The Land Park News

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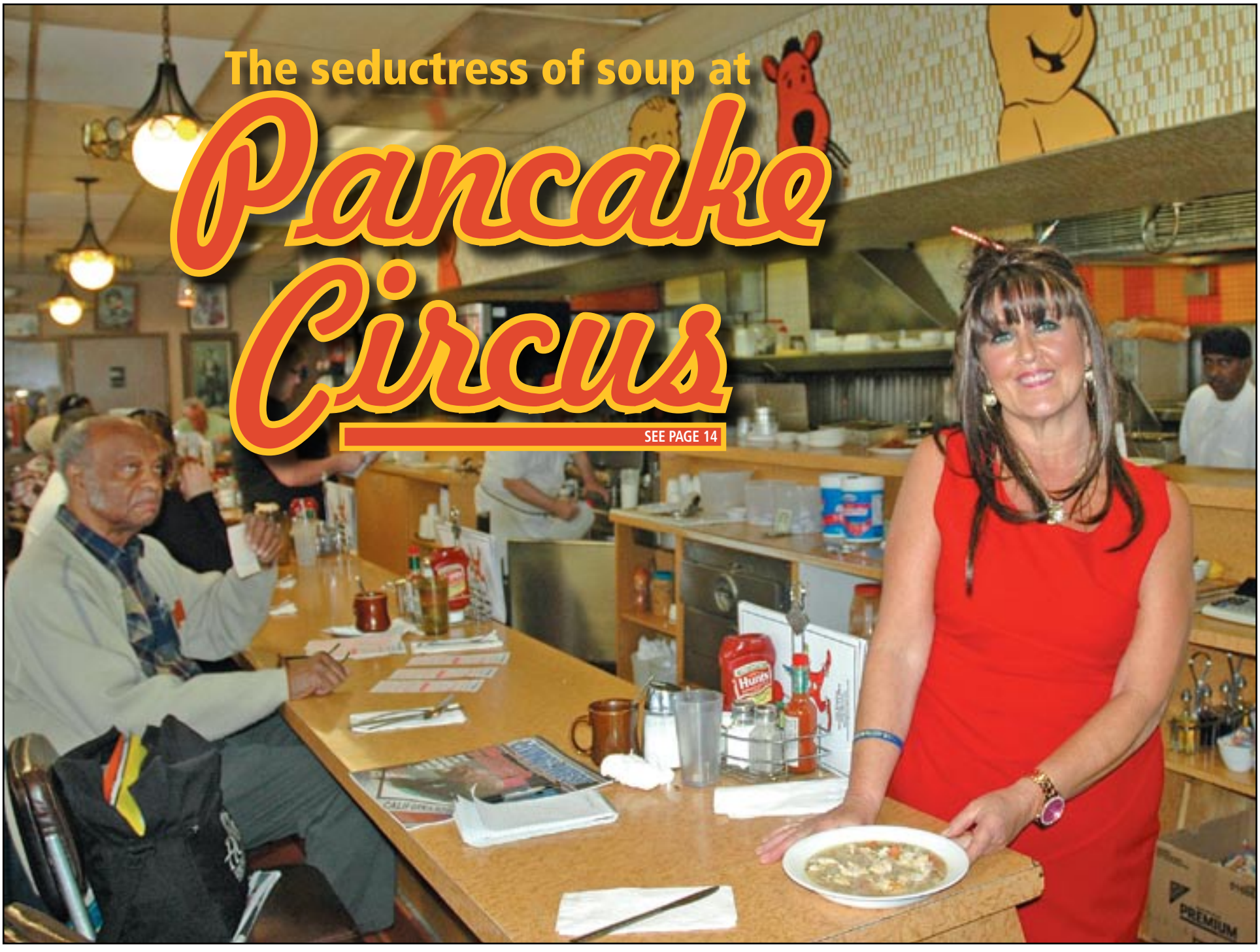

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Harvest Sacramento has already picked and donated more than 45,000 pounds of fruit in 2013 with the help of over 500 volunteers.

Volunteers came together in large community harvests held on weekends and as small groups of neighbors that were trained by Harvest Sacramento. Over the last two years they have developed neighborhood harvest teams in Land Park, South Land Park, Curtis Park, Tahoe Park and East Sacramento, which empower neighborhood residents to harvest and distribute the fruit in the area where they live. "Our harvest groups have been a fantastic way for neighbors to meet each other and play and active role in contributing to their community. Fruit harvesting is a family friendly activity where everyone can find a way to participate in a meaningful way and have fun doing it," mentioned Randy Stannard, Project Coordinator, at a recent harvest.

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LAND PARK
Darling cottage. This three bedroom cutie has all the finishing touches. Updated kitchen with a vintage Wedgewood stove and checkered black and white floor, updated bathroom w/ new tiled shower, hardwood floors, one bedroom with floor to ceiling desk and cabinets, backyard patio and trellis. 2625 16th Street

LAND PARK
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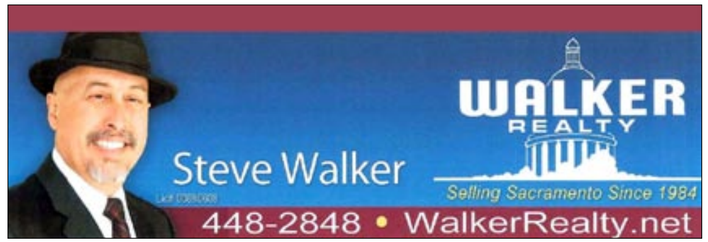

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Joan Riordan of Espresso Metro

All pictures by Maura Abrahams.

Taste of Land Park was a hit

By BENN HODAPP
benn@valcomnews.com

A vicious heat wave threatened to turn the 12th annual Taste of Land Park into a dreadful affair, but the area was spared from the blistering heat that struck just 24 hours prior. Instead, the event on Sunday, June 9 was a rousing success. The day before, temperatures in some parts of Sacramento reached 110 degrees. Much to the relief of everyone involved, Sunday's weather barely reached 80.

"It was supposed to be 90, but the high was actually only 80. It was even better than we expected," said event coordinator Kelly Mishell.

As it was, the pleasant weather made for great times on 14th Street between 3rd and Market where the event took place.

The Taste of Land Park is a major fundraiser for the Land Park Community Association (LPCA) to bring in money for park improvements and local beautification efforts, according to Mishell. More than 600 Land Park residents showed up to lend their support, eat some great food, drink some great wine and browse the booths set up all over the grounds.

Mishell was thrilled with the large crowd, as she was hoping for at least 350 attendees. With the number of great attractions on the premises it's no wonder that it was well attended. In addition to the unusually mild temperatures, attendees were greeted by 24 local food vendors, 20 wins

See Taste, page 5

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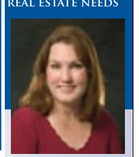

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LEXINGTON

Kathy Waste at the Artisan Corner

CCC Hula Fellowship performed during VIP hour.

Taste: Event brought community together

Continued from page 4

and beer vendors, and one homemade soda vendor.

For the second consecutive year, the event played host to a showcase of local artists in a section called Artisan Corner. Eight Land Park artists were on hand to show off and sell their various works that included everything from paintings to jewelry.

Patrons were also free to partake in the always popular Wall of Wine. A number of wineries donated bottles of wine worth anywhere between $20-100. The labels were then covered up and people could buy any bottle on display for $20. While some walked away with a $20 bottle of wine for their $20, some managed to grab a $100 bottle for their $20. According to Mishell, some 50 bottles were sold from the selection.

A raffle was done with prizes ranging from microwaves, River Cats tickets, a barbecue grill, free landscaping consultations, and wine tours.

The Artisans Corner

Paula Swayne at the Wall of Wine

The money raised by the LPCA will go into the installing of new bike racks outside of Fairytale Town and Funderland Park as well as a "prettying up" of the pony rides nearby, according to Mishell. Mark Abrahams, President of the LPCA, said that any leftover money after those projects are completed will go towards funding music and art programs in local schools.

For anyone wishing to join the LPCA, a fee of $25 (or $35 for a business) gains you membership for a year. Members can attend monthly board meetings, voice concerns, and receive the LPCA's monthly newsletter.

"It's a great way to stay in touch with the community," Mishell said of the LPCA. "It keeps people up to date on park issues and beautification efforts."

As far as next year's version of the Taste of Land Park is concerned, well, it has a lot to live up to.

"It was a raging success. People were having a really great time," said Mishell.

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Capital City Motorcycle Club celebrates 100th anniversary

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

A special gathering occurred at the home of the Capital City Motorcycle Club last Saturday, June 22, as many of its members and their close friends and family members, as well as members of motorcycle clubs from other cities, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the local club's founding.

In being a publication that celebrates local history, and acting upon an invitation it received from this Land Park area club about eight months ago to attend the private event, *The Land Park News* stopped by the clubhouse to observe the day's festivities.

Upon the arrival of this publication, it was quickly noted that the event underwent significant planning in connection with the city, as a portion of 13th Street had been closed to through traffic between Broadway and X Street.

A crowd of more than 100 people had assembled in and around the organization's old clubhouse, which is located at 2414 13th St. on the west side of the street, opposite the parking lot of the Asian Food Center and Iron Steaks, which catered food for the event.

And of course, the glare of chrome from the many motorbikes parked along the street and in the aforementioned parking lot was a dominant scene.

During the event, attendees sat and mingled with one another while dining on barbecued ribs, chicken and side dishes and listening to classic songs performed by the band, The Baja Boyz.

Considering the history celebrating theme of the gathering, it was certainly no challenge to locate people who were interested in sharing their own personal memories regarding the club.

Photo courtesy of CCMC

Members of the Capital City Motorcycle Club are shown in this 1938 photograph.

Celebrating his own anniversary with CCMC, C.J. Smith recalled joining the club 30 years ago.

"I joined (CCMC) in 1983," said Smith, who rides a Yamaha Road Star. "I used to drive for Greyhound and there was another guy (Mick Meyers) who drove for Greyhound and he told me about the club and he brought me in. I was drawn in by motorcycle riding and the camaraderie of the members."

Another CCMC member Barbara Sutton said that a short time after she purchased her first bike in November 2006, Troy Rowsey, owner of a local motorcycle shop, recommended that she consider joining CCMC.

"I called the treasurer (of the club) and I came (to a meeting) by myself, and the rest is history," said Sutton, whose current bike is a 2012 Harley-Davidson Dyna Switchback.

In commenting about the club's centennial, Ralph Venturino, the club's unofficial historian, said, "Certainly for the club members, what I heard is that they feel that it is special to be a part of something that has some history, both related to Sacramento and also related to the sport of motorcycling, ivn general. Most of the folks here have been riding for quite some time and it's really a good group of people. We're proud of our history and heritage."

George Keenelarsen, the club's president, and many other members of the club speak about how this history and heritage began through a bicycle club known as the Capital City Wheelmen.

The June 25, 1886 establishment of the wheelmen club was recognized three days later in the *Sacramento Record-Union*, as follows: "An organization to be known as the Capital City Wheelmen has been effected in this city, with the following officers: H. Bennett, president; William Lamport, captain; John Brenner, first lieutenant; L.H. Cook, second lieutenant; C.H.

See Motorcycle, page 7

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Motorcycle: Club is looking toward the next 100 years

Continued from page 6

Oatman, secretary and treasurer; L. Ball Hughes, bugler."

T. Ten-Bosch served as the first president of the Capital City Wheelmen, who originally met in a building at 5th and J streets.

The Capital City Wheelmen's application for its name change to the Capital City Motorcycle Club was signed in open court by Superior Court Judge Charles N. Post on June 23, 1913.

One of CCMC's first large events was held at the State Fairgrounds on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 5, 1913, as motorcyclists tested their speed in various races.

Among the scheduled participators of the event, which also included a novelty sidecar race, was the club's top rider Captain Chester A. Scott, and professional riders, including Dudley Perkins and Freddie Walker.

Due to a strong north wind that blew dust along the track, the professional race was cancelled, as the professional racers refused to compete for a $50 purse.

The greatest crowd pleaser of the meet was Ernie Fabian, a 14-year-old rider who won two events.

Another popular event of the club during its early years was its endurance runs.

Among those participating in the club's endurance run on Nov. 9, 1913 were club members, Scott, William Hateley, Romauld Mello, "Dutch" Fabian, George McCormack, Charles C. White, D. Wickham, Leo McCarthy, William A. Langley and Harry Ten-Bosch.

The route began in Sacramento and continued to Jackson, then to Auburn before ending in Sacramento.

The top finishers in the event were Will Trapper, McCormack, and Langley, who owned a store at 1025 10th St. that sold bicycles and motorcycles.

Participants of the race experienced many adventures from difficult terrain and accidents to broken machinery and displays of sportsmanship.

Scott was expected to perform well in the race, but the frame of his Harley-Davidson bike broke in Placerville.

In another instance, Langley pulled Fabian out of a ditch.

Certainly among the most adventurous parts of the event occurred when certain animals were encountered along the route.

Hanley ran over a pig and killed it, McCarthy ran into a dog, Mello killed a sheep and Trapper killed a rooster.

On Jan. 6, 1914, the club elected Frank M. Woodson, president; Fred A. Pearl, vice president (and eventual multiple term CCMC president and CCW president in 1908 and 1912), Marcellus F. Trebilcox, secretary; George McCormack, treasurer; Frank J. Murray, historian; and Ben Bolt, Harry Ten-Bosch, Charles White and Clemont Brokaw, directors.

During the same meeting, the club discussed its endurance run to Fresno.

Under the latter named officials, the club worked with the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce to establish the "Safety First" campaign to better traffic conditions through such things as improved road signage and better numbering on the business streets.

Another one of the club's endurance races occurred in July 1922, when Finnegan Speer of San Francisco won a race from Sacramento to Reno. Finishing in second place was George L. Faulders, who resided at 2609 ½ D St.

The early popularity of the club is evident through a decision in the fall of 1926 to limit the number of its members to 60.

The officers of the club at that time were Edward F. Hannon, president; Ed Frichette, Jr., vice president; Ernest O. Fulgham, treasurer; Al Wallenberburg, secretary; and H. P. Van Dyke, road captain.

The club disbanded in about 1925, and was reactivated in 1937 with Trebilcox as president.

In the same year, local female riders, who were not yet allowed to join the club, founded the Sacramento Cyclettes.

Although the majority of the names of the earliest members of the club are not "household names" at the club, one name of a club member of the past that is well known by present members of the club is Armando Magri.

Fortunately, Ken Magri was present at the anniversary event to share details about his father, Armando.

"My father joined the club in the mid-1930s," Ken said. "He used to come down from Chico for the Friday night speedway races at Hughes Stadium. He fell in love with Sacramento and moved here in 1936. Shortly after that time, he joined the CCMC and went to work at Frank J. Murray's Harley-Davidson dealership (at 815 12th St.). 'If it involves motorcycles, I'm all for it,' my father used to say."

Frank was already well established with his motorcycle business when Armando moved to the capital city.

The shop was opened in 1920 as a Harley-Davison agency that carried a wide variety of motorcycle and bicycle parts, and also serviced bicycles and motorcycles.

The shop was originally located at 508 J St., and was relocated to 815 12th St. in 1933.

Armando became the shop's new owner in 1950 and operated the business on 12th Street until 1973, when it was relocated to 1000 Arden Way.

Although Frank and Armando are deceased, lifetime CCMC member Merrill Wolhart, who joined the club in 1951, explained that he maintains a direct connection to these old Harley-Davidson shops.

"I worked for Magri for 33 years," Wolhart said. "I started as a mechanic and then I went into parts and sales, and when they built the new store, I went back in to shop for them."

Frank's connection to the current 13th Street clubhouse is quite significant.

In 1940, CCMC had the clubhouse constructed with the assistance of $4,000 that the club borrowed from Frank's sister-in-law, Irene Kaminsky.

To reimburse Kaminsky, the club held various events, including endurance runs, road runs, field meets and motorcycle polo.

But the club's largest fundraisers were short distance motorcycle races, one of which was a half-mile race in Dixon in 1946 that allowed the club to pay $500 of its clubhouse debt.

Just prior to that era, the club participated in Delta King and Queen runs, which involved members traveling aboard these river steamers with their bikes to and from San Francisco and spending a day in the City by the Bay.

In the late 1940s, the Land Park area furthered its connection to motorcycles with the opening of the motorcycle businesses, Zollner-Durkee Servicycle Co. at 2324 Broadway and Joseph Sarkees' motorcycle dealership at 2515 Broadway. Sarkee had previously worked as a wartime mechanic at McClellan Field.

Unlike outlaw bikers depicted in various films, the club's members were considered relatively low key in their demeanor. Their favorite Land Park area hangout was Hoyt's Doughnut Shop, which was located at 1800 Broadway.

With Frank and Armando's longtime connection to the club, the club existed for many years as mainly a Harley-Davidson club.

Today, club members are not loyal to any particular brand of motorcycle, and they take pride in the club's indusion of female members.

And with about 60 members and a strong commitment to continuing to add to its history and heritage, the Capital City Motorcycle Club appears firmly dedicated to riding toward its next 100 years.

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Land Park rugby has become ground zero for youth rugby

By MATTHEW EASON and RICHIE WALKER

As summer schedules fill for kids and families, there is a growing movement across America to give rugby – an old, but "new" sport a try. Rugby has become America's fastest growing team sport, with leagues, teams, and camps popping up from Sacramento to Washington D.C to Miami and everywhere in between for kids from all backgrounds. Most Americans think of rugby as "football without pads" played in other parts of the world, but in fact the young American athlete is giving this safe, fun team sport a try more and more, and for good reason. The athletic and life skills developed in rugby help young people grow as athletes and people.

Locally, the exponential growth of youth rugby, lead in large part by Land Park Rugby, has not only made its mark nationally but has attracted the attention of international rugby organizations as well. Established in 2007, the Land Park Motley has helped pave the way for elementary and middle school boys and girls to play rugby at the highest levels at the high school, collegiate, national level and international level.

Here's what's been going on with players from Land Park, East Sacramento and Carmichael.

Just weeks ago, New Zealand's fifth ranked high school rugby team, Napier Boys High School, traveled to Sacramento to play high school age alumni of the Land Park Motley in what many said was a classic game matching the skills of one of the world's best youth programs with some of the best high school players to come out of the Motley program.

Jesuit High School is one of the nation's premier high school rugby programs, and many of its elite players have Motley lineage.

Just a few weeks ago, Jesuit High School recaptured the national High School Championship while upstart CK McClatchy High School took fourth place in the ultra competitive Northern California High Single School Division – home to both Jesuit and last year's national champions Dixon High School.

Photo courtesy

East Sacramento's Nick Boyer, one of the Motley's original players has gone on to start for national powerhouse Cal Berkeley as well as earning a starting position with the United States U-20 Eagles national rugby team.

At the collegiate level, this year alone at least seven former Motley have committed to Division I schools to play rugby; Austin Guillen, University of California Davis, Ian Hause, University of Arizona, Noah Justin, University of Oregon, Joanah Lessard, Brigham Young University, Mark Poindexter, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and Riley Snyder, Arkansas State University.

See Rugby, page 9

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Rugby: Summer camps underway

Continued from page 8

ships and is known around the world simply as "Serevi." Serevi who is to rugby what Michael Jordan or Muhammad Ali are to their respective sports, co-founded Serevi Rugby to help him give back to the game that has given him so much. Part rugby ambassador, coach and community builder Serevi chose Sacramento for a youth rugby camp this summer because of the growth of youth rugby here in our community."

Reportedly, the first session with Jesuit over the weekend of June 15-16 went well as coaches and players throughout the greater NorCal area had a great experience.

The fact that Sacramento and the Land Park Motley have become ground zero for youth rugby has not been lost on one of the world's legendary rugby players Waisale Serevi, - a Fijian rugby player who lead Fiji to two Rugby Sevens World Cup Champion-

Photo courtesy

Rugby players throughout Sacramento convened upon Jesuit High School for a Servei rugby camp. Land Park players have been excelling at the sport.

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Touring the 'Didion House': **$1.65M home for sale in Poverty Ridge**

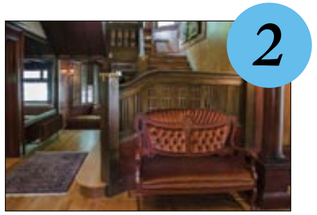
Perched on a hill in Poverty Ridge, this house has been a part of our city's historical landscape for more than a century and remains one of the most gracious homes in Sacramento. Joan Didion, a well-known author, lived in the home before leaving for college; to this day, many still affectionately refer to her former abode as "the Didion House." More than a half-century later, you can almost hear her typewriter echoing throughout the hallways.

An elegant mix of Colonial Revival and Prairie School styles, the home was designed by Seadler & Hoan. In addition to four bedrooms, this home also includes an office, sunroom, and fully-loaded media room. Its unique and intricate woodwork and fine detailing are a rare spectacle in this day and age, and serve as a poignant reminder of a bygone era. It was purchased in 2008 by Chris and Julie Dolan who have restored and updated it, melding old world charm and new world technology. It has been a labor of love.

Editor's note: What follows is a tour of the house, starting out in the front of the house. Once inside, descriptionts match photographs clockwise starting at the entry on the first floor.

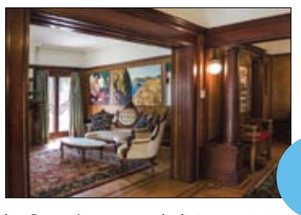
1

Didion porch and exterior The front porch boasts fluted columns and Corinthian capitals with Doric details and nicely rounded spindles. The porch ceiling was painted light blue to bring good luck and ward off evil spirits. It was contracted by Mary Kendall Roos-Roan, designed by Seadler & Hoen and built by Seller Brothers & Company over a century ago.



2

Entry / Foyer As you enter the house, you see an elegant staircase with hammered metal brass caps and old growth wood. Columns here match those on the front porch. There are beaded glass pendant ceiling lamps on display. To the right is the study and to the left is the living room.



3

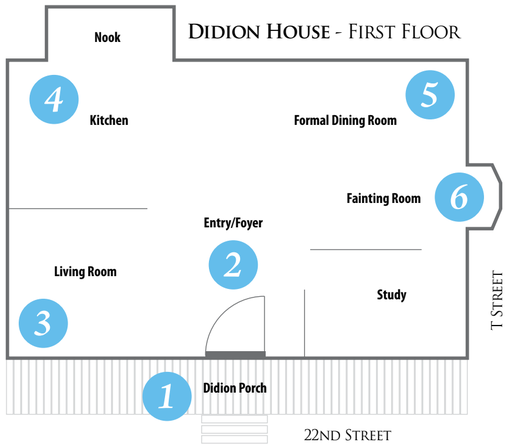
Living Room As you enter the living room, you can look from the front bay of the house. The living room has an original mantle and original leather like walls.

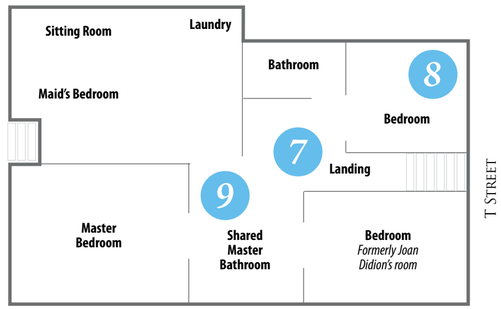
4

Kitchen/Nook As you come around the corner and go left with your back against the back staircase, you see the new state-of-the-art kitchen. Beyond that is the breakfast nook and to the left of that new double glass doors to the backyard.

5

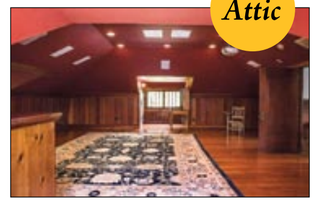
Formal dining room The dining room brags a ceiling with a bit of a Renaissance Revival flare and tiffany velvet pads the walls. All the woodwork has been refinished, including on the walls and floors.





7

Landing There is an old music box on the second floor landing, which provided good acoustics for socializing on the main floor.



Attic

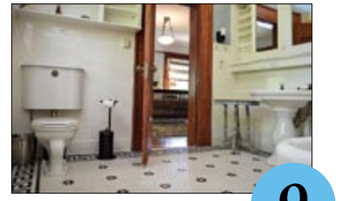
Media Room A spacious attic has been transformed into a state-of-the-art media room with HD projector, a remote control drop down movie screen, surround sound and more. There is a central music system with individual music controls in every room.

6

Fainting Room According to Wikipedia, a fainting room was "a private room, of which its main features/furniture were fainting couches, used during the Victorian era, to make women more comfortable during the home treatment of female hysteria." The Didion House has the fainting room on the T Street side. It's perfect for reading. Steam radiators are original but have been converted to a high energy system, using "state-of-the-art" technology.

8

Bedrooms There are four bedrooms. The master bedroom is located on the southeast corner of the second floor. The floors through out the main portion of the house are white oak with mahogany inlay. The bedroom on the north side (T Street side) of the house has a tall gilt-trimmed mirror.



9

Master bathroom While the bathroom has the original toilet, the sink andtub have all been re-plumbed between the master and the bedroom where Joan Didion resided for two years while attending McClatchy High School.

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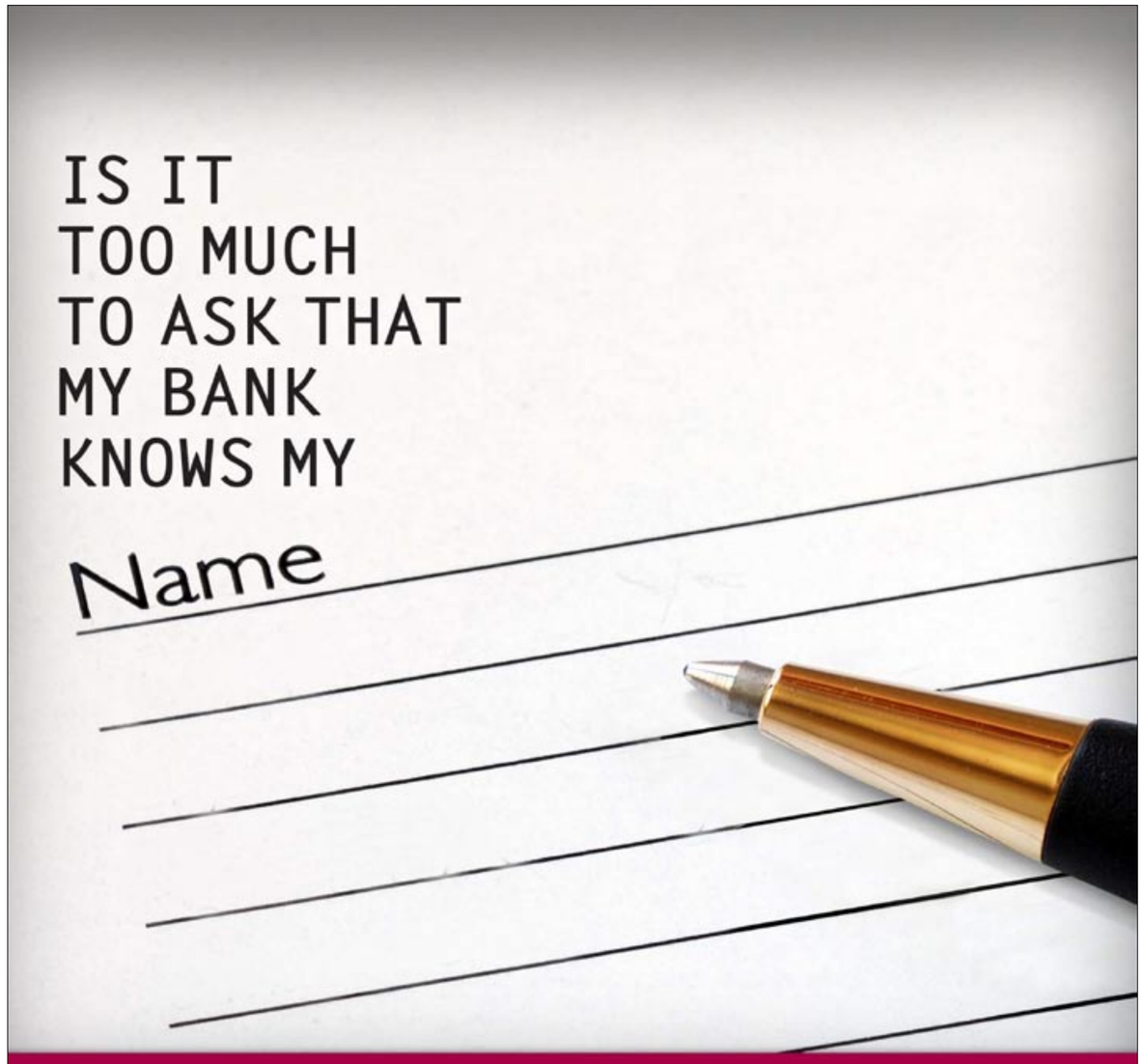

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Photo by Greg Brown

Terri Mead and a bowl of her soup.

The seductress of soup at the Pancake Circus

By GREG BROWN
greg@valcomnews.com

The Pancake Circus on Broadway is known for their head-sized pancakes, cool neon sign, waitresses who call you "hon" and of course the kitschy clown theme. But the real gem of the breakfast joint is manager Terri Mead and her amazing array of homemade soups.

It was a dreary, overcast day in Sacramento when I dropped in at the Pancake Circus. Perfect soup weather. The restaurant was packed with an eclectic mix of customers. All the old school vinyl booths were filled with hungry diners so I headed for the end of the breakfast counter. That's when I met manager Terri Mead, who was all dolled up in a retro red dress and some cool leather boots.

She had me try a trio of homemade soups while she tended to all the patrons as well as the employees -- the French Onion, Chicken and Rice, and my favorite, the Portuguese Bean soup. All of the soup is homemade, fresh and local. The linguisa for the Portuguese Bean soup comes from Gustine, a central valley town steeped in Portuguese tradition. As Terri puts it, "My soup is a meal." It certainly was a meal. I'm not even a "soup guy" and I polished off the Portuguese bean soup quickly. That was some tasty soup; she should start a Soup Truck.

I also tasted the homemade French Onion soup, which had lots of onion and delicious homemade broth. The key to the French Onion soup is the homemade French bread topped with fresh cheddar and Gruyere cheese. Dunk it and it's homemade deliciousness! I actually didn't think I'd care for the French onion soup but I used Terri's "one no-thank you bite theory…you may not like it, but just try it." I liked it. A lot. I also gobbled up the Chicken and Rice soup, which was the soup of the day at the Pancake Circus. When it comes to the homemade soups, Terri "stirs them with love."

It all started at the Sacramento Children's Home on Sutterville Road when Terri was 4 years old. Her mother, who had no interest in raising children, sent Terri and her older sister to the orphanage. "It was a package deal," Terri said. Her mother just "wanted a new life and was busy partying with her men" as Terri put it. In fact one of her mom's boyfriends pulled some

See Soup, page 23

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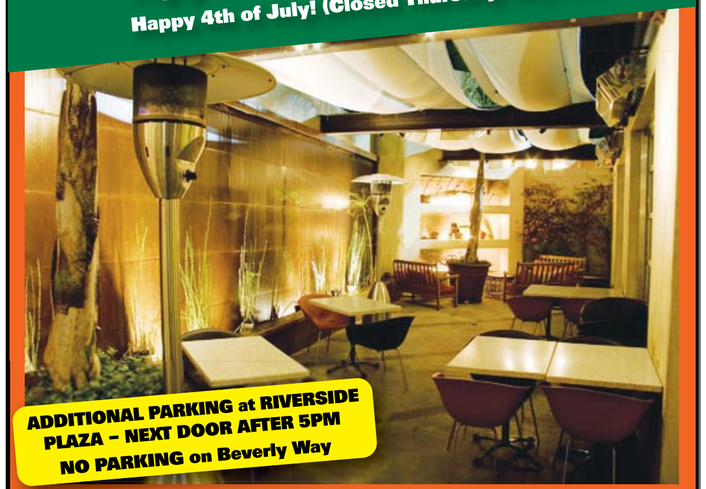

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Arts

'Another App Store' is the newest exhibit presented by the Sol Collective

By SOL COLLECTIVE

'Another App Store' is the newest exhibit presented by the Sol Collective. Another App Store features the work of James Cordas, Gregory Ito, and Robby Moncrieff. Another App Store runs from June 1 to July 13

Gregory Ito

The co-owner of Ever Gold Gallery and the editor of San Francisco's Art Quarterly, Gregory Ito was originally trained as a painter but his recent work has evolved into mixed media arrangements and installations showing throughout the city at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the Eleanor Hardwood Gallery, and Truesilver Gallery.

Greg explains his work:

"Through the multiple mediums of assemblage, painting, sculpture, and installation I establish a language that explores the relationships between image and object and what an art object entails in today's social and cultural climate.

"Using a combination of personal ephemera, consumer products, and industrious materials, works are produced in my practice that fabricate a vernacular that addresses the concepts in my work which reference domestic space, romantic companionship, spirituality, and personal history.

Gregory Ito

Work by James Cordas on display at Sol Collective.

"The motivating ideas that fuel my work is rooted in human euphoria and nostalgia for the moments in human history that define perceived value in today's consumer driven landscape, with recurring dialogues toward natural manifestations such as twilight and the celestial identities of the Sun and Moon.

"I continue my artistic endeavors bearing placement as gesture, texture as memory, objects as identities, image as catalogue, and text as backdrop."

Artist's endeavors can be found at:

www.sfaqonline.com/
evergoldgallery.com/

James Cordas

James Cordas (born May 22, 1986) is an American artist who works in sculpture, installation, digital media, sound and light. His early works included immersive installations, interactive digital media, performance and 2D wall works. Between 2010 and 2012 he has exhibited work in such institutions as Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Liminal Space, We Are Will Brown and The Luggage Store. Cordas has an upcoming residency at the Berkeley Art Museum in early 2014 and is currently studying at the Yale Norfolk School of Art and Music. We recently took a trip to West Oakland to see James' studio. He explains his "An Image altered by its Own Sound" series, shows a glimpse of what is he developing for the Berkeley Art Museum, and why it is important to view his work in person. https://vimeo.com/65920783

Land Park's Ohana Dance to celebrate 10 years

Hula tells the stories of the Hawaiian people. It is the lifeblood of the Hawaiian people. The Hawaiian culture is very rich with legends of gods and goddesses, kings and queens, and stories of historical events and the people who lived them. The hula, through graceful movements, depicts nature through the description of beautiful scenery such as mountains and valleys, and the emotions of love, yearning, and happiness, and loss. History is captured in the dance, and we pass on the stories that have been told from generation to generation. It touches the depths of your spirit, and you feel uplifted and energized when you dance.

Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama, Ohana Dance Group, when asked to describe her love of dancing

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

In the movie Lilo and Stitch, Lilo said "Ohana means family, and family means no one gets left behind or forgotten." That has been the philosophy behind Land Park's Ohana Dance -- that family is very important and that we should not neglect or forget about anyone. To that end, Kumu Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama, founder of the business and its only teacher, said: "We are family-oriented and we encourage family members to dance together."

The Ohana Dance Group is a 501(c)3, a non-profit educational entity and within the halau hula (hula school), we focus on Hawaiian culture and music through dancing.

Land Park's Ohana Dance will be celebrating its 10th anniversary on Saturday, June 29 at Sierra 2 with a ho`ike, a demonstration, much like a recital, where students chant and dance numbers they've learned in class.

Kumu Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama said they'll present the songs and dances of the Islands, with a balance of traditional and modern songs. "We will have guest dancers from a sister halau hula from San Luis Obispo, and the music of Kua`Aina for the modern songs we'll be dancing. Children, adults, and our elders will participate in this offering. A reception with refreshments in Curtis Hall will follow the Theater performance," she said.

So come and experience the Hawaiian culture through the Ohana Dance Group's ho`ike, and celebrate the group's 10th anniversary.

Kumu Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama said the school's last ho`ike was in 2009, after which future ho`ike were put on hold due to her intense hula studies under Loea Hewett.

Ohana at the State Fair.

Photo courtesy

Kumu Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama was born and raised in Hawai`i on the Island of O`ahu, where she graduated from the University of Hawai`i, worked for the State, and raised a family. She started dancing hula at age five and continued studying hula throughout her life.

She moved to Sacramento in 1986 to work for the State of California and continued to study hula, initially under Loea Naomi Kalama. In 2003, she started the Ohana Dance Group, and since 2008, she has studied under Loea Kawaikapuokalani Hewett of O`ahu.

Last year, Kumu Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama realized her dream of undergoing a formal

See Ohana, page 22

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CALENDAR

Send your event announcement for consideration to: editor@valcomnews.com at least two weeks prior to publication.

JUNE

California Youth Basketball League now registering for summer

Games between June 24-July 19: CYBL is currently registering for the summer 2013 season. Mission Statement: California Youth Basketball League is a non-profit year round league for girls and boys ages 4-18 that prides itself on being well organized. They aim to develop basketball skills, sportsmanship, and self-esteem through their coaches, gym officials and organizers. Register as a team or individually. 391-3900; http://www.cybhoops.com/

Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

June 27: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown meeting

June 27: Visitors welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7 a.m. and dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. Topical weekly speakers and 'first meal for visitors on us'. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/ 50th St & Broadway) 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817. www.eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com, 761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

Twilight Thursday at the Zoo

June 27: Zoo open until 8pm. Enjoy warm summer nights at the Sacramento Zoo with extended hours on Twilight Thursdays, June 6th through July 25th. The Zoo is open from 9am to 8pm for your whole family to enjoy. Dinner specials, live music and activities start at 5 pm. Regular daily admission rates apply. General admission is $11.25. Children ages 2-11 are $7.25. Children under one are free. For more information call 916-808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.

Bi-Polar Anonymous

June 28: Free 12-step program/support group, for people who have Bi-Polar and those who love them. Meets every Friday, 7-8:30 p.m. 4300 Auburn Blvd., Room 106. (916) 889-5786.

Teens and Tweens create Asian Cuisine

June 28: Starting at 3 p.m., a monthly food class with the Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op (ages 9-18). For more information visit <http://www.saclibrary.org> or call 264-2920. Belle Cooledge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr.

12th annual Sacramento French Film Festival

June 21-30: Film festival to be had at the Crest Theatre, located at 1013 K St. For more information, visit http://sacramento-frenchfilmfestival.org/index.htm.

Music in Carmichael Park

June 29: Free music featuring Group Therapy, classic rock and R&B from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Carmichael Park Band Shell 5750 Grant Ave. 485-5322. www.carmichaelpark.com.

Music in Carmichael Park

June 30: Free music featuring Songbird Trio, 50s-90s oldies, country, pop and rock, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Carmichael Park Band Shell 5750 Grant Ave. 485-5322. www.carmichaelpark.com.

Senior resource fair at St. Anthony's

June 29: A resource fair will be held at St. Anthony's from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. St. Anthony's is located at 660 Florin Rd. The resource fair will be sponsored by Primrose. Potential vendors can contact Casey Simon at 392-3510. Set up time will be at 8 a.m.

Capitol Pops Concert Band

June 29: Capitol Pops Concert Band kicks off Independence Day holiday early with a patriotic concert June 29 in Sacramento's Jane Steele Park. The Capitol Pops Concert Band continues its 16th season with a free, open to the public, patriotic concert at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 29, 2013, in Sacramento's Jane Steele Park. The park is at 4855 Hamilton Street, just south of the Madison Avenue exit off Interstate 80. Under the baton of Director Jerry Lopes, CPCB's performance will include a mix of some of the band's traditional American favorites, contemporary hits and tunes from the movies and the stage. Visit www.capitolpops.org for more information.

Animals from around the world with Wild Things

June 29: Starting at 3 p.m., meet live animals from Wild Thing's group of rescued animal ambassadors and hear their personal stories. Join us for a lively and fun program full of fascinating information! For more information visit <http://www.saclibrary.org> or call 264-2920. Belle Cooledge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr.

11th annual stepping out to cure Scleroderma

June 29: The 5k and 10k runs at William Land Park will be chip-timed; runs begin at 9 a.m. 2-mile walk begins at 9:35 a.m. Register online at <www.scleroderma.org/steppingoutsacramento> or at <active.com>

'Help Give a Vet a Ride'

June 29: Hosted by Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 500, this is an event to raise funds to purchase a disabled equipped vehicle in order to provide transportation for vets to attend doctor's appointments, meetings, social interaction and events. Assemblyman Roger Dickinson will be receiving the VVA500 Legislator of the Year Award for his outstanding, longtime community service and dedication to veterans. Also receiving awards will by VVA500 sponsor and Member of the Year. The event will be held at the Carmichael Elks Lodge - 5631 Cypress Ave. The event goes starts with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Price: $50. per person, $90. for two, $300. for a table of 8 for dinner, dancing, silent auction. Contact: For information and tickers: 916-481-6020 or e-mail: vietnamvets@vva500.org

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River's Edge Senior Community presents a sandwich generation event

June 29: How to be a good trustee … Trudy Nearn, the founding attorney of Generations, a Sacramento-based estate and trust law firm, will share her expert knowledge of estate planning, trust and probate law from 2-3 p.m. at River's Edge Senior Community, located at 601 Feature Dr., Sacramento. Refreshments will be served. RSVP by calling 921-5131.

A Midsummer Night's Dream & Crystal Ice Cream Fantasy

June 29: From 6 - 10 p.m., celebrate the classic works of William Shakespeare while enjoying all you can eat Crystal ice cream at Fairytale Town's magical midsummer evening inspired by the popular fairy-themed play. The enchanting evening features multiple ice cream tasting stations, live entertainment, hands-on activities, an old-time marketplace and more. Costumes for the whole family are encouraged. No host food and bar. Mix 96's Jennifer Wood will emcee the event. Tickets go on sale May 1 at www.fairytaletown.org. Advance tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for children ages 2-12. Day-of tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for children ages 2-12. Sponsored by Crystal Creamery and Mix 96. For more information, visit www.fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.

JULY

Sacramento Geranium Club Meeting

July 1: There will be a presentation on container gardening by Quentyn Young from the Fair Oaks Boulevard Nursery from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Visitors are welcome. Free. Call 808-8800 for more information.

Rotary Clubs of Arden-Arcade, Carmichael

July 2: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome, every Tuesday. Arden-Arcade meets at noon, Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave. (916) 925-2787. Carmichael meets at 6 p.m., Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd. www.rotary.org.

Soroptimist International of Sacramento North meeting

July 2: An organization for the betterment of women and children meets at the atria El Camino Gardens at 2426 Garfield, Carmichael. Call Sheila at 624-4643.

Local kids' camp opens its doors to grandparents

July 2: The Sacramento SPCA's Camp Kindness is opening its doors to a kids' favorite—their grandparents. From 9 a.m. to noon grandparents are invited to bring their pet-loving grandchildren to the Sacramento SPCA's shelter on Florin-Perkins Road for a fun-filled and educational morning. The cost is $25 for one grandparent and up to two grandchildren ages 4–10. The event will provide kids a unique opportunity to bond with their grandparents while learning about humane awareness through games, crafts and tours of the Sacramento SPCA adoption center. Space is limited. Grandparents and parents alike can call (916) 504-2845 to reserve their spot.

East Sac Rotary

July 3: Meets at noon, Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St. Sacramento. www.eastsacrotary.com.

Art for All – Stamping with Fruit and Veggies

July 3: At 3 p.m., there will be projects for young children, tweens, teens and adults. For more information visit www.saclibrary.org or call 264-2920. Belle Cooledge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dr. Good for families.

Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

July 4: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

River Park Fourth of July festivities

July 4: Kiddie parade begins at Caleb Greenwood. There will be antique cars, Black Hat Berry balloon artist, face painting by Alison's Creations, bounce houses, imagination stations, carnival games and prizes, handmade art for sale. The event is pet friendly. The day's events go from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Glenn Hall Park. There will be music by Phil Serna and his band,'Unsupervised.'

City of Elk Grove Annual Red, White, and Blue fireworks Celebration

July 4: This year, the City of Elk Grove is hosting the 17th Annual Salute to the Red, White and Blue fireworks show at the Elk Grove Regional Park. The festivities begin in the evening with live music and food. Attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket and have a picnic or barbecue while enjoying the concert in the park. Fireworks begin at 9:30 p.m. The firing location based at the Kloss Softball Complex will light up the skies over Elk Grove Regional Park. Admission is free, and parking is $10 per vehicle. Gates open at 7 a.m. Drivers should enter Elk Grove Regional Park at the Main Gate off Elk Grove-Florin Road (9950 Elk Grove-Florin Road). The Elk Grove Police Department will release traffic information prior to the event.

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Ohana: Group's 10 year celebration to be held June 29

Continued from page 17

graduation ceremony as a Kumu Hula on the Island of Hawai`i.

"I was very fortunate to have been born and raised in Hawai`i, at a time when we were still a Territory of the U.S. Life was much simpler and safer in those days. I was immersed in things Hawaiian, and I had a great love of the poetry and legends of Hawai`i that are sung and danced to.

"The mountains, the valleys, the streams, the ocean - those were my playgrounds. Since dancing at age five, at this point in my life, it's time to pass on the knowledge and culture to others, especially the youth, so they can embrace the beautiful culture of the Islands," Kumu Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama said.

"When people learn that I'm from Hawai`i and have a depth of knowledge of the Hawaiian culture and dance, they have shown respect for what I have to offer. I've lived in the Islands longer than I've lived here in CA.

"Because our halau does a lot of community service, there are so many requests for performances and demonstrations that we are unable to fulfill everyone's request.

"One of the main things that I stress is humility and respect for others, especially the elders, and that is very much appreciated by the community.

"My teacher, Loea Hewett, has a rich hula lineage, and we are afforded additional respect because of this. Additionally, as an education-based non-profit entity, we encourage youth to continue their education. Since 2006, we've awarded 12 scholarships to high school seniors. We've had a lot of fundraisers to be able to accomplish that feat!"

Pat Ke`alaanuhea Toyama said she has found that many people had an interest in learning about Hawai`i and its people. "Through my teachings, I experienced a sense of gratification in being able to share my knowledge about Hawai`i and I've continued to teach people how to dance. Over the course of 10 years, I've taught hundreds of students, and with my halau, have impacted the lives of thousands through demonstrations and community activities," she said.

Ohana has classes for all ages, including a kupuna (elders) class on Thursday afternoons, a keiki (kids') class and an `opio (youth) class on Saturday mornings, and two other classes for all ages on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Currently, our youngest student is six and our oldest is 82. Over the years, they have offered various workshops at their halau such as lei and implement making and other crafts, Tahitian dancing, Hawaiian healing arts, `ukulele, Yoga, and even Reiki.

The largest class is on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. Dancers start by putting on their pa`u skirts, then chant a request to enter the halau, a hula tradition. The Kumu Hula chants the permission to enter. The students learn their basic steps with the Kumu Hula beating on an ipu heke (gourd drum). The students are taught the meaning of the songs they are about to learn, and do kahiko or traditional dances, as well as `auana or contemporary dances. Currently, we are practicing with a band, called Kua`Aina, who'll be playing music for us at upcoming events. Our classes are held at our halau located at 6235 Belleau Wood Lane, Suite 1B, Sacramento, CA 95822. It faces Blair Ave., which is opposite the Executive Airport off Freeport Blvd. RT bus 62 stops right in front of our halau, a convenience for those who don't drive.

If you go:

What: A ho`ike, or a demonstration, much like a recital, where students from Ohana Dance Group chant and dance numbers they've learned in class.
When: Saturday, June 29 at 2 p.m.
Where: Sierra 2 Center inside the 24th St. Theater

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Soup: Cook got her start at the Sacramento Children's Home

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strings to get Terri and her sister into the Sacramento Children's Home. Her Father remarried and didn't have any time for Terri. Although she would occasionally run into him at Raley's Supermarket on Freeport Boulevard (awkward on aisle 5), she never got a chance to tell him how she really felt about things.

The Orphanage is where Terri first got interested in cooking and hanging out in the kitchen. At the young tender age of 5 she would hang out in the kitchen with Viola and Ann, who ran the big kitchen at the Sacramento Children's Home. Terri says, "I was trying to be the kid that everybody loved". She'd watch, learn, and help out as Viola and Ann cooked up the homemade grub for the children at the orphanage.

Another cooking influence for Terri was her Grandmother who she calls Nana. When school was out Terri would spend summers with her Nana in Modoc County sitting and watching her make soup…all from scratch. Terri has carried that tradition on at the Pancake Circus. I asked her where were all the secret recipes and Terri said, "All in my head, Greg." Good thing because somebody might steal them if they were on paper.

She always had people watching over her, including her older sister Claire, Viola, Ann, her housemother Mrs. Washington, and the Four Robin Hoods, a local non-profit organization. The Four Robin Hoods helped her find her first job at Hale's Department Store in Sacramento folding towels. "They saw something in me, I was lucky". She was able to leave the orphanage and move to a place in West Sacramento.

Despite not having a role model for a mother, Terri managed to successfully raise four children on her own or "All by myself" as she put it. The father, "had to go" due to some drug problems. He wasn't much of a father to the children. They all graduated from McClatchy high school and have gone on to lead happy productive lives.

When Terri arrived at the Pancake Circus 14 years ago she noticed the restaurant needed a little tweaking, a bit of love, and plenty of her Nana's soup recipes. After eating oatmeal and doing her pilates Terri puts in 12-hour days at the Pancake Circus because "she loves it."

While I was at the restaurant I noticed Terri greeting, seating, and bantering with customers. She was also wiping down tables and refilling people's coffee. Doing it all. She takes care of the customers as well as her employees. They all spoke very fondly of her.

Not only do the customers like her soups, her employees love them too.

Terri Merritt, one of the waitresses at the Pancake Circus said, "She's a damn good cook, and the cheesy croutons …" Terri made a noise that you usually only hear between consenting adults. Terri tries to take home the leftovers when she can, "not many soup leftovers though."

Terri Mead also makes a popular Italian Wedding soup. It's so popular, one of the busboys always asks, "When are you making the Italian Wedding soup?"

Lori, another longtime waitress at the restaurant, told me Terri does a lot of things for the employees…including bringing in some homemade goodies. Cookies, cake, lemon bars, tamale pie…the works! Lori, who described herself as "Terri's favorite", brought me a slice of orange Bundt cake that she made for her. More tasty homemade goodness! Then Terri brought me some gluten free banana bread made with rice flour. A real treat – it had a scrumptious crunchy topping and was moist inside. I was getting stuffed!

Okay back to the soup! I asked Terri how many soups were in her repertoire and she said, "It's endless" She's always coming up with new soups. Some of the other soups in her repertoire include tomato bisque, albondigas soup, lima bean with ham hock, and the popular loaded baked potato soup. She uses fresh cream, bacon, fresh grated nutmeg… then she stopped herself and said, "Hey, I can't tell you all my secrets". What's not a secret is she makes a soup stock with bone from Taylor's Market. She also hits up all the local Farmer's Markets. She even has a friend in Stockton who grows lima beans, black-eyed peas, basil, lavender, blueberries and whatever else Terri asks her to grow. Backyard farm to fork!

There are plenty of stories behind the homemade soups Terri Mead creates at the Pancake Circus. She puts her heart, soul, and personal history into each bowl. I was seduced by her soups. After spending time with Terri and the staff at Pancake Circus I can now say I'm a "Soup Guy."

Photos by Greg Brown

(above left) Portuguese bean soup. (above right) Chicken and rice soup.

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