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**Happy 90th  
Birthday,  
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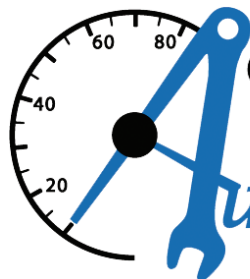
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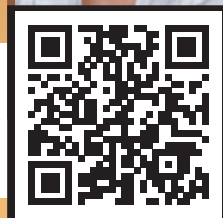
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# Over the Fence

with Greg Brown



By GREG BROWN  
greg@valcomnews.com

## Bring us your Tootsie Pops

Dr. Jill Whitney is a dentist on Freeport Boulevard who is also good deed doer. Every year, she and her staff have a Halloween Candy Buy-back Program. The program encourages kids to bring in their leftover Halloween candy they begged all night for in exchange for cold hard cash.

They better not buy candy with it!

This year, Dr. Whitney's office collected 84 pounds of candy. They gave a dollar for every pound, not to mention the 16 pounds her husband collected at his work.

It's for a good cause, too. All the candy they collect gets sent to Operation Gratitude along with lots of toothbrushes. Operation Gratitude sends it to U.S. soldiers overseas in holiday care packages. I bet it's a nice treat for our men and women in uniform. Tootsie Rolls, Snickers, and Smarties probably remind them of home.

Another benefit of the Candy buyback is saving the kid's teeth from high sugar exposure for an extended period of time. I remember when I was a kid we covered a large swath of trick-or-treating ground, which meant a pillowcase full of sugar-filled Halloween candy. I had leftovers 'til Christmas! I also made quite a few unpleasant trips to the dentist.

Debbie Podesta, the office manager, told me "Dr. Whitney does things she likes to do. Little charities. She's just that way."

## BBQ and new bikes

Sutterville Bicycle Company recently had a big grand opening and barbecue with all the fixin's. There were hot-dogs, hamburgers, even some turkey burgers. They also were playing some groovy funky tunes that complemented some of the groovy bikes the shop had for sale.

The new owner, Jeff Dzurinko, took over ownership of the bike shop about six weeks ago from the initial owner, so it was more like an open house than a grand opening. Jeff said, "I can't wait to get to know some of the neighbors."

He's already getting some local love from the neighborhood. (See posts on the Facebook page.)

"The people in the neighborhood have been nothing but supportive to me and I'm happy to help them out with their bicycling needs," Jeff said, referring to it as "a grass-roots kind of bike shop."

"I think having this sized shop allows me to be more personable and allows me to give that one-on-one experience that customers can appreciate," he added. And Jeff definitely has that. He was greeting the folks who came to the grand opening with handshakes and a friendly "hello."

One thing Jeff wants to put a big emphasis on is

See Over the Fence, page 16



The Safeway Gas Station at Natomas Town Center on Del Paso Road is very busy.

Photo by Greg Brown

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# Matías Bombal's Hollywood

## The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1

The MPAA has given this a PG-13 rating

Clever Katniss continues to captivate! From Lionsgate, the Hunger Games screen saga continues with the usual suspects: Ms. Jennifer Lawrence, of course, resumes her role as Katniss Everdeen; Liam Hemsworth, Donald Sutherland, Woody Harrelson, Julianne Moore, and Stanley Tucci are back again.

The late Philip Seymour Hoffman (Plutarch Heavensbee) photographed this screen chapter of the story with all of the previous movies at the same time. Seeing him now is particularly noticeable after his unfortunate passing and is an odd feeling.

This chapter, almost like classic serial chapters of the golden age of the movies with the necessary cliffhanger ending, follows Katniss' destruction of the games. She meets the President of District 13

(Julianne Moore) who convinces her to become the poster girl for the rebel cause against the Capitol. Katniss steps up to the challenge and ends up leading the rebels against an unknown future. She still holds a flame for Peeta Mellark (played by Josh Hutcherson, recapping his role), who is a prisoner of the Capitol.

In one scene, Katniss goes to a hospital in the war zone. The shots were very reminiscent of Scarlett O'Hara visiting the wounded soldiers in "Gone with the Wind". I found this to be an entertaining movie, and less loud and fast than the previous installments, and that's good. Donald Sutherland savors his role and it's great to see him on screen. Jeffrey Wright (Boardwalk Empire) returns and is good in this as Beetee. Ms. Lawrence is always fun to watch and will not disappoint in this offering of Hunger Games adventure.

## "Interstellar"

The MPAA has rated this PG-13. Paramount Pictures and Warner Bros. bring us "Interstellar," an epic science fiction event movie that rivals the classic era of showmanship's

great road shows in its IMAX and 70mm film presentations in the United States.

Under the direction of Christopher Nolan, "Interstellar" stars Matthew McConaughey. In the not too distant future, McConaughey, a farmer with two kids, once an engineer, pilot, and astronaut, uses technology to bring down a drone flying over his farm.

The information he finds will lead him to set his course for adventure. This future world is plagued by great climate change devastated by famine and drought. He's recruited by NASA into action to find hope for mankind's future in the stars.

Michael Caine, a key NASA scientist, offers the discovery of a rip in the space/time continuum as a chance to look for life on a planet in another solar system.

This is indeed a most handsome production, which even at a lengthy running time of 169 minutes without intermission, offers good performances from Jessica Chastain, Matt Damon, Anne Hathaway, John Lithgow, and one of my favorite young actors of today, Casey Affleck. In small scenes, you'll see Topher Grace and Ellen Burstyn.

The director's choice for IMAX film shots of incredible size give you the

impression of the vastness of space much better than you saw in "Gravity", and in fact I liked this so much more than that movie for many reasons.

The best part: I felt like I was a kid again with the wonder of adventurous space travel, pushing the limits of science and imagination. The "2001: A Space Odyssey" influence may be felt here, as you get a sense of the unknown and mysterious with a longing to know more. It's a fun ride.

One of the notable aspects of this film release is the very fact that it is on film, and will be projected that way in IMAX theaters across the nation on IMAX 15 perf/70mm prints.

I found that "Interstellar's" musical score by Hans Zimmer offers a tip of the hat to the "2001: A Space Odyssey" score while remaining different than the standard action scores of today with that nasty boom crash sound that I find so detestable. This is a great way to spend time at the movies, it made science-fiction fun for me again. (Note for our readers: Matías' online review for this movie shows the inside of the Esquire IMAX theater and just how the film print is assembled and shown for these special showings on actual IMAX film: <http://youtu.be/lbUHfMYyZP4>)



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# Happy 90th birthday, Al Balshor!

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
Lance@valcomnews.com

Sacramento native Antonio Alberto "Al" Balshor, a man known for his longtime ownership of Balshor Florist on Riverside Boulevard, just south of Broadway, recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

Al, who was born on Nov. 22, 1924, grew up in a large family in a home at 315 U St., near Southside Park.

In speaking about that residence during an interview with this publication three days prior to his birthday, Al said, "My parents (Portuguese natives Arthur and Grace Secco Balshor) bought that home in 1921 from (Daniel) Stanich, (who had moved into the house in about 1912)."

Al also mentioned that he was literally born in the aforementioned U Street home.

"In those days, people made house calls," Al said.

Al then explained that his mother was also known for making house calls.

"(Grace) delivered a lot of babies in the neighborhood," Al said. "She was kind of the unofficial midwife. Back in those days, you helped each other. There were a lot of midwives in those days."

In addition to her unofficial midwife work, Grace, who became a widow in 1929, was also a local canner worker.

And in speaking about the longtime importance of canneries in Sacramento, Al said, "Canneries put a lot of people's food on the table,

you bet your life. That was a big operation. The (Southern Pacific) shops were the same way."

Al added that Grace would also pick prunes in Colusa with her family.

"We picked prunes at Colusa during the off season up there," Al said. "A lot of the people around that neighborhood went up to Colusa (to pick) prunes. I hated it. My mom would give me 10 boxes and it would take me all day long to pick them. It was a nickel a box. We made enough to buy shoes and stuff. It was around August and then we would come back and go to school."

Al was educated in local schools, as he first attended the very integrated Lincoln School at 4th and Q streets. He was then a student at William Land Elementary School at 1116 U St. for the 4th, 5th and 6th streets before returning to Lincoln School for the 7th, 8th and 9th grades.

Next, Al attended Sacramento High School, where he played on the school's football team and graduated in 1942.

Al continued to speak about his many years of working, noting that he once had three Sacramento Bee routes.

His other jobs included selling programs for boxing matches at the old L Street Arena at 223 L St., pitching watermelons at the Sacramento Farmers Market at 2630 5th St., just south of Broadway, and washing bottles at Jones Howell pickle works at 315 T St.

Al mentioned that he also worked as a motorcycle courier.

"I drove (three wheeled) motorcycles for Willis & Martin Co. at (1001-1003 K St.)," Al recalled. "I delivered drugs. I got paid \$50 a month, but I had to quit the job, because I got two tickets and I couldn't afford to get them. Hollywood stop."

Following high school, Al obtained a job as a flower wholesale worker for Lino Piazza at 1328 7th St., before accepting a position delivering ice for the Consumers Ice & Cold Storage Co. at 831 D St.

Although Al had intended to attend Sacramento Junior College – today's Sacramento City College – he stated, "The U.S. Army was my college education."

After being drafted into the Army in 1943, Al was sent to Camp Carson (now Fort Carson) in Colorado.

Six months later, Al went to Nashville, Tenn. Then in December 1943, he was sent to Camp Kilmer, near New Brunswick, N.J.

Al was eventually given official clearance to return home after his brother, Joe, died in the war on Jan. 13, 1944, but Al opted to remain in the Army.



Photo by Lance Armstrong

Sacramento native Al Balshor, who has worked and resided in the Land Park area for the past 64 years, recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

On Feb. 12, 1944, Al traveled overseas on the Queen Mary troopship for seven days.

During his interview for this article, Al pointed to a display case on a wall, and then said, "I was a medic and an ambulance driver. Right outside here, I've got my little shrine. There's (a photograph of Gen. George) Patton (in that shrine) and I've got the little ambulance (replicas) in there, and some lady from France brought me some things over. She came visiting some graves across the street (from Balshor Florist), then I got to talking to

her, and I said, 'Oh, I was in (France).' And she came up and gave me a big hug and said, 'I never met anybody that helped save my country – France.' So, what she did was she came back two

See, Balshor, page 8

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# Balshor:

Continued from page 7

years later and brought me these (coins from the five campaigns before the war ended)."

Al, who spent six months in Wales before D-Day and was on the border of Poland when the war ended, recalled his postwar return to the United States.

"I went down to Marseilles, France," Al said. "I came all the way from Marseilles into Newport News, Va. Then I went from Virginia on the train all the way out here (to Sacramento). I came through Reno, came all the way to Sacramento (to the Southern Pacific passenger depot). We had to come here to go back to Camp Beale (today's Beale Air Force Base). For some reason or another, the train had to come here to go back. I asked the conductor, 'How long are you going to be here?' He said, 'Oh, about four hours.' So, I got in a cab at midnight and came down and started banging on my mom's door. She was crying and screaming. She didn't know I was coming home. I got back on the train and three days later I was home. So, that was the story."

In 1946, Al became one of the charter members of Southside American Legion Post 662.

Al, who is also a longtime member of the Sacramento Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Southside Improvement Club, the American Portuguese Club and the Portuguese Historical and Cultural Society, also spoke about his wife, Marie, who he first met on her family's farm in Dixon in 1934 when he was 9 years old and Marie was 6 years old.

"(Al's sister), Lucille, and Marie (who had developed a longtime dislike for Al during an incident in Dixon that ended in a water fight) went to the Pelican Club (at 2231 10th St.) one night," Al said. "(Marie) happened to go there with my



Photo by Lance Armstrong

While sitting alongside his wife, Marie, Al Balshor blows out candles on his birthday cake during a gathering in his honor at Balshor Florist on Nov. 22, 2014.

sister. So, we ended up there, had a couple of drinks and then we went to the Swing Club at (541 N. 16th St.). They had a band and Marie and I were dancing. When the dance was over, I gave her a kiss on the cheek and we've been in love ever since. We used to have bands in those days. That was in (April) 1947 and we got married on Jan. 1, 1948, on New Year's Day. We got married in Dixon at St. Peter's Church." The couple eventually had three children, Judie, Al, Jr. and Jerry.

While dating Marie, in 1947, Al went to work at Relles Florist at 2220 J St. by way of the GI Bill.

In 1950, Al opened the original location of Balshor Florist at 730 O St.

Twenty-two years later, a plan to redevelop the site forced Al to relocate his business to its present location at 2661 Riverside Blvd.

In describing his business, Al said, "We're a certified, all-around florist - a full service florist. We do weddings, parties, we do funerals, anything. We're just a full fledged florist. We're qualified to do anything we need to do."

Sixty-four years after establishing Balshor Florist, Al remains very active in the operations of his business.

"I got out of the service on Nov. 4, 1945, and I opened my shop up on Nov. 4, 1950," Al said. "And I still work every day, six days a week. That's what keeps me young."



Photo by Lance Armstrong

Al Balshor sits behind a large birthday cake during a gathering in his honor at Balshor Florist on Nov. 22, 2014.

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# PUZZLE PLUS

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## The Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Angry outburst
- 5 Walk heavily
- 9 Medical discovery
- 13 Full of zeal
- 15 Get wind of
- 16 October stone
- 17 Influence unfairly
- 19 Pull apart
- 20 At the ready
- 21 Freeload
- 23 Air bag?
- 24 In bits and pieces
- 25 Cigarette brand
- 28 Tomorrow, in Tijuana
- 30 Take to the soapbox
- 31 Swampy ground
- 32 Ocean liner?
- 36 Excavated
- 37 New hire, often
- 41 Slimy gunk
- 42 In the thick of
- 44 Conclusion
- 45 On the lam
- 47 Player list
- 50 Boring tool
- 51 Writer's check
- 54 Right on the map?
- 56 Slip-on shoe
- 57 Sentimental place
- 61 Coated with gold
- 62 Lack of fitness
- 64 Medicinal herb
- 65 Finger jab
- 66 Poultry buy

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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17						18					19		
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61						62	63						
64							65				66		
67							68					69	

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- |                                   |                       |                              |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 67 Minstrel's strings             | 10 Flip over          | 40 Waistband stuff           |
| 68 Minnesota player               | 11 Cowboys' home      | 43 Military inductee         |
| 69 Fabric quantity                | 12 Church dignitary   | 46 Overdo one's welcome      |
|                                   | 14 Uniform decoration | 48 Wee hour                  |
| <b>DOWN</b>                       | 18 Coffee vessel      | 49 Look into, as a cold case |
| 1 Wheelchair aid                  | 22 Witty bit          | 51 Like pond scum            |
| 2 Miles away                      | 24 Any time now       | 52 Crocheted item            |
| 3 Prime-time hour                 | 25 Musical finale     | 53 Bravery in battle         |
| 4 One of three in a delivery room | 26 Lily variety       | 55 Away from the bow         |
| 5 Smoker's excess                 | 27 Biblical trio      | 57 Rice wine                 |
| 6 Heavy metal                     | 29 Go along with      | 58 Insect stage              |
| 7 Stable staple                   | 33 Keyed up           | 59 Sign of spoilage          |
| 8 Equestrian event type           | 34 Miniscule margin   | 60 Look after                |
| 9 Beers served with lime          | 35 Take-charge        | 63 Women's org.              |
|                                   | 38 Official edict     |                              |
|                                   | 39 Poker stake        |                              |

See answers, page 24

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# Chinatown history includes successful laundries, more

By LANCE ARMSTRONG  
Lance@valcomnews.com

*Editor's Note: This is part five in a series regarding historic Asian districts of Sacramento.*

Sacramento's historic Chinatown, as mentioned in the previous article of this series, was established during the Gold Rush era.

Despite various tragedies and prejudices, its residents continued to persevere and conduct the everyday activities of their lives in that self-sufficient community.

And as its own community, Chinatown or Yee Fow, which was mostly located along I Street, primarily from 2nd to 6th streets, included residential housing and a wide variety of businesses, as well as religious institutions and social centers.

Gambling halls and saloons were also established in the early years of Chinatown, which originally featured wood and canvas structures.

Among the early Chinese businesses in the state were laundries.

Wah Lee is often given credit for establishing the first regular Chinese laundry in the United States. He opened a hand laundry business in San Francisco in 1851, and was noted to have hung a sign, which read, "Washing and Ironing."

In Sacramento, Chinese laundries also date back to the 1850s.

The Sacramento Union, in its June 21, 1854 edition, notes: "Sutter Lake – This sheet of water (next to Sacramento's Chinatown) has now fallen to nearly its ordinary summer level, and on its margin, not long since submerged, may be seen hundreds of Chinamen employed in washing the clothes of the citizen or stranger. In fact, the banks skirting Sutter Lake seem to be metamorphosed into one grand laundry for the 'million.'"

In another article, which was published in the Feb. 14, 1855 edition of The Union, it was mentioned that Chinese had by then "nearly monopolized" the laundry operations in the capital city.

It was noted in the May 31, 1875 edition of The Union that, at that time, all Chinese washmen in Sacramento were members of the Chinese Washhouse Association.

Among the many Chinese owned laundry businesses in Sacramento in various eras were a washhouse at 4th Street, between J and K streets, during the 1870s; Ah Qum, Ah Chee and Ah Yeu's laundry at 6th and L streets during the 1870s; Chung Chin's laundry at 1215 4th St. (about 1907 to about 1911) and Ling Chong Laundry, which opened at 1323 3rd St. in about 1920.

Ling Chong was acquired by Fong Tom Lee in about 1940, renamed Third Street Laundry in the early 1950s and relocated to 520 S St. in about 1961.

The business remained in operation until Lee's death at the age of 79 on March 2, 1976, and the laundry was resumed for about a year in the same location by Kwok Chu Wong, beginning in about 1978.

Another Chinese laundry business was San Fong Chong Laundry, which opened at 814 I St. in about 1906. It was located in a brick building that was constructed in 1869.

A reference to that business in the May 5, 1939 edition of The Sacramento Bee notes that it was a



Photo courtesy of Sacramento Public Library, Sacramento Room

San Fong Chong Laundry was located at 814 I St. from about 1906 to about 1942.

typical Chinese laundry that was continuing to give tickets for laundry bundles as had been done in "the days of old."

San Fong Chong Laundry remained in business until about 1942.

When it comes to railroad history, Chinese provided labor for the mid-1850s construction of California's first railroad, the Sacramento Valley Railroad, a short line from Sacramento to Folsom.

And during the construction of the first Transcontinental Railroad, thousands of people, the majority of which were Chinese, were hired as laborers to build the Central Pacific Railroad.

In recognition that Chinese workers provided most of the labor for the construction of the Central Pacific, a select group of eight Chinese laborers carried forward the ceremonial, last rail of the Central Pacific as part of a May 10, 1869 ceremony at Promontory Summit in the Utah Territory.

During that era, many more Chinese made their homes in and visited Sacramento's Chinatown.

Despite their role in building the Transcontinental Railroad, in many cases, Chinese were not well received in Sacramento after that railroad's completion.

Chinese were often blamed for reported economic struggles in the 1870s, as they had accepted low wages to build the railroad.

It was during the 1870s and 1880s that many Chinese began to find refuge from the hostilities they faced in the capital city by relocating to the Sacramento Delta, where they became involved in farming.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 denied entry of Chinese laborers into the United States for a decade.

On December 18, 1885, about 1,500 locals gathered at Armory Hall at the southwest cor-

ner of 6th and L streets, where The Citizens' Anti-Chinese Association of Sacramento, California was formed.

The constitution and by-laws of that organization included the following words: "(The association was designed) to establish bureaus and agencies for the purpose of furnishing domestics to replace Chinese house servants" and "to appoint permanent committees, whose duty it shall be to use every effort towards (sic) the displacement of Chinese now employed in the various locations and industries by white labor."

In regard to the medical industry, early Chinese physicians in Sacramento, at various times, included Dr. Offo, Dr. Young Can Sing, Dr. T. Wah Hing and Dr. Fung Lung.

An 1870 advertisement for Dr. Sing reads: "The celebrated Chinese physician, No. 141 I Street, between Fifth and Sixth (streets), continues to make the most wonderful cures of diseases of all kinds, and has the testimonials to show from many of his old patients, to prove that he cures where other physicians have failed. His charges are low and cure is certain."

A Chinese public school was opened at the Perry Seminary building on I Street, between 10th and 11th streets, in the fall of 1894.

Among the school's first students were Fong Ming Seung, Hong Yung Chin, Fong Quong, Yee Wing, Henry Lung, Louie Yon, Fong Yum, Annie Soon, Mamie Fung, Fong Poy, Louie Do Fook and Fong Hog. Clara F. Parsons was the school's first principal and teacher.

The Chinese public school was still operating as late as 1912, at its final location of 913 3rd Street in Chinatown. The school was then run by Principal Tang Tien Leung.

In latter years, many young people from Chinatown and other places in that vicinity attended Lincoln School at 4th and Q streets.

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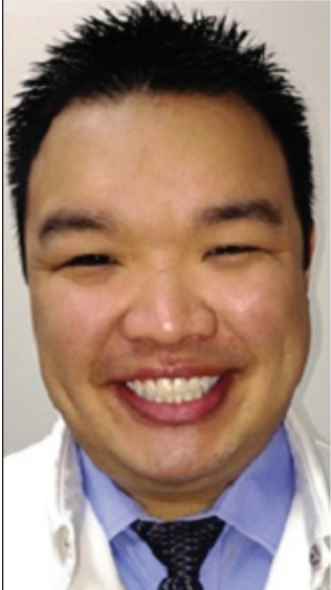
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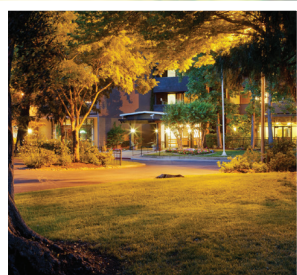
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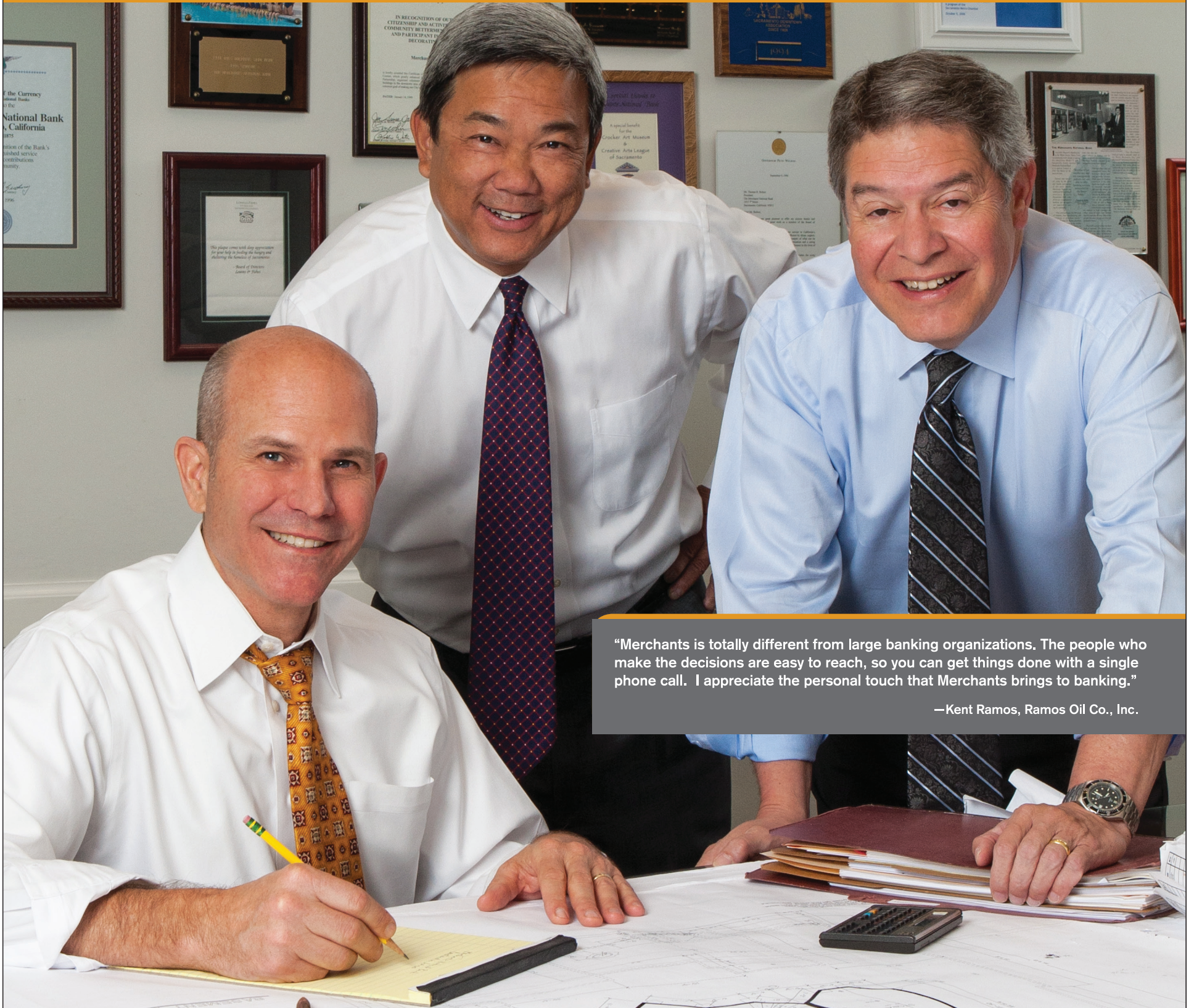
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## Over the Fence:

Continued from page 5

service and repairs. Jeff is a very experienced technician and is capable of working on all sorts of bikes. Does your bike chain keep slipping? Need a tune-up? Head on over to see Jeff. He also does custom-built bikes and custom orders.

He had some cool, old school used bikes in the shop, a wide array of different style bikes. He's got vintage bikes from the pre-war era along with accessories and parts to those old bikes. He's also got a lot of '70s, '80s and '90s era BMX bikes. It kind of reminded me of being a kid hanging around the bike shop.

Jeff said, "The BMX bikes are cool, and not only are kids buying them, but adults that had them when they were kids want to buy them for their kids now."

They also have comfortable, efficient, modern bikes that are perfect for a work commute.

The Sutterville Bicycle Company is located in a tricky area: Sutterville and Attawa right next to the Sutterville Bypass. That hill will get your quads in shape once you get your bike in perfect working condition at the new bike shop on the block.

## Curtis Park Village voices say 'no' to proposed gas station

A fight's a brewin' in the Curtis Park Village development. Developer Paul Petrovich and members of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association are duking it out again – this time over a Safeway gas station, err, make that the Curtis Park Village Neighborhood Fuel Center as the project is being called.

Wordy. They're gonna need a giant glowing sign for that.

The Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association has come out against the fueling station and kiosk that would be part of the Safeway Supermarket being proposed.

The Curtis Park Village Neighborhood Fuel Center, or the Safeway Gas Station, would be open 24 hours a day. There will also be a large kiosk where busy commuters can get their Red Bull, snacks, beer, cigarettes and anything else they need at 3 in the morning.

The proposed gas station will have eight pumping stations, including 16 gas pumps and will be open 24 hours a day.

I spoke with Curtis Park resident Nancy McKeever over the phone and she really did her homework

on the proposed friendly neighborhood fueling station. She is very much opposed to any gas station in Curtis Park Village. She's uber opposed.

When I asked her about it, she sarcastically said, "We didn't know we needed one."

Nancy told me about how the Curtis Park neighborhood has worked hard for a high quality urban infill project. Every step of the way they have fought tooth and nail for this infill development to be the kind of project the neighborhood could be proud of. They've worked to increase densities of housing, to make streets punch through so the old neighborhood is connected, to get a bridge over the railroad to connect the neighborhood with the transit station. They've also butted heads with Paul Petrovich over park space.

Now they're going toe to toe over the Safeway gas station and kiosk.

The grocery store is not the problem. It's the gas station. Nancy said, "It's not transit serving. It does not honor multi-million dollar public investment; it degrades it. Not only does it not provide transit riders and value to that investment and the bridge that's going over it, it greatly detracts because of the amount of traffic it's going to

pull in to get gas at the fueling station."

I drove on out to the Natomas Town Center on Del Paso Road and the Safeway gas station was doing brisk business. This gas station on Del Paso Road has six pumps, the one proposed for Curtis Park Village is eight pumps so it would be larger. A lot of Safeway gas was being guzzled up, so much in fact there was also a huge gasoline truck parked at the gas station. They can't keep the gas tanks filled! The truck driver was taking a smoke break along the sidewalk before he hit the road to the next Safeway gas station to fill'er up.

In their letter to the Sacramento City Planning Division, the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association states, "The overall purpose of this PUD's development guidelines is to ensure that the proposed uses of this infill development blend with and enhance the quality of life and charm of the existing Curtis Park neighborhood. Compatibility with the existing neighborhood has been the watchword for a very long time. The proposed gas station works against this general purpose. One of the objectives for this goal is to encourage the use of public transportation and to develop appropriate linkages


to surrounding neighborhoods including pedestrian, bicycle, vehicle and alternative transportation modes. A gas station in this location frustrates this goal."

I reached out to Paul Petrovich via email and he referred me to former City Council member Rob Fong. I guess Paul is handling some media matters for Petrovich Development. I wanted to know what Petrovich thought of the neighborhood's opposition to the fuel station and the rumor that Safeway won't move in without a gas station. Fong said via email, "As part of the final executed lease, Safeway required that its lease be contingent upon the Landlord obtaining the necessary approvals to build the fuel center. Vice Mayor Jay Schenirer will be organizing a community meeting in early January to discuss all of the retail options for Curtis Park Village and to receive input from the neighborhood."

No fuel center? No Safeway?

The Curtis Park Village Neighborhood Fueling Station Battle Royale continues in January at the Sierra 2 Center.

If you have an item for Over The Fence, email [Greg@valcomnews.com](mailto:Greg@valcomnews.com)





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### Please send your updated Calendar announcements

*...especially if you host monthly events!*  
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# Area ballerina to star in The Nutcracker Mutt

## Meet Nikole

Sacramentan 10-year-old Nikole Farina is a rising star in the ballet world. Nikole, who will be playing Clara, the opening weekend of Ron Cunningham's The Nutcracker Mutt with the Sacramento Ballet, spoke with the Pocket News about her love of ballet and the excitement over her upcoming performance. "It means a lot to me, and is a great opportunity to be chosen to play Clara. It's such an honor."

Having completed seven years of dance training and now into her eighth, Nikole began dancing when she was three years old in June 2007 at Step 1 Dance and Fitness (1920 T St.) She first came to the Sacramento Ballet when she was 7 years old. In spring 2013, Nikole performed as a firefly in Cunningham's "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Adding about the experience of dancing in the Nutcracker, Nikole said: "It's a lot of fun, and I think it's really cool that they have about 500 kids in the Nutcracker. And, for all the kids, I think they have a lot of fun working with Mr. Cunningham and the professionals." Nikole's first Nutcracker role was a Cherub in 2011, followed by being an Arabian Attendant in 2012, and Baby Blue in 2013. "And this year," she proudly states: "I'm Clara."

Asked what she likes most about dancing, Nikole said: "I like dancing because dance studios have a recital and it gives all the students an opportunity to be on stage. I also like the friendships I have made from dancing."

## A unique production of the Nutcracker ballet

This year's production of the Nutcracker by the Sacramento Ballet will be unique as they are partnering with

the Front Street Animal Shelter and bringing a new flavor to this holiday season. Hoping to encourage shelter pet adoption, this season's Nutcracker will feature special four-legged guest stars. Each performance of the Nutcracker will include an adoptable dog in search of its own home for the holidays. Other shelter pets will be available for adoption during intermissions. The Sacramento Ballet's Nutcracker will be held Dec. 6 through Dec. 21 at the Sacramento Community Center Theater. Tickets are available now at <http://www.sacballet.org/nutcrackermutt/>

Bobby Mann, City of Sacramento public relations specialist for the animal shelter, spoke with the Pocket News about how the idea behind The Nutcracker Mutt was born and further shared details about the roles the dogs will play in the production.

"The dogs will be in the prologue and stroll across the stage. We may also have another special guest spot for puppies. The dogs will be picked from our population of dogs that are available for adoption at that time. The goal is to show people that shelter animals are just as beautiful, regal and trainable as any other dogs. We want to reach a demographic that may not normally visit a shelter and also bring joy to the cast members who are all shelter pet advocates," Bobby said.

"Both organizations admired each other's work and some of the staff from the ballet even volunteer for us. One day, we were brainstorming of ways to collaborate and this idea was born."

One or two dogs will be performing in each show and there also will be other animals available at the show for adoption. "Every time a dog is adopted out we will pick a new dog to be in the show," he added.



Photos by Robin Hagy and Mark Coverdale

Dancers and puppies! The Sacramento Ballet has teamed up with the Front Street Animal Shelter for a special production, called the Nutcracker Mutt.



(above) Sacramentan, 10-year-old Nikole Farina is a rising star in the local ballet world. Nikole will be playing Clara, the opening weekend of Ron Cunningham's The Nutcracker Mutt with the Sacramento Ballet. Here she is shown with adorable puppies from Front Street.

(left) Fun fact: Alexandra Cunningham is a C.K. McClatchy High School graduate.



**Pending**



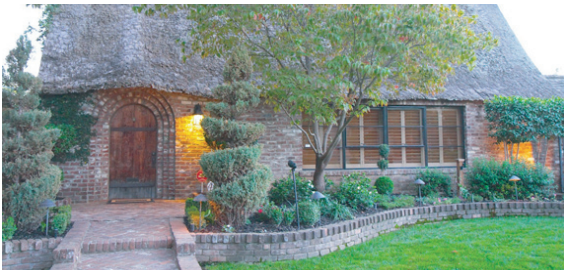
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# GIFT GUIDE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING

To help neighbors support the community that brings so much diversity to Land Park, we've provided readers with a gift guide that we hope helps encourage shopping locally. Businesses featured are from Land Park, Curtis Park, Hollywood Park and the Broadway district. Additionally, to note, the Curtis Park Neighborhood Association is having a Small Business Saturday celebration on Nov. 29 for those who got a jump start on their shopping during the month of November. At Small Business Saturday, shoppers can bring a filled out passport (which you can get at Sierra 2 Center, located at 2791 24th St.) for the chance to win prizes and taste treats. The party will be held at the corner of 3rd Avenue and Franklin Boulevard between Pangaea Bier Cafe and Gunther's Ice Cream.



## Delta Workshop

Delta Workshop shows the work of emerging artists in a carefully-curated shop and gallery, and also features a classroom where you can take workshops on creative projects and art techniques. Delta Workshop will be holding a Second Saturday Holiday Trunk Show on Dec. 13. Find something for everyone on your list and support local makers in the process! The following local artists will bring new items to create a handmade shopping wonderland: Alluvial Ceramics, Heathered Wallets, Hello Again Hello sundry items, Jolie's Herbs skin care, Panini Press letterpressed stationery, Two Accordions quilts, Witt & Lore jewelry. Enjoy some holiday treats while you shop, including items from The Roaming Spoon and beverages from one of Sacramento's independent breweries, and see the latest gallery show, "Artwork from Short Center South." Delta Workshop is located at 2598 21st St. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 455-1125 or email [hello@deltaworkshopsac.com](mailto:hello@deltaworkshopsac.com)

## Spanglish Arte

Inside the Sol Collective art gallery and center for culture and activism, is Spanglish Arte, a retail space which features "local artists with a global following." Spanglish relocated from its space in midtown on J Street and has been inside Sol Collective for more than a year now at 2574 21st St. With the slogan local arte for the masses, owner Mari Arreola said the mass production of prints she has for sale works toward that mission of being able to provide all income levels with quality local art, noting that 80 percent of the gifts cost less than \$30. The store has the perfect gift for

"cool nerdy" youth. For Christmas, why not get the budding artist something truly unique like a turntable turn sketchbook for \$18 or an eco-friendly gift like an African bracelet made from recycled bags. The store also has good stocking stuffers like colored pencils or "leaf pens" that are made of recycled bottles. While the shop has a website, <http://shopspanglish.com/>, the brick and mortar has a lot more variety.

## Gift a massage at The Body Cafe

The Body Cafe offers a wide menu of massage therapies by certified licensed professionals in a cozy, homey atmosphere. Here, therapists are all trained in multiple styles of massage and continually learn from each other to become better practitioners. They are collaborative in the way that they support each other by providing the best possible healing bodywork to clients, both by sharing clients and by continually teaching and learning from each other. All the therapists have a stake in the Body Cafe; they are not just employees, they are partners. And clients benefit. The Body Cafe is located at 2414 21st St. For more information, call 256-0450, or email [bodycafe@massage-ca.com](mailto:bodycafe@massage-ca.com) or visit <http://www.bodycafe.info/>

## Mister Cooper CDs

Acoustic, home-made, handmade music for kids and their grown-ups that's guaranteed to make your ears smile is what Mister Cooper has for sale. So far Mister Cooper has four albums out: "Mister Cooper," "This World," "Mister Cooper is for the Birds," and "I Like Your Hat." A new album is in the works. Stay tuned in the Land Park News for the latest from Mister Cooper, who, by the way will be playing at Belle Cooledge Library on New Year's Eve. Crafts start at 11 a.m. and the music begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by a "Noon Year's Eve" celebration. It's going to be a special performance with extra instruments. All of Mister Cooper's CDs will be on sale, even the new one!

ADDRESS: <http://mistercooper.com/>

Contact information: [ken@mistercooper.com](mailto:ken@mistercooper.com)



## Purple Fox Gifts & Crafts

Owned by Linda Cobarruvias, Purple Fox is a new business where you can come and find beautiful and unique gifts. The store also carries handmade items from several local artists. In the next few weeks, they will begin to carry teacher supplies, craft supplies, and will offer a variety of classes and workshops. For every purchase over \$100, shoppers will get a free holiday ornament or a small heart decoration, during the month of December (while supplies last). Holiday hours from now until Dec. 23 are Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The store will be open Christmas Eve from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Purple Fox Gifts & Crafts is located at 3214 Riverside Blvd.

## Kobasic's Candies

Kobasic's Candies features fine chocolates and candies – all made on site by third and fourth generation candy makers. 5324 Riverside Blvd.; 448-3555.

## Prosper Design Studio, LLC

Just launched in July, Prosper Design Studio, LLC specializes in art inspired table linens. They have taken art off the wall and put it on the table. All pieces are adorned with the artist statement so you can understand and appreciate the inspiration behind the image. Everything is made from 100 percent certified organic cotton and each piece



being hand printed and foiled. Initial linens are based off co-founder and local artist, Maren Conrad so not only will people be supporting a local brand, customers will be supporting a local artist as well. It's very neighborhood chic. The website is [www.prosperdesignstudio.com](http://www.prosperdesignstudio.com) and Prosper Design Studio, LLC will offer a 20 percent off discount code to all readers on the website. Free shipping is a bonus. Open from noon to 5 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays or by appointment, Prosper Design Studio, LLC is located at 2500 Sutterville Road. For more information, email [info@prosperdesignstudio.com](mailto:info@prosperdesignstudio.com)

## Parkside Pharmacy

Parkside has a beautiful gift boutique, as each item is carefully picked out by co-owner Michelle Cohan Ortego for its quality and uniqueness. Items sold are specialty body products from as close as Berkeley and Napa to as far as France, Spain, Italy and Israel.

Known for their selection of jewelry, candles, a gift for any occasion, specialty greeting cards, Parkside also features local artists, including Line of Linens Prosper Design by Maren Conrad and carries Mommy Water, a prenatal vitamin drink created by Evan DeMarco for his wife, KCRA news anchor Kellie DeMarco. Parkside also has a skin spa which entails facials, peels, waxing and spray tans. Parkside has events throughout the holiday season, ending on New Year's Eve. Parkside is located at 4404 Del Rio Road next door to La Bou by the Zoo and is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Family portraits

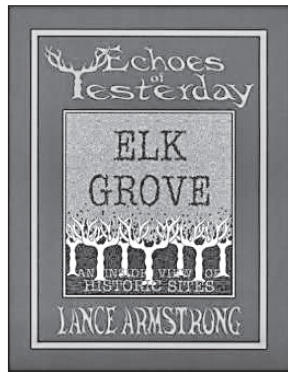
Will you be sending out Christmas cards this year with your family portrait on it? If so, go local with Photos by Crowley. Valley Community Newspapers' staff photographer, Steve Crowley, loves being able to use his photography skills and abilities to capture the "inner essence" of his subjects, a valuable skill in portraiture. Outside of newspaper photography, Steve specializes in weddings, portraits, events, and works with small businesses and their photography needs. Contact Steve at [steve@valcomnews.com](mailto:steve@valcomnews.com) or visit his website, [photosbycrowley.com](http://photosbycrowley.com)

See more gift ideas on page 20

# GIFT GUIDE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING

## BOOK: "Echoes of Yesterday Elk Grove: An Inside View of Historic Sites"

Do you know anyone who grew up in Elk Grove? If so, this book by Valley Community Newspapers' Lance Armstrong is a must-read for that friend or relative from the suburbs. Preserved on the pages of this book are the histories of many people who have walked the land of Elk Grove at various times from the 1850s through some of the earliest years of the 21st century. Lance spent more than three years collecting historical information via interviews, historical records and compiling one of Elk Grove's most extensive collections of historical photographs. Buy the book online at [www.echoesofyesterday.com](http://www.echoesofyesterday.com) or contact Lance at [lance@valcomnews.com](mailto:lance@valcomnews.com).



## Mama Willow Tree

Buyers can purchase handmade exquisite indigenous items that infuse beauty created by women artisans from around the world. A percentage of proceeds go to support socioeconomic development projects for women in developing nations with a goal toward improving the community as a whole. Sold at local farmers' markets, including the Sunday downtown market under the freeway, why not purchase with a purpose? Orders may be placed through the website, <http://mamawillowtree.com>; direct inquiries can be sent to [Mama@mamawillowtree.com](mailto:Mama@mamawillowtree.com)

## Kline's Music

Give the gift that keeps on giving ... music! Come into Kline's Music for special holiday prices. Music is fun for everyone. Kline's Music specializes in musical instrument sales, lessons, rentals and repairs. Open seven days a week, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday noon to 4 p.m., Kline's Music is located at 2200 Sutterville Road near Sacramento City College. For more information, call 456-8742.



## Basq skin care

Basq is great especially for that beauty lover, mom and grandma. The idea of basq skin care- gentle, effective products that splurge on beauty and deliver on results - is one that appeals to ALL women and in all life stages. For every product, they start with the premise that change begins deep within. The line offers a long list of products including an award winning stretch mark cream, cucumber tea eye gel, resilient body oils, facial cleansers, citrus sugar body scrubs, body butters and more to nour-

ish, tone, hydrate and keeping one's skin look polished and young (chemical, paraben free, not tested on animals). [www.basqny.com](http://www.basqny.com).

## Memberships to the Sacramento Zoo and Fairytale Town

If you have children, or grandchildren, this would be a great gift for families. Chock full of special events year round, they both have exciting holiday events coming up.

**At the Sacramento Zoo:** Give the purr-fect gift and sponsor any zoo animal. Packages start at \$25. Coming up on Saturday, Dec. 13, bundle up the family and celebrate the festive season during Holiday Magic at the zoo. Throughout the day, special gifts will be delivered to the animals. See them pounce, tear and stomp into their one-of-a-kind holiday gifts and goodies. Also, the zoo is currently holding its holiday food drive now through December. During the holiday season bring a non-perishable food item when you visit the zoo and receive \$1 off your admission. The zoo will raise donations for River City Food Bank with your support. For more information call 808-5888 or go online at [saczoo.org/zooparent](http://saczoo.org/zooparent)

Holiday Magic schedule of enrichments on Dec. 13  
All enrichments will happen at the animals' exhibits.  
10:30 a.m. - Orangutans: fabric stockings and presents with edible treats  
11 a.m. - Red River Hogs: pumpkin bowls with produce  
11:30 a.m. - Black and White Ruffed Lemurs: holiday feast with all the fixings  
Noon - Sumatran Tiger: gift shaped piñatas with spices and ice  
12:30 p.m. - Wolf's Guenon: gift shaped piñata and holiday boxes with treats  
1 p.m. - Anteaters: oranges and a toy smeared with avocado  
1:30 p.m. - Snow Leopard: holiday box with spices and ice  
2 p.m. - Aardvark/Fennec Foxes: holiday decor and spices  
2:30 p.m. - Giraffes: edible wreaths and a holiday pinata  
3 p.m. - Small Wonders animals with wings: edible wreaths and holiday decorations  
Visitors' tip: Keep an eye out for off-schedule enrichments throughout the day.

**At Fairytale Town:** Fairytale Town will transform into a winter wonderland. Celebrate the holiday season at Fairytale Town with holiday lights, festive décor, snow, Santa, reindeer and more at Fairytale Town's Winter Wonderland event. The fun-filled family celebration is set for eight days: Thursdays through Sundays, Dec. 11-14 and 18-21. Fairytale Town will be open special hours for the event from 1 to 7 p.m. The storybook park will be trimmed with festive décor and, starting at dusk each day, lit up with a dazzling display of lights. A flurry of snow will fall on the Mother Goose Stage every night at 7 p.m. On weekends, guests will also enjoy arts and crafts activities and vendors selling holiday wares and treats. Two of Santa's reindeer will visit the park on Dec. 13 and 14, and Santa Claus will be in his workshop in the Children's Theater to visit and take photos with children on Dec. 13, 14, 20 and 21, from 3 to 6 p.m. Photos with Santa can be purchased for a small fee and taken home as a memento of the day.

A variety of entertainers will appear throughout the holiday celebration. Ebenezer Scrooge from Charles Dickens' classic holiday tale "A Christmas Carol" will be in the park greeting guests on weekends from 2 to 7 p.m. Victorian carolers will stroll through the park on weekends from 4 to 6:30 p.m. On Thursday, Dec. 11, guests can meet and greet characters from the Sacramento Ballet's "The Nutcracker" from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and enjoy a reading of the story at 2 and 3 p.m.

Admission to Fairytale Town and Winter Wonderland is free with paid park admission. Weekday admission is \$4.50 for adults and children ages 2 and older and free for children ages 1 and under. Weekend admission is \$5.50 for adults and children ages 2 and older and free for children ages 1 and under. Fairytale Town members are free. Winter Wonderland is offered weather permitting. Winter Wonderland is sponsored in part by Loveall Foundation for Children, SMUD and First Northern Bank.

## Babies & Beyond: Gently Used Clothing Store

**Babies & Beyond: Gently Used Clothing Store**, located at 2996 Freeport Blvd., has clothing items and toys for children from birth to 8 years old. The store also carries maternity clothing, breast pumps, nursing bras and shirts. Closed Mondays, the store opens at 11:30 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 5 p.m. on Saturday and at 4 p.m. on Sundays.

## Riverside Clubhouse

**Riverside Clubhouse**, 2633 Riverside Blvd., will actually be open today (Thanksgiving) for a special buffet and will be open on Christmas Eve until 9 p.m. with breakfast served from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Christmas Day, Riverside Clubhouse will be open from 2 to 9 p.m. serving the regular menu and special holiday dishes. New Year's Eve will feature a toast and celebration with a special holiday menu and the restaurant will be open all day on New Year's Day.

## Artisan and Images salons

Get your loved one a treat at Artisan or Images salons. Both are full-service hair salons. Artisan hired an esthetician named Chastity Pond for facials. Open, Monday through Saturday, Artisan is located at 3198 Riverside Blvd. Across the street at 3175 Riverside Blvd., Images is currently celebrating 15 years being in Land Park. Images features a hair design area as well as a full day spa. Both Artisan and Images offer manicures and pedicures as well as massage.

## Land Bark Pet Supplies

**Land Bark Pet Supplies** carries healthy pet food items that contain no corn, soy, wheat or animal by-products. They also carry cleaning supplies, flea and tick medicines as well as shampoos. Open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Land Bark is located at 3200 Riverside Blvd. For the holidays, Land Bark sells holiday themed toys and staff puts together gift baskets with gift certificates. For more information, call 448-8020.

# GIFT GUIDE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING



## Balshor Florist

Since 1950, **Balshor Florist**, a family owned and operated business, has been providing customers with personal attention for special occasions. From Christmas centerpieces to holiday bouquets, Balshor Florist, located at 2661 Riverside Blvd., can take care of all your floral needs. For more information, call 441-3023.

## The Magical Hat children's book series

Land Park resident Kate David is an award winning author of two books, "Murphy and the Magical Hat" (published January 2012) and "McKay and the Magical Hat" (published June 2014). Pick up a copy online at amazon.com or at various local stores, including: Puddles, 2580 Fair Oaks Blvd. Ste. 4; Koukla Kids, 3809 J St.; Avid Reader, 1600 Broadway; Time Tested Books, 1114 21st St.; and, Parkside Pharmacy, 4404 Del Rio Road. Read about Kate's books at valcomnews.com by searching for her name.

## Violin, fiddle and ukulele instruction by Bill Trainor

I've been wanting to check out this hole-in-the-wall in the shopping center with Land Park and Purple Fox. According to his website, Bill teaches individual lessons for violin, fiddle, and ukulele as well as ongoing classes for intermediate ukulele. In teaching violin, he uses primarily the Suzuki method. "However, if a student needs a more traditional, reading-based approach, (he) will use that method instead. Beginning fiddle students will learn the first 4 or 5 pieces in Suzuki book 1, and then will begin learning a series of fiddle tunes progressing from easy to more complex. (He teaches) ukulele primarily for accompanying singing. For this, (he) typically use children's songs, folk-songs, and other easy tunes. If a student wants to play instrumental music on the ukulele, (he) will teach that style as well." Bill offers free introductory lessons. Call 248-6002 for more information.

## Gold Lion Arts

Nearby at **Gold Lion Arts** (2733 Riverside Blvd.), Ross Hammond who has been teaching guitar for about 19 years, offers lessons in guitar, ukulele, bass, and banjo for all ages. You are never too old to learn to play a musical instrument. Gold Lion Arts also offers lessons in

drum, piano and voice. For music lessons, contact GoldLionArts@gmail.com

## Phono Select

**Phono Select** in Hollywood Park, 4370 24th St., has plenty of vinyl records – a perfect stop for the music lover in your life. They also have buttons and stickers, which make for great stocking stuffers. Recently, they put in pinball machines if shopping there wasn't fun enough already!

## Coffee Garden

**Coffee Garden**, 2904 Franklin Blvd., will be having its third annual light ride this year on Saturday, Dec. 13., starting with kids' activities around noon, followed by the neighborhood ride around 6:30 p.m. The ride benefits Well-spring Women's Center, which has provided respite and services to the women and children of Sacramento's Oak Park neighborhood for more than 28 years has been renamed Nancy's Light Ride after Nancy Gilcrest. Well-spring serves as a drop-in center to more than 200 women and children each weekday and offers four different programs: Nutritious Meal Program, Children's Corner Program, Safety Net Support Program, and Women's Wellness. If you stop by the **Coffee Garden** for the light ride or any other time, for that matter, check out the local art and outdoor garden art – a perfect gift giving idea for the creatives in your life.

## Collected Works

**Collected Works**, 4524 Freeport Blvd., has jewelry, art glass, books, greeting cards, scarves, pottery, tabletop items, baby gifts, kids' gifts, gifts for him and gifts for her. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 737-8188 or email store@collectedworksgifts.com

## YMCA membership

Give the gift of health. The Sacramento YMCA is located at 2012 W St. For more information, call 452-9622 or visit <http://ymcasuperiorcal.org/ymca/>

## Tower district

The Tower District, one of Sacramento's oldest neighborhood business areas, is a great place not to forget when it comes to shopping locally. From gift cards to Tower Theatre, Tower Cafe, to Avid Reader or Records, the area is culturally diverse and eclectic.

## Winter fairs at neighborhood schools and markets

### Sierra 2 Center Holiday Faire

On Friday, Dec. 5 and Saturday, Dec. 6, join local artisans for a day of gift shopping. The Sierra 2 Center Holiday Faire has been extended this year from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. to

reach out to those neighbors attending First Friday on Dec. 5. Stop by Rooms 10, 11 and 12 to buy jewelry, crafts, art and more! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be around from 1 to 3 p.m. and Santa's Elf will be accepting letters for Santa from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Also if you'd like to participate in the Holiday Craft Faire as a vender contact Phoebe Celestin for more information at 455-6339. Sierra 2 is located at 2791 24th St.

### Alice Birney Waldorf-Inspired K-8 School Winter Faire

Starting at noon on Saturday, Dec. 6, Alice Birney Waldorf-Inspired K-8 School, at 6251 13th St., will be hosting a magical event that has it all – fun, food, music, shopping and socializing. Watch excited students waiting to visit the children's store with their personal shoppers. Also, discover talented musicians from our community, make crafts with your kids and catch a puppet play. Imagine your holiday shopping done and family photos taken by the end of the event! There will be many amazing vendors with unique items. The Little Store grows from its small office space to fill an entire classroom as Illuminations. You can recharge with a tamale lunch and satisfy your sweet tooth at the Starlight Cafe.

### Camellia Waldorf School Winter Faire

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13, Camellia Waldorf School (5701 Freeport Blvd.) will offer magical wintery fun for the whole family at its 26th annual winter fair. There will be puppet shows, candle dipping, apple twirling, live music, children's craft activities, and a gingerbread house display. There will be warm, delicious food and even a "Golden Ladle Soup Competition." Free admission; nominal fee for some activities.



### Land Park Farmers' Market

Folks can expect to see about 10 to 12 specialty artisan crafters out there for the holiday season, all in all with about 50 vendors. The market is out in William Land Park at the corner of Sutterville Road and Freeport Boulevard, 3930 W. Land Park Dr. Hours of the market are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays. For more information, visit: [www.bemoneysmartusa.org](http://www.bemoneysmartusa.org)

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Valley Community Newspapers

Attn: Kathleen

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## – EVENT LISTING SECTION –

Advertise your craft fairs, holiday bazaars, school fundraises, church events, etc. in your Community Newspapers.

Call (916) 429-9901 for rates.

### December Show

Craft Fair at Casa Event Center

Handmade Only • Dec. 1-5 11am-3pm

#### Casa Gardens

2760 Sutterville Rd., Sacramento, CA

Also visit Casa Garden Restaurant!



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Crockett-Deane Ballet  
& Deane Dance Center  
present

*Nutcracker & Christmas Angels*

Saturday, Dec. 20 – 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 21 – 2 p.m.

"The Center" 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento

\$15 adults; \$12 Seniors/Students; \$10 Children

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DeaneDanceCenter.com

36th Annual

### Holiday Show of Hands Craft Fair



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Saturday, Dec 6th, 9 am-7 pm

Sunday Dec 7th, 9 am-3pm

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Thursday, Dec. 11 – 6:30 p.m.

Visitation Days –

Dec. 15th & 16th

& Jan. 13th & 15th

Please call to schedule

**(916) 433-5039**

6490 Harmon Dr., Sacto. 95831

### HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIRE

Friday, Dec. 5th  
11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sierra 2 Senior Center

2791 24th Street

**(916) 452-3005**

www.sierra2.org

## CALL AND PLACE YOUR EVENT TODAY!

**(916) 429-9901**

# CALENDAR

Send your event announcement for consideration to: [editor@valcomnews.com](mailto:editor@valcomnews.com) at least two weeks prior to publication.

## ONGOING

### "Stretch, Strengthen, and Thrive" at ACC:

This class is designed for the needs and abilities of active older adults, who are interested in gaining or maintaining mobility, 5-6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. \$5 per class if pre-paid; drop-in fee is \$6. ACC Senior Services Center, 7375 Park City Dr., 393-9026 x330, [www.accsv.org](http://www.accsv.org).

### Easy Tai Chi at ACC

Learn 24-form Yang Style Tai Chi at a slower pace. Experience the gentle flow and treat your whole body to a gentle and relaxing workout. \$16 per month or \$5 Drop-in class. For schedule call 393-9026, ext 330, [www.accsv.org](http://www.accsv.org). ACC is located at 7375 Park City Dr.

### Senior Fitness at St. Anthony's

Senior Fitness meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:45 a.m. at St. Anthony's Memorial Hall at 660 Florin Road. Cost is \$2 per class. Do not have to belong to the church. Class incorporates dyna bands, small hand weights, balls, and rubber bands plus cardio. Chair and standing exercises for flexibility, strength and balance accompanied by music of "the good ol' days." Participants do not have to get down on the floor! Paula has a Masters in Exercise Physiology and has been in the fitness business over 25 years. Equipment supplied if needed.

### Senior Yoga at ACC

This class is designed to maintain joint mobility, muscle strength and flexibility. A yoga mat is required. \$25 per month or \$6 drop-in class. For schedule call 393-9026, ext. 330, [www.accsv.org](http://www.accsv.org).

### Taiko for fun at ACC

Learn the history and basics of Taiko which refer to the various Japanese drums. Wear comfortable clothing. \$16 per month or \$5 drop-in class. For schedule call 393-9026, ext 330, [www.accsv.org](http://www.accsv.org). ACC is located at 7375 Park City Dr.

### Free Young Adult Bereavement Counseling:

The UC Davis Hospice Program and UC Davis Children's Hospital Bereavement Program will offer an eight-week Young Adult Bereavement Art Group for individuals 17 to 24 who are coping with the recent loss of a loved one. The sessions will be held on eight consecutive Monday evenings from Sept. 29 through Nov. 17. Each session will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the UC Davis Home Care Services Building, 3630 Business Dr., Suite F.

### Stretch, Strengthen, and Thrive!

This class is designed for the needs and abilities of active older adults, who are interested in gaining or maintaining mobility. The class consists of a mix of full body stretches, body weight exercises, strength training, and active stretching. 5:00-6:00 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. \$5 per class if pre-paid. Pre-registration and pre-payment is

preferred, but drop-ins are welcome at a rate of \$6 per class. Held at ACC Senior Services Center, 7375 Park City Dr., Sacramento, 393-9026 x330, [www.accsv.org](http://www.accsv.org).

### Sacramento Zoo needs wheelchairs

The Sacramento Zoo is looking for a few "gently used" wheelchairs, 808-5888. Your wheelchair can be a tax deductible donation, and four zoo tickets will be offered as a thank you.

### Support group for alienated grandparents

Meeting is the last Friday of each month at 2717 Cottage Way, suite 4. Meeting is at noon. 761-9121.

### Tai Chi at Hart Senior Center

Focuses on low impact form of ancient Chinese exercise, combining slow movements with relaxation. Mondays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center, 915 27 St. Try it once for free! Stop by the Hart Senior Center front desk or contact 808-5462. Cost: \$23 for five classes.

### Zumba for Seniors at Hart Senior Center

Zumba for Seniors incorporates physical exercise and dance steps to the rhythms of Cumbia, Merengue, Mambo, Salsa, Samba, and much more. Tuesdays 9:30-10:30am and Fridays 3 to 4 p.m. at the Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center, 915 27 St. Sacramento (27th and J streets). Try it once for free! For more information or to register, stop by the Hart Senior Center front desk or contact 808-5462. Cost: \$20 for five classes; \$40 for 10 classes.

### Active Yoga at Hart Senior Center

Increase your strength and flexibility, improve balance, and enhance the ability to relax and release stress. Classes are Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at

the Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. For more information or to register, stop by the Hart Senior Center front desk or call 808-5462. Cost: \$35 for five classes or \$70 for 10 classes. Try the class once for free and see if Active Yoga is right for you.

### Singers with Hart

Experienced and beginning singers age 50 and above are welcome. New sessions start every nine weeks and are held at the Hart Senior Center, 915 27th Street, Sacramento (27th and J streets). Pre-registration is required. For more information, visit the Hart Senior Center front desk or contact (916) 808-5462. Cost: \$15.

### Run with a Recruiter

Every Friday at 6 a.m., the public is invited to join the Sacramento Police Department. This provides a unique opportunity for potential police candidates and those in the hiring process to run together.

### Emotions Anonymous

Meets regularly Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Meeting information is available at [www.emotionsanonymous.org](http://www.emotionsanonymous.org). Free 12-step program/support group for those who desire to become well emotionally healthy. Acquire a new way of life, sharing experiences, and learning to live with unsolved emotional problems. Meets Tuesday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Parkside Community Church 5700 South Land Park Dr.; Tuesday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Sierra Arden Church of Christ, 890 Morse Ave (at Northrup), Room F-4. Thursday 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd, 1615 Morse Ave. (at Arden Way) left of choir room. An optional newcomer orientation occurs on Saturdays from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at Wellness Recovery Center, 9719 Lincoln Dr. Ste. 300. Also on Saturday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., there will be a topic for discussion at WRC, 9719 Lincoln Dr., Ste. 300.

### Mahogany Urban Poetry Series

#### - Queen Sheba - poetry readings

Each Wednesday from 8-11 p.m. at Queen Sheba in Sacramento, local talent makes it way to the restaurant for weekly open-mic events. \$3-\$5. 1704 Broadway.

### Brain Gymnasium

Exercise your mind and have some fun at this on-going Brain Gymnasium class! Inviting all seniors to Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Boulevard, 9:20 a.m. Thursdays. \$6 per class. Call 441-1015 for more information.

### Women with Good Spirits monthly meeting

Each second Tuesday of the month at Revolution Wines at 6:30 p.m., Women With Good Spirits invites a community non-profit to present on its mission work. The presenter will start their presentation promptly at 7:15 p.m. and will last 15-20 minutes with an open question and answer forum after. RSVP is appreciated as well as a \$5+ donation per person that will go directly to the non-profit presenting that month. 2831 S St. Visit [www.womenwithgoodspirits.com](http://www.womenwithgoodspirits.com) or find the group on Facebook.

### The Community Housing and Services Coalition monthly meetings

Originally created by the Sacramento Community Services Planning Council, the Community Housing Coalition (CHC) was created as a vehicle to provide information and educate community leaders and decision makers regarding housing for low income, disabled and older adults. CHSC monthly meetings are free and open to the public; they are held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Sacramento Sheriff's South Area Office Community Room at 7000 65th Street, Sacramento (the Sacramento County Voters Registrar Building). At each meeting a guest speaker is invited to attend and give a 30-minute presentation with 10 minutes for Q&A. Speakers are selected for their expertise and knowledge in their respective fields, and agencies/organizations. The speakers are encouraged to provide handouts, fliers, and other informational materials to the 15 to 30 attendees.

If you have any questions, please contact either: Alex Eng at 424-1374; email [xeng916@sbcglobal.net](mailto:xeng916@sbcglobal.net); or Cindy Gabriel at 916/732-6189; email [cynthia.gabriel@smud.org](mailto:cynthia.gabriel@smud.org).

### Gentle Qi Gong

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Calendar continued page 25

## Solution to Crossword:

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A	F	I	R	E		H	E	A	R		O	P	A	L		
M	A	N	I	P	U	L	A	T	E		R	E	N	D		
P	R	E	P	A	R	E	D		S	P	O	N	G	E		
		L	U	N	G		A	S	U	N	D	E	R			
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		R	O	S	T	E	R		A	U	G	E	R			
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L	O	A	F	E	R		S	O	F	T	S	P	O	T		
G	I	L	T		I	N	A	P	T	I	T	I	T	U	D	E
A	L	O	E		P	O	K	E		C	A	P	O	N		
L	Y	R	E		T	W	I	N		Y	A	R	D			

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## ADVERTISING SALES

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Mail or drop off:  
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Attn: Kathleen  
2709 Riverside Boulevard  
Sacramento, CA 95818

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# Calendar:

Continued from page 24

sure, increase immune response and improve balance. Inviting all seniors to Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Boulevard, 3 to 4 p.m., Wednesdays. \$7 per class. Call 441-1015 for more information.

## DECEMBER

### Sacramento City College Annual Holiday Art Sale

Dec 3, 4, 5: Buy unique handmade art/gifts and support SCC art students and the Kondos Gallery. Great prices! Dec 3 and 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 6:45 p.m., on Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to noon, Sacramento City College Cafeteria, 3835 Freeport Blvd. For more information, call 558-2559 or email griffij@scc.losrios.edu or visit www.kondosgallery.org for information. Parking is \$2 (you get a parking slip from a vending station)

### Friends of the Belle Coolege Library booksale

Dec. 5-6: The Friends of the Belle Coolege Library is having a book sale on Friday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. inside the Community Room. 5600 South Land Park Dr.

### Dessert and Coffee with Superintendent Banda

Dec. 8: Superintendent Banda is hosting a "Dessert and Coffee" community meeting to meet parents and other stakeholders and to gather feedback on our schools at Sam Brannan Middle School (5301 Elmer Way) from 6 to 8 p.m. Free childcare and translation services will be provided.

### Mission Oaks Computer Club meeting

Dec. 11: The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet from 1 to 3 p.m. at Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. The meeting will include a problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information visit www.missionoakscomputerclub.org or send an email to mocc@missionoakscomputerclub.org.

### Dessert and Coffee with Superintendent Banda

Dec. 11: Superintendent Banda is hosting a "Dessert and Coffee" community meeting to meet parents and other stakeholders and to gather feedback on our schools at Luther Burbank High School (3500 Florin Road) from 6 to 8 p.m. Free childcare and translation services will be provided.

### Holiday Party Sing Along

Dec. 13: From 2-4 p.m. there will be light refreshments, holiday mu-

sic and a visit from Santa at Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Blvd. Bring an unwrapped gift to support Sacramento Children's Home Residential Program for Boys ages 6-18. 709-7438

### Jingle Bell Run/Walk

Dec. 13: The Sacramento Jingle Bell Run/Walk® is a fun, festive event for the whole family! Put on your reindeer antlers and your running shoes and come join us for some holiday cheer at Crocker Park in downtown Sacramento. The event is fun for all and open to all ages. You can participate in the 5-K timed race or the 5-K Fun Run/Walk with holiday themed activities all along the course! Bring your friends, family, coworkers, and your furry friends, too! Crocker Park is located at 211 O St. For more information, call 368-5599 or email edahler@arthritis.org. Packet Pick-up and late registration is available at Sports Authority in Natomas, 3632 N. Freeway Blvd. From 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Santa's Community Village (vendors) will available from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Registration is from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. Candy Cane Kids Run will be held from 8:15 to 8:25 a.m.

The timed 5-K run will take place from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. and the family fun run/walk will take place from 8:45 to 9 a.m. Awards and entertainment will follow from 9:45 to 10 a.m. Fees: 5K Run/Walk - Early Bird: \$30; Adult Registration Candy Cane Kids Fun Run is \$15.



**Fairytale Town WINTER WONDERLAND**  
**THURSDAYS - SUNDAYS, DECEMBER 11-14 & 18-21**  
**1-7 pm, Weather Permitting**

**LIVE REINDEER DECEMBER 13 & 14**

Sponsored By  
 Lowell Foundation for Children  
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Celebrate the holiday season at Fairytale Town!  
 Festive décor around the park • Dazzling lights each day at dusk  
 Visit with Santa in his workshop on weekends 3-6 PM  
**Weekends: Hands-on craft activities • Holiday vendors • And more!**  
**Tickets & Info: www.fairytaletown.org**  
**3901 Land Park Drive, Sacramento**



*Light Refreshments \* Live Holiday Music \* Santa Claus*

# Holiday Party Sing-A-Long

*Saturday, December 13, 2014, 2pm - 4pm*

[www.landpark.org](http://www.landpark.org)      Eskaton Monroe Lodge  
 3225 Freeport Blvd.      *All Ages Welcome*

A benefit to support the



**SACRAMENTO CHILDREN'S HOME**  
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Capitol Ballet Company proudly presents...

Tchaikovsky's  
*The Nutcracker*



**Saturday, December 13th, 2014 at 2pm**

**Sheldon High School Performing Arts Center**  
**8333 Kingsbridge Drive, Sacramento**

Tickets on sale now at [www.capitolballet.com](http://www.capitolballet.com)  
 Please like us on Facebook! 



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# SCHUMACHER CERAMICS

20th Annual  
Christmas Show & Reception

Saturday December 6th &  
Sunday, December 7th  
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.



**10% OFF**  
works by Bob & Sonya  
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(916) 744-1062 • schumacherceramics.com

# Help keep our schools safe during the holiday season

The holidays are a busy time of year – especially for vandals, thieves and arsonists looking to take advantage of empty school campuses.

SCUSD is asking the community to help keep our schools safe and secure over the Thanksgiving break by reporting suspicious activity on any of our 75 campuses.

“Most of our schools are surrounded by homes, and we need those neighbors to join us in protecting these valuable and sometimes vulnerable community centers,” said Sacramento Safe School Office Manager Nina Delgadillo.

Copper theft, in particular, costs California schools hundreds of thousands of dollars every year – money that most districts cannot afford to lose.

All SCUSD campuses will be locked and alarmed during the break, and all security

cameras will be monitored. Neighbors are asked to be on the lookout for suspicious activity on SCUSD campuses and to report it. “The schools belong to the community,” said Delgadillo, “and we need the entire community to help us guard them.”

For schools within Sacramento city limits call 264-5471. Residents outside city boundaries should call the county Sheriff's Department at 874-5115. School security can also be called 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 643-7444.

**WAREHOUSE BOOK SALE**  
December 6th & 13th  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**GREAT PRICES!**  
from fifty cents to  
**\$2**

100,000+ “gently used” books, videos, and audio books, including 3,500+ children's books. Book Den Store gift certificates are available!

**PREVIEW** for Friends “members only” on Friday, December 5 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (You can join at the door for \$15)

**LOCATION:** Warehouse at rear of the Friends' “Book Den” Suite E, 8250 Belvedere Avenue

**FREE PARKING**

For more information, call (916) 731-8493 or email to [fspl@att.net](mailto:fspl@att.net)

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3214 Riverside Blvd  
(across from Vic's Ice Cream)

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Forget crowded malls & grumpy people! Instead, come to where you are greeted with a warm smile and friendly neighbors. Shop with us for beautiful gifts, including a selection by local artists.

Bring THIS ad to Purple Fox Gifts & Crafts on December 6 and receive **25% OFF** one item

Valid only on December 6, 2014. No photocopies, one per customer please.

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Formerly known as Trezhers

**HAGGIN OAKS 1932**

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**Only \$199.99**  
Offer Valid: 11/29–12/8/14

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**VIP Shopping Night** Thursday, December 4th • 6-8pm  
Save 10% Storewide\* Bring your camera and kids for photos with Santa  
\*Due to manufacturer exclusions, PING, Titleist, and Mizuno are excluded from this promotion. Some other items may also be excluded.

**Haggin Oaks Golf Super Shop**  
3645 Fulton Avenue • Sacramento, CA 95821  
**916-808-2526**

**OPENING HEARTS, INSPIRING MINDS**

**KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT:**  
December 10, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
January 25, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SCHOOL**  
3920 W. Land Park Dr.  
Sacramento, CA 95822  
916.448.5663  
[www.hs-ps.com](http://www.hs-ps.com)

# Sutterville students inspire through poetry

Students from first to sixth grade presented original poems to a packed crowd at Sutterville Elementary's Annual Family Poetry Night on Thursday, Nov. 13.

Prior to the poetry showcase, John Allen Cann, Sutterville's Poet-in-Residence, worked with students in every classroom, helping them explore new and creative ways of expressing themselves through poetry.

Students had a chance to share their creations with fellow students during a school assembly, or on Poetry Night in front of a family audience.

The goal of the Poet-in-Residence and Family Poetry Night is to promote students' growth in literacy, critical thinking and participation in the arts. The experience is made possible by the Sutterville Elementary PTA, and is one of many activities the school and PTA partner on to promote student success.

Source: scusd.edu



the Sierra 2 Senior Center  
**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIRE**  
*Free to attend!*  
 @Sierra2Center  
 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH  
 11:00am - 7:30pm  
 Rooms 10, 11 and 12  
**Sierra 2 Center**  
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**Holiday Spirit!**  
 ARTISTIC DIRECTOR STEVEN JOHNSON  
 DECEMBER 5, 8 PM • DECEMBER 6, 3 & 8 PM  
 DECEMBER 7, 3 PM • DECEMBER 9, 8 PM  
 First United Methodist Church • 2100 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95816  
 \$40 VIP • \$25 General • Purchase Tickets at SacGayMensChorus.org

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 2 Bedrooms, 1459 Square Feet  
 Large .17 Acre Lot  
 \$439,000

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### CUTE CURTIS PARK CRAFTSMAN

2 or 3 bedrooms 1½ baths, high boxed-beamed living room ceiling open to the dining room (shared gas log see-through fireplace) with French doors opening to private deck and enchanting yard with winding paths, cute guest cottage and storage shed. \$349,500

**DAVID KIRRENE 531-7495**  
**JERRY KIRRENE 455-1001**



**PENDING**

### BEAUTIFUL 7TH AVE HOME

The lovely exterior of this home is just a hint of what is in store for you! Spacious entry, large living room with detailed fireplace and lots of light. 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors throughout, dining room, big backyard. Plantation shutters, large breakfast nook. \$439,000

**KELLIE SWAYNE 206-1458**  
**PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715**



### SOUTH LAND PARK HILLS

Wonderfully spacious ranch style home in desirable South Land Park. Double doors open to a beautiful entry and inviting family room with plantation shutters and view of backyard. 3 or 4 bedrooms 2½ baths, kitchen pantry living room w/ wood burning fireplace insert. \$459,000

**BETH SHERMAN 800-4343**



**PENDING**

### SOUTH LAND PARK TERRACE

Mid-century ranch in the hills of South Land Park Terrace. Living area opens to beautiful backyard and pool. 3 bedroom, 1½ bath family home; bright and light and oh so charming. Perfect for entertaining. Convenient location. New roof! \$449,500

**SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395**



**PENDING**

### CLASSIC SPANISH IN LAND PARK

Traditional features include hardwood floors, beautiful front picture window, vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace, formal dining room, custom kitchen tile, one-of-a-kind decorative stairway, tile roof, dual pane windows and storage galore! 3 or 4 bedrooms 2 baths and drought tolerant landscaping! \$575,000

**KELLIE SWAYNE 206-1458**



**PENDING**

### WONDERFUL S. LAND PARK

Sharp 3 bedroom features new roof, floors, granite counters and master bath remodel. Nice location close-in, with easy access to both 99 and I-5. Screened-in Florida room for relaxing with those Delta breezes. Family room / kitchen / dining area, and generous sized living room with fireplace. \$345,000

**MIKE PUENTE 395-4727**



**PENDING**

### PERSONAL PARADISE

Spacious entry welcomes you to a large living room with detailed fireplace and loads of light. Enjoy the dining room with French door leading you to the huge .17 acre lot. Don't miss the hidden grove under the back tree canopy! The kitchen opens to a sunny, large breakfast nook, laundry room, large pantry closet. \$349,500

**SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395**



### 4 BEDROOM HOME

Super clean, close in, and ready to go! Hard to find 4 bedroom home with 2½ baths in Land Park! Energy efficient and beautifully maintained. Conveniently located, an easy walk to Land Park, Vic's Ice Cream and Crocker Riverside Elementary School. It's waiting for you! \$325,000

**SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395**  
**ERIN STUMPF 342-1372**



### MED CENTER

Location! Location! Location! This Med Center cutie makes a great investment property or the perfect spot to call home. Walk to UCD, shops restaurants and more. 2 bedrooms, spacious kitchen and nook. Newer carpet and paint, nice backyard and off-street parking. \$299,900

**JAMIE RICH 612-4000**

for current home listings, please visit:

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