

Grassroots campaign fights to keep Effie Yeaw Nature Center open

Four nonprofit organizations ask to manage the nature center after budget cuts

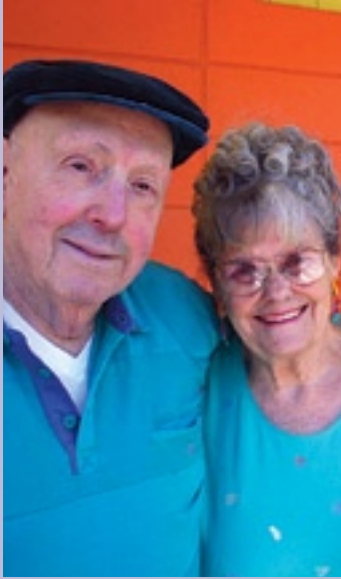
See page 5

Marty Relles presents
'Janey Way Memories'

See page 5

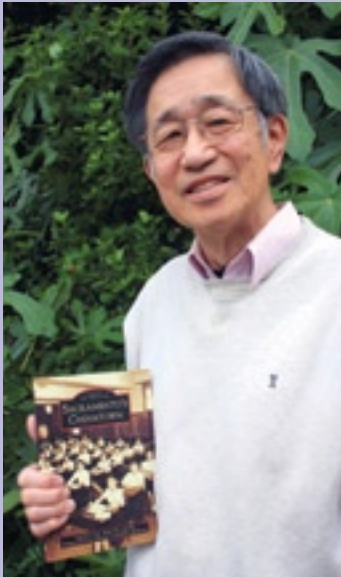
COMMUNITY CALENDAR, PAGES 24-26 • KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR, PAGE 6 • FACES AND PLACES, PAGE 4

Inside This Edition



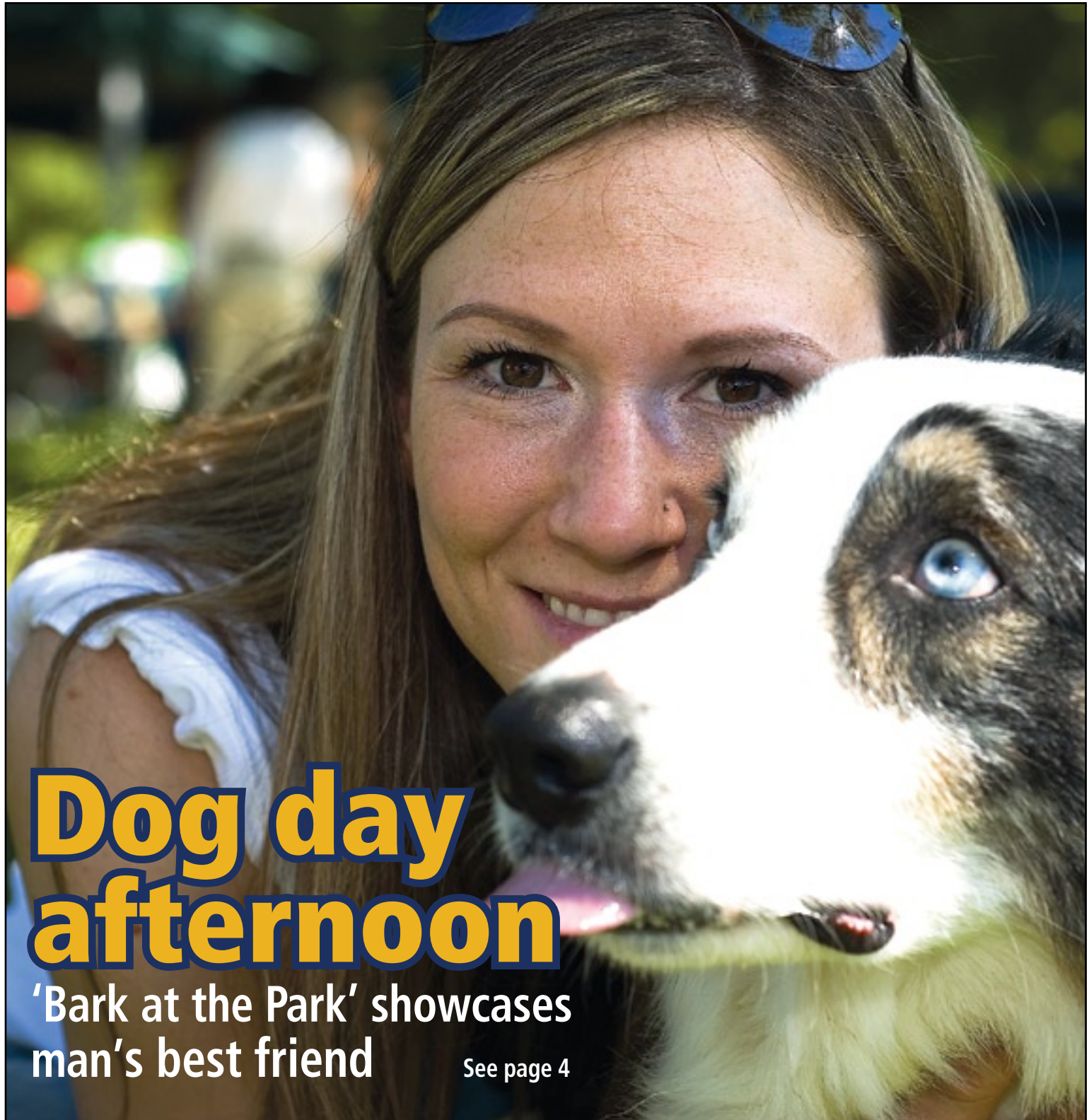
Business blooming
for Balshor Florist

See page 6



Local author brings
Sacto history to life

See page 8



Dog day afternoon

'Bark at the Park' showcases
man's best friend

See page 4

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Cover photo by:
Noah Winn

Mark your calendars

Belle Cooledge Ice Cream Social is June 11

Come celebrate the beginning of summer vacation with free ice cream at Belle Cooledge Library's 12th annual Barbara Jeanne Hansen Ice Cream Social from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, June 11 at the park adjacent to the library, 5600 South Land Park Dr.

Ice cream and toppings provided through the generosity of Foster Farms Dairy featuring Crystal Dairy products. Friends and neighbors are invited to attend this summer evening of family fun. In addition to free ice cream, Trevor Wyatt the Magician will

perform magic tricks and DJ Harrison from Let's Celebrate will provide music. There will also be face painting and balloon twisting by Clown Blanca Rose and (depending upon fire calls that evening) a big red fire engine and friendly firefighters from Sacramento Fire Department Station 13. To top off the event, the ever-popular Sacramento Modular Railroaders will have their fantastic small-scale railroad display in the library's community room.

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Perfect game for Land Park Pacific Little League pitcher

Jimmy McCauley, a 12-year-old student at Holy Spirit School who also plays AAU basketball for the Carmichael Red Raiders, threw a perfect game Saturday, June 5. McCauley, who has been clocked at throwing 74 mph and also plays for the Elk Grover Gunners, held impressive stats for the game: 64 pitches thrown, 15 strike-outs and only 11 balls.

Sue Olson

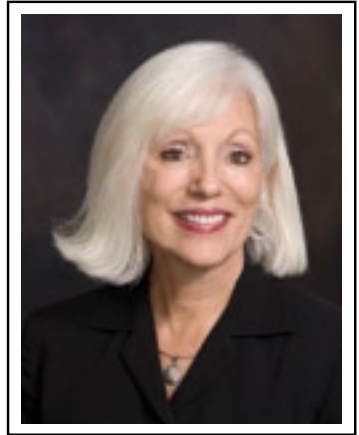
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LAND PARK

Charming tri-level home. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, cute kitchen with eating area, spanish pavers in kitchen and downstairs bedroom, backyard with deck, spa and beautiful shade tree, newer roof & exterior paint. 1810 9th Avenue. \$548,000.



CHARMING LAND PARK COTTAGE

Living room with vaulted ceiling, formal dining room, remodeled kitchen with stainless steel appliances, two bedrooms plus a windowed sunroom with french doors to backyard, inside laundry with storage closet, beautiful backyard with pond and wraparound deck. 1559 9th Avenue. \$529,000



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LAND PARK

Spacious three bedroom home, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, large kitchen, refinished hardwood floors, inside laundry room, pretty front yard with many trees, backyard with built-in pool and patio. 1905 7th Avenue. \$468,500



SOUTH LAND PARK TERRACE

Tucked away at the bottom of the hill. 2 bed, 2.5 bath contemporary home boasts high ceilings, new flooring, porcelain tile in kitchen, living room & family rooms w/ fireplace, built-in bar area, inside laundry, custom sliding doors open to garden & built-in pool. 1210 Ridgeway Drive. \$449,000

Faces and places

Doggy Dash and Bark at the Park

The Sacramento SPCA held the 17th Annual Doggy Dash and Bark at the Park Festival on Saturday, June 5 in beautiful William Land Park. An estimated 4,000 animal enthusiasts gathered both with and without their canine companions to raise funds for animals sheltered at the Sacramento SPCA. For 16 years, two- and four-legged participants have attended this event, creating a tradition in Sacramento and transforming Doggy Dash into one of the biggest "can't miss" events of the year.

For more information on the SPCA, visit www.sspca.org.

Photos by Land Park News photographer Noah Winn.



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RETIREMENT & ASSISTED LIVING

Will ARNHA take over the Effie Yeaw Nature Center?

Special to The Land Park News
From the American River Natural History Association

Sacramento County officials have requested detailed proposals from four local nonprofit organizations on how they would manage the Effie Yeaw Nature Center if selected when county operation is scheduled to end June 30.

Four nonprofits stepped up when a budget crunch threatened closure of the center: the American River Natural History Association, the American River Parkway Foundation, the Sacramento County Office of Education and the Discovery Museum on Auburn Blvd., Sacramento.

Each organization was asked to provide information on such key subjects as anticipated revenue and expenditures, and plans for fulfilling the nature center's basic services for children, teens and adults such as nature tours, animal care and exhibits. The deadline for submitting the proposals was June 4.

The requests for proposals were issued following a Board of Supervisors May 12 Workshop on future of the financially struggling regional parks system. About 65 people attended, wearing green attire and stickers with ARNHA's logo in hopes of persuading the supervisors to choose ARNHA to run the nature center.

Developing the plans

Months ago, ARNHA was the first of the four organizations to express interest in managing the nature center, drawing support from Parks Department Director Janet Baker.

"ARNHA is an obvious choice because of its continuing support of the Nature Center over many years," Baker said.

No county funding is assured beyond June 30 for the 33-year-old, award-winning nature center. However, ARNHA Board and Associate Board members are hoping the supervisors can be persuaded to find the resources to allow the county to continue operating the nature center and remove the threat of closure. In a statement, Peggy Kennedy, ARNHA vice president, made the case for keeping the 33-year old award winning nature center's doors open:

"Effie Yeaw Nature Center has a long tradition of providing environmental education for the children and adults of Sacramento County. The 77 acres of natural preserve is an unusual treasure in the midst of suburban development. It would be a pity if the museum and assembly building were closed, if the nature preserve were left open to vandals, vagrants, and others who do not value the preserve. The portion of county funding needed to keep Effie Yeaw Nature Center open and functioning as a source of environmental education is a tiny part of the county budget.

"The benefits the Effie Yeaw Nature Center brings to the businesses and homeowners of the county make keeping the Center open a good business decision. Hearing a third grader who has just completed a workshop at Effie Yeaw Nature Center say, 'This is the best day of my life' is all the testimony we need."

With the county facing a projected \$166.5 million deficit in fiscal 2010-2011, Baker said officials also are exploring the possible transformation of the Parks Department itself.

"We are researching different models statewide for county regional park agencies – wheth-

See Effie Yeaw, page 19

Janey Way Memories



The pit is on fire

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



In the early 1960s, the U.S. began launching rockets into space. Some carried satellites. Others carried astronauts into space. Inspired, we on Janey Way decided to launch a rocket of our own.

We started by taking an expended metal CO2 cartridge and filling it with match heads. When it was full, we placed one end of a match into the cartridge with the head of the match sticking out. We then taped the cartridge to a 3-foot long stick, and took the rocket out into the pit, the vacated sand and gravel site located behind the houses on the east side of Janey Way, to a carefully selected launch site. There we stuck the rocket into the ground, lit the match and ran back to a bunker built out of broken pieces of concrete, where we waited for the rocket to fire off. Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one – then off shot the rocket. It sailed probably 50 feet into the air, and out 100 feet or so, and then crashed to the ground. Just like at Cape Kennedy, we cheered our successful rocket launch. We subsequently attempted several rocket launches from the pit. Some worked just like the first. Others only sputtered. Some misfired and bounced along the ground until the matches stopped burning. Eventually we ran out of CO2 cartridges and our rocket launching experiments came to an abrupt halt. I shudder to think what our parents would have said, had they known what we were up to.

Fire in the pit

My friend Dan went out to the pit one day to play with matches. He had a box full of book matches to light. He carefully folded two matches out of a book and lit them. They burned slowly back toward the book and eventually ignited it. When this happened, he threw the burning book of matches into the air, creating a fireworks effect. He did this several times without a problem. Finally, as he lit another book, a spark flew back toward it, igniting it immediately. This caught Dan by surprise and burned him, so he tossed the lit matchbook into some brush near where he stood. The brush caught fire. He panicked. At first he tried to stomp the fire out with his feet. It didn't work. He then ran back into his yard to get a garden hose. It did not reach out far enough into the pit. The fire now blazed. Not knowing what to do, he ran into the house to his bedroom and hid. Someone must have noticed the fire and tripped a fire alarm. Soon the fire trucks came. They drove down into the pit and proceeded to put the fire out.

After extinguishing the fire, the firefighters decided to investigate. They walked from house to house up Janey Way asking residents if they had seen how the fire started. When they got to Dan's house, his sister Nancy answered the door. They asked her about the fire. She said, "I didn't see it start, but my brother Dan might have started it, he ran into his room a while ago, looking pretty guilty." The fireman asked to speak to Dan, but Nancy couldn't find him, as he hid silently under his bed. Soon the firefighters left. The pit however, continued to smolder for weeks after the fire. The smoldering finally stopped when the rains came in the fall and thoroughly soaked the ground.

The firemen never came back to question Dan about the fire, but he had learned his lesson. He never again played with matches. Interestingly enough, after serving in the army, Dan went on to enjoy a long career with the California State Department of Justice. Now the story of the fire in the pit is just another incendiary Janey Way memory.

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Know your neighbor

Land Park's Balshor Florist celebrates 60th anniversary

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

When it comes to longevity in business in the Land Park area, one likely does not have to look further than Balshor Florist.

The family-owned business is celebrating its 60th anniversary, 38 years of which have been spent at its current address of 2661 Riverside Blvd.

The full-fledged florist, which makes free deliveries throughout the greater Sacramento area and has a long history of providing flowers to weddings, funerals and hospitals, was founded 18 years earlier at 730 O St.

Sitting down with the Land Park News last week to discuss details regarding their longtime successful business, Al and Marie Balshor spoke about their many years working in the community.

A Land Park original

As a native Sacramentan who has been working since his youth, Al admits that he knows more than a thing or two about how to survive in the business world.

Although both Al and Marie stress that they are not the type of people to brag about their accomplishments in life, Al does not shy away from the notion that he is a well-seasoned veteran when it comes to satisfying customers.

"My business philosophy has always been about service, service, ser-



Longtime Land Park residents Al and Marie Balshor have been at the helm of Balshor Florist since its founding on Nov. 4, 1950.

Land Park News Photo/Lance Armstrong

vice," Al said. "We're a full-fledged florist that (provides) individual service. We treat every order with personal service. It's all about customer satisfaction."

In speaking about his experiences in business and life, in general, one of Al's staple phrases that he often uses is "walk the walk and talk the talk."

Al, who graduated from Sacramento High School in 1942 and was drafted into the Army the fol-

See Balshor, page 7

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Balshor: 'As long as I enjoy what I do, I'll be staying around'

Continued from page 6

lowing year, is a firm believer in the power of experiences in life.

In his strive to achieve quality results with his florist shop, Al said that it certainly does not hurt to have a business partner who he has known for nearly three-quarters of a century.

"We go way, way back," Al said with a smile.

Reflecting on his comment, Marie, who grew up on a Grade-A dairy in Dixon, responded by saying, "We sure have. We've known each other since I was 6 and he was 9."

It was at this time in about 1934 when the two youngsters of Portuguese ancestry became acquainted with one another by way of their mothers who had met and became friends.

Three years later, Al, whose last name was historically spelled "Belchior," spent a week at the Dixon ranch, where Marie, who was born Maria Sequeira, said he made the mistake of telling her what to do on her own ranch.

"He comes into the barn and I was there with my chores to do and he said, 'You've got to clean the 'you know what' (out of the barn)," Marie said. "I got so angry at him. We had hose to clean the barn that was like a fireman's hose. I turned that water on and got him all wet. He was always a big, strong guy, but he grabbed me by the arm and just spoke to me. And I went home and I said, 'I never want to talk to that boy ever again, a day in my life.' My mother (who was also named Maria Sequeira) smiled. He was going to stay two weeks and he only stayed one (week). I don't even know how he got home, but it didn't matter. I was just glad to get rid of him."

Following this incident, Marie said that she continued to see Al on occasions, since her mother was a good friend of Al's mother, Grace Balshor.

"Anytime we'd come to Sacramento, my mother would say, 'Maria, if Alberto's there, you've got to say hello to him, because Mrs. Balshor is a very nice lady.' I'd pray on the way over that he wouldn't be there and sometimes my wish was granted and other times I would say, 'hello,' and lower my head. And that went on for nine years."

Blooming business

At the age of 18, after graduating from Dixon High School and while searching for a place to live while attending secretarial school, Marie received an offer from Grace to live at the Balshor residence.

After considering her possibilities, which included boarding houses, Marie accepted Grace's generous offer.

Although Marie spent months being teased by Al at the Balshor residence, she said that her attitude toward him changed on one single night.

"I got all dressed up and went to a bar (with one of Al's sisters) and Al was there. Oh my gosh," Marie said.

During that same evening, however, Al asked Marie to dance and figuring that there would be no harm in dancing, she accepted.

"We did three dances and Al planted a kiss right on my cheek," Marie said. "I've been melting ever since. So, on Jan. 1, 1948, we got married."

Together, Al and Marie, who eventually had four children, Judie (the florist's current manager), Al, Jr. (the florist's current driver) and Jerry (a handyman), remained living with Grace for seven years after they were married.

Following this time, the couple moved into the same Land Park home where they reside today.

But while Al and Marie were still living with Grace, Al, who had worked a variety of jobs in his life, including working as a newspaper boy for The Sacramento Bee when it was located at 911 7th St., selling programs at the longtime defunct L Street Arena



The current Balshor Florist staff are: (back row, left to right) Jackie Wong, Kathy Garozzo, Judie (Balshor) Plummer, Al Bashor, Jr. and Debbie Morris and (front row) Al Balshor and Marie Balshor.

boxing venue at 223 L St. and even providing weekend labor for Piazza Wholesale Florist at 1328 7th St. (his first florist job in 1941), completed his florist apprenticeship and opened Balshor Florist on Nov. 4, 1950.

Recalling these times, Al said that he made a little local history during his apprenticeship at Relles Florist, when the business was located at 2220 J St.

"I was Relles' first employee," Al said. "They started in 1946 and I started working there in February 1947. And when I finished my apprenticeship, the government paid me at that time and that's when I quit working there. I then acquired about renting (the then-vacant 730 O St. building) and I rented it for \$125 a month."

In May 1972, Al revived a little Sacramento history when he relocated his business to its current location, which was once the site of Marty Gardens Florist, which operated at the same address during the approximate years of 1957 to 1969.

Al said that his florist has created a very positive, even balance in

his marriage, since he is the boss at work, while Marie is the boss at home.

And considering that the couple has been married for more than six decades, their dual-boss plan appears to be quite the recipe for success.

And while happy when he is at home under the direction of his boss, Al, who turned 85 last November, said that he does not see retirement in his future.

"People are always asking me when I'm going to retire, but then when I am not here (at the florist), people ask, 'Where's Al?' So, they're giving me mixed messages. But I enjoy what I'm doing (at the florist) and as long as I enjoy what I do, I'll be staying around."

About Balshor Florist

Balshor Florist is open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For additional information regarding this business, call (916) 441-3023.

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Pieces of the past

New 'Sacramento's Chinatown' book event to be held June 13

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

For those who have an interest in local cultural history, as well as supporting positive endeavors by members of the community, a specific, upcoming event at the Holiday Villa Seafood Restaurant at 7007 South Land Park Drive should draw plenty of attention.

On Sunday, June 13 from 4:30 to 7 p.m., the restaurant will be the site of a special dinner, lecture and slideshow, featuring brothers Lawrence and Brian Tom, authors of the newly released book, "Sacramento's Chinatown."

In meeting with The Land Park News last week, Lawrence shared details regarding this new Arcadia Publish-

ing release, which is a part of the popular Images of America series.

Lawrence, a longtime resident of the Pocket area and a graduate of Sacramento State College (today's California State University, Sacramento) and UC Davis, said that an earlier Arcadia book about Marysville's Chinatown that he wrote with his brother Brian led to the book, "Sacramento's Chinatown."

"We did a pretty good job for Arcadia (on the book, "Marysville's Chinatown") and they requested that we do one for Sacramento, because Sacramento didn't have a (Chinatown) book at that time, versus some of the other cities like San Francisco, San Jose and L.A. that had books on Chinatowns."

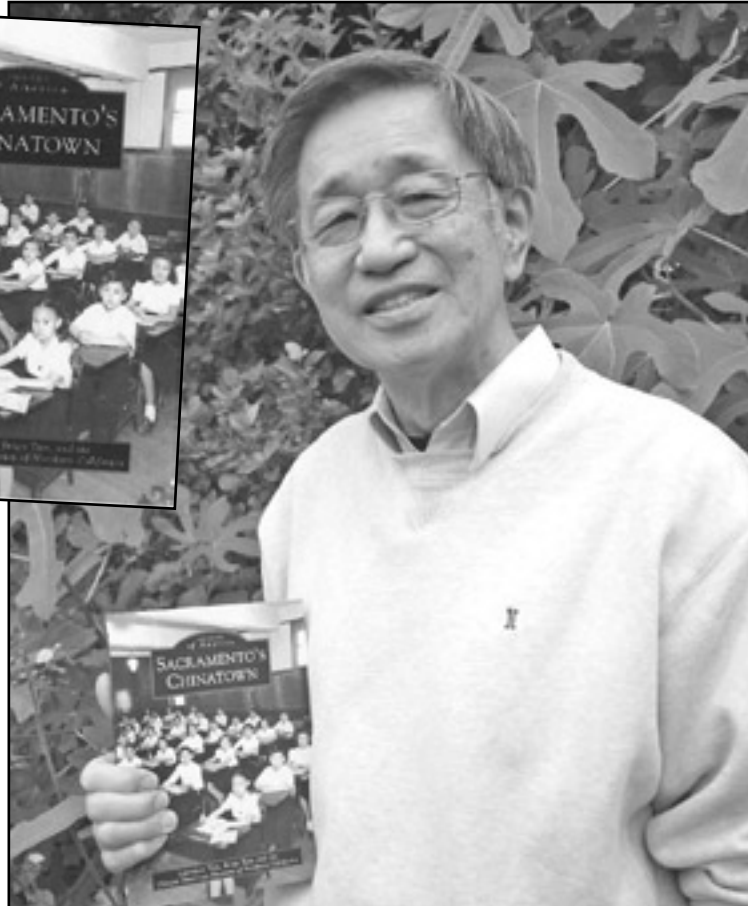
Finding a good book

Released on May 10, about a year and a half after "Marysville's Chinatown" was first made available, "Sacramento's Chinatown" has experienced early success.

And as part of various efforts to promote the book, Lawrence and Brian, who is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and the UC Davis School of Law, will explain aspects regarding their work to preserve segments of local Chinese history.

In providing a brief background of the city's Chinese roots, Lawrence said that the

See Chinatown, page 9



Land Park News Photo/Lance Armstrong
Pocket area resident Lawrence Tom holds a copy of the book, "Sacramento's Chinatown," which he wrote with his brother, Brian Tom. The public is invited to attend a special event regarding this new book at the Holiday Villa Seafood Restaurant on June 13.

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Chinatown: 'The book will generate a considerable amount of conversation'

Continued from page 8

Chinatown of Sacramento, which was known to its residents as Yee Fow ("Second City" to the "Big City" of San Francisco, which was referred to as Daifow) was founded during the Gold Rush era along I Street from 2nd to 6th Street, and was a sort of city within the city, in which local Chinese could survive without speaking English.

As its own small community, Sacramento's Chinatown, whose original residents were almost entirely immigrants from the province of Guangdong, also had a wide variety of businesses, including general stores, restaurants, hotels and laundries.

After more than a century of existence, Sacramento's Chinatown was largely demolished during the 1960s, due to development in the area.

Lawrence said that the six-month process to gather information for the book was a very educational experience.

"During that six months, I probably learned more about the Chinese in Sacramento than I did in over the 50 years that I've been here (in Sacramento)," said Lawrence, who was raised in Marysville. "I really learned a lot based on interviews and just gathering pictures and asking people about the history and all."

Lawrence said that the work to create "Sacramento's Chinatown" was a time sensitive endeavor that reached beyond the publisher's deadline, considering that the information for the book was gathered from the older generation of Sacramento, including people who were more than 90 years old.

"The younger generation doesn't have that information," Lawrence said. "The average age (interviewed for the book) I think is like the high 70s or low 80s and this is a group of people who are mostly second generation (Sacramentans) whose parents are the true Chinese pioneers of Sacramento. And the concern I have is once this generation is gone, much of that history will be lost."

And it was with this strive to capture Sacramento's fading Chinese history that Lawrence and Brian dedicated much of their time to creating their book, "Sacramento's Chinatown."

Writing the story

Lawrence said that part of the challenge of creating this book was the fact that a lot of the rare photographs of Sacramento's Chinatown were no longer in existence when he was collecting images for the book.

"First of all, the Chinese (of Sacramento) back in those early days, it was tough for them," Lawrence said. "They were just trying to make enough to survive. A lot of them just didn't have cameras and they worked in canneries, they worked in hotels as busboys or whatever. And what happened was, once they could afford a camera, they took pictures and all that, but the younger generation isn't interested right now. So, when they get older, they don't know what to do (with the photographs), so they just throw them away. And boy, that was frustrating, because I had people tell me, 'We just threw those pictures away.'"

Nonetheless, despite the disappointments of hearing about historic photographs that headed to the landfills, Lawrence and Brian also had many success stories, which resulted in their ability to amass a very large archive of Sacramento Chinatown photographs, including more than 200 images, which appear in their new book.

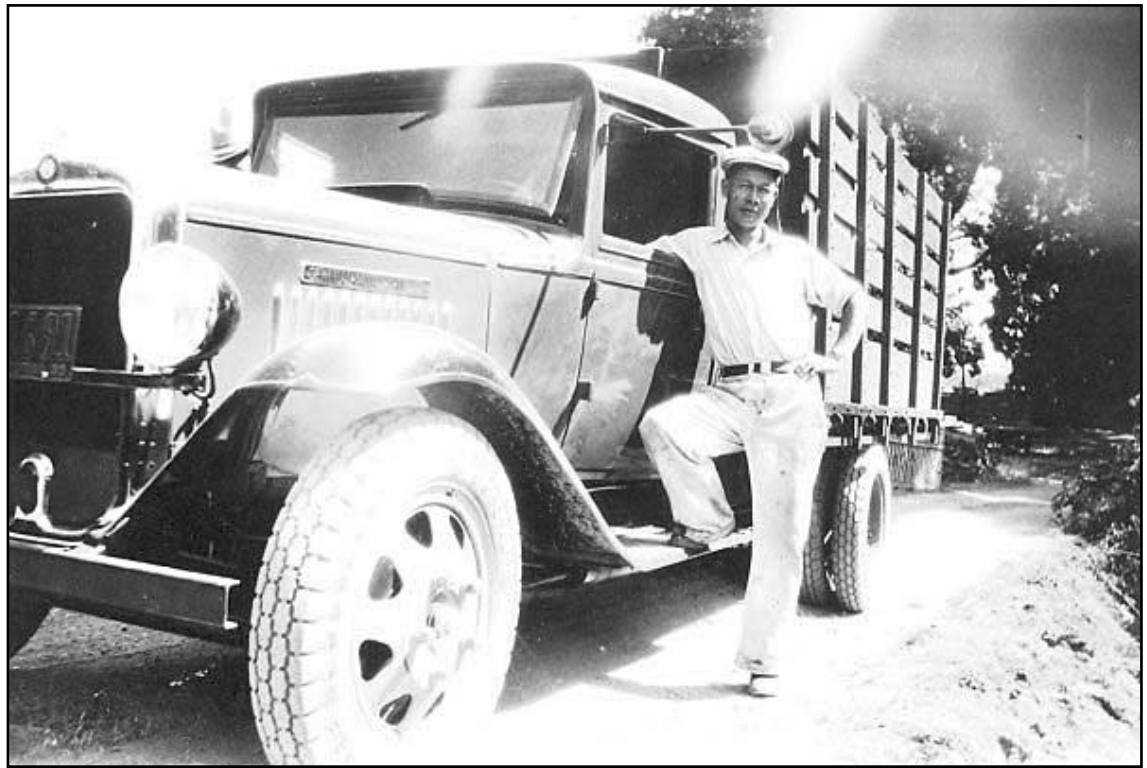


Photo courtesy of Lawrence Tom

Chinese immigrant Yue Lim, shown in this late 1930s photograph, worked as a farmer in the Pocket area.

In presenting information regarding their latest book, which is dedicated to "the Chinese of Sacramento who for over 150 years have turned adversities into opportunities," Lawrence and Tom will discuss the beginnings of Chinese immigration into Sacramento and the creation and daily activities of Sacramento's Chinatown.

And with a desire to share this rich element of Sacra-

mento's history with many people in the community, Lawrence and Brian hope that many readers of this article will set aside time in their schedules to attend this upcoming event.

The June 13 book signing

Guests of this event will also have the opportunity to purchase signed copies of "Sacramento's Chinatown," which Lawrence describes as a "must

have book that will generate a considerable amount of conversation with friends and family for years to come."

Advance reservations are required for this event, which has an admission price of \$20/general and \$15/Sacramento Chinese Culture Foundation members.

For reservation and other information, contact Helen Yee at 392-1001.

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Editor's note

Play ball, Sacramento

By RYAN ROSE
Land Park News Editor
ryanrose@valcomnews.com

As it is with so many others, my love of baseball began in my youth. Outside my boyhood home in Manteca, the neighborhood kids, my brother Kevin and I would gather in the middle of the street, mark some of the manhole covers as bases, and play the game. We'd wear white T-shirts on which we had written our favorite player's number. On my back, I had the number "22," with the name "Clark" printed across my shoulders. I was a longtime San Francisco Giants fan and Will Clark, the team's first baseman during the mid to late 80s, was my hero and my brother's idol.

I spent many a summer's day playing baseball with my friends — we would start right after breakfast and play until it was too dark to see the ball. We'd pick teams, argue about who played what position, and waste away the day hitting balls into the neighbors' yards. (Phyllis Higgins never knew that her front yard was our homerun marker, but I am sure she grew tired of us boys rifling through her rose bushes looking for lost balls.) My friends and I would often end our games stretched out on my front lawn, drinking cherry soda and talking about our favorite players, possible trades and the hope that one of our teams would go on to the World Series.

Of course, in those days, we would constantly beg our parents for an opportunity to see a real ballgame at a real ballpark. Truly, it was a great gift when we'd go to see a game in San Francisco or Oakland. And more than two decades later, it still is.

Thanks to the generosity of a good friend, I had a prime seat at a recent Sacramento River Cats game. Prior to the beginning of the game, I thought about how lucky Sacramento is to have the River Cats, as Minor League ball seems to be the last bastion of pure sportsmanship in professional baseball — if not professional sports entirely. There, at Raley Field, it isn't about steroids, but strikeouts; there are no arguments about instant replays; there, standing in the batter's box and on the pitcher's mound, are just young athletes working hard so that they may one day make it to a Major League field. In my mind, they're already there.

Kennedy students offer suggestions to close achievement gap

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

Across the nation, school officials are looking at ways to break down barriers in order to achieve a dramatic turnaround of the lowest performing schools. The goal is to fix problems of low API scores and chronic underperformance. Sacramento City Unified School District is no exception.

The way 18-year-old Nicole Delacruz sees it, how well a student does in school relies on more than homework assignments and producing the best grades, it also depends on how much adults take student input into consideration.

"We work and play at the school five days a week, we know the ins and outs of this school and feel that our input about what can make this school even better is important," said the recent Kennedy High School graduate.

Some of Nicole's classmates in her government class agree that individual effort trumps cultural barriers to achievement. But still, there's a well-documented national gap between test scores of white and minority students, as well as between high-income and low-income students. It's known as the "achievement gap," and Sacramento City Unified School District Superintendent Jonathan Raymond has pledged to address the problem. That vow was part of Raymond's promise to the school district that within his first 100 days in office his mission was to learn about the achievement gap, and come up with ideas to help close it.

"Closing the achievement gap is a top priority in our school district and in districts across the nation," explained Raymond. "We cannot, as a society, continue to allow some students to be trapped in a cycle of failure. Just as the achievement gap is a multi-faceted problem, the solutions must also be multi-faceted. To that end — solving the achievement gap — I welcome all input, especially ideas from students."

With that commitment, students from Peggy Alexander's government classes came up with a list of problems and possible solutions regarding the achievement gap for him to review. They invited the superintendent to a brown-bag luncheon at the Kennedy High campus to present their findings and layout their concerns.

"Having him there was amazing," said Delacruz. "His recognition to all of us made me feel supported. Now we know that when we speak someone would actually listen to us, even if nothing happens immediately, our thoughts, feelings, and actions, are out there."

"He seemed more attentive to what the students had to say compared to the other superintendents in the past," added Shawanna Richards, 17. "Teachers and principals don't necessarily know what some kids have to go through. But listening to us and stepping into our shoes and knowing what we have to go through is really important. And he acknowledged that."

Presenting their ideas

The superintendent was so impressed with the student's thoughtful presentation, he invited all 35 students to speak at the next board meeting scheduled on April 22. To make sure they would come, Raymond sent a bus to pick up the students from the high school.

"It's the first time in all these years that someone was sincere and wanted to hear what not only the students had to say, but teachers and the employees in the district," said Kennedy High School teacher Peggy Alexander. "That is why I invited him to our school and talk to my government students."

"Students must be able to critically think, solve problems, work as a team and communicate. Teacher Peggy Alexander's project with her Kennedy students challenged those teens to develop all of those skills as they researched the achievement gap, brainstormed possible solutions and presented their findings," said Raymond. "That kind of great teaching deserves attention."

In front of the school board panel, and the parents, teachers, business leaders in the audience, not to mention the countless viewers watching the live telecast, students spoke about the need for more clubs for students from different ethnic groups. They also said their school needs to offer more advanced placement classes in a wider variety of subjects. AP classes allow high school students to take end-of-course tests that can grant them college credit.

Richards spoke about the need to keep sports programs.

"I play softball and it motivates me to do my best. In order to stay on the team I have to make sure I kept my grades up, so I work hard every year to do that," she said.

"Arts and crafts, and graphic design changed my life," said Delacruz, lobbying for the district not to cut the arts program. "I never knew I could be so passionate about design and now I am going to The Art Institute of California to study graphic design."

"Everything we do as a district is about serving students — providing them with a well-rounded, rigorous education that prepares them for the world beyond our doors," said Raymond. "They must be prepared for a rapidly changing global society, and that means we must do much more than simply give them the ability to answer multiple-choice questions on a test."

Students also talked about the need to help struggling students by suggesting that teachers meet privately, one-on-one with them. The SCUSD advisory committee is also reviewing ideas that were gathered from a survey that was sent out in February to students, teachers, parents, and business leaders in the district. The information gathered also specified the need to include recruiting and retaining a diverse work force, helping teachers develop competency in different cultures and creating curriculum that reflects the heritage of a variety of ethnic groups.

"Every decision we make is based on improving teaching and learning, teachers and students must be included in our work," said Raymond. "I will continue to walk hallways, sit in on classes and solicit input from students and teachers to strengthen our unity as an organization."

Currently, the committee is looking at ways to improve science and mathematics teaching and learning in order to close the achievement gap in performances between student groups. In this first year of the district's three-year endeavor, they have partnered with organizations committed to supporting teachers in investigating causes of the achievement gap in their schools and classrooms through Teacher Action Research Projects.



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Local man on the national stage

Obama administration picks local farmer to serve on state committee

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

Ronald Kelley, 62, owner of R. Kelley Farms located off of Scribner Road, has been chosen by the Obama administration to be the chairperson of the USDA's Farm Service Agency State Committee in California.

"I am honored by the nomination," said Kelley. "Our committee will hear appeals that have been pushed up the system from the county level and we will have a hand in determining on how the farm policies from Washington will be administered in California. We will be advocates for the farmers and ranchers here in California."

This position is another first for the state as well. Kelley is the first African-American farmer to fill the position in California.

"Being an African-American is something I happen to be on the road of fulfilling my dreams," said Kelley. "I like the fact that our committee is a well diverse group, especially since we live in California and that is what our state is built on."

"Ron will be an outstanding FSA State Committee chairman and I look forward to working with him on behalf of California's farmers and ranchers," said Val Dolcini, state executive director with the USDA Farm Service Agency. "In addition to his farming experience in the Delta, Ron has years of 'hands on' business experience working with farmers and ranchers around the state, and as the first African-American state committee chairman from California, he's blazing a trail for others to follow."

Farming in the family

For Ronald Kelley, farming is a family trait. He is a fourth generation farmer.

"My great-grandfather and grandfather were share croppers in Oklahoma. Then my dad worked for local farmers and hauled a lot of the farm commodities and produce all around California," he said.

In high school, Kelley served as president for Future Farmers of America. In college, he switched his major from accounting to agriculture. That was more than 40 years ago and he hasn't stopped since.

Kelley calls himself a small produce farmer who has worked on a 50-acre "u-pick" operation in the Sacramento Delta since 1994. He's quick to call himself a "river rat." R. Kelley Farms is a family-owned farm that provides seasonal fresh vegetables and fruits to Sacramentans. Raised in the Delta, Kelley established his u-pick operation with the intention of getting more people on the farm to enjoy the satisfaction of picking fresh and healthy produce themselves. Along with maintaining the farm, Kelley also acts as the Seed Division Manager for The Lyman Group, Inc., where he focuses on wholesale seed clients.

But his biggest passion is working on the farm and mentoring others about agriculture. Every summer Kelley brings new farmers to work on his farm.

"I teach them the discipline about farming, because with farming, things that need to get done need to get done that day," said Kelley. "For many of these young farmers it might be their first exposure of handling fruits and vegetables straight



Photo courtesy
Local resident Ronald Kelley, 62, owner of R. Kelley Farms located off of Scribner Road, is the new chairperson of the USDA's Farm Service Agency State Committee in California.

from the plant, not just in the grocery store."

The USDA's Farm Service Agency's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural Americans. It provides leadership on food, agriculture and natural resources. They are also working to support the development of renewable energy, to conserve, maintain and improve the country's natural resources and environment, and promote a sustainable, safe, sufficient and nutritious food supply.

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Baby boomer? Moi?

By **DARBY PATTERSON**
Land Park News Columnist
darby@valcomnews.com

I'd planned to write an advocacy column in this issue of your excellent neighborhood newspaper. Something about our responsibility as Baby Boomers to demand respect; to refuse to be treated as diminished adults who silently accept being talked-down-to, and urging us to become actively defiant of stereotypes about aging. I became determined to cover this topic after a chipper waitress in a tiny San Francisco restaurant referred to me with the "D" word (that would be "dear"). I talked myself down with the help of my rational husband who (rationally) dislikes "scenes."

Then, in preparation for my tutorial on respect for one's elders, I discovered some disturbing information. Not only does American society stereotype people who appear older than 50, the elders among us share the damaging (and inaccurate) impression that growing older is synonymous with disturbing negatives. The problem, it seems, is endemic in our Baby Boomer population as well as in those who are our seniors. If we are to (eventually) change society's perception of aging, we must begin within.

A study from a Yale University psychologist tracked a group of more than 400 adults over a span of 35 years. Their health stats, habits and blood tests were included in the analysis along with their individual attitudes about aging. Those people who had negative ideas about what it means to become older had more illnesses and heart problems than participants who held no such beliefs. There was a measurable difference in both quality of life and quantity (longevity) in participants who had no preconceptions about aging.

So, what are some of the stereotypes that accompany aging? That we are less than competent, in need of protection, lacking in the ability to think quickly and creatively, probably don't hear well and are on a steadily declining ramp to dementia and death.

Fallacious thinking such as this pervades our society and extends to many aspects of aging. Those of us over 55 are as varied and capable as is the general population. Some of us are talented, brilliant, interesting, creative, engaging and innovative. Some of us are unmotivated, lazy, disengaged, disagreeable and (as one reader called me personally) – "crabby old ladies." We are emblematic of humanity, part of the colorful tapestry.

Baby Boomers have an opportunity, indeed a responsibility, to contribute to a new awareness about the aging process. A recent study, for example, shows that as people age, they become happier and more satisfied. More than 340,000 individuals were surveyed and the results, published in May, overwhelmingly indicates that people feel less stress, worry and anger as they grow older. At the same time feelings of happiness and enjoyment increase significantly after the age of 50.

Baby Boomers promise to be active and involved in life. We intend to take charge of our lives through education, managing our health and being engaged in business, the arts and society. It's up to us to erase the current cultural stereotype of aging, and that begins with examining and reassessing our own beliefs.

Thus, I believe that the next time a server calls me a condescending term of endearment I will not yield to polite silence. I will share my matured wisdom with a few words of kind advice about how to prevent his or her tip from declining.

Darby Patterson is a member of the Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission and the author of "Meow.org, The Cat-Napping Caper." Visit Darby at www.storiesandbooks.com.



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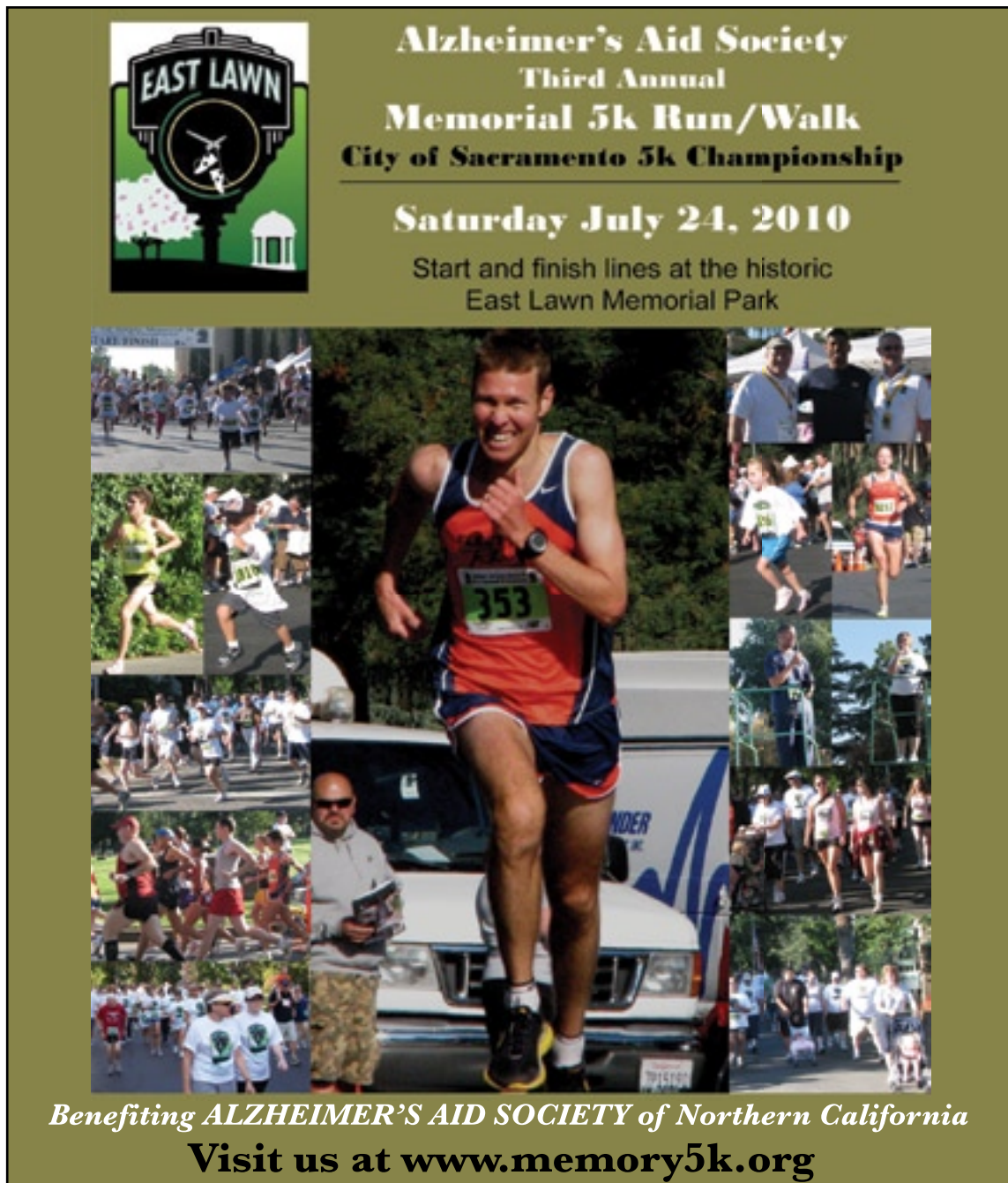
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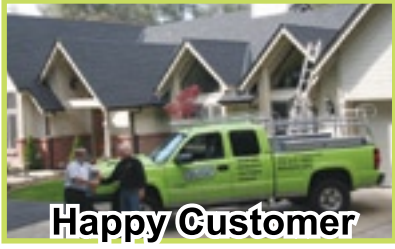
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SCNA'S 'Green-Themed' Music in the Park is June 27

Special to The Land Park News

On Sunday, June 27, Curtis Park will be filled with the sounds of frolicking children, laughing adults and fantastic music, as the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association opens its annual Music in the Park. This free concert runs from 6 to 9 p.m. and is part of the 2010 season of events of one of the busiest neighborhood associations in the state of California.

The event is the first in a series of three summertime concerts that provide Sacramento residents with a fun, relaxing evening of community and entertainment. This year's season opener of Music in the Park will "go green," as economically conscious sponsors partner with Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association to help make the event possible.

Music in the Park leads off with entertainment by legendary children's composer and performer, Ken Cooper. The

creator of Songs That Teach, an original curriculum-based music program, "Mister Cooper" has been using music to teach life lessons and enhance learning for the past fourteen years. His musical talent and rapport with children have made him indispensable to schools and parents throughout Sacramento. Cooper's music, as Christie Hamm of Belle Coolidge Library says, establishes "a connection with children long after the songs are over."

During intermission, children will have the opportunity to compete in a hula-hoop contest and visit kid-friendly displays, like the one that features Red Wigglers and Trout Worms, two mainstays of Sacramento's Worm Fancy.

The main event

After intermission is evening headliner Blvd Park. Founded two years ago in the Midtown Sacramento neighborhood that has become its designation, Blvd Park offers a unique blend of swing, gospel, R&B, folk, and rock. The band is the brainchild of Sacramentan Brian Ballentine, and its up-tempo swing and lush ballads are performed on guitar, trumpet, double bass, violin, and sometimes banjo and snare drum. After strong critical reception of

Bell Tower Mansion, its first album, the band is set to record its second, which is being produced by the Walkabouts' Carla Torgerson. As the Monterey County Weekly said, "The bluesy sound of the Sacramento-based swingers Blvd Park is aged well beyond the years of any of its eight members."

The band has been delighting audiences throughout Northern California with a blend of hip swing and lyric soul that has proven impossible to sit still for. As one of its members said, "We are in love with the art form of creating and performing music."

Blvd Park will share their love with all who attend the kick-off to this year's Music in the Park.

Event sponsors

A number of sponsors have joined SCNA to help make this event possible, including many who are community leaders in eco-friendly consciousness. Since 1946, SMUD has empowered its customers with solutions that increase energy efficiency, protect the environment, and reduce global warming. Premier natural food products company Kashi's sponsorship reflects its mission to inspire healthy change in communities across

the nation. Voted "Best in Sacramento" twice by Sacramento News & Review, It's All Yoga provides students with inspiration and resources to promote well-being. Sham Sanghera is a personal trainer and nutritionist whose Inspired Wellness Boot Camp changes lives by enabling clients to achieve goals and maintain healthy lifestyles. Farm Fresh to You has been growing mouth-watering organic produce and delivering it to customers since 1976. Go Solar provides solar electric and domestic water systems, and Miss Helen has devoted twenty-five years to nurturing children and providing developmental activities in the areas of music, crafts, and movement. The Law Office of R. Andrew Murray prides itself in its personal attention to clients in matters of real estate, business formation, estate planning, and bankruptcy, and Worm Fancy is a vermiculture business whose passion is the redirection of food wastes out of our landfills.

Returning as Music in the Park's main sponsors are Meg, Michael and Melissa Heede of RE/MAX Gold, the number one independently-owned brokerage firm in California. Final sponsor for this year's first installment of Music in the Park is City Councilmember Lauren Hammond, who is donating the stage to SCNA that is the main setting for the event.

About SCNA

The Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association formed in the 1970s to rescue the old Sierra School from demolition. Since then, SCNA has brought neighbors together for a diverse slate of year-round events, and has offered a cohesive voice for community concerns. The restored Sierra 2 Center serves as a focal point for artists, teachers, students, parents, children, seniors and more, all who rely upon its dance studios, gardens, performance spaces, meeting halls and classrooms to provide a secure and charming home. Curtis Park is a residential neighborhood of approximately 2500 homes, a patchwork of diverse architectural styles situated around a quaint 18.32-acre park.



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 Psalm 95:1



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Sac Zoo's 'King of Feasts' food and wine luau on June 26

Special to The Land Park News

On Saturday, June 26, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., the Sacramento Zoological Society hosts King of Feasts, a food and wine luau. Taste premium local wines, beers and an array of spirits as Sacramento's dining scene converges on the beautiful grounds of the Sacramento Zoo.

Break out your luau attire and have a unique evening of international aloha-flavor for adults, hosted by the ladies of Good Day Sacramento. Rick Kushman of the Sacramento Bee will share his food and wine knowledge.

It wouldn't be a complete luau without live Ukulele players, Polynesian dancers and a Classic Tiki Cocktail Mixology Competition put on by the local Bartenders Guild and coordinators of Midtown Cocktail Week. Guests may also indulge in one-of-a-kind items at three separate silent auctions.

Some of the restaurants providing delicious samples include: Asante Catering, The Berry Factory a Shari Fitzpatrick Company, California Pizza Kitchen, Chops, Cupcake Craving, Dad's Kitchen, Elephant Bar, 4th Street Grille, Giovanni's Pizza, Grateful Bread, Hornblower Cruises, Jealousy Catering, Just 4 U Catering, Kru Restaurant, L&L Hawaiian BBQ, The Melting Pot, Mochii Yogurt, Mulvaney's B&L / Culinary Specialists

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Breweries, wineries and beverages include: Bacardi, Barefoot Wine & Bubbly, Bogle Winery, Carvalho Family Winery, Hoppy Brewing Company, Lost Coast Brewery, Markstein Beverage Company, Michael-David Winery, Oakstone Winery, Perry Creek Winery, Radee Wine, Railbridge Cellars, Renwood Winery, River City Brewing Company, Rominger West Winery, SanTasti, Inc, Scribner Bend Vineyards, Terra d'Oro Winery and Twisted Rivers Wines.

Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$45 for Zoo members, \$50 for non-members or \$60 at the door. Adults only, please. Visit www.saczoo.com, or call (916) 808-5888 to purchase tickets. Proceeds from this event benefit Zoo improvements, education programs and wildlife conservation.

Spend the night at the zoo

Explore the Zoo in a whole new light – moonlight. Discover which animals take over the night shift, and see what happens when the Zoo comes alive at night. Experience this new side of the Zoo with your family without the rush of the daytime crowds. Meet some of the animals

up close and personal. Then, as night falls, camp out under the stars just yards away from slumbering red pandas and dozing flamingos. Sign up for this once in a lifetime extraordinary family experience at www.saczoo.com or call (916) 808-8814.

The overnight program begins with a buffet spaghetti

ti dinner, followed by an evening of fun including special animal enrichment feedings, zoo games, storytelling and camp songs. Wake up to the calls of the flamingos, the roar of a lion, singing birds, chattering monkeys and a tasty pancake breakfast. Make this a memorable experience for everyone in the family.

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New organization will build on Park Work Days in Land Park

Special to The Land Park News

The Land Park Community Association has approved a plan to spin off the incredibly successful Volunteer Corps as a separate non-profit entity. The new organization, the Land Park Volunteer Corps,

will continue to build its volunteer park workforce and work for the betterment of William Land Park.

Earlier this year, LPCA director and parks committee chair Craig Powell developed the idea to create a volunteer movement to help care for the



Land Park News File Photo/Lance Armstrong

Earlier this year, LPCA director and parks committee chair Craig Powell developed the idea to create a volunteer movement to help care for the park in response to city budget cuts.

park in response to the city of Sacramento's slashing of the park maintenance workforce, dubbing the effort the "Land Park Volunteer Corps." The Corps' first Park Work Day in the Park was held Saturday, May 1 and drew nearly 100 volunteers and nearly \$8,000 in donations – exceeding all expectations.

The response from the community was overwhelming. In

fact, organizers had to scramble and purchase more tools that morning to accommodate the tremendous number of volunteers eager to dirty their hands cleaning up the crown jewel of Sacramento's park system – William Land Park.

"We had a pretty good idea from feedback we'd received that the neighborhood was pretty concerned about

the deterioration of the park but, honestly, we had no idea the response would be this strong," said Powell.

Under the arrangement, Powell, who stepped down recently from his post on the LPCA board, will lead the Land Park Volunteer Corps. For details or to volunteer, contact Powell at ckpins-act@aol.com or by phone at (916) 718-3030.

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Effie Yeaw: 'People want to help us out'

Continued from page 5

er they be special districts, conservancies or joint powers authorities. The goal is to find the model that best fits our region and offers the most likely opportunity for success.

"In the end it may be that voters will be asked whether or not they would support a special tax or assessment to protect and maintain regional parks, open space and trails in the region."

Funding and fees

Baker said park officials recognize that there are many challenges around the idea of transitioning the nature center from county control to ARNHA, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization founded in 1981 when the nature center was threatened with closure. But she said the change could provide the potential for sustaining and growing the Nature Center's programs over time by allowing increased flexibility and cost savings.

"I believe that there could be a successful model for the Effie Yeaw Nature Center similar to what happened with the city of Sacramento and Fairytale Town and the Sacramento Zoo back in the 1980s," Baker said. "Both of these organizations successfully transitioned to be almost fully operated by their non-profits."

"The transition will take time and could include annual benchmarks such as leasing the facilities and fund raising goals. There may be some opportunity for limited county support for facility maintenance or Center programs during the transition."

It was widely agreed by ARNHA and Nature Center officials that such a huge expansion of ARNHA's role would not be possible without a major financial commitment from the Sacramento County during a transition period.

This conclusion is illustrated by recent financial figures for the nature center and ARNHA.

According to EYNC Director Marilee Flannery, EYNC expenditures in 2008-09, the last year EYNC was fully funded and able to do all of its programs, were \$980,000 (staffing, \$700,000; utilities, materials, and supplies, \$100,000; county overhead, \$180,000). During that year, the nature center



Land Park News Photo/Lance Armstrong

No county funding is assured beyond June 30 for the 33-year-old, award-winning Effie Yeaw Nature Center. However, the American River Natural History Association is hoping Sacramento County Supervisors can be persuaded to find the resources to allow the county to continue operating the nature center and remove the threat of closure.

served about 100,000 children, teens and adults with 944 programs, both on-site and in the community at schools, libraries, other parks and other community sites. Of these programs, 103 were free to the public. Entrance into EYNC has also been free for the 33 years it has operated. Free admission was judged to be governed by the American River Parkway Plan.)

Total EYNC revenue in 2008-09 was \$287,000 (program revenue, \$140,000; grants, sponsorships, agency support, \$100,000; donations, \$47,000, including \$40,000 from ARNHA.)

Flannery continued, "If the EYNC is to operate as a non-profit and wants to pay the same wages as staff have earned previously (not likely) and have the same programs, then it would take \$513,000 to operate the EYNC (cost of EYNC without county overhead).

In stark contrast, ARNHA has budgeted \$134,500 in total unrestricted income in 2009-10, while allocating \$59,500 to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center.

Making the transition

To point to Fairytale Town's transition from city of Sacramento operation to nonprofit status as a model for Effie Yeaw as the Parks Department suggests would present challenges and opportunities. For instance, the William Land Park children's play park is fenced in and takes in about \$600,000 annually in admissions; it is considered unfeasible to charge admission to the unfenced nature center and its 77-acre preserve.

At the same time, this disadvantage could be partially offset if the county granted Effie Yeaw a share of the \$5-per-car parking fees collected in Ancil Hoffman Park.

Fairytale Town's \$1.2 million annual budget also includes \$270,000 from the sale of food, a source of revenue not now available to EYNC. But food service would be possible within Health Department restrictions, Marilee Flannery said.

Nonprofit organizations that seek grants are said to enjoy a more sympathetic response from foundations and business firms than do government-supported groups. However, there can be a downside when donors restrict awards to specific projects and not ongoing operations such as staff salaries.

"As scary as it is to transition from a city department to a non-profit, it has been good for Fairytale Town," says Kathy Fleming, executive director of Fairytale Town. "We can fundraise without any hindrances. And when we go out to bid on a contract, because we're a non-profit, people want to help us out."

Story originally appeared in the ARNHA newsletter, "The Acorn." For information on receiving "The Acorn," visit www.arnha.org.



Helping hands

Plenty of pancakes

Late last month members of Pocket's Elks Lodge No. 6 gathered over the May 21-22 weekend to make close to 2,000 pancakes for a special breakfast supporting the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the premier wish-granting organization for children. The pancakes were delivered to the State Capitol Building where legislators and community members celebrated and contributed to the efforts of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Pictures by Land Park News photographer Linda Pohl.

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Community celebration held for new Sacred Heart School

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

As construction workers continue to make progress toward the completion of the new Sacred Heart School, which is scheduled to open on the first day of school on August 23, a special public event occurred in celebration of the new school, which is located on 2.3 acres at 856 39th St.

On Saturday, June 5, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., the local community attended a "first-look tour" of the kindergarten through 8th grade, private Catholic elementary school campus, which is located directly across the street from the old Sacred Heart School.

Following this event, a special celebration Mass was held at 5:30 p.m. in the historic Sacred Heart Church at 1040 39th St. and a blessing of the new campus occurred at about 6:45 p.m.

Bishop Francis Quinn, who was present at the school's golden jubilee, presided at the Mass and conducted the blessing.

A dinner for families and alumni of the parish was held at the old school, following the blessing of the new campus.

The dinner, which began at about 7 p.m., carried special historical significance, since it marked the final parish event held at the old campus at 3933 I St.

State-of-the-art

The old Sacred Heart School, which opened in 1945, has been the site of many memories for many people throughout the community.

But the aged structures on the campus were retired with the final day of school on Friday, June 4 and their subsequent demolition this summer. A park and housing will replace the old school.

Theresa Sparks, principal of Sacred Heart School, said that there are a variety of reasons why she is looking forward to the new school.

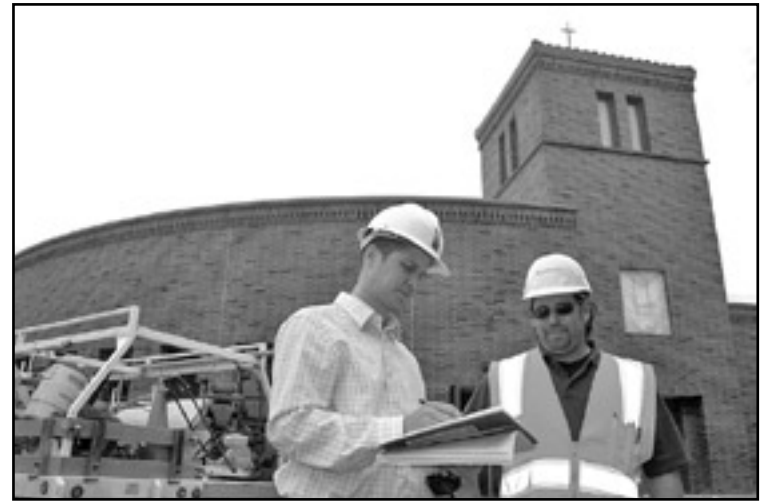
"There are a lot of things I'm looking forward to, like not having all the repairs," Sparks said. "That's a big part of it. And this (old) school is such a maze that it's hard to supervise it. My new office will have a view of the yard, so I'll be able to look right out at everything. Also, being able to have easy access to the classrooms is a really big part for me. There's also a little more

privacy with the new campus, so I think the safety of the school is going to make a really big difference. I've been telling people that I'm overwhelmed (with the new campus) and really, I am."

The new school consists of the following three structures: 1) a two-story classroom building with a library, computer room with 35 stations and a science lab; 2) a multipurpose facility that houses a cafeteria designed to accommodate about 100 students per lunch period, a stage and a "high school-scale" gym with a basketball court and bleachers; and 3) an annex with a meeting room, kitchen and movie screen and projector.

Although the new campus, which is equivalent in size to the old campus, was not fully completed by the time of the June 5 festivities, it will nonetheless present the community with a fairly thorough representation of how the school will appear in its completed state.

Jeanne Winnick Brennan, a spokesperson for Sacred Heart School, emphasized that those who visit the new campus as work is finalized should expect to see school



Land Park News Photo/Lance Armstrong
Brian Whitmore, the project's architect with Williams + Paddon and Dan Thuleen, senior project engineer with Roebbelen Construction, study details about the project on the grounds of the new Sacred Heart School.

grounds with an unfinished and even somewhat dusty appearance.

"(The new school) is looking very good, but it will still look like a construction site," Brennan said.

But of course, the school's appearance will allow the public to view a segment of the final stages of a dream being fulfilled.

Behind this dream was Monsignor Robert P. Walton, who worked with his project team and Roebbelen Construction Management Services to create design principles and state-of-the-art

systems technology for the new campus.

Complimentary construction

The new school features a wide variety of interior and exterior details, including its architectural appearance, which has similarities to Sacred Heart Church.

In linking the church with the new school, the school's facilities were partially built with twice-fired, dark "clinker" bricks like those used in segments of the church. The color of the remaining

See Sacred Heart, page 23

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Sacred Heart: 'The school is going to get a vastly improved facility'

Continued from page 22

bricks used at the new school is known as Monterey Bay Flash.

Additionally, part of the school includes a rounded wall of bricks, which is another element that was used in the construction of the church.

With the exception of any bells, the church's Romanesque tower was also replicated at the school.

And to link the old school with the new school, the cross from the old campus is now located atop the new tower.

An image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, similar to the image that is located at the old school, will be placed below the new tower.

Gladding, McBean in Lincoln is creating the image, since it was determined that the old image, which was also created by Gladding, McBean, would likely not survive removal from the old school without breakage.

If by chance the old image can be removed in one piece, it would likely be placed among the landscaping of the school, which will also in-

clude a grassy area about half the size of a soccer field.

Furthermore, the "Sacred Heart School" lettering that was recently removed from the front of the old school has been relocated to an area within the new school.

New school, same mission

One of the unique aspects of the campus will be a large, tire with spokes-shaped design that will be included in a circular, concrete area at the front of the school.

Inside the spokes at the outer rim will be the words, loving, courageous, faithful, compassionate, respectful, honest, forgiving and joyous.

These words were selected by this year's 8th grade graduating class as words that are considered to represent characteristics of Sacred Heart students.

Among the amenities of the classrooms are new technology SMART Boards, a wall for posters and instruction materials, computer network access, energy-saving skylights with motorized blinds to maximize or mini-



Theresa Sparks, principal of Sacred Heart School, gathers together with some Sacred Heart schoolchildren during the final two weeks of the last school year on the old school's campus.

mize lighting (2nd floor only), sinks with drinking fountains and cubbies for the students' books and clothing.

Dan Thuleen, senior project engineer with Roebelen Construction, described the new school as an extreme upgrade from the old school.

"It's been a great project and the school is going to get a vastly improved facility," Thuleen said. "It's modern, but they tried to give it a feel of being older with kind of a classical feel. They've given it kind of a campus layout with classrooms ev-

erywhere, a lot of design with a play area and pedestrian flow, so they've done a wonderful job. They're really going from an outdated, antiquated facility to a modern, brand new facility with all the bells and whistles."

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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. 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.

JUNE

Pops in the Park 2010

Pops in the Park returns to East Sacramento for the 2010 season: Saturday, June 12 - Glenn Hall Park "Because," a tribute to the Beatles and Second Saturday Showing by Sofia Lacin & Hennessy Christophel; Saturday, June 19 - Bertha Henschel Park "SwingMasters," ESIA Sidney Pope & Onion Awards, Wading Pool Open - Free Admission; Saturday, June 26 - McKinley Park, "The Q-Balls" playing. All concerts begin at 6 p.m.

Widowed Persons Association

Widowed Persons Association of CA (WPAC) Chapter 1 is a non-profit organization that addresses the needs of widowed persons (both men and women) coping with the death of their spouse. This is a peer support session of two hours from 3:00-5:00 p.m. every Sunday, conducted by a trained facilitator. These sessions are held at the office located at 2628 El Camino Avenue Suite D-18. For more information about these sessions and the organization, contact the WPAC office at (916)972-9722.

Free Dance Lessons

Free tap dance lessons on Fridays at noon at the Dance Corner, 2927 Fulton Ave. For more information, call 804-3104.

Tahoe Park Soccer Registration

Tahoe Park Soccer Registration begins in June. Registration days are June 12 and July 10. Visit their Web site for additional registration details: www.tpssoccerclub.com.

JUNE 10

Computer club meeting

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, June 10, 2010 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. The meeting topic will be "Securing Your Computer", presented by Computer Security Analyst Davin Enigl. 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.

JUNE 11

Belle Cooleedge Ice Cream Social

Bring the whole family to Belle Cooleedge Library's 12th annual Barbara Jeanne Hansen Ice Cream Social from six until eight p.m. on Friday, June 11 at the park adjacent to the library. Come 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 us for this summer evening of family fun. In addition to free ice cream, Trevor Wyatt the Magician will perform magic tricks and DJ Harrison from Let's Celebrate will provide music. There will be face painting and balloon twisting by Clown Blanca Rose and her assistant and, depending upon fire calls that evening, a big red fire engine and friendly firemen and women 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.

JUNE 12

Sacramento VisionWalk

Sacramento VisionWalk being held on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at Southside Park to benefit the Foundation Fighting Blindness. VisionWalk is the national signature fundraising program of the Foundation Fighting Blindness. Anyone interested in participating in the Sacramento VisionWalk should visit www.VisionWalk.org or call Heather Spearmit, Events Manager, at 408-202-3801.

Fe Gallery Reception

Fe Gallery Artist Reception June 12, 2010 between 6-9pm - Art demo @ 7:30pm. June's guest artists are Stephen Ward and Sandy Whetstone, as many of you know Stephen Ward won Best 2 Dimensional in Art for MS show, a diverse artist, yet in each distinct collection of works you know this is a Stephen Ward. Sandy's ceramic sculptures offer interesting textures and unique designs. Early Premier Thursday is on June 10, 2010 between 6-8 p.m. Please join us at Fe Gallery, 1100 65th Street, Sacramento, CA 95819 please visit www.fegallery.com more information about the gallery, artists, and daily hours or call, (916) 456-4455. The current show will run June 30, 2010.

JUNE 13

Pipe Organ Encounter

Special event is Sunday, June 13, 2010, 3 to 5 p.m., a Pipe Organ Encounter for all ages, especially kids. Scholarship students will play, organists will demonstrate and organ builder will lead tours of the pipe organ at All Saints Episcopal Church, 2076 Sutterville Rd. Sponsored by American Guild of Organists. Information at (916) 422-5168.

JUNE 15

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.

JUNE 16

Genealogical Association of Sacramento

The Genealogical Association of Sacramento will hold their regular meeting the third Wed of June 16 at 1 p.m. in the Colonial Heights Library at 21st Avenue and Stockton Boulevard. The June speaker is Patricia Johnson, senior archivist of the Center for Sacramento History. Questions? Call Melanie Howard at (916) 383-1221.

JUNE 17

Mission Oaks Genealogy

On June 17, 2010, the Mission Oaks Genealogy Club will meet from 1-3 p.m. at Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. The program speaker will be Lynn Brown, local genealogist, discussing "safe surfing through social networking." Visitors are welcome. Cost: Free. For more info call Robert Noyes (916) 332-5753 or visit Web site at: <http://missionoaksgenealogyclub.org>.

JUNE 19

Spring Tree Tours

Join the Sacramento Tree Foundation for a walk under Sacramento's tree canopy. Meet Saturday, June 19, CSUS Arboretum, meet at the Northeast pathway to the arboretum from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Learn about identifying trees by leaf, bark and growth habits and get an idea of the great varieties of trees over our heads. Insect and disease issues will be discussed as well as watering needs for our particular environment of clay soils and hot weather. For additional information, including planting opportunities, please visit www.sactree.com.

Waldorf Open House

Learn about the unique and nurturing curriculum offered in the early childhood programs of a Waldorf school. At this event, you will see our beautiful 40-acre campus, meet faculty members, and discuss your child at this free open house, 9 a.m. to noon. Free child care with advanced reservations. For more information, visit www.liveoakwaldorf.org or call Live Oak Waldorf School at (530) 878-8720. Live Oak Waldorf School, 410 Crother Road in Meadow Vista is just minutes from Auburn, off I-80 at the Applegate exit.

JUNE 27

Music in the Park

On Sunday, June 27, Curtis Park will be filled with the sounds of frolicking children, laughing adults and fantastic music, as the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association opens its annual Music in the Park. This free concert runs from 6 to 9 p.m. and is part of the 2010 season of events of one of the busiest neighborhood associations in the state of California.

JULY

Latino Dance and Culture Group

Come dance to the beat of all types of Latin music on July 13 and July 20. 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.

JULY 3

Spirit of the Pocket Fourth of July parade

The annual Spirit of the Pocket parade will start at 10 p.m. and will travel down Windbridge Drive to Garcia Bend Park. Entries are now being accepted for the 2010 Pocket Parade, which will be held on July 3rd at 10 a.m. Entry forms are available online at www.cityofsacramento.org/council or call my office at 808-7338 or The Pocket News at 429-9901.

Matsuyama Elementary School Fun Run/Walk

It's time for the 15th annual July Fun Run/Walk at Matsuyama Elementary. Everyone is invited to attend this community and family oriented event, which raises funds for the 2010-2011 sixth graders to attend the Sly Park Environmental Science Camp. The Fun Run/Walk is a 5K/8K event that will take place on Saturday, July 3rd, at Matsuyama Elementary School, 7680 Windbridge Drive. Check in begins at 7 a.m., and the race start time is 8 a.m. Fees are \$15, and includes event T-shirt before Thursday June 10; after June 10, the fee is \$20. For more information, please contact Maria Rodriguez at 421-6967.

JULY 8

Computer Club meeting

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, July 8, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. The meeting topic will be "What's New at Apple," presented by Brent Sallee of MacClicks. 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.

JULY 10

Jensen Garden Workday

Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden hold garden workdays one Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The next workday is July 10. 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 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 email tracy@carmichaelpark.com.

JULY 10-11

40th Wildlife Art Festival

Birders of a feather will flock together as the Pacific Flyway Decoy Association presents its 40th Wildlife Art Festival, Saturday and Sunday, July 10-11, Double Tree Hotel Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way. Designed specifically for families, the event celebrates traditional wildlife artworks with contests, displays of carvings, fine art, antique decoys, sculpture and interactive kids activities. Event is July 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 11 from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for the weekend, children 12 and under, free. For more information, visit www.pacificflyway.org.

JULY 25

2010 Pear Fair

Always the last Sunday in July, the 38th annual Pear Fair will be Sunday, July 25, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Sacramento River Delta town of Courtland, located just 20 minutes south of Sacramento, off Highway 160. Last year, the fair drew in more than 7,000 people. Make sure and arrive early to enjoy all the festivities. For more information, visit www.pearfair.com.

Todd Morgan and the Emblems

Todd Morgan and the Emblems are performing in the Carmichael Concerts in the Park series, July 25, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Carmichael Park Bandshell, located the corner of Grant Avenue and Fair Oaks Boulevard. This is a free event.

ONGOING

American Legion Dance

The American Legion Dance, Held on the first Friday of each month from 7 - 10 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Hall at Royer Park in Roseville, featuring ballroom, Latin, swing, and night club dances with DJ Bob Wayman. The public is invited and singles are welcome. There is a great wood dance floor, good parking, no-host bar, soft drinks, and snacks. Come dance and make new friends. The hall is located at 110 Park Drive. Cost \$8. Info: (916) 783-7267. Proceeds go to support the troops and our veterans.

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Bariatric Surgery Informational Seminar

Learn all about what bariatric surgery is and is not. The seminar is held the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., except for July and September when the seminar will be held on the second Saturday of the month. The seminar location is Bruceville Terrace (8151 Bruceville Road) in the Multipurpose Room. For more information, please contact Rondi Crowley at 423.5909.

Food Addicts Anonymous

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous is a 12-step group for people struggling with obesity, food obsession, or eating disorders. There are no dues or fees, or weigh-ins. All are welcome to join them: Monday – 6:30 p.m. Greenhaven Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 475 Florin Rd. Sacramento; 7 p.m. Warehouse Christian Ministries, 10020 Foothills Blvd. Roseville; 7 p.m. Nevada County Contractors Assoc. – 149 Crown Point Ct., Grass Valley; Tuesday – 6:45 a.m. Southside Park Clubhouse, 2051 6th St. (btwn T & W Sts), Sacramento; 9 a.m. St. Andrew's United Methodist – 6201 Spruce Ave, Sacramento; 6:30 p.m. Kaiser Medical Center Conf Rm, 1900 Dresden, Lincoln; 7 p.m. Faith United Methodist Church – 3600 J St., Sacramento; Wednesday – 7 p.m. Davis United Methodist Church – 1620 Anderson Rd, Davis; Thursday – 9 a.m. St. Andrew's United Methodist Church – 6201 Spruce Ave, Sacramento; 6:30 pm Christ Unity Community Church – 9249 Folsom Blvd. Sacramento; 7 pm Auburn Grace Community Church, 3126 Olympic Way Rm 117, Auburn; Friday – Southside Park Clubhouse, 2051 6th St. (btwn T & W Sts), Sacramento; 7 p.m. Kaiser Facility Folsom, 2155 Iron Point Rd, Conf Rm 1, Folsom; 7 p.m. Kaiser Hospital 3700 Vaca Valley Pkwy 3rd Fl., Rm B, Vacaville; Saturday – 8 a.m. Fremont Presbyterian Church – 5770 Carlson Dr. Chapel, NE corner of

campus, Sacramento; 8 a.m. St. Andrew's United Methodist – 6201 Spruce Ave, Sacramento; 8 a.m. BriarPatch Co-Op Community Market, 290 Sierra College Dr. Community Rm., Grass Valley. For more information: www.foodaddicts.org.

MONDAYS

Gray Eagles

Gray Eagles- a M/F social group sharing WW II history of military or sport aviation. Former air, ground, or carrier crew, or anyone interested will enjoy our monthly speakers. Topics include B-17s, Reno races, Fire attack A/C, Airshows. Drop by to visit- FREE. We meet the second Monday, each month at Hometown Buffet, 4300 Florin Rd. (private dining room), Sacramento, 11:30 – 1:30. See www.grayeagles.net or call Lou @ 421- 0844.

Tai Chi at Hart Center

Chinese exercise combines specific movements and relaxation, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Instructor, Mamie Woo. Information at 808-5462.

Hatha yoga class

Instructor Pat Shaw teaches students to align the body through breathing techniques, postures and deep relaxation, 3 to 4 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Information at 808-5462. Repeats Wednesdays, Fridays.

Gray Eagles meet

Gray Eagles, a social group for men and women, hears guest speakers on air shows, flying and warbirds, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., second Mondays of the month. Visitors welcome. Free, at the Hometown Buffet (private dining room), 4300 Florin Road. Information at 421-0844.

Newcomer's Buffet

The Widowed Persons Association of California invite any and all widows and widowers to attend their Newcomer's Buffet and Social at 5:30 p.m., every third Monday, at the Plaza Hof Brau, El Camino at Watt Avenue. The cost varies as the choice is from a no-host buffet menu. For more information, call 972-9722.

Toastmasters meet

Guests always welcome at Klassy Talkers Toastmasters to have fun while improving speaking and leadership skills, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Executive Airport 6151 Freeport Blvd., 95822. Information: Jan at 284-4236 or www.sacramentotoastmasters.com.

Co-Dependents Anonymous

Co-Dependents Anonymous meets, 7:30 p.m., Friends Church, Fireside Room, 41st and E streets. This 12-step group is for people whose common problem has been an inability to maintain healthy relationships. We support each other in developing fulfilling relationships. For more information, call 1-866-794-9993.

Evening Tai Chi class

Sixty-plus minute class includes Yang style Tai Chi, Chi Gong exercises, and strength training using elastic bands, 6:30 p.m., Parkside Community Church, 5700 South Land Park Drive. Open enrollment – join anytime. Cost: \$15 a month for members, \$20 for non-members. Information: 421-0492.

Girls-only karate

Karate for girls ages 7 and older, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Elks Lodge No. 6, Riverside Boulevard at Florin Road. Meets Mondays and Wednesdays. Information at 470-9950.

Aviator interest

Gray Eagles, a social group for men and women to shares stories of military or sport aviation -- for former air or ground crew, or anyone interested in B-17s, Reno races, and airshows. Free. Meets second Monday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Hometown Buffet, 4300 Florin Rd. (private dining room). Information from Lou at 421-0844.

TUESDAYS

Pastel landscapes class

Award-winning pastel artist Reif Erickson teaches a four-step process to creating art. Supplies provided for the first session and students provided with a

materials list for further lessons. From 2:30 to 5 p.m., Ethel Hart Center, 915 27th St.; \$25 per lesson. Information at 808-5462.

Free Medicare counseling

Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) offers free, unbiased information and assistance with Medicare problems, help with health and long-term care insurance. HICAP does not sell, endorse, or recommend insurance. Appointments are every Tuesday with John Gallapaga, call 376-8915 to schedule an appointment. For appointments in Spanish, call Marta Erismann at 231-5110.



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Amenities include central heat & air, some hardwood floors, updated kitchen, fresh interior paint and views through French doors to the private and lush rear yard. Close to the park, river, public transportation and just steps away from Vic's Ice Cream. Act quickly to take advantage of tax credits!

1157 8th Avenue\$334,000

SO MUCH HOME FOR SO LITTLE MONEY!

4 bed, 3 baths, plenty of room for that family that wants Land Park at an affordable price. Maintained by original owners, hardwood floors, a family room, central heat & air and a generous sized yard, Dual pane windows. Acclaimed elementary school, Crocker Riverside, is within walking distance.



711 Flint Way\$349,000

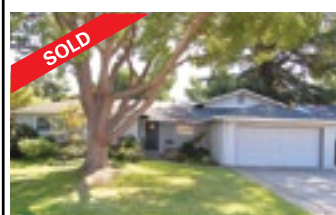
GREAT OPPORTUNITY IN DEL DAYO ESTATES

Short Sale Opportunity in Del Dayo Estates. Beautiful home at the end of a Charming cul-de-sac. Large landscaped yard that features a sparkling pool and spa and slate firepit. Newer central heat & air in 2009. Hardwood floors throughout. Wired for surround sound. This wonderful home is a Must See!



1308 Philomene Court\$590,000

WONDERFUL SOUTH LAND FAMILY SIZED RANCH



Large quarter acre lot, parklike paradise. Updated kitchen opens to a large family room & dining area. Exposed hardwood floors in two bedrooms - others are covered by carpet. Drop down stairs in laundry room lead to attic. Great street with easy freeway access. Short walk to Land Park & public transportation.

4111 Warren Avenue\$459,000

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*add \$2 on day of match

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SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES VS CHIVAS USA

CALENDAR

TUESDAYS

Women's networking

Soroptimist International of Sacramento South, a service club for business and professional women for 47 years, meets second and fourth Tuesdays, 12:15 p.m., for lunch and programs at Aviators Restaurant, Executive Airport, 6151 Freeport Blvd. Fund-raising, networking, community service. Information: President Colleen Truelsen, 429-9901, email: colleen@valcomnews.com.

Barbershop Harmony

Sacramento Capitolaes Barbershop Chorus rehearsals, 7 p.m., Sierra Arden United Church of Christ, 890 Morse Ave. Open to "men who like to sing." Call Joe Samora for details, 631-9848.

Antelope Quilters Guild

Held the second Tuesday of each month from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Quilters Guild invites community members to their general meeting at the Lutheran Church of Ascension, 7607 Garden Gate Dr. in Citrus Heights. For more information, call 488-8858.

WEDNESDAYS

Yoga at Parkside Church

Svaroopo Yoga is a style of Hatha Yoga that can relieve pain, reduce stress, increase

strength and flexibility, help with proper alignment and posture, calm the mind, and promote personal transformation. The classes are open to everyone. Beginning Yoga is offered on Wednesday mornings from 9:15am - 11:00am and Advanced Yoga is offered on Tuesday mornings from 8:45a - 11:00am. Fees are \$52 for a series of 4 sessions. Parkside Community Church is located at 5700 South Land Park Dr. Call 421-0492 for more information.

Wednesday Night Dance

Dance to the rhythms of the Sensible Sounds Dance Band in the community center's beautiful auditorium. Enjoy Ballroom and Line dance from Swing to Rock to Country music. Call 972-0336 for more information. \$7 per person, from 7-10 p.m. every Wednesday at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael.

Community sing-along

Harmonize on old hymns and folk songs, just for our own pleasure. Show-er singers are welcome! Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m., June 10 through August 26. Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento, 2425 Sierra Blvd. Free. Information: 457-4527, daytime.

Pole walking clinic

Free pole-walking clinic sponsored by Cure Arthritis Now, every Wednesday morning -- demo poles provided for use during your first clinic. Call 208-8700 for details of times and

locations. Come learn a new way to exercise and get healthy.

Chair yoga at Hart

Yoga instructor Pat Shaw leads chair yoga with exercises aimed to keep older adults strong, limber and relaxed, 1:45 to 2:45 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Information at 808-5462.

Toastmasters Club

River City Speakers Toastmasters Club meets at noon at Coco's Restaurant, 1830 Arden Way. All area business people invited to hone their speaking skills; meeting ends at 1:15 p.m. Information: 747-8282.

Co-Dependents Anonymous

Co-Dependents Anonymous meets, 7 p.m., Friends Church, Fireside Room, 41st and E streets. This 12-step group is for people whose common problem has been an inability to maintain healthy relationships. We support each other in developing fulfilling relationships. For more information, call 1-866-794-9993.

Free dessert for seniors

The Senior Wednesday Club meets to chat, play bridge, pinochle or bingo, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Mission Oaks Community Building, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. Bring a brown-bag lunch -- free coffee, tea and dessert. Information from Myrt at 348-8114.

Memory Seminar

Merrill Gardens is offering a "Memory Enhancement" seminar from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at 6350 Riverside Blvd. This is an ongoing series the second Wednesday of every month. Refreshments will be served.

Businesswomen's network

Referrals Plus, a networking group of businesswomen, meets, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m., in the Pocket area. Information and reservations with Chris, 492-6278. Website: www.referralsplus.

Dance at Mission Oaks

The Sensible Sounds Dance Band plays everything from rock to swing to country, 7 to 10 p.m., Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive. Cost is \$7 per person. Information at 972-0336 x 228.

Alzheimer's support

Alzheimer's support group meets, 2:30 p.m., third Wednesdays each month, Primrose, 7077 Rush River Drive, for families and friends struggling with Alzheimer's disease. Care-giving strategies, education, resource information, and a shoulder to lean on. Facilitator: Kim Winters, BSG, M. Ed. Information at 392-3510.

Lewy Body Dementia support

Lewy Body Dementia support group is tailored for caregivers and loved ones diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., fourth Wednesdays, Primrose, 7707 Rush River Drive. Facilitator: Kim Winters, BSG, M.ED. Information at 392-3510.

'Joy' luncheons

Grace Presbyterian Church invites neighbors, men and women, young or old, for lunch on the first and third Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall at the church at Las Cruces Way and Eastern Avenue. Programs sharing joy, information, and hearing speakers over a noontime meal. Information at 487-7849.

THURSDAYS

Want to relax and stretch your body and mind?

Everyone and anyone is welcome to attend the Primrose's LBDA/Parkinson's Exercise Program. Every Thursday at 11 a.m. at Primrose, 7707 Rush River Dr., Sacramento, Ca 95831. Please dress comfortably. Facilitator: Kim Winters, BSG, M. Ed. Call us at 916-392-3510 for more info

Latino Dance and Culture Group

Come dance to the beat of all types of Latin music on the first and second Thursday of the month through to December 2009! Featured DJ music and delicious Mexican food! Held at the Ethel Hart Community Center, 915 27th St., from 6:15-8:45 p.m. Suggested donation: \$3. For more information, call Barbara Alarcon 400-4514.

Los Oradores Toastmasters

Improve your language skills and lose fear of speaking in front of people with Toastmaster club Los Oradores, 6:30 p.m., Opening Doors office, 2118 K St. For information, phone Teri Bullington 723-6232, e-mail teri.bullington@gmail.com. Una oportunidad unica para mejorar sus habilidades bilingues y superar el temor de hablar delante de gente con nuestro club Los Oradores de la organizacion de Toastmasters. Nos reunimos en la tarde a las 6:30 p.m. en el negocio Opening Doors, ubicado en 2118 K St. Para mayor informacion llame a Teri Bullington 723-6232, e-mail teri.bullington@gmail.com.

Rotary Club meeting

The Rotary Club of Pocket-Greenhaven meets, 7:30 a.m., Aviator Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd., at Executive Airport. Fellowship, good speakers, and the opportunity to work on projects serving the community and the world. For more information, call Louise at 424-2698.

Optimist Club meeting

Sutterville Heights Optimist Club of South Sacramento meets every Thursday at noon at the Aviator Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd., at Executive Airport. Come and enjoy community speakers and community projects for youth. For more information, call Cliff at 427-2698 or Mary-Jo at 691-3059.

Sweet Adelines

Sacramento's Voice of the Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines, International welcomes all interested women singers of all ages to join them for a free evening of singing and fun from 7 to 9:30 p.m.. Call now to reserve your welcome gift. The chorus will be held at Sierra Arden United Church of Christ, 890 Morse Ave. Information: B.C. at 971-1103.

Food Addicts Anonymous

This meeting is for Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous and is held at 9 a.m. Thursdays at St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 6201 Spruce Ave. It is a 12-step group for people struggling with obesity, food obsession, or eating disorders. For more information, call 1-800-600-6028.

Morning Tai Chi class

Sixty-plus minute class includes Yang style Tai Chi, Chi Gong exercises, and strength training using elastic bands, 9:30 a.m., Parkside Community Church, 5700 South Land Park Drive. Open enrollment -- join anytime. Cost: \$15 a month for members, \$20 for non-members. Information: 421-0492.

Aesop's Fables, story-tellers

Guests welcome first and second Thursdays, 7 p.m., free stories for all ages by the Aesop's Fables and Sacramento StoryTelling Guild, at the Hart Senior Center, 27th and J streets. Information at 362-9013.

Disabled American Veterans

Ray Clark Chapter No. 35 of the Disabled American Veterans meets on the first Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., Veterans' Hall in Carmichael Park, corner of Davis and Fair Oaks. All disabled veterans invited to attend. For information call 635-7608.

Walking Sticks

The Sacramento Walking Sticks invite anyone interested in learning more about their club and walking to attend the monthly meeting, second Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m., SMUD Customer Service Center, Timberline III meeting room, 6301 First Street. Refreshments served. If you'd like to walk three miles before the meeting, meet at 5 p.m. in front of the SMUD Customer Service Center building. Bring money for dinner after the walk. For more information, call Gale at 364-5063 or www.SacramentoWalkingSticks.org.

Coping with life alone

Beginning Experience support program for widowed, divorced and separated, 7 to 9 p.m., St. Michael's Episcopal Church 2140 Mission Avenue, Carmichael. Cost, \$10 registration and \$5 per week. Information at 835-2282 or www.sacramentobe.org

Do you Drink Water?

Learn the Truth About Water -- Free Wholistic Seminar -- Every Thursday Night. Networking at 6:30 p.m. Event Starts at 7 p.m. 711 J Street, Studio 33, Downtown Sacramento, Corner of 7th & J. RSVP (916) 519-5822 or sacrsvp@gmail.com.

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Fourth of July Parade is Saturday, July 3

Famous Spirit of the Pocket Parade looking for volunteers, floats

Land Park News Staff Report

The annual Fourth of July Spirit of the Pocket Parade, the largest parade event in the Pocket-Greenhaven area, is preparing for another magnificent patriotic celebration and is looking to the community for volunteers and floats. The parade, which is being held on July 3 this year, is a popular community-produced visual spectacle.

"We are looking for people to step forward with floats," said Linda Pohl, parade committee chair. "Our main thing is to make this great visual presentation, so we would like a lot of floats."

Held Saturday, July 3, the parade begins promptly at 10 a.m. at the former site of Lisbon Elementary School, 7775 S. Land Park Dr., and travels down Windbridge, ending at Garcia Bend Park.

Volunteers are needed to support the efforts (and the fun) of the 16th annual Fourth of July Spirit of the Pocket Parade. To volunteer in positions ranging from pre-parade phone calls, blocking streets (while sitting in a

comfortable chair), parade marshals and helping with the after-parade activities at Garcia Bend, e-mail linda@valcomnews.com.

For more information on volunteering at the parade, contact Pohl at The Pocket News at 429-9901 or e-mail linda@valcomnews.com.

Parade float entry forms can be picked up at The Pocket News office, 2709 Riverside Blvd., and Pocket Custom Framing, 7485 Rush River Dr., suite 715. Forms can also be downloaded online at www.valcomnews.com. Completed entries can be dropped off at these locations or e-mailed to linda@valcomnews.com. All pre-registered parade entrants will be part of the parade judging. Entries will be judged against others in their group type.

Preparations are already underway to make the parade bigger and better than ever before.

"We have the Friends of the Library doing something great—they seem to do a great float every year," said Pohl. "In addition to booths after the parade, we will have a carnival put on by the Friends of the Library and the School of Engi-

neering and it will have games and activities and there will also be a demonstration by the Sacramento Police K-9 Unit."

A special addition to the event is Sacramento Police K-9 officer

Bandit and his handler Officer Gary Dahl as grand marshals of the parade. Bandit was wounded in March during the apprehension of a suspect; he has since fully recovered and is back on duty.

TV personalities Nick Toma, from Channel 31, and Angel Cardenas, from Channel 10, will serve as parade MCs, announcing the floats and the parade participants as they pass.

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PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



AFFORDABLE LAND PARK

With 4 bedrooms and 3 baths, there's plenty of room for the family that wants Land Park at an affordable price. Lovingly maintained by original owners, this home boasts hardwood floors, a family room, CH&A plus a generous sized yard. See www.windermereDunnigan.com \$349,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555
CHRISS BRIGGS 834-6483



DIDION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Beautiful updated 1 story home. Upgrades include new HVAC, flooring throughout, Kitchen appliances, and interior paint. Bathrooms remodeled with granite & new flooring. Other features include updated roof, spacious yard, wonderful floor plan & much more. See www.6754ParkRivieraWay.com \$275,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



PICTURESQUE LAND PARK COTTAGE

This adorable three bedroom home has a brand new roof & exterior paint. Hardwood floors are refinished & gleaming. Updated kitchen has all the features you could want. Dual pane windows, central heat & air & a newer water heater!! Walk to light rail, Taylor's Market or Land Park. See www.1833VallejoWay.com \$399,000

CHRIS BRIGGS 834-6483



AT THE TOP OF THE HILL

Beautiful Spanish style - from the stamped concrete steps leading up to the front door, to the private backyd, this home reflects the style & architecture of early CA. A stunning arched window & a detailed fireplace in the LR; newer stainless appliances; 2 large bedrooms w/hardwood floors! See www.949FremontWay.ePropertysites.com \$410,000

NANCY WEEGE 600-5458
LISA MARTIS 612-7548



BOULEVARD TERRACE

Spacious storybook brick Tudor home. Hardwood floors with inlay, newer central heat & air, formal dining room, breakfast nook and master's suite. Tree lined street & old world charm. See www.4920-7thAve.com \$329,500

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395

WAITING FOR YOU

Formal living room w/fireplace & one-of-a-kind built-in shelving. Updated kitchen w/ tile counters, island, plenty of storage, quality appliances & a fantastic skylight. Versatile floor plan includes master suite w/ walk-in closet, large bedrooms, formal dining space, roomy kitchen w/a sunny eating space & inside laundry rm. See www.windermereDunnigan.com \$545,000

KELLIE SWAYNE 206-1458
PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715

IN THE HEART OF LAND PARK

Amenities include central h **PENDING** hardwood floors, updated kitchen, fresh interior paint and views through French doors to the private and lush rear yard. Close to the park, river, public transportation and just steps away from Vic's Ice Cream. Act quickly to take advantage of tax credits! See www.1157-8thAve.com \$334,000

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SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395

CONVEINENT LOCATION

Immaculate charming 3br, **PENDING** a nice neighborhood. Spacious living and family rooms. Updated kitchen and baths. New roof and partial dual pane windows. Wood floors. Covered patio & big tool shed. Nice size attic for extra room or storage. This is a wonderful home! See www.5637johnsdr.view24hours.com \$175,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



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