

Sacramento's Crocker Art Museum commemorates 125th anniversary

Members of the community and others gather to pay tribute to the museum

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Belle Coolegge Library Ice Cream Social

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School rummage sale draws large crowd

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GUNTHER'S

One Sweet Story

Gunther's celebrates 70 years of scooping ice cream

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Art Director..... John Ochoa
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2709 Riverside Blvd.
Sacramento,
CA 95818
t: (916) 429-9901
f: (916) 429-9906

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Belle Cooleage Library 12th annual Ice Cream Social is June 11

Special to The Land Park News

Land Park's Belle Cooleage Library will hold their 12th annual Barbara Jeanne Hansen Ice Cream Social from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, June 11 at the park adjacent to the library, 5600 S. Land Park Dr. Celebrate the beginning of summer vacation with free ice cream and toppings provided through the generosity of Foster Farms Dairy featuring Crystal Dairy products.

Friends and neighbors are invited to join the library for this summer evening of family fun. In addition to free ice cream, magic tricks will be performed by Trevor Wyatt the Magician and DJ

Harrison from Let's Celebrate will provide music. There will also be face painting and balloon twisting by Clown Blanca Rose and her assistant and (depending upon fire calls that evening) a visit from Sacramento Fire Department Station 13. The ever-popular Sacramento Modular Railroaders will have their fantastic small-scale railroad display in the library's community room.

This event traditionally kicks-off the library's Summer Reading Program for children. Be sure to stop by the Summer Reading Program desk to learn more about the fun, contests and prizes planned. For more information, call (916) 264-2700.



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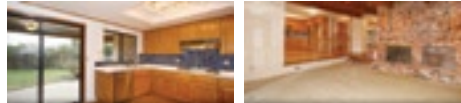
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Mormons lend a 'Helping Hand' with Land Park clean-up project

Special to The Land Park News

On May 8, more than 700 volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Sacramento California Stake participated in a "Mormon Helping Hands Community Day of Service." The 700 volunteers performed a variety of work projects in historic William Land Park. Read all about the day's events and see photos of the work in the May 27 edition of The Land Park News.

The projects in Land Park were part of a cooperative effort between the city of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment and the Sacramento California Stake, headed by President John Cassinat.

"We welcome the opportunity to partner with the City in a significant way," said President Cassinat, "and to demonstrate that the spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in Sacramento."

The 700 volunteers involved in the projects at Land Park were just a small part of a much larger statewide day of service. May 8 was designated a statewide day for park service by the "Mormon Helping Hands," a community and



Photo courtesy of the Sacramento California Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Sacramento City Council declared May 8 as Mormon Helping Hands Day in appreciation for "the significant contribution that Mormon Helping Hands will make in the maintenance, renewal and improvement of Sacramento City Parks." Left to right, Sacramento California Stake President John Cassinat of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson.

humanitarian service program of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The Sacramento Stake Mormon Helping Hands specifically selected Land Park to focus their energies on because it is one of the region's most valued and heavily used parks. President Cassinat and his volunteers have been coordinating this project since late 2009.

The 700 volunteers, who wore bright yellow "Mormon Helping Hands" vests as they worked, contributed more than 3,000 volunteer hours, with an estimated dollar value of more than \$70,000.



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Local mom creates group to keep Effie Yeaw Nature Center open

Land Park News Staff Report

After reading the Sacramento County budget proposal last week that included cutting all funding to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, Carmichael mom, Heidi Kuehner, started a Web site to inform the public and organize to keep the Nature Center open.

"While I sympathize with the outrageous \$166.5 million plus deficit the county is dealing with, there are some resources that are too precious to abandon. There has to be a solution out there to keeping the Center open," said Kuehner, resident of Carmichael for seven years. "The Nature Center and trails bring more than 100,000 people a year to the area and generations of schoolchildren have been introduced to the web of life there. So many people have put so much work for so long to keep this jewel around for us, we just cannot afford to lose it."

According to Effie Yeaw Nature Center Park Interpretive Supervisor, Marilee Flannery, the reality for the popular center is grim.

"All funding from Sacramento County Regional Parks Department ends July 1, 2010 in the current proposed budget," she said.

One possibility that Sacramento County seems to be betting on is the transition of the Center to the American River Natural History Association, a non-profit, all volunteer organization that has been critical to the Nature Center's existence for almost three decades.

Flannery stated, "We need \$300,000 to retain a minimum of the trained program staff and to maintain and manage the buildings and preserve. We also need to retain the grants we currently receive that assist with program costs. This \$300,000 is needed every year for the next 3-5



Photo courtesy

A local mother, worried that the Effie Yeaw Nature Center will close due to budget cuts, has created a Web site to support the center's continued operation.

years until the new nonprofit is able to bring in enough new funding to become self-sufficient."

While ARNHA works to hurriedly raise funds to keep programs running, Friends of Effie is independent and will focus its efforts on stopping the Sacramento County budget cuts to the Nature Center altogether. Kuehner's belief is that when people find out about the dire situation, they will want to do something.

"When I started this Web site (www.saveeffieyeaw.org) for Earth Day, I thought I might be able to get some people involved in some fundraising projects, but this has turned into such a bigger issue," added Kuehner. "What the people who love the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and Preserve will do is fund-raise until the County budget hearing June 14. What we ask from you is to consider carefully the impact on the region with the loss ARNHA's support for the Nature Center and to include the public on the process."

For more information, contact Heidi Kuehner at (916) 335-7382.

Janey Way Memories



Little League Baseball



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

Little League baseball came to Janey Way in 1959, the year I reached 12 years of age. That year, the East Sacramento

Little League expanded into our area. In previous years, they played their games at the diamond in East Portal Park on Rodeo Way, but when they expanded into our area, they built a brand new diamond on the east end of the pit (the abandoned sand and gravel pit adjacent to Janey Way). They located the diamond at the intersection of 60th Street and M Street. The new diamond featured a forest green fence completely surrounding the field; perfectly manicured grass in the infield and outfield; built-in, screened dugouts; multi-level stands on each side of the field; an announcer's box with a built-in public announcing system behind the plate; and a snack bar underneath the announcer's box.

Prior to trying out for the league, we all practiced in front of the Ducray house. As the lines of boys practiced throwing the baseball, Justin, the Ducray boys' father, walked through the ranks of boys saying things like, "Hold the ball this way Mart, step into your throw." The air buzzed with anticipation. Finally the tryouts came, and I ended up playing for the Cardinals. Other teams in the league included the Giants, Dodgers, Pirates, Cubs and Yankees. Mr. Brown, a very nice man, coached my team. Justin Ducray coached the Giants. My team practiced at Kit Carson Junior High School on 53rd Street as we readied for the season, which included twenty games divided into two halves. I played both second base and left field. My team competed well, but did not win the championship. Some other team ended up winning it all. What I recall is how much fun I had. The crowds, our neighbors, exhibited enthusiasm, but showed support and respect for all the players. I remember hitting a double and driving in a run in one game. I could never hit a home run out of the park, which had 200-foot-long outfield lines, but I got my fair share of hits.

At the end of the season, three players from each team participated in an All-Star selection game. My manager, Mr. Brown, picked me and two others to play in that game. In the game, I had a hit and made a fine leaping catch at second base. Sadly, I did not make the All-Star team, settling for selection as the first alternate.

I only played one year of Little League because the next year I turned 13, which exceeded the age limit. I chose not to follow up and play in the Babe Ruth League as it was too far away and none of my friends participated. High school sports at Sacramento High awaited.

I recall to this day the fun I had playing Little League, though I regret that it came so late to our neighborhood. Our motto was play hard, have fun, demonstrate sportsmanship. We shook hands with our competitors after every game. In an era where baseball has become highly competitive and very commercial, they could learn from the values we brought to the game.



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An event of special significance

Crocker Art Museum celebrates 125th anniversary

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

A very special event occurred last weekend, as members of the community and others gathered to pay tribute to the Crocker Art Museum, which was celebrating the anniversary of its public opening on May 6, 1885.

The half-day, May 8 gathering, which began at noon and was attended by people of various ages from throughout the region, demonstrated the importance of the museum, which was the West's first public art gallery.

The day's many attractions and activities were highlighted by the cutting of several 125th birthday cakes

and the singing of the song, "Happy Birthday." The song, which was sung by attendees of the event at a very timely 1:25 p.m., was led by young performers of Folklorico Latino de Woodland and James Barrera, a trick roper and storyteller, who also conducts youth workshops, enrichment programs and other activities.

The aforementioned performers were among a lineup of entertainers, who also included banjoist, Gordy Ohliger.

Other activities of the event, which cost guests \$1.25 to attend, included opportunities to share memories about the Crocker on video, story times by the Sacramento Public Library and docent-led architectural tours.



Crocker Art Museum docent Neil Maclean conducts an architectural tour during the museum's 125th anniversary event last Saturday.

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Seeing the inside

The architectural tours featured historical presentations regarding the Crocker mansion, which E.B. Crocker purchased from the pioneer Sacramento banker B.F. Hastings at 3rd and O streets in 1868 and the museum structure, which was built

on the same property four years later.

Tour participants also viewed and learned about the newest addition to the Crocker, the \$100 million, 125,000-square-foot classic, contemporary designed structure to the west of the original Crocker buildings.

Although these tours of the new addition were solely exterior tours, the docent-led journeys around three sides of the structure presented opportunities for many people to gain

a more thorough understanding and appreciation for the building, which is scheduled to open on Sunday, October 10.

Docent Neil Maclean, who led the 12:15 p.m. tour, said that much credit for the museum's addition should be given to Lial Jones, the museum's director.

"(Jones) came here about six or seven years ago and she was able to raise some-

See Crocker, page 7

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Crocker: 'The new building is going to fulfill their mission'

Continued from page 6

where between \$60 (million) to \$70 million in private donations," Maclean said. "And this is not a big town without a lot of corporations. So, she deserves a lot of credit for going out in the community and talking about (the project) and raising money. Although the city has put up a certain amount of money, most of it (came from) private donations."

A moment of significance

Kathleen Richards, marketing communications coordinator for the Crocker, said that celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Crocker is a very significant moment in the museum's history.

"I think the fact that the Crocker has been Sacramento's art museum for 125 years is huge," Richards said. "The Crocker was founded as a museum at a time when the Met in New York was being founded and a bunch of other major museums had been founded. And the fact that (the Crocker) is really right at the forefront, I think is a really neat thing for Sacramento."

As a longtime attraction of the capital city, the Crocker has built a continuously expanding reputation throughout the community.

Among the local residents who attended the event and expressed their appreciation for the Crocker was Fran Jaksich, who first visited the museum when it was about 63 years old.

"I was 19 years old when I moved to Sacramento (in 1938) and I first came to the Crocker about 10 years later," Jaksich said. "It was quite a different place back then. There weren't near-

ly as many objects around to be seen, like the artwork and the extra pieces, like the china. Oh, my goodness, it's overwhelming to see what they have inside here now and what they've collected. It's definitely overwhelming, but I always enjoyed art, so it's nice to see what they've done. I'm just thankful to be here, plus it's a beautiful day, so I couldn't complain."

Richards added that she believes that the museum's founders, E.B. and Margaret Crocker, would be quite proud of the Crocker's growth.

And commenting about the Crocker's new addition, which will triple the size of the museum, Richards said that she believes that the Crockers would be especially proud of the structure.

"(The Crockers) goal was really to make the Crocker a center for culture in Sacramento and in the region," Richards said. "So, I think they would be really excited that the new building is going to fulfill their mission in bringing more art to the region."

Richards added that since the museum included a school of design during its early years, it is fulfilling to know that the Crockers' desire to foster education will be continued with three studio art classes for all ages that will be held throughout each year in the new building.

Celebrating the arts

In hosting its 125th anniversary, the Crocker, which was originally known as the E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, continued its longtime tradition of celebrating its existence in the capital city.

Although Crocker officials invited guests of last week-

end's event to "party like (it was) 1885," it would be difficult to exceed the party thrown in celebration of Margaret Crocker's gifting of the museum to the city of Sacramento and the California Museum Association "in trust for the public."

The all-day, 1885 gathering – a floral festival at the State Agricultural Society's pavilion that was located near the state Capitol, was described by the Sacramento Daily Record-Union as an event that surpassed "any demonstration ever made in honor of a private citizen."

A wide variety of elaborate floral displays highlighted the day's event, which was attended by a roughly estimated 12,000 to 20,000 people. The Record Union, however, noted that "competent judges" narrowed down the attendance estimate to 15,000 to 17,000 people.

During the daytime portion of the event, an impressive display of appreciation was made by about 3,000 children, who deposited floral offerings at the feet of Margaret Crocker.

Several hours later, during the evening, Margaret Crocker stood before a large crowd of onlookers at the pavilion and officially donated the museum.

After handing Mayor John Q. Brown the key to the museum, Margaret Crocker, whose husband had passed away a decade earlier, said, "Mayor Brown: In the midst of this sweet atmosphere of love and fragrance and upon this occasion – one of the happiest days of my life – it affords me great pleasure to make a formal delivery to you of the E.B. Crocker Art Gallery."

In honor of the Crocker's centennial, a weeklong celebration was held from May 18-25, 1985 and drew about 30,000 visitors to the museum.

Last weekend's 125th anniversary gathering was a continuation of the city's showing of appreciation for Margaret Crocker's generous donation, as well as a celebration of the much anticipated new addition of the museum.

Extending an invitation for the community to attend the opening of this new addition, Richards said, "We hope it's on everyone's calendar and that they made plans to come down on 10-10-10 (November 10, 2010). We've had the hours (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.) set for a long period of time, so that people can space out their visit and come whatever time works best for them."

Visiting Crocker Art

The Crocker Art Museum, which is located at 216 O St., is open Tuesdays through Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on the first and third Thursdays of every month, when the museum is open until 9 p.m.

Admission is \$6/adults, \$4/seniors, \$3/students with valid IDs, and free/museum members, children, 6 years old and younger, and all guests on Sundays.

In preparation for the opening of the Crocker's new addition, the museum will be closed to the public from June 7 through Oct. 9.

For additional information about the Crocker Art Museum, call (916) 808-7000 or visit the Web site www.crockerartmuseum.org.

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Know your neighbor: Special celebration is May 15

Gunther's celebrates 70 years of scooping sweet memories

By ELIZABETH VALENTE
Pocket News Writer
reporter@valcomnews.com

Gunther's Quality Ice Cream is a survivor. Celebrating 70 years in business, "Gunther's" is a throwback to Sacramento's Curtis Park glory days of local ice cream parlors.

"It has been the town's neighborhood ice cream shop and hangout since the very beginning," said Marjorie Schnaible. The 92-year-old Sacramentan should know. She was there the first day the ice cream shop opened in May 1940 at the parlor's first location, on the corner of 5th Avenue and Franklin Boulevard.

"It was during the depression and there wasn't much employment, but a friend told me about an ice cream shop coming to Sacramento and they needed some 'counter girls,'" said Schnaible.

Working alongside owners Herman "Pop" Gunter and his wife Iva, Schnaible became the shops sole "counter girl" for several years working the 3-11pm shift.

"People came and stood until they got their hand

packed ice cream. Sundays were always the busiest time of the year because families were here," she said.

A photo of Schnaible and the Gunthers still hangs on the wall behind the counter she worked.

"When I still see the photo up there I get a little teary eyed," said Schnaible. "The Sacramento Bee did a story on our ice cream shop and the Gunther's wanted to make sure I was part of the family picture."

One of Ms. Schnaible's favorite memories was the time Pop Gunther made a special ice cream flavor just for her.

"I loved coffee and Mr. Gunther would tease me about that," she said. "Six months after I started he came to me and said, 'I want you to taste something Marjorie.' He made me try a new ice cream flavor and it was made from coffee and he said, 'I made this for you.' It's still on the board, 'Coffee Ice Cream.'"

The Gunther's were German, living in Sacramento in the 40s, and, according to Schnaible, despite the politics surrounding World



Marjorie Schnaible with current Gunther's owners Rick and Marlena Klopp.

Land Park News Photo/Elizabeth Valente

War II, the neighborhood treated the Gunther's as part of the neighborhood.

"They were good people and they loved their customers," said Schnaible. "Mr. Gunther made all the ice cream and would always tell jokes and talk to

the kids about ice cream. He would even take them to the back and show them how it was made."

Schnaible described Iva Gunter as the more business minded owner.

"Mrs. Gunther was the more serious one. She

would managed the budget, books and the orders," she said. "Something I never told anyone before, she wanted to bring me into the business, but I was a young girl, and I

See Gunther's, page 9

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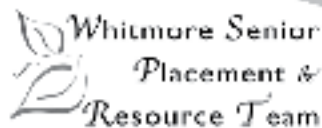
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Gunther's: 'The Gunthers had a dream and they did it'

Continued from page 8

didn't want to work nights all my life."

World War II changed the lifestyles of many people, and the Gunthers' business was no exception. Sugar and butterfat were rationed, thus curtailing how much ice cream could be produced.

"I heard stories that Pop Gunter would get his cream on a Friday and he'd have enough cream to make ice cream until Wednesday because of the shortage of sugar during the war," explained Gunther's current owner Rick Klopp, who purchased the ice cream shop in 1974. "Back then ice cream was manufactured on the premise. Business was all carryout, hand-packed pints and quarts. The biggest volume was in ice cream cones, which sold for five cents each."

Keeping tradition alive

After the war, the Gunthers decided to open a larger store four blocks down the street from its present location, on the corner of 3rd Avenue and Franklin Boulevard. This is where Olga Ahulmada would take her daughter on Sunday after church. Forty years later, she is still taking her daughter (and now also her granddaughter, and great granddaughter) to Gunther's for ice cream on Sundays.

"This place is one of a kind," said Ahulmada. "Not only do you get to eat the great creamy flavors, but it's a place where I can take my family and always feel safe. My grandson use to bring his dates here and now he comes with his wife and kids."

Steve Vasquez, 56, has been taking his children to Gunther's for over 35 years. "Twice a week, if they were really good, we'd take little adventure walks from our home in Curtis Park to Gunther's. I have nine grandkids now and we still come here and it's because of the [current] owners, they give off a home feeling."

Steve Vasques Jr., 35, believes he had a niche for scooping out old-fashioned

flavors and making custom-made ice creams when he worked at the parlor.

"This was my first job, I was 15," he said. "I think my parents were happy I worked here too because they knew I was in a safe environment where people watch out for one another."

Holding the parlor's nostalgic family feel, manufacturing the product on the premise, and maintaining the quality based on the original recipes left by the Gunther family, Rick and his wife Marlena Klopp have continued the tradition the original owners left behind.

"Our customers won't allow us to change much," laughed Marlena. "We have no plans to change how we are doing business and crush the memories. We don't want to disappoint our customers. I respond when people call us Mr. and Mrs. Gunther. I'll go with it."

Similar to the Gunthers' plight in the 1940s, today's tough economy has dipped the sweet sales everywhere in Sacramento. But being a small business has given the Klopps the flexibility to cater to customers and survive in a struggling economy.



Land Park News Photo/Elizabeth Valente

Four generations of the Vasquez family, left to right: Steven, Steve Sr., Tyson, Tammy, Alex, Jose, Helina, Julia, Daniel, Seven Jr. at Gunther's.

"I know it sounds odd but there has been times when I would look at that photo of Mr. Gunther above our counter and would say, 'Please Pop Gunther, get us through this,' and it has happened every time. I feel they are watching over us," said Marlena.

A special celebration

On Saturday, May 15, the Klopps are kicking off a 70-year anniversary celebration with a BBQ, music and entertainment. They will raffle prizes donated by local Sacramento small businesses, including a

Beach Comber Bicycle valued at \$700.

"The Gunthers had a dream and they did it and we are able to carry that dream forward," said Rick. "We want to go to 100 years - they may have to wheel us in here by then."



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Faces and places

Land Park Rummage Sale and Breakfast Fiesta

The 3rd annual Land Park Rummage Sale in conjunction with the "Cinco de Mayo Breakfast Fiesta" was Saturday, May 1, from 7 a.m. to noon. The event was located at the corner of Land Park Drive and Vallejo Way on the Front Lawn of California Middle School. All proceeds benefited student programs at Cal Middle School. For information on joining the sale next year, call (916) 264-4550 or e-mail landparkrummage@yahoo.com.



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Future plans for the Sacramento Zoo under discussion

Special to The Land Park News

Editor's Note: This is a special letter from Mary Healy, the Director/CEO of the Sacramento Zoo.

We are conducting a series of public meetings to obtain feedback on the Sutter's Landing Feasibility Study and the future

of the Sacramento Zoo. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 28 at the Hart Senior Center, Marshall Park, 915 27th Street, Sacramento.

In March 2009, the city of Sacramento hired Schultz & Williams to examine the feasibility of moving the Sacramento Zoo to Sutter's Landing (north of Midtown Sacramen-

to on 28th St.). That site proved problematic based on a number of issues that would place a high financial premium on developing Sutter's Landing. The consultant then briefly reviewed other possible sites as a point of reference, including Arco Arena, Cal Expo, Job Corps, and Natomas Joint Vision.

In light of the significant costs of building a new zoo and given the current economic conditions, the consultant was also asked to comment on what improvements could be made to

the current site to make it sustainable into the future.

The City of Sacramento and Sacramento Zoological Society received the consultant's report as a Draft document and are reviewing the recommendations.

A presentation has been developed based on the recommendations of the study and that is the basis of several upcoming community meetings, including the City Parks Commission, in order to get the community's feedback on the ideas. Once that process is complete,

City staff and Zoological Society will go to City Council for their input.

The information and feedback from this outreach process will be used to guide the Zoological Society plans for the future of the Zoo.

The Land Park Community Association (LPCA) has presented bits and pieces of the Sutter's Study and parts of a study conducted by the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to show that the Zoo wants to expand into Land Park. This is not the case. The Zoo staff and Zoological Society Board are using these community meetings to get input on what the community will support before developing plans.

The Zoological Society Board and staff want the Zoo to remain a viable part of Land Park. For that to happen, we need to continue to enhance the site and find a way that we can be financially sustainable into the future. In order to maintain accreditation with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, we must continue to improve animal habitats and the visitor experience for our guests.

We welcome a dialogue with the residents of Land Park and residents throughout the region as to how we can work together to make the Sacramento Zoo the best it can be and a continued community asset for generations to come. Please contact Mary Healy, Director/CEO Sacramento Zoo at (916) 808-5886 or mhealy@cityofsacramento.org for more information.

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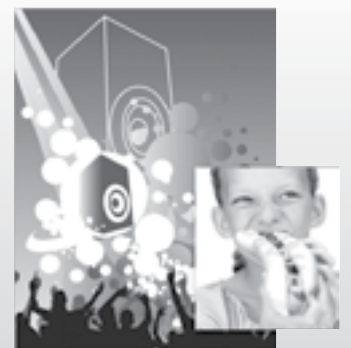


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By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Land Park News Writer
lance@valcomnews.com

The Riverside Wesleyan Church, across the street from the Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 building, will celebrate 40 years in the community on Sunday, May 23, with a special service, followed by a catered, buffet luncheon.

The event, which will begin at 10 a.m., will present church members and guests of the community and beyond the opportunity to share in recollections of this place of worship, which has experienced much growth within the Riverside-Pocket area.

Located at 6449 Riverside Blvd., the church was dedicated on May 3, 1970, as more than 100 people gathered on this day to witness the event, which was officiated by Martin Cox, the district superintendent overseeing the church.

Also in attendance at the dedication was the church's first pastor, Richard L. Rossow.

Among the many people who are delighted by this church's longevity is Robert Hughes, who put his faith in the vision of the church during some of its earliest stages of development.

Remembering when

Sharing his memories of the church's founding for Pocket News readers last week, Hughes, 81, said that the church has come a very long way since the property was acquired from developer Angelo Tsakopoulos in the late 1960s.

"Just to witness what has happened since those days is just a testimony of God's faithfulness and we're just so glad to be a part of this celebration," Hughes said.

Recalling how he was an essential part of the church's beginnings, Hughes, a native of Kansas, said that he was not even living in California when he was informed about the efforts to construct the Riverside Wesleyan Church, which had its groundbreaking on May 18, 1969.

"We were pastoring in Oklahoma and we were there for many years and I planted a new church on the west side of

Enid, Okla. and I began to feel that maybe it was time that we needed to change for the good of the church and for our good," Hughes said.

Hughes added that during his process of working with the board of the church in Enid in regard to his future as the church's pastor, he received a very memorable telephone call.

"The phone rang and before I went back and talked to the board, I answered and it was Martin Cox and he said that they were wanting to start a new church down in the Pocket area in Sacramento," Hughes said. "And since I had experienced (starting a church), they thought, 'Well, we'll call and see if Bob Hughes would help us in that (process). So, I stuttered a little bit and finally said, 'Yes, we'll come.'"

After discussing the details of his telephone conversation with the board, Hughes said that he went home to the nearby parsonage to see his wife, Arleen, and said, "Well, it looks like we're moving to California."

With the support of his wife, Hughes left Oklahoma with his family, which also included four children, and headed to Sacramento.

Hughes said that he remembers seeing a very different looking Pocket area than people see today.

"When we came there, it was just mostly an empty Pocket area," Hughes said. "(The site of the church) was an old tomato field that had been plowed up and leveled down and they were (preparing) to build."

Although he had been previously slated to serve as the first pastor of the new church, Hughes said that sometime during the construction of the church building, Rossow resigned from his position as pastor of the Arcade Wesleyan Church at 3532 Whitney Ave. in Sacramento.

This resignation led to Rossow becoming the first pastor at Riverside Wesleyan Church and Hughes filling the vacancy at Arcade Wesleyan Church.

With Rossow as pastor, the church began its longtime commitment to the community and has continued to experience much growth.

In 1975, Pastor Haskell Robinson became the church's new pastor and then was succeeded four years later by Pastor Carl Wilson.

Spreading the faith

It was during Wilson's pastoring in 1979 that the church's name was changed to the Wesley Chapel Wesleyan Church – a name that lasted for less than three years.

A decade later, the church's ongoing growth and success led to a pair of its most significant moments in its history – the groundbreaking for a new church/gymnasium building and the mortgage burning ceremony for the old church building.

The gymnasium portion of the church/gymnasium building, which first opened on Feb. 5, 1990, was essential for the church's plans for its Christian Youth Basketball Program, which was founded by one of the church's members, Chuck Britton, in 1992 and continues today.

Also debuting on the church grounds during this era was the Riverside Christian Elementary School, which opened on Sept. 3, 1991. But due to financial difficulties, the school was closed about 15 years later.

But while it was in operation, the school, explained one of its former directors, Nona Sall, was well organized and very successful.

"(The school) was very well done," Sall said. "The teachers were absolutely wonderful and the children were well behaved and really seemed to be very happy while I was there. They were fed very nutritious lunches and breakfasts and the parents were delighted with having their children at a place like that where they could feel safe."

Since 2006, the church, which currently has about 230 members, has also been an active participant in the Awana program, a ministry designed to assist "churches and parents worldwide (to) raise children and youth to know, love and serve Christ."

Today, the original church building, which sits on about 4,000 square feet of property, still stands and is used as a children's center.



Land Park News Photo/Lance Armstrong

Senior Pastor Mike Higley and Assistant Pastor Mike Jaime stand in front of the small church building that was constructed for the Riverside Wesleyan Church 40 years ago.

Overall, the church structures, which include the aforementioned old and new church buildings, as well as offices and the Daugherty Wing with a Sunday school room and kitchen, encompass about 11,000 square feet of property.

Special place in the Pocket

Mike Higley, the church's current senior pastor, said that the Riverside Wesleyan Church is very significant in the history of places of worship in the Riverside-Pocket area.

"We weren't the first church out here, because the Portuguese (St. Maria Church) predates everybody, but as far as the protestant churches, Riverside (Wesleyan Church) was, in 1970, the first church out here," Higley said. "And for us, 40 years of reaching individuals, reaching families with the love of God is very powerful. And everybody who has been a part of that, we just want to re-

mind them of their footprints that they left."

In doing so, many familiar faces from throughout the church's history will be a part of the May 23 event. These people include past pastors and early members of the church.

These past pastors – Hughes, Frank Robinson, Steve Forsyth, Chip Dykema and Don Towle – will be among the program's speakers.

Higley, who said that the church is often referred to as "the friendly church," said that he looks forward to seeing many new and familiar faces at the anniversary event and extends a welcome for anyone from the community to come to the gathering and make new friends.

"People do call us the 'friendly church' and there are friends here who could be your friends and you've not yet met them," Higley said. "Everybody's welcome (to the event)."

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Election 2010: Meet the candidates running for City Council District 3

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

Editor's Note: On pages 22-23 and 26, The Land Park News is offering complete stories on the three candidates running for City Council District 3. The candidates, incumbent Steve Cohn and challengers Shawn Eldredge and Chris Little, are each profiled in the following pages. The interviews are printed in alphabetical order and are also available online at www.valcomnews.com.

Steve Cohn: Experienced Leadership Needed in this Economy

This is no time to change horses in mid-stream, according to Sacramento City Councilman Steve Cohn. Given the current economy in the city of Sacramento and throughout the region, the councilman believes that it is important that the City Council have experienced leadership that can bring opportunity to the area. That is why he is running for a fifth term.

"My goal is to make Sacramento the most livable city in America," Cohn said. "When it comes to economic development, you have to think of it as a city and as a region. As a city, we try to make it as attractive as possible."

Cohn believes that the job of a city councilmember is to focus on representing the people in the district. He believes that city residents share in his vision to make Sacramento a place of "excellent schools and libraries, abundant parks and open spaces, a dynamic Central City and business districts, vibrant arts, sports and culture, and safe, quality tree-lined neighborhoods within walking distance or a transit stop from everything you need."

Taking care of business

Making Sacramento an attractive place to live and play is also key to making the Capital City a desirable place for business.

"I think it's important that government take care of its business first, and by that I mean: what can we do to attract business to this area," Cohn said. "People who have a choice in business need to feel comfortable with where they are going to invest. We have to have a business climate that is profitable and sustainable."

Cohn is pleased that public safety is being maintained in this economy.

"We haven't had to cut any police officers, thank good-



District 3 incumbent Steve Cohn.



District 3 candidate Shawn Eldredge.



District 3 candidate Chris Little.

ness," he said. "We were able to negotiate with the union. We got federal grants from Homeland Security. We have got a great resource with Sacramento Police Chief Rick Brazil."

Going green

Sacramento needs to develop new industries to ensure success in the 21st century, according to Cohn.

"We need to go after 'green' jobs - tech jobs - so we're not so dependent on state worker jobs," he said. "Last year, we actually grew 38 percent in green jobs, such as renewable solar, energy efficiency, clean tech and so on. Clean tech is a field of technology that is dedicated to clean-

ing the environment. We'd like Sacramento to be known as the green, renewable energy capital of the world."

Cohn admits that there are challenges to this vision, however. Not the least of which are state regulations that have caused many businesses to locate elsewhere.

"Part of what drags us down (in locating businesses to Sacramento) is being a part of California," he said. "That situation needs to change."

Support and encouragement for existing industries and businesses should not be overlooked, according to Cohn.

"For example, agriculture is still important to Sacramento, and can continue to be," he

said. "We have an opportunity to grow in that area."

Creative solutions

In a down economy, it is necessary to look for other sources of income to pay for public facilities, Cohn said.

"For example, last year, we had to cut some city pools, and limit the hours at others," he said. "The 'Pops in the Park' program raised money to keep pools open. It wasn't enough in and of itself, but we were able to use that money to leverage other funds. The faith community and other community groups have also stepped up to help. In fact, the faith community has taken the lead with Mayor Kev-

See Candidates, page 23

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Candidates: Steve Cohn, Shawn Eldredge, Chris Little for District 3

Continued from page 22

in Johnson's initiative to aid the homeless."

2022 Winter Olympics?

Thinking outside the box, Cohn said he would like to see the city of Sacramento partner with the city of Reno on a bid to win the 2022 Winter Olympics.

"It's been a while since Squaw Valley hosted the Winter Olympics, and it could be done again," he said. "Reno does not have an adequate airport for winter travel, but we have Sacramento International Airport. We could benefit from having an all-weather airport. Visitors who come to the Olympics would see the Sacramento area, and likely return. Improved rail connections could be made from Sacramento to Reno, with a Capital Corridor-type of service. This could also attract some federal money to the area."

Closer to home, Cohn has questions about the plan to build a new arena for the Sacramento Kings basketball franchise in the Rail Yards of Old Sacramento.

"I would like to see the plan to build a new arena succeed, but not on the backs of taxpayers," he said. "I am a healthy skeptic. The mayor, myself and two others are on the committee to do our due diligence for the city of Sacramento."

In addition to sitting on the new arena committee, Cohn is the chair of the Council Audit Committee, Regional Transit Board (2009) and the Sac Regional Arts Financing Authority. He is a board member of the Sac Area Council of Governments, Sac Regional Sanitation District, Sac Transportation Authority, Capitol Corridor (Rail) Joint Powers Authority (former Chair), Sac Metro Air Quality Management District, and Sac Human Rights/Fair Housing Board. He has also served as chair and/or member of the regional governing boards for Transportation, Solid Waste, Cable Television, Water, World Trade, Welfare-to-Work and Public Libraries.

Cohn and his wife, Catherine Travers, live near McKinley Park in East Sacramento. They have two adult children. He is the Chief Assistant General Counsel for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, where he has worked since 1992.

Shawn Eldredge: Say No to 'Business as Usual'

If Shawn Eldredge, candidate for City Council in District Three, seems to come across as a rebel with a cause, it is because he firmly believes that Sacramento's public servants need to come from the public – because they can understand the world their constituents must live in.

"Our founding fathers were businessmen and community activists, first and foremost," he states on his Web site.

Eldredge feels a bond with those early patriots who left their farms and businesses to take care of the fledgling nation's business, because he is an entrepreneur and independent contractor who has similarly invested himself in the welfare of the community. Sporting a short haircut and a where the "rubber-meets-the-road" attitude, he is a spokesman for the common man.

"My background is in business," Eldredge said. "I'm a general contractor. I've always been in the trades and self-employed. It's a tough time out there for the trades. It's time for a change."

Local and active

Eldredge is a graduate of the City of Sacramento's Management and Planning Academy, whose goal is to educate and encourage partnerships between City of Sacramento residents and business owners to help maintain, revitalize, and promote healthy communities.

He is the past president and a current board member of the Midtown Business Association (MBA). He has advocated for new businesses and for in-fill development projects and helped to enable the passage of the Midtown Property Based Improvement District (PBID), creating almost \$700K in funds to improve the business climate in Midtown. Eldredge continues to work to mitigate the impacts of entertainment areas on neighborhoods and to tackle the issues of graffiti, parking and street lighting with his continued service on the MBA board.

Eldredge volunteers for a number of organizations, including the Rebuilding Together/Christmas in April program. He donated his company's service to support the rehabilitation of the Historic Villa in Sacramento County, headquarters

of the Serve Our Seniors organization.

He is engaged to be married, has an adult daughter from a prior marriage, and lives in the Winn Park neighborhood.

Eldredge sees business development as key to starting Sacramento's economic recovery.

"If we want Sacramento to be a healthy city, we need to create an environment where the future entrepreneurs of the region want to be," he said. "They have to want to live here, establish their business here and raise their children here. All those elements are critical. Those entrepreneurs have to be incentivized to be here, instead of Roseville, Folsom or West Sac."

Government and business

Eldredge points to inefficiencies that cost Sacramento business jobs.

"We have SACTO – the Sacramento Area Commerce & Trade Organization," he said. "SACTO is an economic development tool that should be brought 'in house' for the council. Our city economic department can't give us numbers in a timely manner when businesses ask for information about Sacramento. You have to be able to be competitive with the other cities. We need to have a Small Business Advocate – to be able to get potential business owners through the system with the least amount of pain as possible."

In 1950, over half of the retail sales in a six-county region were done in the city of Sacramento, Eldredge cites. "Today, it's less than five percent. We've gotten our ass kicked by our neighbors. We must become good recruiters of new businesses, enablers of those businesses and retainers of existing businesses."

Lines of communication need to be established between city government, local businesses and residents.

"If an existing business is having issues, we should know about those issues and be able to help," Eldredge said. "This is important, because unless we are looking to create new revenue, we can't begin to fund those quality of life issues that are important to everyone."

Every issue ultimately affects everyone in the community, according to Eldredge. For example, public safety.

"Public safety comes with dollars," he said. "I had a conversation with Sacramento Police Chief Brazil. Multiple things came up. There are some areas we will have to kill some services in order to grow public safety. One area is painting; offices don't need to be painted every year. They can be painted as needed. Firemen don't get four men to a truck. If you are a school teacher and you are not performing, you should go. I support department audits. I'm not going to support a tax or fee increase unless I can see an audit. The basic duty of government is to protect its people."

Affecting change

Eldredge believes that communication and building trust is key to effecting change. As a councilmember, he believes he can help in that process.

"Relationships need to be built between residents and business that will facilitate the sponsorship of community facilities, such as pools and parks," he said. "Similar to the signs you see along the freeway, a sign might say 'This park is being sponsored by' and the name of a local business."

Sacramento needs to take action in numerous areas, including public safety, schools, streetlights, historic building preservation and more, according to Eldredge. He believes compassionate solutions can be found to help the area's homeless population and that an arena for the Kings can be built without taxpayer dollars.

"But right now, we need to take care of our humans," he said. "And we aren't doing a good job of it. We need neighborhoods that are safe and clean. This is not a time to be thinking of getting re-elected at the expense of the people who live here."

Chris Little: Common Sense for Changing Times

During times of economic upheaval, there is a need to keep a clear head, use common sense, look for the opportunities that exist in such times – and take action, according to Chris Little, District Three candidate for City Council.

"It's an exciting time," Little said. "There's a lot of fear, but that's when people really rally for the good of everybody."

Problem-solving attitude

Born, raised and educated in the district, Little knows the community he continues to live in. He is a third generation Sacramentan who grew up in his family's example of community service. Little is the president of the East Sacramento Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the American River Parkway Advisory Committee and vice chairman of the 65th Redevelopment Advisory Committee. He is a member of Rotary Club of Point West, the Run to Feed the Hungry Race Committee and the Work-Study Program Committee of Cristo Rey High School. Little is a licensed real estate broker who runs his own office in East Sacramento. He is an avid community volunteer, giving of his time to numerous local schools and causes.

"The economy right now is difficult. Revenues will run low," Little said. "We have to think of things differently. We must use common sense when it comes to the budget. We can't just protect the status quo, because that's what got us into this situation to begin with."

Examples of common sense thinking that could be used to make a difference in the community, according to Little, include looking at every item in the city budget to see where there might be an opportunity to engage a different, more affordable, more efficient way of doing things.

"For example, how we deal with parks and greenways," he said. "Some of the tasks that need to be done there could be carried out through alternate means...maybe contracted out where it makes sense."

Consolidation of tasks should be considered, where feasible, Little said.

"The city and the county should consider combining services where it makes sense," he said. "We have seen savings with the consolidation of the fire districts, for example."

Smart spending, planning

Economic common sense begins right in the district with each resident and business, Little said.

"Our local chamber has had an active 'Shop East Sac' campaign," he said. "I think it's

See District 3, page 26

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. 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.

MAY

Pole Walking Clinics

The following are the dates for Cure Arthritis Now Pole Walking clinics. Fridays May 7, 14 and 21st. all at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays May 5 and 9 at 6 p.m. All will be at the Sierra 2 Center, 4th Ave. Parking lot. 2791 24th Street. 95818. Call for more information and to sign up ahead of time at 916-208-8700.

MAY 13

Mission Oaks Computer Club

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, May 13, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Car-

michael. The meeting topic will be "Use Your Library at Home", presented by Sacramento Public Library's Ann Owens. 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.

Gray Panthers meeting

The Sacramento Gray Panthers May 13 meeting will feature a review of the propositions which will appear on the California June primary election ballot. A representative of the League of Women Voters will conduct the meeting, which will also include input from the audience. The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 1 p.m. at the Hart Senior Center, 915 - 27th St., Sacramento (between I and J Streets). Cost: No charge. For further information contact Margie Metzler, 916-921-5008

MAY 14

Senior Health & Safety Fair

The Senior Health and Safety Fair, Friday, May 14, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the ACC Greenhaven Terrace, 1180 Corporate Way. Meet and talk with local providers about services and programs designed for the older adult. Free of Charge. Open to the Public. For general information, contact Susan Sarinas at (916) 395-0210, Ext. 421 or reachcoord@accsv.org.

Carmichael Geranium Society Meeting

The Carmichael Geranium Society May Meeting is May 14, 2010 at the Carmichael Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael. Julie West "the Butterfly Lady" will be the speaker; Julie will also bring plants that attract butterflies for sale. Visitors welcome.

MAY 15

Walk on the Wildside

If you'd enjoy a fun, free family-oriented day in the country with lively entertainment and up-close and personal views of many wildlife species, mark your calendar and plan to attend Walk on the Wildside on Saturday, May 15th, 2010. Join Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge and its partners in celebrating International Migratory Bird Day and local conservation successes. The free event is held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. near the town of Freeport, California, at the Beach Lake Picnic Area. For more information or to download the event flyer with directions in pdf, visit www.fws.gov/stonelakes, or listen to the prerecorded event information by calling 916-875-WILD.

What's Blooming in the Cemetery

Explore the world of drought-tolerant perennials in the Historic City Cemetery. Your guide is Michelle Nitz, Perennial Plant Club member and avid gardener and designer. The tour commences at 10 am from the Cemetery's main gate at Broadway and 10th Street. Visitors may park across the street from the 10th Street Gate and meet at the cemetery entrance. Held under the auspices of the City of Sacramento Division of History & Science, this tour is presented as a public service by the Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc. For tour information, please call (916) 448-0811. Tours are free, though donations for the restora-

tion of the cemetery are greatly needed and appreciated.

"Saints through the Ages"

All Saints Episcopal Church, 2076 Sutterville Rd., presents an event for the whole family Saturday, May 15: "Saints through the Ages, The Fabulous Fifties," a lively evening of fun, nostalgia and fellowship. With childcare and children's activities: 5:30 pm Appetizers, socializing and 1950's classroom movies; 6:00 Dinner - Barbecue, Breads, Veggies, Desserts; 7:00 Live Auction; 7:45 Raffle Drawings, Silent Auction ends. Tickets: In Advance, \$18 adult, \$8 under 12, Free under 4. At the Door: \$20. Reservations: Jeanne Duncan, 456-9956. Extra parking is across the street at City College. Further information: www.allsaintssacramento.org.

Spring Concert with "Custom Neon"

They rocked Founders Day and are now back by popular demand! Custom Neon - the local Sacramento band that covers classic rock from the 60s through the 90s - is ready to once again showcase their talent for the Carmichael Community. Let's get ready for our Summer Concert Series with this band who can heat up any cool night! Event is Saturday, May 15, 7 to 9 p.m. at Danny Bishop Memorial Pavilion for the Performing Arts (aka Carmichael Park Band Shell) at rear of park, 5750 Grant Ave, Carmichael. Free admission and parking and open to all ages!

OWL meeting

California's "Mental Health Crisis" will be the topic of the Older Women's League's (OWL) May 15th meeting. Speakers will discuss how this situation reaches all levels of the state's population, from children to senior citizens. Particular attention will be directed to the effects of the state's budget cuts on mental health programs. The OWL meeting will be held at 10:30 AM at the Hart Senior Center, 915 - 27th Street, Sacramento (between I and J Streets). There is no charge and the meeting is open to the public. Further information can be obtained by calling (916) 444-2526 or checking www.owlca.org.

MAY 16

Mayors meeting

Time Tested Books and Midtown Monthly are very excited to announce part five in our 2010 Sacramento Living Library series, this month featuring four of Sacramento's former mayors--Isenberg (1975-82), Miller ('82-83), Rudin ('83-92) and Fargo (2000-08)--all together and all in one night! The discussion will center on the participants' individual experiences in office and their thoughts on the city's current government and its future--including budget issues, the "strong mayor" question and the shifting landscape of local (and state and national) politics. We have no doubt that the conversation will expand and contract as necessary, and attendees will have a unique opportunity to be a part of it. The event starts at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 16th, and admission is free.

MAY 18

Latino Dance and Culture Group

Come dance to the beat of all types of Latin music. Featuring DJ music and delicious Mexican food. Donations of \$3 or more to enter. Held at the Ethel Hart Community Center, 915 27th St., from 6:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call Barbara Alarcon at (916) 400-4514 for more information.

MAY 19

Bridge Lessons

Have you always wanted to learn to play bridge? Want to learn at a pace you are comfortable with? Then the Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. from 9-11 a.m. is the place to learn new card skills, meet new friends and have fun. The class is free. Call (916)808-5462 for more information.

MAY 20

Genealogy Club meeting

On May 20, 2010, the Mission Oaks Genealogy Club will meet from 1-3 p.m. at Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. Learn about "Roots and Quilts" from Carol Gebel, a local genealogist and quilter. Visitors are welcome. Cost: Free. For more info call Robert Noyes (916) 332-5753 or visit website at: <http://missionoaksgenealogyclub.org>.

Brown Bag Poetry

The Sacramento Poetry Center will hold a poetry reading at the Central Library, 828 I Street, on the third Thursday of every month throughout the year, 12 Noon - 1 p.m. Sacramento poet Mary Zeppa will host the readings with assistance from poet Lawrence Dinkins and Poet Laureate Bob Stanley. Bring a lunch if you wish, and a favorite poem to share. Or you may select from material in the library. Information: 264-2920. www.saclibrary.org

MAY 21

Genealogical meeting

The Genealogical Association of Sacramento will hold its regular meeting on Wed May 21 at 1 p.m. in our temporary meeting place, Colonial Heights Library on Stockton Blvd and 21st Ave in Sacramento Susan Jackman, will speak on using tax records in research. She teaches family history through Folsom-Cordova Adult Education and conducts seminars through the FHC where she is a member of the Board of Directors. She is a professional researcher, specializing in Pennsylvania German Research. Visitors are invited to attend and newcomers welcome to join. Questions please call Melanie 916-383-1221

MAY 22

Cardboard Boat Races

The second annual Sink or Swim Cardboard Boat Races will take place at Deterding Pool on May 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants will consist of community groups, local schools, youth sports organizations and other local community members. Our target for this year's event will be 40 boats and over 300 people attending the event.

MAYors History Tour

Early mayors of Sacramento will be featured on this Saturday morning tour of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. Join our guides as we stroll through the beautiful gardens in full spring bloom. The tour commences at 10 am from the Cemetery's main gate at Broadway and 10th Street. Visitors may park across the street from the 10th Street Gate and meet at the cemetery entrance. Held under the auspices of the City of Sacramento Division of History & Science, this tour is presented as a public service by the Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc. For tour information, please call (916) 448-0811. Tours are free, though donations for the restoration of the cemetery are greatly needed and appreciated.



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"An Untold Triumph: The First and Second Filipino Infantry Regiments, USA" is an award-winning PBS documentary presented by the Asian Community Center (ACC), Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHIS), and Magellan Post 604. After the film, a panel of Filipino American veterans will speak about their experiences during the different wars. Viewing is Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the ACC Greenhaven Terrace, 1180 Corporate Way. Free of Charge. Open to the Public. To RSVP, contact Susan Sarinas at (916) 395-0210, Ext. 421 or outreachco-ord@accsv.org or Dr. Linda Revilla at (916) 394-6399, Ext. 139 or linda@accsv.org.

Parking Lot sale

Sacramento Emblem Club No. 539 is affiliated with the Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6. Just like the Elks, the women of the Emblem Club are very community-minded. The next community event planned by the Emblem members is the Parking Lot Sale at the Elks Lodge, 6446 Riverside Boulevard, on Saturday, May 22, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call (916) 714-1301.

Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle

The Saint Francis Episcopal Church in Fair Oaks is having a Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle fundraiser on May 22, 2010. Dinner will be served from 4:30pm to 7:30pm. The cost will be \$10 for adults; \$5 for kids 12 years and under; \$25 for a family of 4 or more; and, \$70 for a reserved table for up to 7 people. Please call the church office for tickets - 916-966-2261.

MAY 22-23

Benefit plant sale

The AIDS Benefit Plant Sales May 22-23. Sales are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily in the covered parking area behind the Gifted Gardener at 18th & J Streets. Both sales will feature a selection of over 200 varieties of hardy perennials for the area, including 2010 introductions (Coreopsis and Echinacea varieties) and many rare and hard to find varieties. For more information: gardennotes@sbcglobal.net or call (916) 943-6183.

MAY 23

Art Center Fundraiser

Announcing the 16th Annual 'Ars Gratia Artis', benefiting the Sacramento Fine Arts Center. Our artists have donated original artwork to this event. You may acquire one of these paintings, sculptures or other artworks for your home. Purchase a ticket for \$50. Preview the art. Come to the Reception/Drawing Sunday, May 23. When your name is drawn you may select your choice from the remaining artworks and take it home! Ticket Price \$50; Reception: May 23, 1-3 p.m., Drawing at 3 p.m.; at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, 5330 B Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. Gallery Hours are Tuesdays 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Phone 916-971-3713.

Pre-"Jazz Jubilee" Ball

Spots Big Bands of Buddy Harpha (2-5 p.m.) and Celia Cortt's SAXES are back by popular demand (1-2 p.m.) and presented by Nor Cal Big Bands Preservation Society on Sunday, May 23 at Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. Corporate sponsors Avalon Hearing Aid Centers and Senior Magazine welcome singles and couples to the "Best of Ballroom Dance", including Dance Hosts, four Mixers plus snacks (3 p.m.) door prizes (4 p.m.) Tickets \$14, \$12 (groups of ten) and \$10 to society's Gold Card members. Special 5 Dances Gold Cards only \$15 per event (saves \$20 over dances May-Nov. 2010). Call (916) 444-6138 for details.

MAY 26

Embroiderer's Guild meeting

Embroiderer's Guild of America, 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, 2010, SMUD Building, 6301 S Street, Sacramento. Sharon Hearnden will lead a Hardanger project. Visitors welcome. (916)961-3558.

MAY 27

Wellspring golf tournament

Wellspring Women's Center is hosting its 21st Annual Golf Tournament benefit event on Thursday, May 27, at Whitney Oaks Golf Club in Rocklin. There will be a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Proceeds support Wellspring Women's Center in the Oak Park neighborhood. For more information (916) 454-9688 x 205 or visit us online at www.wellspringwomen.org. Golfers register

for just \$135, with reservations due no later than May 20 and forms are available online.

MAY 29

Memorial Day Ceremony of Reverence

Join us at 10 a.m. for a ceremony honoring our Veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Speakers will be featured and the Veterans Affiliated Council Honor Squad will give a rifle salute and taps. The gravesite of all veterans will be adorned with U.S. Flags. Visitors may park across the street from the 10th Street Gate and meet at the Mortuary Chapel near the middle of the cemetery (follow the carriageways to the south). Held under the auspices of City of Sacramento Division of History & Science and the Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc. the Veterans Affiliated Council of Sacramento, presents this free event as a public service.



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District 3: Candidates talk about the future of the Sacramento region

Continued from page 23

been fairly successful. Our membership has gone up, and our business-to-business promotions as well as our residential promotions are seeing success. I try to do as much shopping as I can right here at home.

City leaders need to realize that area businesses provide the

lifeblood of the communities they reside in, Little believes.

"We lose a lot of business to Placer County, to the Galleria," he said. "We've lost a lot of the tax base and it's not coming back. The multiplier effect for those losses is huge for this community. We need to focus on leveraging our resources of

the things we do well in Sacramento."

Little points to Sacramento's leadership in the area of health-care.

"We have a wonderful nursing program at Sac State, we have fantastic hospitals - Mercy, Sutter, UCD, Shriner's. We don't have a tiered system, and

we have a demonstrated ability to provide good care," he said. "We are a leader in health-care, but we should be a national leader."

Little said that many of Sacramento's assets are underutilized and should be "more fully promoted for job creation." Local assets include "one of the

greatest climates in the world, two amazing rivers, tremendous parks and open spaces" as well as "major universities, a medical school and a teaching hospital, a well educated work force, a vast technology infrastructure, plus outstanding tourism opportunities."

Developing and expansion

Projects must ultimately benefit the entire community, Little believes. He is concerned about the plan to build the Sacramento Kings a new arena at the Rail Yards.

"The current plan the council is pursuing doesn't serve the community well," he said. "It's a very long term project. You're not creating anything of true value, long term."

To Little, a common sense approach includes a balance of community and government service, and it is this belief that has made him step forward to run for City Council.

"We have to be forward thinking," he said. "It won't be an easy fix, but we need to think. To be smarter with the budget, not slash and burn. I've done community service all my life. I view public service as a natural progression. I don't want this to be a career position. I believe that it's more productive if people come in for a brief period of time, allow others to share their ideas and then move on."

"There is a tremendous opportunity for residents to get involved, given this economy," Little continued. "They can see they have a real stake in the community and can make a difference."

Finding solutions to the challenges in the community will come down to having the courage to face the difficult choices and to look for innovative solutions, according to Little.

"It all comes back to common sense and to doing things differently to get out of this," he said. "We need to create incentives for businesses, we need Smart Planning - thinking outside the box. Revitalize K Street - get housing down there, so people will stay."

Little is optimistic about the future, and knows the road ahead will be uphill.

"It's all about change," he said. "Not for the sake of change, but because we have to change. If we all pitch in, we can get through this and we can make it work."



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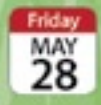


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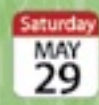
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