followed by its first cross country team in the fall of 1964 and its first football team in the fall of 1965.

Today, the school features 14 sports teams and has a rich history of championship teams at the league, section, state and national level.

Most recently, rugby, soccer, cross country and baseball have been the most dominant of these sports.

## A new voice

Another noteworthy activity of the school during its earlier years was its Law Contest, which debuted under the direction of Brannon on Nov. 25, 1963.

With about 600 people in attendance at the Encina High School Auditorium, two mock trials were presented, including the famous Lindbergh trial.

Stephen Clavere won top honors, as he was named the best speaker of the event, which was the first law contest ever held in a California high school.

Honor student and then-future student body president Steve Ruggiero captured the best speaker award during the next Law Contest, which was held at the Loretto High School gymnasium on November 19, 1964.

Although the Law Contest was only held for a few years, clubs were a rich part of Jesuit's early history and among the first clubs to be formed at the school were the Glee Club, the Radio Club and the Sodality service organization.

Since this time, student activities at the school have expanded to include about 45 student-led clubs, ranging from service programs to international clubs to leadership organizations.

Jesuit also has a long history of visual and performing arts programs, which has evolved from the Glee Club

to a full fine arts curriculum, including studio art, music and drama productions.

Another early element of the school since its beginnings was its yearbook, *The Cutlass*.

The original staff of *The Cutlass* met for the first time on Feb. 2, 1964 to plan for the creation of the 1965 annual.

When the staff, which was led by its editor and chief Mark Warren, completed the yearbook, it consisted of 36 pages with black and white photographs.

As the student body has grown throughout the years, thus has *The Cutlass*, as well. The 2009 edition of the annual, for instance, included 192 pages with color photographs.

## Jesuit High today

Mark Warren's brother, Tim Warren, who serves as Jesuit's assistant principal and dean of students, has seen the positive development of the school from its construction days to the present.

"When they were building the school in 1963, my father (Harry Warren) would drive us down there as kids," Tim Warren said. "My brother (Mark) was in the first class,

my brother Phil was in the third class and I graduated in 1970 (in the fourth class) and two years after I graduated, I started coaching football (at Jesuit). There's never been a time that I haven't been associated with the place in my adult life. The school has really grown. I remember when the school opened. The (campus) was not always like this. There were 10 or 15 cars total in the parking lot in the early days."

Norma Nicol Hamilton, Jesuit's assistant librarian and the mother of Jesuit alumni Garrett Hamilton of the Class of 1986 and Ryan Hamilton of the Class of 1989, said that many Jesuit graduates have moved on to contribute considerably to the local and greater society.

"It's been truly a privilege to be a part of the Jesuit Ignatian tradition of education," Hamilton said. "I think our school as it nears its 50th year in the Sacramento area is a tremendous asset to the citizens of Sacramento to their young men who are and who have been students (at Jesuit). I'm not sure of the number of graduates. I think its somewhere in the 6000s range, but they've gone on to do all kinds of wonderful things in California, the United States and

the world in humanitarian occupations, government occupations, health and wellness occupations and legal occupations."

A few of the notable alumni include: Maj. Gen. Leo A. Brooks and Brother Brig. Gen. Vincent K. Brooks of the U.S. Army, National Football League quarterback Ken O'Brien, Major League Baseball player Lars Anderson, Olympic class runner Michael Stember and professional actor Chris Sullivan.

Another facet of the history of Jesuit is that many of the school's former students have returned to work as members of the faculty.

Allan Darte of the Class of 1996 is one such graduate, who has returned to serve the school.

Working as the assistant admissions director and diversity director, Darte is passionate about his Jesuit roots.

"As the first person from my family to go to Jesuit, I found the experience extremely rewarding," Darte said. "I received a well-rounded, morally-based education that has



Land Park News Photo/Lance Armstrong  
A large cross and bell tower hover high above the Jesuit High School campus.

inspired me to be a lifelong learner. Furthermore, I have become a part of an international network, which has given me access to invaluable experiences, resources and opportunities."

Today, Jesuit with its student body of about 1,000 and about 120 faculty and staff, continues its rich tradition of building "Men for Others" and adhering to the Latin motto, *Ad majorem Dei gloriam*, which is translated as "For the greater glory of God."



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# CALENDAR

## GET IN THE CALENDAR

Is your club, group, church, school, or organization having an upcoming event? Let us know. Send information about your event—including date, time, location, a brief description, cost (if any), and contact information—to Calendar, c/o Valley Community Newspapers, 2709 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818, or e-mail [ryanrose@valcomnews.com](mailto:ryanrose@valcomnews.com). Deadline is one week before publication. Priority is given to events that are in the community and/or of little or no cost. There is no guarantee that events submitted will appear in the calendar. To ensure placement within the newspaper, please call 429.9901 to place an advertisement.

## JANUARY

### Jo Anne Marquardt art show

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento presents an exhibition of the artwork of Land Park resident Jo Anne Marquardt Jan. 22 to Mar. 21, 2010 at the UUSS Auditorium located at 2425 Sierra Blvd, Sacramento. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Jan. 22 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. This event is free. For more information visit [www.uuss.org](http://www.uuss.org).

### Pocket girls softball

Register now through March 1 for the 2010 season or sign-up at player evaluations, Jan. 30 at 9 a.m. at Carolyn Wenzel, 6870 Greenhaven Dr. or visit [www.pocketgirlssoftball.com](http://www.pocketgirlssoftball.com). For girls ages 4 1/2 to 16.

## JANUARY 27

### Embroiderer's Guild meeting

Embroiderer's Guild of America, 7 p.m. Wednesday, January 27, 2010, SMUD Building, 6301 S Street. We will be stitching Kissing Pillows. This is a national project

donated to the military. Visitors welcome. For more information, call (916)961-3558.

## JANUARY 30

### Grand opening of Move Studio

Move! studio is celebrating its grand opening at its location at 600 Broadway by offering a day of free workshops for the public on Saturday, January 30. Each workshop will include a demonstration and 15-minute fun class. Move! studio is a 3500sq/ft facility custom designed for the practice of martial arts, dance, music, gymnastics, and fitness. For more information please contact Melissa Wallace at (916) 479-3443 or [ms-maw54@yahoo.com](mailto:ms-maw54@yahoo.com), or visit [www.movestudio.net](http://www.movestudio.net) or [www.adbcapoeira.com](http://www.adbcapoeira.com).

## FEBRUARY 1

### Free Hula Dance Class

Enjoy fun, exercise, and friendship ~ Hawaiian Style on the February 1st, from 9:30 to 11am. Move your hands and hips to the soothing sounds of traditional island music. Learn to do the Hula the fun and easy way. Anuhea Toyama will teach simple dance steps and graceful hand movements in this free class. Please sign up in advance by phoning 808-5462.

## FEBRUARY 2

### Wine social at Casa Garden

The next event at the Casa Garden Restaurant: It's different from the usual lunch/show in that it's a wine social. The chosen presenter describes the white wine being poured as Casa serves a hors d'oeuvre that compliments white wine. After a little more discussion about the winery/vineyard, the presenter describes the red wine being poured while a different hors d'oeuvre is of-

fered. Then you are served the entree you've selected, non-alcoholic beverage, and dessert – tax and gratuity all for \$20.00!! Reservations are required. For more info or tickets, call (916) 452 2809.

## FEBRUARY 3

### Zumba Class

Event is Wednesday sessions beginning February 3, 2010 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael. \$20 for 4 week sessions. FREE parking. Register at La Sierra Community Center. Call 483-7826 for more information. The latest in cardiovascular workouts! Move and groove to Latin rhythms for an aerobic exercise that burns 600-800 calories all while having fun.

### First Wednesday Poetry

Held from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at 828 I Street, the Sacramento Poetry Center will hold a special poetry reading at the Central Library on the first Wednesday of each month. February's offering includes poets from The Sacramento Anthology: 100 Poems. This classic anthology features over 80 poets and is still available. Readers will include Annie Menebroker, Mary Zeppa and Mario Ellis Hill. Hosted by Poet Laureate Bob Stanley. Street parking is free after 6 pm. [www.saclibrary.org](http://www.saclibrary.org) [askus@saclibrary.org](mailto:askus@saclibrary.org) 916-264-2920.

## FEBRUARY 4

### Growth Exhibition Opening at Sacramento State

The reception of local photographer Andri Tambunan's Growth photo exhibition at Sacramento State University Union Gallery on Thursday, Feb. 4, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Also, he will be debuting my book that summarized my travels and experience consisting of photographs, journal entries, quotes, candid pics, etc. The actual exhibition runs from January 25-February 25 so drop by and see it in person if you are in the area. Bring the flier or its print out as a parking pass. The exhibition could also be

viewed on my NEW Web site [www.andri-tambunan.com](http://www.andri-tambunan.com).

## FEBRUARY 5

### Organic Gardening

On February 5, 2010, the Organic Gardening Club of Sacramento County will meet at the Carmichael Park Administration Building, Room 1, 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael, at 10 a.m. The program, "Gardening Potpourri" will be presented by Candace Schuncke, Fair Oaks Horticulture Center. Call 916-635-6724 for information.

## FEBRUARY 6

### School crab feed

St. John the Evangelist School presents its 27th Annual Crab Feed Dinner on Saturday, February 6th from 6pm to midnight. No host bar from 6pm to 7pm, 7pm to 9pm is dinner and raffle and from 9pm to midnight is dancing. Tickets are \$39 per person and can be purchased in the school office at 5701 Locust Avenue, Carmichael. Dinner includes salad, pasta, crab and dessert. All proceeds go to the school for yearly expenses. Call 481-8845 for more information.

### Military Widows

The Society of Military Widows, Sacramento Chapter No. 5, will meet on February 6, 2010, at the Lions Gate at McClellan Park at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. Guest speaker, Coast Guard Commander, Pete Schichtel, will present information and slides about the Coast Guard's duty. Call 916-635-6724 for information.

### Rotary Wine Fest

Pocket-Greenhaven-Carvalho Winery Rotary Wine Fest is Saturday, Feb. 6 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Donation of \$30 for entrance. Local producers will be presenting their best wines with hors d'oeuvres and music and a raffle and auction to benefit rotary projects. Wine tasting in a unique and elegant setting at the Old Sugar Mill, 35265 Willow Ave. in Clarksburg, Calif. For ticket information, call (916) 421-5381 or [footej@comcast.net](mailto:footej@comcast.net).

## Jensen Garden workday volunteers

Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden hold garden work days one Saturday of every month from 9AM to 1PM. The next workday is Saturday, February 6, 2010. Bring work gloves, hand pruners and your lunch. Come join with other volunteers to keep the garden beautiful all year. Next workdays in 2010 are 3/6, 4/10, 5/8, 6/5, 7/10, 8/7, 9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 12/4. The Jensen Garden is located at 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. For more info: Tracy Kerth (916) 485-5322 ex23 or e-mail [tracy@carmichael-park.com](mailto:tracy@carmichael-park.com).

## FEBRUARY 6-7

### Jewish Film Festival

Humor Abounds at the 13th Annual Sacramento Jewish Film Festival, Saturday February 6 and Sunday February 7, 2010. It all happens at the Historic Crest Theatre 1013 K Street. Advance tickets are on sale now at the Crest Box Office and [tickets.com](http://tickets.com). Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$8.50 for seniors, students and Friends of the Festival. Festival passes are \$34 general, \$30 for seniors, students and Friends of the Festival. Saturday and Sunday Day passes are \$18.00, \$16.00 for seniors, students and Friends of the Festival. For additional information go to [www.thecrest.com](http://www.thecrest.com), [www.sacjff.org](http://www.sacjff.org) or by calling 916-442-7378.

## FEBRUARY 9

### Gray Panthers meeting

Pending state and federal health legislation will be the topic of the February 9th meeting of the Gray Panthers of Sacramento. Specialists in the health field, as well as members of the audience, will express their views on this subject. The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 1 PM at the Hart Senior Center, 915 27th Street, Sacramento (between I and J Streets). Further information can be obtained by calling (916) 921-5008.

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**FEBRUARY 10****Genealogical society meeting**

Root Cellar - Sacramento Genealogical Society - General Membership meeting, Wednesday February 10, 2010, 7pm - 8:30pm, Citrus Heights Community Clubhouse 6921 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights. Bring a family treasure to "Show and Tell" with host Glenda Lloyd. Free, visitors welcome. Contact Sammie Hudgens (916) 481-4930 or www.rootcellar.org.

**Quality of life meeting**

The Arden Arcade Incorporation Committee Presents: A Quality of Life Community Round Table, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday February 10, 2010, Cornerstone Church, 3245 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825.

**FEBRUARY 11****Computer club meeting**

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, February 11, 2010 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA. The meeting topic will be "Using Online Bill Paying Systems." A problem solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call (916) 366-1687 or visit our Web site at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

**California Citizens for Health****Freedom**

Sponsored by California Citizens for Health Freedom, a free lecture on "Body Signs, Swine Flu and You" will be presented by Jim McAfee, Th.M., C.C.N., 7 - 9 p.m. at the SMUD Auditorium (the old SMUD Building), 6201 S Street, Sacramento. Call 916-635-6724 for information.

**Parks and Rec meeting**

The Carmichael Recreation and Park District is developing a Recreation Master Plan to guide our programs. We would like the communities input to determine the types of activities and programs that are needed to meet the recreation interests of our district. There are two community workshops scheduled for your convenience. Recreation Master Plan Community Workshop, Thursday, February 11 at 6 p.m. La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Rd, Carmichael, CA 95608.

**FEBRUARY 12****Carmichael Geranium Society****meeting**

Carmichael Geranium Society February meeting - 2/12/10, Carmichael Community Clubhouse at 5759 Grant Avenue, Carmichael. Robin Parer will show us how to grow angel and pansy face pelargoniums visitors welcome - no fee.

**FEBRUARY 13****Coca-Cola Memorabilia Sale**

Coca-Cola Memorabilia Sale from 11a.m. to 2p.m. at Red Lion Hotel at Arden, 1401 Arden Way, Sacramento CA The Great Get Together Chapter of the Coca Cola Collectors Club will be holding a Memorabilia Sale as a part of its 32nd Annual Convention. Entrance is free. For more information, contact: Mel Munson, Convention Chairperson, Telephone: 530 662 8840, E Mail: mmunson@pacbell.net

**FEBRUARY 14****Concert at All Saints**

Matthew Walsh, Organist and Maria Caswell, Violinist, in Concert at All Saints Episcopal Church, 2076 Sutterville Rd., Sacramento, on Sunday, February 14, 2010 at 4:00 PM. Music by Rheinberger, Bach and others, with \$10 donation. For more information, visit www.allsaintssacramento.org or call 455-0643.

**All Saints concert**

Feb. 14, Sunday, 4:00 PM All Saints Episcopal Church, 2076 Sutterville Rd., Sacramento. \$10 suggested. Matthew Walsh, Organist, assisted by Maria Caswell, Violinist. In addition to organ literature by Bach Alain and others, the duo will perform four seldom heard pieces for organ and violin by Josef Rheinberger, 19c. German composer. Walsh, a faculty member at Holy Names University in the Bay Area, has a long history as a cathedral organist, most recently in Chicago. Ms. Caswell performs on both baroque and modern violins and is a member of the American Bach Soloists. You can get more information from our church's website: www.allsaintssacramento.org or from Matthew Walsh at stellarsky@sbcglobal.net or, the builder of our organ, Scott Nelson at 916-399-9752.

**FEBRUARY 15****American Heritage Day**

American Heritage Day event at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 8201 Greenback Lane, Fair Oaks. The 8th Annual American Heritage Day will be held at Mt. Vernon Memorial Park. This event brings history to life for children with hands on/re-enactment performances. Families can enjoy over 17 different performances and continuous free entertainment. For more information, call (916) 969-1251.

**FEBRUARY 18****What Do I Do with All This Stuff?**

Event is Thursday, February 18, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave, Carmichael. FREE class, but must pre-register by calling 485-5322. Start 2010 with a clean-sweep! Surrounded by clutter? Need to organize years of belongings, mementos and paper? This class will help you begin the task of sorting and disposing of clutter to help keep things manageable.

**FEBRUARY 20****Crab feed for Children's home**

Sacramento Children's Home Guild to hold "Down By the Sea" Crab Feed, Saturday, February 20, 2010, at the Folsom Community Center, 52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630. Tickets are \$45. For reservations, call 916-698-1150.

**Boy Scouts Recycle E-Waste**

When: Saturday, Feb 20, 2010, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Where: Arcade Wesleyan Church, 3532 Whitney Ave., Sacramento (near corner of Whitney & Sunset Ave.) They can take: TVs (including flat screens), laptops, monitors, VCRs, stereos, disk drives, PDAs, Zip drives, computer mice, printers & copiers, scanners & faxes, telephones, video game consoles, small appliances (such as blenders, mixers, toasters, vacuum and carpet cleaners). CEAR shreds all computer disk and hard drives to protect your privacy. We can't take: Large appliances. Questions?

Want to arrange a pick-up (if you've got big items or you're a business)? Contact: pony-express@surewest.net.

**FEBRUARY 24****Los Ninos Service League**

The Los Ninos Service League is holding its next recruitment drive for volunteers to work within our organization. We would greatly appreciate it if you would post the following notice in your next upcoming publication. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Casa Garden Restaurant and Sacramento Children's Home. Want to give back to our community and have fun too? Become a volunteer in the dining room, kitchen, or garden at the Casa Garden Restaurant. The restaurant, located in the Curtis Park neighborhood, has been raising funds for the Sacramento Children's Home since 1974. For more information about being a volunteer, please join us at our restaurant on February 24, 2010, 9:30 a.m., at 2760 Sutterville Road, Sacramento, CA 95820. Please RSVP by calling (916) 452-2809, as we look forward to meeting you.

**Embroiderer's Guild of America**

Embroiderer's Guild of America, 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 24, 2010, SMUD Building, 6301 S Street. "Petite Project" from National EGA. (A bookmark). Visitors welcome. (916) 961-3558

**FEBRUARY 26****Crab feed**

South Sacramento Rotary invites you to attend its 28th Annual Crab Feed and Silent Auction, Friday, February 26 at 6 p.m. The event will be at the Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. All proceeds go to support schools/charities in the community. Call (916) 428-0311 or (916) 396-7244 for tickets. Tickets: \$40.

**All Saints concert**

Feb. 26, Friday, at 7:30PM at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1700 L Street, Sac-

ramento, \$10 suggested. The Sacramento Chapter of the American Guild of Organists joins with St. Johns Lutheran Church in presenting the famous Wanamaker Grand Court Organists, Peter Richard Conte. Known for his orchestral transcriptions played on the organ, Conte performs at the Macy's store in Philadelphia 2 times daily. That organ is the largest fully functioning organ in the world. Conte's performance in Sacramento will include a silent movie "The Kid" (Charlie Chaplin). More information about Conte is available from his management association: www.concertartists.com. Information about the organ at St. John's is available from me, including picture.

**FEBRUARY 27****Friends of the Library event for schools**

Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library is hosting an event to donate children's books at Dude Where's My Yogurt! on Saturday, February 27, and receive a discounted yogurt! School with most donations will win a Borders \$100 gift card for their School's Library Books will be sold at the Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library annual book sale in the spring.

**MARCH 6****Parks and Rec meeting**

The Carmichael Recreation and Park District is developing a Recreation Master Plan to guide our programs. We would like the communities input to determine the types of activities and programs that are needed to meet the recreation interests of our district. There are two community workshops scheduled for your convenience. Recreation Master Plan Community Workshop, Saturday, March 6 at 10 a.m. Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608.

**Crab Feed**

**Rotary Club of South Sacramento**  
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(Left to right) Ottavio Luchini, Dante Urbani, Phil Brakebill, Ciro Negri, Sivio Mariotti, Gerard Sharp, Jim Fellos, Bob Martinez and Vern Cooper are among the most active members of the East Portal Bocce Club.



East Portal Park includes four covered bocce courts, like the two shown above.

## Faces and places

# Bocce Ball: A special Sacramento tradition for all ages

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
Land Park News Writer  
lance@valcomnews.com

Among the premier historic landmarks of the East Sacramento area is East Portal Park and just about anyone who knows about this neighborhood park is familiar with its bocce ball courts.

As the centerpiece of the park, which has deep Italian roots, are the courts, which on just about any given afternoon or evening are occupied by groups of people engrossed in the game, which brings out heavy doses of both competitive spirit and camaraderie.

Originally connected to the rich Italian culture of East Sacramento's historic Little Italy neighborhood, the game initially drew only men of Italian descent.

But despite continuing to draw about 45 percent Italian players to the courts, the sport is more closely a representation of the diversity of the community.

No longer is it a men-only sport and the East Portal Bocce Club, which is part of the United State Bocce Federation, consists of members with heritage from throughout the globe.

This decision to allow women and non-Italians to join the club was initiated in 1991 through the club's then-president Vic Cima.

As a result of this decision, many new faces joined the club and became

educated about bocce ball, which is believed to have been derived from a more primitive Egyptian version of the sport.

### The first bocce clubs

Popularized in Italy, where the first bocce clubs in modern times were established, the game, which is generally played in groups of two or four and most closely related to lawn bowling, was brought to the United States by Italian immigrants who came to America in masses during the turn of the 20th century.

Originally played in Sacramento at Southside Park as early as the 1930s, the sport has been a staple of East Portal Park since its opening in about the early 1940s.

Although bocce has been played at East Portal Park since the park's early years, it was not until the early 1970s that the club was founded under the direction of Tony Peretti.

As a proud Italian, American and war veteran, Peretti founded the East Portal Bocce Club Fourth of July Tournament, which continues to be held each year and begins with the Pledge of Allegiance and the playing of the "Star Spangled Banner."

The club hit one of its lowest points during the beginning of its second decade, as membership dropped by about 50 percent.

This decline in membership was not indicative of the popularity of the sport, however, as is evident by a joke

among members at the time that the club had "too many visitors at Nicoletti's" – the funeral home at 5401 Folsom Blvd.

In response to the club's membership woes, Cima recruited new members from the Piemonte Reale Benevolent Society, where he was serving as president.

Cima's inclusion of women and people of other cultures proved to be the biggest turnaround for the club, which grew to more than 150 members by the late 1990s and now consists of about 260 members of which about 80 are female.

Additionally, membership of the club ranges from about 20 years old to 93 years old and the average age of its members is 65 years old.

### Diversity and depth

East Portal Bocce Club President Bob Martinez is a prime example of the diversity of the club.

Martinez, who is an East Sacramento resident of Mexican heritage, was first introduced to the game while vacationing with his wife in Monterey.

"We were staying by the Presidio right there by the wharf and it just so happens that in the Presidio itself there are three bocce courts and so I was kind of watching these guys playing bocce," Martinez said. "The Sicilians were coming off the fishing boats in the late afternoon and they were playing the Mexican restaurant workers from the (nearby) restau-

rants. They invited me to play and I just rolled a few balls and I just got really interested in (the sport)."

A friend of Martinez later invited him to the East Portal Park courts, where he became more acquainted with the game and soon afterward joined the club.

Although each member of the club is proud of their own particular heritage, Martinez said that those who become involved in the game of bocce ball join an intimate group of people who are like a big Italian family.

"Once you (get involved with bocce ball), everyone starts recognizing you and you feel a part of something much bigger," Martinez said. "It's like an extended family and everybody's Italian when you start playing bocce."

Martinez, who joined the club seven years ago, said that although bocce ball is a very simple game to learn, it is undeniably a very challenging sport.

"A lot of people know this and it's like (one of the club's members) Chito (Negri) said, 'It takes about 20 minutes to learn bocce, but it takes a lifetime to learn the strategy.' And it's true. It's a simple game that's easy to learn, but it can be very complex to learn in terms of strategy and that strategy is what's endearing and creates kind of this opportunity for exchange in banter. So, I would say that anyone who is interested in learning something that is not all that difficult

See Bocce, page 29



# Bocce: 'Anything I can do to encourage others to play, I want to do it'

Continued from page 28

to learn the rules of (would likely) enjoy this game. You can be as good as you want to be. All you have to do is stay with it and the more you're with it, the more you realize all the nuances that are associated with this game and the people and the camaraderie. It's great."

## Mr. Bocce Ball

Poggio, Italy native Dante Urbani, 77, who is known as "Mr. Bocce Ball," said that he is very aware of the strategy of the game.

"There's a lot of strategy," said Urbani, who grew up with the sport and joined the local club 10 years ago. "You have to have a lot of finesse and you have to be convinced that you are better than everybody and that gives you more of an edge. You have to have a lot of confidence, but I think that people should just have that in general in life and feel secure about things."

Another member of the club, 84-year-old Ottavio Luchini, said that his memories of bocce date back to about 1935 when he used to play the game in his native town of Massarosa, Italy, near Lucca, with his childhood friends, Basilio, Renio, Filippo, Sandrino and several others.

"When I was in Italy, we used to play with rocks on the dirt, because we didn't have any balls or courts," Luchini said.

Although he first arrived in Sacramento on Feb. 4, 1949, Luchini said that he has only been playing bocce in the capital city since about 2000, since he was a longtime card player at the Dante Club.

## Known nationwide

The East Portal Bocce Club is far from just a community story as the organization has gained much recognition as a premier club throughout the nation.

And being a premier Northern California club is alone quite notable, considering that the majority of the nation's bocce clubs are located in Northern California.

Hanging from the wooden rooftop that covers a pair of the East Portal Park's four courts is a banner, which celebrates the 2004 USBF B-bracket national champions, which was won by a team consisting of Jim Fellos, David Zaffa, Jack Roupp and Jack Toige.

With efforts being made to add bocce to the sports of the Summer Olympics, the club hopes to have a few of its members become Olympians, including Vern Cooper, who is currently ranked No. 10 in the United States.

Cooper, who is working toward his goal of participating in the World Bocce Cham-

pionships, is also a certified world bocce referee.

Martinez said that he enjoys being a part of the rich tradition of bocce ball at East Portal Park.

"It really is something that's community affirming and I'm very much committed to the East Sacramento community and to me, bocce is very much a part of its lifeblood," Martinez said. "It sustains and enhances the community and it brings that cultural vitality and to me, that's what makes it so special. And also, I just love playing it, so anything I can do to encourage others to play, I want to do it."

And encourage, he does, as Martinez said that he always

advocates new membership in the club.

With league play occurring every Monday through Thursday from the spring through the fall, Martinez noted that generally the best time for newcomers to visit the courts is on the weekends.

"There is always somebody down here on the weekends who is willing to talk to people about the club," Martinez said.

Those desiring to learn more about bocce ball, the club or are interested in becoming a member of the club can call Martinez at (916) 717-1947 or visit the Web site [www.eastportalbocceclub.com](http://www.eastportalbocceclub.com).

## St. Robert School TK-8

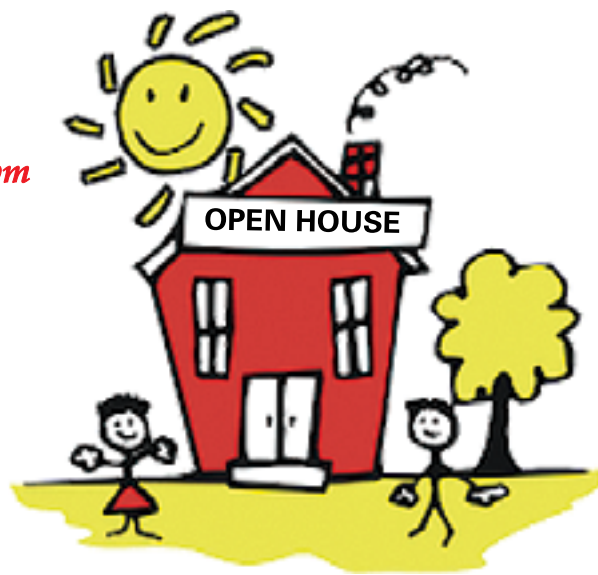
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# How can you help in Haiti?

Special to The Land Park News  
Information provided by the  
Sacramento-Sierra Red Cross

The American Red Cross is sending money, supplies and staff to Haiti to support relief efforts there after the recent earthquake, which caused catastrophic damage and loss of life.

According to reports, as many as three million people may have been affected by the quake, which collapsed government buildings and caused major damage to hospitals in the area.

On a national level, the Red Cross is contributing an initial \$1 million from the International Response Fund to support the relief operation, and has opened its warehouse in Panama to provide tarps, mosquito nets and cooking sets for approximately 5,000 families.

In addition to Red Cross staff already in Haiti, six disaster management specialists from National Headquarters are being deployed to the disaster zone to help coordinate relief efforts. At this time, the American Red Cross is only deploying volunteers specially trained to manage international emergency operations, with the first wave of volunteers coming from

Red Cross chapters closest to Haiti. However, the Red Cross is always looking for volunteers on a local level and anyone interested in becoming a volunteer can contact the Sacramento Sierra Chapter at 916-993-7070.

If you, your school, community, church, or business is interested in raising funds to donate to the American Red Cross in support of the relief efforts in Haiti, please contact Matt Lingo at the Sacramento Sierra Chapter at 916-993-7081 or e-mail [lingom@sacsierrareddcross.org](mailto:lingom@sacsierrareddcross.org).

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots.

There has been an outpouring of support from the public. To help, people can make an unrestricted donation to the International Response Fund at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767). The public can also help by texting "Haiti" to 90999 to send a \$10 donation to the Red Cross, through an effort supported by the U.S. State Department. Funds will go to assist American Red Cross relief efforts in Haiti.



Photo courtesy American Red Cross

American Red Cross Matt Marek with Mari Michele Melson at a First Aid Post in Petionville, Port-Au-Prince. The American Red Cross is supporting the Haitian Red Cross with supplies and logistical and telecommunication help.



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# More stories from The Pit



By **MARTY RELLES**  
Land Park News Columnist  
marty@valcomnews.com

Back in the late 1950s, we played daily in the pit, the vacated sand and gravel site located directly behind the houses on the east side of Janey Way in East Sacramento. Today, St. Francis High School occupies the site; but back then, the pit became the source of many unforgettable stories. Local barber John Waldren related the following story to me recently.

One day, John, his friend Sonny and cousin Joe went down into the pit to play. They climbed up on a dirt pile in the center of the pit and heaved clods off the top of the mound. As they did this, they beheld an incredible site – a horse running loose in the pit.

John had idea. "Let's capture the horse, then find its owner. We will get a reward."

So the boys worked as a team and managed to herd the animal up to a wall on the north side of the site. Carefully, one of the boys grabbed the horse's rein. After calming the animal, they led it out of the pit up to the line of backyard fences located on the west side of the site. There, they tied the horse to a fence post. They walked over to M Street and then east toward 62nd Street, looking for yards large enough to stable a horse. Eventually they found a likely farmhouse off Elvas Avenue. They knocked on the door and spoke to a woman. Sure enough, she said that she owned the horse. So the boys returned to the pit and waited for the owner to come and pick up the horse. After a while, a truck towing a horse trailer drove up and parked. The woman they spoke to exited the truck, walked up, unhitched the horse then walked away from the boys without even saying thank you. The boys were dumfounded. No reward, no thanks – nothing. They learned a valuable lesson that day. Sometimes in life, the most honorable deeds go unrewarded.

### Spartacus revisited

This following story comes from my friend Tom Hart. In 1960, a group of the younger Janey Way boys went to the Alhambra Theater to see the movie "Spartacus," the story of the gladiators who staged a rebellion against the Roman Empire. The boys were so taken by the movie that when they returned home they fashioned shields out of cardboard and twine, made make-believe weapons by taping boxing gloves to the end of broomsticks and wore football helmets depicting the Roman headgear. Then they marched down into the pit and over to Mt. Everest, the large mound in the center of the great hole. There they staged seemingly-realistic gladiatorial fights, bopping one another's shields with their homemade lances. As they did this, a group of older boys saw them and decided to chase them off the top of Mt. Everest. A battle ensued. The older boys cast dirt clods up at the boys atop Mt. Everest. They young boys returned fire, but the older boys moved inexorably up the side of the hill. In response, the younger boys rolled an empty 55-gallon oil drum up to the edge of Mt. Everest and down the hill toward the attacking boys. Naturally, the attackers fled in all available directions and did not return. Realizing they had won the battle, the younger boys raised their hands in the air and yelled, "Victory, victory, victory!" The battle for Mt. Everest had become another swashbuckling Janey Way memory.

# Got News?

E-mail Ryan Rose at,  
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